



How to make a traditional rolling toy rattle.

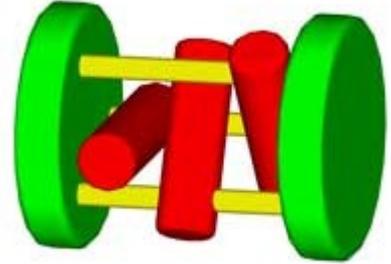
From wooden-toy-plans.com

This is a very simple toy, and very easy to make.

Materials list

None of the dimensions are critical, these measurements are guides. This toy can be made from pieces of scrap timber.

- 19mm (3/4") thick timber, 90mm square.
- 8mm dia dowel, 3 pieces 100mm long.
- 25mm dia dowel, 3 pieces 80mm long.



Tools

Chances are the average home handyman will have these tools already.

- Electric or battery drill with 8mm and 8.5 mm drill bits
- Tenon saw or coping saw.
- Wood file
- Compass
- Wood glue
- Child safe paints if you are going to paint the toy, otherwise Danish Oil is a good alternative.

Optional Tools

These are tools that are nice to have, but not absolutely essential:

- A bandsaw makes the job of cutting the round wheels a lot easier. An alternative is to use a scroll saw.
- A disc sander or finisher also makes it much easier to sand things smooth.

Update

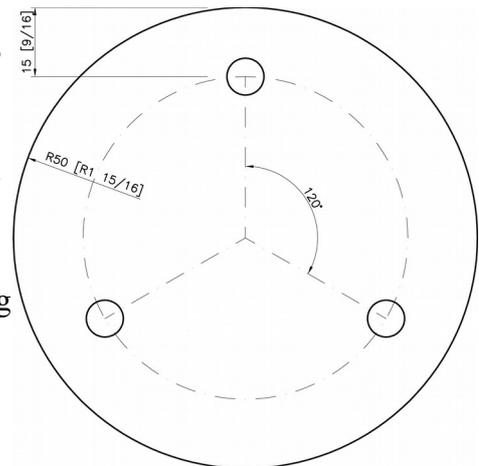
The last page shows a variation of this traditional rolling toy – instead of a proper circle, it has an elliptical shape.

Step 1.

There is no real need for plans for this toy, but a few illustrations to accompany the instructions should make things a little easier to follow.

Draw the circle on the 19mm thick pieces of timber and cut them out. Sand them smooth and round. This is where the disc sander comes in handy.

Draw another circle on each piece that is about 15mm off the edge. Divide this circle into three using the compass, and using the 8mm drill bit, drill three holes in both pieces no deeper than half the thickness of the piece. Smooth and round all the edges.



Step 1

Step 2

Cut three pieces of 8mm dowel to lengths of 110mm. Chamfer the ends to make it easier for assembly.

Step 3

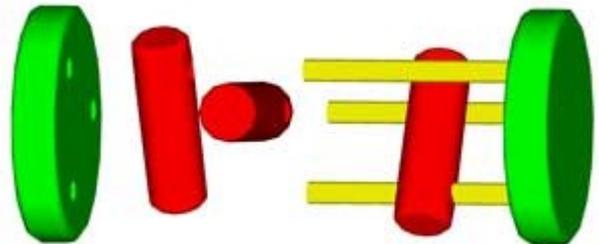
Cut three pieces of 25mm dowel to lengths of 80mm. Drill one hole in each at least 20mm from the end. Use the 8.5mm drill bit so that it will rotate freely around the 8mm dowel. Smooth and round all the edges.



Step 3

Step 4

Check for splinters and sharp edges. Follow the instructions from the child safe paint manufacturer for surface preparation. The toy should be painted before final assembly. Be sure to mask the dowel ends that are glued into the wheels. Apply glue to one end of the yellow dowels and thread the red dowels as shown in Figure 2. Glue the other green wheel on and once the glue has set you're good to go.



Step 4

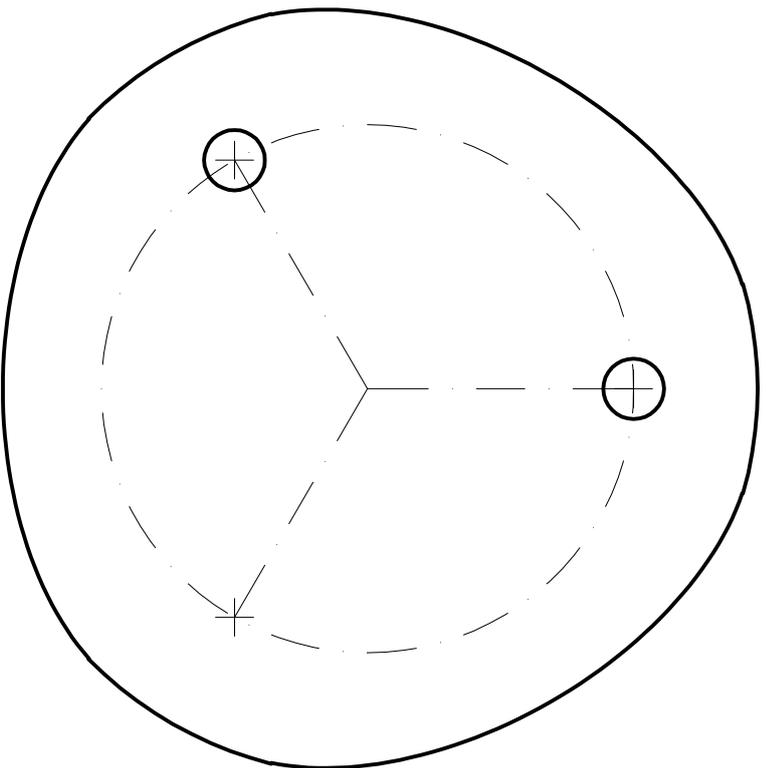
Finishing

There are many ways to apply a finish to a wooden toy. I have used food colouring on pine to good effect.

Link to [child safe paints](#) for finding a non toxic paint that is child safe and zero volatile organic compounds in an over-toxicated world an article on non toxic paint by Deliah Jones.

Conclusion

I certainly hope you have enjoyed making this project. Use this [contact me](#) form if you would like to submit your project to the [photo gallery](#).



Full Size Plans

Based on the traditional toy rattle.