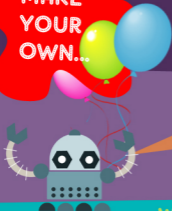


MAKE
YOUR
OWN...

MAGIC BALLOON



WANT TO PIERCE A
BALLOON WITHOUT
IT BURSTING?

AMAZE YOUR FRIENDS
WITH THIS GREAT
SIMPLE TRICK!



Some balloons

WHAT YOU NEED



A knitting needle or skewer

HOW YOU DO IT

Blow up the balloon, but not too big.

Find the top of the balloon (opposite where you've tied it) where the rubber is darkest in colour.

Very slowly, push the needle or skewer into the dark spot, twisting it round slowly.

Push the needle or skewer out of the balloon at the other end, next to where the knot is.

HOW IT WORKS

Balloons are made of a thin sheet of a rubber called latex, which is made of long chain-like molecules tangled together. The strands can be stretched, but when let go, the rubber returns to its original shape. Such a material is called an **elastomer**.

When you push the needle slowly through, the strands move apart. But if you push the needle through hard and fast, the network of strands will break and the air inside the rubber balloon will rush out and the balloon explodes.

WARNING!

MAKE SURE YOU GET AN ADULT TO HELP
YOU WITH THIS, AS THE NEEDLE OR
SKEWER CAN BE VERY SHARP!



EXPERIMENTS

SCIPPO
ONLINE



Disclaimer: Please follow the instructions carefully. This is for your own safety and the safety of others. Do not improvise or change the quantities or actions or the order in which each step in the experiment is listed.