

How to make an Easter Tomb STONE for Blacklight (Sewing Option)

Supplies:

- 1 - Hula Hoop (approx. 30" diameter) – *suggest you don't buy a really cheap, easily bendable one, but one that is more solid.*
- 2 - Swimming Noodles (reg size)
- White Felt - purchased off a 72" width Roll – length required 3 ½ ft. (1.2 yards)
- White Elastic (1/4" width by 70" length)
- Black Thread, Straight Pins
- Scissors
- Black Duct Tape
- 2 – Safety Pins
- Sewing Machine (or fabric glue)
- Black thread (if sewing)
- Black Marker
- Letter-Size Envelope (used for measuring)



Step 1: Take the 1st noodle and lay it in a straight line so the cut you are about to make is straight. If you don't happen to have someone handy to hold one end for you, slide one end between chair rungs.



Step 2: Cut slit in a straight line from one end to the other, just through to the hole. Cut with scissors slowly at an angle, as shown above. Your aim is to cut just through to the center hole of the noodle.



Step 3: Use your thumbs to run along the cut pulling apart gently any area that did not cut through to the center. *(I'm showing only one hand due to the other hand was holding the camera! LOL)* Now cut the 2nd noodle the same way.



Step 4: Place Hula Hoop between your knees and place the noodle cut-side down. Using your fingers slide the Hula Hoop into the slit in the noodle, roll the Hoop backwards as you go. The Hoop will sit nicely into the center hole of the noodle. Continue with 2nd noodle, cutting off excess — be sure to leave enough to have a snug fit!



Step 5: It should now look like this. Next, wind some tape firmly around the two areas where the noodles meet. I had clear packing tape on hand, but suggest using black duck tape. [The reason I added the noodles was to give width to the Hula Hoop for ease of the child rolling the stone.] FYI: these bright orange noodles DO NOT work with blacklights.



Step 6: Place your new Hula Hoop on top of the piece of white felt. [You can see why you need the extra wide (72") by the fold crease in the fabric. The 36" wide fabric is not wide enough for this project.]



Step 7: I took a measurement of the width of the narrowest point of the fabric (shown by double arrow above) and marked the distance on an old envelope with a line. I then moved the envelope around the Hoop, marking where to cut with a black permanent marker. Note: When placing your envelope make sure to look down from above Hoop so you're measuring from the outside edge, not under the Hoop.



Step 8a: Creating a seam for the elastic – Fold over the fabric one inch and pin. [I pinned so the head was on the left so later they were easier to remove as I sewed.] AS you're working with a circle, it's best to start with four pins, one at each arrow as above. Then keep dividing area, add a pin, divide area, etc. rotating fabric as you work.



Step 8b: Be sure to leave an opening to insert the elastic. I marked it with two pins as shown above, so I wouldn't forget.



Step 9: by continually dividing area and pinning you will end up with a nice fairly flat seam for easy sewing.



Step 10: Sew your seam around circle, making sure you leave room for the 1/4" elastic. I sewed around once, removing pins as I went. Then for added strength I went around again right alongside my first stitches. When finished I ironed the crease out (where the fabric had been folded on the bolt in the store.)



Step 11: Attach one end of the elastic with a safety pin directly to your fabric (so it won't pull through.) Attach the other end of your elastic to a safety pin and thread it into the hole you left. Now push through, by pushing pin forward, holding it in place with your fingers of one hand, and use your other to push bunched up elastic back toward beginning as needed.



Step 12: Once elastic is through take the two ends and sew them together. I went up and down about an inch and across it a couple of times. Then place over Hoop and then adjust by pushing out tighter areas until it's about even all the way around. I found it was still loose, so I found the hole and pulled out the elastic and played around with it until I had a nice snug fit, then I took the extra elastic I pulled out, knotted it (so I could still untie and tighten again if ever needed), and just left it hanging there as it wasn't very long. [If you ever needed to replace the elastic (over time it may stretch out) just cut it, tie a new piece to it and pull through.]



Options: You may want to take a permanent black marker and give your STONE a look not quite so round, and with some crevices. Leaving it as is, you have a moon & a stone kids can roll away!

