

## THE MINI-TIME MACHINE PRESENTS

# HOW TO

# create a miniature croquet set

## MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES:

- pencil
- ruler
- hand drill for wood
- miter box saw
- Tacky glue
- paint brush
- 22 gauge wire

### Croquet balls:

- three natural colored 5/16" wood beads
- wood filler
- fine grit sand paper
- craft paint: red, blue, green, yellow

### Croquet mallets and stakes:

- 5 round toothpicks
- one 1/4" dowel (you need only 2" in length)
- permanent markers: red, blue, green, yellow

### Croquet stand:

- four Popsicle sticks



## INSTRUCTIONS:

### Croquet balls

Fill the holes in the beads with wood filler and sand smooth. Paint each bead a different color and set to dry.

### Hoops

Cut nine 1" lengths of wire and bend them into a "u" shape to form the hoops.

### Mallets and Stakes

Measure and mark four 1/2" lengths of dowel and use the miter saw to cut the 1/2" lengths. These pieces will be the heads of you mallets. Mark the center of each "mallet head" and using the hand drill, drill a small hole

into it. Paint stripes on the ends of the mallet heads. (Each mallet should have stripes in a single color.)

Next cut four toothpicks to 2" lengths. (Be sure to cut off the tapered ends.) Gently sand the ends smooth. These will be the handles of your mallets. Put a drop of glue in the hole on the mallet head and insert one end of a toothpick in the hole. Repeat with remaining mallet heads and toothpicks. Set to dry.

Next sand the tips of your remaining toothpick and cut it in half. Sand the cut edges. These will be the stakes. Once the glue has dried on the mallets, use your paint to add the colored lines to the handles and to your stakes. Each mallet handle and each stake includes stripes in each color.

### **Croquet Rack**

Measure and mark three 2" lengths of Popsicle stick. Use the miter saw to cut the Popsicle sticks then lightly sand the ends. Set one stick to the side. Find the center of the other two and mark three holes at 1/4" increments from the center toward each side. (You should have six holes marked.) Use the hand drill to drill the six holes in each of the sticks.

Next measure and cut two 2 1/2" lengths of Popsicle stick and lightly sand the ends. Measure and mark 1 1/2" from one end of each of these pieces. These will be the sides of your rack.

Measure and cut two 1/4" lengths of Popsicle stick and lightly sand the ends. These will be the feet of your rack.

Now it is time to assemble your croquet rack. Put glue on the ends of the 2" lengths and sandwich them between the 2 1/2" lengths with the solid piece at the bottom, one drilled piece at the 1 1/2" mark and the other drilled piece at the top. Let dry. Next put glue on the flat surface of each 1/4" Popsicle stick and attach to the bottom corners of your rack to form the feet. Let dry. Stand your croquet rack on its feet and put a drop of glue on each croquet ball. Stick the ball on the base of your rack. Let dry. Now you can place the mallets and stakes in the rack. Play ball!

