

Happy Horsey Holidays!

Molasses Doughnut Treats

1. **Ingredients for Dough:**

- 3 1/2 cup flour
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 cup molasses
- sprinkles (optional)

2. **Ingredients for Icing:**

- 1 cup powdered sugar
- Water

3. **Directions:**

- a. Preheat oven to 325° F
- b. Mix flour and cinnamon in a large bowl
- c. Pour in molasses and start mixing together. If the dough feels too loose sticky, slowly add more flour until you have reached the desired consistency
- d. Sprinkle some flour onto a flat surface (a large cutting board is ideal) and place your ball of dough on it. Using a rolling pin, roll the dough out to a 1/4" thickness.
- e. Using a round cookie cutter, cut out your doughnuts. Using a smaller cookie cutter, cut out the doughnut hole. *(Our in-house baker didn't have circular cookie cutters, so she used a drinking glass for the big circle, and a smaller glass for the smaller circle.)*
- f. Place doughnuts on a greased cookie sheet and bake for 10-15 minutes, or until firm and cooked through.
- g. Remove doughnuts from the oven and cool on a cooling rack.

4. **Make the Icing:**

- a. While the doughnuts cool, measure powdered sugar into a bowl
- b. Slowly mix water into the powdered sugar until you have a smooth consistency. It should be a little bit runny, but not too watery.

5. **Decorate:**

- a. Once the doughnuts have cooled completely, place the cooling rack on a baking sheet.
- b. Take one of the doughnuts, and place it upside down in your bowl of icing. Swirl it around, and then carefully pick it up, allowing the excess icing to drip off.
- c. Flip it right side up, and place on a cooling rack (the icing will drip down the sides into the baking sheet, making for easy cleanup later!)
- d. *Optional:* While the icing is still wet, take multi-colored sprinkles, and sprinkle them over the doughnut.



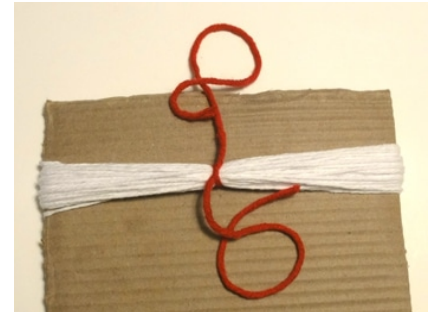
Horse Head Ornament

1. You'll need:

- a. fine yarn or thread to be used for the horse's body. I've chosen white, an orange for a chestnut color and grey.
- b. cardboard (or a book) about 7" (18 cm) wide to wind the yarn or thread around
- c. scissors, glue, needle, and thread
- d. ribbon, yarn, or thread of different colors, to use for tying knots – I used red yarn and ribbon and thick gold thread
- e. eyes – available in craft and dollar stores
- f. felt for making ears, foil for the unicorn horn
- g. beads, sequins, bells—use your imagination!

2. Step 1:

- a. Wind yarn around the cardboard or book about 30 times—more if the yarn or thread you are using is very fine. To make the horseheads pictured above I wound the yarn around 30 times.
- b. Have the end pieces finish off at the back of the cardboard, on the opposite side of the board from where you will make the first knot.
- c. Cut a piece of different colored yarn about 50 cm long and tie it in the middle around all the threads. This will be the horse's muzzle.
- d. Remove the yarn from the cardboard by sliding it off the end. When you wind the thread or yarn around the board have it snug but not too tight or it will be difficult to remove from the book.



3. Step 2:

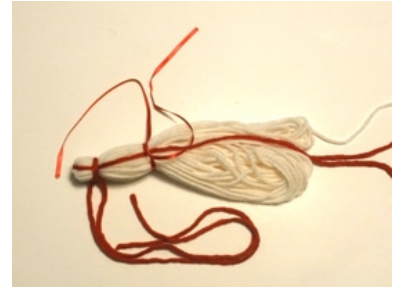
- a. Cut a second piece of yarn (or ribbon) about 70 cm long and tie it under the horse's muzzle.
- b. Take some time to shape the muzzle. Try wrapping the second piece of yarn several times around the muzzle area to control the width of the horse's face near the muzzle.
- c. Gently pull the yarn for the horse's body through the second string so that the yarn is smooth and even. Check that the knots are tight.



4. Step 3:

- a. Cut a third piece of yarn or ribbon about 16" (40 cm) long. This will create the top of the horse's head. If you tie this in a bow it will look like ears.

- b. Make sure the thread from the first tying passes through the third knot at the top of the head.
- c. One option you have for a mane is to tie the long ends from the first tie together.
- d. As you tie the knots for the mane, pause every couple of knots and stretch out the yarn, as it gets crinkled as the knots are added on. You'll want it to lie straight and flat along the back of the horse's neck.
- e. This is a good time to attach a string to hang the ornament. Tie a string at the third knot. Another option is to use the extra length to create the hanging loop as with the chestnut horse ornament at the right of the top photo.



5. **Step 4:**

- a. Bend the rest of the yarn or threads to shape the head of the horse.
- b. Tie the thread, remaining from the second tying (the one around the muzzle), to shape the neck of the horse.
- c. Using the scissors, cut the end of the yarn threads and glue on the eyes.



6. **Optional:**

- a. The bow on the top of the horse's head is nice but I wanted to try adding ears. To do this I used felt.
- b. Cut small triangles out of felt, slightly taller than they are wide.
- c. Bring the bottom two corners of the triangles together and keep them there!
- d. Using needle and thread and sew the bottom of the triangle together. One or two stitches are all it will take.
- e. Position the ears by separating strands of yarn and pushing the base of the ears down, between the strands. This may take a little effort. Next, I sewed the ears in place.
- f. Next comes fringe for the mane. Fringe is available at many fabric stores.
- g. Cut an 8 cm length of fringe for the mane and sew the fringe along the neck with needle and thread.

