

DIY Desktop Basketball Hoop - Expanded Guide

Get ready to turn cardboard into your very own mini basketball court! This expanded guide includes in-depth building instructions and printable templates you can trace to make your hoop extra accurate. Perfect for kids, classrooms, rainy-day crafts, or desk games!

Materials List (with Suggestions):

- Cereal box or any sturdy cardboard (aim for at least 12x12 inches)
- Paper or plastic cup (around 3 inches wide is best)
- Scissors (use adult help if using precision knife)
- Ruler (clear or metal for straighter cuts)
- Hot glue gun (or strong craft glue)
- Tape (masking or clear for reinforcing edges)
- String or yarn (optional: for a realistic net)
- Ping pong ball (or wad of paper, foil ball, etc.)
- Rubber bands (for launcher)
- Markers, paints, stickers (for decorating your court)

Step 1: Cut Your Backboard (6" x 8")

Use your ruler to draw a rectangle, then cut along the lines. Round the corners for a pro look. Optional: decorate with your favorite team colors now.

Step 2: Create Your Hoop Ring

Cut the bottom of a paper cup. You can reinforce it with tape or paint it orange. Add string netting if you'd like.

Step 3: Assemble the Base (6" x 6")

Cut a square piece of cardboard. Glue the bottom edge of the backboard vertically along the back edge of the base.

Step 4: Support Triangle (3" x 5")

Cut a triangle that helps hold up the backboard. You can trace this from the template. Glue it behind the backboard at an angle.

Step 5: Net Add-On (Optional)

Use small holes punched into the cup ring and tie string loops through to form a net. Trim it to hang neatly.

Step 6: Launcher Build

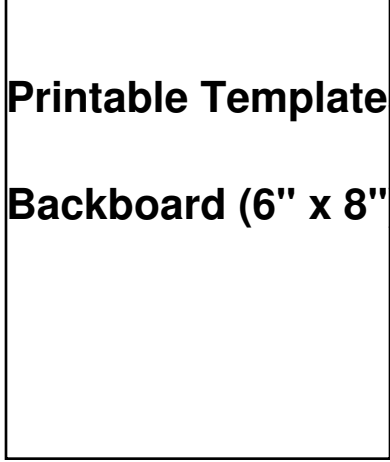
Wrap a rubber band between two pencil tips. Place your ping pong ball into the band and pull back to launch.

Step 7: Final Setup and Testing

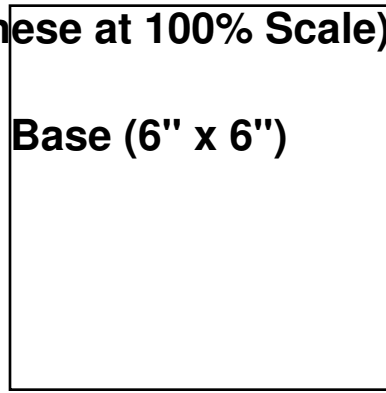
Make sure all glue is dry. Try your first shot! Adjust the backboard or hoop angle if needed. Add decorations or even a mini scoreboard!

Printable Templates (Trace These at 100% Scale)

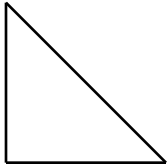
Backboard (6" x 8")



Base (6" x 6")



Support Triangle (3" x 5")



Hoop Ring Guide (3" Diameter)

