

How to Make Styrofoam Tray Critters

Materials:

- Well-washed Styrofoam tray(s), such as those that meat/seafood are packaged in
- Scissors
- Various tools and items that can be used to create markings on the Styrofoam, such as single-hole punch, 3-hole punch, screw drivers, can openers, straws, bottle caps, etc.
- Various materials that can be used to create designs on the Styrofoam or hang it up, such as craft paint, markers, ribbon, yarn, wire, string, etc.

Instructions:

- Draw the outline of an animal or other item, for example a tree or house, onto the Styrofoam. You can use clip-art animal shapes or draw an animal outline shape freehand. See photo below.
- Cut the shape(s) from the foam.
- Use assorted household items to press into the foam to make designs on it. You can test out items on scrap foam to see how they work. Tools and items that work well include screwdrivers, pen caps, straws and hand-held can openers. Look for items that will make circles, stars, triangles, wavy lines, or other interesting patterns when pressed into the foam. You can even use a single-hole punch to make scalloped edges on the foam cutout.
- Paint the foam critter with craft paint or color with markers, and even add ribbon.
- Use a hole punch to make a hole in the foam and hang your critter with yarn, string or wire.

