



Polar Bear

2 x 11" white round - 1 x black scrap for nose - 1 x white 260
2 x white 350 or 360 - 1 x red 260



Insert 3 knotted scraps of balloon or small beads inside an 11" balloon. I actually use the silver balls for decorating cakes. Inflate the round balloon while holding it against you so it is elongated.



Inflate two 260 bubbles to about 3" and tie the ends together. Remove any surplus balloon.



Catch hold of one of the beads or knotted scraps that were inserted into the balloon at the point where you wish to attach one of the ears.



Ease the bead into the base of the ear loop. Turn the ear loop to stop the bead from coming out. Ease the bead through the base of the ear again and give the ear another turn. then you can release the ear.



Add the other ear in the same way.

This is what it should look like



Inflate a small black 260 scrap of balloon if you keep your scraps handy. Tie the ends together to form a pinched bubble



Remove the ends. You should be able to get your finger inside the pinched bubble



Ease the lip knot of the head into the gap in the pinched black nose bubble



Either inflate an 11" balloon with a bead inserted or use a link balloon which will be the body. Catch hold of a bead inside the head and tie the body to it. If you catch the bead below the middle point of the head it will look down, above and it will look up.



Inflate a 350 or 360 white balloon leaving an 6" tip and make a 3" bubble at the lip end. Twist this into the junction between the body and head and then pull the lip knot into the junction to pinch the 3" bubble.



Next make an 8" leg followed by three soft 5" loops which will be the feet.



Make a bubble at the tip end and wrap the end of the link balloon into it. Or: if you are using a round, catch hold of the bead through the skin at the point where you want the back leg joined. Tie a scrap in and then you can attach the leg as above.



Inflate another 350 or 360 white balloon and make a bubble at the end which is twisted into the back end of the polar bear



Bring a bubble down to the feet to match the first one.

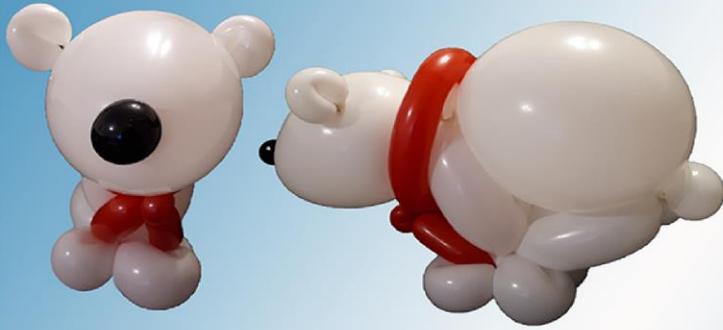


Make a fourth foot bubble and a pinch twist to sit as shown.



Bring another leg up to the front of the bear to complete the bear. Deflate the remaining balloon and wrap it into the pinch twist behind the head. Remove any excess balloon.

For the final touch which looks great for a Christmas theme, inflate a 260 or a 160 red balloon. Make a 4" bubble and a pinch twist. Wrap a loop around the neck of the bear and twist it into the pinch twist. Finish with another 4" bubble and remove the rest of the balloon.



Here is the bear with a different stance and a cola bottle.



Thelma Levett www.smudgyclown.co.uk

Here I have made some smaller bears as well.