

How to Build Your Own Ladder Golf Game

To build your own Ladder Golf game, you will need the following items from a home improvement store.

PARTS

4 - ¾ inch x 10 foot PVC pipes (white plastic pipes found in the plumbing section)

12 - ¾ inch 90 degree elbow PVC slip on pipe fittings

12 - ¾ inch "T" shaped PVC slip on pipe fittings

8 feet of nylon rope

You will need 12 colored golf balls, 6 each of two different colors.

ASSEMBLY

Using either a PVC cutter or hand saw, cut your PVC pipes into eighteen 20 inch pieces and eight 8 inch pieces. Using two elbow fittings and three 20 inch pipes, make two "U" shapes. Now, using a "T" fitting on each side, attach the "U"s to create a rectangle. Next, place a 20" pipe into the vertical holes left open in the "T" fittings. Now, place a "T" fitting on each vertical pipe with the single perpendicular opening facing inward. Insert an 8" pipe in each side and repeat. Cap off the top of both vertical pipes with elbow fittings facing inward. Finally, take the last three 20" pipes and form the ladder rungs by placing them between the "T" and elbow fittings left open on the verticals. Repeat all of these steps to create another matching ladder base. Refer to the picture below for visual assistance.



Now that you have the ladders built, you need to make the bolos. Bolo is the term given to the golf ball rope combos you throw at the ladders. Start by placing each of your twelve golf balls in a vice and drilling a hole through them one at a time. Next, wrap one end of your nylon rope with tape to create a "needle." Thread all twelve balls onto your nylon rope. Threading them all on at once will require you to make only one tape needle. Now, using a candle, heat the end of your nylon rope until it blackens. Quickly press the heated rope onto a heat resistant surface to flatten. Slide your golf ball up to it. The flattened rope should prevent the ball from coming off the end. Measure your rope to 16 inches and repeat the heating/pressing process on the other end. Continue the process until you have made 6 bolos.

Playing Ladder Golf

To set up your game of Ladder Golf a line is drawn 5 paces from the ladder. This is known as the "toss line". Officially the toss line should be fifteen feet way from the ladder. The five pace rule is to accommodate all members of the family (including children and young teens).

Ladder Golf is played in rounds. Each player or team (if playing as teams) is given three bolas to toss for scoring. The bolas can be thrown in any manner, including bouncing them off the ground. To win, a player or a member of a team needs to score exactly 21 points. When a player goes over 21 points, the points for the round are taken away and the player goes back to the score he or she had before the round began.

Ladder Golf Scoring

In order to earn points while playing Ladder Golf a player needs to throw and successfully wrap their bolas around the rungs of the ladder. Points are earned as follows:

- Top Rung – 3 points
- Middle Rung – 2 points
- Bottom Rung – 1 point

A player can also try and knock the competitors' bolas off the ladder because when the round is over a player only gets points for the bolas that are still wrapped around the rungs of the ladder.

If there is a tie play will continue until one player or team has two points more than the other player or team.