

# How to Build a Snowman and Dog

Turn that boring snow day into a snow-much-fun day by building some of our silly snowmen. All you really need to build a basic snowman is some kind of scoop or shovel, a carrot and buttons. But if you want to build a more creative character, these tools are helpful:

- Warm, waterproof boots, gloves and ski pants (you'll be outside for a while!)
- General-purpose soil scoop
- Ice cream spade
- Bucket
- Large thermos (to hold the water for your slush)
- Sturdy apple corer (to make the hole for the carrot nose)
- Variety of sturdy spoons

Ready to dig in? Gather the supplies listed and get ready to let the good times roll!

## How to make it:

1. Make a classic three-ball snowman, with the bottom ball about 2½ feet tall and stack the two smaller balls on top.
2. Push the sticks into the center snowball for the arms, and put the mittens on the ends.
3. Add the coal for eyes and a carrot nose. Put on the hat and scarf.
4. To make the dog, start with a 1-foot snowball for the midsection. Add a slightly larger ball in front (for the upper torso) and a smaller ball on top for the head.
5. Scoop out eye sockets so that the eyes will be deeply inset, and add snowballs to make the ears and a snout.
6. Add the coal for eyes and a rock for the nose.
8. Pack snow in the shape of front legs, and add a tail in the back so it appears to be wagging.
9. Place the belt around the neck as a collar.



## Snow School Tips

Are you a rookie? A few helpful tips will turn you into a master snowman builder!

- Start by rolling a batch of snowballs in different sizes, and store them in a shady spot until you're ready to construct.
- Use wet snow for the best results. The snow is wet enough if you're able to form a nice, round snowball easily.
- If the snow is too dry to make a nice ball, mix snow and water in the bucket until you have a good slush. Add it to transform your powder into packed balls, or use it like cement to help connect, smooth and sculpt your snowballs into shape.
- If the sun comes out and starts to melt the snow you are using, dig a hole to reach the snow that's closest to the ground (where it's colder).
- When you're stacking balls, flatten and loosen the snow on top of the bottom ball so that the top ball has something to stick to. After you've placed the top ball, twist it back and forth to make it sturdier.
- Always fill your snowman's mittens and hats with a bit of snow—it gives them shape and keeps them from blowing away.
- To accessorize, many things can work. But consider sticking to carrots for noses. Straight, crooked, curved, short, long, fat or thin, they're the classic element that completes the snowman's personality.