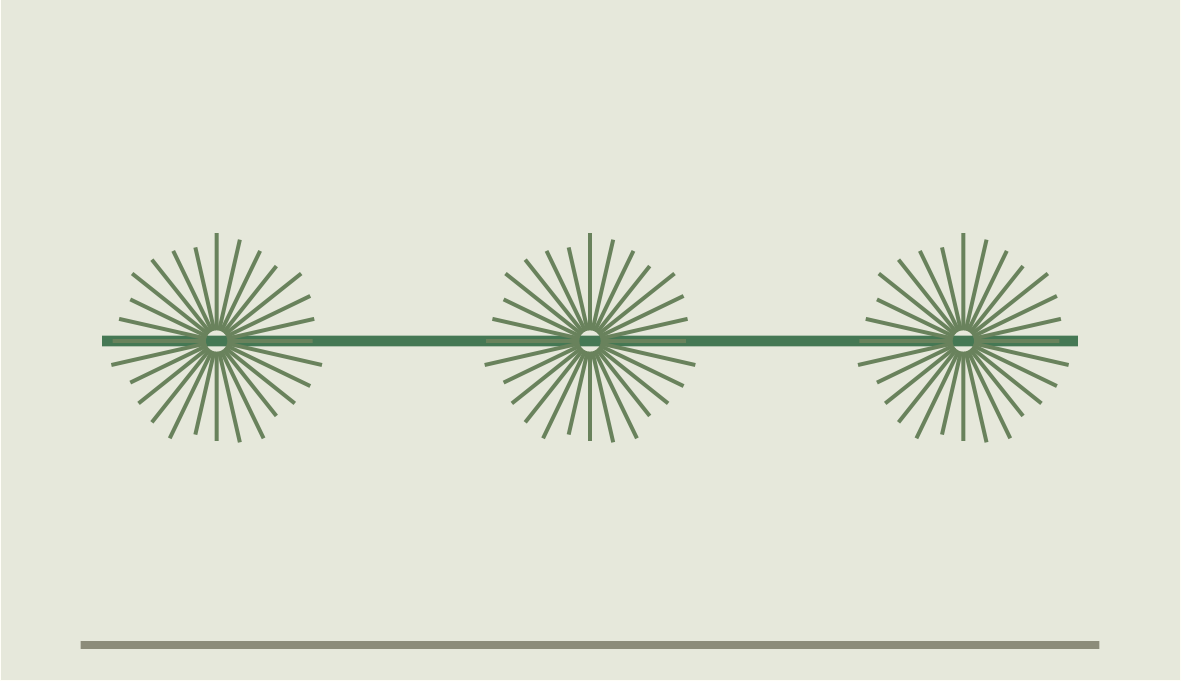
**STEADLEAF PRESS**

MAKE / ORIGINAL FREE DIGITAL GUIDE / F092

# MAKE A POM-POM GARLAND

from Yarn Offcuts



**72 BODY OFFCUTS / 3 TWICE-WRAPPED BINDERS**

Original diagrams / two maker records / flat display only

Digital teaching asset. No actual tying, load or safety tests.

Edition: Original FREE Steadleaf Press English adult digital craft guide. Independent technical and editorial manuscript review final verdict PASS. No prototype has been made or tested. No real cutting, knot-holding, shedding, colorfastness, washing, dimensions, durability, environmental, pet/child or display-safety testing has been performed by Steadleaf Press.

## The useful little lengths left over

A pom-pom need not begin as one long ball of yarn. In this project each pom-pom begins as twenty-four separate 10 cm pieces of fairly similar yarn, grouped, cinched at their middles and spread into a soft tuft. Two free ends from every piece create 48 loose fringe tips per pom-pom. Make three of these small tufts and use the extra-long ends of each centre binding cord to attach them to a separate 120 cm decorative display line. The line stays supported by a tabletop, low shelf or a flat display board; do not rig it overhead or above people, beds, children, animals, food, open flames or heat.

The goal is a visually balanced, low-risk craft display, not a guaranteed perfect sphere. A hand-tied cluster of individual short pieces may be irregular, especially with different yarn weights. Start with compatible yarn weights and adjust or record an imperfect result rather than pretending that all offcuts behave alike.

Material | Cut pieces | Approximate length per piece | Nominal combined length

Clean body-yarn offcuts | 72 (24 for each of 3) | 10 cm | 720 cm

Separate centre binding yarn | 3 (one per pom-pom) | 50 cm | 150 cm

One low-tension display line | 1 | 120 cm | 120 cm

TOTAL | 76 distinct pieces | Mixed | 990 cm

72 x 10 + 3 x 50 + 120 = 720 + 150 + 120 = 990 cm. These are initial pattern quantities, not physical tolerances or a promise of exact finished size. 72 body yarn pieces become 144 free ends after they are cinched at their midpoints; the three binding cords and the display line are NOT part of that 144-end fringe count. If clean scraps are too short, do not stretch them. Use only offcuts at least 10 cm long or choose a shorter consistent pattern length and record the variation; the 10 cm pattern quantities above apply only when you use the stated lengths.

The word garland here means a lightweight craft strand to lay out or secure flat for display, not a strength-tested hanging installation, children’s mobile, toy, pet toy, curtain pull, jewelry, leash or attachment that can support objects.

## Materials, measurements and safe handling

Gather clean, dry, soft yarn offcuts of broadly similar weight. Discard yarn with staples, pins, sharp

remnants, heavy dust, mildew, unknown coatings, excessive shedding or suspected pest contamination. Avoid very fine loose fibres where they can be inhaled or ingested. Choose enough compatible leftovers to cut three sets of 24 body pieces, or one test set if you are uncertain about material volume. Use a real ruler, pencil, flat paper or thin card, a small tray or shallow divided box for sorting, suitable yarn scissors, removable clips or low-tack tape, a wide-tooth comb or fingers, and two printable maker records. Do not use a glue gun, heat gun, flame or permanent adhesive.

Make a 10 cm cutting card using two physical ruler marks. The PDF diagram is NOT a full-scale ruler; printer scaling and screen zoom can change it. Check every short piece against the original physical card marks rather than copying an already-short strand. Folded or loosely kinked yarn may appear short; measure it relaxed rather than pulling it taut. Thin yarn may require more pieces for fullness, while very thick yarn may require fewer; either change is a recorded variation, not a claimed match to the base pattern.

For each pom-pom, prepare a 50 cm separate binder in a contrasting or easily identified colour. It ties around the centre of the 24-piece bundle and its remaining free ends later tie the tuft to the display line. The binder is not an extra body strand. A binder that becomes too short after its first knot should be replaced, not spliced. The final 120 cm display line should have no fraying or sharp fixings and never be used under tension to hang objects.

Secure the work during cutting on a stable flat surface, hold scissors away from fingers and wear appropriate eye protection when yarn fragments may spring. Keep scraps, short strands, line, loops and finished tufts away from children and pets; short fibres may be swallowed, and the long line may entangle. Store all cuttings in a closed waste container before ending the session.

## The basic centre bundle - read before cutting

### Pattern move A - keep every body cut independent

Cut 24 individual 10 cm offcuts. Place them parallel with both ends roughly aligned, not interlinked or folded into loops. Find the 5 cm midpoint of each piece, and bring the midpoints into the same narrow crosswise area. A body piece remains one cut strand with two free ends throughout. This is different from wrapping a continuous strand many turns around cardboard; no endless wrap must later be cut open.

### Pattern move B - bind across the centre

Lay the midpoint of a distinct 50 cm binding cord perpendicular UNDER the flat 24-piece bundle, aligned with the common 5 cm midpoint. Wrap the binder around the bundle TWICE, in two adjacent turns at the central grip point, then tie the two free ends together on top with one overhand and a second opposite-direction overhand. Keep the turns snug but do not break fibres or cross individual offcuts. After this tie, confirm that EACH binder end has at least about 12 cm free for attachment to the line; if not, undo and replace the binder with a longer piece. Smooth, slippery or extremely fine offcuts may still escape despite two turns: before spreading, gently nudge one or two outer scraps using only normal fingertip motion. If any scrap pulls out easily, untie the

binder and use more textured yarn or abandon that tuft. No structural load, pull or slip rating is claimed. Preserve both binder ends, which are not among the 48 body fringe tips.

The binder is only a decorative hand-tied grip, and no slip or holding-load test has been performed. If it shifts under ordinary gentle fingertip handling, untie, align and retie or choose another compatible yarn. Do not claim the knot safe or strong because it looks neat.

### Pattern move C - spread, fluff and make a common trim reference

Rotate the tuft gently with both hands supporting the body over the tabletop, never by binder ends as a strength check. Fan the 48 body tips outward and check that none slides from the twice-wrapped centre. With a physical ruler, draw an illustrative 3 cm trim radius measured OUTWARD FROM THE OUTER EDGE of the central binder, not from the centre of its knot. Because a 10 cm piece begins with only two nominal 5 cm halves and the grip uses some fibre, the achievable radius varies. A nominal 6 cm visible tuft diameter (plus binder thickness) is only a visual target, NOT a measured result. If any body tip falls short of the reference, mark a smaller common radius and record that variation. Trim in modest cuts into a waste tray, never while any hand is in the cutting path, and avoid cutting the coloured centre binder. Surface irregularity is normal.

## Step-by-step instructions

### 1. Choose a low, flat display arrangement

Plan a three-pom-pom garland lying on a protected table, broad shelf or display board. Do not install this project over a crib, doorway, stove, heater, sleeping area, pet bed, occupied chair or food surface. No hanging-load, wall-anchor or product safety rating is offered. Keep the eventual 120 cm line flat and out of reach of animals and children.

### 2. Sort clean yarn offcuts by approximate thickness

Separate clean, dry yarn into three small piles of roughly compatible colour and thickness. Reject debris, uncertain coatings, staples and very short pieces. Keep your workspace tidy so stray threads do not enter food areas or get scattered on the floor.

### 3. Draw a master physical 10 cm cutting reference

Use a real ruler to draw START and END marks exactly 10 cm apart on a strip of flat card. Check the marking with the same ruler. Printed illustrations in the PDF are teaching schematics, not accurate length rulers. Make a new card if it bends or becomes worn.

### 4. Cut the first set of twenty-four body offcuts

Align each relaxed piece with the master reference without stretching it. Cut 24 separate pieces approximately 10 cm long for pom-pom A. Do not chain a new length from the previous one. Count the 24 pieces, not the 48 free ends they will ultimately make.

### 5. Prepare two more twenty-four-piece sets

Repeat the measurement and cutting for pom-poms B and C, keeping their colours or blends distinct if desired. Check three piles of 24 each. You should have 72 individually cut body pieces across the three piles. If you lack enough suitable scraps, make fewer pom-poms and record that variation instead of mislabelling the result as the exact three-pom pattern.

### 6. Cut and label the four non-body pieces

Measure and cut three separate centre binders, approximately 50 cm each, and one separate decorative line, 120 cm. Lay them in a separate tray so they cannot be mistaken for short body pieces. The total cut-piece count is 72 + 3 + 1 = 76.

### 7. Align the first pile at its common centre

Place pom-pom A’s 24 ten-centimetre body pieces parallel on a flat card, with their common midpoints at about 5 cm from either end. Use a paper marker across the middle, and keep the fibres free of tangles. If individual pieces are visibly shorter, replace them or select a smaller planned trim radius.

### 8. Tie one binder around the middle of pile A

Place the midpoint of a 50 cm binder perpendicular beneath the 24-piece bundle at its midpoint. Wrap both ends around the bundle TWICE, making two adjacent turns, then tie a first overhand and an opposite-direction overhand at the top. Keep the central scraps aligned and do not stretch fibres. Check that EACH free binder tail is at least about 12 cm long for later attachment. If one is shorter, untie and use a longer binder. Before spreading the tuft, gently touch an outer body offcut; if it slides free, switch to grippier textured yarn or abandon that tuft. This centre grip has not been slip- or load-tested.

### 9. Spread and shape pom-pom A carefully

After checking that the twice-wrapped binder holds the offcuts under normal light finger handling, fan the 48 body tips outward. Compare them on physical card against a 3 cm trim radius measured outward from the OUTER EDGE of the binder, not the knot centre. If any short tips cannot reach, choose a smaller radius and record it. Do not stretch fibres or cut the binder. Keep all trimmings contained.

### 10. Repeat the tie-and-shape process for B and C

Use the other two centre binders on the remaining two 24-piece bundles. For each, count 48 body tips, preserve both distinct binder ends and gently trim toward the same practical radius where fibres permit. You now have three individually bound decorative tufts, not yet attached to the display line.

### 11. Mark three positions on the separate display line

Lay the 120 cm line flat on a marked board and measure positions 30 cm, 60 cm and 90 cm from one chosen end. Mark the positions on the underlying paper rather than cutting the line or adding small detachable beads. This creates 30 cm end margins and 30 cm spacing between adjacent pom-pom centres as a nominal layout, not a strength or installation specification.

### 12. Tie each preserved binder pair around the display line

At each of the three positions, lay the line between the two remaining binder ends of the matching tuft. Cross those two ends around the line and tie them together with one overhand and then a mirror-direction overhand, leaving visible tails for later adjustment. Do not fasten with metal hooks, staples, hard plastic beads or sharp wire. The tuft should sit against the line when it lies flat; if a knot slides, untie and reseat it without lifting or hanging the whole garland by the line.

### 13. Check spacing and remove hazardous loose ends

With the line resting flat, compare the three tuft centres against the marked 30/60/90 cm layout. Keep short binder tails visibly outside the tuft if needed to monitor slipping, and avoid cutting them flush. Sweep all loose trimmings and rejected scraps into a closed bin. Never test a decorative binder or garland by pulling sharply or suspending weight.

### 14. Finish records and store or display low

Complete Record 1 (piece counts and measured card reference) and Record 2 (three-centre positions, observed tuft diameters, slipping, shedding and display care). Place the garland flat on a protected surface where it cannot fall into food, water, pet reach or a child-accessible area. For storage, loosen the line gently and keep it flat and fully dry in a labelled paper sleeve. Avoid washing or heat unless the individual yarn maker’s instructions permit it.

## Fix, care and preserve

### One offcut cannot reach the 10 cm mark

Do not stretch it to fit; replace it with a longer compatible offcut or label the whole group a different design

variation. The official counts apply to the nominal 10 cm pieces described in the pattern, not to an unseen mixture of lengths.

### The pom-pom is lopsided

Lay it on card and spread the body ends again. Check whether all 24 cut pieces have actually been gripped at their common centre. If a piece slipped out, untie the binder, add or replace the missing piece and retie before reshaping. Do not simply trim all tips shorter to conceal a loose binder.

### A centre binder or garland attachment slides

Remove the pom-pom from the line and retie on a supported tabletop. Try a grippy textured yarn for the short body scraps and the binder, make the two central wraps described in Step 8, and keep both long binder tails. The exact knot's stability depends on fibre, texture and handling; no pull, carrying or load test is claimed. Discard the display if the binding cannot remain visibly seated under ordinary stationary use.

### The pom-poms look too small or sparse

Different yarn weights and fluffy fibres yield different shapes. Add a documented count of compatible short strands to future test samples, or reduce the target radius for the current bundle. Do not report 24-per-pom design compliance if you changed that number. A visibly sparse tuft may still be a successful learning sample.

### The line twists or the centres are too close together

Untie the decorative attachments, lay the line flat and reset their positions against the same real-ruler marks. The plan is 30, 60 and 90 cm measured from one end of a 120 cm line. The source PDF is not a calibrated measuring template.

### Yarn sheds, dyes transfer or the pieces contact moisture

Remove the garland; use it only on a dry, washable or protected surface if materials are uncertain. Keep away from heat, flame, pets, young children, food, soft furnishings that may stain and areas where loose fibres could be inhaled. Follow the actual yarn fibre labels; no laundering, colourfastness or material safety test was performed.

## Pattern 1 - Three cut piles and the midpoint binder

Prepare three distinct piles of 24 individually cut body yarn pieces, each measured to 10 cm, with one 50 cm central binding cord per pile. All body pieces in a pile lie parallel, common centre approximately at 5 cm from the end. Wrap the separate binder TWICE in adjacent turns across the bundle's common midpoint. Tie its two free

ends using two opposite-direction overhands; check each has at least about 12 cm remaining, and ensure individual body scraps do not slide under gentle finger contact. Never claim a load or slip rating. A correctly counted 24-piece pile presents 48 body ends, excluding binder ends. A 3 cm radius measured outward from the outer edge of the binder is a proposed trimming reference only, not an observed result. Original teaching schematic, not to physical print scale.

## Pattern 2 - Supported tabletop garland positions

Use one separate 120 cm decorative line laid fully supported on a flat tabletop or broad shelf. Measure centre attachment points from a single end at 30 / 60 / 90 cm. Each tuft's retained two binder ends tie around the line at its marked point and remain visible for checking. The empty margins are 30 cm at each end; centre-to-centre spacing is 30 cm. This is a layout diagram, not a hanger specification or a safe overhead installation.

## Record 1 - Material count and cuts

Item | Expected cut pieces | Target length | Observed cut pieces | Notes

Pom-pom A body | 24 | 10 cm | ____ | _____

Pom-pom B body | 24 | 10 cm | ____ | _____

Pom-pom C body | 24 | 10 cm | ____ | _____

A/B/C binders | 3 | 50 cm | ____ | _____

Display line | 1 | 120 cm | ____ | _____

TOTAL | 76 | Mixed | ____ | _____

Nominal yarn length total: 990 cm. Body pieces total: ____ (target 72).

Body free tips total after tying: ____ (target 144).

Short cuts replaced / design changes recorded: _____.

## Record 2 - Centres, observed size and display care

[ ] Measured the original 10 cm card marks using a physical ruler.

[ ] Counted 24 body pieces in each of the three separate piles.

[ ] Kept the three 50 cm binders distinct from the short offcuts.

[ ] Kept both binder ends available to tie to the display line.

[ ] Used the real ruler, not the PDF scale, for shaping and spacing.

[ ] Checked the three line-centre marks at 30 / 60 / 90 cm.

[ ] Left all work and the line supported flat; no load or hanging test.

[ ] Collected and discarded loose trimmings in a closed bin.

[ ] Swept the work surface and surrounding floor for tiny fibre scraps before ending.

[ ] Checked for shedding, sliding and dye transfer without a wash trial.

[ ] Kept the finished garland away from children, pets and food.

Pom-pom A visible diameter (approx): ____ cm.

Pom-pom B visible diameter (approx): ____ cm.

Pom-pom C visible diameter (approx): ____ cm.

Any knot sliding, missing strands or inconsistent fibres: _____

Next attempt / substitute yarn plan: _____.

## Copyright, reference scope and testing boundary

The specific three-pom-pom 24x10 cm offcut-bundle design, centre-binder and low supported-line assembly order, cut count, diagrams and print records are new original Steadleaf Press digital teaching content. The general concepts of tying yarn bundles at their midpoints, spreading fringe and gentle trimming are common craft techniques; no external step text, photography, diagram or proprietary pattern was copied. The maker should consult the actual yarn label for fibre composition and care because those vary across offcuts.

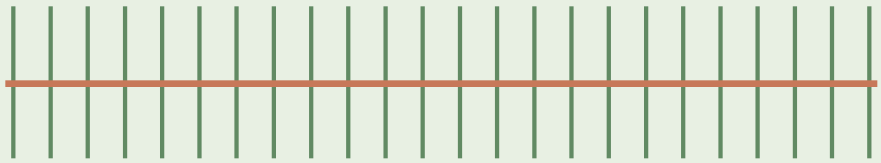
No actual yarn processing, measuring, cutting, handling, knot-security, load-bearing, glue, display attachment, printing, finished-size, washing, dye transfer, flammability, fibre inhalation, durability, environmental, child or pet safety trial was performed. Never present this decorative garland as a tested toy, safe hanging installation or object-supporting cord.

## Three 24-piece bundles, centre-bound twice

Cut 24 separate 10cm pieces for EACH tuft (3 sets = 72 body pieces).

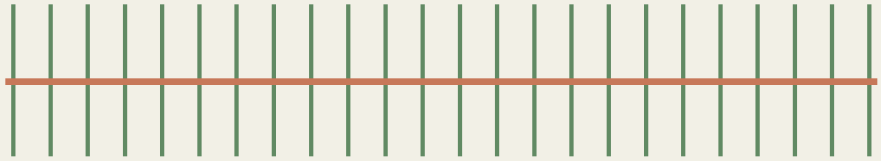
**TUFT A**

24 x 10 cm



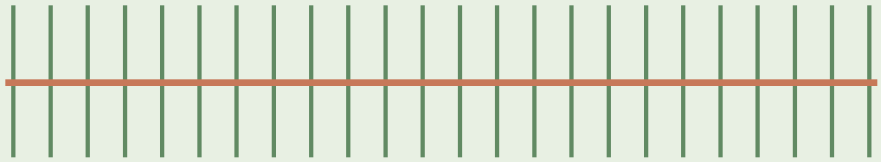
**TUFT B**

24 x 10 cm



**TUFT C**

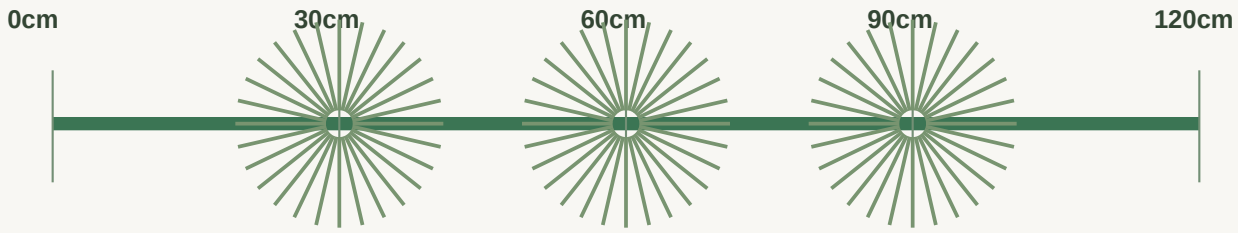
24 x 10 cm



**50cm binder: TWO adjacent wraps at centre, mirrored overhands.**

At least 12cm remains on EACH binder end; check strand slippage.

# Three points on a supported 120cm line




**Entire display line STAYS FLAT on a protected surface.**

Mark centres at 30 / 60 / 90 cm from one chosen end.

End margins: 30 cm each; centre spacing: 30 cm.

Tie with preserved binder tails; no overhead installation.

Diagram is schematic, not a printed 1:1 measuring ruler.

## Offcut counts and material use

Date: _____ Yarn type: _____

| Item | Target | Length | Observed |
|---|---|---|---|
| Body A | 24 | 10cm | _____ |
| Body B | 24 | 10cm | _____ |
| Body C | 24 | 10cm | _____ |
| Binders | 3 | 50cm | _____ |
| Display line | 1 | 120cm | _____ |

**TOTAL = 76 cut pieces, 990 cm nominal yarn.**

Body pieces: ___ / 72; body tips: ___ / 144.

Short offcuts rejected / measured variations: _____

## Attachment, cleanup and care checklist

- [ ] 24 body pieces counted for each of three tufts
- [ ] Each centre binder wrapped twice, with no easy slippage
- [ ] At least 12cm remained free on each binding end
- [ ] Separate 120cm line measured by a real ruler
- [ ] Tuft centres placed at 30 / 60 / 90cm
- [ ] All display yarn fully supported flat (NO hanging)
- [ ] No dangerous tiny scraps left on work surface
- [ ] Adjacent floor swept and offcuts closed in waste bin
- [ ] Loose yarn kept away from children, pets and food

Observed size: A ____ B ____ C ____ cm.

Slipping, shedding, dye concerns: _____

NOT a pet toy, child toy, or tested hanging fixture.