

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE'S #1 PENCIL HOLDER

Be a Really Useful engine and keep your cargo in safe containers – like Thomas' #1 Pencil Holder for #2 Pencils! The fully decorated containers are also good for sorting change, keeping things safe or hiding secret treasures.

The following activities are designed for parents and children to do together. Supervision of children with materials such as glue, scissors, etc is strongly recommended.

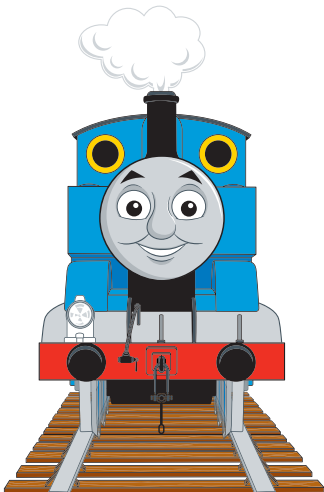
Time: 10-15 minutes

To prepare Thomas' Train Wheel Coaster, you will need the following cargo:

- One aluminium soup or vegetable can, cleaned, dried and with the label peeled off
- Blue String/Wool
- Red String/Wool
- Black String/Wool
- Brown String/Wool
- Yellow felt
- Glue
- Small watercolour paint brush
- Scissors

The Right Track:

1. Cut a circle out of the yellow felt, the diameter of the can. Glue this circle to the inside bottom of the can, creating a soft liner to keep your pencil tips from breaking off.
2. Using the paintbrush spread the glue evenly around the lower half of the can.
3. Wait 1 minute; when the glue starts to feel slightly tacky, wrap the brown string around the can several times (if your can is 4" tall, cover the bottom ¼" in brown string)– this represents the tracks on Thomas the Tank Engine's branch line.
4. Continue with blue string wrapped tightly around (1" high), black (for ½"), red (for another ½"), spreading the glue and giving it time to get tacky as you move up the aluminium can.
5. Finish the remainder of the can in blue string.
6. Finish by gluing a "1" out of yellow felt on the blue yarn (the #1 should be approximately 1" tall)



You have a Very Useful pencil holder – send your engineer on a journey to collect stray pencils and put them in their place!