

This Balloon it! Requires:

20 x 30cm (12")
LINK-O-LOONS®

10 x 12cm (5")
LINK-O-LOONS® or
10 x clear Twisty 260s

2 x 45cm (18")
Foil stars

PRO TIP
Tie a length of curling ribbon or monofilament line to each ring as it is completed & add a weight so they don't float away.

Contributions by John Michel Lucie VIC, Australia

LINK-O-LOON® Flying Saucer

INTRODUCTION

Clients often require specific décor items to emphasise their theme. Space themes create a special problem for the decorator, but this LINK-O-LOON® sculpture could be the answer to your dilemma. This flying saucer is ideal for helium or air.

APPLICATIONS

- Table centrepieces
- Suspended ceiling décor
- Entrance walkway
- Trade show eyecatcher

MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT

- 20 x 30cm (12") LINK-O-LOONS®
- 10 x 12cm (5") LINK-O-LOONS® or 10 x clear Twisty 260s
- 2 x 45cm (18") foil stars
- Helium tank • Balloon sizer • Air inflator
- Low temperature glue gun
- Monofilament line or curling ribbon

STEP BY STEP

1. Helium inflate five silver 30cm (12") LINK-O-LOONS® to 30cm (12") length and tie to form a ring.
2. Repeat step 1 to form a second ring of five silver 30cm (12") LINK-O-LOONS®
3. Helium inflate 10 metallic blue as for the silver, to make a ring of ten.
4. Air inflate 10 x 12cm (5") clear or silver LINK-O-LOONS®
(a) If 12cm (5") LINK-O-LOONS® are not available, air inflate a Twisty 260 to 12cm (5") length leaving 5cm (2") un-inflated at the end. Twist the inflated section and tie off.
5. Tie one mini LINK-O-LOON® or Twisty 260 to each join in the silver 5 LINK-O-LOON® rings.
6. To form the top of the flying saucer, tie the tail of one of the 12cm (5") LINK-O-LOON® to every second join in the 10 LINK-O-LOON® ring.
7. To form the bottom of the saucer, join the tails of the second 5 LINK-O-LOON® ring to each of the other joins in the 10 LINK-O-LOON® ring.
8. Helium fill the 45cm (18") foil stars and cool glue one into the top of the saucer and one into the bottom.
9. Tie a length of monofilament line or curling ribbon to each of the joins of the bottom ring and adjust to the lower ends until the saucer floats level then attach to a weight or add a balloon 'basket'.
10. **Optional Base.** Make 6 duplets using 12cm (5") air-filled round balloons. Join together to make a cluster of 12. Use monofilament line or curling ribbon to anchor and add to the Flying Saucer.

VARIATIONS

- Try different colour combinations for that special effect.
- Using all air filled balloons, suspend from the ceiling for 'out of this world' promotions in shopping centres.

CONCLUSION

This quite simple sculpture creates high visual impact and is ideal for those larger venues and corporate events. An air filled sample in your window or shop creates a long lasting, eye-catching display; your clients can see what they are getting.

