

DIY Ribbon Rings

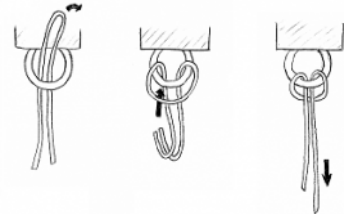
Materials:

- Round, plastic shower curtain rings -OR- 2"-3" metal craft rings (generally cost about 50 cents each at craft stores).
- Plastic ribbon tape (located near the Caution tape in most hardware stores; costs around \$3 each). One roll makes a lot, so buy only one roll unless you want more than one color.
- yardstick/ruler
- scissors



Instructions:

1. Using the yardstick and scissors, cut the plastic tape into strips. You can make the ribbons any length depending upon the age group you plan to use them with. (Suggestion: Try roughly 12" for toddlers, 18" for ages 6-8, and 36" for ages 12+. Cut the strips twice the desired length. Once knotted, three long strands will become six strands of desired length.
2. Knot the strands to each ring. A simple loose knot (like the first half of tying your shoe) works just fine, or you can do a cow hitch anchor knot (see right).
3. Repeat with the rest of your rings. Make as many as you need!



There are plenty of **activities** you can do with ribbon rings. A few quick ideas:

- Students can move freely around the room with their ribbon rings to interpret and reflect different styles of classical music. Even older students and adults enjoy using ribbons for interpretive movement. Sometimes they might just need a little coaxing and encouragement! The use of props can actually help prevent students from becoming self-conscious during movement activities. It gives them something fun to focus on beside themselves.
- Young piano students and early childhood music toddlers can wave the ribbons as they sing and do the motions to children's songs. Up/down and high/low sounds are both concepts can be taught using ribbon rings.

