

HOW TO MAKE A YARN LASSO

A traditional lariat rope, or *lasso*, used for ranch roping is made of stiff nylon or polyester rope, usually about 5/16ths of an inch or 3/8ths of an inch in diameter and comes in lengths of 28, 30, or 35 feet for arena-style roping, and anywhere from 45 to 70 feet for *vaquero*-style cattle roping.

Now that you have learned a little about a lasso, let's make your own!

Materials:

- Yarn (several different colors and widths are best)
- Scissors
- Duct tape

Steps:

1. Cut equal lengths of 6 strands of yarn. You want to double the length of your yarn depending on how long you want your rope to be. For example, if you would like your rope to be 25", cut 50" of yarn.
2. Tie one end of the yarn in a knot.
3. Tape the tied end down to a table. Smooth down the tape to make sure the yarn is secure.
4. Begin twisting. Be sure to gently pull on the yarn as you twist to keep it taut.
5. This step is a favorite for kids. Hold the loose end tightly and have someone place one finger on the midpoint. Fold the loose end back to the taped end. Let go and watch it twist itself into a rope!
6. Gently unfurl the rope and smooth out any bumps. Knot the loose end and you are done!