

# How to make... a living glove puppet

By Maia Kirkman-Richards  
Suitable for ages 7+

## You will need:

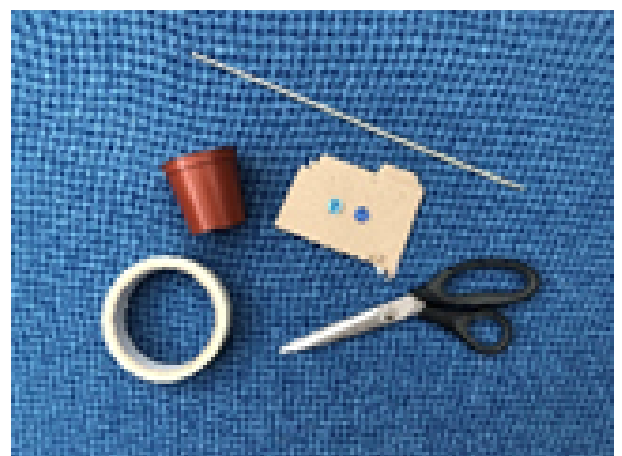
- 1 woolly glove
- Cardboard tube (the inside of a loo roll is perfect!)
- A tissue (or some loo roll!)
- 1 tiny plant pot (I bought mine in a 12 pack from Poundland)
- 2 buttons
- Brown craft paper
- PVA glue and a paintbrush
- Card (old cereal box or packaging)
- 1 wooden skewer or cocktail stick
- Strong tape or glue gun
- Scissors
- Needle and thread
- Seeds and soil



## Instructions

### Step 1a:

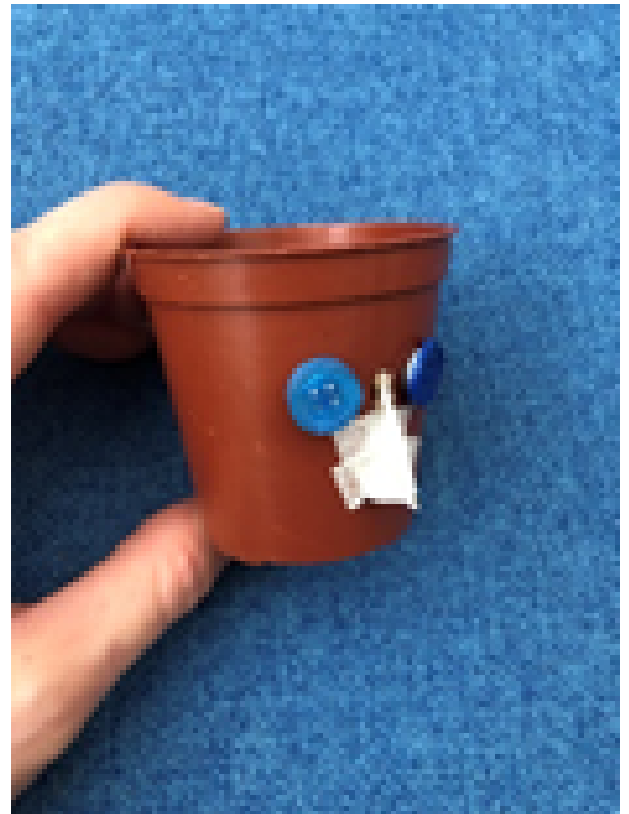
We are going to start our puppet by giving it a lovely face. For this, you will need your plant pot, your two buttons and some card. The open end of your plant pot is going to be the top of your puppet's head.



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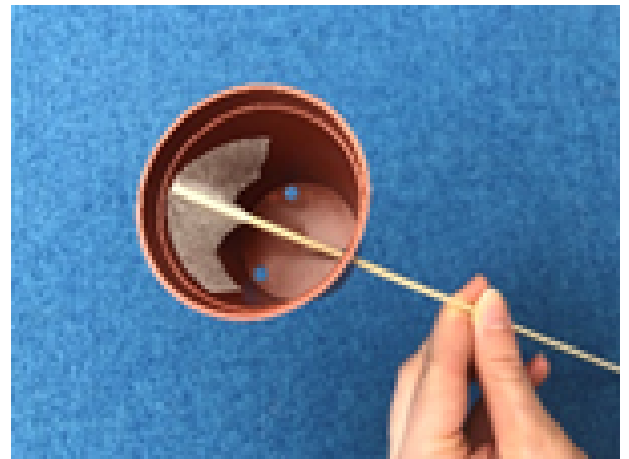
## Step 1b:

Using some glue, tape, or even blue tack, stick your two buttons wherever you would like your puppet's eyes to be. Next, take your cardboard and cut out a small shape for the nose. You can stick this on your puppet's face, in between the eyes using glue or tape. Don't worry about making it look neat because we are about to cover it all up with brown paper!



## Step 1c:

Take your skewer and put it through one of the holes in the bottom of the plant pot – this will become your handle. Secure the skewer in place inside the pot using either some tape or a glue gun (only if you have an adult there to help you).



## Step 2:

The next step is to cover your little plant pot in brown paper to give your puppet some skin. Using a paintbrush, cover your plant pot in the PVA glue.

Tear the brown craft paper up into small pieces, make it slightly wet by dipping it into some water (this helps it stick nicely), and then lay it all over the plant pot. Make sure your paper pieces all overlap and don't worry about being too neat, I think it looks great when it's all higgledy piggledy! Put your plant pot somewhere safe and warm to dry.



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## Step 3a:

Next is the body so grab your glove! The fingers and thumb on the glove are going to become your puppet's arms and legs. You might have noticed that your glove has one too many fingers for this, so we are going to hide one of the fingers. Carefully push the ring finger (the finger in between your middle finger and your pinky finger) back inside the glove so that you can't see it anymore.



## Step 3b:

If you have an adult there with you, then you could ask them to help by sewing up the hole where that finger used to be. If you're doing this by yourself, then don't worry, you don't have to do the sewing because gloves usually do what they are told and I'm sure that finger will stay inside the glove for you!



## Step 3c:

In order to pad out our puppet and give them a nice belly, you can pop your empty toilet roll inside the glove. If you are using a small glove then you might want to cut your toilet roll down a bit so that it fits nicely inside. I also put a tissue inside the roll in case any water from my plant pot fell into my glove later.



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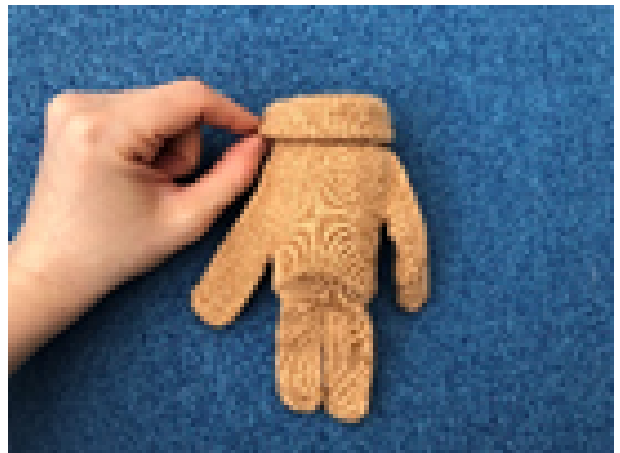
## Step 3d:

Turn your glove over and cut two tiny little holes in the back of your puppet's legs (just under where the toilet roll finishes). These two holes should just about be big enough for you to squeeze your fingers into so that your fingers can become your puppet's legs.



## Step 3e:

Roll down the top of your glove (the bit that normally goes around your wrist) to make it look like your puppet is wearing a fashionable jumper!



## Step 4a:

Once your puppet head has finished drying, you can fill it with some soil and plant whatever kind of seeds you fancy. These seeds might take a bit of time to grow but when they do, it will look like your puppet has got some fabulous hair! If you are impatient like me, then maybe choose something like cress seeds as they grow super quickly. Or if you have a cat at home, you could choose some cat grass seeds as those are pretty speedy too... plus it will mean that your cat will also love your puppet!

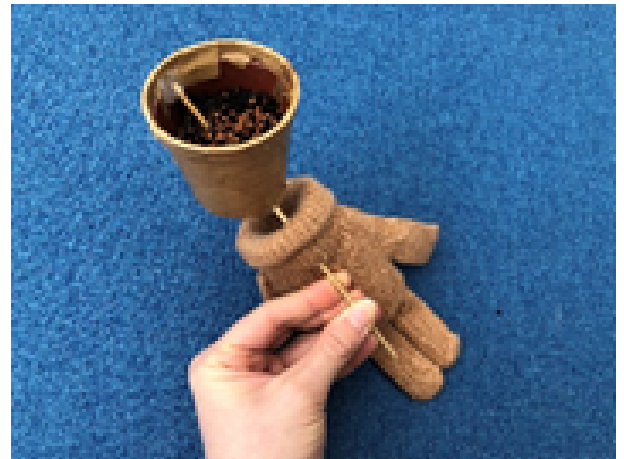


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## Step 4b:

Once the seeds are planted, you can attach your puppet's head onto its body. To do this, you might need to cut down your stick if it's super long.

Ideally, your stick will come out of the bottom of the head and be long enough to reach the end of the toilet roll tube where your puppet's bottom would be. Once you've cut your stick, you can thread it through the back of the glove somewhere in the middle.



## Step 5:

To bring your puppet to life, you can use one hand to hold onto the stick coming out of the puppet's head, and the fingers on your other hand will go into the holes in your puppet's legs. Have fun bringing your puppet to life and making them dance and strut up and down the table. Remember, when you're not playing with your puppet, leave it somewhere warm and sunny and give it a little bit of water so that its beautiful seed hair can grow!

