



## Connecting Experience

# Tawashi Sponge

AGE GROUP

7+

AMOUNT OF PEOPLE

10+

TIME

20 – 30 MINUTES

OBJECTIVE

To make their own reusable sponge, minimising waste and turning something old into something new.

MATERIAL

- ▶ One wood board 20 x 20 cm
- ▶ A ruler or graduated square to measure
- ▶ A pen
- ▶ About thirty long flat-headed nails (minimum length 3 cm)
- ▶ A hammer
- ▶ A pair of scissors
- ▶ Fabric cut into strips (old T-Shirt, socks, wool tights, sheets, etc.)



### Instructions

Tawashi sponges originate from Japan, they are reusable sponges made from old fabrics. They are washable and very easy to make. These could be used for camp, or sold at a local market to raise funds for your group!



CONNECTING EXPERIENCE PAGE  
<https://ej2020.org/connecting-experience/>

HOST ORGANISATION



OFFICIAL EVENT

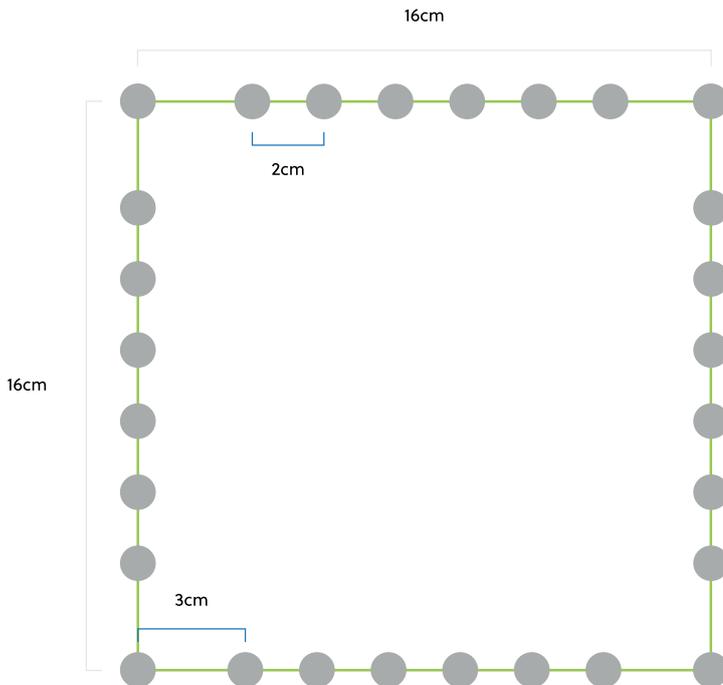


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### Step 1: Make a Weaving machine

- ▶ Draw a 16x16cm square on the board
- ▶ Put a nail 3 cm away from each corner
- ▶ Then put 1 nail every 2 cm.



### Step 2: Make the strips of fabric

- ▶ Cut 14 strips of fabric, 3cm wide

### Step 3: Tawashi weaving

- ▶ Place a strip on a nail on one horizontal side and stretch it on the opposite nail. Repeat along the board with the next 6 bands.
- ▶ Place the next strip on the first nail on the vertical side and pass over and under the successive horizontal strips, so as to form a weave.
- ▶ Then inversely for the next strip which passes under and over in order to continue weaving.
- ▶ Repeat alternately until there are no more nails.

### Step 4: Closing the Tawashi

- ▶ Start from an angle and catch the first loop.
- ▶ Pass the second loop inside the first loop, then pass the next loop inside, until the last loop.
- ▶ Repeat this last loop in itself to finish.

Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=256&v=PjqolAviJQ&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=256&v=PjqolAviJQ&feature=emb_logo)

