

A. PREPARE THE MATRIX.

1. Open package and unfold Matrix.
2. This Matrix has been precoated to help grip balloons.
3. You may paint the Matrix if you like. If you do paint, then apply additional adhesive on top of dried paint to better grip balloons. (We recommend 3-M brand #77 spray.)
4. Stretch open the Matrix so the loops open naturally and do not twist.
5. When stretched open, and loaded with balloons the Matrix will form a bowl shape. Turn the Matrix so that the bowl opens upward.

B. PREPARE THE BALLOONS.

6. **Inflate and size balloons to 8" in diameter.** (Near the center of the Umbrella, you may find it helpful to size balloons slightly smaller than 8".) It is important to measure the diameter of the balloons **AFTER** they have been firmly squeezed by pushing down on the neck of the balloon. (See Figures 1-4)
7. **Tie 74 balloons into 37 pairs. Tie 2 additional balloons as singles. Use one of these singles for the center of the umbrella.** You will get the neatest results if you tie balloons close together and then cut off the excess necks of the balloons. You may choose instead to tie the balloons near the lips and hide the excess necks against the straps of the Matrix. (See Figures 5-8)

C. LOAD THE BALLOONS.

8. **Work on a flat surface** with the "bowl" of the umbrella opening up.
9. Roll one balloon in place so that the dark spot on the top of the balloon presses against the strap of the Matrix on the table and the neck of the same balloon presses against the opposite strap. (Figure 6) Roll the second balloon into place. The necks of both balloons should end up pressed against the strap centered between the balloons. (Figures 7-8). Equal portions of each balloon should be above and below the Matrix straps.
11. Repeat #10 to fill all the holes except the center one.
12. Insert the last (single) balloon with the neck aimed up

D. SUPPORT THE UMBRELLA.

13. Turn the umbrella over so the bowl opens down.
14. Support the center balloon with a balloon cup on a rod, pipe or tube. Or you may choose to squeeze the rod, pipe or tube between the center balloon and the Matrix strap around the balloon. (Use whatever base for the center structure suits your installation.)

E. TRIM AND VARIATIONS.

15. You may spray paint the Matrix to match the balloons or to match accessory ribbons or other decorations.
16. You may use ribbon, tulle, net, vines, flowers, lights, or other accessories to trim the Umbrella.
17. You may hang the umbrella.
18. Try using it as a lamp shade with a light under it.
19. Two umbrellas with the bowls facing each other and trimmed around the edge make a good UFO.
20. Twelve umbrellas connected along the edges will make a very large ball.

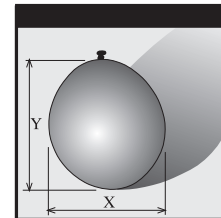


FIGURE 1

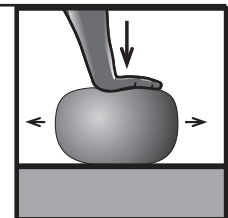


FIGURE 2

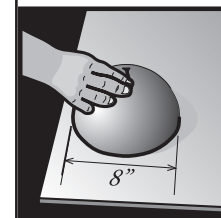


FIGURE 3

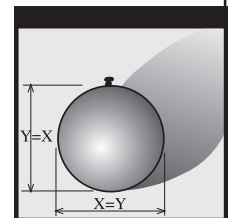


FIGURE 4

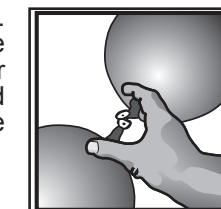


FIGURE 5

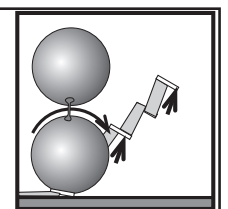


FIGURE 6

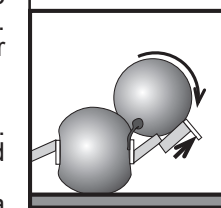


FIGURE 7

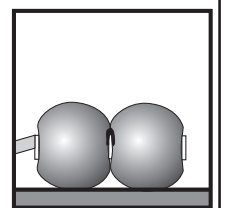


FIGURE 8

RMS Umbrella (Graph)

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Instructions

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