

The Marshmallow Challenge

The Challenge

Build the tallest freestanding structure in 18 minutes using:

- No more than 20 sticks of spaghetti,
- One yard ($\approx 92\text{cm}$) of tape,
- One yard ($\approx 92\text{cm}$) of string,
- And one marshmallow.

The marshmallow must be on top and cannot be deformed to hold it in place.

The structure must stand firmly on its own; it cannot be propped up, held, or suspended from the ceiling.

The Rules

1. Build the tallest freestanding structure:

The winning team is the one that has the tallest structure measured from the table top surface to the top of the marshmallow. That means the structure cannot be suspended from a higher structure, like a chair, ceiling or chandelier.

2. The entire marshmallow must be on top:

The entire marshmallow needs to be on the top of the structure. Cutting or eating part of the marshmallow disqualifies the team.

3. Use as much or as little of the kit:

Teams can use as many or as few of the 20 spaghetti sticks, as much or as little of the string or tape.

4. Break up the spaghetti, string or tape:

Teams are free to break the spaghetti and to cut up the tape and string to create new structures.

5. The challenge lasts 18 minutes:

Teams cannot hold onto the structure when the time runs out. Those touching or supporting the structure at the end of the exercise will be disqualified.

6. Ensure everyone understands the rules:

Don't worry about repeating the rules too many times. Repeat them at least three times. Ask if anyone has any questions before starting.