

**Design a walking labyrinth and a-maze the kids!**

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[http://www.parentsconnect.com/do/design\\_a\\_walking\\_maze.jhtml](http://www.parentsconnect.com/do/design_a_walking_maze.jhtml)

Outing. Ages 3 & up. Time - under a half hour.



Labyrinths have been playgrounds of royalty for centuries. Have your little princes and princesses try their hands at creating and walking in their very own.

**YOU WILL NEED**

- 1. A Driveway:** Pretend your asphalt is the grounds of a castle. (You may have to stretch your imagination quite a bit to transform that three bedroom townhouse in dire need of a new kitchen into a "castle"... but hey, dad always claims to be the king of the castle, so who are we to say otherwise?)
- 2. Sidewalk chalk:** Finally something to do with the eight packs of it you got as party favors last summer.
- 3. A ruler:** The kind with inches on it, not the Napoleonic kind. (You've got one of those already!)

**4. A crown or tiara:** Younger kids will love dressing up as royalty for their stroll in the maze. Just make sure they check their crown at the door when it's time to set the table.

## **HOW TO DO IT**

1. Grab your chalk and head outside.
2. Using the chalk, either you or your kid should draw a big rectangle or square on the pavement to define the outside walls of your maze. Leave a space for the entrance and exit.
3. Next, draw parallel lines a foot wide inside your rectangle or square to create your maze. Along the way, add some dead ends and a path that leads out of the maze.
4. Adjust the difficulty to your child's age. When the maze is complete, have the kids walk it, skip it, crawl it or hop it.

## **NOTES**

Walking mazes have historically been used for meditation to foster inner peace and calm. When you feel like you're going to blow around bedtime, hit the pavement and walk it off! We can't promise peaceful calm—but you may be able to catch a brief moment of serenity. When the maze fun has fizzled, make good use of that chalk with Nick Jr.'s 5 Favorite Chalk Games.