

Timber post maze

This maze at Moors Valley was installed by a play specialist, but it could easily have a more natural feel if it was made with suitable branch wood.



HOW TO BUILD



- Select a good location before starting; somewhere the ground conditions can withstand heavy wear.
- Look on the internet for maze ideas. Mark the line of the maze on the ground with spray first.

If using posts plant them into the ground by about $\frac{1}{3}$ of their length. Compact soil around the post so that it is secure and does not rock. In shallow soil it might be necessary to use concrete. ● If the job seems too daunting to do by hand, consider using a post hole borer or a mini-digger to build a series of trenches. If you adopt this approach make sure that the

ground is levelled and compacted as you go as it will be difficult to use machinery once the posts are restricting access.

- Consider creating a temporary maze with loose materials, sand, mown grass, brash or chalk on a hard surface, or more permanent mazes with willow, hedge plants, areas of strimmed vegetation (bracken) or fencing.
- Using directional spinners could add an extra element of chance: see 'quizzes, puzzles and games'. Use rope gates for an interactive maze.
- For large mazes keep visual references such as entrance and finish flags to assist users and consider the need for escape or rescue in the event of fire or sudden illness.

Useful contacts

- Search the internet for examples of maze patterns:
<http://gwydir.demon.co.uk/jo/maze/other.htm>
- or make your own:
<http://gwydir.demon.co.uk/jo/maze/design.htm>