

**SURVIVING HOME ALONE
HISTORIES**

Marcus B. Neumann

**How to Spend
Your Time Home Alone
with Your Family
in 2022**

101 Funny and/or Useful Activities
Collected from All Over the World

*HomeSweet Home
Splendour*

INTEGRAL

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How to Spend Your Time Home Alone with Your Family in 2020
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World**

A Lot of Easy DIY Ideas—Simple to Complex Methods

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Foreword: For Happy Mindful Home Alone with Family Time!

Personal subjective decisions but also imperative collective demands may make us to spend some holidays according to the „home alone” pattern (individual or family loneliness). It may be an awkward situation but at least once in a lifetime you*d find yourself with no other options. You just have to do it and, from this very point of view, for the strange year of 2020 it will not be an exception but a rule.

But, don't be sad, my friend! A lot of opportunities may arise alongside with your isolation period. And you may discover some useful and/or just funny activities you and your family will fall in love with, believe me!

I have gathered a lot of information regarding these ”tips” and ”tricks” from all around the world and I am more than happy to share them with you!

So, let's have some fun together!

Yours friendly,

Marcus B. Neumann

Art & Craft Activities to Do at Home Alone or with Your Kids

1. Thread coloured pasta into fancy jewellery

What you need:

- Uncooked hollow pasta (eg. penne)
- Ziplock bags
- Food colouring
- Hand sanitiser
- Paper towel

Step 1: Gather what you need for the coloured pasta jewellery craft.

Step 2: Place your uncooked pasta into a Ziploc bag.

Step 3: Put a few squirts of hand sanitiser into the bag. Zip up the bag and shake to lightly to evenly coat the pasta.

Step 4: Re-open the bag and pour a few drops of food colouring into the Ziploc bag.

Step 5: Zip up the bag and shake until the food colouring has mixed evenly through the pasta.

Step 6: Empty the coloured pasta from the bag onto some paper towel and leave it to dry.

Step 7: Get ready to thread. A tip for threading pasta for small fingers is to attach a match to the end of the string with sticky tape.

Step 8: Once dried you can thread it onto string to make beautiful pasta jewellery creations.

Step 9: Voila! A gorgeous, coloured pasta necklace!

2. Learn to finger knit, french knit or braid wool into friendship bracelets

You will need:

- 3 strips of 1 inch jersey knit fabric (each one should be at least 58 inches long);
- scissors and your fingers

Directions:

1. First you have to decide how thick you want your bracelet to be. Choose between, 2, 3 or 4 fingers.

2. Take the first strip and at the ends of it make a small hole, do the same for all 3.

3. Take the first 2 strips and overlap the ends where the holes are, take the other end and pass it through the hole. This way you will connect the strips together. Do the same move

with the third strip and you can start knitting.

4. Start knitting like you can see in the pictures and continue the process until you have 5 inches left, carefully take the loops down from your fingers and secure them by making a knot.

5. After you have secured the end, tie both ends together in a double knot and a bow, trim the ends if they are very long and you are done.

3. Make a paper chain to hang up in the dining room

Materials:

- Colored paper in dark pink, light pink, blue, green, yellow, and gold.
- Paper cutter
- Hot glue gun
- Wooden dowel

Instructions:

1. Slice the paper in pieces with dimensions 1/2" by 3 1/2"
2. Follow the guide to create strands by overlapping about 1/2" of each paper piece and securing with glue. Loop the next color through and secure with glue. Continue until you've completed a strand, and begin the next one.
3. Slide the strands onto a wooden dowel and hang on the wall!

4. Create a "God's Eye" / "Ojo de Dios" weaving using sticks and wool

Historical origin:

A God's Eye (in Spanish, *Ojo de Dios*) is a spiritual and votive object made by weaving a design out of yarn upon a wooden cross. Often several colors are used. They are commonly found in Mexican and Mexican American communities, among both Indigenous and Catholic peoples.

Ojos de Dios are common in the Pueblos of New Mexico. Often they reflect a confidence in all-seeing Providence. The spiritual eye of the *Ojos de Dios* is thought by some believers to have the power to see and understand things unknown to the physical eye. During Spanish

colonial times in New Mexico, from the 16th to the 19th centuries, *Ojos de Dios* (God's Eyes) were placed where people worked, or where they walked along a trail.

Materials:

All you need are pieces of yarn and a couple of sticks (tree branches, but popsicle sticks, craft sticks or dowel rods would also work)

Directions:

Step 1: Connect your sticks

With a small bit of yarn, tie your two sticks together. Knot the yarn so it doesn't come undone.

Step 2: Wrap the yarn around the sticks

Firmly hold the end of your yarn against the center of the sticks. Wrap the yarn in a clockwise or counterclockwise direction (you decide – just be consistent) around one of the sticks.

Move on to the next stick and then wrap it again.

Keep moving around in a circle, wrapping the yarn around each stick as you go.

If you run out of yarn or want to change colors, simply knot a new piece of yarn to the existing piece and keep going.

Make a knot around the stick when you're done.

When you're done, you can hang the God's Eye somewhere important as a symbol of good luck.

5. Tint shaving cream with food colouring, paint the windows or glass doors (or the inside of the shower glass), then rinse it off

Nothing special to be said about this funny activity, no complicated tutorial required, just do it and enjoy your time when you need to calm down yourself!

6. DIY Bag from Jeans – A Fun Way to Recycle and Repurpose Old Stuff

Denim bag supplies:

Old pair of jeans

Zipper to fit the inside of the jean bag (I used a 16-inch zipper but this will vary with the jeans)

2 1 inch D-rings

1 inch black twill tape

1 decorative purse strap

Directions:

Step 1: Cut off the legs. Because you will want to make a bottom for this bag you'll want to cut the leg off below the crotch to give yourself as much material to work with as you can.

Step 2: Sewing and cutting front and back seams. In order to make the fabric lay flat, open the front seam and pin it flat. Then sew along the pin lines. Sewing the front placket After you've sewn the center cut off the excess fabric. Sewing the back center seam Repeat on the center of the backside of the jeans. *Step 3:* Pin and sew the bottom seam of the bag. Now your fabric is nice and flat. Pin and sew a 1/2 inch seam on the bottom.

Step 4: Make a flat bottom for the bag. Once the bottom seam is sewn, match the side seam with the bottom seam making a point. Then measure 3.5 inches across and mark a line. Pin and sew along the line. You can then cut off the point or leave it for extra support. Repeat on the other side. Turn the back right side out and you can now see that you have a nice boxed bottom for your bag.

Step 5: Add a zipper. Pin one side of the zipper just inside the waistband. Sew that side using a navy or blue thread so that it will blend in with the jeans. Then open the zipper and pin the other side. Sew in place.

Step 6: Add rings to attach a strap. Cut a small piece of twill tape and slide it through the D-ring. Sewn D-ring onto jean bag Pin it to the top of the side of the bag and sew into place. Trim off any extra twill tape.

Step 7: Clip a decorative strap on the D-rings. Clip a decorative strap to use as your handle. I really loved all these decorative purse straps that you can buy online. However, you could simply make a strap of the extra material from the legs. In this case, you could also do away with the D-rings and twill tape, or keep them for added texture.

How to Make a Purse Strap from Jeans

Decide on the finished length and width. For example, say you want a 30 inch strap that is 2 inches wide. You probably do not have a piece of fabric that is 30 inches. Here's what you can do. Split it in half and add extra for seams and attaching to the bag. In this case, I would cut two strips 17.5 inches long and 5 inches wide. Sew the two strips together (right sides together) on the short ends using 1/2 inch seam allowance. Press open the seam open. You now have a 34 inch piece of fabric with a seam in the middle. Next, fold the fabric in half longwise with right sides together and stitch with a 1/2 inch seam allowance. Turn the fabric right side out and stitch it to the bag. Fold under the raw edge a little and either loop it through the D-ring and sew it back onto itself or fold under the raw edge and sew it directly to the top side of the bag.

7. Using butcher paper, trace a partner's/child's whole body

Now try to include as many full scale body parts and organs as you can... but no Hannibal Lecter asked for any help!

Materials:

- Butcher paper or other large paper
- Masking tape
- Oil pastels (or other drawing tools; paint sticks work great for this, too)
- Paints (if possible, use BioColors)
- Fabric scraps or decorative papers (optional)
- White glue (optional)

Instructions:

Step 1. Set Up. First, cut a length of butcher paper long enough to fit your child's body and tape it to the floor. *Step 2. Trace Your Partner's/Child's Body.* Have your partner/child lie down on the paper and strike a pose of their choice. Trace their body with dark oil pastels or a marker.

Step 3. Decorate and Paint the Body Tracing.

Draw, paint, and collage the self portrait as desired. Add collage elements if you like. You can add everything from yarn and buttons to pasta and metal washers. You can also focus on fabrics, applied with a watered-down white glue.

Step 4. Hang (and Admire) the Finished Unconventional Body "Portraits"!

8. Make a mud kitchen in the garden, make different coloured rock paint

"Is that mud, chocolate, or something else?!" Free your fantasy and, using your favourite paint, color all the little rocks and pebbles you find in your garden. You and your kids will get a lot of "raw" materials for crazy food menu ideas! Michelin stars to be awarded soon!