



# *The Goat Source*

## *Goat Toys You Can Make Yourself!*

By Leslie A. Applegate  
The Goat Source  
13611 NCR 9  
Wellington, CO 80549  
Copyright by The Goat Source  
Sept. 01, 2005  
All Rights Reserved

No part or portion of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted by any means mechanical, or otherwise without express written consent of The Goat Source.

[www.goatsource.com](http://www.goatsource.com)  
[goatsource9@cowisp.net](mailto:goatsource9@cowisp.net)

# Introduction

Goats (caprines) are a very playful creature. The word “capricious” comes from the Latin and means impulsive and unpredictable and goats certainly are!! They love to get up high and push their pen mates off of their high perch. Kids, especially, are fun to watch at play. They can just be standing there and all of a sudden they all take off and race madly no where in particular!! Lets see what toys we can make for them to play on.

## Spools

Wooden spools can be gotten cheaply or free. Try electrical contractors or any one who uses large amounts of cable or wire. Get various sizes and place around in the pen. Be sure and block off any holes in the tops with a piece of scrap wood to prevent feet from getting caught. If the larger goats push the spools over by the fence, secure them with stakes (with nothing sticking up that they could stab themselves on) or remove them. A spool by the fence might tempt some adventurous goat into trying to jump the fence.

## Balls

Old basketballs are great. Some goats will push them all over the pen. Tether balls hung off of an old clothes pole provide hours of entertainment. Larger balls such as exercise balls might be intimidating to small kids, but adults would love them. Check to be sure the goats can't push the balls into the hot wire and ground it out!!

## Platforms

Old trailer stairs with railings are a good play place! Fix the railings so that no one falls off the platform. The goats will lay in the shade it provides, too. Benches are good toys. Make sure they won't tip, and don't have foot getting holes. A tetter totter entertains kids for hours. It should be very low and not come up to far so it doesn't smack some poor kid on the other end in the face.

## *Rocks*

If your pen has large rocks in it – you're in luck!! You have ready made goat toys. They will play Queen of the Rock for hours and keep their feet trimmed in addition.

## *Conclusion*

Goats will play on just about anything. They like getting up high and pushing their pen mates off the top. If they can make noise while doing this, it's even better!! Use your imagination and you will find all sorts of things to amuse your goats. Be sure there are no sharp edges or holes to catch feet!! Happy playtime!!