

# Ping Pool

For a full hour of fun, try this hybrid of Ping-Pong and pool. First, set up a six-foot-long folding table. Attach six paper cups along the edge of the table—one at each corner and one in the middle of each of the long sides—like the pockets of a pool table. Cut out the bottom of each cup and tape on a small plastic bag. Make a final check to see that the cups fit snugly to the table. If they do not, cut and shape them to get a tight fit.

Choose two teams of six players each and position them at random along the edge of the table on their knees with their arms folded on the table and their chin resting on their folded arms. Place on the table twelve Ping-Pong balls—six white ones for one team, six red ones for the other. (Either buy red balls or color white ones with a marker. If you do this, use a permanent marker so the color won't wear off during the game.) Announce that only two balls—of any combination—are permitted in any pocket. Act as referee to make sure this rule is followed during play. At the whistle, direct each team to blow its balls into the table's pockets. The players' arms will keep the balls on the table. Be on hand to put out-of-bound balls back into play. The team that sinks its balls first wins.

Here are some variations:

**Tag-Team Ping Pool:** Have only one member from each team play at a time. Ask the other team members to wait their turn in an area away from the table. When a person has successfully pocketed one ball, she or he can tag a team member, who will then represent

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the team at the table. The game is over when a team has pocketed all six of its balls.

**Bumper Ping Pool:** Scatter about ten unopened, ice-cold cans of soda pop on the playing table. Have the players blow balls around the cans of pop to sink their balls in the pockets. The winning team gets first choice of the soda!

**Challenge Ping Pool:** This is the same as regular Ping Pool, except that only one ball of each color may roll into each cup.