

The Spaghetti Tower Challenge

The challenge is to build the tallest spaghetti tower possible which will support a marshmallow (or something of similar weight). This can be completed by individuals, sibling teams or entire family teams. You only have 18 minutes to complete and construct your design.

Equipment:

20 sticks of dry spaghetti

1 metre of sellotape

1 metre of string

1 marshmallow (or equivalent 7 gram item)

Timer – watch, stopwatch or similar on a phone

Of course, if you don't have one of these items, you can improvise or do without.

Remember to work as a team and to work iteratively (make and test prototypes and allow these to influence your final design). Then, watch the TED talk video below to see how other teams have got on (and which group of people are traditionally the most successful at this task).

For those budding engineers and architects out there, we suggest that after the clock has stopped and you have taken a picture of your final construction (and measured it), you go back to it and try to improve your design further without the pressure of time.

Send in your pictures and the heights of your towers. How high can you get?

https://www.ted.com/talks/tom_wujec_build_a_tower_build_a_team?language=en

