



advanced level

number 107



*This b Decor Requires:*

- ✓ 36 x 28cm (11")  
Metallic Burgundy  
Round Balloons
- ✓ 48 x 12cm (5")  
Metallic Burgundy  
Round Balloons
- ✓ 48 x 30cm (12")  
Metallic Green  
Link-O-Loons®
- ✓ 12 x 12cm (6")  
Crystal Green  
Mini Link-O-Loons®
- ✓ 60 x 12cm (5")  
Metallic Green  
Round Balloons



**LINK-O-LOON® PRO**  
BALLOON DECORATING SYSTEM

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## LINK-O-LOON® Palm Tree

### INTRODUCTION

The techniques for building balloon sculptures of palm trees are quite varied. The fronds of the palm having been usually reproduced with various non-round balloons have the limitation of a restricted length. The LINK-O-LOON® Palm Tree offers the ability to extend or reduce the length of individual fronds to suit the design and location.

### APPLICATIONS

- Stage Backdrop
- Tropical, Jungle and Beach Theme décor
- Entrance Décor
- Dance Floor corner décor

### MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT

#### The Trunk

- 36 x 28cm (11") Metallic Burgundy Round
- 48 x 12cm (5") Metallic Burgundy Round
- 1.5m (5') rod and base.
- 1m (3') bendable rod.
- Duct Tape
- Fishing Line

#### The Fronds

(Quantities may vary depending on number of Fronds required. Stock for full set of 12 Fronds.)

- 48 x 30cm (12") Metallic Green LINK-O-LOON®
  - 12 x 12cm (6") Crystal Green Mini LINK-O-LOON®
  - 60 x 12cm (5") Metallic Green Round
- Sizing method Air Inflator.

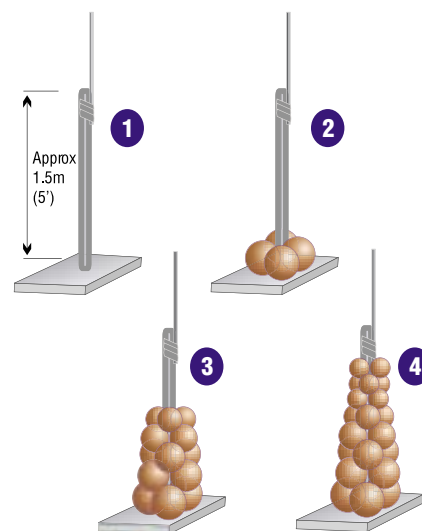
*The method described is for a self-standing Palm Tree on a base plate. By adding or subtracting to the length of the trunk and or fronds the LINK-O-LOON® Palm Tree can be adapted for any décor requirements. The fronds can also be utilized to enhance either of the additional two Trunk designs described at the end of these instructions.*

Before inflating any balloons secure the 1m (3') bendable rod with tape to the rigid base pole. Overlap the rod and pole approx 20cm (8") to ensure a generous fixing area as shown in **Diagram 1**.

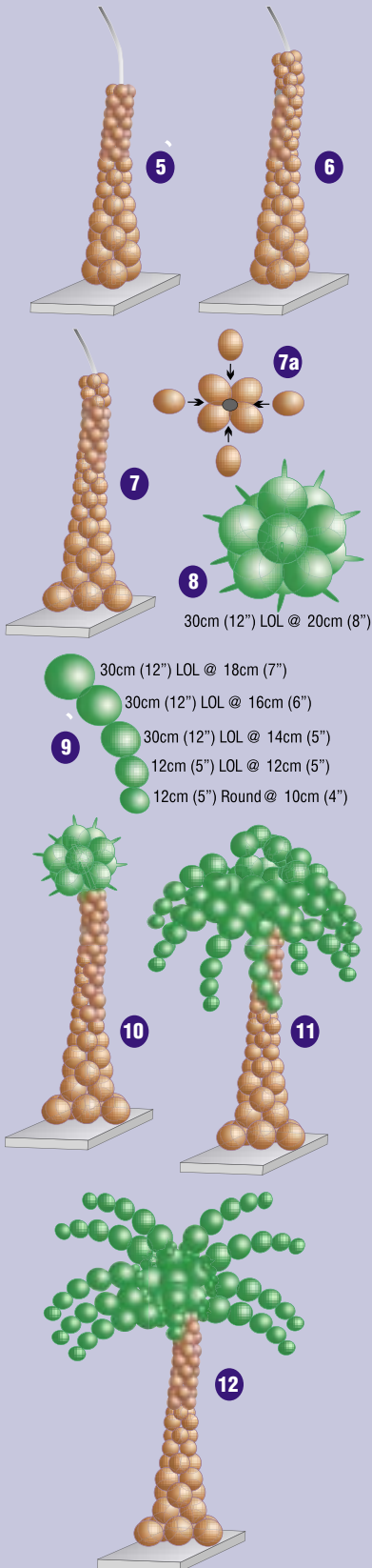
The bendable rod is added for additional length to the trunk that is bendable thus allowing for the authentic look of the leaning Palm.

#### Creating the Trunk

1. Inflate two 28cm (11") Metallic Burgundy round balloons to 24cm (9") and tie at the necks to form a duplet
2. Inflate a second duplet.
3. Wrap the two duplets together at the necks to form a cluster of four.
4. Wrap the cluster to the base as shown in **Diagram 2**.
5. Inflate four more clusters sizing them to 22cm (9"), 20cm (8"), 18cm (7") and 16cm (6").
6. Graduating down the sizes wrap each cluster firmly to the pole packing it tightly to the cluster as before and shown in **Diagram 3**.



**b the best!**



7. Again using the 28cm (11") metallic burgundy round balloons inflate three more clusters of four balloons to 14cm (5"). For a consistent look in the texture of the balloons ensure that the 'body' for the balloon is fully inflated and stretched as shown in **Diagram 4**.
8. Using the 12cm (5") Metallic Burgundy round balloons inflate seven Clusters to 12cm (5").
9. Wrap each Cluster to the pole as shown in **Diagram 5**.
10. Inflate five more clusters of 12cm (5") metallic burgundy round balloons to 10cm (4") and wrap to the bendable rod as shown in **Diagram 6**.
11. Inflate four 28cm (11") metallic burgundy round balloons to 20cm (8") and tie each one off individually.
12. In order to broaden the base of the trunk use a 'line' (or rubber cement) to position one between each of the 24cm (9") inflated balloons in the first cluster at the bottom of the trunk as shown in **Diagram 7 & 7a**.

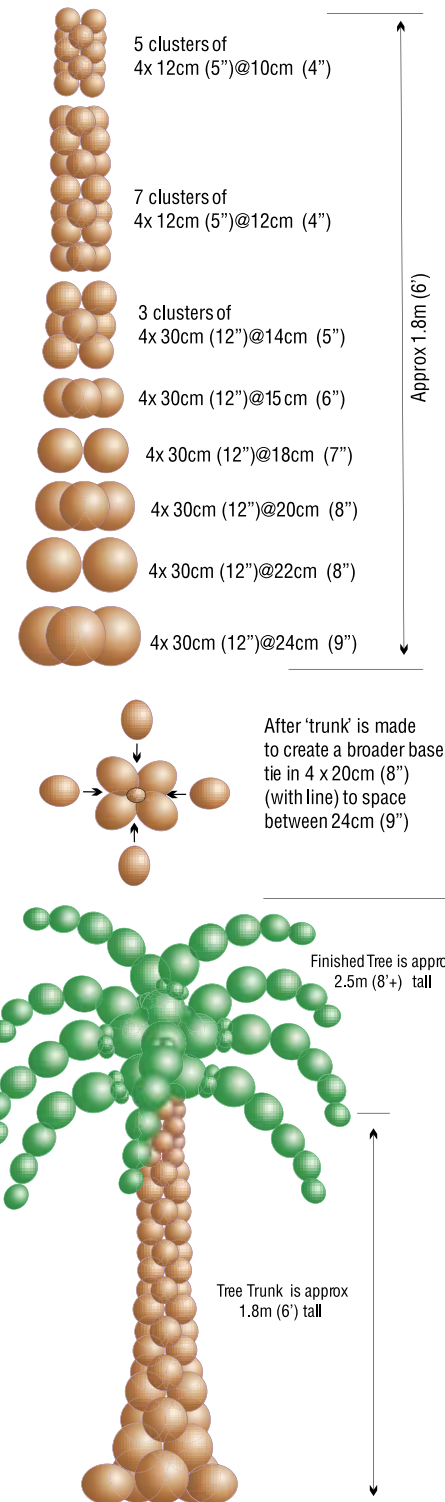
**Note:** Depending on how tight each cluster has been packed to the pole & rod you should have approx. 20cm (8") of the (bendable) rod exposed. This length is used as a fixing point for the LINK-O-LOON® Ball Topiary described in the next section. It may be necessary to add or subtract clusters.

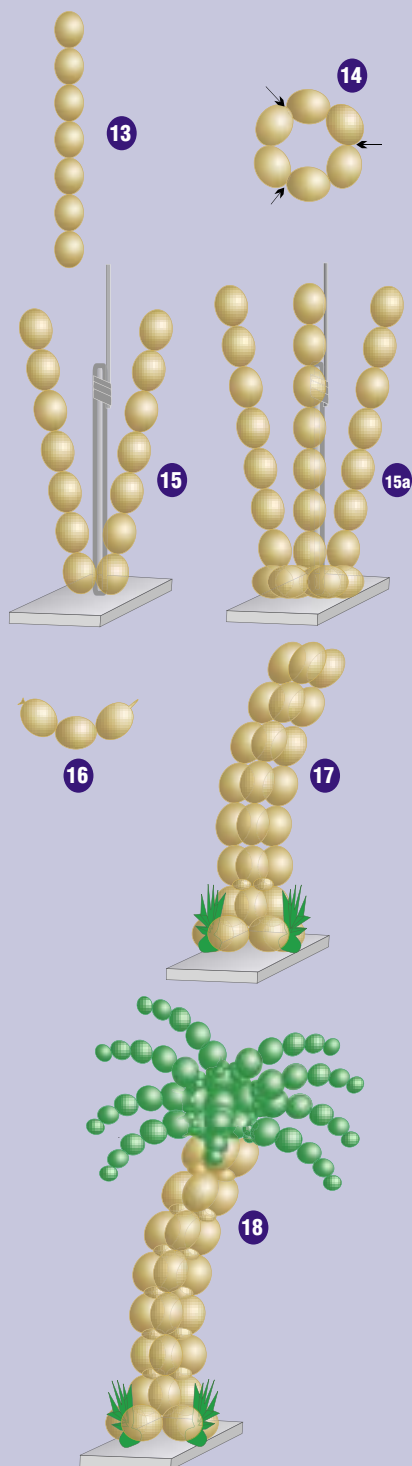
#### Making the Fronds

13. Inflate two 30cm (12") metallic green LINK-O-LOON®s to 20cm (8") and tie at the neck to form a duplet.
14. Repeat step 13 five more times.
15. Wrap all six duplets together to form a cluster of 12 LINK-O-LOON®s (Ball Topiary) remember to ensure that each of the duplets crosses over the other five allowing for a spherical shape to be achieved as shown in **Diagram 8**.
16. Inflate a 30cm (12") metallic green LINK-O-LOON® to 18cm (7") and tie off.
17. Inflate a 30cm (12") metallic green LINK-O-LOON® to 16cm (6") and tie off by its neck to the tail of the previously inflated balloon.
18. Inflate a 30cm (12") metallic green LINK-O-LOON® to 14cm (5") and tie off by its neck to the tail of the previously inflated balloon.
19. Inflate a 12cm (6") crystal green LINK-O-LOON® to 12cm (5") and tie off by its neck to the tail of the previously inflated balloon.
20. Inflate a 12cm (5") metallic green round balloon to 10cm (4") and tie off by its neck to the tail of the previously inflated balloon as shown in **Diagram 9**. This will give you a chain of five balloons each decreasing in inflated size by 2cm (1") from the one before.
21. Repeat steps 16-20 eleven more times till you have 12 chains of five balloons.
22. Inflate two 12cm (5") metallic green round balloons to 7cm (2") and tie together at the necks to form a duplet.
23. Repeat step 22 and wrap the two duplets together at the neck to form a cluster of four balloons.
24. Repeat steps 21-22 eleven more times till you have 12 clusters of four balloons.

#### Securing the fronds

25. Attach the metallic green LINK-O-LOON® Ball Topiary to the end of the (bendable) rod by either wrapping it to the rod or by tying it on (for extra security) with a line as shown in **Diagram 10**.
26. To each of the tails of the LINK-O-LOON®s on the ball topiary attach one of the 12 fronds created in steps 16-20 as shown in **Diagram 11**.





27. At the joining point between the ball topiary and the fronds wrap one of the clusters of 4 x 12cm (5") metallic green round balloons as shown in **Diagram 12**. This will allow the fronds to project outward from the tree giving it a 'fuller' appearance.

#### PRO TIP

Remember it may be necessary to add or subtract fronds to suit the desired design.

#### Two Alternative Designs for Trunk

In real life, palm trees take many form styles and so should the sculptures we build. Here are two variations on the method for constructing the trunk.

#### Materials & Equipment

- 54 x 30cm (12") Metallic Gold LINK-O-LOON®
- 3 x Balloon Weights wrapped with Green paper
- 1.5m (5') rod and base.
- 1m (3') bendable rod.
- Duct Tape

#### Making The LINK-O-LOON® Trunk

28. Inflate a 30cm (12") metallic gold LINK-O-LOON® to 19cm (7") and tie off at the neck
29. Inflate six more 30cm (12") metallic gold LINK-O-LOON®s and tie each one off to the tail of the one before to make a chain of seven LINK-O-LOON®s as shown in **Diagram 13**.
30. Repeat steps 28-29 two more times to make three chains.
31. Make a ring of six LINK-O-LOON®s sized to 19cm (7") as shown in **Diagram 14**.
32. Join the three chains together and wrap at the bottom of the pole as shown in **Diagram 15**.
33. Tie every second joining point on the ring (as shown in **Diagram 14**) to the ends of the chain fastened to the pole as shown in **Diagram 15a**.

#### Making the Collars

34. Make 8 small chains of 3 x LINK-O-LOON®s all inflated to 14cm (5") as in **Diagram 16**.
35. Wrap each of the 3 x LINK-O-LOON® chains around the trunk fitting each balloon between the LINK-O-LOON®s and tie. Add the green anchors as in **Diagram 17**.
36. Construct the fronds using the method described earlier leaving off 3 of the fronds.
37. Fasten the three unused LINK-O-LOON®s on the ball topiary to the three tails at the end of the three chains making up the trunk.
38. Wrap the last collar of three LINK-O-LOON®s around the connecting point between the trunk and the fronds as shown in **Diagrams 18 & 19**.

#### The Single Chain Palm Tree

This method is designed specifically for 'hanging' from a rigging point.

39. Construct a LINK-O-LOON® chain to the desired length.
40. Construct the fronds using the method described earlier.
41. Attach the chain to the fronds with a 'line' as shown in **Diagram 20**.
42. Clusters of 12cm (5") balloons can be added to the trunk.
43. Hang from rigging point.

#### Colors

To achieve an individual look the trunk can also be constructed from crystal brown, burgundy or even metallic gold balloons. The fronds can also be made from any of the variety of green balloons available.

#### Measurements

Under the design presented the LINK-O-LOON® Palm Tree will stand approx 2.5m (8') tall.

## CONCLUSION

Awesome in its most basic form, the LINK-O-LOON® Palm Tree is sure to impress no matter where it is placed on a stage or in a function room.

