

Instructions for a Qualatex® Walk-through Heart

To keep assembly time to a minimum, gather the materials and read through the instructions before beginning.

Walk-through Heart

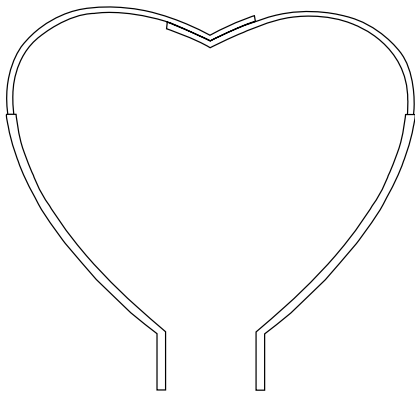
Labor: About 1½ to 2 hours for a 9'W x 9'H (2.7m x 2.7m) Heart

Materials:

- 300* 11" (28cm) Latex Balloons
- 2 10' (3m) Pieces of ½" (1.3cm) Conduit
- 2 12' (3.7m) Pieces of ¼" (0.6cm) Aluminum Rod
- 2 SDS™ Base Plates
- Pipe Bender
- Duct Tape

Instructions:

1. Bend the conduit into half-moon shapes to create the left and right sides of the Heart, leaving about 1' (30cm) straight on each piece to insert into the base plates. **NOTE:** Make one side of the Heart first, then simply copy it for the second side.
2. Bend a piece of aluminum rod to create one lobe of the Heart as shown. Using the first lobe as a pattern, bend the second aluminum rod to create the other lobe. Overlap the aluminum rods as shown and duct tape them together. Insert the aluminum rods about 1' into the tops of the conduit and secure with duct tape to complete the Heart shape.



3. Air inflate and size two 11" balloons to 9" (23cm). Tie the two balloons together to make a duplet. **NOTE:** Be sure all balloons are inflated uniformly to create professional-looking decor.
4. Make a second duplet. Twist two balloons together, one from each duplet, to create a 4-balloon cluster.
5. Wrap the cluster directly onto the frame by separating two of the balloons and pushing the cluster onto the frame. To secure, twist together the two balloons that were separated.
6. Create a second cluster and attach it to the frame. Rotate the second cluster 45 degrees so it's nested into the first cluster. Before securing, push its center firmly against the first cluster's center. Twist together the two balloons that were separated.
7. Continue adding clusters until the frame is covered.
8. To make a more prominent Heart "peak," add a 4-balloon cluster of 8" (20cm) balloons at the joint of the lobes, then tie in a 10" (25cm) balloon for the teardrop center.

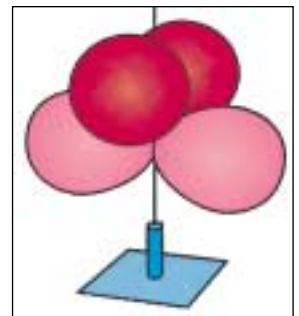
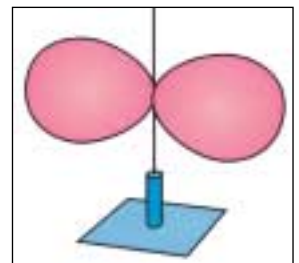
*Balloon quantity may vary as much as 20% depending on size of Walk-through Heart and how tightly the balloon clusters are packed.



Duplet Square-packed Garland

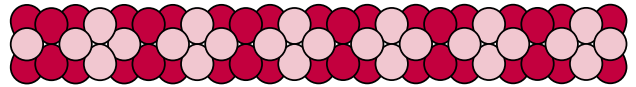
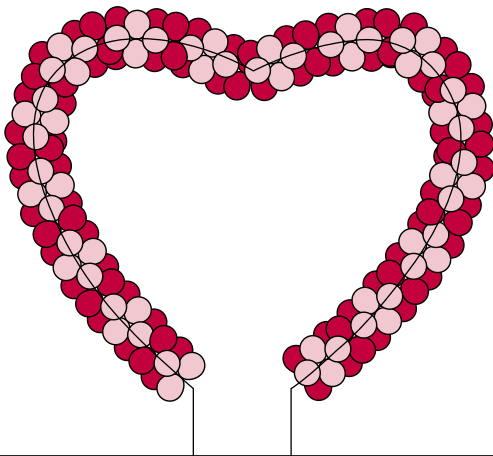
To emphasize the shape of the Heart with a strong line, use the duplet square-pack method and two different colors of balloons:

1. Inflate two, same-color balloons to the same size, tie together to create a duplet, and wrap onto the frame.
2. Make a second, same-size duplet in a different color and wrap onto the frame perpendicular to the first duplet.
3. Repeat Steps 1 and 2 to cover the frame, lining up the same-colored balloons to create the Heart outline.

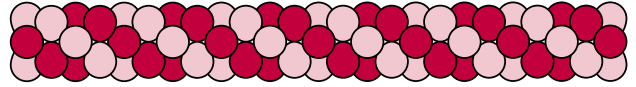


TIPS

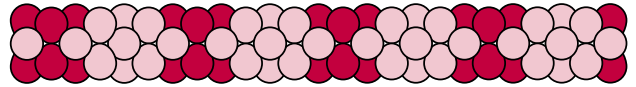
- Customize Walk-through Hearts with tulle, fabric, ribbon, greenery, flowers, and even curly 260Qs to add texture and visual interest.
- Fully inflate or under inflate the balloons depending on the desired look of the completed Heart.
- To get a perfect framed Heart, reverse your spiral where the two halves meet at the top or bottom. This will make maximum use of the spiral swirl and create a balanced Heart.
- Increase the lengths of the aluminum rod and conduit proportionately to make larger Arches. Larger Arches may also require rigging from above.
- Personalize the Walk-through Heart by incorporating the event colors.
- Add twinkle lights for evening events to create a lovely glow.
- Under inflate balloons to provide extra durability and allow more flexibility when wrapping clusters.
- Pack balloon clusters tightly to cover the framing and produce a full, lavish look.
- Use Walk-through Hearts to frame entrances and as backdrops for head tables and cake tables to add definition and draw attention.
- Pre-inflate balloons and transport in plastic bags to save set-up time on site.
- Reduce friction on your fingers by tying the balloons close to your fingertips.
- Wrap clusters directly onto the frame (rather than onto monofilament line that's later pushed onto the frame) for fewer steps and better control of spiral or patterned effects.
- Always use Qualatex latex balloons for better durability, easier tying, and beautiful, vibrant colors.
- Ensure all the balloons are the same size by using a sizing tool, such as a Qualatex ProSizer™ Template, for a more professional look.
- Hearts can be created in all sizes, color combinations, and patterns. Try these patterns:



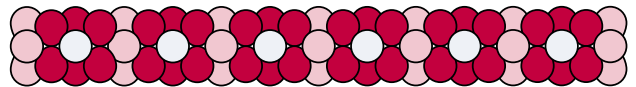
SMALL DIAMOND



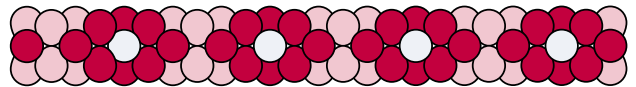
SPIRAL



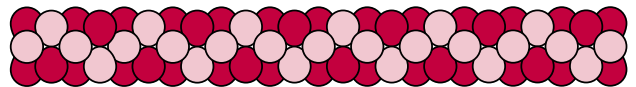
LARGE DIAMOND



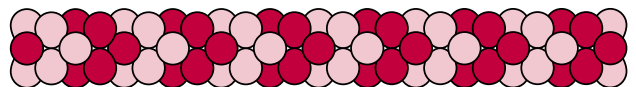
SMALL FLOWER



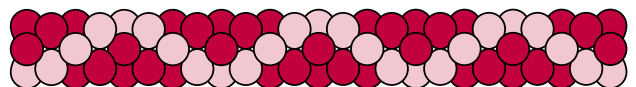
LARGE FLOWER



SMALL ZIG-ZAG



ARROW



SNAKE

Hearts are featured in the Jan/Feb/Mar 2003 issue of **Balloon Images** magazine and e-zine. To see if you qualify for a free subscription, go to **"Balloon Images E-zine" on Qualatex.com**, or call Pioneer® Balloon Company at **1-800-999-5644 (press 7)** or 316-685-2266.

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