

SPAGHETTI BRIDGE COMPETITION RULES

- Teams are supplied with a fresh 1lb box of spaghetti, two glue guns with 7 glue sticks, and a new #2 pencil. The bridge can only include these items at a maximum. (And must include the entire pencil as part of the bridge to anchor the load.)
- Teams can bring cutting tools, jigs, full-size templates, etc., but no spaghetti or adhesive of any type.
- Teams will have 90 minutes to complete their bridge, and must stop work when time is called.
- Bridge must allow a 3x4 inch block to pass through from one end to the other.
- Bridge must span a 24 inch gap between supports. There is no upper limit on bridge length, height, or width.
- Bridge may not brace against any part of the supports, other than resting on the top surface. It cannot be glued in place.
- No part of the bridge can extend more than 2 inches below the plane of the tops of the supports.
- Spaghetti strands must terminate at each joint, no "thru joints" allowed. Strands may cross each other without terminating at that point as long as they are not glued together there.
- Bundles of up to 6 strands of spaghetti are allowed, as long as they don't violate another rule.
- Scoring is done by calculating the ratio of bridge mass to load at the moment of failure. Failure includes breaking and falling off the supports, or falling off without breaking. Judges reserve the right to determine "failure".
- Load is calculated by adding mass to a container attached to the pencil that is incorporated into the bridge. When the bridge fails the mass is weighed.