

CURIOSITY AT HOME

MÖBIUS STRIP

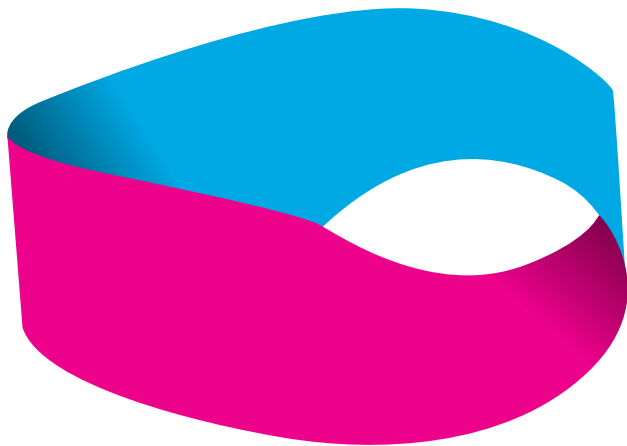
Make one of these mathematical wonders and experiment with cutting it in different ways to see what happens.

MATERIALS

- pen
- scissors
- tape or glue
- gift wrap (or any paper that has two sides that are different colors)

PROCEDURE

- Cut strips of gift wrap that are 24 inches by 2 inches.
- Twist the strip once and tape or glue the ends together.
- Draw a line down the center of the strip.
- Cut along this line until you return to your starting point. What happened?
- Draw another line down the center of the new strip.
- Cut along this line and find out what happens.
- Make another Möbius strip and this time cut along a strip that's only a third of the way in from the edge of the strip.
- What happens when you finish cutting?
- What happens if you twist the strip two or three times and then cut down the center?



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