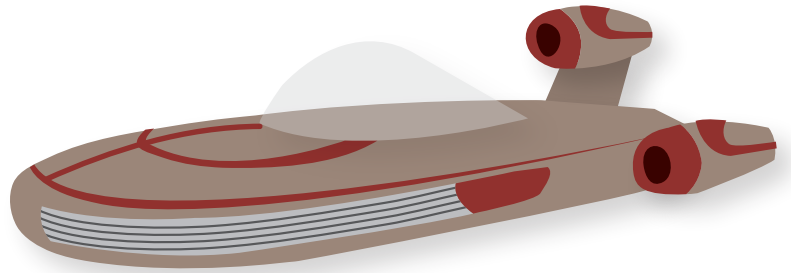


CD Landspeeder

Celebrate Star Wars Day with a hovering landspeeder - no repulsorlift engine required!

Collect

- Wooden spool
- Glue (regular and hot glue)
- Round balloon
- An old CD
- Scissors
- Sheet of cardstock
- Markers, optional



Build the landspeeder

1. Attach the cardstock to the top side of the CD (where the label is) using regular glue. This will be the top of your landspeeder.
2. Use scissors to cut out the paper covering the hole in the CD.
3. Place the spool on top of the paper so that the holes are lined up and hot glue it in place, making sure not to cover any part of the hole with glue.
4. Cut the paper into whatever landspeeder shape you want and decorate it with markers.

Attach the balloon

5. Inflate the balloon, but instead of tying off the end, pinch it closed and twist it a few times to keep the air from escaping.
6. Without letting any air out of the balloon, stretch the mouth of the balloon over the spool.
Hint: This might be easier with a second set of hands - try asking a grown-up or a friend to hold the balloon closed while you attach it to the spool.
7. When you're ready to launch your landspeeder, hold it over a smooth surface, untwist the balloon, and watch it go!

How does it work?

Luke's landspeeder might be able to race across the sandy surface of Tatooine, but your landspeeder will work best on a very smooth, flat surface. When you release the balloon, the air inside rushes out through the narrow channel created by the hole in the spool. This creates a cushion of air underneath the craft that causes it to hover. Real hovercrafts work by using one powerful fan to create the cushion of air and another to create thrust so it can move in different directions. Try making your landspeeder move by tapping it with your finger or gently blowing against the balloon as it hovers.

