

# Build a power pylon

Young people will need to collaborate and use their problem-solving skills to see if they can build a pylon out of newspaper that can withstand the weight of a roll of sticky tape

## Suitable for Scouts

### You will need (per group of 5)

- paper and pens
- newspaper
- roll of sticky tape
- scissors (Always provide supervision. Store sharp objects securely, out of the reach of young people.)

### Instructions

**1** Divide the young people into teams of 5 and challenge them to design and build the tallest pylon (tower) out of newspaper and sellotape, which can support a roll of sticky tape placed on top of it without collapsing.

**2** Give everyone 20 minutes to work together and use the materials to build their pylons. Let them know they're allowed to cut the newspaper and sticky tape when constructing their pylons. Remind everyone to listen to each other and consider each of their team members' ideas.

**3** When the time's up, the pylons must be able to support the full weight of the roll of tape when placed on top.

**4** The group that's built the tallest stable pylon, which is able to hold the tape, are the winners.

**5** After the challenge, bring everyone together and ask them how it felt to work as part of a team. They should also think about the types of teams there are in their local community, such as families, sports teams, work colleagues, emergency services. How might they better support teams in their local community?

**Time needed**  
**30 minutes**

### Badge



UK Power Networks partners the Scout Local Knowledge Activity Badge

### Partner



### Outcomes

Young people will work together to develop teamwork, innovation, communication and leadership skills.

### More information

For more badge resources and activities go to [scouts.org.uk/supporters/ukpowernetworks](https://scouts.org.uk/supporters/ukpowernetworks).

## Apprenticeships with UK Power Networks

Teamwork, innovation and leadership are all skills that are valued at UK Power Networks – it's what they look for in an apprentice. Just google 'apprenticeships at UK Power Networks' to find out more.