One Strip Fire Hose Hammock

General Description: A single strip of fire hose finished on each end with loops for installing.

Advantages Over Unfinished Strip of Fire Hose: Reduces fraying from ends, making it last longer, look better, and most importantly reduce risk to animals; easier to install and remove to change. enclosure layout; looks more “finished”.

Species: Small mammals.

Uses: Playing, swinging, lounging, napping, eating, and more.

Known Safety Concerns: Ingestion of rubber from inside length of fire hose is a potential concern which can be prevented by using double-jacketed canvas fire hose and removing and not using the inner rubber-lined layer. This also makes it much lighter.

Hoop Fire Hose Hammock Instructions

Items Needed:
1 piece of fire hose (width and length desired for species and enclosure; add extra length to fold over wood – Step 2)
2 pieces of wood slightly shorter than width of fire hose and about 1” x 1” (dimensions do not need to be exact)
Wood screws (size/amount depend on width of fire hose and thickness of wood; long enough to ensure good hold, but without excess to present risk to animals)
Washers (same as number of screws; size depends on screws)
8 zip ties (aka cable ties)
Drill and bit or screwdriver
Awl or other tool to punch holes for zip ties (aka cable ties)
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**STEP 1.** Line one end of fire hose strip up with one piece of wood and attach with screws. Washers are used to prevent screws from pulling through fire hose. Leave about half an inch of wood showing. This makes folding the fire hose around the wood (Step 2) easier.

**STEP 2.** Roll fire hose around the piece of wood once, keeping it snug against the wood to prevent gaps.
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STEP 3. Center the awl against the rolled fire hose, as shown, and punch through hose, leaving awl in place (or spot can be marked and awl removed until Step 4).

STEP 4. Unroll the fire hose with the awl in place and punch a hole through the fire hose, wiggling awl to make the hole large enough to slide required number of tip ties through. Fire hose can stay rolled around the wood while you do this, but it is usually easier to punch the holes if it is unrolled.
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STEP 5. Repeat so that there are three holes about equal distance across the width of the strip of fire hose. (Wider fire hose may need more holes. Narrower fire hose may need fewer holes.) Slide one zip tie through each of the holes on the sides and two zip ties through the middle hole.

STEP 6. Reroll the fire hose around wood. Close and tighten zip ties. Leave one of the two zip ties in the middle long enough provide an attachment loop or to hold another method of installing hammock. Slide zip ties around so that the ends are tucked under the fold in the hose and cut off excess.

***There are other methods of creating a loop to hang the hammock if the zip tie loop is a concern for any reason. For example, you can loop a length of rope or chain along wood before folding over fire hose to create a horizontal loop rather than the vertical zip tie loop.
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STEP 7. Repeat steps on other end of fire hose strip.

The hammock can be rolled up and stored or transported in a small space.

Installation is simple, allowing for the hammock to be moved easily.