



Removing the Inner Rubber Jacket from Double Fire Hose

*Many thanks and absolute credit to
Micala Teetzen of Sedgwick County Zoo for this useful (and fun) technique.*

You can “skin” double-layered fire hose to remove the inner rubber layer. Use caution! Go SLOWLY.

If you feel the hose “stick” or either of the connections starts to pull loose, stop and investigate. *We and others have done this safely, but we cannot know that you (and your door frames, carts, etc. will be safe doing this. YOU are the responsible for your safety.*

Pros:

Easier to work with

Doubles the length of fire hose you have

Makes items that are much lighter in weight (pro for hanging and some other uses)

Provides fire hose without rubber for species where ingestion is a concern

Cons:

Not as durable

Does not hold “form” as well for items where that is desired

Makes items that are not as heavy (con where weight is desired as part of enrichment)

Steps to “skin” a fire hose:

1. Attach only the outer cloth layer of fire hose to a sturdy structure such as a door frame.
2. Attach only the inner rubber-lined layer of fire hose to the bed of a golf cart.
3. Drive forward **slowly using caution** to pull the layers apart as you go.

A short piece of fire hose was used for demonstration purposes in the photo below, but an entire standard 50' roll of fire hose can be skinned in this manner if you choose a location where you can drive forward at least 100'.

