

PVC Atlatl Design By Bob Sizemore

Here is my design for a PVC (synthetic bamboo) atlatl.

Cut a piece of half inch PVC 26 inches long for adults and 16 inches for kids. Mark your cutout with a felt pen. Most any saw will cut PVC, but I like to use a band saw. Also, the little cut off wheels on a dremel work well. Using a hand file or a rotary file on a dremel, smooth out the edges. It is very important to put a plug in the pipe at the top end ahead of the hook so the dart does not slip into the opening. If it does, the atlatl will break the dart off as you throw. You can find $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wooden dowels that will fit inside the pipe. Use a 90 degree PVC elbow at the handle end, and use a short piece of pipe as a rest. Make a cut out in the rest, and glue a piece of leather in the cutout to hold the dart. You want a little friction, but not too tight. I don't glue the pipe together. It is not necessary. Just twist the parts together. Paint it if you like. Cost is under a dollar each.

I have made dozens of these atlatls and taught hundreds of people to throw with them. As it turns out these are very good working atlatls. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

