



## Care and feeding of your Big **BafaBall™**

### How to Construct a **BafaBall™**

#### The flower method

Select six pods to build the first flower with.

Choose one pod. This will be the center of the first flower. The other five pods are the petals.

Stick the petals onto the center of the flower by sticking the Velcro-brand fasteners together, working your way around the center of the flower. This is now half of a **BafaBall™**

Now make another using all the remaining pods. Put the two halves together and your **BafaBall™** is complete!

Alternatively, after the first flower is made, just add the remaining pods one at a time like you are finishing an igloo.

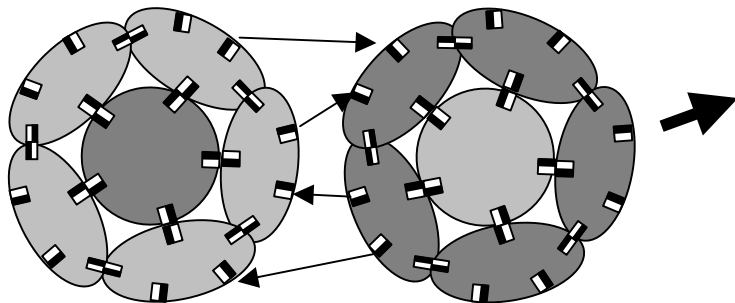
Flower A

+

Flower B

=

**BafaBall™**





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### **Here are a few hints that will ensure Optimum performance of BafaBall™ over the years.**

1. Every few weeks, check your pods for firmness and add air if needed. We've found that there are typically one or two pods that need a bit of air. If the area you store the pods in falls below 70° F, you may have to add air more frequently, since the valves lose ability to trap air as the pressure drops in the pods.
2. If your balloons are silver-colored, that aluminum coating may partially come off if it gets wet and is rubbed vigorously. This does not noticeably affect the balloon's ability to hold air.
3. If a pod becomes soiled, you can surface clean them with a brush or damp cloth. If the covers become very dirty, they can be cleaned in a clothes washer. First deflate the balloon, then remove it from the cover. Now the cover can be machine washed cold, gentle cycle, and air-dried. Re-install the balloon in the cover and re-inflate.
4. If a balloon loses its ability to hold air, deflate it and remove it from its cover. Then insert a new balloon into the cover and inflate it, per the instructions below.

### **Replacing a bladder in your BafaBall™**

If a balloon loses its ability to hold air, just -deflate it and replace it, as described here.

1. Fully deflate the old balloon and remove it from the cover.
2. Fold a replacement balloon in an accordion fold, with the valve at one end of the long, folded balloon.
3. Pull the opening flap out of the cover, if it is not already sticking out.
4. Stuff the balloon into the cover through the opening, non-valve end first.
5. Spread the balloon as flat as you can within the cover using your fingers or the eraser end of a pencil.
6. Inflate the balloon, per the inflation instructions.

*Additional valved balloons can be purchased anywhere 17" film balloons are sold, or contact BafaDesign at our website, [www.bafatoy.com](http://www.bafatoy.com).*



## Care and feeding of your Big **BafaBall™**

### How to inflate and deflate your Big BafaBall™

**Each component of a BafaBall is a BafaPod. To inflate your BafaPods™,:**

1. Insert a straw about two inches into the opening of a nylon film balloon, so that the tip just reaches the printing on the balloon.
2. Clamp your fingers around the straw within the balloon tail and inflate the balloon
3. half-way, about 4 adult breaths. Sometimes it takes a hard puff to get the air started.
4. Pat on the balloon and be sure that the seams of the balloon align roughly with the
5. seams of the cover. Now completely inflate the balloon until it resonates like a drum,
6. but still has some wrinkles at the seam. Usually this takes 8 to 12 adult breaths
7. Tuck the balloon's tail into the opening. Cover the opening with the flap by pushing
8. the flap across the opening and under the cover with your index finger.
9. Repeat the procedure with the remaining pods... there are two straws, so have a friend help!
10. If you inflate the balloons in an environment below 75° F, you may want to add a few puffs of air to each balloon after giving them a few minutes to cool. Expect dramatic changes in firmness with temperature. You may need to add air out in the cold. Don't worry about releasing air when they get warm again, unless very firm pods bother you.

### **To Deflate Your BafaPods™,:**

Note: Your pods may be deflated for storage or cleaning, but do not deflate the balloons if you can help it. The valves lose ability to hold air with each deflation. Plan on two or so balloons not inflating the next go round.

- 1) Pull the film tail of the balloon out of the cover.
- 2) Insert a straw into the hole at the end of the balloon tail,.
- 2) Insert a straw into the balloon, directing pressure along the near wall of the pod, not toward the center of the pod. Push the straw into the pod until you begin hearing air escape.
- 4) Sit on the pod or clutch it to your chest to force air out through the straw.