

# Cheap launcher for Catapult Gliders

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If you are planning to fly catapult launch glider and don't have a launching stick, the following might help. Get a foam brush from a store that sells paint, etc. Tear off the foam and what you have is a 3/8" or 1/2" dowel about 6" long with a slot cut into the top. Drill a hole through the top at 90 degrees to the slot and near the end of the dowel. Use a 10-32 or larger screw through the hole and it helps to have a wing nut with washer to hold the slot shut. The rule says the rubber must be no longer than a 9" loop of 1/4" rubber. Very few people have arms long enough to use that much rubber but start with enough rubber to make a 10" loop and tie a knot in the end. Put the knot one side of the stick with the loop on the other. You now have an adjustable launching stick! Keep shortening the loop and retieing the knot till you get maximum extension of the rubber when your model is stretched as far back as you can get it. Most of the launch speed is obtained from the last couple of inches of stretch.