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Project: COOLS  
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TITLE EN: COOLS

#### TEXT EN

Corrugated cardboard can be used to create anything. A puppet theatre, a fast car, or a great little stool? With COOLS Cardboard-Tools you simply cut out the parts and connect them. The big beechwood chest contains tools for cutting, scoring, perforating and connecting the cardboard. The cutting board that goes underneath can be easily assembled. The accompanying book explains how everything works and contains inserts for every design. And you can upload your creations to the accompanying website. COOLS will help develop children's two- and three-dimensional insight as they play, and teach them how to come up with new designs, execute them, and share them with others.

TITLE NL: COOLS

#### TEXT NL

Van golfkarton kun je alles maken. Een poppenkast, een snelle auto of een mooi krukje? Met COOLS Cardboard-Tools snijd je de onderdelen uit en verbind je ze aan elkaar. In de grote beukenhouten kist zitten de gereedschappen om het karton te snijden, rillen, perforeren en verbinden. De snijmat, die ook meteen je werkveld vormt puzzel je zo in elkaar. Hoe het allemaal werkt, staat in het bijbehorende boek met inlegmapjes voor alle ontwerpen. En je kunt jouw creaties op de speciale site uploaden, zodat anderen die ook kunnen maken. Spelenderwijs wordt zo het tweedimensionale en driedimensionale inzicht ontwikkeld. COOLS leert je hoe je ontwerpen kunt bedenken, maken en delen met anderen.

Cools is nominated for the Brains Award!  
[www.brainseindhoven.nl/nl/top\\_10/&id=507](http://www.brainseindhoven.nl/nl/top_10/&id=507)

[www.cools-tools.nl](http://www.cools-tools.nl)

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*"My name is Coen Danckmer Voordouw and I present you my project COOLS.*

*COOLS stands for Cardboard-Tools. These are (cardboard) tools which can be used for example by children at primary schools or after school activities to make a lot of things from cardboard. All tools that you need you can find together with the cutting board, which also is your workplace, in the wooden box*

*The box comes with a COOLS-book where you can read step by step, with clear illustrations, how the tools work and how to use them. The book also tells you how you can make the designs and to design yourself. If you create a new design, for example a nice little stool or an airplane, it's possible to upload your design on COOLS-TOOLS.NL. This way you can share your design with others so that the TOOLS collection can grow.*

*COOLS will help develop children's two- and three-dimensional insight as they play. The nice thing is that when you are done you have a nice tangible result. So children can play for example with their own made puppet theatre, playhouse or something else you want to play with. Everything is possible!"*



## COOLS (Cardboard-Tools) uitgebreidere tekst

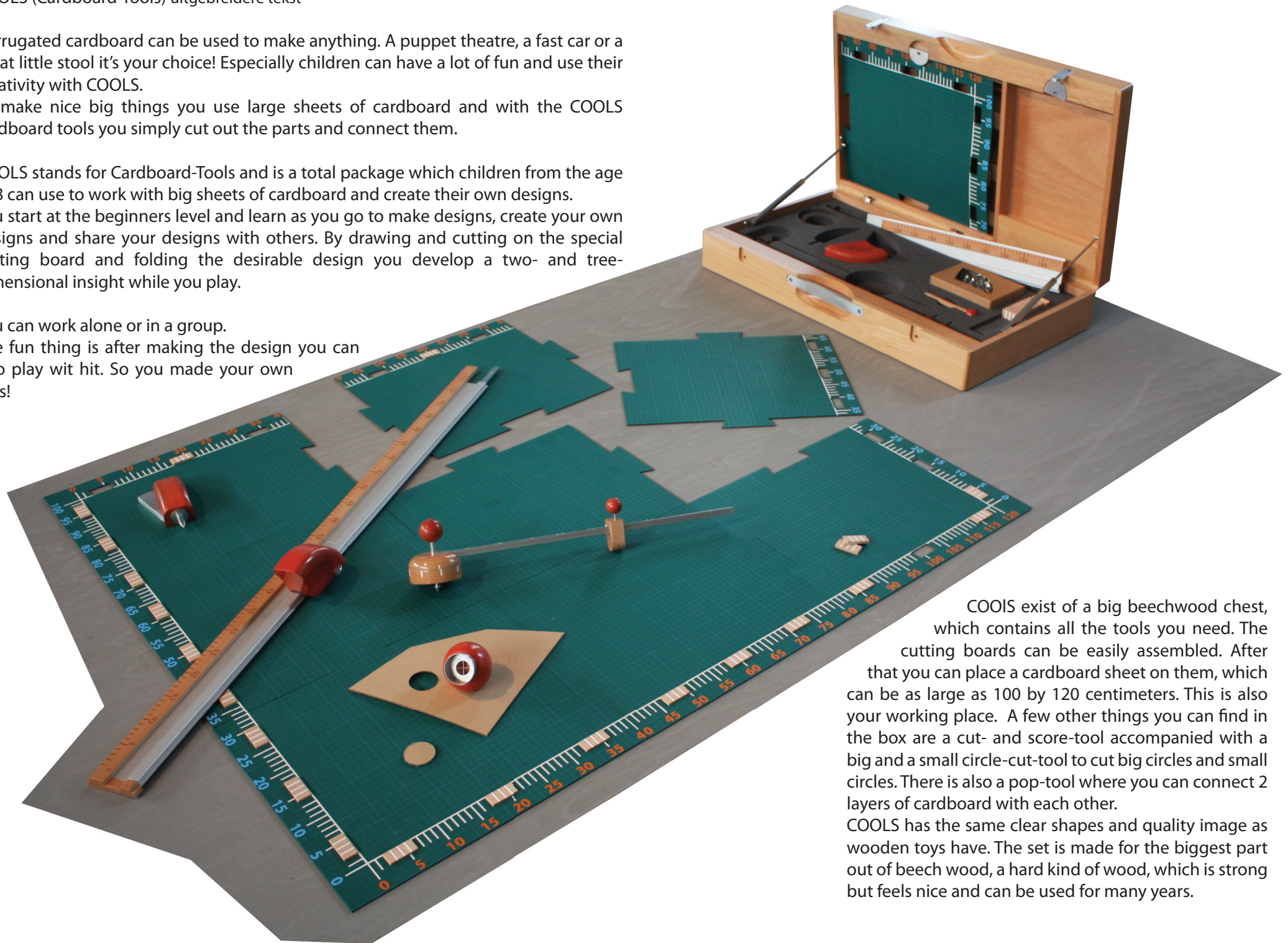
Corrugated cardboard can be used to make anything. A puppet theatre, a fast car or a great little stool it's your choice! Especially children can have a lot of fun and use their creativity with COOLS.

To make nice big things you use large sheets of cardboard and with the COOLS cardboard tools you simply cut out the parts and connect them.

COOLS stands for Cardboard-Tools and is a total package which children from the age of 8 can use to work with big sheets of cardboard and create their own designs. You start at the beginners level and learn as you go to make designs, create your own designs and share your designs with others. By drawing and cutting on the special cutting board and folding the desirable design you develop a two- and three-dimensional insight while you play.

You can work alone or in a group.

The fun thing is after making the design you can also play with it. So you made your own toys!



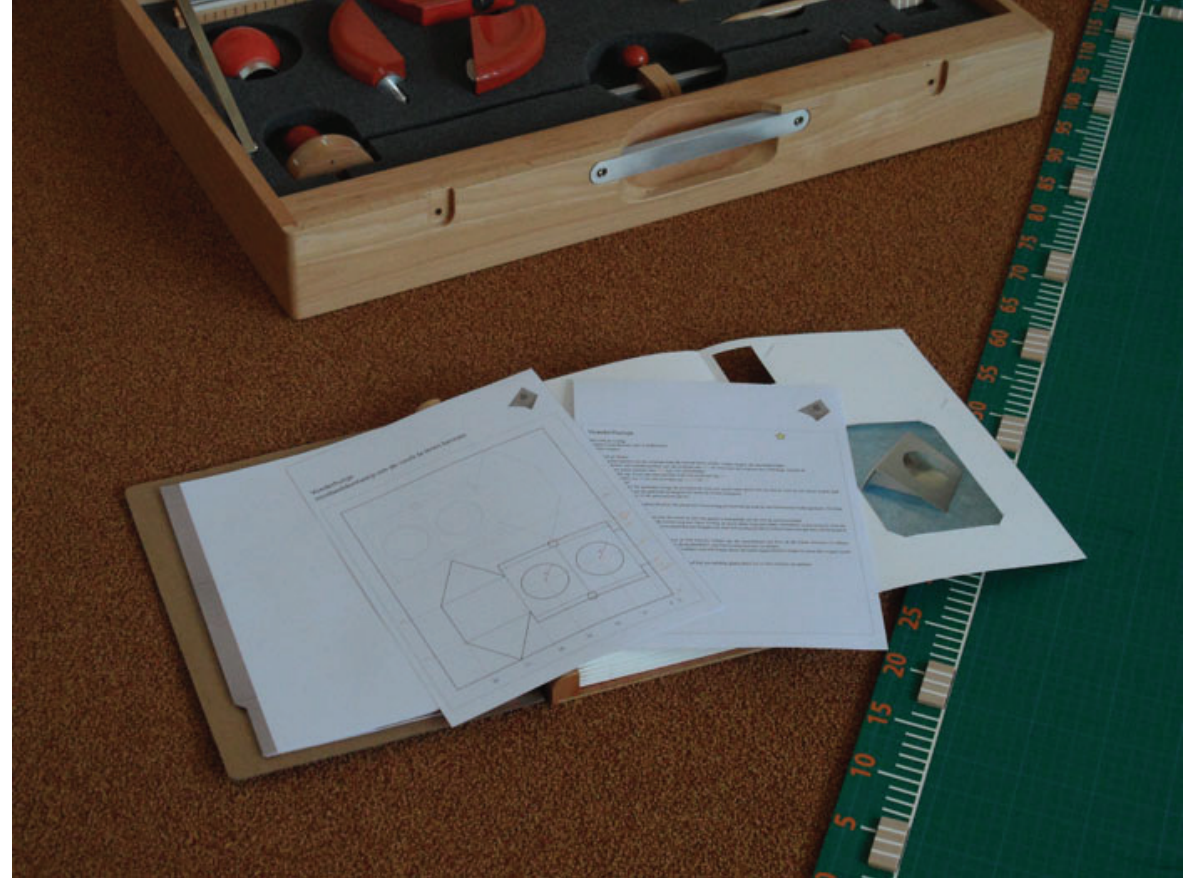
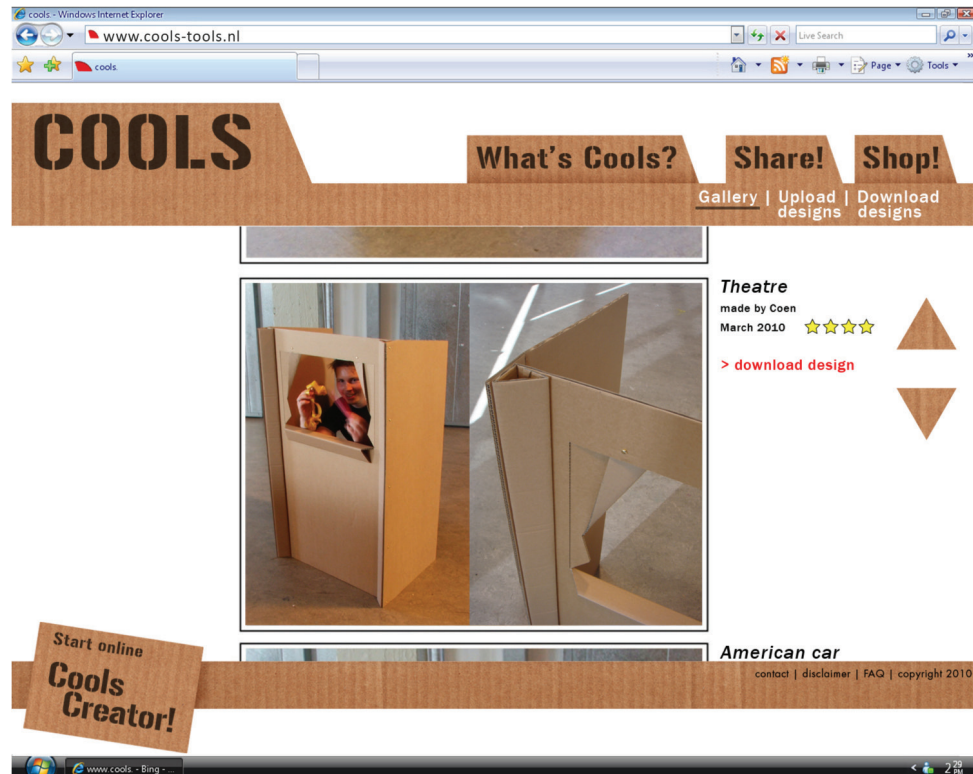
COOLS exist of a big beechwood chest, which contains all the tools you need. The cutting boards can be easily assembled. After that you can place a cardboard sheet on them, which can be as large as 100 by 120 centimeters. This is also your working place. A few other things you can find in the box are a cut- and score-tool accompanied with a big and a small circle-cut-tool to cut big circles and small circles. There is also a pop-tool where you can connect 2 layers of cardboard with each other. COOLS has the same clear shapes and quality image as wooden toys have. The set is made for the biggest part out of beech wood, a hard kind of wood, which is strong but feels nice and can be used for many years.



In the box there is also a COOLS-book. This book explains you step by step how to use the designs with short texts and illustrations. It also explains how you can create your own designs. In the back of the book there are inserts for all your own designs. Here you can put your own designs with nice pictures so you can remember them.

COOLS-TOOLS.NL is the website where you can upload your new designs and share them with others. This way also other people can make and enjoy your design. This way you share your knowledge so others who are not as far yet to make a design of their own can still develop their two and tree dimensional insight.

This way the offer and possibilities keep expanding. Eventually, it will be possible that schools or other institutions can organize design competitions. On the web site you can also order the cardboard sheets and spare parts.



The reason I chose for corrugated cardboard is that it is totally recyclable material. It is strong and easy to work with, even for kids. On top of that this cardboard is cheap so it's not terrible to make mistakes while you are cutting and carving. I think this is important, because you want to give children the feeling that they are really free in what they make and come up with. They don't have to be scared to make mistakes when they experiment with the cardboard.

And when you are bored with your design you can put your cardboard in the recycle bin.

I designed a system for Cools which makes it quite simple to transform a plan that's made at A4 paper to the big sheets of cardboard, with the help of the cutting boards and the converters.

This system has the advantage that there are no limitations. You can make it as hard for yourself as you want and still find new challenges.

There are also innovations in the 'pop-pins' which enables you to put two pieces of cardboard together.

In my search to find the best way to do this I discovered that there are no connections which enable you to connect it from one side and is suitable for corrugated cardboard.

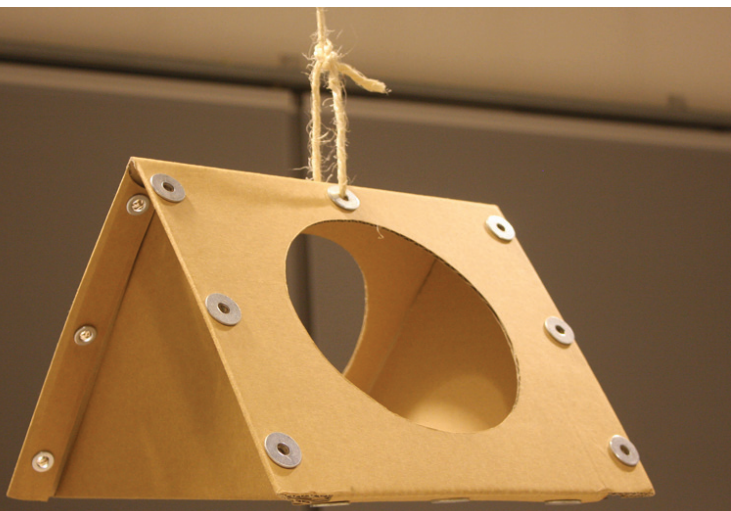
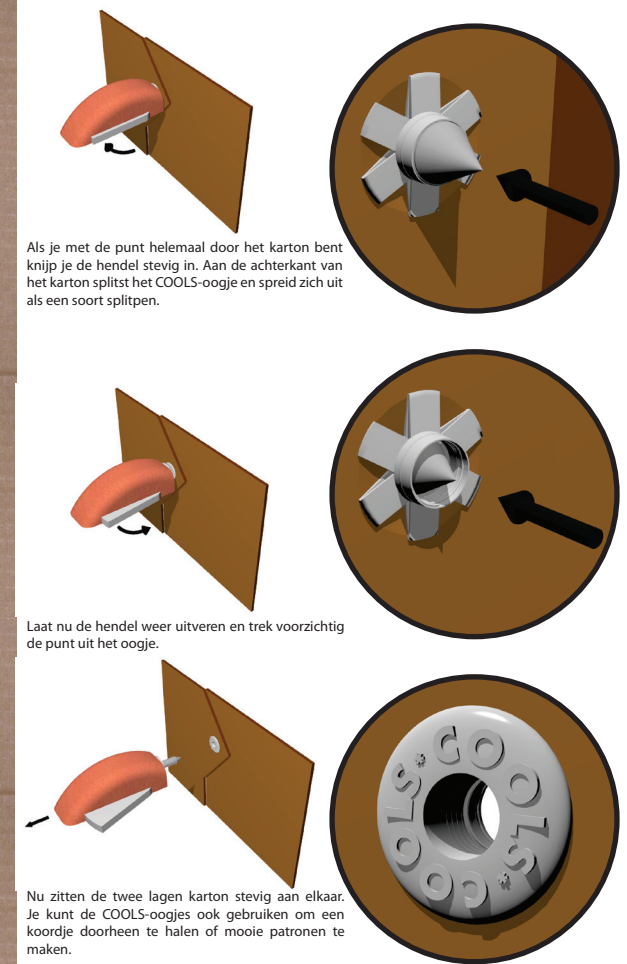
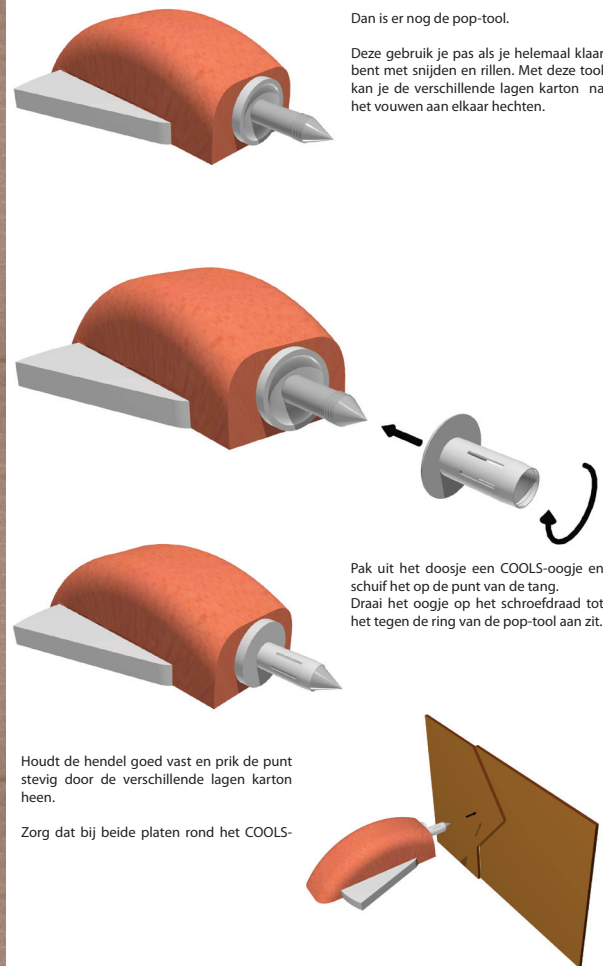
Moreover the 'pop-pins' should not have sharp tips or edges when they are attached because it should be possible for children to play in their self made playhouse without hurting themselves.

Because such 'pop-pins' didn't exist I designed them myself.

The result is a kind of open round cotter pin, which is not only strong but also an aesthetic connection in the various kinds of layers of cardboard.

Alongside you can see a spread from the Cools-book which explains the use of the pop-tool.

Because this 'pop-pin' is actually the only 'throw away item' in the Cools, I'm now working on a design for a re-usable version of the 'pop-pin'.



Cools is primarily meant for (primary) schools, community centres and child care centres.

Meanwhile I found out that the enthusiasm and interest for this project is very big. Especially in the child care sector, because there is currently very little to do for children from the age of 10. This can be a new challenge for them.

Besides this is not the only market where COOLS will be well received. Also the MBO, architecture and the creative workshop branch for companies are very interested.



This overwhelming interest for COOLS and the enthusiasm during the presentations stimulate me extra to realize this project. At the moment I'm working on a more affordable version of COOLS for people with a smaller budget. This saving will for example come from the materials used for the box and will not be at the expense of the quality of the total product.

I have the intention to bring these on the market.

The project is still in the developing stage and I'm looking for a partner or producer who wants to realize this project or parts of it with me.

COOLS is nominated for the BRAINS Award 2010!

*What are you going to make with COOLS?*

