Posted by: beelce
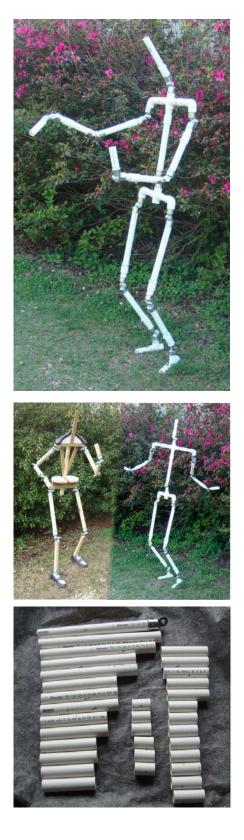
THE BRIDE of ARTICULATION

OK haunters here is another one of those ideas that I had to build, just to get the design out of my head.

Sometimes, wood may not the best choice to build body form, so I wanted to try the "spring tension" system using PVC.

This is the THE BRIDE of ARTICULATION...or...another pose-able body form

and just like the BRIDE of Frankenstein, she is smaller, lighter, cleaner, better designed, and far more pose-able than her predecessor, (The Articulated form).

Here is the couple side by side....you can almost hear her hissing at him.

I used 1" PVC to build the "bones" for this body

http://zombietronix.com/calculator_biped.php
For the length of the body parts, I have been using
the measurements straight from the"bi-ped" calculator
at Zombietronix....a very usefull tool

Again, I have been shopping in the chain link fence
section at Lowe's, and came up with these nifty little
post caps.

I used the same "spring tension" system to bolt the
"bones" together and create working hinges / joints

Here is the set-up for the hinge....flat washers and
lock washers bolted through the eye holes with a lock
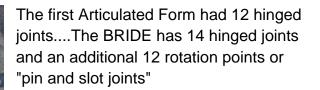nut on the end.

I used the drill press to add holes on all 4 sides

The metal fence caps are slightly larger than the PVC, so I used coated deck screws to hold them together.

Pile of bones.

The first Articulated Form had 12 hinged joints....The BRIDE has 14 hinged joints and an additional 12 rotation points or "pin and slot joints"
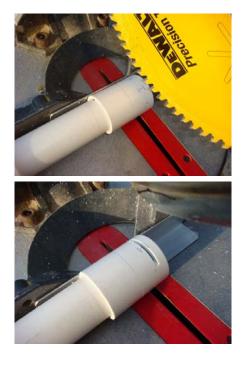

The pin and slot rotators are made with a 1' PVC coupling.

The pin and slot joints were inspired by the an outstanding articulated PVC body by Merlin Calhoun..."Merlin's Figure

Armature"...http://www.hauntershangout.com/home/Myarmature.asp

I used a 1/4" guide to cut the slots

I used the miter saw to to carefully slice open a slot in the coupling, and a screw to hold the "bones" together.

Yes, I do use PVC primer and PVC glue.....I want the strongest bond I can get.

The coupling is only glued on the un-slotted side....the slotted side is dry fitted so that it can spin.

Do not get any primer on the slotted side, as it will totally bind the rotator...I found this out the hard way.

These screws fit just right in the 1/4" slot....

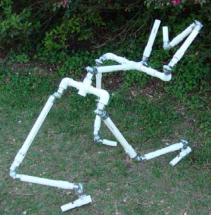Here you can see the metal hinges and the PVC rotators

She is very light on her feet and doesn't balance or stand to well on her on, so she gets nailed to the ground.

I used extra large nails (spikes) to stake here feet to the ground to keep her standing.
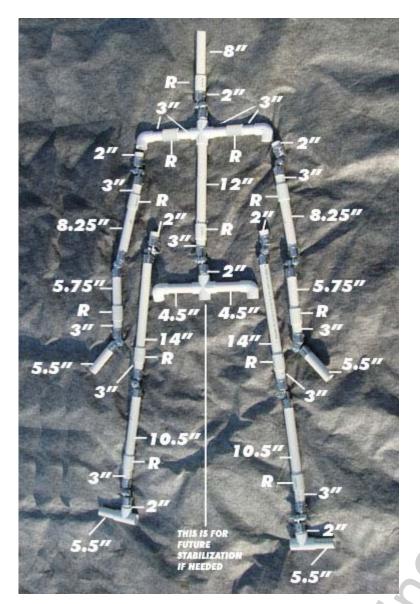
The really cool thing about this prop is that once you have all the spring hinges tightined up, it poses instantly, repeatedly, and stays where you pose it. If the joints are too loose, just tighten them up with 2 wrenches.

Extreme posing is no problem for the Bride, as you can see she's a real drama queen.

OK....for those of you that have asked for the parts list for the BRIDE....here you go...

The BRIDE is not a hard project, but it does have over 500 parts. However, she is well worth your time and investment, and you will know this the first time you pose her.

I hope that those that build this body will post a few pics...
thanks and good luck.....

I used less than 20' of 1" PVC for the whole thing

14 - 2" x 5/16" hex bolts
42 - 1/2" lock washers
84 - 3/8" flat washer
14 - 5/16" stop nut (nylon insert)

USED 28

USED ABOUT 1/2 LB

1/4" X 1 1/4" SELF TAPPING USED 12

Posted by: PerfessorEvil

Wow... one of the CalHauntS Norcal members, Rudy, just told me a brilliant idea at our meeting today... instead of the caps, leave an extra inch of PVC, hit it with a heat gun, and flatten it out. Then just drill a hole and connect those flat pieces together.

We haven't tested that yet to see how well it holds, but we might be able to drop the price of this prop down into the $40 - $50 range that way.

Hey PE....looks like you and Rudy are on to a good idea. Here is a concept test that I did this morning.

I used 1/2" PVC for the test, but I think that this technique should easily work on 1".

Just warm up the PVC with a propane torch and mashed between 2 steel plates.

Used the same "spring tension" system of fasteners......works good.

The PVC looks a little toasty, but I'm sure we can work that out...