

CoffinBound!

<http://coffinbound.com/props/gbreaker.html>

GROUND BREAKER

I created this ground breaker using Spooky Blue's construction methods. I unfortunately didn't take any pics of the 'pre skinned' torso. They would probably help out more than these. Hind site is always 20/20.

For those that don't know about Spooky Blue's method, basically what you see here is 2 pieces of scrap lumber I had lying around. I screwed them together to form the base and spine (you know, a basic 'T' shape.) O yea, I also cut an angle on the end connected to the other board. That way, it will look like the guy is leaning forward trying to crawl out of the ground instead of being shot out of the ground like a cork in a champagne bottle.

With the spine made, I moved onto creating the ribcage and arms. These are actually nothing more than newspaper rolled up and held together with duct tape. Extremely simple stuff here folks. As you might have guessed, I was having problems with the whole thing wanting to fall forward. I originally said, "No problem. I will just use one of the arms as a brace." And it worked pretty good, at first. After getting side tracked for about 3 weeks, I found out that the one arm could no longer support the prop by itself. And to think, it wasn't even skinned yet!!! A little more time and duct tape, the other arm was repositioned to act as a support.

After I got the stability issue resolved, I proceeded to add some skin to this puppy. First thing I did was to fill the chest cavity with crumpled up newspaper. This gave me something to glue and press the skin onto. After that, I got out the old can of spray adhesive. I sprayed a small section then applied paper towels. I continued like this until I had a complete layer of towels over the entire skeleton. After a couple hours of letting the glue dry, I applied a layer of outdoor carpet adhesive. It looked really cool, except for the one rib where the paper towels completely gave out and tore. It looked good, but I decided to put another layer of paper towels and latex adhesive on. For some reason, I still wasn't happy, so I added a single layer of cheese cloth. That is what you see here.

I plan to continue on and use gel stain to give him some more realistic coloring. As soon as I do, I will take and post some pics.

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Omarshantedtrail.com

The Happy Groundbreaker



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I finally was able to stain the groundbreaker and get some more pictures taken. In order to get him to look the way he does below, I took about 1/2 cup of gel stain and 1/2 cup regular stain. After mixing thoroughly, I simply brushed it on using a cheap brush. I really didn't take too much care when applying the stain, I just slapped it on. I didn't even care if I dripped on it. Since there was a layer of cheese cloth on top, there was no way I was going to wipe off any of the stain. Instead, I just added a layer of baby powder. I simply shake it on and used a dry paint brush to whisk off the extra.

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