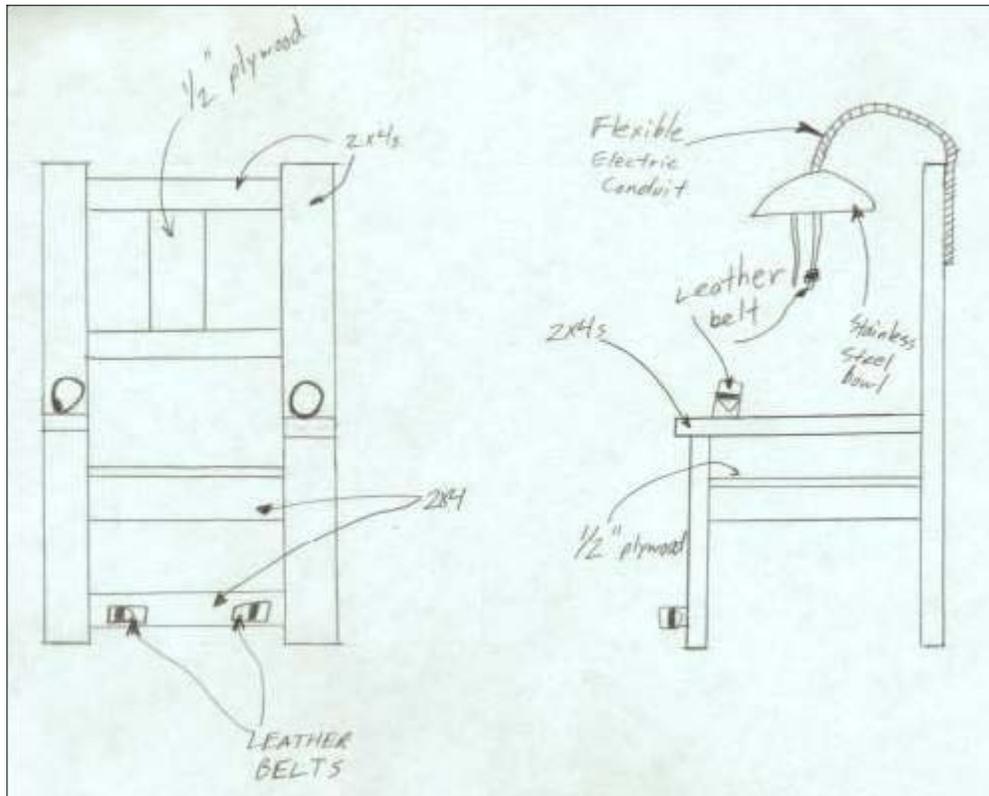


ELECTRIC CHAIR

http://www.geocities.com/hillbilly_nurse/HALLOWEENchair.html?200721



These are some crude drawings I have made to illustrate the basics of an electric chair Halloween prop. I haven't included any dimensions because the dimensions are entirely up to you. You just need something that resembles a crude highback chair.

Use a chair in your home to get the basic dimensions for seat height and width. The basics of building an electric chair is to have a crude wooden chair with some leather straps and a "cap" through which the electricity is supposed to "rehabilitate" the convict.

Some 2X4s, plywood and an old bowl with some conduit attached are all you need to start. The leather straps are made from cut down old belts from a thrift store. If they don't match in color, just take some sandpaper and sand off the shiny finish and dye them with some shoe dye. Black or a dark brown work great.

Add an old breaker box to the back of the chair and connect the conduit to it. Add some scorch marks that look like handprints on the arm rests with a propane torch. **BE CAREFUL!!!** You just want to scorch the wood a little bit, not start a bonfire. Get a Polaroid camera and take photos of your guests sitting in the electric chair. (Makes a great Christmas card photo....) Some padding added to the back rest and seat with old

vinyl will make it look like some of the real electric chairs. Be sure to check out [The Electric Chair.com](http://TheElectricChair.com) for some great photos of actual electric chairs used in New York and other states.



Here is a pic of the chair. I haven't gotten around to staining the wood yet or adding the straps.

The rusty thing on the back of the chair is an old fuse box from the junkpile at my parents house. The silver handle "switch" is an old table leg that I pop riveted to the side of the fuse box.

A piece of black PCV pipe covers the end of the table leg. The black wire thing coming out of the "helmet" is a piece of 12-2 wire covered with a section of black wire loom from under the hood of an old car.

The helmet is an old reflector from a heat lamp. **UPDATE::** I have decided to scrap this chair in favor of a larger one. The other one was just a bit cramped. When it's done I'll post some pics.



Here are two leather belts I found at the flea market. They're about 4" wide and 40" long. They are the type used by police officers to keep their gun holsters and handcuffs on. These are used and have some wear on them but I think they'll work just fine. Now I just have to get around to fastening the darn things



I cut the belts into pieces using a sharp utility knife. I placed the belts on top of an old scrap 2X4 to cut them. The ankle shackles are longer in length than the wrist shackles. I wrapped the belt around my ankle and wrist prior to cutting it to estimate the proper size. I cut one ankle strap first and made the second to match it in length. I did the same with the leg straps.



I found some small padlock hasps at the hardware store that were perfect to fasten the shackles. I drilled holes in the belt and fastened the hasps on with some tinner's rivets. The pic to the right is the finished hasps ready to be bolted on the electric chair.



And this is my wife, doesn't she look cute? I swear she sat down there by her own choice.

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