

WildRice Halloween!

<http://www.wildrice.com/Halloween/Construction/OldLaughingBucky>

Build your own

Old Laughing Bucky

by Chuck Rice



The [Anatomical Chart Company](#) sells skeletal models to the Scientific and Medical communities. They have very nice skeletons and skulls, but they tend to be very expensive. Fortunately for Hauntists, it is difficult to make quality skeletons and there are many that come out of the molds that are not medical or even teaching quality. [ACC](#) calls these Forth Quality or Fourths. They generally have some flaw or flaws that make them unusable for teaching, but

perfect for Halloween. ACC sells these for greatly reduced prices to the Haunted House market. To order, call Marilyn Lack at 1-800-621-7500 ext 235. (The Halloween Desk)

I purchased some of the rejected Budget Bucky Skulls (\$5) and came up with this simple modification for making the skull animate. I moved the jaw

forward, attaching it to the cheekbone instead of at the normal place. This results in giving Bucky a severe under bite and making it look like he is smiling all the time. I attached the jaw with string, allowing it to swing free. When Bucky moves, his jaw will swing back and forth as if he is laughing. Finally, I added a bracket and attached him to the front door. Anytime the door is moved, Buckys jaw starts swinging making him laugh at the visitor!

Note that the flash of the cameras washed out the yellow of the teeth and made the green in the eyes different.

The Bracket



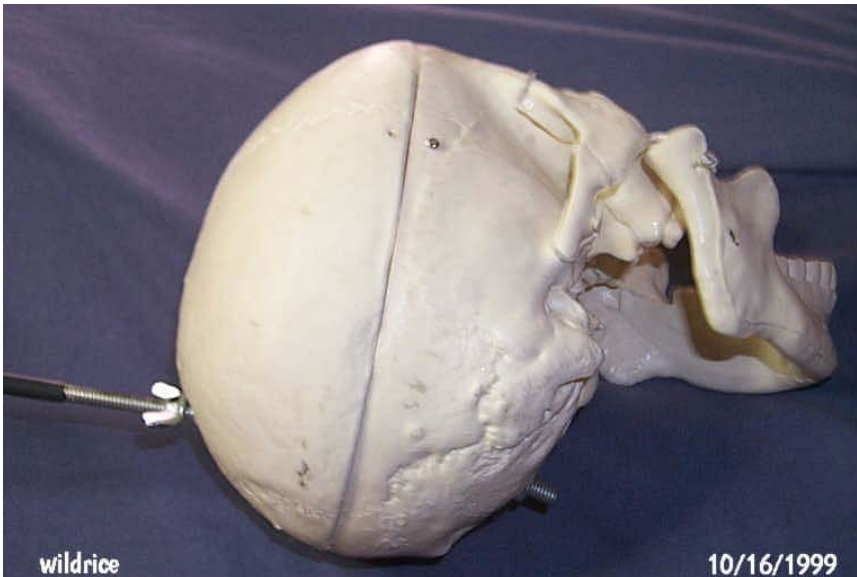
I went to the hardware store and purchased an Over Door Hanger. It is designed to hang over a closet door so that you can hang clothing on it. It provides a strong holder for the skull without requiring the House Door to be damaged.



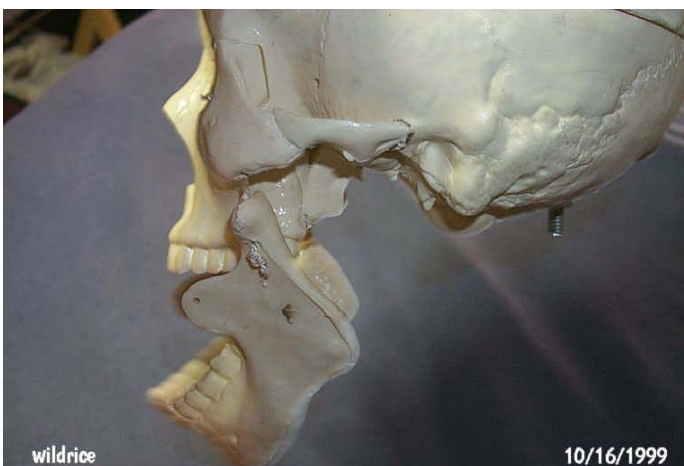
I then cut it off, drilled a hole through it, and inserted a length of 1/4 inch threaded rod. I used a wing nut on the bottom of the hanger because of the way it was made. Finally I covered it with heat shrink tubing.



The Heat shrink tube gives it a finished look. I also put some shrink tube on the threaded rod.



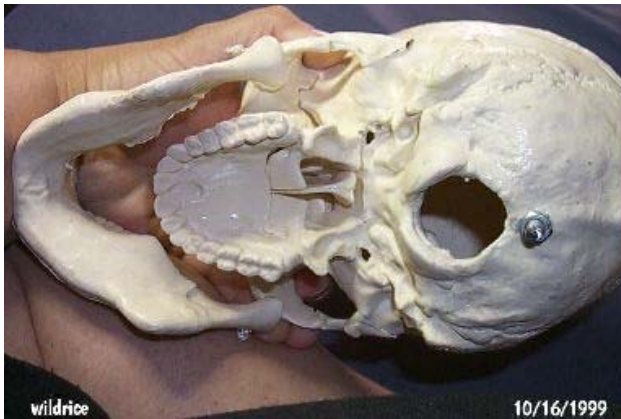
Next I drilled a hole through Buckys skull from top to bottom and inserted the other end of the threaded rod. Because of the angle of the skull at that point I bent the rod so I could bolt it on better.



This picture shows the attachment of the jaw. Note that it would normally be attached about 2 inches back at the depression near the base of the a hole through the cheekbone into the eye socket. Then I ran a piece of string through it and tied it off, leaving a gap of about a quarter of an inch so the jaw can swing free.



This shows the jaw from the front. Once you have it positioned correctly, you can drip a bit of thick super glue into the string holes and when dry, cut the knots off.



Here you can see how extensive the under bite is!

The Finishing Touches



To finish Laughing Bucky off, I used shoe polish to darken him, then I sprayed fluorescent green in his eyes and painted his teeth fluorescent yellow. My wife had a fall wreath on the door, and OLB just seemed to fit it perfectly! I added a black light to the porch and he is guarding the house!

Please note:

I can make no warranties on the methods and procedures presented here. I have built this device, but your tools and skills are unknown to me. Proceed at your own risk.

I also do not endorse any of the products here. They are just the products I chose to use for this project. You may find that they work better or worse for you. Experiment for yourself. That is half the fun!

Obtained from
Omarshauntedtrail.com