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How To Make Your Own Inexpensive Animatronic.

We all love those animatronics we see at Disneyworld or in those big dollar Halloween shows. But if you're like me, a small time garage haunter with a budget of only one hundred dollars per Halloween, you may be wondering "How can I afford to have such cool things?" Looking in catalogs, your average animatronic can cost thousands of dollars.

Since I have a small budget, but want to put on a good show for the neighborhood kids, I found that with a little creativity and a little sweat, I can get good results using some household appliances.

Here is a different types of animatronic which I created using a simple household appliance, the OSCILLATING FAN. (Oscillating: Going from side to side.) If you don't have any old fans lying around, shop at your local thrift store, flea market or garage sale. There is never a need to pay full price.

Something else to keep in mind: most animatronics, in of themselves, are more entertaining than scary. I usually wind up placing the animatronic in an easy to see, well lit area. When the 'victim' or trick-or-treater checks out the animatronic, I have an actor in costume pop out from behind (from a dark/hidden place), surprising the 'victim'. I have found that this approach usually works very well.

DOING THIS WILL CAUSE YOUR MOTOR TO OVERHEAT AND BURNOUT UNLESS TO TAKE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES !!

THE BEST SOLUTION IS SPLICE IN A PC FAN AND PLACE IT INSIDE WITH THE MASK!!



Making Your Own Oscillating Fan Monster.

1.) Start with an oscillating fan.

2.) The front half of the cage for the fan is unclamped and removed.



3.) The fan blade cap is unscrewed and removed.



4.) The fan blade is removed.

5.) The cage cap is unscrewed and removed.



6.) The back half of the cage for the fan is now removed.



7.) The axle that the fan blade uses is then cut off with a hacksaw.



8.) To prevent the remaining stub of the axle from catching the rubber mask, a cap from a medicine bottle was glued over the stub of the axle. (Making sure that the axle stub doesn't rub against the cap and the glue doesn't go into the fan motor.)

At this time test the fan and make sure that there is nothing rubbing together. Remember rubbing together = friction = heat = possible fire! In this instance, I used the cap from the bottle of "NyQuil".





9.) Create a "body" for your motor, place a mask over the motor and BA-BAM! You now have your own animatronic.