

Terror Tom's Halloween Projects

http://www.geocities.com/hillbilly_nurse/HALLOWEENscarecrow.html

The Scarecrow



I wanted a large centerpiece for my Halloween yard display this year. I found the perfect thing...a large menacing scarecrow with a pumpkin head. I seen the original at Cory Derenburger's [Demon Ware](#). I thought it was a very cool prop and really inexpensive to make. I made a few changes. And I have a few more in mind when I dust off the cobwebs for next year.

I started with a five gallon plastic bucket and inserted a short piece of 3/4" PVC pipe with a 3/4" connector glued to one end. (The end sticking up!) I mixed up an 80 lb. bag of concrete mix and poured it around the pipe inside the bucket. Make sure you have the pipe in the center of the bucket. It took about 2 days for the concrete to set up good. You shouldn't have to brace the pipe to keep it upright. The concrete should be thick and heavy enough to hold it in place.

I then took 2 pieces of 3/4" PVC pipe 24" long and 1 piece 48" long and glued them into 2- 45 degree fittings like in this picture. I used PVC pipe cement to glue them together. The two shorter pieces were at the end with the long piece in the middle.



I made the hands from five sticks and tied them together with some thin wire. Try to use some fairly green ones as old dried out sticks break easily (as I found out later!!). The length doesn't really matter as long as they resemble a human hand. I attached them to the arms with good ol' duct tape. Fast, easy and very secure.



I attached the arms to a piece of pipe inserted into the connector fitting in the bucket. The upright piece of pipe was about 6' long. I drilled a hole in the top end of the upright pipe about 8" from the top of the pipe. I bolted the arms to the upright with a 1/4" diameter bolt, washers, and a wing nut. I then took some short sticks and fastened them on with some drywall screws. The scarecrow is kinda top heavy so I put a 4 foot piece of 1/2" metal conduit inside the PVC pipe at the bottom to help stiffen it up. I painted the PVC pipe with some flat black spray paint.

I used one of those styrofoam pumpkins for the head. I carved the features into the pumpkin with a Dremel tool set at about 1/16". I cleaned up the carving with a utility knife. I then painted the carved out areas with some black enamel paint. I cut a 3/4" hole in the bottom of the pumpkin so it would slide onto the "neck". I tied raffia around the "rib" sticks and the ends of the arms. I tied a large bunch of raffia around the neck below the head. I took a black sheet and cut it up to make it appear tattered and fastened it on with black wire ties.