

Hallows Eve 88

http://geocities.com/hallows_eve_88/haunted_tree.htm

Life Size Halloween Tree



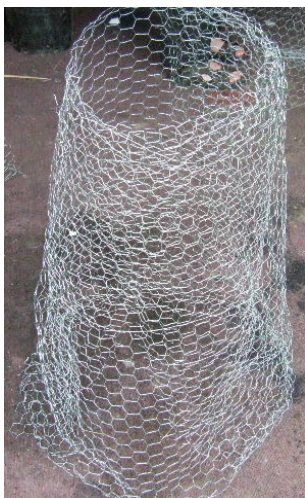
This tree was made with chicken wire/paper mache and painted.

For this project, we just needed a plain tree so we did not add a face or hole for lighting, but that could easily be done by cutting through the chicken wire before the paper mache. The tree is approximately 7' tall and about 3' wide



Materials used:

- 1 - 3' x 50' chicken wire (\$25.00/roll)
- Small-gauge wire
- Bundle of newspaper
- 2 boxes - Wallpaper paste (powder) (\$2.98/box)
- Brown/Black paint
- Polyurethane/Clear Spray Paint



The first piece of chicken wire was cut was about 4' long and was made into a circle about 3' wide (overlapping the wire to make it 3'). This is the base of the tree. The bottom edge of the wire was folded under to give a larger base and no rough edges on the bottom. Using the small-gauge wire, "stitch" the edges of the chicken wire together.



Then cut another 4' section and wrap around the base wire, stitching the edges together as before. This can be repeated until you get the desired height of the finished tree. Ours had three sections of wire stacked on top of each other.



For the two "arms," one piece of chicken wire is cut about 4' long and then cut in half (2 strips 1.5' x 4' long). Roll the wire at an angle, creating almost a cone. This will give you the angled edge at the bottom to be able to attach the arm to the tree with

Depending on the pitch you want for the arm, you may have to trim the edge that attaches to the tree to get the right angle.



After the tree has been wired together, it is time for the paper mache. This was very messy! Using a 5-gallon bucket, we mixed the wallpaper paste powder with water (5 pint water/powder ratio). The box for the paste should say how to mix for paper mache glue.

After dipping newspapers in the glue and wringing out, we started at the top of the tree and worked our way down.



Only one layer can be done at a time due to drying times. We let the tree dry for two days before adding the second layer.

Since this tree will not really be outside in the weather for a long time, we made this tree with just two layers of newspaper.



Once the tree dried (total of 3 days), we used walnut brown spray paint and flat black spray paint. The base of the tree was painted black first and then a layer of the brown paint and then a finishing layer of black paint sprayed sporadically.

Obtained from Omarshahid.com



When displayed, we will add Spanish moss to the crooks of the arms and over the top.



Obtained from
rshauntedtrail.com