

<http://www.halloweenforum.com/tutorials-step-step/77144-rising-spirits.html>

## Rising Spirits

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I had a request in another thread for some more info on how I made my Rising Spirits, so I thought I'd do an informal "how -to"

There are many things about the making of this prop that can easily be adapted to other ideas. Two of the biggies are corpsing with latex and pantyhose and free-form armature building.

Short list of materials used:

- 3/4 inch pvc
- some sort of flexible tubing , such as vinyl water line.
- a skull ( I used urethane skull that i cast in a mold)
- hands ( I made mine with greatstuff in a biglots plastic skeletal hand)
- screws, tape, or other fasteners
- greatstuff
- liquid latex
- pantyhose
- paint

Procedure:

Bend a piece of pvc using a heat gun or torch ( do this outdoors with plenty of ventilation) Go for a spiral shape with nice long flowing lines.

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Omarshauntedtrail.com



Attach a skull. I used Greatstuff to attach it to the pvc, but you could hot glue, screw, or use any other method...



Make a ribcage using the flexible hose. At this point, there is no need for a highly detailed ribcage...just try for the general form. I attached the ribs to the pvc with screws.



Add arms and hands. you can either use the flexible hose with wire inside if you want pose able arms, or just use pvc if you do not need to pose them later.

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Wrap the pvc and arms loosely with flexible hose. Go for a stringy muscular look with the hose...too tightly wrapped does not look as natural. Attach with screws, tape, zip ties, or whatever is necessary to hold the hose where you want it.



Spray the entire armature with Greatstuff to texture it...While the Greatstuff is curing, break it up with a brush, stick, etc to make the texturing smaller. This step is not necessary, but adds in a nice texture later.



Spray paint the entire thing black

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Cover the entire armature with pantyhose. I chose black for this project, but other colors work fine depending on what final look you are going for.



Cut holes in the panty hose. Go for a corpsed skin look with lots of shreds and tears.



Brush the entire armature with liquid latex and allow to dry.

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Highlight the exposed 'bone' areas with acrylic paints. Drybrush the pantyhose to add color depth and interest.



The original pair of spirits I made were designed to be mounted over a piece of rebar. Subsequent spirits have been made like groundbreakers or as flying spirits that I hang from tree limbs.



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