

The Art of Halloween Haunting

<http://www.halloweenpropmaster.com/index.html>



I received a nice foam & latex upper torso devil with wings as a gift and have decided I would create a simple Hell Hole to display this prop.



I have 4 Flicker Circuits operating 2 red and 2 yellow bulbs and a smoke machine placed within the blocks set on the ground just for this prop. There will be a sign noting this as the entrance to Hell.

Obtained from
Omarshantedtrail.com

**The compost which is moist under the shrubs cools the smoke as
it I sent it thru a Styrofoam cooler and it hugs the ground of what
will be the graveyard.**



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Omarshauntedtrail.com

Well, there's nothing to building this prop, it's just placing the parts together.

Materials Used:

Spirit store 1/2 body devil: The devil 1/2 body could also be a skeleton, corpse, [PVC figure with a mask](#), etc. (mine came from the Spirit store as a foam and latex 1/2 figure).

[Flicker Circuit](#) light control to create fire illusion. I used 4 circuits with 2 red and 2 yellow 25 watt bulbs. (You can use 2 circuits and 2 bulbs and still get a great effect)

Smoke Machine:

Retaining Wall Stones: I used about 14 I had lying around.

Process: I placed the stones in a ring (shortcut the back by using less stones as they could not be seen).ess:



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Then placed my flicker fire cords and bulbs and the smoke machine, bulbs in the front and smoke behind the ring so the smoke entered between two stones.



Then just place the body.



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...And some bones. You still can't see the effect of the flicker lights in the day.



This flicker circuit can be used to enhance many other props. Flicker lights create the look of fire. By connecting red & yellow lights (blue and orange can also be added) to a flicker circuit you can create fire. This fire can be used to create a "Hell Hole" (a hole in your yard that is the entrance to hell), or many other fire effects.

Click on the pumpkin above to link to the page with details on building the flicker circuit.

The following is my version of an idea from the Phantasmechanics web site. Please read all directions carefully and note the disclaimer at the bottom of this page.

<http://www.phantasmechanics.com/fpilot.html>

Obtained from
Omarshauntedtrail.com

By using an extension cord as the basis of this project it not only allows you to plug any light into it, but more importantly the extension cord give you the ability to plug two lamps (bulbs) into the cord. I use two 25 watt bulbs (red or red and yellow?) and a 5A fuse.

Total construction time for this project was 15-30 minutes.

Tools:

I used a pair of side cutters (wire cutters), a knife and electricians tape.



In addition I used a soldering iron and solder.

One could use wire nuts on the wire, but they will not attach the wires to the fluorescent starter.





Parts:

I bought a cheap extension cord (97 cents at home depot), a fuse holder from Radio Shack (Part #270-1281), and a fluorescent starter (FS-5). **Important: Do not use FS-4.** **Haunters report the FS-2 and FS-5 work, but the FS-4 DO NOT WORK.**

Total Cost about \$5



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Step #1:

Using the knife, carefully cut the extension cord to separate the two wires. Be VERY careful NOT to nick or cut into the plastic coating exposing the copper wire. Once the cut is started you can separate the wire by hand.



Carefully pull the wires apart for about 3-5 inches.



Step #2:

Cut one of the wires.



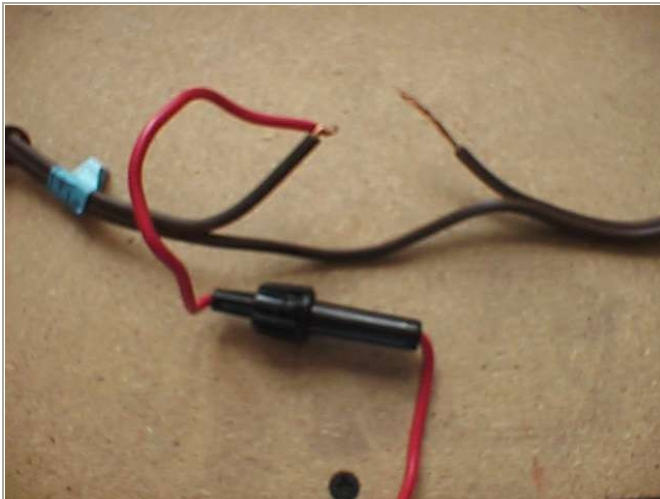
Step #3:

Strip the plastic off the wire. You will need more wire exposed on the side you will connect to the started.



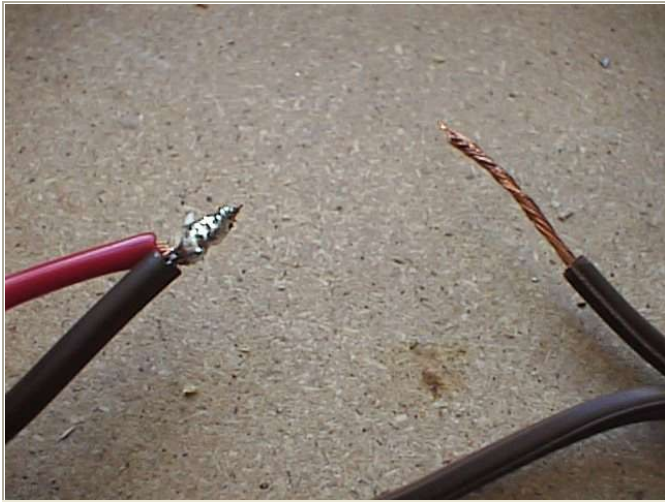
Step #4:

Connect one end of the fuse holder to the wire.



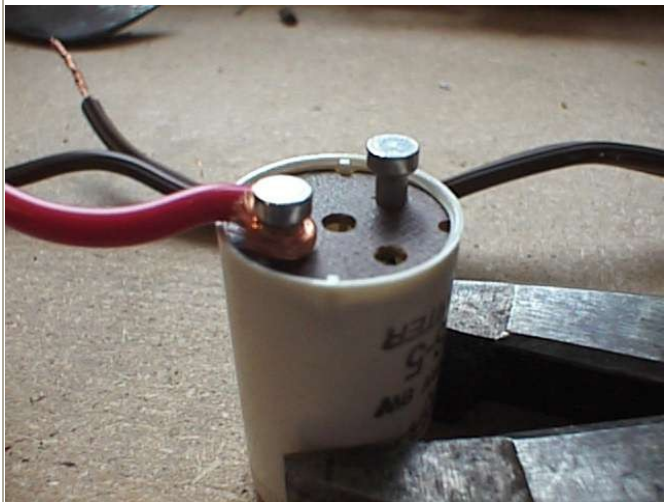
Step #5:

Solder the connection.



Step #6:

Connect the starter to the other end of the fuse holder and the remaining exposed wire on the extension cord.



Step #7:

Solder wires to starter.



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Omarshauntedtrail.com

Step #8:

Tape all connections well.

Insert a 5 amp fuse in the fuse holder.



Step #9:

You are now finished. All you have to do is test the flicker circuit. You can plug the extension cord you have been working on into the wall and after placing the bulbs you want into any light socket and the light socket into the extension cord you should be up and running.

I use the flood light sockets (but not the flood light bulbs as they are usually 100 watt and I think that's too much current for the flicker circuit).

Disclaimer: I present this as an example of what I have done. I make no warranty as to the safety or appropriate use of this project. You follow my directions completely at your own risk.

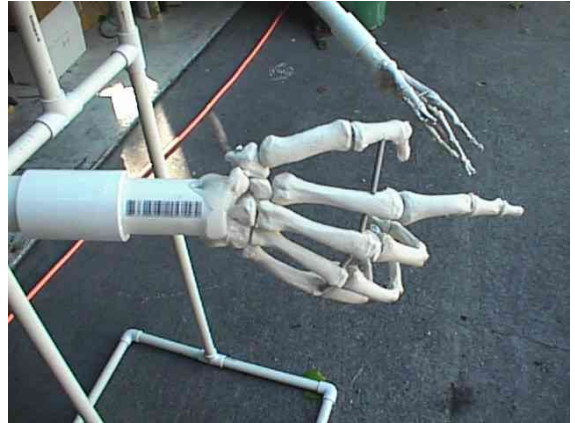
PVC can be used to make figures...skeletons, monsters, zombies, etc.

I've used PVC to create a skeleton. I needed somewhere to use a talking bucky skull. My plan is to use the skull and a pair of skeleton hands to create the image of a full skeleton when dressed.



Here you see the basic figure. PVC used to make the figure and when dressed the skull and hands will give the image of a full skeleton.

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I used hot glue to connect the hands to a short section of 3/4" PVC.

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