

REACHING SCARECROW

By Richard Benavides

Through The Fog Home Haunt
Arlington Texas

[See pictures of Richard's home haunt here](#)



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Reaching Scarecrow

Frame: [Photo 01]

PVC Parts List all Schedule 40

1-2" Slip Cross Tee

3-2" Slip x 3/4" Slip Bushing Fittings

1-3/4" Slip x 1/2" Slip x 3/4" Slip Tee Fitting

2-90° 3/4"x3/4" Elbow Fittings

2-45° 3/4"x3/4" Elbow Fittings

2-3/4" Cap Fittings

1-10ft length of 3/4" Pipe

1-10ft (Unless you can find in shorter lengths then just 1ft) length of 1/2" Pipe

2-1" long 1/4" Eye Bolts with nuts and lock washers

Roll of black nylon line, parachute cord

Can of black paint

Scarecrow

Styrofoam Wig Head

Bicycle Red Blinking Tail Light

Three Ft Square piece of Burlap Cloth

A Pair of Cotton Work Gloves, Light colored to see in the dark

From your Local Charity Store a pair of pants, a long sleeve shirt and a hat

Tools

Hacksaw or Powered Miter Saw

3/4" Barrel Sander, Can be subbed with a Dowel Wrapped in Sandpaper

Drill with an assortment of bits

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Prepping, Cutting Parts and Assembly of the Frame

First slightly enlarge two of the bushings 3/4" holes with the barrel sander so that the 3/4" pipe will spin freely inside. Start cutting a hole into the center of one side of the Cross Tee wide enough for the 1/2" pipe, lever, and the tee to slide up and down. Dry fit assembly of the Tee, Cross Tee and two of the Bushings with 2-8 inch lengths of 3/4" pipe. [See Photos 02 and 03] Attach at the end of the shoulders the 90* Elbows and then cut 9" lengths of 3/4" pipe for the upper arms.

Enlarge the hole as needed so that the lever ends up at a 45 degree angle up when the arms are at a 90 degree down. [Photo 04] At the end of the lever install one of the eyebolts. [Photo 05]

Now cut the forearms at 10 inches and attach to the upper arms with the 45 degree Elbows. So far all parts can be left just snugly attached with no glue.

I left mine unglued so that I could disassemble and store in a small box. Well, except for the 6ft length of 2" pipe that holds him up.

Paint exposed parts black. [Photo 06]

The Head

[Photo 07 and 08] shows to cut the Styrofoam head down and back. Hollow out a box for the bike light and thin out behind the eyes. The burlap is actually a mask I made for myself as a scarecrow some years ago. [Photo 09] A perfect fit that is snug enough that it holds the back on when pulled over. The hat was found at a Charity Store and turned out to be Freddie's Fedora costume hat. [Photo 10]

Now drill a 3/4" hole for a short piece of pipe inserted into the head and into the bushing at the top of the Cross Tee.

Hands

With floral wire and masking or duct tape I made hands. Drilled a hole big enough for the bundle of wires to go into the cap fittings and waded them up inside the cap. Slip snug onto the fore arms.

Dressing Him Up To Scare

The shirt will need a slit cut just under the collar to allow for the lever to stick out. Attach the pants however you do to the shirt. You can either run the 2" pipe down one of the legs or cut a slit in the...ahhh...hmm... Ok, the crouch. Fill his body with newspaper, rags, what ever and put his gloves on.

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Rigging for Action

Attach the nylon cord to the eyebolt at the end of the lever. Install another eyebolt through the back side of the 2" pipe high enough to where you can still reach the nut. Run the cord through it out to where you are hiding.

Now turn on the light and hide. When the little goblins get up close to see it, pull the cord and his arms will reach out at them.

Note: If you are using a really long cord the weight of the arms may not be enough to lower again. You can weight them by filling the PVC Forearms with plaster, small rocks and wads of paper stuffed in.

Now what is different with mine is I found some kid sized skeleton gloves that I used instead of the work gloves. An after Halloween sale had what I am replacing him with, see Photo 11.

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