

Welcome to the BoneYard

<http://www.angelfire.com/realm/riverman/props/grim.html>

AMAZING!

The Grim Greeter

CHILLING!

I've seen animated props on the web but never in my neighborhood. I'm not an electronic wiz but when I get an idea in my head, it won't go away.

When I saw plans for a static ghost using the stand for an oscillating fan, I thought, "What about the motor?" The maker of the prop just threw it away! That was the most horrifying of all!! I built my own version of this prop, but I used the motor. Thus, The Grim Greeter was born.

Here's how I did it:

Materials

- 1 oscillating fan, 5' tall (stopped using it when we bought the air conditioners)
- 1 large coffee can (be careful NOT to cut yourself! All prop blood is supposed to be FAKE!!)
- 2 wire coat hangers (never mind what Joan Crawford says)
- Masking tape
- Duct tape (the universal tool)
- 1 hooded black cloak (the expensive part BUT can be modified for use w/o one)
- Several yards of lightweight black fabric
- 1 glow-in-the-dark mask (\$ stores are GREAT!)
- Scrap wood (furring strips)
- Spare wood screws
- 1 three quarter inch dowel rod
- 1 empty one gallon milk jug, rinsed out

Tools

- Hacksaw
- Screwdriver (whatever matches the screws you use)
- Drill

Begin by disassembling the fan. Strip it down to the motor. Detach from the stand. Save the large plastic nut. Using a vise and a hacksaw, cut the shaft off the motor. Use extreme care not to damage the motor as it can bend a fraction of a millimeter, rendering it useless.

Separate the shaft of the stand and set aside the top piece for use with another prop (whatever you like). Slide the dowel rod into the bottom piece of the stand. Measure a piece of scrap wood

and cut 1' 6" for the shoulders. Carefully cut a large coffee can in half. Duct tape the cut to prevent injury. Set the halves on the shoulder piece and duct tape in place. Measure and cut two sections of wood 1' for the upper arms. Center the shoulders on the dowel rod, sing your judgement of where the shoulders would begin. Attach with 2 small wood screws using pilot holes to prevent the wood from splitting. Next, attach the upper arms, utilizing the same technique (use only one screw until the figure is complete so possibility is possible. When the pose is the way you want it, then affix the second screw).

For the hands, follow the instructions on [John Hart's Ghostly Hands](#) page. Attach these with a wood screw through the loop of wire at the 'elbows'. Don't tighten completely until the pose is just right.

Reattach the fan motor to the dowel rod.



Figure 1



Figure 2

Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5



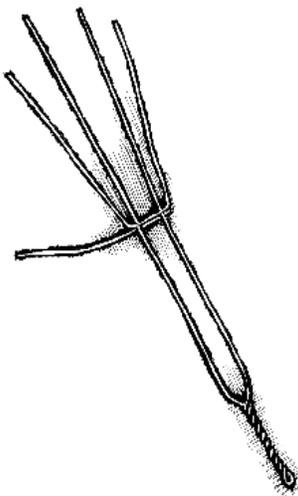
Figure 6



Figure 7



Ghostly Hands



Cut a length of coat hanger wire and bend in half. Twist the wire around itself at the bend. Spread apart the rest of the wire as shown in the illustration.

Create a squared "U" shape from another piece of wire. Cut a third piece of wire for the thumb. Tie all three lengths of wire together using thinner wire.

Place masking tape balls approximately 1/4 inch in diameter at all the knuckle joints. (A knuckle refinement from Thomas Oliver – Create a loop of tape approximately 6" long with the sticky side out.

Twist the loop a couple of times around, then wrap around the wire where the knuckle joints should be. Thomas also creates his hands from a single piece of wire, bending the wire back and forth to make the fingers.) Lay strips of masking tape down the fingers and crumple into place. All you have to do now is paint appropriately and, voila, hands. These look great coming out of the ground around the tombstones. And these hands also would work well for a Flying Crank Ghost, being prejointed at the elbow and lightweight.