

Haunt Warehouse

http://www.virtualplacebo.com/halloween/props/fog_chiller/index.htm

The Fog Machine & Chiller

I built my fog chiller last year (2001) after purchasing a fog machine. The fog machine is more of a "smoke" machine when you use it as intended by the manufacturer. I did some research and found a few (very complicated) plans for home built fog chillers, so I decided to try a very simple design.



Here's the fog chiller in action. It's easy to construct and seems to do the job nicely. When I put the fog machine on full blast, the chiller doesn't make a whole lot of difference, but in short bursts (as shown in the image to the left) it works perfectly. If the fog machine was a bit smaller (lower output) I think the chiller would be perfect.

Some day I will build a larger version that will keep the smoke in contact with the cold ice for a longer period of time. I skipped the fancy designs because I didn't want to have to deal with mounting a fan to extract the smoke from the chiller. I made a straight shot through the chiller to avoid a lot of back pressure.



I did not seal the pipe to the fog machine. I do not want to risk having the end of the fog chiller outlet blocked by something and having pressure build up in the chiller. The fog machine expels the smoke with enough force to make it through the chiller without too much of it escaping back out the inlet. With the inlet higher than the outlet, the cold smoke tends to only go out through the outlet when the fog machine is reheating (not producing fog). Wind can blow the smoke out the inlet if the outlet is positioned against the breeze.

Obtained from
Omarshauntedtrail.com



Here's the inside of the fog chiller. Basically two 4 inch reducers and some 0.5 inch hardware cloth clamped around the ends.

I cut the holes with a jigsaw after marking the hole lines with a compass. I got as close to the bottom of the cooler as I could so that the ice would still cover the entire tube as it melted away.



The intake side. A couple of elbows and a 8.5 inch length of pipe to get it at the right height for the fog machine to sit on top of the chiller. I did not glue the pipe in place so that I could also set the fog machine to the side of the chiller if I needed to hide it behind something low to the ground.



Output side. I put a female threaded coupler on the 4 inch reducer so I could screw in an assortment of attachments. I can add an extension of 4-6 ft of rigid pipe or a similar length section of flexible duct.

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