



MAKING SPIDERS

<http://www.born2haunt.com/Mspiders01.html>



The first thing I did was cut some 2" foam in the shape of my spiders body.



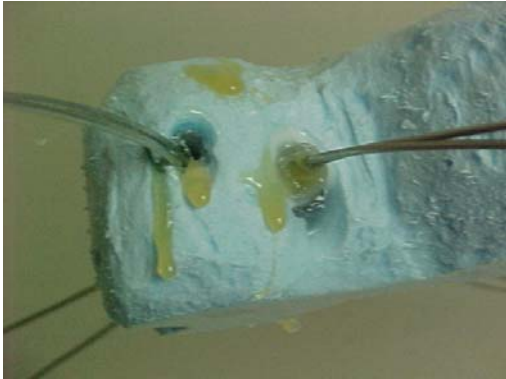
After I got the shape I liked I used a file to round off the edges.

Then I made two holes thru the body were the legs will go.



I then cut two lengths of plastic tube to go into the holes. The tube will make the body stronger. (So the legs don't rip thru the body when somebody pulls it by the legs)

Obtained from
marshhauntedtrail.com



I used glue to keep the tube in the body.



Next I cut 4 lengths of wire about 30" long. I put two wires in each hole so both ends meet at the back and front of the spider. Once I have them the same lengths I hot glued them in place. I put the tip of the glue gun in the tube and pumped glue into the tube as far as I could get it. Once the glue dried the wires could be shaped. Notice the glue drip out of the holes. I left any glue that dripped on the body. I'll be covering the body with latex so it wouldn't be seen. Here is how I let the glue dry. I added some duct tape to give the body some muscle. I made 5 bodys with legs so far. I'm only showing two different spiders on this page.



I then covered the legs with plastic tubing and hot glued them by pumping hot glue into the tube. I did the tubing by the body first. After I put glue in all the legs on one side I let them dry. Then I did the other side. Once that dried I pumped glue into the tips of the legs. Because the other side is glued you will get a pocket of air that will try to come out. **Becarefull because this is hot glue.**



After the legs dried I shaped them. I also added pinchers to the back of the spider with some wire and hot glue.



Here I added pinchers in the front too.



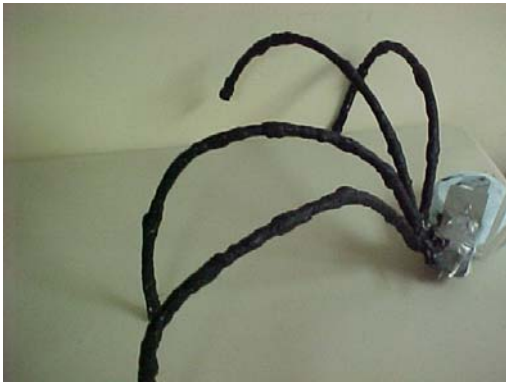
The picture on the right is the legs after I wrapped them with cotton. I took a bag of cotton balls and unrolled them into stripes then wrapped them around the legs.



I use latex from The Monster Makers as you can see in the picture . The little bottle changes the color of the latex to black . The legs on the spider bend so if you paint them with paint chances are the paint will crack after a few bends. By changing the color of the latex you don't have to paint it later so you prevent the cracking and peeling. Monster Makers has a nice catalog full of cool stuff for mask making. I'm sure there's other companies out there so look around.



Here is some pictures of half the spider covered with one coat of latex. I paint the latex on with a brush then I place the brush in a cup of water between coats, The first coat takes the longest to dry. I put 3 or 4 coats on



Here all the legs have been painted with latex.



Next I painted the body with latex. After the first coat I added cotton to the body and painted it with latex to give it some more detail. Before I add latex to the body I ran some wire thru it to make a place to hang it from.

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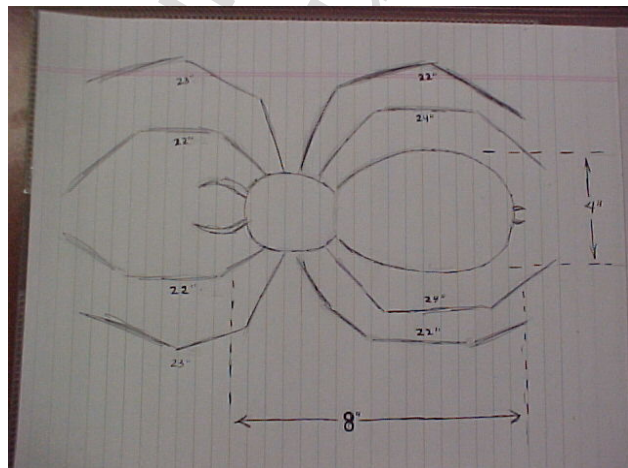


Some pictures of the finished product. Its an easy two feet wide and weights very little. You can go nuts making more detail like adding hair to the legs. You take a cheap 2" paint brush cut the bristles into 1/4 hairs. Add another coat of latex and as it dries add the bristle as hair.



Another cool thing to do would be to add two small leds to the head. Also build up the joints in the legs with latex and cotton. .

Here is a drawing with the actual sizes I used to make my first batch of spiders. The legs are 22, 23, 22, and 24 inches long. The tubing covered the wire completely. I used about 20 feet of #16 galvanized wire and 15 feet of tubing. A 4" x 8" piece of 2" foam.





This Spider is the 3rd one. The legs are holding the body off the ground. The gray color on some of the legs are from the baby power I used to keep the legs from touching.

If the latex covering the legs touch they stick together. Once there sealed or painted this stops. The tile under the spider are 15 1/2" square each so they are a nice size. I still haven't planned on how I will detail them yet. Once I have them all at this stage I'll get some ideas. Only two more to go.



In these pictures, I'm building up the spiders body by adding cotton balls.



Once I have the cotton balls built up I put some unrolled cotton overlapping to form a nice smooth surface.



Obtained from shauntedtrail.com



Here is a side view of the spiders back built up and smooth. Next I'll added some more black latex .

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