

BIG Puppet

Gather supplies, tools, and materials and construct special parts before beginning:

General Supplies

- sketches or model of puppet
- frame pack in working order
- small, lumbar pillow
- work clothes
- measuring tape
- notepad
- pencil
- permanent felt marker
- hand calculator
- well-fitting shoes
- clean rags
- duct tape
- vasoline
- adhesive bandage (for finger cuts)
- camera (optional)

Tools

- PVC pipe cutter
- de-burring tool
- nut drivers
- flat screwdrivers
- pliers
- scissors
- lighter
- files
- utility knife
- cordless drill, bits, and countersink bit (optional)
- hot air gun (optional)

Materials (suggested, your puppet may vary as will availability of parts)

- ~ 1" diam. carbon-fiber hollow pole ~5' long
- ~ 40 ft thin-wall 1/2" pipe
- ~ 4 ft 1 in (ID) sched. 40 PVC pipe one end cut 45°
- ~ 1 ft 1 in (ID) sched. 40 PVC pipe one end cut 45°
- 2 carbon-fiber, surf-style fishing rods or bamboo poles (7'-8' long)
- two 1/2" 45° elbow fittings
- 3 pair, ready-to-assemble bungy joints¹
- 1 pair ready-to-assemble half bungy joints²
- 1 pair hip joints³
- 1 pair knee joints⁴
- two 4" lengths of 1" PVC adaptors for clamping to spine⁵
- one 1" X-fitting (pelvis)
- combination of bushings/ couplers to attach two ends of 1/2" pipe to 1" X fitting
- combination of bushings/ couplers to attach 1" X-fitting to adaptor that clamps to spine
- one 1/2" X-fitting (neck)
- combination of bushings/ couplers to attach 1/2" X-fitting to adaptor that clamps to spine
- two, size 20 hose clamps
- two, size 32 hose clamps
- two 1/2" 90° elbows for foot attachment.
- four 1/2" T-fittings for foot.
- one 1" T- or Y-fitting if adding connector for tail to spine, plus required adaptors, clamps, etc.
- 1/2" T- or X-fittings for attaching head to neck.

Special parts

1. Bungy joints: 4+ feet, 1/4" shock cord; four inches 5/16 (ID) clear, plastic tubing; twelve 1/2" endcaps in which a 1/4" hole has been drilled through the center of the cap.
2. Half bungy joints: 1 foot, 1/4" shock cord; two inches 5/16 (ID) clear, plastic tubing; two 1/2" endcaps in which a 1/4" hole has been drilled through the center of the cap.
3. Two 1/2" T-fittings in which the insides of the through piece has been bored so that it freely rotates around a 1/2" pipe; and two end caps.
4. Two 1/2" T-fittings; and two 3/4" T-fittings in which the insides of the through piece has been bored so that it freely rotates around the 1/2" T-fitting and cut and notched as shown on Web site.
5. Two 4" lengths of 1" PVC pipe in which one end has four, equi-distant 1"+ cuts parallel to the pipe.

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www.SimpleOrganicSolutions.com/puppets.html

[inspired by Michael Curry's Big Puppets]