



Treehouse Puppet Stage

Basic Building Instructions

Note: These instructions are very basic and meant mainly as idea starters for churches to design their own puppet stage.

Suggested materials:

2 x 4 wooden boards
plywood
1" wooden dowels
wooden spacers
birds nest
nails and screws
staples for staple gun
paint (various colors of latex)
white primer paint

dark flat paint for interior
hardware cloth
plaster of paris
newspaper or news print
black or dark broadcloth fabric
drop cloths
buckets for plaster of paris
clean up supplies

Recommended tools:

circular saw
hammer
drill
wire cutters
staple gun

screw driver
leather gloves
eye goggles
scissor

Construction:

- Use 2 x 4's to make the frame of the puppet stage including the puppet windows and ledges. (See diagram.) *See DVD for recommendations of the heights of the windows for puppeteers.*
- Cut plywood panels and nail to the frame.

Exterior Design:

- Prime the outside of stage with white primer to prepare for design.
- Sketch the design on the panels.
- Add 3D affects (tree branches and leaves) using hardware cloth, newspaper and plaster of paris.
- Paint the design on the puppet stage.
- Cut the wooden spacers for the fence and treehouse roof and paint with the appropriate colors. Glue or nail onto the panels.

Interior Design:

- Cut 1" wooden dowels at an angle and screw into the 2 x 4's of the puppet stage frame for storage of puppets.
- Paint the interior a flat dark color so as not to reflect light.
- Cut dark colored fabric to size of windows. Fold over and crease the edge of the material and staple it to the inside of the window creating a scrim.

SAFETY NOTE: Always know, read and follow the safety directions that come with your power or hand tools, and **most importantly, always** wear safety glasses or safety goggles while working on this or any shop project.

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