



Large Ghost Centerpieces

MATERIALS

- 2 (2-gallon) buckets
- 12-inch balloons
- 16-gauge wire
- Duct tape
- Cheesecloth (about 6 yards per ghost)*
- Fabric stiffener, *Stiffy*®
- Black craft foam sheets
- Tacky glue

HOW TO

{1} To create a large ghost form, turn one bucket upside down; stack a second bucket, right side up, on top. Set an inflated balloon in top bucket to form a head. Wrap a piece of 16-gauge wire around top of bucket, leaving 8 inches of loose wire on

both sides. Duct tape wire in place, and curl under wire ends to form arms.

{2} Cut about 4 lengths of cheesecloth about 24 inches long. (Cheesecloth comes off the roll in a double layer; leave double layer intact.) Combine fabric stiffener with 1 cup water. Dip 1 length of cheesecloth in fabric stiffener, and wring out excess. Drape over top of ghost form, letting extra length bunch up at the bottom. Repeat procedure with remaining lengths to cover all sides of form, overlapping pieces to create an X shape on top of balloon (leave wire arms uncovered). Let dry for 2 hours.

{3} Cut 3 more lengths of cheesecloth about 24 inches long. Dip 1 length in

fabric stiffener, and wring out excess. This time, unfold to reveal a 2-foot-wide, thin sheet; drape over entire ghost form, including wire arms. Repeat procedure with remaining 2 lengths, curling and playing with ends to create a floating effect. Let dry overnight.

{4} Once dry, remove ghost from form (pop balloon, if necessary). Cut eyes and mouth from craft foam sheets, and attach to ghost with tacky glue.

**Tip: You can buy cheesecloth in bulk. We purchased 100 yards for \$45.70 from onlinefabricstore.com and had enough for all of our ghostly Halloween projects.*