

FANCRAFTING!

Hocus Pocus Spellbook

Wanna make your own Hocus Pocus spell book? Here is what you may use, sisters:

MATERIALS:

- Hardback book for base (these witches procured a large sketchbook)
- Roll of kraft paper
- Flour, Water and School Glue for papier mache mixture
- Leather Cord
- Acrylic Paint (brown, yellow, red)
- Paintbrush
- Floral Wire
- Awl
- Rubber Party Favor Snakes
- Modeling Clay (air dry)
- Gesso
- Silver Spray Paint
- Super glue
- Witch Finger Puppets
- Skeleton Hand
- Watch band
- Matte Mod Podge
- Doll Eye (green)
- Liquid Latex
- Cotton balls
- Mason Jar ring
- Scrap Leather

STEPS:

Step One: Get that Skin-Leather Look!

1. Using Kraft paper, apply a papier mache base to the book.
 - a. Make your mixture! Use about a 1:1 ratio of flour and water, add more of either to get a very very watery pancake batter consistency. Squirt in a few squirts of glue, and add a sprinkle of salt to your mixture. Mix until there are no lumps!
 - b. Rip kraft paper into pieces of varying size and shape but no more than six inches square. Make sure all sides are torn paper (no hard edges) because you want that dead leathery human skin look to be smoooooth).
 - c. Crumple the paper up and then flatten to soften the paper. Crumple and re-crumple to your heart's content!
 - d. Dip the paper into a bowl of the flour-glue-water mixture and remove excess liquid with your method of choice! (Ryan prefers squeezing it out and Kelly prefers wiping the paper down between two fingers--You do you!)
 - e. Press the damp paper to the book's surface, flattening out any air bubbles.
 - f. Cover the entire outer cover of the book, and fold excess paper over the edges of the cover, so that all edges are covered!
2. Create those stitchy seams!

- a. Once the base layer is dry, fold pieces of the kraft paper into thirds, accordion style. Dip the paper into the paper mache mixture and place on the book where you want your seam. Add a second piece of folded paper right up against the seamline, mirroring your previously placed piece.
 - b. Cut leather cord into pieces 1-3cm long. Place them across the seam at varied intervals.
 - c. To make the stitches blend into the base and appear as if they have been sewed right into your piece, cover the very edges of your cord (which would purportedly be coming out of the book) with another layer of paper mache, using the same method that you used to cover the entire book.
 - d. Let it dry! This could take overnight to a day and a half!
3. Paint the dried book with a wash of acrylic paint! To do this, dilute acrylic paint with a little bit of water (we suggest using a shade like burnt umber or raw umber) and paint over the entire book. Easy!

Step Two: And now... the accoutrement!

1. Coiled Snakey Snakes (make 4)!
 - a. Using an awl, poke through the underbelly of the snake to create a guide for where your floral wire will go through the snake. Careful! Awls be sharp. Then thread your snakes with floral wire!
 - b. Shape the snakes into the celtic knot shape. Use super glue and/or a needle and thread to hold the snakes in shape
 - c. Use modeling clay to fill in the parts of the snakes that are uneven (in this event our snakes had hollow underbellies so we used clay to fill those and make the snakes a more uniform shape).
 - d. Apply a coat of Gesso to the snakes.
 - e. Spray paint the snakes silver.
 - f. Let em dry!
2. Stretched Snakes
 - a. Roll a piece of clay into a snake-like tube. Let Dry.
 - b. Cut a strip of leather into the shape of the rectangular background piece the stretched snakes sit on.
 - c. Apply the snakes to the leather pieces with hot glue or super glue.
 - d. Apply a coat of Gesso to all of it.
 - e. Spray paint them silver.
 - f. Let dry!
3. Fingers on the spine
 - a. Witch fingernails are too darn long! Trim those babies!
 - b. Fill the fingers with cotton balls and use clay to round out the "severed" edge of the fingers.
 - c. Apply a coat of Gesso.
 - d. Paint with brown acrylic paint (try to match the colors of your entire book), and use different shades of brown to create an aged/decayed effect on the fingers.
4. Tiny Metal Demon Hand (Back Cover)
 - a. Mix up a wet mixture of elmer's glue, gesso, and water. Use about a 2:2:1 ratio, respectively.
 - b. Shred up some cotton balls and saturate them in your wet mixture, using the same method as paper mache--building the separate pieces onto the skeleton hand as a base.
 - c. Drape the pieces on the skeleton hand, and keep sculpting until you have a decayed looking demon hand.

- d. Dry with a hair dryer. This may take about 30 minutes to become sufficiently dry.
 - e. Apply a coat of Gesso to the skeleton hand.
 - f. Spray paint hand with silver spray paint.
5. Closure for book
- a. Attach the watchband to the insides of the front and back cover using hot glue.
 - b. If your watchband looks too new, you can age it up with some dark brown (burnt umber) acrylic paint.

Step Three: LOOK AT ME, BOOK! (Make the Eyeball)

1. Figure out where you want the eyeball to be on your book (should be just left of your watch strap closure)
2. Make a base layer of "skin." Rip cotton balls into small strips and moisten them with the liquid latex. Place these in a thin single layer directly onto the book (where your eyeball will be).
3. Then place your eye. Use more shredded cotton balls and liquid latex to form an upper and lower eyelid. Use your fingertips to press and blend the pieces.
4. Using a clean wet paintbrush, swipe the eyeball under the upper and lower lid, which brings the eyelids a little away from the surface of the eye, and makes it look like the eye could blink (wink?) right at you!
5. Make a mixture of brown, red and yellow acrylic paint and apply a wash to the eyeball. Use a small bit of a brownish red color (burnt sienna) to paint the liquid-latex/cottonball areas immediately to the left and right of the eyelid to create the tear ducts.
6. Let it alllllll dry.
7. Place the ring from a small mason jar lid to around the eye and attach with super glue.
8. Use black acrylic paint and a very thin paintbrush to draw the little symbols that are on the eye ring.

Step Four: Almost there! Finishing up.

1. Using super glue, attach the snakes, fingers and hand!
2. With a sponge, apply a coat of Matte Mod Podge!

There you are, sweet sisters. A good spellbook to hold all of your witchy secrets!