

Materials needed: Check fabric (men's shirts are good thrifty resource), denim like fabric, batting, straw material, bead for head or clay ball, toothpick, eyelet and thin wire like floral wire.

Tools needed: Tweezers, white glue such as Tacky glue, ruler, scissors, pliers, black paint and brushes, scrap paper and a fine point black permanent marker (optional).

1. Cut wire in two parts - 7/8" and 4" long. Fold long wire in half and squeeze the folded end so will fit in bead. Twist wire once and add short (arm) wire. This should be 1/4" from folded end. Continue twisting until 3/4" from fold. Separate lower wires for legs.
2. Wrap a strip of batting 3" x 1/2" around body under arm wire and glue in place. Batting should not go past the leg joint. * Batting may be left off for a stick scarecrow.
3. Cut shirt 1" x 1/2". You may want to add a touch of glue around edges to stop fraying. Fold shirt in half 1/2" x 1/2". Cut a small slit in center along fold for neck. Cut and trim 1/8" from each folded corner on a slight angle for arm holes. Insert wire in neck hole and glue shirt over arm wire to body. Glue sides of shirt overlapping to the back.
4. Cut two sleeves 1/4" x 3/8". Roll lengthwise and glue along edge. Each sleeve should be the same diameter. Slide each sleeve on and glue at shoulder. Open end of sleeve may be frayed.
5. Cut two legs 1/2" x 1". Roll lengthwise over toothpick and glue along edge from one end to within 1/4" of other end. Roll each leg in a different direction, so the seam overlap is opposite on each. Each leg should be the same diameter and should be looser than arms. Glue legs together at front. Slide on body and use tweezers to tuck the shirt and batting into pants, glue pants to shirt in front. Continue to tuck shirt and batting into pants and gluing together. Over lap the back and glue together. Trim legs if necessary. Open end of leg may be frayed.
6. Optional: Cut 1/8" squares from other fabric and add patches to elbows and knees. Also cut pockets and glue on seat of pants or breast of shirt.
7. Bundle straw and cut in half. Bundle again with cut ends together. Using toothpick, spread glue inside of each leg and sleeve opening. Insert the straw into each opening and press into place. Trim straw 1/8" to 1/4" long before moving to next opening. Trim straw raggedly at each opening. With some of the remaining straw cut into approximately 1/8" long pieces. Spread glue around neck and use tweezers to apply cut up straw to neck.
8. Glue head in place. Glue top of the hat (eyelet) to a piece of paper. When dry, trim neatly around the hat and paint entire hat black. Glue hat on head. Optional: Glue straw between hat and head and/or onto back of head.
9. Paint on the face. Or use a fine point permanent marker instead.
10. Standing Scarecrow: Cut tip off toothpick and glue to back of scarecrow.
11. Sitting Scarecrow: Carefully bend at hips, knees and then elbows to position for sitting.

Alternatives (Note: Materials for below are not included in above list.)

- Dress scarecrow in a dress instead by cutting shirt longer. Tie a string around the middle for rope belt. Add braided embroidery floss for hair as braids. Cut off wire legs at waist, unless making the scarecrow sit and then add pants or other covering for the wire.

1/4 inch scale

Scarecrow

by Preble McDaniel

- Make a straw hat by cutting a 1/8" dowel piece 1/16" thick. Glue the dowel piece to thin card. Glue straw colored fabric such as muslin around dowel and onto card. When dry cut circle from the card and the glued fabric around dowel. Leave a 1/16" brim.
- Add gloves, shoes or boots below straw.

