

The Bead Shop Nottingham

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Shrink Plastic Skeleton Decoration

This fun shrink plastic design can be adapted to create Halloween decorations or jewellery, get creative with the moveable joints and you can make your skeleton dance!



Materials Used:

1 sheet of either white or clear printable shrink plastic 8 x 6mm silver plated jump rings

Tools:

Hole punch Sharp scissors Chain nose pliers Heat gun or oven The skeleton takes approximately 30 minutes to make.

One skeleton would cost £4.34

The finished height of the skeleton is 15cm.

- 1.Print out the second page of this project on to white or clear printable shrink plastic, we used the clear to give a translucent milky effect once shrunk as opposed to being transparent. For printing, the shrink plastic sheets use American sizing, so you would need to set your printer to page size 'Letter' and this should print out correctly. If you do not have a printer, you can trace the design on to normal shrink plastic using a marker pen.
- 2. Once the skeleton pieces are printed, carefully cut around the edges of all the pieces. Use a hole punch to create holes in each piece where the bones will be links (they are marked with circles).
- 3. Shrink your skeleton pieces; using either a heat gun and a pair of tweezers, or a baking sheet in the oven, heat up the pieces until they have shrunk down and won't shrink any further.

TIP: If using a heat gun, be careful not to let the pieces curl up & stick to themselves, the tweezers will be handy to prevent this!

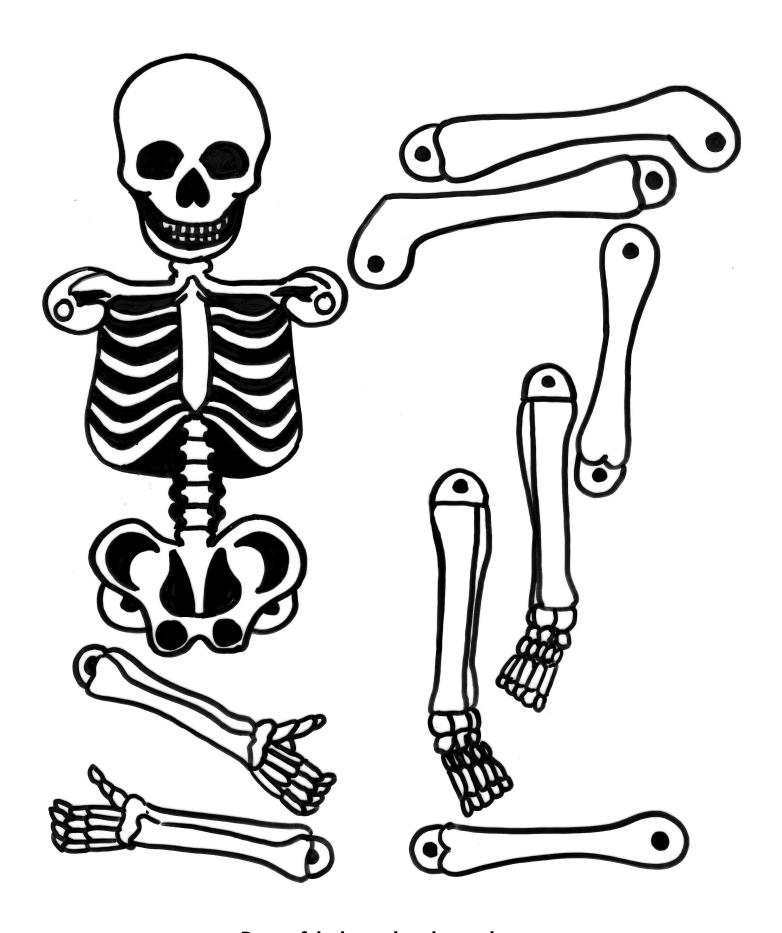
4. Using the skeleton to the right as a guide link all the individual pieces together; twist open a jump ring using chain nose pliers on either side & place the items you want to connect inside & twist the jump ring closed. Make sure you get all the pieces facing the right way.

You could hang your finished skeleton from elastic as a decoration so that his limbs will jangle, or why not shrink the image before printing to make a Halloween pendant.



TIP: To give your skeleton a shiny long lasting finish why not varnish it with Sculpey glossy glaze.

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Be careful when using sharp scissors.

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