ACORN creative goods

Nutcracker Suite Miniature Stages

PLEASE READ!

Thank you for downloading my miniature stages for the Nutcracker! Please remember, these are FREE files and they are NOT authorized for commercial resale in any way, shape or form. Is it okay for you to use part of the file for resale? Nope! These are for personal use ONLY. Thanks!

I didn't take detailed photos or keep descriptions of the process of creating my stages. But because I have had so many requests for these file patterns that I created for a charity auction donated, I have decided to offer the patterns free of charge in the spirit of Christmas giving.

Keep in mind that I didn't make these for anyone except for myself in mind. Some will NOT fit in a Glowforge-sized laser bed. They may not be re-sized or the pieces of the box will not fit together.

YOU WILL NEED TO RESIZE THE GRAPHICS TO FIT ON THE CUT MATERIALS. Yes, there are some that are sized correctly, but not all of them. Make sure all your sizing is correct BEFORE attempting to print or cut anything.

I used ¼" MDF for all of the wood pieces.

The stage fronts were spray painted white before engraving. Please test your engraving settings on your laser before engraving the whole project. These do take a long time!

After the front of the stage is cut, I cut out the jointed box. Use wood glue to put it together. I sprayed these after cutting. I suggest a coat of primer before the white spray paint.

After pieces are cut, I printed the images on regular printer paper and then cut the images out with scissors. Apply to MDF with a thin coat of Mod Podge (I used matte), making sure all the edges are glued

down well. Use the same method to attach stage backdrop or other pieces. After allowing to dry, sand the edges.

Use wood glue to put add the stage tops to the boxes. Or you can use this glue for everything. This is actually what I used to put everything together:

https://www.amazon.com/Crafters-Pick-Ultimate-Glue-8-Ounce/dp/B005IR9I3U/ref=sr_1_5?keywords=best+crafters+glue&qid=1638375184&sr=8-5

You may want to put a heavy box or something on top of the stages so the weight will help adhere everything together.

I decorated the dancers and the backgrounds before arranging and gluing the dancers inside with hot glue.

If you want to add lights and sound like I did, you can drill holes for Christmas lights. I drilled holes in 2 of the corners of each stage and use zip ties to attach them to the tree. Before drilling holes for lights, I found a bit that would make holes big enough to barely fit the lights into, that way the lights would stay in better without needing to glue them in.

I found these cool sound byte electronics on Amazon that you can use to upload your own Mp3 to with a USB cable. They are powered by AAA batteries.

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07CPX9N8N/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o08_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1

I used https://en.makercase.com/#/ to make a 6” x 4” x 1” box for each stage. I also put a 1.5” hole on the outside side to attach the speaker to. Then I glued that on the back of the stage and snaked the little button and wires out and attached that to the bottom side of the stage for easy reach.

Have fun making the most magical tree you will ever see!