

Wooden Box Doll Chair

Suitable for 18" to 22" doll

Adapted by Stephanie Novatski from an article by Christine Shively and class by Mary Egger

:

- 1 - 4" square paper mache or wooden box
- 1 4" x 4" piece of high loft batting
- 4 - 4" wooden pegs
- 4 - 1/4" wooden skewers or dowels about 6" each
- Assorted large wooden beads with 1/4" holes
- 2 pieces of matte board approximately 5" x 9" each
- 1 piece of matte board approximately 4" x 4" for seat
- 1 Piece of fabric approximately 14" x 14" for chair back
- 1 piece of fabric approximately 6" x 6" for cushion
- 1 piece of fabric approximately 17" x 4" to cover sides of chair
- Gesso
- Various colors of acrylic paints
- Assorted trims
- Sand, pennies, or buckshot (beebees) to weight chair (about 4 oz)

Tools:

- Hot Glue Gun or
- Tacky glue
- Fabri-tac glue
- Mat knife
- Needle and thread
- Paint brushes
- Drill
- Scissors

Building your chair

1. Put beebees, pennies or sand in box and glue box shut.
2. Using one of the pegs as a template, place flat side of peg against bottom outside of box approximately 1/8" in from corner edges and trace around. Repeat in all corners. You will have circles drawn in the box corners.
3. Drill a hole in the center of each of the circles drawn in the bottom corners of the box large enough for the skewer to fit through. Don't drill through top of box
4. Drill a hole in the top end center of the peg about 1/2" deep for skewer to fit.
5. Drill a hole in the bottom end center of the peg about 1/2" for skewer to fit.
6. Coat top 1" of skewer with glue and push into hole on bottom of box. Thread on a bead and cut skewer so 1/2" is exposed. Coat with glue and push into top of peg.
7. Cut a piece of skewer about 1" and coat with glue. Push one end into bottom of skewer and other end into bead. Repeat for all 4 corners. Set aside to dry.
8. Paint the legs and the bottom of your chair with a base coat of Gesso (optional but highly recommended)
9. Paint the legs in the colors of your choice.
10. Cut seat cushion fabric 5 1/5" x 5 1/2". Cut batting (high loft is best) 4" x 4" and glue to matte board for seat.

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11. Center batting side down on wrong side of seat fabric and pull fabric excess fabric to back and glue in place neatly folding corners.
12. Cut the back of the chair from a larger piece of Matte board. It should go from the bottom of the box to desired height (mine is 7 ½" total from box bottom to top of chair back). It also should be 4" wide. Shape back starting minimum of 1 ½" from the bottom so back will make contact with entire box side. You can make any shape back you want, just make sure the bottom will fit against the box. Cut 2 of these shapes.
13. Apply glue all over back shapes and carefully glue fabric to one side. Trim excess fabric to ½" and glue to back. Glue wrong sides of both pieces together and allow to dry.
14. Glue chair back to box back matching bottom and side edges of box and chair back and allow to dry.
15. Take long piece of fabric to cover sides of box and fold long edges under so width of fabric equals height of box. Glue in place all around box including over chair back overlapping at one of the side edges. Fold in raw edge so it is neat and glue in place.
16. Apply trim to bottom edge.
17. Glue seat in place on box top.
18. Glue on trims.
19. Seat your doll and let her enjoy! My doll is 21" and she fits fine.

Design Options:

1. Decoupage your chair instead of painting it
2. Substitute finials or spindles for pegs and beads for legs
3. Embellish with messages
4. Use stamps and embossing powders
5. Change the shape of your chair back
6. Add arms
7. Change leg length to suit different doll size.