

# Hanging Cage

## Background

A mainstay of any well-equipped castle dungeon, the Hanging Cage is a common prop for any studio creating a gothic horror film. Traditionally, however, these devices were used far more often outdoors where criminals were placed on display at crossroads or city gates until their eventual death from hunger.

This particular model was inspired by the old Aurora plastic model "The Hanging Cage" No.637. Due to the inevitable difficult questions which would arise, this model is probably not suitable for young children.

## Materials Required

Printer, Stock, Knife, Scoring Tool, Set Square (or right angle of some sort), glue, water-based paints, fine paintbrush (00 or 000), a short length of small gauge (approx. 1 mm) flexible wire, small barrel screwdriver, small piece of tape, a pair of pliers, and a large needle.

Print out the last page of this document on a colour or black and white printer on Letter size cardstock (8 1/2" x 11"). A sharp knife (Xacto or scalpel preferred) is required to cut out the parts. The thicker lines indicate where the parts are to be cut. Parts should be scored before cut out. Scoring can be done with a dull blade, fine point pen, metal crochet hook, etc.

Depending upon the paper used to print the model, a strong tacky glue is required to cement the pieces together. If the printing stock is non-coated, most wood and paper glues are sufficient. Once assembled, the edges should be painted in a colour to match the print.

The cage is attached to the brace using a piece of wire cut and made into small links. Eyebolts made from wire attach to the cage and to the top beam. The needle is required to make small holes in the paper.

## Assembly Instructions

Assemble **Main Post (A)**.

Assemble **Foot Side (B)** and **Foot Front (C)** pieces. Attach **Foot** pieces to the bottom of the **Main Post** as indicated by the letters. Note that the **Foot Front** piece is a little longer than the **Side** pieces.

Assemble **Foot Braces (D)**. There are three of these and unlike the **Side** and **Front Foot** pieces, these are all identical. Use a set square or other right-angle device to ensure that the **Main Post** is straight up and cement the **Foot Braces** into position. Start with the sides and end with the front.

Use the needle to punch a hole in the position indicated on the **Top Beam (F)**. Cut a short length of wire and wrap around the shaft of the screwdriver as shown in the illustration 1. Note that since the loop must be slid off the screwdriver shaft, choose a screwdriver which is a consistent diameter along its length.

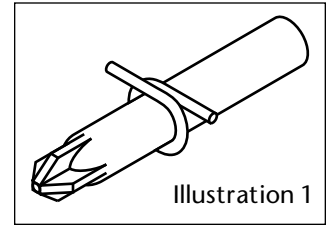


Illustration 1

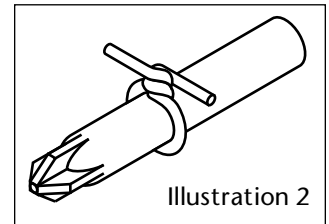


Illustration 2

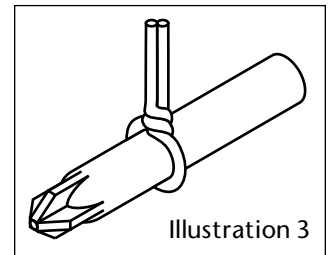


Illustration 3

Twist the wire around itself twice and bend the remaining parts of the wire upwards (refer to illustrations 2 and 3).

Push loop off shaft of screwdriver. This creates the small eyebolt to be inserted into the hole in the **Top Beam**.

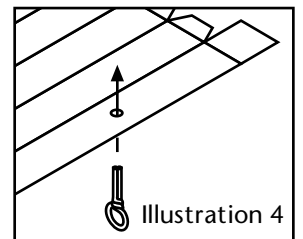


Illustration 4

Push wire eyebolt through the hole in the **Top Beam** and bend the ends of the wire down, flat against the bottom of the **Beam** part (refer to illustrations 4 and 5).

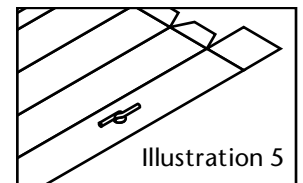


Illustration 5

Use a small piece of tape to affix the wire to the back side of the **Beam** part (refer to illustration 6). The ring of the eyebolt should be flush with the bottom of the **Top Beam** part.

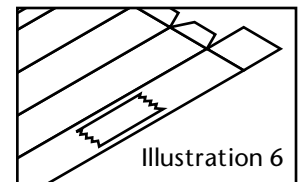


Illustration 6

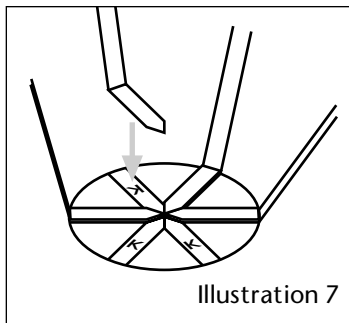
Once eyebolt is in place, assemble the **Top Beam**.

Cement the **Top Beam** to the top of the **Main Post**.

Assemble **Top Brace (E)**. Using a set square or other right angle, ensure that the **Top Beam** is square to the **Main Post** and cement the **Top Brace** into position. This completes the frame assembly.

To begin the cage, cut out the **Floor Middle (1b)** part and then score and cut the **Vertical Bars (K)**. Note the presence of the valley fold on the **Vertical Bars** which requires scoring on the back of the part. Use the **Vertical Bar Template** to bend each of the six bars into the required shape.

Once all 6 **Bars** have been shaped, cement the **Bars** into place on the **Floor Middle (2b)** part using the lines as a guide (refer to Illustration 7). After all 6 **Bars** have been glued into place, cement the **Floor Top (1a)** and **Floor Bottom (1c)** into place on the top and bottom of the **Middle** part, respectively.



The **Cage Top** is assembled next. Before creating this part, however, another eyebolt must be made following the instructions given earlier. The eyebolt should be a little shorter than the previous one: snip off the ends and leave approx. 1 1/2 loops. Once this eyebolt is complete, punch a hole in the **Cage Top (2c)** part. Push the eyebolt through this hole.

Using the lines printed on the **Cage Top (2b)** part, glue this part to the top of the **Vertical Bars**. Glue the **Cage Top (2c)** part on top of this assembly and cement the **Cage Top (2a)** part on the bottom. This closes the cage, but the shape is added using the **Bands**.

Cut and bend the Band parts **Bottom Band (G)**, **Middle Band 1 (H)**, **Middle Band 2 (I)**, and **Top Band (J)**. To make assembly easier, roll these parts around a large cylinder such as a large felt marker barrel.

Using the letters marked on the **Vertical Bars**, cement the **Bands** into place beginning with the **Bottom Band** and working towards the top. Once the **Top Band** is glued into position, the cage is complete.

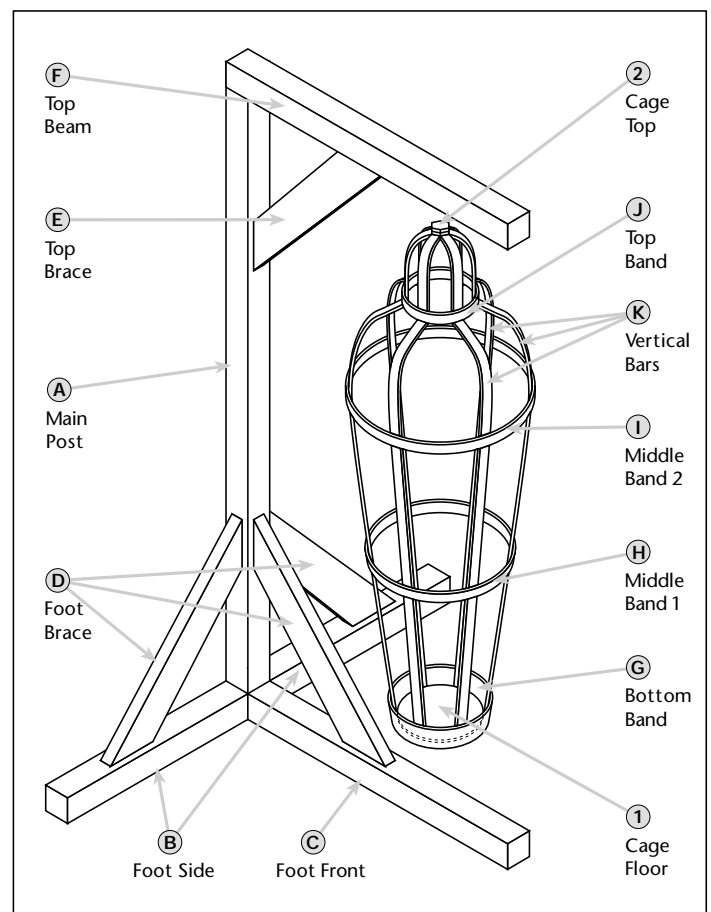
To attach the cage to the beam, fashion two small links of wire. To do this, find a small diameter cylinder (approx 2 - 3 mm) and wrap some of the wire around it to form a coil. Push the coil off the cylinder and cut a circular segment from the coil. Bend the ends of the wire together so that they touch and use a pair of pliers to flatten the circle into a chain link. Create two of

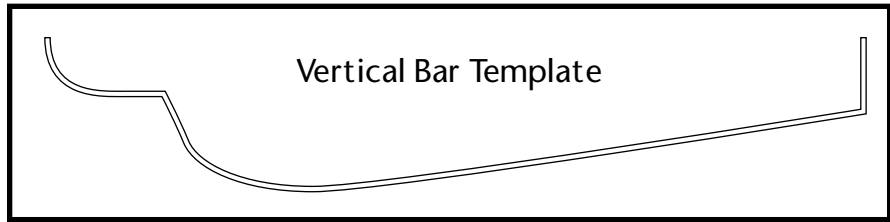
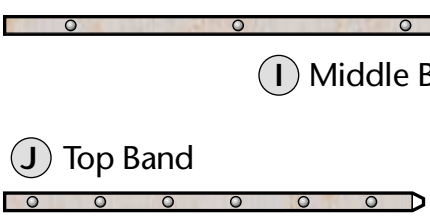
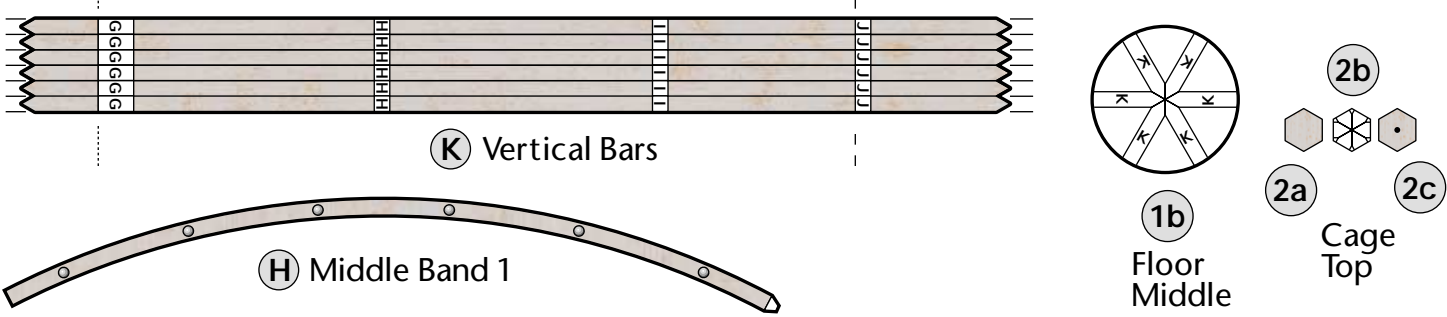
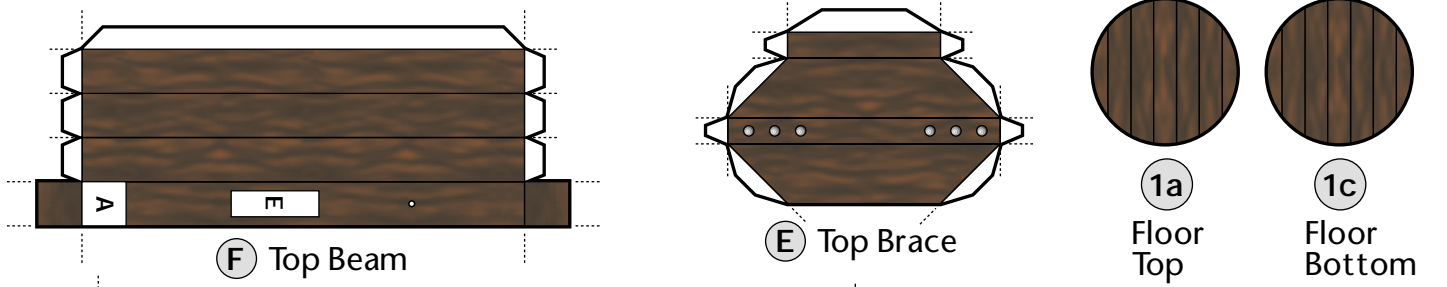
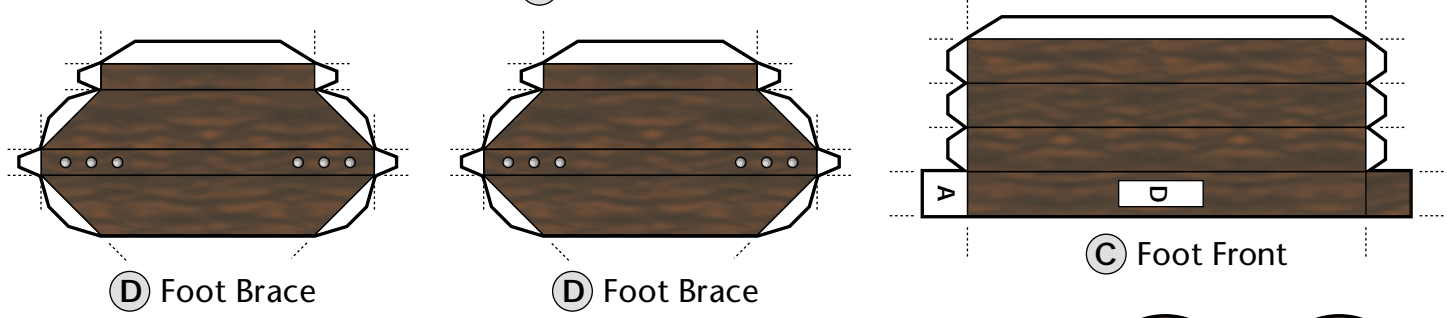
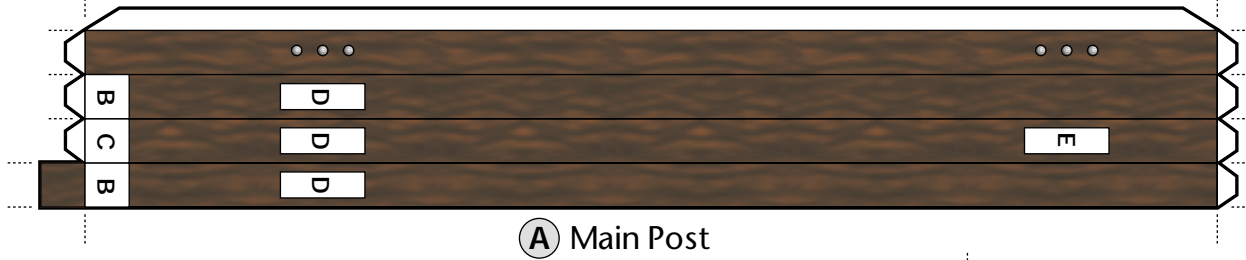
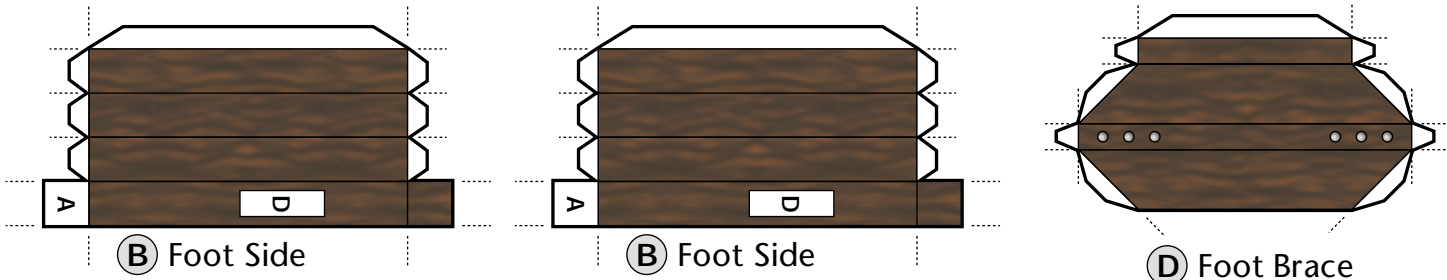
these links and connect them together. Attach one link to the cage and one link to the **Top Beam** eyebolt.

Once the cage and brace have been assembled, the model is ready to be painted. Paint the exposed edges of the paper on the brace a dark brown colour to match the print. Paint the inside and edges of the cage in a grey colour to match the colour of the bars. If desired, paint the wire chain in a silver or dark grey colour.



The model is now complete and ready for display.





— Cut Line  
 ..... Peak Fold  
 --- Valley Fold