

Members Thoughts on Doll stands and Web sites for Instructions

1. Do you like to use doll stands? If not - what else can you use?

I do not like the wire stand so try to avoid it, when I use it, which is usually, I use Dana, directions and try to hide the stand.

2. What kind of doll stands do you use? i.e. Metal, acrylic? And please list the source if you have one

I use metal and used the last one when I made my last doll in Dec. so need a place to get more.

3. How do you attach the doll to the stand?

I use Dana's method she shows in her tuts.

1. Do you like to use doll stands? If not - what else can you use?

Yes, I love to use doll stands.

2. What kind of doll stands do you use? i.e. Metal, acrylic? And please list the source if you have one

I now use the acrylic needle stands for women and children. Gisele sells them at <http://www.gminiature.com/> & so does Cynthia Howe Miniatures <http://cynthiahoweminiatures.com/shop/> .

Almost forgot.....I use the ones with the needle in the center of the doll. Gisele carries both the ones with the needle in the middle and the ones with the needle on one side.

These are for ladies and children in dresses. Since I chunked the man I was working on back into a drawer, I'm not sure which stand I would use for them. I would try to use the acrylic, but it may be hard to do with a pants. If that were the case, I would go back with the metal stand for that application.

3. How do you attach the doll to the stand?

With the acrylic needle stands, once I assemble the doll but before dressing them, I push the needle up between the legs (if not a full torso), or up the back as close to their rear-end as possible underneath the porcelain. Then, once the doll is dressed and posed, I glue their feet to the stand. Makes for really invisible stands and eliminates bulk around the waist.

1. Do you like to use doll stands? If not - what else can you use?

Yes

2. What kind of doll stands do you use? i.e. Metal, acrylic?

I use both the metal doll stands and acrylic stands.

I buy my acrylic doll stands from Gisele <http://www.gminiature.com/> The metal doll stands I sell.

3. How do you attach the doll to the stand?

For the metal dolls stands I use the technique Dana taught me. I have a tutorial on my website showing how it is done. Here is the link:

<http://www.taynasminidolls.com/Tutorials/5thave/>

1. Do you like to use doll stands?

Yes

2. What kind of doll stands do you use?

acrylic with a pin sticking out of it to put into the doll, and I have ordered them from Giselle's Miniature Creations. website is <http://www.gminiature.com>

3. How do you attach the doll to the stand?

The pin goes through the doll's underclothing and doll body. It holds the doll in the upright position if the skirt does not.

If you make a petticoat out of stiff buckram (the stuff used for making full size hats) and leave the top loose, it makes a nice stand for ladies who have long skirts. You can decorate the edges with gathered lace to make it prettier

1. Do you like to use doll stands? If not - what else can you use? I do use doll stands but dislike them.

ATTACHING DOLL TO A WOODEN PLAQUE

1. Paint or stain wooden plaque, allow to dry completely.
2. While still in the greenware stage, make a hole in the bottom of the dolls feet which is a slightly larger diameter than a finishing nail (or wire).
3. Holding the doll on the wooden plaque where you want it to stand, trace around the dolls feet.(Set doll aside)
4. Using the pencil marks as your guide, drill two holes in the wooden plaque, do not

go all the way through the plaque.

5. Using tacky glue mixed with super glue, glue the finishing nail into the wooden plaque. (make sure that the length of the nail is long enough to set into the plaque and the dolls foot).

6. Once the doll has been painted, fired, dressed and finished, attach the doll to the plaque by mixing tacky glue and super glue applied to the nail peg. Slide the dolls feet onto the nail and hold for a few minutes until the doll stands on its own.

2. What kind of doll stands do you use? i.e. Metal, acrylic? And please I usually use metal stands. list the source if you have one 3. How do you attach the doll to the stand? Around the dolls waist or, if possible, under the dolls dress. Until next time,

I use doll stands for most of my characters if they are standing. I bought a big packet of white metal doll stands very inexpensively at WalMart once, although I have picked them up here and there at various places over the years, too.

Basically, I learned how through YOUR process, Dana, in your older tutorials. Like you, I cut off the rounded wings, turn the interior post upside down and put it back into the base column. I prefer to paint them black, as you also suggested, and have found that the paint sticks better if I coat them with gesso first. I usually grab a handful, apply gesso and leave to dry, then sometime later when I remember them, or find them, I paint them all black. I HATE having to stop the doll-making process to paint a stand.

Depending on how I want the doll posed, sometimes I run the top of the stand up inside the pant or pantaloon leg; sometimes taped or wrapped, centered, at the back of the hips. I use a combination of Tacky glue and super glue to hold; sometimes a glob of Fabri-Tac if that's what's handy.

I have a couple of acrylic doll stands, but haven't used them yet; not sure where I got them.

Beth Lane used to use those silver disc shapes that carpenters use behind a nail when they are putting up tar paper. She just super-glued the doll's feet to the disc.

When I was first experimenting with sculpting larger dolls, we learned to insert a nail into a wooden base, then one sculpted leg/foot was slid onto it, removed and baked. When the doll was completely finished, the nail was inserted back into the hole of the foot/leg and glued in place. I have even used large pins sticking up through a square of foamcore or lightweight balsa to hold a foot or feet.

On occasion I use a cone made from cardstock for both the understructure of the dress and as a stand, covering the round cone base and up the sides of the cone in the same fabric as the dress, and just let tips of something show that purport to be shoes - IF I feel the need for shoes. I used cones for

dolls when I was a child, but I think I learned a miniaturist's version of that technique from one of Viola's Dolls in Miniature magazines several years ago.

I have an older miniature doll from England whose skirt is on a cone base covered with the same lightweight velvet fabric as the dress, and no feet show at all. Shirley Whitworth's desert character dolls also use covered card cone bases, as I recall.

And on the subject of cones, I showed my grandchildren how to make dolls on styrofoam cone bases. Basically we cut off part of the tip, poked a head and shoulders into the styrofoam, and arms into the sides. They made some pretty cute dolls that way, although unfortunately I didn't get pictures of the process.

And now that I think about it, I remember making a doll on a pop bottle when I was a child, too. In my opinion, for full skirted dolls, almost anything can become a base/stand if it's the right size and shape and won't show. However, I make dolls for my own pleasure, not for sale, so perhaps my ideas might not be applicable for those who plan to sell.

I make my own dollstand using an acrylic disc, drill a small hole in it and place a pin into the hole, secured with superglue.

I buy the discs at Gisele's:

http://www.gminiature.com/page/17w18/Molds_Supplies.html

then click on "dollstands and tools"

They work wonderful for me, the only thing you have to remember is that you make a hole in one leg during the greenware stage of the porcelain.

I also use them on sculpted dolls and then I use a brass rod in one leg where the pin fits in.

I hope this makes sense, let me know if not.

For those of you who got "Dolls & Miniatures: magazines, you'll find a variety of ways to stand up your dolls in the following issues (some even for 1/2" scale)

Summer 91, Fall 92, Summer 92, Summer 93, Spring 95 and Fall 98.

Those older issues are now sold out but if you have them, check them out... I think I have the issue numbers correct.

I have used most of the ideas already mentioned. For the children I go to Michaels and buy the small round wooden disks and drill two holes in them.. a round wooden toothpick or wire are glued into those holes. The protruding toothpick or wire is pushed up the pantaloons of the girl, or the pants of the boy. (note: Cut wires/toothpicks long enough to fit into the disk and up the pant legs before gluing them into place)

In one of the older issues of the magazines I mentioned, someone wrote in to say she glues a penny to the bottom of the doll's feet and the weight is enough to keep them standing. I've never tried that and I can't remember what size doll it would

work for.

Another article provided a patten for a buckram petticoat that slips up under the doll's skirt and can be removed if you want the doll to be seated.

There's also "the foot" which can replace the porcelain leg and works very well to keep the dolls standing without a stand of any kind.

viola