

Fallen Log

What you'll need:

- 8"x 4" concrete form tube or 3 4"x4' carpet tubes
- 1 roll of newsprint
- 1 can of brown spray paint
- clear packing tape
- disposable gloves
- 2 cans of Great Stuff expanding foam insulation
- paint (orange, cream)
- paintbrushes
- disposable paint tarp
- disposable plate
- long serrated kitchen knife
- mask (optional)

What you'll do:

Step 1: If you're using carpet tubes, tape the 3 tubes together to form a wide tube. Crumple newsprint before wrapping the concrete form tube. Then wrap the tube with several layers of crumpled paper, twisting the paper as you go for a wood effect. Tip: On the last layer, to avoid painting on shiny tape, we rolled pieces of tape and tucked under the paper to secure the edges.

Step 2: Give the log texture by adding lines of spray insulation. Cover one half of the log with lines. Allow to dry.

Step 3: Add lines to the other half of the log.

Step 4: At one end of the log, stack two more layers of lines, making it wide like a tree trunk at one end and taper smaller at the other. (When placed on stage, this helps with forced perspective.)

Step 5: Add insulation to fill in both ends of the log. Allow to dry.

Step 6: At the wide end, use a serrated knife to cut the end flat.

Step 7: Paint the entire log with brown spray paint. Let it dry.

Step 8: Paint orange on the surface of the log using a dry brush technique, allowing the texture of the log to pick up the orange paint to create barklike texture. Use the same technique on the ends of the log.

Step 9: Add cream highlights.

Step 10: Use cream paint to make concentric circles on the end of the log.

