

Distressing Project:

Backstory:

At midnight in a damp redwood forest, Emma and her friends were playing Ghost in the Graveyard (reverse game of hide and seek). The home base was a grassy clearing in the middle of the redwoods. Having rain earlier in the day, the high schoolers brought a few chairs and tables outside. A few other players were the ghosts who went off to hide while everyone was drinking soda and eating snacks (while counting) in the grassy clearing.

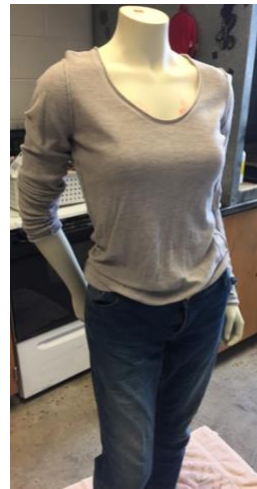
Once they finished counting, the flood lighting was shut off leaving everyone in complete and sudden darkness. And everyone started to run off to find the ghosts, and Emma was knocked off balance. She tried to catch herself but ended up landing on her left elbow in the grass. After a moment she got back up again, only to be knocked forward on to her knees by another hopelessly blinded person. After her eyes adjusted to the black, she picked herself up and ran off to find the ghosts.

After a bit of searching, she found a ghost, Kevin, who decided to shine a light in her face when she yelled “Ghost in the graveyard!!! RUN!” And she turned to run away before Kevin (or any of the other ghosts tagged her), but she ran directly into a tree branch hitting her head on a sharp knot. And then Kevin smacked into her tagging her. And she fell to her knees.

She took a moment to sit before she got up. She pushed up her sleeves with her slightly muddy hands. She felt wetness on her forehead and wiped it away with her right sleeve. And pushed her sleeves up past her elbows determined to make it back to base despite having been tagged and is now a ghost for the next round.

Steps:

1. BOTH: First I decided on my clothes, wrote a back story and then did my research.
2. BOTH: I then took before pictures of the jeans and top.
3. DENIM: I used first the cats paw to rough up the backs of the heels, tops of the pockets and just below the knees (hole in the right knee from when she fell forward).
 - a. To get the right placement of the knee holes, I placed the waistband of the pants and the pant legs down my legs then I fell forward on to the ground to see where the knees would hit the ground.
4. DENIM: I then went over the cats paw places with course sandpaper to help give it a more natural and less snuggled faded look.



5. DENIM: Then I decided to do the grass stains.

- a. I used createx paint and a tray to mix my paint. I used mostly blue and yellow plus a little of the lighter brown paint pictured right. I then tested it out on a towel and decided between chalk brush, a regular brush, a sea-sponge and my fingers that my fingers had better control over where I wanted it and the smearing effect I was going for because grass stains aren't just a plop of color but a smearing.



- b. I then used a bit of the more yellow grass color for the outer edges of the smear.



6. DENIM: After the grass stains, I decided I needed to yellow it a bit more than it already was to make it look more dirty.

- a. I used mostly brass and a little brown Dye-na-flow with a lot of water mixed in a mister bottle.

- b. I first lightly misted the whiter areas of the denim avoiding the crotch.

- c. I then scrunched up the legs (on the mannequin) like someone pushing the jeans up to knees and heavily misted the areas that were on the outside of the scrunches (like how shibori resists on itself).

- d. I made sure to hit up the knees one more time.



7. DENIM: I next went in with mud

- a. I made sure to dry brush a mixture of the light brown paint and a bit of the grass color on to the hem of the jeans, on the back pockets, a smidgen on the front of the jeans where the lightest part of the fading was.
- b. I then went took the dark brown and mixed a bit of it in to the light brown (with a hint of green mixture). I then rubbed it on to the palms of my hand and wiped them on the outsides of the jeans on the thigh.
- c. I then took more of the previous mixture and again put it on my hands and wiped it on the seat of the pants.
- d. I took the same paint mixture and put it on my hands again and then shoved them in front pockets.
- e. I then added a little more dark brown to the paint mixture and some of the dye-na-flow from the spray bottle because the paint was trying to dry out and went over the same previous three areas (thighs, seat of pants and pockets).



8. DENIM: Mud part 2

- a. I used my medium dark brown mix from before and used a sea sponge to give hem of the jeans mud splatters.
- b. I made sure to rotate the sponge as I went along to create a more random splatter pattern.

- c. I went higher on the out-seam as compared to the inseam to account for splatters from friends.
 - d. I also went higher in the back because when you run, mud (sand, rain or snow) splatters up the backs of your calves.
 - e. I also bunched up the legs on the mannequin like before and put a dry sponge of paint over it (dry brushing with a sponge).
9. TOP: Sweat
- a. I used the ecru Dye-na-flow water mixture (pictured right) and sprayed it down the center front of the shirt, in the arm pits and a little under the bust
 - b. THEN IT SPREAD!!!! Like mad! It went way farther than I expected it to go. It was a LARGE over achiever! It went too far in the front although the back looked awesome once dried.
 - c. I also used my yellowing dye-na-flow mixture from before (brass and smidge of brown) on the center back of the top.



10. TOP: I then put the brown mixture from step 7 on my hands and then I pushed up the sleeves on the mannequin like I was pushing my own sleeves up to get a muddy sleeve look. I then kept the sleeves scrunched up and lightly misted the yellowing dye-na-flow mixture on the scrunched sleeves.



11. TOP: Grass stain
- a. With the sleeves three quarters pushed up, I went over curve in the elbow with paint on my index finger to catch the part that juts out the most.
 - b. I then let it dry for a smidge then rubbed it out like it got scraped over the grass.

12. BOTH: Blood
- a. I took the createx blood dropper and held it above the mannequin where someone's head would be and I squirted it out and it landed on the jeans mostly.
 - b. Then I took the blood and pooled a bit of it on the back of my hand so that it would be runny but trying to coagulate and I let that drop down from about where a head would be on to the right side of her shirt.



- i. Since I did the blood when the sweat was still wet, it spread like wildfire so that's good to know for future if you don't want it smeary, wait til everything dries first.
- c. I then took blood and put it again on the back of my hand. I then put my arm in the sleeve and wiped it across my hand like someone would wipe their arm across their head to see what was on it.



13. TOP: Sweat part 2

- a. To make fresher sweat, I got the top wet and then used pewter dye-na-flow with a LOT of water to color match the look of it.
 - i. It dries lighter. I forgot that concept so I had to go over the whole thing twice. Next time up the color to account for the color lightening once it dries.
- b. I then sprain it down the center front only in between the breasts on the front for sweat and a smaller area in the upper back for sweat.
- c. I also used a brush to drag the sweat trail down farther since the spray bottle did not make for a sharp point.
- d. I also had this on the mannequin at the time with the shirt bunched up like it was when it was sitting with the pants under it and this lead to some really cool sweat drops on the bottom of the shirt in both the front and back.



14. TOP: Blood part two

- a. I did the same blood steps as before (createx blood dropper thing)
- b. Squirting it out
- c. And runny blood from the back of my hand



