



# How to Build a Scarecrow

*Easy instructions to help you create your very own scarecrow!*

Traditionally, scarecrows were set up in gardens and fields to keep unwanted birds, particularly crows, away from the crops. Now people are making scarecrows for their annual autumn decorations. Warrens Cranberry Festival invites you to become part of our fall tradition by entering our Scarecrow Contest. This is a great project for groups, or you can do it on your own.

Homemade scarecrows can be quite eye-catching. The Festival has seen everything from traditional scarecrows to unique scarecrows, including an alien, football player, pirate, knight, and a zombie! Use your imagination and create one that fits your personality. Choose a theme - it's up to you!

**Supplies for your scarecrow (These are just suggestions. Feel free to be creative!)**

*Long-sleeved shirt*

*Old pair of socks or boots*

*Straw hat*

*Safety pins*

*Newspapers or straw for stuffing*

*Old pair of pants or jeans*

*Gardening gloves*

*Plenty of baling twine or string*

*A pillowcase or pumpkin for the head*

*Pencil, paint, buttons and markers*

To assemble your scarecrow, firmly tie the ends of the pants and sleeves on the shirt and stuff them with your choice of stuffing. Stuff the socks and gloves and tie on the ends. Fasten the socks (or boots) and gloves to the pants and shirt on the inside with safety pins (or bent paper clips.) Tuck the shirt into the pants.

If you're using a pumpkin for the head, it's best to carve it into a jack-o-lantern to take off some of the weight. It will take some wire to fasten it. A pillowcase works better and is far easier to attach to the body. Use a pencil and draw on the face. Follow up with the paint, markers or buttons to give it facial features. Then stuff the pillowcase and fasten it to the body with safety pins. Top off your scarecrow with a hat. A straw hat gives it a classic look. Fasten the hat firmly so it doesn't blow off on windy days.

Attach your scarecrow to a wooden stake or something that can be securely placed into the ground for displaying purposes. If you'd like to pick up your scarecrow after the Festival, please contact the office at 608-378-4200, ext. 102, or email [office@cranfest.com](mailto:office@cranfest.com). Good Luck and Have Fun!

\*\*\*\*\*

## Examples of past scarecrows

