

# Haunted House Halloween Handbook

*Jerry R. Chavez*

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**Jerry R. Chavez : Haunted House Halloween Handbook** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Haunted House Halloween Handbook:

14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Got me started, hard to stop. By Arlo Ames I've been building a haunted house with a church group for maybe 5 years running. The youth won't let me stop! Every year I get a call asking if I'll help with the haunted house, both from the participants and the patrons. Everybody loves it! OK, so the book doesn't provide dimensioned engineering drawings, and it maybe a bit vague. Working with a youth group, it's perfect. They often only need some general thoughts, and they can run with the details. There are a lot of ideas for content posted to the internet. Chavez does a reasonable job of educating about what to look for in those ideas, so you look for ideas that are safe, provide a reasonable effect, and for a reasonable price. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An excellent book for newbies; less helpful for those who are more experienced. By Michael D Williams I met Jerry Chavez years ago when attending "haunting school" in California. I bought this book after having

hosted a couple of small professional haunts. What I most appreciate is his discussion of the different categories or types of scares/illusions. Well done, Jerry! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good overall book  
By Todd Morgan  
Covers a lot of different areas and makes some good suggestions. I felt like it was a little heavy on items that are difficult to make and lighter on stuff that most home haunters can accomplish. I was also hoping for more details regarding sound design of a haunt. Still worth adding to your collection.

Every October, schools, civic clubs, scout troops, little leagues and charity groups of all kinds sponsor Halloween "haunted houses" as fundraisers. But where do they go for good information on how to do it? How to make the rotting corpse that scares the bejeebers out of everyone or the demonic knife-wielding doll or the living, beating heart that visitors swear is real? And what about the mundane details (e.g., permits and insurance) that make the haunted house a profitable and safe venture? Where does one find out about that? All aspects of the successful haunted house are covered here. There is good information on site selection, logistics, design, security, budgeting, sponsorship and volunteer management. This is followed by detailed, descriptions of many inexpensive illusions for your haunted house; each is accompanied by illustrations that further explain how to make the effect successful. Floor plans, advertising flyers and design worksheets are some of the sample materials included.

"Chavez utilizes his knowledge of stage magic and his vivid imagination to add some new twists to old illusions. ...sets a new standard for Halloween 'How To' books. For the beginning and intermediate haunter, this book is a must have" -- Haunted Attraction Magazine "it will tell you everything you need to know to make sure the event is the nightmare you want it to be" --Big Reel  
About the Author  
Jerry R. Chavez has been designing and producing haunted houses for over twenty years. He lives in Fountain Valley, California.