
Nick Chopper
Tin Man Assembly Guide
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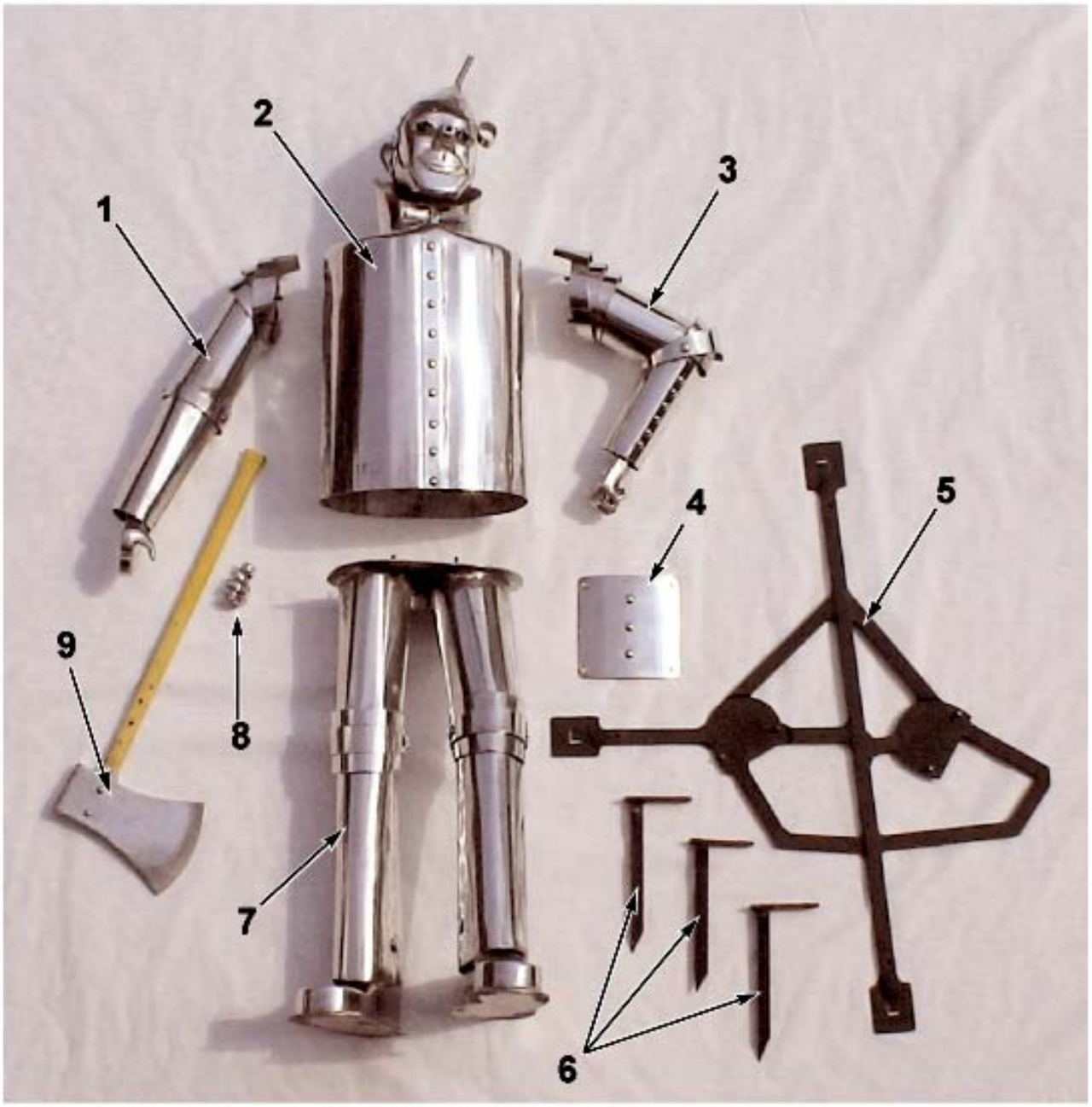
Parts and Pieces



1. Right Arm welded assembly
2. Head and Torso welded assembly
3. Left Arm welded assembly
4. Back Cover Plate assembly
5. Stability Base stand welded assembly
6. Stability Base ground anchor stakes (3)
7. Legs and Shoes welded assembly
8. Right Hand 4 fingers welded assembly
9. AX Head and Handle assembly

Nick Chopper the “Tin Man”

The “Tin Man” Nick Chopper is a static metal sculpture statuary and has no moveable parts.

Nick is hollow and made out of 1/8” thick polished and welded aluminum parts. Nick weighs 75 lbs. assembled without the Metal Stand attached . The heavy duty metal stand weighs an additional 17 lbs..

The 1/8” inch thick aluminum is very tough and will not dent easily. Aluminum was chosen over “Tin” or steel because in a wet weather environment he won’t RUST like steel. He will not turn brown or red with rust! Nick will stay silver in color and last a very long time. The “Tin Man” Nick Chopper is a very tough guy! All parts used in sculpting the “Tin Man” are new and were shaped and welded just for this one sculpture; there are no used or old found parts.

The Ax head is not real and is also hollow and made out of the same 1/8” thick aluminum as the rest of the sculpture. This helps keep the weight down. The Ax handle is a real fiberglass handle chosen over a wood handle for longevity.

The buttons “rivets”, elbow, knee and ankle hinge pivot bolts are all steel carriage bolts with a nut welded on from the inside, they should never come off. These items are for “show” only and have nothing to do with the structure of the sculpture.

All mounting studs used for assembling Nick are a high quality hard 3/8” grade 8 and are captured in the assembly. Which means all you have to do is install the washers and nuts and won’t have to hold the bolts with a wrench from the other side, this makes assembly very easy.
I chose to make this wonderful sculpture capable of disassembly for ease of shipping ,moving and storing. When assembled he is as firm as if he were entirely welded in one piece.

With only 11 total parts this metal sculpture is very easy to assemble and only uses 13 nuts and 9 bolts. Once you are familiar with Nick he can be assembled in less than 15 minutes.

The following assembly instructions will tell you everything you need to know in photos and text.

Display Location

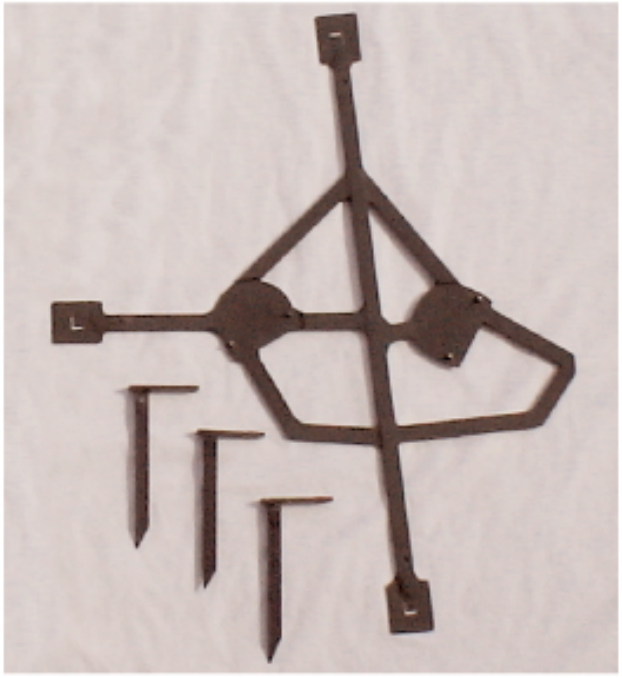
The first step in displaying this wonderful metal sculpture is to find your favorite location for him. Find a flat level place outdoors or indoors your choice? Outdoors use the metal stability base. If your area is prone to occasional high winds and storms use the (3) ground stakes. Drive them in with the mallet provided then bolt them down to the stand base. This is the recommended most secure setup.

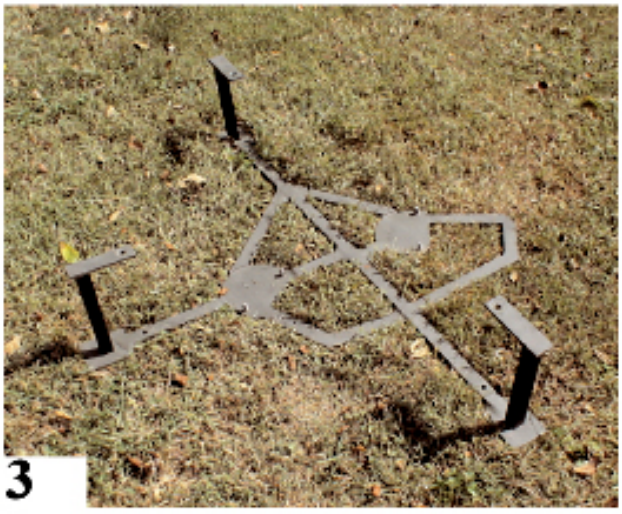
Nick Chopper can be displayed indoors, you can use the stability base without the ground stakes. Also he is balanced and will stand alone without the base installed in a level safe place. But, be aware he can be knocked over if bumped or pushed. If he falls over it will not be good for whatever he falls on, remember he’s very hard and somewhat heavy. He can be bolted or screwed down through his (4) shoe mounting holes directly to the floor. These 4 holes are 3/8” in diameter on either side of his ankle in the sole of his big metal shoes. Be sure to use a fastener that will be firmly secured to the floor.

Setup and Assembly

1

Locate the Stability Base Stand welded assembly and the Stability Base ground anchor stakes (3). The anchor stakes are for outdoor use.



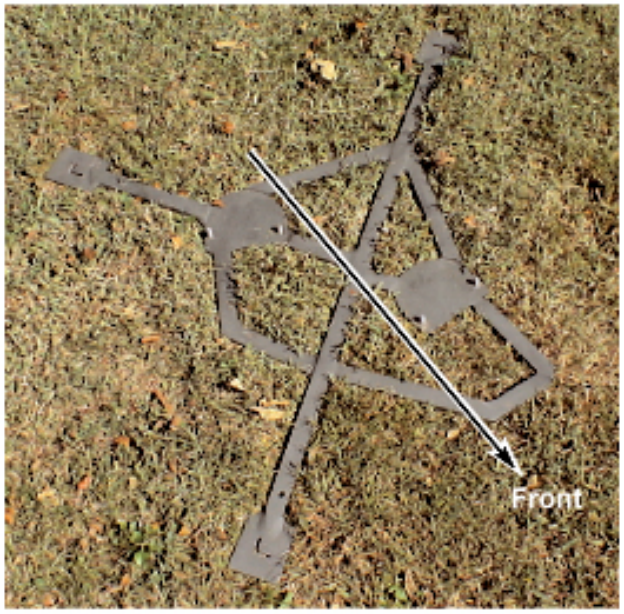


3

For outdoor use, drive the anchor stakes into the ground through the L shaped slots that are cut through the base ends. Use the rubber mallet provided. The bolt down holes face inward.

2

Place the base on a flat level site. Outdoors or indoors.



4

Install a washer and bolt onto the threaded hole. You may need to use the mallet to knock either side of the anchor stake flange to align hole. Leave bolt and washer off when making this alignment. Visually look through hole to determine alignment direction needs. Please start all bolts by hand to avoid cross threading then tighten down with 9/16" socket and ratchet tools provided.

5

The first piece to install onto the base are the Legs and Shoes welded assembly.

6

Locate the anchor studs on the mounting base and set the shoe holes down over the studs. This can only be installed in one direction.

7

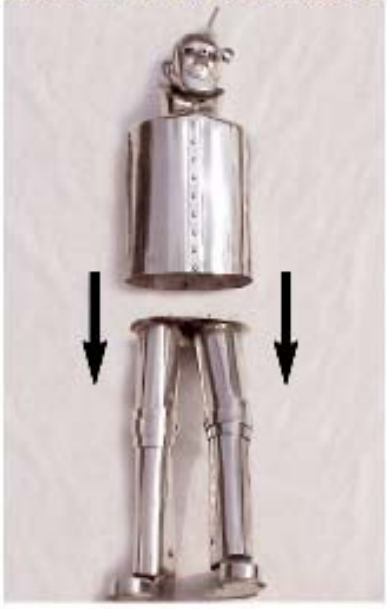
Leg, Shoe welded assembly shown here in position on base.

8

3/8" flat washers, lock washers and nuts installed hand tightened with 9/16" socket and ratchet tools provided..

9

Leg assembly ready for Torso assembly to be installed onto the (4) mounting studs facing up from the top plate.



11

Pick up the torso and head welded assembly facing the back. This will enable you to look through the rear access hole to align the mounting studs through the holes. Lower the torso down onto the Legs assembly top plate.

10

This is a view of the bottom of the torso assembly showing the (4) mounting holes. The photo below this shows the top of the Legs assembly with the studs that match the holes in the Torso bottom plate

12

This view is looking through the rear access hole of the torso showing the studs from the Legs assembly matched up to the holes in the bottom plate of the torso assembly.

13

Install (4) 3/8" flat washers, lock washers and nuts then hand tighten with tools provided using the 9/16" socket and ratchet.

15

Next assemble the AX and fingers to the right arm. These are the parts needed

14

The Tin Man should look like this.

16

Use the (2) 1/4"X2" bolts and matching flat washers. The tool needed is the 1/2" open ended wrench. The bolts and washers are shown placed in the AX handle holes.

17

Place the AX handle on the palm of the hand. Install the bolts into the threaded holes in the palm of the hand.

19

Locate the 4 finger clip note the 2 slots on the finger base.

21

Push the finger clip back to "Grip" the AX handle and to sandwich the finger clip slotted plate between the AX handle and the palm.

18

Screw bolts in but Leave a gap just large enough to slide the finger clip between the palm and the AX handle.

20

Slide the 4 finger clip with the 2 slots on the finger base through the bolts under the AX handle

22

Using the 1/2" open end wrench slip it between the fingers and the AX handle and tighten the bolts by turning clockwise. Tighten both bolts in this fashion.

23

Completed Right Arm assembly.

25

Reach through the back access hole and install (3) 3/8" flat washers and (3) 3/8" nuts onto the arm studs.

27

Tin Man with right AX arm installed.

24

Viewed standing behind the Tin Man this is the right arm shoulder (AX arm) that was just assembled. The 3 holes shown are in the torso assembly. Place the arm studs through the torso holes. You may need an assistant for this assembly.

26

Tighten nuts using 9/16" socket and ratchet.

28

Next install the Left Arm assembly.

29

Viewed standing behind the Tin Man this is the Left arm shoulder assembly. The 2 holes shown are in the torso assembly. Place the arm studs through the torso holes. You may need an assistant for this assembly.

31

Tighten nuts using 9/16" socket and ratchet.

33

Next to install is the back access hole cover.

30

Reach through the back access hole and install (2) 3/8" flat washers and (2) 3/8" nuts onto the arm studs.

32

Tin Man now with both arms installed.

34

The back access cover plate can only be installed in one direction. Locate the word TOP stamped on the cover plate.

35

Place the cover plate over the back access hole with the word "TOP" UP. Align the bolt holes and start screwing in the (4) 1/4" X1" bolts by hand. Only screw in half way until all the bolts are started as in the photo. Then using the 1/2" socket and ratchet tighten bolts down.

36

Your Tin Man is now complete stand back and enjoy!

Tips on Moving Nick and Removing the Ground Stakes

If you want to move Nick Chopper to a different location after he's been assembled and anchored to the ground here are a few tips that might ease the move. You can disassemble Nick totally in the reverse order of assembly if you desire. Or if you are going to relocate him nearby it should be easy for 2 or 3 fit people to carry him intact removed from the Ground Stability Stand. He only weighs 75 lbs.. assembled off of the Stand. The Ground Stability Stand weighs 17 lbs. plus the ground stakes but it is sprawling and awkwardly shaped. I would recommend to remove the 4 nuts and washers that hold Nick down by his shoes and pull him off of the stand at least. To move him in a truck I would use blankets under him and remove the Ax from his hand and lay him on his back.

If the stand has been staked down in hard ground it may be very difficult if not nearly impossible to pull the foot long stakes out of the ground without the aid of tools. The following is my suggestion on how to remove the stakes with ease and the items needed to do so. Obtain a pry bar at least 24" long. Find a Rock, Brick or a piece of 2X4 wood. Refer to the photos on the next page.

1

Remove the holddown bolts from the Stake Flanges.

3

Catch the underside edge of the Stake Flange with the end of the pry bar then push down on the opposite end of the pry bar. This should be a somewhat easy push. After the Stake has come out of the ground 3-4" it should be loosened enough to use the long end of the flange as a handle and pull it straight up and out. Remove all 3 stakes this way and your ready to move.

2

Place the pry bar in the position shown in the photo with the leverage item right behind the pry bar.

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