

40640 Nutcracker

Set adapted by Alex Charbonneau and tested by Natalie Charbonneau.

Celebrate the holiday season with the LEGO® Nutcracker (40640) building set. This LEGO interpretation of the iconic Nutcracker figure can be built with a male or female face and comes with movable arms and an opening mouth. A fun gift idea and an enjoyable build for kids, friends and families, this festive figure will bring a seasonal charm to any home or workplace.

Seasonal build for kids, friends and families:

- Celebrate the holiday season with this LEGO® interpretation of the iconic Nutcracker figure.

A festive gift:

- This LEGO® Nutcracker figure (40640) building kit can be given as a gift to anyone aged 8+.

Measurements:

- When built, the Nutcracker figure stands over 6 in. (16 cm) tall and can be put on display in any room.

The box is mostly tan, with the left side of the box being green. The front of the box shows a female nutcracker standing in front of a window. Outside of the window, snow is falling on evergreen trees. There are piles of cracked chestnuts on the floor next to the nutcracker. There is a small inset image which shows a male nutcracker, with the words "Rebuild into," indicating that this set can be built as either a male or female nutcracker.

The top of the box shows a life sized image of one of the round tiles which serves as the nutcracker's eyes.

The back of the box shows the same window scene from the front of the box, but with the male nutcracker instead. There are two small inset images. The first shows the back of the nutcracker, which is a lever extending from its back. There are arrows indicating that this lever moves up and down. The other inset image shows that this lever opens and closes the nutcracker's mouth to crack any nuts that might be inside!

The build is 208 pieces, and 52 building steps for the male version, and 53 for the female version.

Welcome to Text-Based Building Instructions from Bricks for the Blind. Here is some helpful information on how to best use screen readers and browsers: bricksfortheblind.org/help-with-screen-readers. Before you start building, here are some terms we will be using:

- In Front of/Front: towards you.
- Behind/Back: away from you.
- Up: towards the ceiling.
- Down: towards the floor.
- Stud: the bump on a LEGO brick. Example: A 2x1 brick has two studs on it.
- Vertically: with the longest side going from front to back
- Horizontally: with the longest side going from left to right.
- Upright: pointing up towards the ceiling.
- Standing upright: The piece is perpendicular to the ground, like a wall.
- Lying flat: The piece is parallel to the ground, like a piece of toast which fell off the table.
- That one/ppp: previously placed piece.
- Plate: piece with studs.
- Tile: smooth piece without studs (unless otherwise specified)
- A jumper plate is a 1x2 plate with a single stud on top, or a 1x3 plate with only two studs on top.
- "Anti-stud" is a term for the portion of a LEGO piece which accepts studs, like the bottom of a plate or brick.

- Symmetrically: a mirror image. Example: If you place a 2x1 brick with technic connector on the front wall at the right, connector to the front, and then place another such piece symmetrically on the back wall, at the right, the technic connector of the second piece should point to the back, since it will be placed symmetrically.

- Centered-vertically: even amount of space in front of and behind piece
- Centered-horizontally: even amount of space left and right of the piece.
- Row: studs lined up horizontally (left to right/side to side).
- Column: studs lined up upright or vertically (top to bottom/back to front).

For builders with low vision, or a sighted building partner who may want to follow along with the printed visual instructions that come with each kit, PDF versions are always online at LEGO.com:

(<https://www.lego.com/en-us/service/buildinginstructions/40640>) As low vision users may benefit from viewing the instructions on a personal device where they can zoom in on content and use assistive technologies to enhance the visuals.

Sorting the pieces:

To begin a successful build, it helps to sort the pieces into groups, bags or small containers. Have a friend or family member do this in advance following the instructions below. You will see that the pieces should be sorted according to the building steps in the kit. Doing this in advance makes locating the pieces for each step easier. See below on how to sort the pieces to correspond to the steps in this set. Number the containers using letters A-Z, numbers or meaningful names. The parts will be sorted into one or a small number of steps in the instructions. Example: Steps 1-3 means collect all the parts used in steps 1, 2 and 3, and put them in one container.

This LEGO set comes with three unlabeled bags and an instruction booklet. Sort the pieces into groups as described below. Note that where there are multiple colors of the same brick in a step, the colors will be split across two groups to make telling the difference easier for the builder! LEGO includes a few spare parts in case you lose something. Set these into their own group away from the rest, in case you need them later.

All Bags (12 groups of bricks)

Main Build: Nutcracker Body

Group 1 contains the pieces for steps 1-6.

Group 2 contains the pieces for steps 7-12.

Group 3 contains the pieces for steps 13-19

Group 4 contains the pieces for steps 20-22.

Group 5 contains the pieces for steps 23-27. Also include two dark gray 2x2 round bricks from step 28.

Group 6 contains the pieces for steps 28-30.

Sub-Build 1: The Nutcracker's Hat

Group 7 contains the pieces for steps 31-40.

Note for sighted helpers: This set can be built with a male or a female head. There's not enough pieces to build both heads at once, so you can only sort for one of the two following sub-builds!

Sub-Build 2: Female Nutcracker's Head

Group 8 contains the pieces for steps 41-44.

Group 9 contains the pieces for steps 45-46.

Group 10 contains the pieces for steps 47-52.

Sub-Build 3: Male Nutcracker's Head

Group 11 contains the pieces for steps 41-47.

Group 12 contains the pieces for steps 48-54.

Building Instructions:

Open all three bags.

Main Build: Nutcracker Body

Step 1.1

We'll start by building the body of the Nutcracker! Later on, you'll have the opportunity to choose if you want it to be a male or female, and change the head accordingly! Place a light blue 2x3 plate vertically in front of you.

Step 1.2

Place a light green 1x2 brick with two studs on one side, vertically with the side studs on the left, on the back two studs on the left column of the previous piece.

Step 2

Place a light green 1x4 brick with four studs on one side, horizontally with the side studs on the back, on the back row to the right of the previous piece.

Step 3.1

Place a light blue 1x3 plate, vertically, on the anti-stud of the previous piece, to the right of the first 2x3 plate from step 1.1.

Step 3.2

Place a light blue 2x3 plate, vertically, to the right of the previous piece. This also goes on the anti-stud of the 1x4 brick with four side studs.

Step 4.1

Place a light green 1x2 brick with two studs on one side, vertically with the side studs on the right, on the rightmost column in front of the 1x4 brick with four side studs.

Step 4.2

Place a light green 1x4 brick with four studs on one side, horizontally with the side studs on the front, on the front row to the left of the previous piece. You should now have a 3x4 rectangle with two studs on the left and right sides, and four studs on the front and back sides.

Step 5

Place three black 1x5 plates, horizontally, one in front of the other, across the top of the nutcracker's body.

Open group 2.

Step 6.1

Place a black 1x1 plate with a ring on one side, with the ring on the front, centered horizontally on the front piece from the previous step. This ring will be part of the nutcracker's belt buckle!

Step 6.2

Place a black 1x2 plate with rounded ends, vertically, behind the previous piece.

Step 7

Place a black 2x3 plate, vertically, on the left two columns of the nutcracker. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 8

Place three red 1x5 plates, horizontally, one in front of the other, across the top of the nutcracker's body.

Step 9.1

Place a red 1x2 plate, vertically and centered horizontally, on the front two pieces from the previous step.

Step 9.2

Place an orange 1x1 plate behind the previous piece.

Step 10.1

Place the front stud of a red 1x2 plate, vertically, on the previous piece.

Step 10.2

Place the back stud of a red 1x2 curved slope tile, vertically with the slope at the front, on the front stud of the previous piece.

Step 10.3

Place a gold 1x1 tile behind the previous piece.

Step 11

Place a red 2x3 brick, vertically, on the left two columns of the nutcracker. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 12.1

Place a red 1x3 brick, vertically, on the left column of the left piece from the previous step. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 12.2

Place an orange 1x1 plate on the front row to the right of the left piece from the previous step. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 12.3

Place a light blue 1x1 brick behind both of the pieces from the previous step.

Open group 3.

Step 13.1

Next, we'll build the lever that you raise and lower to crack nuts in the nutcracker's mouth! Set the rest of the nutcracker aside for now. Find a white axle and pin connector #2. This piece has two 1L axle connectors on opposite sides, and a perpendicular pin hole between them. Place this piece, with the axle connectors at the front and back and the pin hole facing left and right, in front of you.

Step 13.2

Push a tan 3L pin, with the stop ring on the left, from the left through the pin hole of the previous piece. Push it all the way through so it extends 1L to the left and right.

Step 14

Push a red 2L axle, from the front, into the front axle connector on the #2 axle and pin connector. Repeat symmetrically on the back side.

Step 15

Find a white 2L axle connector. This looks like a cylinder which has four shallow grooves cut out of the sides so it has a vaguely X-shaped cross section, kind of like a thick axle. Push the front axle hole of this piece, from the back, on to the back axle from the previous step.

Step 16.1

Next, we'll make the nutcracker's lower jaw. Place a white 1x1 cone in front of you.

Step 16.2

Place a white 1x1 plate with a stud hanging down from one side, with the side stud at the front, on the previous piece.

Step 16.3

Place a dark red 1x1 round tile on the side stud of the previous piece.

Step 16.4

Place the back stud of a white 1x1 curved slope tile, vertically with the slope at the back, on the top stud of the 1x1 plate with a side stud from step 16.2.

Step 16.5

Rotate the lower jaw so the previous piece is at the front, and the 1x1 round tile is on top. The anti-stud of the cone should be at the back. Push the anti-stud of the cone onto the front 2L axle on the lever assembly.

Step 17

Find the 3L pin that extends left and right of the lever. It's about midway down. Push a red 1x1 brick with a hole on one side, with the hole on the left and right, onto both sides of this pin.

Step 18

Now place the rest of the nutcracker's body in front of you, with the belt buckle at the front. Remember this is the ring of the 1x1 plate with a ring from step 6.1. There is a gap between the bricks on top of the body. Push the two bricks on the lever onto the back row of the body, keeping the lower jaw at the front. The bricks should go behind a 1x1 brick on each side. If you push the back of the lever down, the lower jaw should lift up!

Step 19

Place a white 1x1x2 tall brick with two studs on one side, with the side studs at the front, on the front row of the nutcracker, to the left and right of the lower jaw.

Open group 4.

Step 20.1

Place a red 1x1 brick with a stud on one side, with the side stud at the front, to the left of the left piece from the previous step. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 20.2

Place the left column of a red 2x2 brick with a pin on one side, with the pin on the left, behind the left piece from the previous step. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 21.1

Place a white 1x5 plate, horizontally, on the back row.

Step 21.2

Place a white 2x2 plate in front of the left two studs of the previous piece. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 22.1

Place three white 1x2 jumper plates, horizontally, one in front of the other, on the left two columns. Repeat on the right two columns.

Step 22.2

Place a dark red 1x1 round tile centered horizontally on the back row.

Open group 5.

Step 23.1

Next we'll start on the nutcracker's legs. He's wearing white pants under his red coat. Place a white 2x3 brick horizontally in front of you.

Step 23.2

Place a light green 1x2 plate with rounded ends, vertically and centered horizontally, on the previous piece.

Step 23.3

Place two dark green 1x2 jumper plates, horizontally and one in front of the other, to the left of the previous piece. The left side of these pieces will overhang. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 23.4

Place a white 1x2 brick with a stud on one long side, vertically with the side stud on the left, on the overhanging anti-stud of the left two pieces from the previous step. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 23.5

Place this assembly, centered vertically and horizontally, on the anti-stud on the bottom of the nutcracker's body. The left and right sides will be even with the sides of the nutcracker's body, and the front and back sides of the body will overhang by half a brick.

Step 24.1

The nutcracker's red jacket flares out below the belt. We'll work on the bottom part of the coat now. Place a red 2x3 plate horizontally in front of you.

Step 24.2

Place a gold 1x1 tile, centered horizontally, on the back row of the previous piece.

Step 24.3

Place a red 1x2 curved slope tile, vertically with the slope at the front, in front of the previous piece.

Step 24.4

Place a gold 1x2 tile, horizontally, to the left of the 1x1 tile from step 24.2. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 24.5

Place the back stud of a red 1x2 plate, vertically, on the left anti-stud of the left piece from the previous step. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 24.5

Place a red 2x2 curved slope tile, with the slope at the front, in front of both 1x2 tiles from step 24.4.

Step 24.6

Repeat steps 24.1-24.5.

Step 24.7

Find the four side studs on the front of the nutcracker. Place the top anti-stud row of one of the assemblies we just made, horizontally with the anti-stud at the back, and the slope tiles on top, on the side studs we just found. The sides should be even with the left and right sides of the nutcracker. Repeat symmetrically on the back side.

Step 25.1

Now we'll flare out the sides of the coat! Place a red 2x3 plate horizontally in front of you.

Step 25.2

Place a gold 1x1 tile on the rightmost stud of the back row of the previous piece.

Step 25.3

Place a red 1x2 curved slope tile, vertically with the slope at the front, in front of the previous piece.

Step 25.4

Place a gold 1x2 tile, horizontally, to the left of the 1x1 tile from step 25.2.

Step 25.5

Place a red 2x2 curved slope tile, with the slope at the front, in front of the previous piece.

Step 25.6

Repeat steps 25.1-25.5.

Step 25.7

Find the three side studs on the left side of the nutcracker. Place the top row of anti-stud of one of the assemblies we just made, vertically with the anti-stud at the right and the slope tiles on top, on the top row of side studs we just found. The sides should be even with the front and back of the nutcracker. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 26

Find the belt buckle on the front of the nutcracker. Place a black 1x1 tile with a clip on top, with the clip on the left side and oriented so the clip looks like a backwards letter C when viewed from the top, on the left side of the belt buckle. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 27.1

Find a black bucket handle. This is a short bar with two flat sides that looks kind of like a letter U. Rotate it so it looks like a backwards letter C, and clip the bar into the clip on the left piece from the previous step. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 27.2

Find two orange 2x2 wedge plates, one left and one right. Place both of them, vertically with the row of studs at the right, in front of you. The thicker side of one will be at the back side of the piece. That is the right wedge plate. Now find the three side studs on the front side of the nutcracker, to the left of the lower jaw. Place the right 2x2 wedge plate, with the studs on the right and the thick side at the top, on the side studs we just found. Repeat symmetrically on the right side with the 2x2 left wedge plate.

You will have two dark gray 2x2 round bricks leftover from this group. We'll use them in a couple steps.

Open group 6.

Step 28.1

Next, we'll build the nutcracker's legs and boots! Place a dark gray 2x3 plate with one rounded end, with the rounded end at the front, in front of you. Stack another on top of the first.

Step 28.2

Place one of the dark gray 2x2 round bricks from the previous group on the back two rows of the previous piece.

Step 28.3

Place an orange 2x2 round plate on the previous piece.

Step 28.4

Place a white 2x2 round brick on the previous piece.

Step 28.5

Repeat steps 28.1-28.4.

Step 28.6

Keeping the belt buckle at the front, flip the nutcracker over so the anti-studs are on top. Rotate one leg so the anti-stud is on the bottom, and the rounded part of the boot is at the front. Place it on the left two anti-stud columns on the nutcracker. Repeat on the right side.

Step 29.1

Next, we'll build the arms! Find a red axle and pin connector #1. This piece has a 1L axle connector on one side, and a perpendicular pin hole on the other. Place this in front of you, with the axle connector at the left and the pin hole facing up and down.

Step 29.2

Push a red 2L axle, from the left, into the axle hole of the previous piece.

Step 29.3

Push a red 2L axle connector, from the left, onto the previous piece.

Step 29.4

Push a yellow 3L axle, from the left, into the left axle-hole of the previous piece.

Step 29.5

Push a small tan gear, with the flat side on the left, from the left onto the previous piece. Push it all the way in.

Step 29.6

Push another small tan gear, with the flat side on the right onto the axle to the left of the previous piece. These two pieces are the frilled cuffs of the nutcracker's coat!

Step 29.7

The nutcracker wears white gloves! We'll use a white ball with an axle hole. Push the axle hole onto the axle to the left of the previous piece.

Step 29.8

Repeat steps 29.1-29.7.

Step 29.9

Find the pins on the left and right sides of the nutcracker, near the top. Attach the arms by pushing the pin holes on the arm onto each of these pins.

Step 30.1

Find the two columns of jumper plates on the top of the nutcracker. Place a light brown 1x4 tile with two studs, horizontally, on the back pair of jumper plates. Place another in front of the first.

Step 30.2

Place a light brown 1x1 plate on the front two jumper plates. Now the nutcracker's body is complete! You can set it aside for now.

Sub-build 1: The Nutcracker's Hat

Open group 7.

Step 31

Next we'll build the nutcracker's hat! Place a black 4x4 round plate in front of you.

Step 32

Leaving one free row in front of it, place a black 4x4 round brick on the previous piece. It will overhang one row to the back.

Step 33

Place a black 1x2 plate with rounded ends, horizontally, on the back anti-stud row of the previous piece.

Step 34

Place a black 4x4 round brick on the first 4x4 round brick.

Step 35

Place an orange 2x2 round plate, centered horizontally and vertically, on the previous piece.

Step 36.1

Place a black 1x2 plate with rounded ends, horizontally, behind the previous piece.

Step 36.2

Find a black 2x2 rounded corner tile. This tile is cut out so it looks like a macaroni noodle, I'll call it a "2x2 macaroni tile" from now on. Place the right anti-stud of this piece, with the flat sides at the right and the back, in front of the 2x2 round plate. The curve of this piece should match the curve of the hat below it, Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 37.1

Place a gold 1x1 plate on each of the studs on the front row of the hat. These studs are on the 4x4 round plate from step 31.

Step 37.2

Find two gold chains. Place the stud of one chain, with the chain extending to the left, on the left piece from the previous step. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 37.3

Place a blue 1x1 round tile on the first stud of both chains. This is the stud that is on the brim of the hat.

Step 37.4

Place the free stud of the left chain behind the left side of the left 2x2 macaroni tile. Repeat symmetrically with the right chain.

Step 38

Place a black 4x4 round plate on the top of the hat.

Step 39

Place a black 2x2 round tile, centered horizontally and vertically, on the previous piece.

Step 40

Place the right anti-stud of a black 2x2 macaroni tile, with the flat sides at the right and the back, in the front of the 2x2 round tile. The curve of this piece should match the curve of the hat below it. Repeat all the way around the top of the hat. This completes the hat! You can set it aside for now.

Sub-build 2: Female Head

Note: If you built the male head first, you can disassemble it to build the female head! Be advised you may want to ask a sighted helper to sort colors for you.

Open group 8.

Step 41.1

Now we'll build the female nutcracker's head, but first we need to add the neck. Place a light brown 1x4 tile with two studs, upside down and horizontally in front of you.

Step 41.2

Place a dark red 1x2 plate with rounded ends, upside down and horizontally, centered horizontally on the anti-stud of the previous piece.

Step 41.3

Place the nutcracker in front of you, with the lever in the back. Find the two columns of three studs on the top of the nutcracker. Flip the neck right-side up and place it on the front two studs of the two columns we just found. Set the body aside for now.

Step 42

Place a brown 2x4 plate horizontally in front of you.

Step 43

Place a dark blue 1x2x2 tall brick with four studs on one side, horizontally with the side studs at the back, on the back left two studs on the previous piece. Place another, in the same orientation, to the right of the first.

Step 44.1

Place a dark blue 1x2x2 tall brick with four studs on one side, horizontally with the side studs at the front, centered horizontally in front of the pieces from the previous step.

Step 44.2

Place a light brown 1x1x2 tall brick with two studs on one side, with the side studs on the left, to the left of the previous piece. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Open group 9.

Step 45.1

Now we'll build the female nutcracker's face! Set the rest of the head aside for now. Place a light brown 2x4 plate horizontally in front of you.

Step 45.2

Place a light brown 1x2 jumper plate, horizontally, on the back left two studs on the previous piece. Place another, in the same orientation, to the right of the first.

Step 45.3

Place a black 1x2 plate with rounded ends, centered horizontally in front of the pieces from the previous step.

Step 45.4

Place a light brown 1x2 jumper plate, horizontally, on the previous piece.

Step 45.5

Place a light brown 1x1 slope tile, with the thick side at the right, to the left of the previous piece. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 45.5

Place a light brown 1x1 plate on each of the jumper plates on the back row of the face.

Step 45.6

Place the front stud of a light brown 1x2 curved slope plate, vertically with the slope at the back, on the jumper plate on the front row of the face. This is the nutcracker's nose!

Step 45.7

Place a white 1x1 round tile with a closed eye print on each of the 1x1 plates from step 45.5. The eyes on these pieces do have directionality that you won't be able to feel, so you might ask a sighted helper to help you match the orientation with the directions!

Step 45.8

Place the rest of the head in front of you, horizontally with the side with the most side studs at the back. Rotate the face so that the eyes and nose are at the front, with the eyes above the nose. Place the face, centered horizontally, on the four side studs on the front of the head.

Step 46.1

Place a light green 1x4 plate, horizontally, on the back row of the head.

Step 46.2

Place a light brown 2x2 plate, centered horizontally, in front of the previous piece.

Step 46.3

Now we'll give the nutcracker her eyebrows! Place a brown 1x2 plate with a bar on one short side, vertically with the bar at the front, to the left of the previous piece. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Open group 10.

Step 47.1

Place a dark green 1x4 plate, horizontally, on the back row of the head.

Step 47.2

Place a light brown 2x4 plate, horizontally, in front of the previous piece.

Step 48.1

Place a brown 1x4 tile, horizontally, on the back row of the head.

Step 48.2

Place a brown 1x2 jumper plate, horizontally and centered horizontally, in front of the previous piece.

Step 48.3

Place a brown 1x1 tile to the left of the previous piece. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 48.4

Place two brown 1x2 jumper plates, horizontally and one next the other, on the front row of the head.

Step 49.1

The female nutcracker has hair that extends to the bottom of her head with what look like curls at the bottom! We'll make that next. Place a brown 1x2 plate with a bar on one short side, horizontally with the bar at the left, in front of you.

Step 49.2

Place a brown 1x1 half cylinder tile, with the flat sides on the front and back, on the left stud of the previous piece.

Step 49.3

Place a brown 1x2 curved slope tile, horizontally with the slope on the right, to the right of the previous piece.

Step 49.4

Repeat steps 49.1-49.3 three times.

Step 49.5

Rotate the head so the face is at the front. Place one of the hair pieces, standing upright with the short bar at the bottom, on the leftmost column of side studs on back of the head. Place the other three, in the same orientation, one next to the other on the other three side stud columns.

Step 50.1

Now we'll make the hair for the sides of the head. Place a brown 1x2 plate with a bar on one short side, horizontally with the bar at the left, in front of you.

Step 50.2

Place a brown 1x1 half cylinder tile, with the flat sides on the front and back, on the left stud of the previous piece.

Step 50.3

Place the back row of a brown 2x2 curved slope tile, with the slope at the right, to the right of the previous piece.

Step 50.4

Place the right stud of a brown 1x2 plate with a bar on one short side, horizontally with the bar at the left, on the front left anti-stud of the previous piece. This piece should be in front of an identical one.

Step 50.5

Place a brown 1x1 half cylinder tile, with the flat sides on the front and back, on the left stud of the previous piece.

Step 50.6

Repeat steps 50.1-50.5.

Step 50.7

Place the back anti-stud column of one hair assembly, standing upright with the short bars at the bottom, on the two anti-studs on the left side of the head. The hair should be even with the top of the head. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 51

Place the rest of the nutcracker in front of you, with the lever at the back. Place the head, with the face at the front, centered horizontally on the neck.

Step 52.1

Next we'll place the hat on the head. Place it, with the brim at the front, centered horizontally on the head. The back of the hat should be even with the back of the head so the brim overhangs the face a little bit.

Step 52.2

Push a red 2L axle, from the back, into the axle hole on the back of the lever.

Step 52.3

Push a white 2L axle connector, from the back, onto the previous piece.

Step 52.4

Push a red 2L axle, from the back, into the axle hole on the back of the previous piece.

Step 52.5

Push the axle hole of a white ball, from the back, onto the previous piece. Now the female nutcracker is complete! Move the lever up and down to watch her mouth open and close!

Sub-build 3: Male Head

Note: If you built the female head first, you can disassemble it to build the male head! Be advised you may want to ask a sighted helper to sort colors for you.

Open group 11.

Step 41.1

Now we'll build the male nutcracker's head, but first we need to add the neck. Place a brown 1x4 tile with two studs, upside down and horizontally in front of you.

Step 41.2

Place a dark red 1x2 plate with rounded ends, upside down and horizontally, centered horizontally on the anti-stud of the previous piece.

Step 41.3

Place the nutcracker in front of you, with the lever in the back. Find the two columns of three studs on the top of the nutcracker. Flip the neck right-side up and place it on the front two studs of the two columns we just found. Set the body aside for now.

Step 42.1

Place a brown 2x4 plate horizontally in front of you.

Step 42.2

Place a dark blue 1x2x2 tall brick with four studs on one side, horizontally with the side studs at the back, centered horizontally on the back row of the previous piece.

Step 43.1

Place a dark blue 1x2x2 tall brick with four studs on one side, vertically with the side studs at the left, on the leftmost column of the 2x4 plate. Repeat symmetrically on the right.

Step 43.2

Place two light brown 1x1x2 tall brick with two studs on one side, with the side studs at the front, on the remaining two free studs on the 2x4 plate.

Step 44

The male nutcracker has lots of tight curls in his hair! Place the right stud of a brown 1x2 plate with a bar on one short side, sideways and horizontally, with the bar on the left, on the bottom side stud of the left piece from the previous step. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 45

Place the bottom row of a brown 2x2 curved slope, sideways with the slope at the top, on the left piece from the previous step. Repeat on the right side.

Step 46.1

Place a brown 1x2 plate with a bar on one short side, sideways and vertically, with the bar at the back, on the bottom row of side studs on the left side of the head. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 46.2

Place a brown 1x2 plate with a bar on one short side, sideways and vertically, with the bar at the front, above both pieces from the previous step.

Step 47

Place a brown 1x2 curved slope tile, standing up right with the slope on the top, on the back studs of both pieces from the previous step.

Open group 12.

Step 48.1

Next we'll build the male nutcracker's face! Set the head aside for now. Place a light brown 2x4 plate horizontally in front of you.

Step 48.2

Place a light brown 1x2 jumper plate, horizontally, on the back left two studs on the previous piece. Place another, in the same orientation, to the right of the first.

Step 48.3

Place a light brown 1x2 jumper plate, centered horizontally in front of the pieces from the previous step.

Step 48.4

Place a brown 1x1 half cylinder tile, with the flat sides on the left and right, to the left of the previous piece. Repeat symmetrically on the right side. These are the nutcracker's sideburns!

Step 48.5

Place a light brown 1x1 slope tile, with the thick side at the front, on the front 1x2 jumper plate. This is his nose.

Step 48.6

Place a white 1x1 round tile with an open eye print on each of the 1x2 jumper plates on the back row. The eyes on these pieces do have directionality that you won't be able to feel, so you might ask a sighted helper to help you match the orientation with the directions!

Step 48.7

Place the rest of the head in front of you, horizontally with the two 2x2 curved slope tiles at the back. Rotate the face so that the eyes and nose are at the front, with the eyes above the nose. Place the face, centered horizontally, on the four side studs on the front of the head.

Step 49.1

Place a light brown 2x2 plate, centered horizontally, on the front two rows of the head.

Step 49.2

Next we'll add the eyebrows! Place a brown 1x2 plate with a bar on one short side, vertically with the bar at the front, to the left of the previous piece. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 49.3

Place a brown 1x2 plate with a bar on one short side, horizontally with the bar on the left, on the left two studs on the back row of the head. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 50.1

Place a black 1x2 plate with rounded ends, horizontally and centered horizontally, on the pieces from the previous step.

Step 50.2

Place a light brown 2x4 plate, horizontally, in front of the previous piece.

Step 51

Place the front stud of a brown 1x2 curved slope tile, vertically with the slope at the back, on the back left stud of the previous piece. Repeat symmetrically on the right side.

Step 52.1

Place a brown 1x2 jumper plate, horizontally, centered horizontally between the front stud of the pieces from the previous step.

Step 52.2

Place two brown 1x1 tiles, one next to the other, behind the previous piece.

Step 52.3

Place two brown 1x2 jumper plates, horizontally and one next to the other, on the front row of the head.

Step 53

Next we'll put the head on the nutcracker! Place the rest of the nutcracker in front of you, with the lever at the back. Place the head, with the face at the front, centered horizontally on the neck.

Step 54.1

Next we'll place the hat on the head. Place it, with the brim at the front, centered horizontally on the head. The back of the hat should be even with the back of the head so the brim overhangs the face a little bit.

Step 54.2

Push a red 2L axle, from the back, into the axle hole on the back of the lever.

Step 54.3

Push a white 2L axle connector, from the back, onto the previous piece.

Step 54.4

Push a red 2L axle, from the back, into the axle hole on the back of the previous piece.

Step 54.5

Push the axle hole of a white ball, from the back, onto the previous piece. Now the male nutcracker is complete! Move the lever up and down to watch his mouth open and close!

Congratulations! Now the Nutcracker is complete!

There are no pages of ads after the instructions end. There is a page which shows that you can transform the female nutcracker into a male version, or vice versa!

Thank you so much for building this set!

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