

# Cheap & Sleazy Photo Stand

**By Bruce Oberleitner**

It seems like these days I am always taking model photos with my digital camera. I've been known to use the kitchen table, chairs or whatever I could find to stand the models on during a photo shoot. I typically use blue card stock for my backdrop that's taped up with blue painters tape. During one recent session my backdrop fell down on my model during the photo shoot! There's got to be a better way!

## Construction

Not wanting to spend lot of time or money on this project, I started by rounding up some scraps from around the railroad room. The base is a 2' x 2' piece of 1/2" plywood. Next I cut 4 1/4" dowels, two at 12" and two at 18" in length. I then glued some wooden clothespins onto the ends of the dowels with a hot glue gun. The clothespins are located about 2" down from the top of the dowels. Some 1/4" holes were drilled into the base to finish up the stand.

## Summary

To use the stand, you just stick the 12" dowels into the holes and tack the blue card stock into the clothespins. Tape the card stock to the front of the photo stand base with some blue painters tape. If you need a higher backdrop for your photos, use the longer 18" dowels. When your finished, pop the dowels out of the holes for compact storage. It doesn't get an easier than that!



*Figure 1: The stand is propped up on top of a barstool to get some cool low angle model shots!*



*Figure 2: Wooden dowels are inserted into the base for taking photos. Just pull the dowels out and your photo stand is ready to be stored in the railroad room!*



*Figure 3: Sample photo taken outside with my new photo stand.*

## Bill of Materials

1/2" Plywood - 2' x 2'  
1/4" Wood Dowels  
Wooden Clothespins  
Blue Card stock, Blue Painter's Tape

## Tools

Hot Glue Gun & Glue  
Drill with 1/4" bit