

Amazing Matchstick Art



Michael Arndt is a man of matchsticks. Over the course of six years, using 956,000 matchsticks, 1686 tubes of glue, and at least three different varieties of mustache, he built a full-scale replica of a McLaren 4/14 F1 car, at a cost of around 6000 Euros. The giant model takes up Arndt's entire kitchen and probably his social life. It can be broken down into 45 parts for easy transport to various matchstick-builders conventions.

Acton's plans call for one of his biggest and most detailed models yet as he constructs his rendition of the tremendously ancient city that Tolkien says "appears hewn from the rock of Mount Mindolluin" in the White Mountains. Acton's matchstick version of the seven-level city was started in February of 2007 and will soon be completed. The Minas Tirith model contains hundreds of city buildings and will be topped with the Tree of Gondor and the White Tower of Etchelion.



Artists like to stick out and show their flair - and none more so than David Mach who creates colorful creatures from tens of thousands of matchsticks.

Mr. Mach makes animals such as gorillas, grizzly bears and rhinos by combining an array of matchsticks with different colored tips.

The 52-year-old immortalizes the animals in such detail that his pieces sell for between £20,000 and £35,000 each.

There is a wealth of other such matchstick creations made, being made, and being planned.

[Thanks to Bill Scott, Canada, for these]