

# TREE CLINIC

## List of materials

- a) Bamboo skewers – available at Harmons – 4” - 300 for ~\$2.50  
6” - 100 same price
- b) furnace filter – Lowe's – 20x30” - less than \$7.00
- c) Rust-Oleum camouflage spray paint, dark brown, gray or black – Home Depot less than \$4.00, - it's ultra flat and stinks less, but any flat spray paint OK
- d) Aleen's Fast Grab Tacky Glue, from Michael's, several sizes available
- e) Hair spray, extra hold, cheap brand
- f) flocking: Train Shop for example – Blended Turf, green blend (woodland scenics)
- g) tools: cardboard flat for holding sticks/trees for spraying, scissors, toothpicks or such for applying glue, gloves, if preferred - cardboard box as spray booth.

## Doing It – N scale

- 1) select small 4” size skewers, spray paint
- 2) cut filter material in 1” strips, then in 1” squares
- 3) punch hole into center of 1 square per tree with nail, same size as diam of skewer - this avoids splintering.
- 4) insert skewer,

- 5) pull filter material apart- alternately: pull square apart first, then thread in skewer
- 6) apply small amount Alleen's at tip of skewer, twist a few fibers around tip for tree top
- 7) let glue dry ~ 15 min's
- 8) with scissors cut filter material into tree shape, trimming top 1/3 severely, the rest into round shape, cutting away corners of original square.
- 9) Insert your trees into cardboard flat and spray paint in spray booth, rotating to cover all sides
- 10)After paint is dry, spray tree with hair spray - apply flocking immediately, spray again. Let dry.
- 11)At this point you can use the tree as is or shape it up more by trimming out growth layers and pulling them apart to cover more of the trunk

Use this method also for larger trees, cutting larger squares and using 6" skewers or taller, for taller trees use several squares of graduating sizes, keeping in mind the size of the square determines the diameter of your finished tree.