

# Instructions for Qualatex® Pirate Stand-up

To keep assembly time to a minimum, gather the materials and read through the instructions before beginning.

## Pirate Stand-up

**Labor:** About 15 Minutes

**Materials:**

- 1 16" (41cm) "Young Man Face" Pearl Peach Latex Balloon 85742
- 1 16" Onyx Black Latex Balloon 43858
- 4 11" (28cm) Onyx Black Latex Balloons 43737
- 3 646Q Giant Airship Ruby Red Latex Balloons 75456
- 3 646Q Giant Airship White Latex Balloons 75451
- 6 5" (13cm) Onyx Black Latex Balloons 43548
- 4 5" Ruby Red Latex Balloons 43601
- 2 5" Pearl Peach Latex Balloons 43591
- 5 350Q White Latex Balloons 44050
- 2 260Q Gold Latex Balloons 43943
- 1 260Q Onyx Black Latex Balloon 43937
- 1 260Q Ruby Red Latex Balloon 43958
- 1 260Q Silver Latex Balloon 43960
- Red Tissue or Lightweight Fabric
- Sand Weight
- Cool Glue

**Instructions:**

**1.** Make the sand weight with the 16" Onyx Black latex balloon filled to softball size, then flattened on the bottom. To make the "feet," air inflate the four 11" Onyx Black balloons to about 9" (23cm) and make a 4-balloon cluster. Tie the cluster to the sand weight. **NOTE: For best results, always use a sand weight rather than a water weight.**

**2.** Air inflate three Ruby Red 646Qs and three White 350Qs to 33" (84cm) each, then tie the necks together to make a 6-balloon cluster. Tie the necks to the sand weight and feet.

**NOTE: All balloons must be inflated to the same size for the Stand-up to remain upright.**

**3.** Air inflate three White 646Qs to 17" (43cm) each, then tie the necks together to make a 3-balloon cluster. **NOTE: All balloons must be inflated to the same size for the Stand-up to remain upright.**

**4.** Flatten the 646Q/350Q cluster, positioning the balloons so the White 350Qs are between the Ruby Red 646Qs. Then, lay the White 646Q cluster on top of it, rotating the top cluster so the White 646Qs line up with the White 350Qs.

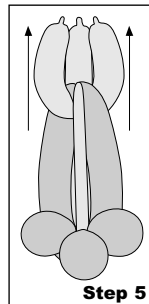
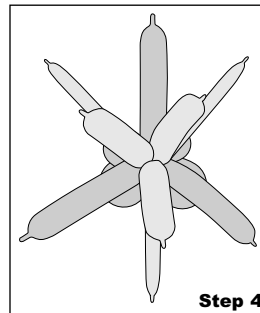
**5.** Bring the tips of the 646Q/350Q cluster up and tie them together. Then, bring the tips of the White 646Q cluster up and tie them together. Push the bottom of the White cluster into the top of the 646Q/350Q cluster, "locking" the joint.

**6.** Make a cluster of six 5" Onyx Black balloons inflated to 3" (7.6cm) for the "waist." Push the 5" cluster between the joint of the 646Q and 646Q/350Q clusters, twisting two of the 5" balloons around each other to secure.

**7.** Air inflate the 16" "Young Man Face" balloon. Qualatex latex balloons naturally inflate to a pleasing teardrop shape. To ensure this shape, place the neck roll *slightly* onto the inflation tip. Slowly fill the balloon, until it begins to taper at the bottom and form a "chin." **NOTE: Avoid holding the balloon neck high up, as it will result in a "basketball-shaped" head.** Tie the "head" to the knot on the White 646Q cluster.



Created by Chris Horne, CBA & ICSF, of Christopher Horne - Professional Balloon Decorations in Northampton, England.



## TIPS

- For perfectly sized 646Qs, use a Conwin Dual Split-Second Sizer Inflator.
- Decorate your display windows with long-lasting Character Stand-ups. They last for more than a week!
- To keep the Character Stand-up looking fresh for a week or more, coat all balloons with Balloon Shine™ latex balloon treatment.

**8.** To make the “arms,” inflate two White 350Qs, leaving about 2" (5cm) uninflated on each, then tie into a duplet. About 13" (33cm) from the knot of one 350Q, make a 2" pinch twist for the “elbow.” Add a “cuff” by adding three 2" pinch twists to the end of the arm. Repeat to make a second arm.

**9.** Wrap the 350Q duplet around the intersection of the White 646Q cluster and the head, twisting the two 350Q arms around each other to secure. Tie the ends of the 350Qs together to make “wrists.”

**10.** To make the “hands,” air inflate two 5" Pearl Peach balloons to 3" and tie into a duplet. Wrap the duplet around the intersection of the 350Q wrists.

**11.** For the “neck,” air inflate four 5" Ruby Red balloons to 3" and make a 4-balloon cluster. Push the cluster between the head and the body, twisting two of the 5" balloons around each other to secure.

**12.** To make the “sash,” air inflate the Onyx Black 260Q, leaving 1" (2.54cm) uninflated, and tie. Wrap the balloon around the “waist” and twist the balloon together, leaving two tails of equal size. At the point where the tails are twisted together, add a 1" pinch twist to the tail with the uninflated tip, and position the pinch twist between the two tails.

**13.** To make the “cutlass,” air inflate the Silver 260Q, leaving 3" uninflated, then release a small amount of air to soften the balloon before tying. Starting at the knot end of the balloon, make a series of bubbles in the following sizes: 1", 6" (15cm), 1", then 4" (10cm). **NOTE:** Twist each bubble several times in the same direction, and hold the first bubble with the little finger of one hand to prevent the bubbles from untwisting. Secure the bubbles by twisting the first and last twists together. Pinch twist both of the 1" bubbles. At the top of the “handle,” add a 2" bubble and pinch twist it. Repeat to make a second 2" bubble. Finally, position the “blade” between the two 2" pinch twists.

**14.** To make the “neckerchief,” air inflate the Ruby Red 260Q, leaving about 6" uninflated, and tie. Wrap the balloon around the “neck” and twist the balloon together, leaving two tails of equal size. At the point where the tails are twisted together, add a 1" pinch twist to the tail with the uninflated tip, and position the pinch twist between the two tails. Tie and trim any excess uninflated balloon.

**15.** Wrap a “bandana” onto the head with red tissue or light fabric.

**16.** To make the “earrings,” air inflate a Gold 260Q to about 1", and tie. Tie the other end of the 260Q to the knot, forming a loop. Make a tulip twist with the 1" bubble. Cool glue the earring to the side of the “head.” Repeat for the second earring.



### Pinch Twist

To make a pinch twist, create a 2" bubble. To make a bubble, pinch the balloon and twist it several times. Move 2" farther and make another twist, making sure to twist in the same direction both times. Loop your index finger under the bubble. Grasp the sides of the bubble with your thumb and index finger, and stretch it up until you can pinch the twists together. Remove your index finger, and twist the pinched bubble at least three times in one direction to secure it.

### Tulip Twist

To make a tulip twist, push the knot inside the balloon about ½" (3.8cm) with your right index finger. Pinch the sides of the balloon and grasp the knot through the balloon with your left thumb and index finger. While holding the knot with your left hand, carefully take your right index finger out of the bubble. Twist the balloon three or more times at the base of the bubble with your right hand. Be sure the knot is tucked into the twist. Slightly push the knot into the base of the bubble as you release it to complete the tulip twist.

*The Pirate is featured in the Jul/Aug/Sep 2003 issue of **Balloon Images** magazine and e-zine. To see if you qualify for a free subscription, go to "**Balloon Images E-zine**" on **Qualatex.com**, or call Pioneer® Balloon Company at **1-800-999-5644 (press 7)** or 316-685-2266.*

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