

Review 10228: Haunted House

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Images by LEGO® Iberia S.A.



Set: Haunted House
Set number: 10228
Parts: 2064
Minifigs: 6

The commotion that originated in the announcement of the 2012 Monster Fighter theme was amplified when the first images of the Haunted House, a large abandoned Victorian house became public. But not just the house was worth the attention of the fans. Additionally, the elements contained in it deserved attention on their own. But without further ado I will begin with the analysis of the haunted house.

The assembly is divided into 5 stages. The first of these contains the minifigs and the accessories. The set contains 6 minifigs:

- Lord Vampire
- The bride of the vampire
- A zombie butler
- A Frankenstein waiter
- 2 ghosts

The minifigs are nice and, although some are a reprint of the collectible minifigs in another colour, are suitable for the home ... but I think that considering the size of the set, maybe there should have been more, such as a monster-child. Several Glow-in-the-dark pieces are used, like the ghosts or the heads of the vampire and his bride. The ghost is new, compared to the one that appeared in the 90's. The chef's torso, which is stained, is also new.

In addition to the minifigs, there is a series of complements that are built in the first stage and that are used throughout the assembly process. Noteworthy is the bed (without a mattress) where the vampires sleep, a wardrobe, lamps and jars of preserves, paintings, the kitchen... but above all I loved a Gramophone built with a dozen pieces. Curiously gramophone trumpet is an explorer's hat. A truly original use for this piece.

With the second set of bags I proceed to build the ground floor of the haunted house. The main feature of the construction of the house is the lack of symmetry or repetitive steps in assembly. And of course, for someone who loves to build, this is one of the best things you can find in a set. I should point out that the House is completely closed, but can be opened with a few hinges, giving access to the Interior rooms. Both sides of the house are neither symmetrical in width nor in length. The





front which contains what could be considered the main façade is 16 studs wide and 24 long. The part with the rear façade is 8 studs wide and 32 long. This difference in length is due to the fact that the rear has a side door with a marquee, and it is the marquee that causes the increase of 8 studs.

The outside is built with a mixture of three colours: light bluish gray, sand green and dark tan. Columns, window frames and skirting boards are grey, the walls green and the peeled off part dark tan. Each window has a transverse plank that prevents access to the interior. The tile used to this end is brown and has a printed pattern that resembles wood. Obviously at the main entrance of the House there are a few steps with the necessary damage due to the passage of time... and the lack of care from the owners. From the stairs to door there is a small porch supported by four columns, topped by terrifying zombie heads. At the front there is the door and four windows, two flanking the door and the other two in the side walls. At the back there is a service entrance and a single window.

Continuing with the construction I proceed to build the second floor. The back is very similar to the ground floor without much to highlight. The front of the House, however, is much more elaborate. Aside from the two Windows in side façades, which "copy" those of the first floor, in the main façade there are three Windows but at two different levels. The central window is advanced 3 studs with respect to the ones on both sides. In addition; two of them have unhinged shutters, while the third is boarded with a wooden plank. As on the ground floor, there is a mix of wall and peeled off parts which give it the abandoned feeling that is necessary for a house like this. In order to lend more realism to these broken parts, they are simulated with a Brick Modified 1 x 2 with Masonry Profile. This look could not otherwise have been simulated so easily.

The last part to build is the roof of the House, built in black to simulate a slate roof, except in the central part of the main façade. As a continuation of the central window there is a tower with another window. This window gives light to the attic. Above each of the Windows on the ground floor, there is a small window that also gives light to the attic, and to follow



the structure of the house, they are all boarded up with a plank. The entire roof is topped with a profile with spikes as decoration. The tower follows the same pattern, with a slate roof and spikes for decoration. The window, unlike the rest, has both the plank and the unhinged shutter.

All the windows in the house have a black ornamented top, with a column on either side and a triangle in the middle. The base of the roof has a channel in light grey. To the side of either of the two doors there is a small dry shrub. On the left side of the façade the chimney rises for the fireplace that is inside.

To finish the exterior of the House, and in the last phase of construction, a metal fence with a great (squeaky) gate is added, which allows access to what would be the garden of the haunted house.

If you go into the House you will see that on the ground floor there is a kitchen, in which the oven and the stove (as well as the Zombie-chef) are placed, a table, a fireplace topped by a ship inside a bottle and the stairs that lead to the first floor. The fireplace can turn, allowing it to be placed in two different positions, depending if the house is open or closed. This ground floor is the most austere in terms of decoration.

There are stairs that lead to the first floor on the left side of the door. There we find a "study" room (as it were) with a table, a stool and a side table with a vase. This room is illuminated by the light that enters through the Windows of the main façade. The room of the vampires is on the other side of the House. As I have already mentioned, there is a bed in the centre without a mattress. The bed is flanked by two wall lamps and a frame with horns of deer in the centre. On one side there are a wardrobe and a box and on the other there are two paintings and a vase with a plant.

The way to access the attic is one of the pleasant surprises of the set. If we open a hatch in the ceiling of the "study", a folding ladder appears. That ladder has three sections that fold and are hidden in the attic when the hatch is closed. What can I say? It is the kind of think with which the guys at LEGO win our hearts. The attic is full of shelves and on them we can find many artefacts, such as books, a chest, bottles, showcases...

As in most sets, we cannot escape the use of stickers, although it is moderate in this case. It is appreciated that, at least, the wooden planks that board up the windows are printed, instead of using stickers.

The haunted house is a great novelty in the LEGO world (as is usual in recent years with many of the sets we are offered). The construction is very entertaining and even longer than usual, since there are no repetitive steps with which to build quickly. The minifigs and accessories are one of the strong points of the set.

With a good surrounding atmosphere you can make terrifying dioramas, which may even be added to CITY dioramas. Furthermore, with a little skill, eliminating the "broken" parts and redecorating the interior, it can become a splendid Victorian house.

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