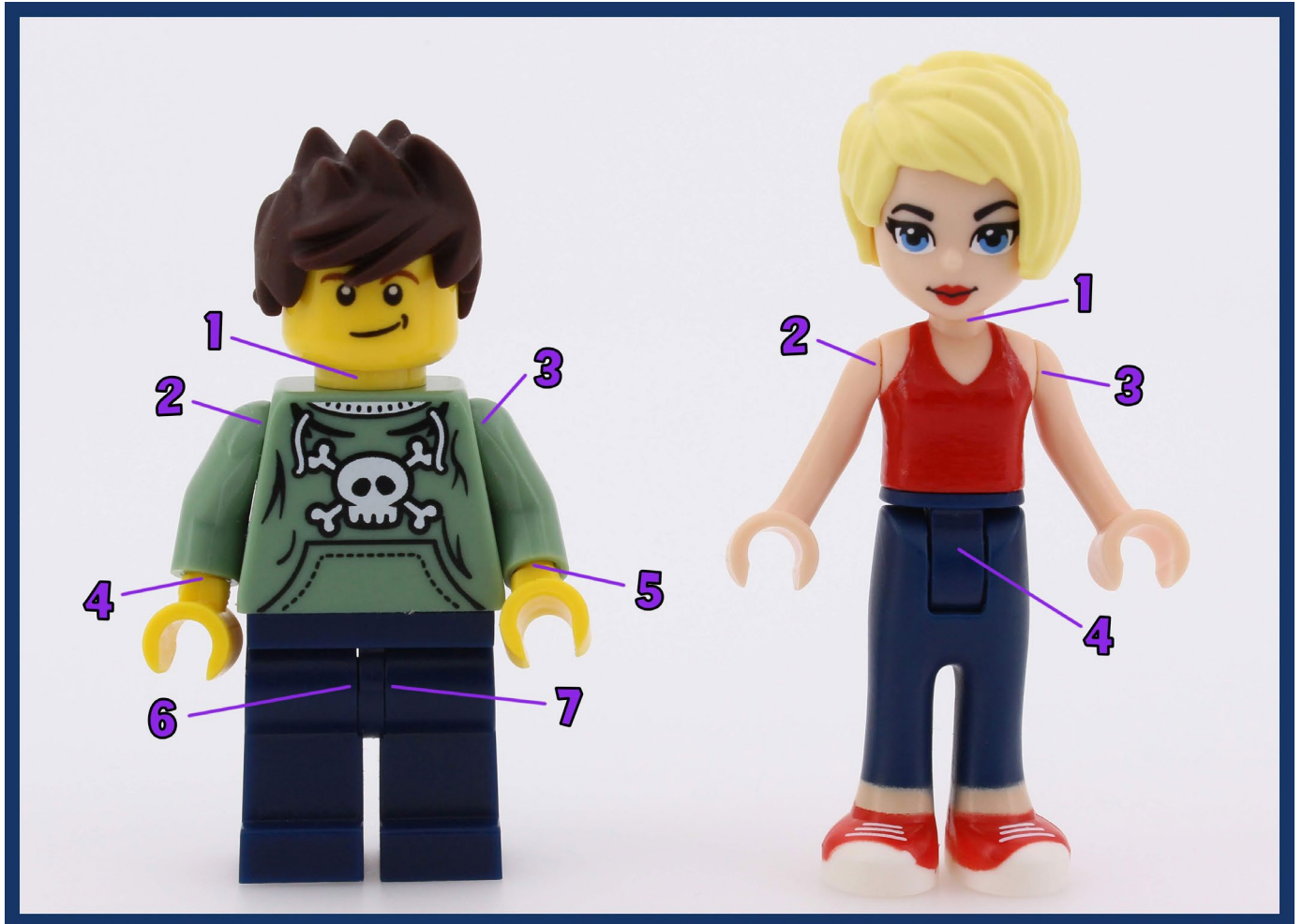


# Minidolls vs Minifigures

## Strike a Pose!

Autor: Jasna Bronić Miklin



Today we'll answer who can strike a pose better – the minidolls or the minifigures?

Both minis have their strengths and weaknesses when it comes to movement. The strengths come from joints and the weaknesses from a lack thereof. A minifigure has seven points of articulation, whereas the minidoll has only four. Is that enough for the figs to win this battle and possibly even the war? Because at the moment, the minidolls are winning 8:6.

We'll start the analysis with the head. Both the figs and the dolls can rotate their head 360°. Most real people can't do that, but it's a remarkably useful feature for horror stories. That earns the minis their first point today. It's 1:1 on the scoreboard.

The arms on both minis have a shoulder joint that allows them to do the backstroke. True, a luscious hair piece can get in the way of that for a minidoll, and even the head is an obstacle for the minifigures, but still they both get a point. So far, the dolls and the figs seem to be equal.



It's time for the minis to show us their hands. Quite literary. The dolls can't move them and that causes many complications in their daily lives. Everything from eating to riding a bike can be a real challenge. In contrast, the minifigure hands rotate. That doesn't mean they never experience problems, just that they have fewer of them. And with that, the figs take the lead - 3:2.



The legs hold the biggest differences between the minis regarding motion. The minifigures 'wear' legs that swing independently, but also skirts and legs without any joints. Since the 'independent legs' body part is the most common one, we'll use it for the comparison. The movable legs are not only great for walking, but also allow the fig to sit or lean back.



The majority of minidoll legs parts have the same range of motion, but they move exclusively as one, from a standing to a seated position. So, they can only do the most basic yoga poses and can't lean back. Needless to say, that puts the dolls



at a disadvantage while running away, for they can only hop or glide. The figs solidify their advantage in this battle with 4:2. But we need to acknowledge some weaknesses before we can crown the winners of the war.

Notice that neither the dolls nor the figs are capable of nodding or tilting their head, rotating the torso, bending their elbows and knees, or many other actions that are common abilities among humans. All these shortcomings in mimicking an average person, reveal how similar the minis are to each other.



And the end result shows that: The war ends with a 10:10 draw. Neither of the minis is better than the other. They are different, and made with specific end goals in mind. The minifigures have a wider range of movement and a more rectangular aesthetic. The minidolls use a wide variety of body part molds to look more like humans.

Which one is better to use on a project? Depends on the project. For a medieval stop motion movie, you'll most likely want to go with the figs. For a lifelike sleepover display, you'll probably want to use the minidolls. But just because you can leverage a particular mini's strengths doesn't mean you have to. Play and build with whichever ones you choose. And don't be afraid to mix them while battling a dragon or enjoying the sun – they are both toys designed to be played with.  
#

This article is also available as a video on the BrickoMotion YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/UNfxzYmjpMY>

