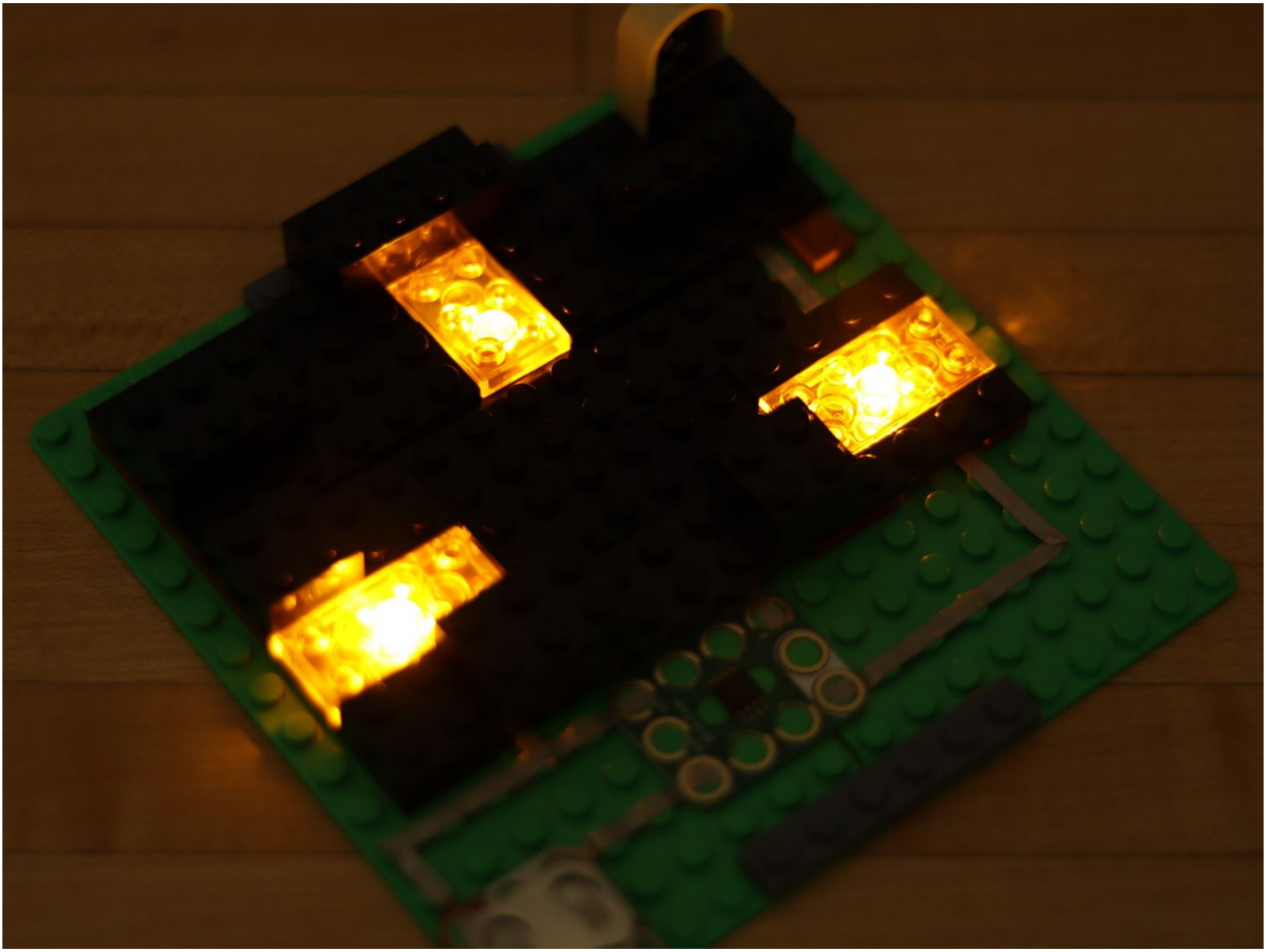
Backlit Transparent LEGO

Written By: Joshua



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INTRODUCTION

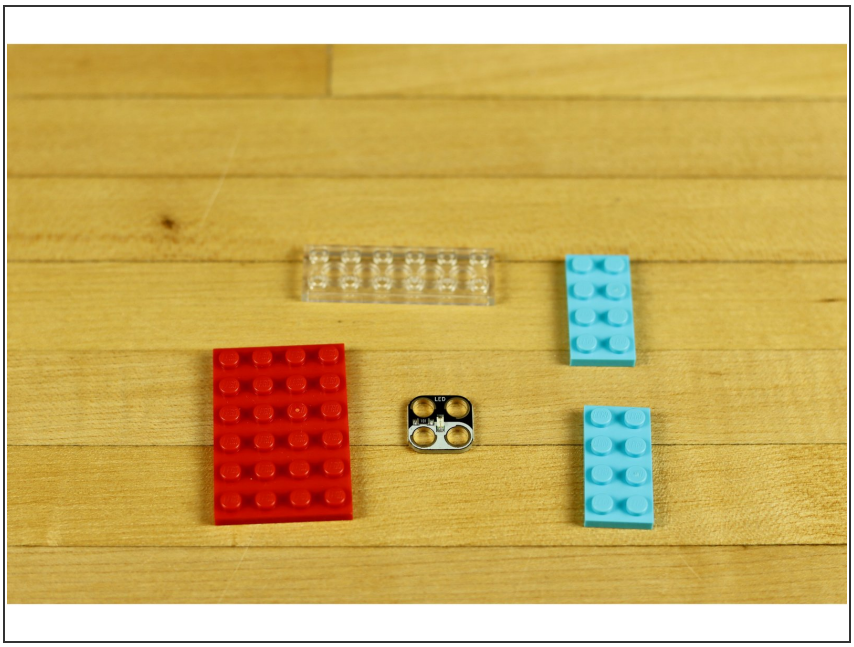
It's very easy to backlight your LEGO scene using the Crazy Circuits SMT LEDs. Unfortunately LEGO doesn't make a lot of clear pieces so you'll have to find some after market options. The company Strictly Bricks makes a wide variety of clear and colored translucent bricks and plates, and if you can find them the Lazer Pegs Refill packs have a lot of well made clear bricks and plates. The recommended option on Amazon is the Big Bag Of Bricks Clear Bricks bag. They work decently well don't come with any small plates.

This technique was used in our Haunted House project. We showed a simple project that used several LEDs and our Blink/Fade board to add effects. This technique is also easy to scale up using one of our Arduino based Robotics or Invention Boards.

PARTS:

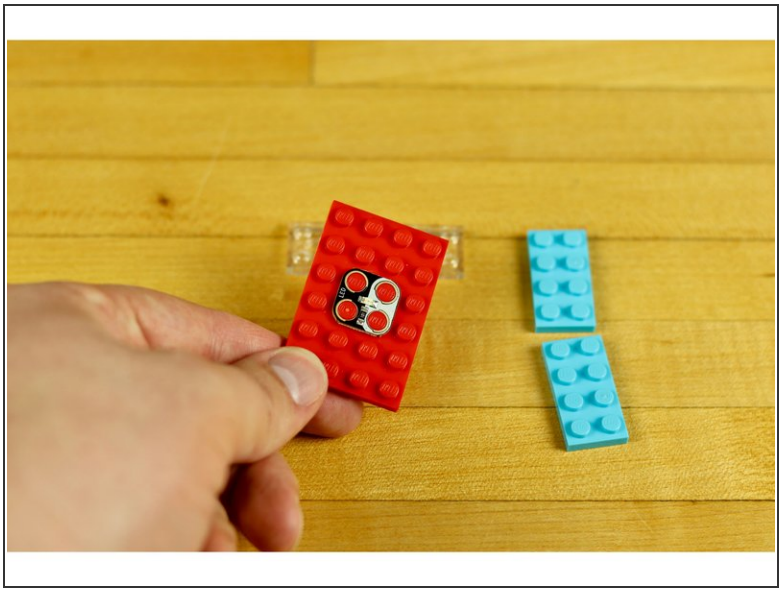
- Transparent LEGO Bricks (1)
- Mini LED Chip (1)

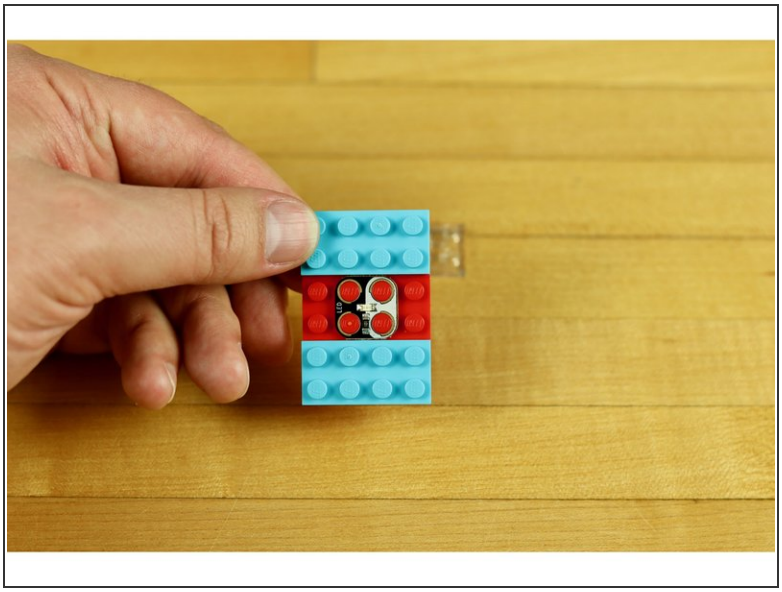
Step 1 — Gather Parts



- In general we're just laying a layer of transparent LEGO over the top of one of the SMT LED Chips.
- In this example we're using a clear 2x6 plate to go over the LED, however anything 2x4 or larger will work.
- We like using plates, but using a full sized brick (which you're more likely to have from 3rd part companies) will work just fine.

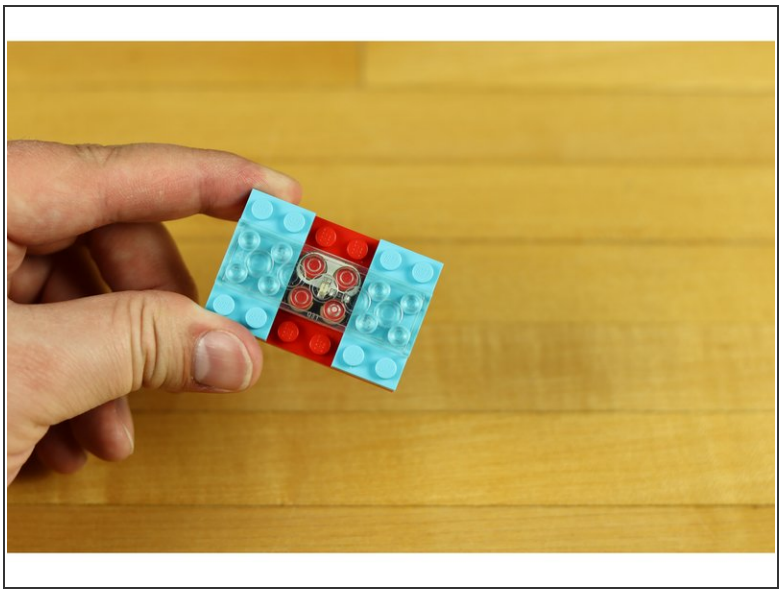
Step 2 — Build Around Your LED





- Plates work best. You want your clear brick as close to the LED as possible.

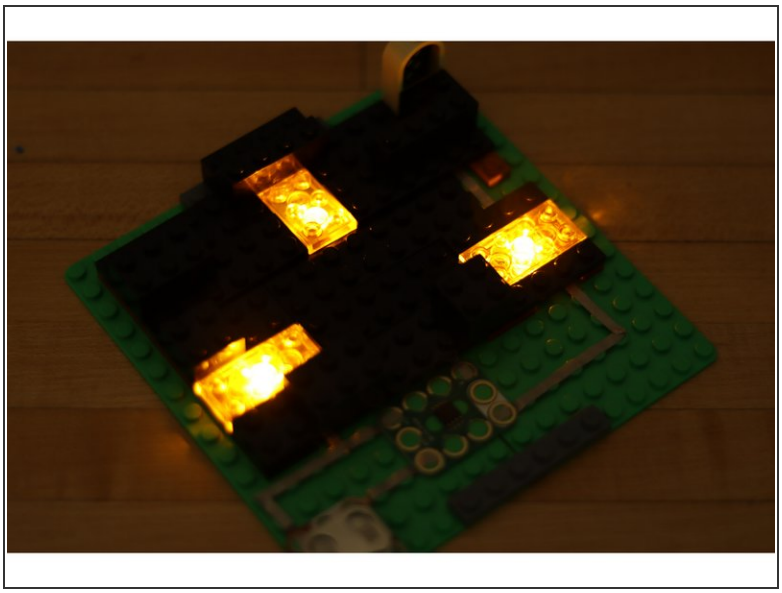
Step 3 — Add Clear Bricks

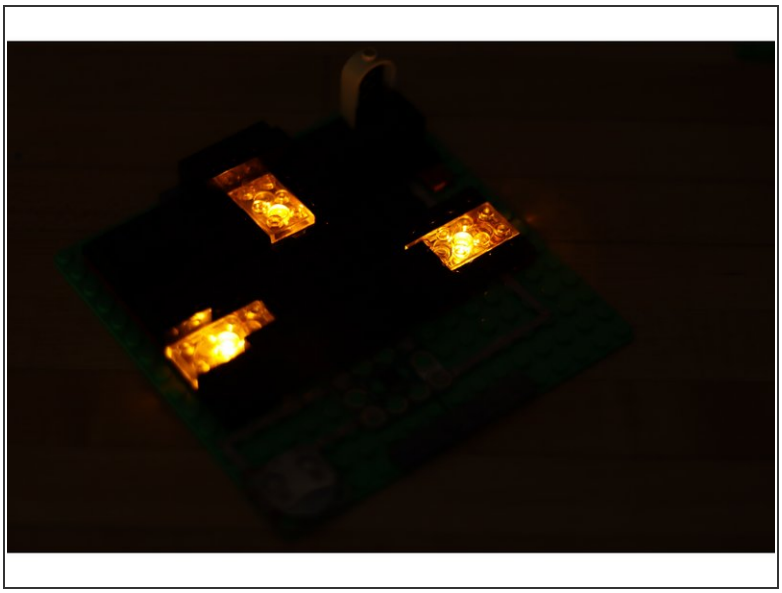




- Just lay your clear brick or plate over the top.
- Then add power via Maker Tape.

Step 4 — Light Things Up





- The key to using more than one LED is planning. The more complicated your project the more you'll want to plan.
- Add your electronics and tape first, then your bricks.