NOTE: This model should be printed on heavy card stock. You may want to glue the pieces to cardboard or poster board to make the model more durable.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Scissors and either glue or transparent tape. If you want an articulated skeleton, you'll also need 12 twist ties (twistys).

ASSEMBLY: Begin by cutting out all the parts. There are two sets of hands, you can use either set or one from each set. For removing the white space between the radius and ulna (on each lower arm) you may want to use an X-acto knife, or just blacken this area with a marker. Note that when the parts are labeled LEFT or RIGHT, this is referring to the skeleton's left or right side, as shown in the above illustration.

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You can use tape or glue to connect the various pieces of this model.
Begin by connecting RIB CAGE PIECE 2 to RIB CAGE PIECE 1. Next connect RIB CAGE PIECE 3 to the bottom of RIB CAGE PIECE 1 and then connect RIB CAGE PIECE 4 to RIB CAGE PIECE 3 and RIB CAGE PIECE 2.
Now connect the SKULL to the finished RIB CAGE. Connect the RIB CAGE to the SPINE and then connect the SPINE to the PELVIS.
Connect the LEFT FEMUR BOTTOM to the LEFT FEMUR TOP. Connect the RIGHT FEMUR BOTTOM to the RIGHT FEMUR TOP.
Connect the LEFT TIBIA/FIBULA BOTTOM to the LEFT TIBIA/FIBULA TOP. Connect the RIGHT TIBIA/FIBULA BOTTOM to the RIGHT TIBIA/FIBULA TOP.
Connect the LEFT HUMERUS BOTTOM to the LEFT HUMERUS TOP. Connect the RIGHT HUMERUS BOTTOM to the RIGHT HUMERUS TOP.

Now it’s time to decide whether the skeleton will have a permanent pose or if you’d rather have it articulated so you can change the pose. For a permanent pose, connect the following parts with either tape or glue. For an articulated version, connect them using the TWISTY METHOD described farther below.

Connect the left and right FEMUR to the PELVIS. (Note that when hanging naturally, the femurs slant inward slightly, with the kneecaps at the bottom hanging directly below the socket ends at the tops.) Connect the left and right TIBIA/FIBULA to the left and right FEMUR. Connect the left and right FEET to the left and right TIBIA/FIBULA.
Connect the left and right HUMERUS to the left and right sides of the RIB CAGE. Connect the left and right RADIUS/ULNA to the left and right HUMERUS. Connect your choice of left and right HANDS to the left and right RADIUS/ULNA.

TWISTY METHOD: To make an articulated skeleton, here’s how to use a twisty for each connection.
Wrap the twisty around a pencil (Fig. 1). Give the ends one or two twists (Fig. 2). Remove the pencil. You should now have a circle with two prongs. Fold the prongs together (Fig. 3). Use a pencil or the end of a paper clip to carefully punch holes in the two parts being connected. Poke the two prongs through the holes (poking from the printed side so the prongs are on the unprinted side) and then spread the prongs back out (Fig. 4). Place tape over the prongs and then flatten the circles in front.

And that’s it! You now have your own medically accurate life sized human skeleton, as well as the knowledge and experience necessary for creating many many more.
Be creative! Make a skeleton with several arms, or with two heads. Make a skull and cross bones decoration. Use the model for anatomical studies, or just hang it anywhere you might enjoy it’s ghastly yet mesmerizing presence.