

Costume Design Workshop: Halloween 101

Presented by MV Undead Awareness for the benefit of the Monta Vista population.

(Because we gosh darn *need it*)

So, you're pretty into Halloween right? Perhaps thinking about making your own costume? Good, good. Well look no further! The journey starts here. This worksheet is meant as a boost, not just for reliance. But do look back on it, make some notes on it, highlight some things and check out the links at the bottom. Shoot us an e-mail if you need more help. Before all else though, read further!

TIPS

And lots of 'em

- ⇒ Online tutorial videos are a GREAT step-by-step. Try Youtube (esp. How Cast)
- ⇒ Draw out an idea, even if it's silly and crude or you're not an artist!
- ⇒ A good costume doesn't have to cost a fortune (like the Lost Dog costume on the right hand side for \$49.99) Get the best out of your money and don't buy anything you can't make with a little elbow grease. It's okay to pick and choose stuff from the store (i.e. pairs of tights or goofy glasses), but think before you spend fifty bucks on a full costume.
- ⇒ START EARLY. This applies to most everything, but especially if you're a dedicated student or are involved in most anything. It's not a bad idea to start in the summer and work half an hour every week or two.
- ⇒ In addition to starting early, consider getting a group together in advance. From personal experience, a troupe of pirates is more effective than just one, however scraggly and smelly you may be. Coordination = more candy. That also applies to visible effort and adorableness of costume, as well as a number of other things.
- ⇒ Be creative! Don't hesitate to ask for help. You're never too old (not like the lady above anyways)!
- ⇒ Look for things around your house and get ideas from there. Create a theme from a single object; it may work out just fine.
- ⇒ Keep lots of ideas in the arsenal. Back-up plans could be the greatest costume ever next year!
- ⇒ Don't be discouraged if your plan doesn't work. Some things aren't meant to be costumes, and you may not find this out until later. This goes along with 'keep and open mind'.
- ⇒ As with above, some ideas seem fine but they don't work out. The converse is also true. Sometimes what seems silly can turn out to be a brilliant idea.
- ⇒ Punny ideas can get you beaten up. At other times, they are godly. Choose wisely.
- ⇒ Think back to your own interests. What do YOU worship, think about often, or are involved in?
- ⇒ Don't be afraid to borrow stuff or lend stuff out. It widens your pool of resources and can also get others into the Halloween spirit. But only lend to your closest buds or that awesome black trench coat made specifically to imitate Neo is GONE FOREVER.
- ⇒ Sometimes you can get ideas from looking at store-bought costumes. Browse around Party City or Diddams, you don't have to buy anything but you might get an idea!
- ⇒ Recycle bits of old costumes, art projects, and other stuff around your house. See that giant hat you made three years ago? I'd bet it would make a great sombrero.
- ⇒ Get inspired by music, movies, TV, jokes, comic books, or just about anything else out there. Think like you're doing an art project.
- ⇒ Lastly, you are never too old for Halloween. Don't count it out because you think you're busy or it's immature. It'll eat up as much time as you want it to. Start early and plan right, and good luck!



ACTIVITY I: Some themes to get you started. These are purposefully vague. Create your own themes and try it out. What/who comes to your mind first?

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|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| ⇒ Super heroes/villains | ⇒ Other holidays | ⇒ Decade / Period of Time |
| ⇒ Cartoon characters | ⇒ Horror | ⇒ Animal species |
| ⇒ TV and Movie | ⇒ Tradition | ⇒ Stereotypical Californian |
| ⇒ Political Figure | ⇒ Favorite color | ⇒ Occupational |
| ⇒ Countries and Cultures | ⇒ Anime / Manga | |

ACTIVITY II: What comes to your mind when you hear each word? Could it make a costume, or does it give you an idea?

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|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| ⇒ Snake | ⇒ Rip | ⇒ Angst |
| ⇒ Magic | ⇒ Pride | ⇒ Lion |
| ⇒ Metamorphosis | ⇒ Shed | ⇒ Sun |
| ⇒ Love | ⇒ Blueberry | ⇒ Black |
| ⇒ You | ⇒ Disney | ⇒ Patience |
| ⇒ Sound | ⇒ Art | ⇒ College |
| ⇒ Criminal | ⇒ Picasso | ⇒ Milk |
| ⇒ Planets | ⇒ Money | ⇒ Bed |
| ⇒ Onomatopoeia | ⇒ Bookmark | ⇒ Ganglion (no kidding) |
| ⇒ School | ⇒ Cloud | ⇒ Queen |
| ⇒ Princess | ⇒ Almond | ⇒ Chocolate |
| ⇒ Words | ⇒ Poetry | ⇒ Skull |

ACTIVITY III: What costume could you make out of each object? You don't have to use the object itself, but it may inspire you. I'm creating this list from the things in my room and the things in my mind. Start your own list! Stretch your brain!

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|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| ⇒ Fursuit paws | ⇒ Water bottle | ⇒ "Bop It" toy |
| ⇒ Helmet | ⇒ Drum sticks | ⇒ Calculator |
| ⇒ Beanie | ⇒ Sleep mask | ⇒ Piece of clay |
| ⇒ Fairy wings | ⇒ Lab coat | ⇒ Trench coat |
| ⇒ Backpack | ⇒ Raincoat | ⇒ Dark colored cape |
| ⇒ Umbrella | ⇒ Rally towel (SEN10RS) | ⇒ Long boots |
| ⇒ Sunglasses | ⇒ Mini skirt | ⇒ Bandana |
| ⇒ Crutches | ⇒ Long socks | ⇒ Papier-mâché Mask |
| ⇒ Stuffed bear | ⇒ Pillow case | |
| ⇒ SAT book | ⇒ Egg carton | |

HELPFUL LINKS

- Coolest Homemade Costumes – Great Ideas! <http://www.coolest-homemade-costumes.com/>
- How to Make Recycled Fairy Wings <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5z20jIu7XJk>
- Costume Super Center! Not just for buying, but also browse around to see what's new and hopefully glean some ideas for yourself <http://www.costumesupercenter.com/>
- Halloween Costume Ideas that Don't Cost a Fortune <http://budget101.com/hw1.htm>
- Group Costume Ideas List (because one is the loneliest number...not really) <http://www.grouphalloweencostumeideas.com/group-halloween-costume-ideas-list>
- How to Make Fursuit Paws <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IUrp2JUroIs>
- How to Make a Papier-mâché Mask http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FCiYNE_hmNg

NEED MORE HELP, OR WANT TO PITCH AN IDEA TO SOMEONE?

Send an e-mail to mvundeadawareness@gmail.com

Or check out our website at <http://mvundeadawareness.weebly.com/>