

Creative and Cute

HALLOWEEN

Costumes



AllFreeHolidayCrafts

14 Costume Ideas to Make at Home

Creative and Cute Halloween Costumes: 14 Costume Ideas to Make at Home

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Letter from the Editors

Hi Holiday Crafters,

On Halloween the last thing you want to be is unoriginal. That's why we love the idea of homemade costumes. Whether it's an outfit for yourself to wear to a party, or costumes for your children to wear trick or treating, unique, handmade costumes are always the ones that get noticed.

From character costumes to animal costumes and everything in between, we've scoured the Internet for the best homemade Halloween costume ideas for boys, girls, and even pets! In this collection, there are so many awesome ideas for costumes that will turn heads and wow crowds, we wish that Halloween was more than just one day a year!

Happy Crafting,

The Editors of AllFreeHolidayCrafts

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You can find more Halloween craft projects and costume ideas at www.AllFreeHolidayCrafts.com.

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Pebbles Flintstone Baby Costume

By: Amy for Nap Time Crafters

How adorable is this Pebbles Flintstone Baby Costume? If you're looking for ideas for easy homemade Halloween costumes for your baby or toddler, you won't find one cuter than this little dress and hair clip combo! All you need to complete this Pebbles Halloween costume is a little friend to be Bamm-Bamm!



Materials:

- Animal Print Fabric
- Scrap of White Fabric
- Hair Clip
- Stuffing
- Hot Glue Gun

Instructions:

1) Cut out your pieces. With your fabric right sides together sew part way up each side leaving room for an armhole. Sew across the shoulder seams.



2) Use your pinking shears to cut a nice zig zag across the bottom.



3) Cut 2 bone shaped pieces out of white fabric.



4) Sew around the edge leaving a gap to turn it right side out.



5) Turn right side out and stuff. Hand sew the opening shut.



6) Hot glue to a hair clip and you're done!

Ladybug Costume

By: DecoArt

Your little one will look cute as a bug in this red and black critter costume! In just 5 easy steps, you can make your own version of one of the all-time most popular kids' Halloween costumes: the ladybug!



Materials:

- Foam Paint
 - FP01 - White
 - FP09 - Black
- SoSoft Fabric Acrylics
 - DSS24 - Lamp Black
- 1 1/4" and 1" round foam pouncer brushes
- Foam plate
- Two 1" black pompons
- 1" flat brush
- Two black chenille stems
- Hole punc1/2 yard of black felt
- Lo-temp glue gun
- Matching leggings (We found black with red stripes.)
- White pencil or chalk
- Red sweatshirt
- Black foam visor with springback

Instructions:

1) Lay sweatshirt flat on work surface. For stomach of ladybug, refer to photo for placement and use foam plate to draw curved edge at top of oval with white pencil. Slide plate down to draw bottom of oval; draw straight lines between top and bottom curves for sides to complete oval. Use flat brush and Lamp Black SoSoft Fabric Acrylic to fill in oval.

2) Squeeze Lamp Black SoSoft onto foam plate. Press large pouncer brush pressed into paint and stamp dots onto t-shirt front and sleeves. Allow to dry. Repeat dots on shirt back and sleeves. Allow to dry.

3) For wings, draw 16" circle onto felt with white pencil. (Tip: You can use a large serving platter for a pattern). Cut out circle and then cut in half. With wings at slight angle, tuck one end of each wing into back of neckline; glue into place. Refer to photo and glue to back of shirt.

4) Squeeze White Foam Paint onto foam plate. Use small pouncer brush pressed into paint to stamp dots to visor front for eyes. Allow to dry. Use Black Foam Paint to paint small ovals for eyes.

5) Refer to photo for placement of antennae. Punch two holes near upper edge of visor. Stick 1" end of chenille stem through each hole; twist that end over edge of visor and back around chenille stem to secure. Place dot of glue at inside of hole to hold. Twist chenille stems around two fingers to form coil; place glue around end of chenille stem and attach pompon over end. Repeat this process to form second antenna.

Hint: When stamping dots with pouncer, practice technique on sheet of paper first. It may be necessary to press, then twist, brush in place to get good coverage.

Proud as a Peacock Costume

By: Alisha for Felt So Cute

We love the idea of dressing like a peacock for Halloween. You get to strut around in bright colors and feathers, plus a homemade peacock costume is easy to put together! This is definitely an outfit that will turn heads when you go trick or treating!



Materials:

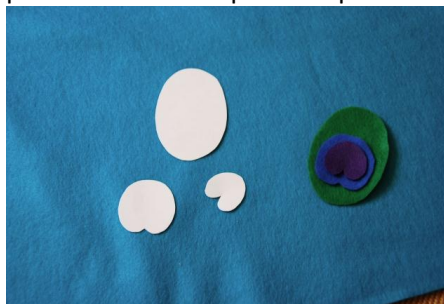
- 2 large sheets of felt in whatever color you want your peacock to be
- 14 smaller sheets of felt in 4 coordinating colors each (for the feather details; 56 sheets total)
- 1 small sheet of gold-colored felt
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Hot glue gun
- Long thin piece of wire
- Duct tape
- Liquid glitter
- 2 strips of elastic
- Several faux peacock feathers for decoration
- Cheap fleece sweatshirt in coordinating color

Instructions:

1) Determine the correct proportions of your peacock feathers by having your child lie down on the large sheet of felt and tracing a half-circle around them, leaving a good bit of room above the head and around the sides.

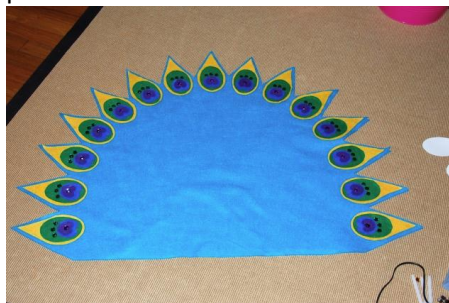


2) Sketch a design for your peacock "eye" on pieces of cardstock and then trace them onto your smaller sheets of felt. You'll want four distinct shapes, one for each color. Cut out 14 pieces of each template shape.



3) Glue pieces of felt together to create 14 peacock "eyes," and then glue each "eye" to the large semi-circle of felt.

4) Cut around each eye to give the feathers a peak.



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5) Bend your wire into the desired shape and duct tape it to the inside of the bottom layer of the costume. If you're worried about the point drooping, you can use a thinner gauge to support each point as well.



6) Once you're done taping everything together, glue gun another large piece of felt so that it makes a giant sandwich. Do this in small sections so your glue doesn't cool while you're lining up your pieces.

7) Go back and add glitter around each "eye," if desired.

8) Create two loops with your strips of elastic by gluing the ends together. Then use hot glue to attach each loop at shoulder height to the felt feather background.



9) Cut a beak shape out of your sheet of gold-colored felt and glue gun to the hood of the sweatshirt.



10) Take your faux peacock feathers and glue them to a small square of felt. Then cover it with the same size square to make a "pocket." Glue this pocket to the back of the hood in the right location (though do NOT do this while the hood is on your child's head).



11) Admire your finished product!



Homemade Princess Halloween Costume

By: DecoArt

Every little girl deserves to feel like a princess, so let her dress up like one for Halloween this year! This pretty outfit is made using glitter, metallics and pearls to give it a really girly look.



Materials:

- DecoArt Foam Paint
 - FPG02 - Pink Glitter
 - FPG05 - Gold Glitter
 - FP07 - Purple
- DecoArt SoSoft Metallics
 - DSM19 - Glorious Gold Metallic
- DecoArt SoSoft Shimmering Pearls
 - DSP6 - Lilac Pearl
 - DSP26 - Baby Pink Pearl
- 1/2" round foam pouncer brush
- 1/4" flat brush
- Measuring tape or ruler
- Foam plate
- Large and small heart stamp
- Scissors, regular and small sharp-pointed
- 6" strips of tulle net, pale pink, bright pink, purple
- Pink sweatsuit
- Pink foam tiara visor, Darice Foamies 1044-32

Instructions:

1) Remove spring back on one side of tiara visor and lay flat for painting. On tiara, use Purple Foam Paint to create heart and diamond outlines. Allow to dry.

2) Use Pink Glitter Foam Paint to fill in Purple shapes. Use Gold Glitter Foam Paint to make word, swirls, and dots on tips. Set aside and allow paint to dry.

3) Referring to photo for placement, stamp or freehand paint hearts to shirt front, leaving 1" between shapes. Squeeze small amount of Glorious Gold Metallic onto plate. Dip pouncer brush into paint and press onto shirt, following curve of neckline, for beads. Allow paint to dry.

4) Cut off neckband of sweatshirt close to lower edge and bottom of sweatshirt 2" above band. Refer to photo and cut sleeves off to form cap sleeve (rounded off and cut just below armpit).

5) At 1/2" from bottom edge of sweatshirt, cut 1/2" slits 1" apart around shirt. Referring to photo for placement, make two 1/2" slits 1" apart above raw edge of sleeve and continuing around sweatshirt, allowing 2" space between pairs of slits.

6) Measure and cut 6" by 8" of each color tulle net. Aligning short ends of net pieces, pull them down through slit on left and back through slit on right. Center net at front of shirt; tie net tightly into single knot.

7) For skirt, fold 6" x 30" lengths of tulle net in half. Pull folded center through slit from back side. Loop loose ends through center fold at front of shirt, pulling tightly at base to secure. Repeat for all slits.

Helpful Hints

We cut strips of tulle net, using about one yard of each color for size 4 outfit. (This may vary

depending on length of net skirt you make and also width of shirt.) Determine number of slits you'll need to determine yardage of tulle needed. (Lengths given for skirt tulle can be adjusted for smaller or larger size.)

To create skirt, we used bright pink net for alternate slits, then alternated light pink and purple on remaining slits.2) Sand the edges and corners of the board and bead-board, until they become rounded.

Belle Dress

By: Adrianna for Crafterhours

There's nothing a little girl wants to be more than a princess, so for Halloween this year let her be one! Every detail of this Halloween costume is exactly like the original, down to the lovely draping of the skirt. Your princess will certainly feel like the belle of the ball in her custom made Princess Belle costume!



Materials:

- Peasant dress [pattern and instructions](#)
- 2 yards of yellow lightweight knit fabric
- 1 yard of a sheer yellow or white fabric with lots of drape (nothing stiff like tulle)
- Lots of 1/4 inch elastic.

Instructions:

1) Cut out your peasant dress pieces. The pieces below are still folded in half, and obviously you will need 2 sleeves. Crop the sleeve so it is a slight cap sleeve. The bodice pieces should be cut just past the natural waist. The front bodice piece (pictured on the left) has a lower neckline and a pointed center.



2) For the skirt, cut a lot of rectangles. Use at least 8. The more you use, the fuller your skirt will be. The length of the rectangle should be the length from the natural waist to the ankle plus 6 inches. The dress pictured was made using a width of 7 inches.



3) Cut all of your rectangles so they are tapered on the sides by about 2 inches and round out the bigger end, which will become your hem.



4) Estimate on your skirt panels where you want the swags to sit. On the dress pictured, they are about 11 inches down. Measure across the skirt panel at that point. Cut rectangles from your sheer fabric with a width of your skirt panel width plus 1 inch. The length of the rectangle should be about 12 inches. Fold your rectangle down (so your 12 inch side is now 6 inches). Cut the bottom edges so they make a crescent, as pictured below:



5) With right sides together, sew the crescent closed and flip it right side out. Press.



6) Pin each crescent to each skirt panel at the same height, making sure to scrunch up the swag on the sides. Since your swag is slightly wider than the panel, it should gape a little bit in the middle as well.



7) Sew all the panels together, catching the edges of the swags as you go.



8) Sew your bodice and sleeves together using normal peasant top construction directions.



9) Gather the top of the skirt to match the bottom of the bodice and sew them together.



10) Finish the sleeves and neckline with elastic per peasant top directions.

11) Cut 1/4 inch elastic to the length of the skirt panels minus 6 inches. Pin the elastic to the waist seam on top of one of the skirt panel seams.



12) Pin the other end of the elastic to the hem, again right over the skirt panel seam.



13) Stretching the elastic taut, sew down the elastic, directly over the seam. Once you've done that for each of the skirt panel seams, it'll bunch up and start really looking Belle-ish.



14) Using the same sheer fabric as you did for the swags, form a circular tube of fabric. First take a rectangle that is 5 inches x the measurement around the upper shoulders plus a couple inches. Sew the rectangle right sides together down the long side so you have a long tube. Flip the tube right side out. Fold the edges of one end to the wrong side and press. Put the edges of the other side into that side and topstitch down, forming a circular tube.



15) Tack one side of that tube down at the neckline of your dress, centered on the shoulder. Find the opposite side of your tube and do the same thing on the other side.



16) At the front and back, scrunch the tube up and sew down directly at the center of the bodice.



17) Optional: Make a little rose by rolling up a tube of knit fabric and hand sew it to the center front bodice.



How to Make a Construction Worker Vest

By: Jessica for Subtle Tee

Is your little guy obsessed with tools and mechanics? If so, here's a great idea for a Halloween costume he'll love: the simple orange and yellow uniform of a construction worker! This tutorial shows you How to Make a Construction Worker Vest in just a few steps!



Materials:

- 3 sheets (8" x 11") of orange felt
- Scraps of black and yellow felt
- Optional 2" strip of velcro to close the front (or just leave it open)
- Scissors
- Sewing usuals (thread, needle, machine etc.)
- Or: hot glue and glue gun

Instructions:

- 1) Cut out the back of the vest. Simply cut a shallow crescent (half circle) out of the middle of the top side of a full sheet of orange felt. This doesn't have to be perfect. Just cutting a little dip is fine.



- 2) Create the front vest sides: Use the back of the vest you just cut out to guide how wide the shoulders should be for the vest flaps. These ended up being about 2 1/2" wide.
- 3) Mark 3" in from one side of a full orange felt sheet along the top. Do the same about 5 1/2" in from the bottom on the same side. Those are your guidelines for one flap of the vest.
- 4) Gradually trace from the top 3" mark downward at a diagonal to make one side of v-neck. About halfway down the length of the sheet start dropping straight down. You can go back and slightly trim out a little curve from the starting side of the piece you just cut out to make it look like an arm hole.



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- 5) To create the trim of the vest, cut 1/2 to 1" wide strips of black felt long enough to line the outsides of your vest. You can hot glue or sew these strips along the exposed edges of the vest.
- 6) To create the side attachers, cut two 2 1/2" x 5" strips to attach the front to the back.
- 7) Add yellow strips (optional): Cut out 3 pieces long enough to go across each of the front flaps and back of the vest. Glue or sew onto vest.
- 8) Sew or glue the shoulders together before you fold the vest down and attach the side strips. Make sure to line everything up correctly before sewing or gluing.



- 9) Add 2" velcro pieces to the front of the vest (optional, if you want the vest to stay closed).



- 10) Accessorize with a store-bought hard hat and toy tools.



Cardboard Box Train Costume

By: Janet for Today's Fabulous Finds

Imagine how cute your little conductor will look wearing this Cardboard Box Train Costume! There are so many homemade Halloween costume ideas that involve sewing, but if a needle and thread aren't your thing, this is the project for you! Learn how to make your own toddler train costume by following this tutorial.



Materials:

- Cardboard box that will fit your child
- Scissors
- Packing tape
- Duct tape
- Additional cardboard box
- Spray paint (red, black, gray)
- 2 cereal boxes
- Hot glue
- Battery operated push light
- Cardboard oatmeal container
- Long brads
- Yellow paper
- Poster board
- Records
- Hole punch
- Nylon webbing (or straps from an old bag or backpack)

Instructions:

1) Choose a box that will fit the size of your child. Make sure it's wide enough for their hips, and short enough that they can walk in it. To make the cab, fold one of the end flaps of the box down to form the front of the train. Stand the other end flap up to form the back of the cab.

2) Cut the side flaps vertically where the end flaps end. On the front, tape the short side sections to the front flap, on the back stand them up and tape them to the back flap.

3) Tape the left over sections of the side flaps down inside of the box.

4) Cut a piece of cardboard from another box to fit the opening on the back side and tape it.

5) Spray paint the box.



6) For the decorative design on the side of the train, open an empty cereal box to where it lies flat, draw your design, cut it out, and spray paint it. Hot glue it onto the side when your paint is completely dry.

7) Place the battery operated push light in desired location on the front of the train, trace around it and cut a hole slightly smaller than your light. This will help it to have a snug fit and stay in place better. Use packing tape on the inside of the train to hold it in place.



8) To make the smoke stack, cut the top part of the cardboard oatmeal container off so it's the height you want and then spray paint it. Use long brads and tape to hold the smoke stack on.

9) To make the front bumper, cut around a cereal box to make it a triangle, spray paint it, and then hot glue it on. You'll want to add packing tape underneath and to both of the sides to keep it securely in place.



10) To make the windows, cut out squares of yellow paper and glue them on the sides of the train

11) To make the top of the cab, cut your piece of poster board to be slightly bigger than the box, spray paint it black and tape it in place.



12) For the wheels, place brads through the center of the record, through the cardboard, and then tape the brad on the inside to help hold it in place. The gray piece connecting them is a piece of poster board covered with duct tape. Punch holes in it to insert the brads through.



13) For the straps, you can either use nylon webbing or pre-made straps from an old bag or backpack. Measure the straps to a comfortable length and then hook them on using long brads. You may want to use a couple in each strap to make sure they are secure. Insert the strap through the layers of cardboard to hide the ends. Criss-cross the straps in the front to help them stay up on the shoulders.



14) Dress your child in a conductor outfit and you're done!

Easy Skeleton Sweater

By: Bernat

If you want to make a costume that can be worn year after year, you should make this knit skeleton sweater. Not only is it a classic Halloween costume that will never go out of style, it will also last a long time since knit sweaters hold up well even after many washings.



Materials:

- Bernat® Berella'4' (100 g/3.5 oz; 197 m/216 yds) or Bernat® Super Value (197 g/7 oz; 389 m/426 yds)
- Sizes 2 (4-6-8)
 - Main Color (MC): (Black)
390 m/410 yds (540 m/595 yds-630 m/700 yds-780 m/ 860 yds)
 - Contrast A: (White)
190 m/215 yds (190 m/215 yds-235 m/260 yds-235 m/ 260 yds)
- Sizes 4.5 mm (U.S. 7) and 5 mm (U.S. 8) knitting needles or size needed to obtain gauge.
- 2 st holders

Sizes:

To fit chest measurement:

- 2 21 ins [53.5 cm]
- 4 23 ins [58.5 cm]
- 6 25 ins [63.5 cm]
- 8 26½ ins [67.5 cm]

Finished chest:

- 2 25½ ins [65 cm]
- 4 27½ ins [70 cm]
- 6 30 ins [76 cm]
- 8 33 ins [84 cm]

Gauge:

18 sts and 24 rows = 4 ins [10 cm] with larger needles in stocking st.

Abbreviations:

- Alt = Alternate(ing).
- Beg = Beginning.
- Cont = Continue(ity).
- Dec = Decrease(ing).
- Inc = Increase(ing).
- Pat = Pattern.
- Rem = Remaining.
- Rep = Repeat.
- RS = Right side.
- St(s) = Stitch(es).
- Tog = Together.
- WS = Wrong side.

Steps:

The instructions are written for smallest size. If changes are necessary for larger sizes the instructions will be written thus (). When only one number is given, it applies to all sizes. For ease in working, circle all numbers pertaining to your size.

Back:

**With MC and smaller needles, cast on 57 (61-67-73) sts.

1st row: (RS). K1. *P1. K1. Rep from * to end of row.

2nd row: P1. *K1. P1. Rep from * to end of row. Rep last 2 rows of (K1. P1) ribbing for 1 inch [2.5 cm], ending on a 2nd row and inc 1 st at center of last row. 58 (62-68-74) sts.**

Change to larger needles and proceed in stocking st until work from beg measures 7½(8-9-11) ins [19 (20.5-23-28) cm], ending with a purl row.

Shape armholes: Cast off 4 (4-6-6) sts beg next 2 rows. 50 (54-56-62) sts.

Cont even until armhole measures 5½ (6-6½-7) ins [14 (15- 16.5-18) cm], ending with a purl row.

Shape shoulders: Cast off 6 (7-7-8) sts beg next 2 rows, then cast off 7 (7-7-9) sts beg following 2 rows. Leave rem 24 (26-28-28) sts on a st holder.

Front:

Note: When working from chart, carry yarn not in use loosely across WS of work but never over more than 5 sts.

When it must pass over more than 5 sts, weave it over and under color in use on next st at center point of sts it passes over. The colors are never twisted around one another.

Work from ** to ** as given for Back.

Change to larger needles and proceed in stocking st for 0 (4- 6-10) rows.

Place chart: 1st row: (RS). K10 (12-9-12). Knit 1st row of Chart I (I-II-II) across next 38 (38-50-50) sts, reading row from right to left. Knit to end of row.

2nd row: P10 (12-9-12). Purl 2nd row of Chart I (I-II-II) across next 38 (38-50-50) sts, reading row from left to right. Purl to end of row.. Keeping cont of chart, as placed in last 2 rows, cont even until work from beg measures same

length as Back to armholes, ending with a purl row.

Shape armholes: Cast off 4 (4-6-6) sts beg next 2 rows. 50 (54-56- 62) sts.

Cont even until armhole measures 3½ (3½-4-4½) ins [9 (9- 10-11.5) cm], ending with a purl row.

Shape neck: Next row: K20 (22-22-25) (neck edge). Turn.

Leave rem sts on a spare needle.

Dec 1 st at neck edge on next 4 rows, then on every following alt row 3 (4-4-4) times. 13 (14-14-17) sts.

Cont even until armhole measures same length as Back to beg of shoulder shaping, ending with a purl row.

Shape shoulder: Cast off 6 (7-7-8) sts beg next row. Work 1 row even. Cast off rem 7 (7-7-9) sts.

With RS facing, slip next 10 (10-12-12) sts onto a st holder.

Join MC to rem sts and knit to end of row. Dec 1 st at neck edge on next 4 rows, then on every following alt row 3 (4-4-4) times. 13 (14-14-17) sts.

Cont even until armhole measures same length as Back to beg of shoulder shaping, ending with a knit row.

Shape shoulder: Cast off 6 (7-7-8) sts beg next row. Work 1 row even. Cast off rem 7 (7-7-9) sts.

Sleeves:

With MC and smaller needles, cast on 33 (35-35-37) sts.

Work 1 inch [2.5 cm] in (K1. P1) ribbing as given for Back, inc 4 sts evenly across last row. 37 (39-39-41) sts.

Change to larger needles and proceed in stocking st, inc 1 st each end of 5th and every following 4th row until there are 41 (47-47-53) sts, then on every following 6th row until there are 49 (55-59-63) sts.

Cont even until work from beg measures 8½(10-11½-13) ins [21.5 (25.5-29-33) cm] ending with RS facing for next row.

Place markers at each end of last row. Work 4 (4-6-6) rows even. Cast off.

Finishing:


Pin garment pieces to measurements. Cover with damp cloth, leaving cloth to dry.

Neckband: Sew right shoulder seam. With RS of work facing and smaller needles, pick up and knit 13 (15-15-15) sts down left front neck edge. K10 (10-12-12) from front st holder. Pick up and knit 13 (15-15-15) sts up left front neck edge. K24 (26-28-28) from back st holder, dec 1 st at center. 59 (65-69-69) sts.

Beg on a 2nd row, work 7 rows in (K1. P1) ribbing as given for Back. Cast off in rib. Sew left shoulder and neckband seam.

Sew in sleeves, placing rows above markers along cast off sts of front and back to form square armholes. Sew side and sleeve seams.

Key

 = Main Color (MC)


 = Contrast A

Chart I

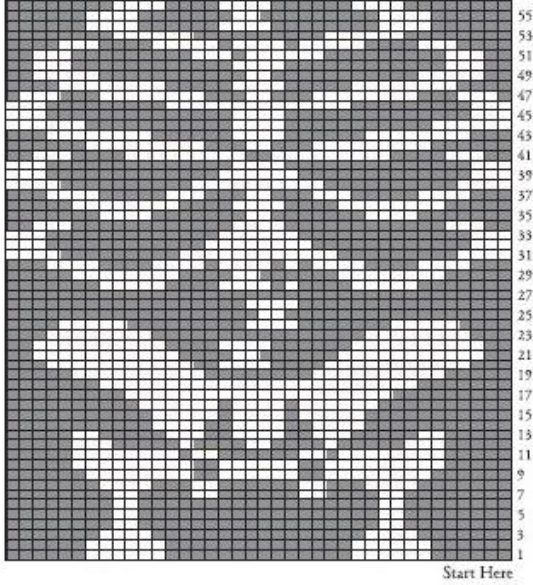
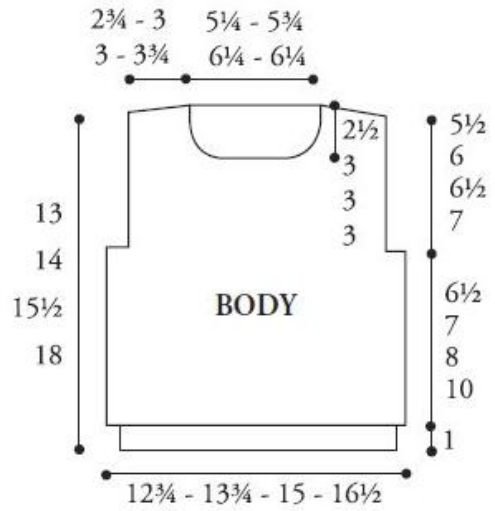
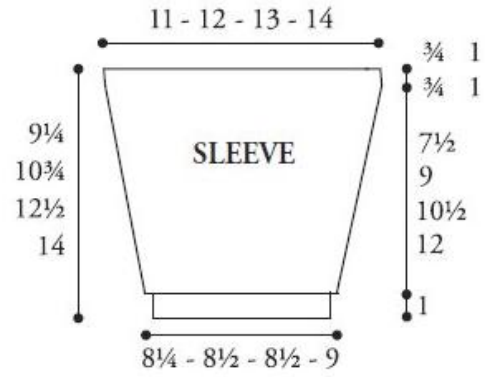
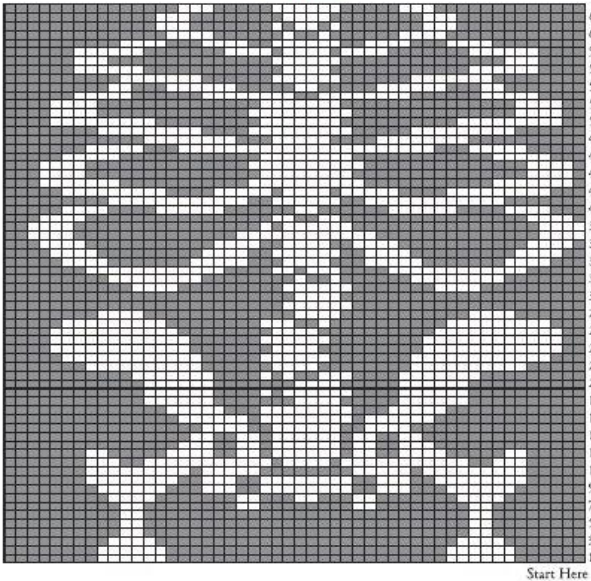


Chart II



Homemade Mario Costume

By: Yanet for 3 Sun Kissed Boys

Why spend unnecessary money on a store-bought Mario costume when you can make your own using materials you probably already have on hand. The homemade version of this popular Halloween costume looks even better than the “professional” ones!



Materials:

- Plain white “Mario style” cap
- Hole punch
- Paper plates
- Spray paint (red and yellow)
- Plastic gloves
- Double-sided foam tape
- Jean overalls
- Plain red long-sleeved shirt
- Red marker
- Black marker

Instructions:

1) Using your hold punch, punch two circles out of your paper plate.



2) Wearing your plastic gloves, spray paint the two circles yellow. You could also color them with marker or use yellow construction paper instead.



3) Spray paint the white cap red.



4) Once everything is dry, use the double-sided foam tape to adhere the yellow “buttons” onto the overall snaps. Tip: This is much easier to do once the overalls are buckled, so you may want to wait to adhere the yellow circles until the costume is put on.



5) Punch another circle out of a paper plate and draw an “M” emblem on with red marker.

6) When hat is completely dry, adhere “M” circle to hat using double-sided tape.



7) Draw mustache on your child using black marker. Dress in hat and overalls, adhering yellow circles to snaps and you’re done!



Fun Fish Costume for Toddlers

By: Molly for Doughing Rogue

If your little one loves the water, making them an adorable fish costume for Halloween seems like a natural fit! We love the cute, scaled look of this ocean-themed outfit!

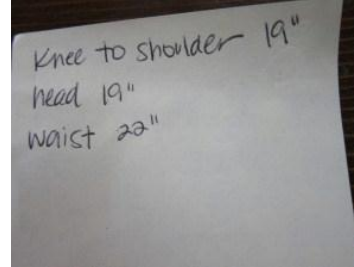


Materials:

- Long-sleeved shirt and matching leggings in an aquatic color
- Basic vest pattern
- 3 different shades of blue felt (1 yard each)
- Iridescent fabric (1 yard)
- 4" x 6" index card
- Scissors
- Peltex interfacing (iron-on)
- Matching thread
- Velcro strips
- Headband
- Styrofoam balls
- Black permanent marker
- Glue gun and hot glue

Instructions:

1) Take your model's measurements.



2) Using a basic vest pattern, make a vest out of one of your colors of felt.



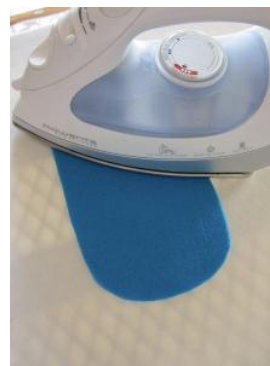
3) After cutting your vest pieces, you'll want to create the fish belly, which needs to be a little bigger than the vest so you can wrap it around and sew a hem all the way around. Using the vest you've already cut as a pattern, cut a slightly larger version out of the iridescent fabric and then pin the sides in.



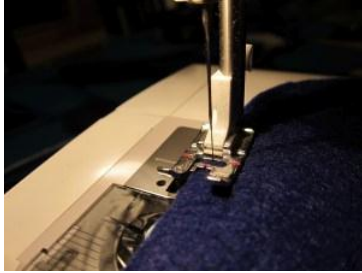
4) Use an index card to create and cut out a fin template.



5) Use the fin pattern to cut all your fins out of felt. Fold the felt at the top to create two layers so you can sew Peltex in between to make the fins sturdy. Iron the crease at the top of each scale. Make enough scales to cover the back of the vest.



6) Cut a layer of Peltex a little smaller than each scale (so it can slip inside without having white Peltex sticking out) and sew that into each scale. Or you could use fusible Peltex and just iron it in.



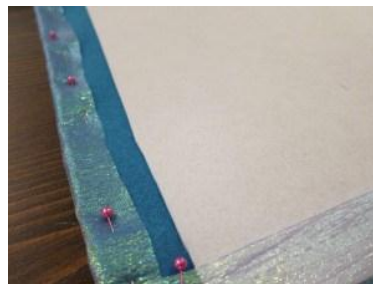
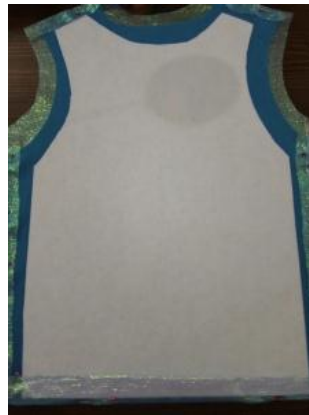
7) Draw a tail fin template and use it to cut two layers of felt and a slightly smaller layer of Peltex for in between. Sew the edges.



8) To make your vest sturdy, cut some Peltex a little smaller than the felt vest and iron it right on to both the front and back of the vest.



9) Sew the iridescent fish belly onto the rest of the vest.



10) Now you have all of your pieces ready to be sewn together.



11) Line the scales up where you want them and sew a little seam at the top of each scale (the fold). Repeat until all the scales are on.



12) Sew on the tail fin.



13) To make the costume easy to get on/off, you can sew on Velcro instead of sewing the shoulders and sides completely together.



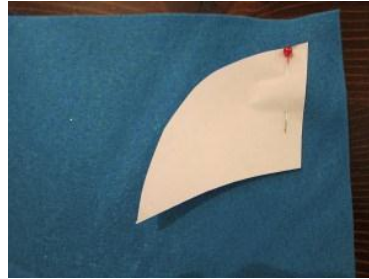
14) Cut styrofoam ball in half.



15) Using black permanent marker, draw dots in the center of each Styrofoam circle to create eyes. Hot glue the two circles to your headband.



16) Optional: To create pectoral fins, cut some more felt and Peltex in the shape of a fin and sew it onto the long sleeved shirt by the elbow. Repeat for each sleeve.



17) Put all of the pieces together so it looks like this:



Precious Penguin Costume

By: Jill for Creating My Way to Success

One of the cutest ideas for DIY kids Halloween costumes is an adorable penguin outfit. All you need to make this Precious Penguin Costume is black and white fabric and basic sewing skills. This costume fits most 4 and 5-year-olds but could be adjusted for older or younger children.



Materials:

- Black fabric for the main body and hood:
 - Main body: 2 pieces - 50cm x 36cm
 - Hood: 2 pieces - 20cm x 30cm
 - Wings: 2 pieces - 30cm x 12cm
- White fabric for tummy and underwings:
 - Tummy: 36cm x 28cm
 - Underwings: 2 pieces – 30cm x 12cm
- Orange fabric and stiffening for beak:
 - 2 triangles - 24cm base, 14cm high
 - 1 triangle of stiffening, same size
- Basic sewing supplies

Instructions:

1) Cut your white tummy piece into an oval as large as possible. Tip: fold the fabric in half before cutting so that it comes out even on both sides.

2) Place the white oval on one of the black main body pieces and pin. Stitch in place using a zig zag stitch.

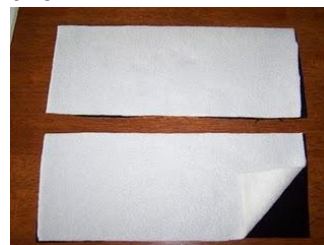


3) Place the 2 black main body pieces right sides together and join just 3cm across each top corner (the shoulder pieces), leaving the top open most of the way across for the neck hole.



4) Open the 2 pieces out into one large rectangle and neaten all 4 edges with either an overlocker (serger) or for a nicer finish, double turn and stitch.

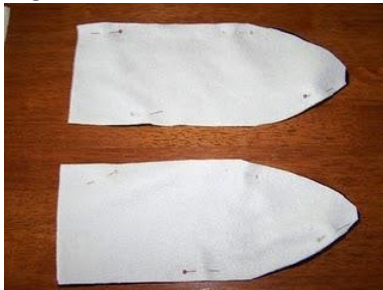
5) For the wings, place the black and white parts of the wings on top of one another like this:



6) Then fold each double layer in half lengthways, and cut in a curve to form the wingtips.



7) Open out and pin the white and black pieces together.



8) Stitch around the edges, leaving a small opening at the top flat end to turn them out.



9) When you have stitched both wings, turn them right sides out and pin then stitch to the shoulders of the main body.

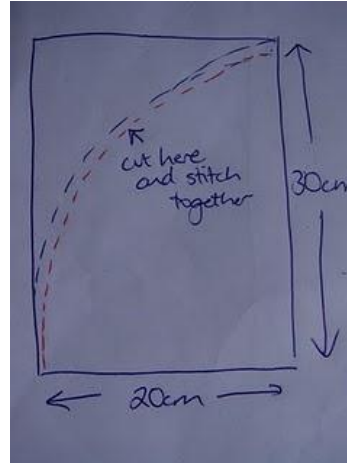


10) To make the beak, layer the 3 triangles with the stiffening on the bottom and 2 orange pieces on top (right sides together). Pin and stitch along the two shorter edges of the triangle.



11) Turn right sides out and press flat.

12) Cut the 2 rectangles you have into a hood shape, with the short edge on the bottom, then stitch together. Use this diagram for reference:



13) Join them together using an overlocker. If you don't have an overlocker you could do a french seam, or put a row of zig zag stitching close to the seam and trim.

14) Pin then stitch the beak to the open hood centrally, right sides together.



15) Finish the edges of the hood on either side of the beak by double turning under and stitching.

16) Put a row of large stitching across the bottom of the hood itself and pull one end of the stitching to gather the fabric so that it's the same length as the back of the neck hole you've left in the main penguin body.

17) Pin it on, right sides together, and stitch into place.



18) Double turn and stitch the front of the neck hole to neaten the edge, and you're done!



Dino Dragon Tails

By: Jessica for Running With Scissors

Whether your kids want to dress up like a dinosaur or a dragon this Halloween, these Dino Dragon Tails are the perfect costume accessory. Plus we're pretty sure they'll love playing with the tails as much as they'll love wearing them!



Materials:

- 1/2 to 3/4 yard main fabric. Can use pretty much any fabric that's not stretchy (the yellow tail pictured is made from polyester lining)
- 1/4 yard spike fabric
- 5" velcro
- Polyfil batting (small bag)

Cut List:

Main Fabric:

- Tail: (cut 2): 22" x 11"
- Waist straps: (cut 4): 12" x 3"
- Circle: 7" in diameter (Tip: Cut a 7" square, fold it in fourths, then cut the curve from fold to fold to form circle)

Contrasting Fabric:

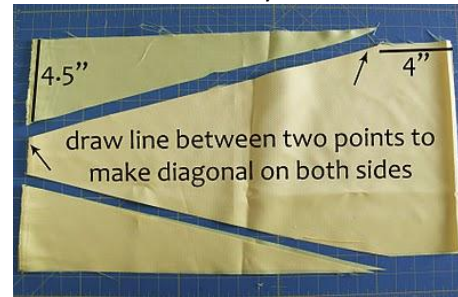
- Spikes (cut 2): 22" x 3.5"



Instructions:

1) Trim tail strips: Taking your two strips 22" x 11", lay them face down. On one end you'll measure 4.5" from each side. The two inches left in the middle will be the tip of the tail.

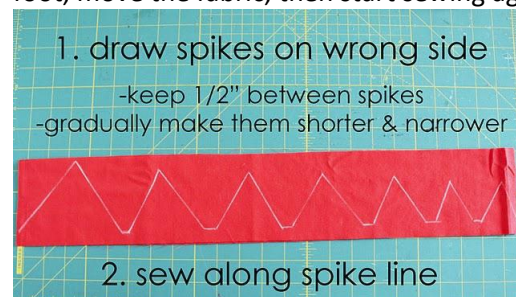
2) On the other end, you'll measure 4" along the sides as a marker. Connect these two markings to create a diagonal for the cone shape of the tail. Cut off the triangular sides and throw them away.



3) Make spike strip: NOTE: To make the spikes easier, you could cut 1 strip out of felt or fleece and just cut out a spike strip leaving the raw edges that won't fray, rather than sewing your spikes with 2 strips of fabric.

Take your two spike strips and lay them right sides together. Draw a row of triangles along the strip for the tail spikes. Begin at one end and work your way to the other, making the spikes shorter and narrower. I left about 1/2" between each spike.

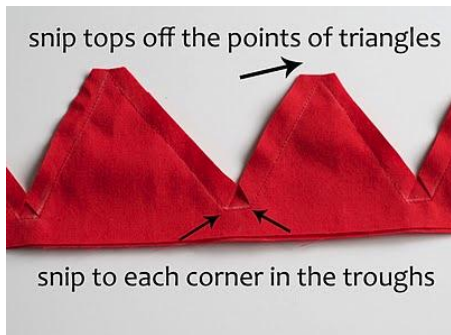
4) Sew along your spike line. When you get to the corners it helps to pivot by dropping your needle down into the fabric, lift your presser foot, move the fabric, then start sewing again.



5) Once your spikes are sewn, trim along your sewn line with 1/4" seam allowance along the whole strip.



6) Trim the seam allowances to make it easier to turn the spikes right side out: On the top of the spikes, trim off the point, being careful not to snip through your seam. In between each spike, snip diagonally into each corner (once again don't snip through your sewing).



7) Turn the whole strip of spikes right side out, using a pen lid, knitting needle, etc. to push the tips of the points out. Iron your spike strip nice and flat.



8) Sew Tail Body: Sew the spikes to one piece of the tail. Pin the largest spike to the tall side of your tail piece, lining up the raw edges. Sew the spike strip to the tail piece with 1/4" seam allowance. This is just basting, or tacking the pieces together.



9) Put your second tail piece so right sides are together, with the spike strip in the middle of the sandwich. Sew down the spike strip again, this time with 1/2" seam allowance, making sure you sew past the troughs so there is a space between each spike when you turn it right side out. Also, sew a slight curve as you go around the tip of the tail.

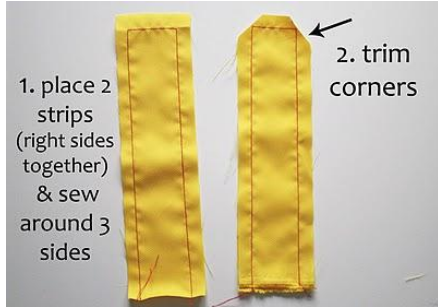
10) When you sew around to the other side, you'll need to stop your seam to leave a hole for turning the tail right side out later. Leave about 4 to 5" unsewn underneath the spikes. This way, it's on the bottom of the tail.



11) Sew waist straps: Take your 4 strips for the waist straps and put 2 right sides together. This will give you two sets.

12) Sew down a long side, across the short, and up the other long side on each set. Use 1/2" seam allowance.

13) Snip off the corners, being careful not to cut through your seam.



14) Turn each strap right side out, pushing out the corners with a pen lid or knitting needle. Top-stitch the edges to make the straps lay nice and flat. The tail pictured features a zig-zag stitch with contrasting thread, but you could always just sew a straight stitch.



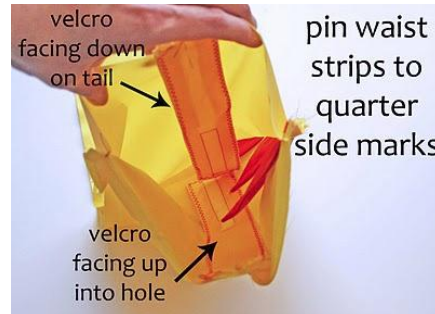
15) Sew both pieces of Velcro on the ends of the waist straps. Center the velcro in the center of your strap and 1/2" from the very end.



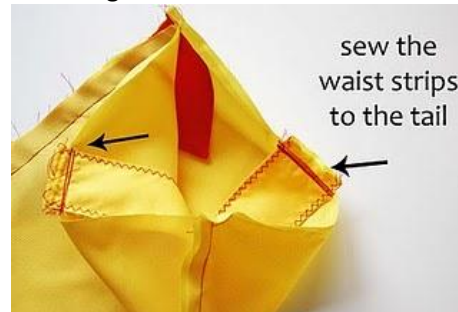
16) Complete tail construction: To close the large end of the tail, first mark the quarters by lining up the top (spike) seam with the bottom seam and pinning the folds on the sides.



17) Pin your waist straps inside the tail. Pin the straps to the quarter side marks. The important thing to remember is the Velcro has to be pinned opposite so the straps will match up around the waist. So put one waist strap with Velcro down on the right side of the tail, then pin the other waist strap with the Velcro facing up into the cavity of the tail.

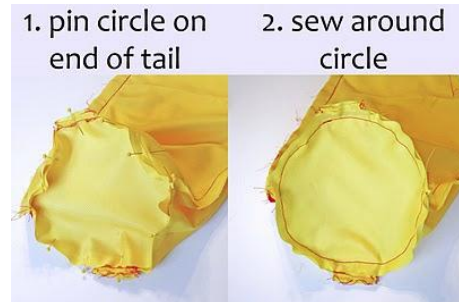


18) Sew the straps to the sides of the tail 1/4" from edge.



19) To finish off the tail, pin your circle fabric (with the right side facing into the tail) around the large tail opening. Fold your circle in quarters so you have a crease vertically and across to use as a guide to pin to the two seams (top and bottom) then line up with the waist straps on the sides.

20) Next you sew around your circle with 1/2" seam allowance.



21) Stuff and finish: At this point your dino tail is sewn and you can turn it right side out through the hole you left on the bottom seam. Your Velcro waist straps should be oriented to match and stick together, and your spikes should stand up out of the top seam.

22) Stuff your tail with Poly-fil batting. The density of your stuffing will determine how the tail will look. If you stuff the tail tighter, it will stand out more straight from the child's back. Leaving the stuffing a little looser makes for a more droopy tail.

23) Once your tail is stuffed to your liking, pin the hole closed underneath. You can either machine sew the seam shut or hand sew it closed.



24) You're finished!



Some Ideas for Variation:

- Length: It's easy to make the tail longer or shorter by cutting the tail and spike pieces longer than 22", but all the same length.
- Felt or fleece spikes: As mentioned earlier in the tutorial, you could make the tail even easier by cutting felt or fleece spikes with one layer rather than sewing/ turning 2 pieces of fabric.
- Make it girly: You could make a more feminine tail for little girls by making the spikes rounded scallops rather than pointed spikes.
- Printed fabrics: Textured or printed fabrics would look awesome if you're not a fan of the solid colored tails.



Dog Witch Costume

By: Sharon Mann for [Red Heart Yarn](#)

There's no reason why people should be the only ones who get to dress up for Halloween. Make sure man's best friend is included in the festivities by making this adorable crochet witch costume, complete with pointy black hat!



Materials: S (M, L)

- Yarn: RED HEART® "Super Saver®":
 - 1 (1, 2) skeins No. 0312 Black CA
 - 1 skein each No. 0254 Pumpkin CB and No. 0672 Spring Green CC [solid colors – 7 oz (198 g), 364 yd (333 m); multi colors – 5 oz (141 g), 244 yd (223 m); flecks – 5 oz (141 g), 260 yd (238 m)]
- Crochet hook: 5.5mm [US I-9]
- Yarn needle
- Stitch markers

Gauge: 11 sts = 4"; Rows 1-10 = 4" in dc.

Size:

To Fit Chest: 18 (23, 28)"
 To Fit Neck: 16 (18, 20)"
 To Fit Length: 10 (12, 16)"

Instructions:

CAPE-Neckband: With CB, ch 5.

Row 1 (Right Side): Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across; turn – 4 sc.

Rows 2-47 (2-55, 2-61): Ch 1, sc in each sc across; turn. Fasten off.

Collar-Row 1: With right side facing, join CA to work across row ends of Neckband; ch 1, work 47 (55, 61) sc evenly across; turn.

Row 2: Sl st in first 10 (12, 14) sc, ch 2, hdc in next 27 (31, 33) sc; turn leaving remaining sc unworked – 27 (31, 33) hdc.

NOTE: The "ch 2" at the beginning of hdc and dc rows does NOT count as a stitch. Do not work into the "ch 2".

Row 3: Ch 1, 2 sc in first hdc, sc in each hdc across to last hdc; 2 sc in last hdc; turn – 29 (33, 35) sc.

Row 4: Ch 2, hdc in each sc across; turn.

Rows 5 and 6: Rep Rows 3 and 4 – 31 (35, 37) sts. Fasten off for Small Size.

Medium and Large Only-Row 7: Rep Row 3 changing to CC in last st – (37, 39) sc.

Row 8: With CC, rep Row 4. Fasten off.

Cape-Row 1: With wrong side facing, join CA on opposite side of neckband; ch 1, work 47 (55, 61) sc evenly across; turn.

Row 2: Ch 1, 2 sc in first sc, sc in each sc to last sc; 2 sc in last sc; turn – 49 (57, 63) sc.

Row 3: Ch 2, hdc in first 3 (0, 0) sc, [hdc in next 4 sc, 2 hdc in next sc] 8 (11, 12) times, hdc in last 6 (2, 3) sc – 57 (68, 75) hdc.

Row 4: Ch 1, 2 sc in first hdc, sc in each hdc across to last hdc; 2 sc in last hdc; turn – 59 (70, 77) sc.

Row 5: Ch 2, hdc in first 0 (3, 0) sc, [hdc in next 4 (3, 4) sc, 2 hdc in next sc] 11 (15, 15) times, hdc in last 4 (7, 2) sc changing to CC in last hdc – 70 (85, 92) hdc.

Row 6: With CC, ch 1, sc in each hdc across inc 0 (1, 0) st at center and changing to CA in last st; turn – 70 (86, 92) sc.

Row 7: With CA, ch 2, dc in first st, * skip next st, 2 dc in next st; rep from * to last st; dc in last st changing to CB; turn.

Row 8: With CB, rep Row 7. Fasten off.

TIE: With CA, make a chain the length of the neckband PLUS 12". Fasten off. Weave the chain through the center of the band.

CIRCULAR STARS: Make 6 (7, 8):

With CC, ch 6; join with a sl st to form a ring.

Rnd 1: Ch 3; [yo and draw up a lp, yo and draw through 2 lps] twice all in ring, yo and draw through 3 lps on hook – 2 dc cl made; * ch 3; [yo and draw up a lp, yo and draw through 2 lps] 3 times all in ring, yo and draw through 4 lps on hook – 3 dc cl made; rep from * 3 more times; join with a sl st to top of ch-3. Fasten off.

Sew 5 (6, 7) circular stars evenly around the outside of the cape as pictured.

BODY (Start at Neck): With CA, ch 34 (36, 40).

Row 1 (Wrong Side): Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each ch across; turn – 33 (35, 39) sc.

Row 2: Ch 2, dc in each sc across; turn.

Row 3: Ch 1, sc in each dc across; turn.

Rows 4-15 (4-19, 4-23): Rep Rows 2 and 3.

Row 16 (20, 24): Rep Row 2 changing to CC.

Row 17 (21, 25): With CC, ch 1, sc in each dc across changing to CA; turn.

Row 18 (22, 26): With CA, ch 2, dc in first sc, * skip next sc, 2 dc in next sc; rep from * across; turn.

Row 19 (23, 27): Ch 1, sc in each dc across changing to CB.

Row 20 (24, 28): With CB, rep Row 18 (22, 26) changing to CA.

Row 21 (25, 29): With CA, rep Row 3 changing to CB.

Row 22 (26, 30): With CB, rep Row 18 (22, 26). Fasten off.

CHEST PANEL: With CA, ch 16 (20, 24).

Row 1: Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each ch across; turn – 15 (19, 23) sc.

Row 2: Ch 2, dc in each sc across; turn.

Row 3: Ch 1, sc in each dc across; turn.

Rows 4-15 (4-17, 4-21): Rep Rows 2 and 3. Fasten off.

Sew to the sides of the body 1½" below the neck.

HAT: With CA, ch 4; join with a sl st to form a ring. Mark the beg of each row.

Rnd 1: 6 Sc in ring; do not join but work in continuous rnds. Mark the beg of rnd with stitch marker.

Rnds 2 and 3: Sc in each sc around.

Rnd 4: Sc in first sc, [2 sc in next sc, sc in next sc] twice, 2 sc in last sc – 9 sc.

Rnd 5: Sc in each sc around.

Rnd 6: [Sc in next 2 sc, 2 sc in next sc] 3 times – 12 sc.

Rnd 7: Sc in each sc around.

Rnd 8: [Sc in next 3 sc, 2 sc in next sc] 3 times – 15 sc.

Rnd 9: Sc in each sc around.

Rnd 10: [Sc in next 2 sc, 2 sc in next sc] 5 times – 20 sc.

Rnd 11: Sc in each sc around.

Rnd 12: [Sc in next 2 sc, 2 sc in next sc] 6 times, sc in next 2 sc – 26 sc.

Rnd 13: Sc in each sc around.

Rnd 14: [Sc in next 2 sc, 2 sc in next sc] 8 times, sc in next 2 sc – 34 sc.

Rnd 15: Sc in each sc around changing to CB in last sc.

Rnd 16: With CB, sc in each sc around.

Rnd 17: Sc in each sc around changing to CA.

Rnd 18: With CA, sc in each sc around.

Rnd 19: Sc in each sc around; TURN.

Brim-Rnd 20: Ch 1, sc in each sc around; join with a sl st in first sc.

Rnd 21: Ch 2, [dc in next 3 sc, 2 dc in next sc] 8 times, dc in next 2 sc; join – 42 sts.

Rnd 22: Ch 1, [sc in next dc, 2 sc in next dc] 21 times; join – 63 sc. Fasten off. Sew star on the brim of the hat.

Harry Potter Dog Costume

By: Simone for AllFreeHolidayCrafts.com

Harry Potter is all the rage this year with the release of the final movie and there is no reason that your faithful pooch can't get in on the act! Using thrift store finds, simple fabric, and your sewing machine, you can transform your dog into your very own Pet Potter with this simple dog costume. Even a sewing beginner will be able to create this easy sewing project.



Materials:

- Black Fabric
- Deep Purple Fabric
- Maroon Fabric
- Gold or Yellow Ribbon
- Grey Sweater or Shirt
- White Collared Shirt
- Felt in Black, White, Red, and Gold
- Black Pipe Cleaners
- Fabric Adhesive
- Iron on Adhesive
- Sewing Needle
- Grey Thread
- Black Thread
- Velcro
- Black Marker

Instructions:

1) For the grey vest, you can use a child size shirt. Choose a size that will fit your dog appropriately. The shirt works great because there's no hemming required and the waffled texture gives the appearance of a sweater. Cut off the sleeves and cut straight up the back center.



2) For the tie, you can use a tie you found or make your own. To make a tie like the one pictured, start with a piece of maroon colored fabric measuring 7" x 2". Hem on both sides to create a skinnier tie with finished edges. Adhere gold colored ribbon the to the piece with iron on adhesive. Fold the pieces to the back and use iron on adhesive to adhere them (fabric adhesive would also work).



3) To create the Windsor knot look, cut a piece from the strip that measures 4" long. Wrap the piece around the top of the tie piece and glue with fabric adhesive. Fold down the top and adhere with fabric adhesive.



4) Trim your white blouse or collared shirt so that you only have a small front piece. Sew one side of the shirt into the sweater piece and then add your tie with fabric adhesive or stitches. Then complete sewing around the whole front piece. You can either hand stitch this piece or you could machine sew as well.



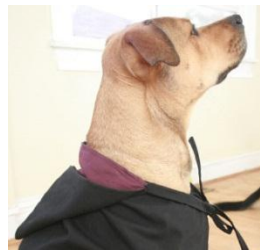
5) Add Velcro to the back of the sweater. You can use iron on or sew on Velcro, both work great. Now your inside piece is finished!



6) To make the cape: Measure your dog from front leg over their back to front leg exactly where you want the cape to lie. Take that measurement and add 2 inches. Then measure from neck to tail for the length and add 2 inches. This is the measurement for your black fabric. For example my dog measured 26" x 24", so I cut my black fabric 28" x 26".

7) Sew hem on all four sides to give it a finished edge. I hemmed 1" and then 1" again for my cape on all sides.

8) For the hood, decide how big you want or need the hood to be proportionate to the cape. Cut a piece of black and deep purple fabric to that size. Put the two pieces together with the wrong sides together and pin on the two short sides and one width. Sew on the three sides and turn right side out. Fold a 1" hem and attach to the cape pins. Sew to attach.



9) To make the ties for your cape, cut two pieces of black fabric 2 1/2" x 12". Hem the strips to 1".

10) Using the Gryffindor crest pattern at the end of these instructions, trim loosely around the shape you wish to cut first and pin to the appropriate color of felt.



11) With sharp scissors, cut along the black line. Do this for all the pieces. Glue pieces together with fabric adhesive to resemble the photo. Attach to one side of the cape.

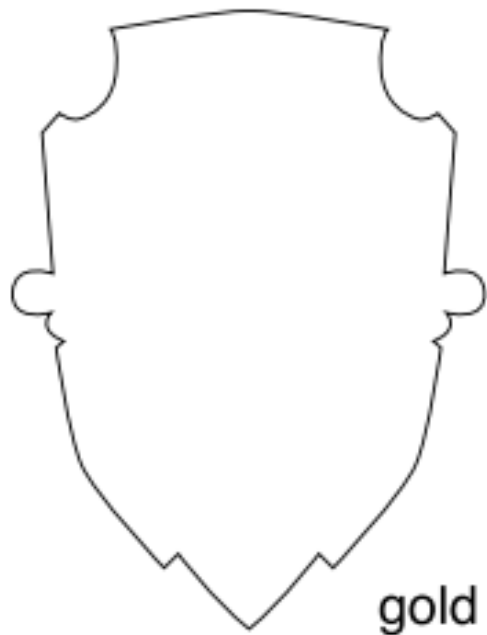


12) For the Potter-esque eyewear, all you need are a few black pipe cleaners. Depending on the size of your dog's face, shape the circles using a drinking glass; leave a little end piece if you can. Attach ends together in the center to join the circles. Then add the band which will go around your dog's head, again this depends on the size of your dog.



13) Now just dress your dog in your new costume and he is ready to go to all the Halloween parties this year or defend you from He Who Shall Not Be Named.

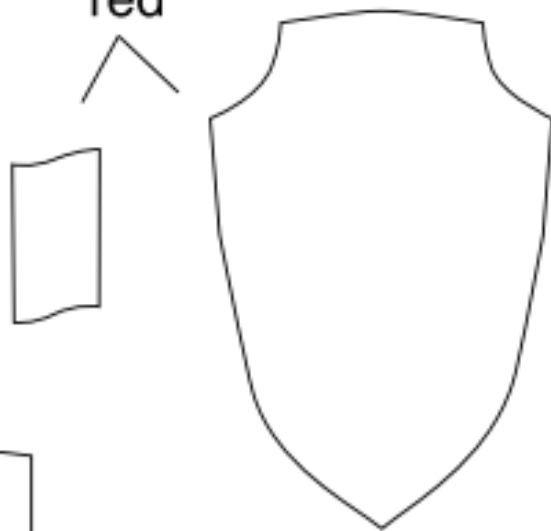




black



red



beige/white

Creative and Cute Halloween Costumes: 14 Costume Ideas to Make at Home



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- Costumes for Boys
- Gender-Neutral Costumes
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