

Costume Crafts

The “Not Sewing” part of costumes.

Some Costume Crafts:

- Armor
- Dying fabric
- Hats
 - Felting
- Wigs
- Many, Many more

Pay attention, there may or may not be a small quiz afterwards.

Armor

Costume armor is rarely made of metal. Metal is heavy, expensive and very restricting to move in. Most armor is made of foam, fosshape or other materials.

Foam: EVA foam is the most common foam to build into armor. It's cheap, easily molded and easy to cut. EVA foam is the same foam you find in gym floor mats.

Fosshape: Fosshape acts like any other normal fabric. However, once you apply a lot of heat via an iron or steamer, it keeps its shape. You can very quickly make rigid armor or helmet pieces.

Videos!



Dying Fabric

Dying fabric is an easy way to alter the color of a fabric. To dye fabric, add the dye to water. Immersing the fabric in dye will start to change its color. The longer a fabric is in the dye, the more of the color it will take on. Once done, thoroughly rinse out the fabric. Heating the water will also dramatically speed up how quickly fabric takes dye.

Different fabric take dye differently, so it's important to test your fabric. For example, natural fabrics like wool and cotton take dye better than synthetic fabrics like polyester.

A video!



Hats!

Hats are a complicated beast. Every type of hat has different methods of creation. A top hat will be different from a bonnet will be different from an officer's hat.

Someone who specializes in making hats is a **Milliner**.

Many hats are made of **felt**, which is a special kind of fabric that is basically a tangle of fibers. Felt can be sewn like normal fabric, but can also be molded, shaped, be combined with more felt and many more advanced techniques.

Video!



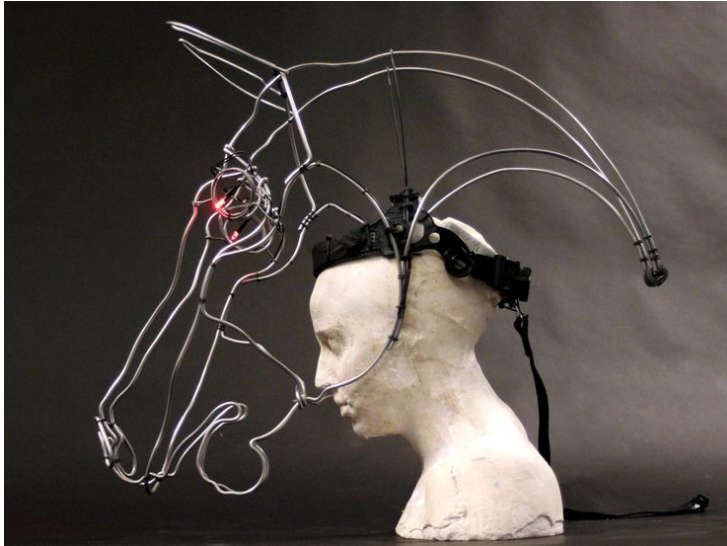
Wigs!

Wigs are hair that is put onto an actor. They can be made of real or fake hair. They are shaped and dyed to match the need of the character.

Wigs are complicated to make from scratch (often you'd have to weave each individual hair into a net), so often they are purchased and modified. The other approach is to buy sections of already made wig hair and attaching them together.

Other Crafts

Most shows will just have characters wearing simple clothing, but often, a show will throw something strange at you. Costume crafts is a part sewing, part carpentry, part prop making and all awesome.



QUIZ!

1. What are the two most common costume armor materials?
2. How can you speed up the fabric dying process?
3. What is the name of someone who makes hats?
4. True or false: All wigs are made from fake hair.
5. Of what we just went over, what interests you the most?
What would you make?