

How to Make... Your Puppet's Clothes, Eyes and Hair

Suitable for ages 5 - 11 with a little adult help

You will need:

- Paint
- Paintbrushes
- Paper (coloured or plain)
- Pritt Stick
- Anything else you have to decorate, for example: wool, pompoms, pipe cleaners, tissue paper, tin foil, stickers, felt tip pens, etc.



Today we are going to be decorating our puppets. This is the best day as you can let out all your creativity and really make your character come to life.

Instructions:

Step 1:

Get your design from Day One out and have a look at what colours you need. Then give your puppet a good coat of paint. You may need to do a couple of layers to cover the newspaper, particularly for light colours.

If you want a challenge, paint in some highlights; down the nose, across the cheek, top of the feet and tips of the fingers. You could also paint the bottom of your feet a darker colour.



Eyes:

Step 1:

Once your first layer is dry, paint on a white circle under the brow for the eyes.

Step 2:

Paint or draw on with a felt tip pen a little black circle for the pupil.

Step 3:

Add a tiny white dot onto the pupil to give your puppet's eyes a little light and life. Repeat for the other eye.

Eyebrows:

Step 1:

Cut a strip of paper (or tissue paper if you have it) about 2 - 3cm wide and about twice as long as you want your eyebrows to be. Fold this in half lengthways.

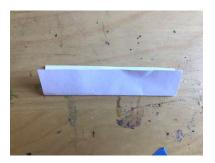
Step 2:

Cut lots of slits all the way along your strip, stopping just a little way from the fold.











Step 3:

Scrunch this up to give it lots of texture.

Step 4:

Put a thick layer of Pritt Stick on your puppet's face where you want the eyebrows to go and stick them on.

Alternatively:

Use a length of wool, glued on with Pritt Stick in the same way.

Hair:

You can make hair the same way as the eyebrows, using paper or tissue paper. Use slightly larger strips and layer them up over the head. Or you can use wool and follow the instructions below.

Step 1:

Cut yourself a rectangle of cardboard; if you want long hair, make your rectangle longer. If you'd rather have short hair you can use a square of cardboard. Take the end of your wool and hold it in place on the cardboard.

Step 2:

Wrap your wool around the cardboard over and over.









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Step 3: Keep going until you have a nice thick bundle. Cut the end of the wool

Step 4: Cut a short length of wool and thread it underneath your bundle.

Step 5: Work your piece of wool to the top of the cardboard rectangle and tie a string knot.

Step 6: Slip the bundle of wool off the cardboard and cut all the loops.

Step 7: Cover the back of the head with a thick layer of Pritt Stick.











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Step 8:

Stick the wool bundle onto the back of the head. You can make a number of these bundles and layer them up to create lots of hair.

Give your puppet a hair cut and style it however you like.

Clothes:

The paint has done most of the work for your clothes, but you could add little details to finish off your puppet.

Draw out details onto plain paper and stick them on using Pritt Stick or use bits of coloured paper. We've used a strip of yellow for our puppet's belt.

Or draw them straight onto your puppet with felt tip pens.

Get creative and see what you have around the house to add those finishing touches.

We've used a little bit of tin foil to create silver buttons and a belt buckle.

And Finally:

Have a little play with your puppet and how you like to puppeteer it.

You could add a little handle to help you hold your puppet, by glueing a strip of scrap fabric or thin card onto the back. We've used a little bit of black felt, glued on with Pritt Stick.

If you want more control over the feet you could add another pair of bamboo skewers into the back of the heels.

