



By Janice Gartin & Tara Maginnis

Important Points about Big Weird Wigs:

#1 Remember a wig is not real hair, so you can use spray paint to color it, you can sew hair down over rats instead of just pinning it, and you



can spike it with glitter glue, or silicone tub caulk, and use hot glue to stick wires and other things in it.

#2 Always work with your wig pinned to a foam or wood head in the most stretched-out position. Never let your hairdressing shrink the wig size. You want your wig to cover the hair easily, and fit well enough to not fall off.

#3 No matter how big your

wig/headdress, you want to keep it as light as possible, so look for ways to add your bulk without adding weight: Styrofoam, backcombing, inflatables, wire frames, paper,

buckram shapes, toilet paper rolls, etc.

#4 Keep your electric switches for any lights, fans or servomotors accessible.

> #5 If you are having problems making your wig defy gravity, you can work with it, and let it dry, upside-down. Use glue

mixed with water 50/50 as hair spray if you have to. There is no such thing as too much hairspray, or glue, or spray-glue.





#7 While high quality wigs are great for making your wig look like normal hair in the real world, cheap costume wigs are your best choice for big sculptural wigs. Cheap wigs give you a lot of hair that teases and rats very easily for bulk, and caps that are easy to cut and re-form into multiple shapes.

#8 If you plan to spray paint your wig for an extreme color effect, remember you can use wigs of multiple similar colors combined to get that effect. It is good to use 2-3 colors of spray paint (or colored hair spray) also, to give the shape and color of the wig some zip.

#9 If you (or an actor) are having trouble keeping the wig from falling off, please remember that an underlying buckram skullcap

and/or an elastic chin strap(s) are NOT cheating. Both wearer and observers will relax more if the giant atrocity on the head does not appear as

though it was
about to come
off and crush
someone's
child. Wigs,
hats, and
animal ears also

are more stable if merged into

a single wearable.

#10 Weird wigs do not need to be made out of hair. You can also use fake fur, plush, ethafoam, pool noodles, net & nylons, mops, raffia, shredded





plastic, paper, toilet rolls, yarns, and pretty much anything lightweight and flexible.



EL (Electroluminescent) Wire Links:

http://www.elwirepros.com/ EL Wire
Pros sells both readymade sets and

components. One of the best places to get good readywired sets in a hurry as they are US based. Offers discounts to Burning Man attendees. They also sell the parts for doing it yourself, and will do custom work.



http://learn.adafruit.com/el-wire Basic EL Wiring Tutorial to make your own custom Wire Sets, or there are plenty of YouTube video how-tos like this one at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MPDpl72RAhQ.

http://www.adafruit.com (the same site with the tutorials above), also sells EL parts for doing it yourself, plus small EL sheets (like the huge ones on the children's hospital beds at the London Olympics opening ceremony), LEDs (also with How-tos), readymade kits, and lots of electronic stuff for making geektastic wearables.

http://www.instructables.com/tag/type-id/category-technology/channel-el-wire Instructables how-to pages on EL Wire Projects including a How-To on wiring a glowing animated Rapunzel Wig http://www.instructables.com/id/Glowing-Rapunzel-Hair/

http://www.save-on-crafts.com/neon.html
Save On Crafts page on discount EL
wire kits. You can also pick up readymade kits cheap on http://amazon.com and http://amazon.com and http://amazon.com and http://ebay.com direct from China, if you don't mind an average 2 week shipping time.

Are you one of those costumers who like to spin and weave your own yarn into your Viking reenactor clothes? You can do the 21st century equivalent and make your own EL wire! http://blog.makezine.com/2010/08/14/how-to-make-your-

own-el-wire as well as other cool crazy light-up stuff on Jeri Ellsworth's other videos at Make.

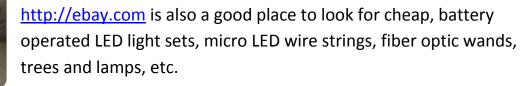


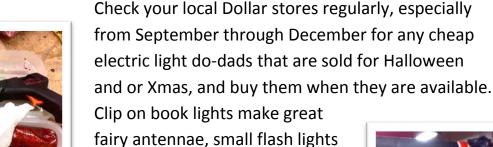
Other Good cheap glowing stuff:

http://www.gloworks.com/ sells more readymade glowing, blinking, and pulsing stuff than you could

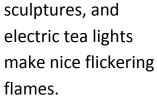
ever hope to use, at cheap prices, and with no electronic knowledge necessary. Just turn it on and hot glue it in. I am especially fond of their readymade electrified Cyberlox headbands, Fiber optic mohawks, and light up rayguns. If they don't have what you are looking for there are lots more similar dealers such as:

http://www.extremeglow.com/ and http://www.lightgod.com .





can illuminate the interiors of sculptures, and electric tea lights







Wig and Hair Supplies:

http://www.ikickshins.net/ I Kick Shins sells tubular crin and other exotic extensions for making cyberlox and wigs. It has a huge selection, good prices and fast shipping. They also have lots of tutorials here:

http://www.ikickshins.net/hairguide



Doctored Locks ("Sophisticated Products for the Serious Hair Architect")

http://www.doctoredlocks.com/catalog/Tutorials/ has both video tutorials and supplies.

You can order inexpensive costume wigs both from eBay and Amazon, as well as

http://www.voguewigs.com/costume-wigs.html
http://www.wigamerica.com/
http://www.spirithalloween.com/wigs/
store with seasonal merchandise for Halloween

There is useful info at Alternative Hair Extension Guide http://www.vixensingsblack.com/Guide/Intro.html and

exotic hair extension supplies at http://www.vixensingsblack.com

Diversity Hair UK
http://www.diversityhair.co.uk also
sells supplies and has lots of Handy
How-to info with pictures, plus a Blog.



http://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-Make-a-Cats-Wig/ (self-explanatory)







How To Make a Jem Costume

http://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-Make-a-Jem-Costume/?ALLSTEPS includes detailed instructions on how to fuse two wigs into one.

Mystic Lord Costume

http://www.instructables.com/id/Mystic-Lord-costume-horns-armor-silk-painting-/?ALLSTEPS pay attention to the parts involving the wig/horns/helmet.

Makeup-FX Wigmaking Tutorial

http://www.makeup-

<u>fx.com/perukmakeri1eng.html</u> for making realistic ventilated lace cap opera type wigs.

American Duchess: Tutorials (mostly for realistic 18th century styles with both real hair and/or wigs)

http://americanduchess.blogspot.com/p/tutorials.html

Cosplay.com Wig tutorials:

http://www.cosplay.com/showthread.php?t=224471

CosplayTutorial - Wigs

http://cosplaytutorial.com/list.php#wigs

How to do simple hair teasing for a Bump-it look:

http://www.kristanlynn.com/2012/01/bump-it-withno-bump-it-hair-volume.html

How to make Gravity defying spiked hair at Wonder How-to: Wardrobe

http://wardrobe.wonderhowto.com/how-to/make-anime-gravity-defying-spiked-wig-for-cosplay-214821

And a short informative Howcast video on Liberty Spikes: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5DZVWqdVhiM

http://www.instructables.com/id/Polygon-Cosplay-Wig-from-3D-Character-Models Mind blowing process where animation geeks make exact scale foam "wigs" based on the CAD rendered files of computer game characters. This is nothing I would ever try, but I am awed and impressed by the sheer technoinsanity of someone doing this.

Inspirations:

Paper Wigs at the PaperCut Project: http://www.papercut-cut-project.com/what.h

LACMA's How To on their Paper & Buckram wigs in the Fashioning Fashion Exhibit:



http://lacma.wordpress.com/2011/02/16/fashioning-fashions-paper-wigs-howd-we-do-it/

Beach Blanket Babylon

http://www.beachblanketbabylon.com/showpics/index.shtml

Wigs made from flowers: http://www.tomandlorenzo.com/2011/11/ma-one-humongous-headpiece.html#

SweetHayseed's Art Wigs Blog: http://sweethayseed.wordpress.com and her designs for sale at http://www.etsy.com/shop/SweetHayseed

Antoinette's Atelier by Kathleen Marie http://www.etsy.com/shop/AntoinettesAtelier

Posh Fairytale Couture http://www.etsy.com/shop/PoshFairytaleCouture

Artstring Boutique by Emilie Odeile http://www.etsy.com/shop/artstring

Marguerite Atelier by Kissy http://www.etsy.com/shop/margueriteatelier

Sparklefied Clothing Company by Liz Sparkle (look under hats and hair falls) http://www.etsy.com/shop/SparkleFide

Venus Pain Creations http://www.etsy.com/shop/VenusPain

MTCoffinzUnderground Alt Fashion

http://www.etsy.com/shop/MTcoffinzUnderground?section id=5562501

Stratospheric Creations by Syrenfire

http://www.etsy.com/shop/Stratosphericreaions?section_id=11158658

Marie Antoinette page at The Costumers Guide to Movie Costumes





Jenny Campbell's Mermaid Workshop Wearable Art

http://mermaidworkshop.blogspot.com/201 1 08 01 archive.html

Kate Cusack (Saran Wrap Wigs and Dresses) http://www.katecusack.com/

A Workshop for CostumeCollege 2012