

HAUNTED HALLOWEEN COSTUMES



Dress your family in one-of-a-kind Halloween costumes just by using a little bit of math (don't let this spook you), a couple of body measurements and a little bit of sewing time. It's fun and you can make any type character just from a few basic shapes. A tunic and cape can become a princess, a wizard or convert the shape into a skirt for your favorite bobby soxer!

SUPPLIES FOR BASIC TUNIC & CAPE:

To determine the amount of fabric needed measure the wizard-to-be or princess from the back neck to the ankle. Double this amount and add 1/2 yard. The extra is for facings and any decorative details. You will also need the arm measurement from the shoulder to wrist.

1/2 yard for contrast facings at sleeve and hem (Wizard)

Scrap of silver fabric (Wizard)

Fusible interfacing

Press cloth

Water-soluble marking pen

1 yard of shear fabric for cape (Princess)

1 1/2 yard of boa trim (Princess)

Paper-backed fusible web

4 yards of 1/2"-wide double-faced satin ribbon

1 1/4" wooden dowel

Silver spray paint

Glitter

DIRECTIONS FOR BASIC TUNIC:

the Wizard...

NOTE: Use a 3/8" seam allowance unless otherwise noted.

1. Fold the fabric in half lengthwise (selvage to selvage) and then fold the top down to match the bottom. The top fold will be for the shoulders and the side fold is center front and back.

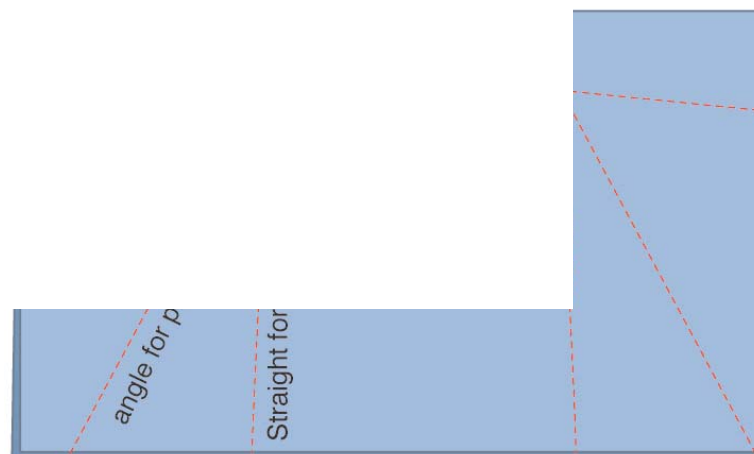
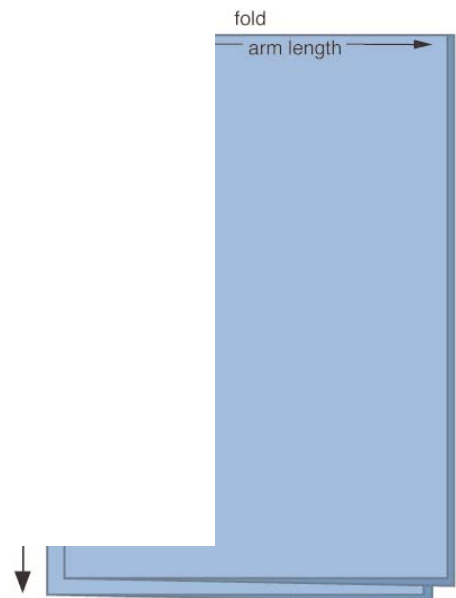
2. From the center top corner, measure over and down 4" for the neckhole. Try the tunic on at this point and enlarge the neckhole if necessary.

3. Fold your interfacing in the same manner and using the facing shape given here cut one piece (should be a complete circle). Adjust the size as necessary. Repeat this procedure for a neckline facing cut from the fabric.

4. Fuse the interfacing to the wrong side of the facing piece. Baste the facing piece to the wrong side of the tunic neckline. Turn both layers in 1/2" and zig zag around the neckline to hold the facing.

5. It's now time to mark the underarm and side seams. Try the tunic on and mark under the arms allowing plenty of room to move.

6. Open the fabric and fold crosswise evenly (the top fold is your shoulders). Pin the layers together to keep from shifting and draw a line for the sleeve and the side seams using the mark at the underarm as your guide.



7. To give your wizard some extra powers use a contrasting fabric facing at the sleeve and lower hems. This will save time on a hem finish later. Cut a rectangle of fabric as shown. The facing should go at least $\frac{2}{3}$ of the way up the sleeve. Finish one long edge of the strip of fabric. *Do not trim to sleeve shape yet.*

8. With the right sides together, stitch the sleeve and facing together. Press the seam toward the facing, and then flip the facing to the inside so wrong sides are together. Trim the excess fabric to the sleeve shape.



9. Open out the facing and, with wrong sides together, stitch the entire side seams on both sides.

10. Fold the facing back up into the sleeve; leaving 1" of the contrast facing showing on the outside as trim. Carefully press.

11. Try the tunic on and shorten (or lengthen) if necessary. Cut a strip of fabric $5 \frac{1}{2}$ " to 6" wide by the circumference of the bottom.

12. Stitch the short ends, right sides together, forming a circle. Fold this band in half lengthwise, wrong sides together and press.

13. Matching the the band seam with one side seam, pin the raw edges of the folded band to the wrong side of the bottom edge; stitch.

14. Flip the band to the right side of the tunic, carefully press, and topstitch along the folded edge.

15. Mark a line 8" up from the sleeve and hem lines. Stitch the ribbon in place using a straight stitch on both sides and a double needle.



16. Trace the stars on the paper side of the fusible web. Use as many stars as desired. Interface the back of the star fabric for stability. (NOTE: If you are using lame' be sure to lower the temperature of your iron and use a press cloth.)

17. Press the fusible web to the wrong side and cut out the stars. Carefully remove the paper backing. Place the stars on the right side of the tunic and press in place using a press cloth.

18. With a zigzag stitch of width-2 and length-2, stitch each star in place.

Every Wizard needs a hat so...cut out more stars from the interfaced fabric and stitch by hand or glue them to a purchased hat.

19. Spray a 1-1/4" by desired length wooden dowel with silver paint. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully. Cut a small slit in one end of the dowel.

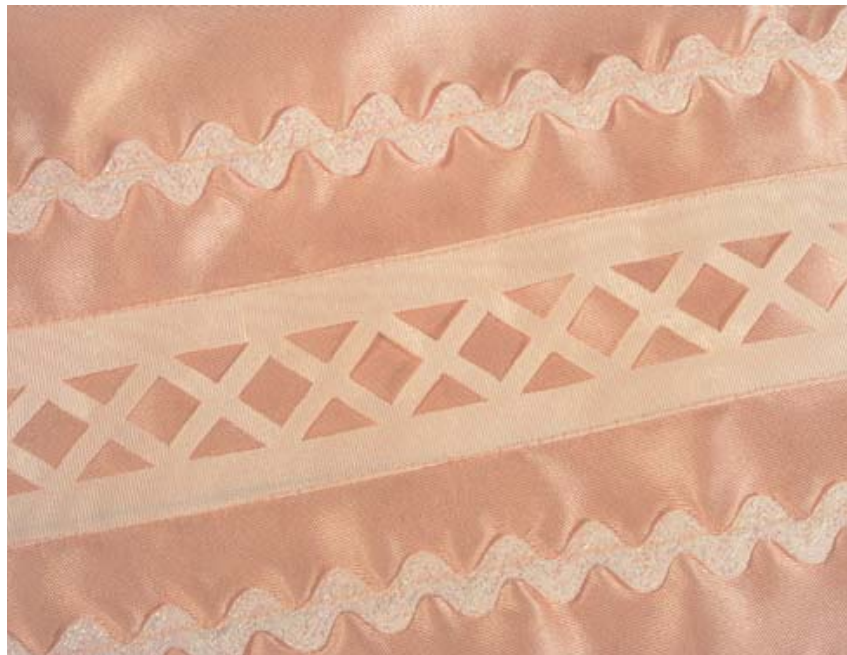
20. Cut out the moon or star shape from cardboard or foam core; spray with the silver paint. After the first coat is dry, lightly spray again and sprinkle with fine glitter. Let dry thoroughly and shake off excess.

the Princess...

1. Follow the same directions for the basic tunic as the wizard through step 6. You may want to angle the tunic out from the waist when cutting to give it more of a skirt look instead of hanging straight.

2. Hem the sleeves and bottom edge by finish the raw edge with a zig zag stitch and then turning up 1 1/2" and topstitching in place.

3. Embellish with the sleeves, neckline and hem with ribbons, rickrack, braids and trims. Place the rickrack 1" from the neck edge and stitch. The sleeve ribbon was 1" and 4" from the edge with trim centered between.



DIRECTIONS FOR BASIC CAPE:

4. For the cape, measure from the neck to the waist. The Princess' cape is approximately 20" long in the front because the fabric is 45" wide and cut with the fabric folded as shown. Wider fabric will make a longer cape; otherwise you will need to piece the fabric to make it longer.

5. Mark a neckline opening 4" from the corner and cut. Cut the fabric along one fold to create the front opening.

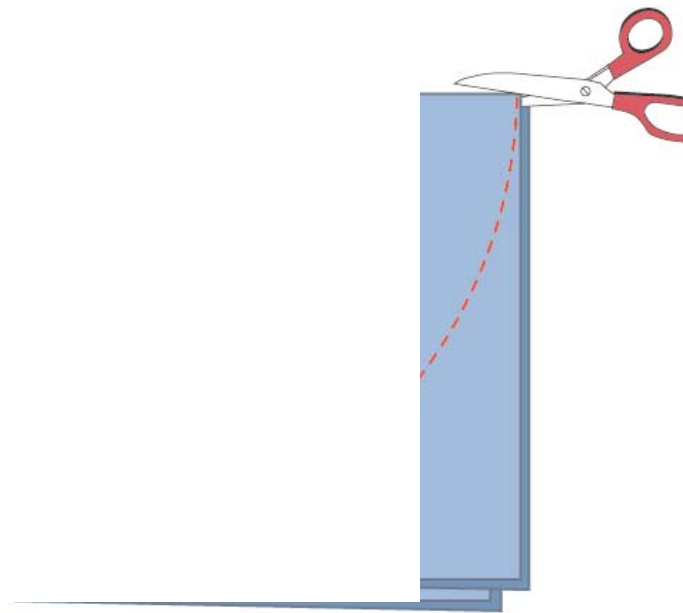
6. Turn under a 1/4" double-fold hem on the sides and bottom edges; stitch in place.

7. Cut a piece of bias lightweight fabric 6" x 18". Turn the ends under 1" and fold in half lengthwise, wrong sides together, press and set aside.

8. Baste around the neck edge to gather it up to 16". With the right side of the narrow band to the wrong side of the gathered neck edge, pin and stitch.

9. Flip the band to the right side and topstitch in place. Cut two 16" ribbon ties, fold under one edge 1/4" and stitch to the neck edge. Knot each ribbon at the opposite end.

10. Slipstitch the boa trim to the front opening edges by hand.



the Poodle Skirt...

SUPPLIES:

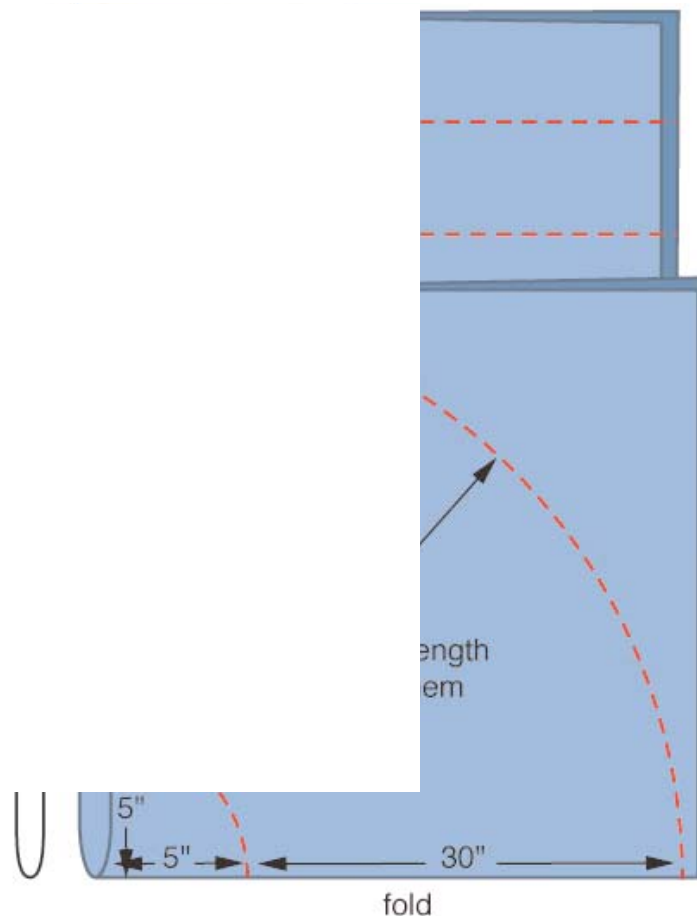
Use 45"-wide fabric for a skirt up to 22" long and 60"-wide for 22" to 30" long. You will need a minimum of twice the finished length plus 6".

1 yard of 1"-wide elastic

Purchased poodle appliqué

3/8 yard of pom-pom trim.

1. To determine the size for the waistline opening, measure the waist and add 10". Divide that number by 3. Then divide that number by 2 to cut from the double fold for the circle. Try on the skirt and check to see if this opening is big enough to get the skirt either over the hips or the head.



2. For the waistband, measure the waist opening and cut a band 3 1/2"-wide by the opening measurement plus 3". See the drawing above for cutting suggestions.
3. Fold under the short ends 1 1/2". Press in half lengthwise, wrong sides together.
4. Pin to the waist opening, right sides together and raw edges matching, butting the folded edges together. Stitch with a 1/2" seam allowance.
5. Thread 1" elastic through the waistband casing cutting a length of elastic 6" to 8" longer than necessary for varied sizing. Overlap the elastic end 1" and stitch. Pull the elastic to the desired fit and seam, but leave the extra elastic in the casing for an easy alteration for another person.
6. Turn under a 1/4" double-fold hem and stitch. Keep the hem very narrow to make hemming the circle as easy as possible.
6. Thread your machine with monofilament thread in the needle and thread matching the skirt in the bobbin. Using a straight stitch or narrow zigzag stitch (length 1.5 to 2, stitch width 1.5 to 2), stitch the poodle applique in place.
7. Cut individual pompoms from the trim and glue them on the ears, tail and legs.

