
Last-Minute Halloween Costume: Whimsical Felt Beards with Courtney Cerruti

Chapter 1 - Introduction

Overview

- Hi, I'm Courtney from Creative Bug and Halloween is my most favorite holiday, so it's no surprise that I really like to make things for Halloween. I'm gonna show you how to make some really cool felt beards as a last minute costume idea. Using just a couple pieces of felt and some hot glue I'll show you how to trace and cut a basic beard shape, we'll add some design elements and a contrasting felt color, and then we'll add a ribbon or string or a piece of twine so that you can actually wear them. They're great for you but because beards look so cute on little ones you can also make them for a little friend in your life. (bright twinkly music)

Chapter 2 - Materials

Materials

- You wanna have two contrasting colors of felt to make your beards. That way, you can have some pop and dimension. I only need about a two foot square piece in each color. You'll need twine, embroidery floss, or some kind of ribbon to tie your beard together. A pair of fabric sheers, and a sharp pair of snips is imperative. A Sharpie, hot glue, and glue gun sticks, and then your beard template if you don't wanna freehand draw your own. And you can print this out and then tile it together just by taping the two pieces of 8 1/2 by 11. You probably have some of these supplies already lying around in your cupboard, so dig deep, and you'll have a couple of beards in no time.

Chapter 3 - Make Beard

Cut and assemble beard

- Cut out your paper template and we're gonna use this to trace onto both pieces of felt. You want to start with your base color and in this case I want kind of a lighter beard as a finished product, so my base beard is gonna be on the darker felt. Use your sharpie to trace around your template onto your darker piece of felt. (sharpie scratching) For this lighter beard, I'm actually gonna trace just a hair outside of the line. And then for the mouth, we can just trace as is. Then cut out both of your beards. (scissors cutting) Use your sharp little snips to cut out the mouth detail. (scissors cutting) Now we get to decorate our beards and add some design and texture to them and make them come to life a little. These are actually inspired by illustrations of beards and we're going to free hand our designs which means that they look a little wonky or a little off or not perfect. That's actually what we are going for because it's going to add to the charm of the overall look of the beard. We know that our darker one in this case is gonna be our base and I am actually gonna draw the design on our lighter beard and we are gonna free hand draw a wave shape starting at the bottom. Once you have one line down, it's kind of easy to just follow that line. These could be thicker or thinner. They don't have to be perfect. You could slip a smaller one in here but I want one to kind of go with the line of the mouth here and then we're left with just our mustache shape at the top. So this part is our mustache. So I might actually combine these little points here when I cut this all out. Grab your fabric sheers and cut along the lines we just drew and then we'll reassemble this beard on top of our base. (scissors cutting) You can see as we're going, we're using the side that we didn't draw on which means our mustache is not going to line up perfectly so we're probably going to do a little trimming here so that you get a little of that darker color to show through. So I'll just trim this a

little. (scissors cutting) See how it fits on the darker color. (scissors cutting) And a little on this side. You can make whatever kind of adjustments you want on this. You just want to have a little bit of the darker edge to define this. The nice thing about felt is that it stretches a little and we cut out this lighter color that goes on top slightly larger than our base so that we would have some overlap and really play with the texture that the beard is gonna create and you can adjust it so you can have more or less of the darkness below showing. You can have pieces overlap more. That's really up to you. You can kind of like create a striping effect. The felt allows you to play before you actually glue everything into place. You don't have to glue every little bit of the strip. You can just sort of tack it down in a couple of places and that will add also to the texture because not everything is gonna be perfectly flat and lying down. Mustache You can add a little bit of sharpie on top of this if you wanted to draw some other texture, you could. It will stick to the felt very easily. We need to add a tie so you can actually wear your beard. Using your sharp snips, you could poke 2 little holes here at the corners of the mustache. You can also use a needle and thread to just thread some yarn through either side of the mustache. I am actually gonna hot glue my tie on. Just flip your beard over and I am using a high temperature hot glue gun so if you have that option on your glue gun, I would definitely go with it. It's gonna make everything set up really nicely and be really strong after the hot glue cools. So I have a length of yarn here. I'm just gonna run a strip of hot glue all the way across. Carefully lay my yarn right into that hot glue. And then if I wanted to be extra secure, I could put a little more hot glue on top. And then just put a scrap of my felt on top of that. And just press down. Let the glue cool. And that's all you need to then wear your spooky beard. I want to show you a variation on this guy. Using the same two colors of felt, I cut a spiral which is super easy to do. You just take a scrap of felt, start cutting a circle. (scissors cutting) It can be very wonky and loose. So there is your circle and then just cut a spiral. And remember I said earlier, that felt is stretchy? You can rearrange this in any kind of configuration onto your beard base. So in this case, my base was the lighter color. And then I just glued on all these little spirals. So starting from the center, you can replace this so there is some space in between to create these like fun hand drawn looking spirals. And just glue that into place. Tack it even. It does not have to be perfectly glued. And then just with my sharpie, I came in here and filled in all the little holes. And that is another beard you can do. You can even make little creatures that can stick in and out of your beard. (music) Like that little birdie. They're really fun to make and they'll look good on you and on your friends. You can each wear them for your Halloween party. (music)