

Hand Puppets

Text and drawings by Nancy Rhode

Last month we presented instructions for making a puppet theater. Make these four hand puppets to fill the stage, and adapt the basic pattern to create your own characters.

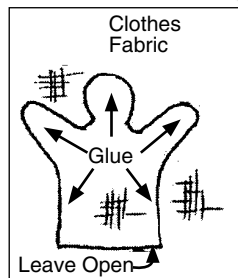
What You'll Need:

- Thin cotton fabric
- Acrylic paints: Black, Pink, Red, Flesh, White, Blue, Green
- Paintbrush
- 1/8" and 1/4" hole punches
- Fine-tip Black marker
- Craft glue
- Toothpicks
- Small scissors
- Embroidery floss in hair colors
- Spray starch
- Iron
- Index card
- Bunka: 2 or 3 bright colors

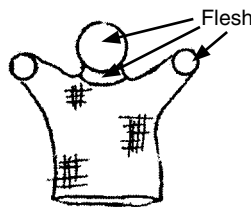
Basic Puppet

1. Paint a 2" square of fabric with desired flesh tone on one side and let dry. Repeat on other side. Set aside.
2. Spray fabric chosen for clothes several times with spray starch. Let starch dry, then press with iron.
3. Trace Basic Puppet shape and transfer to index card. Cut out and trace one Puppet Shape to wrong side of starched clothes fabric. Cut out, cutting just inside drawn line.
4. Run a bead of glue on wrong side, along edges of puppet you have cut from clothes fabric. Leave bottom edge free of glue. Glue to wrong side of starched clothes fabric. Cut out puppet.

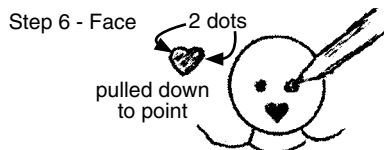
Steps 3-4
Basic Puppet Pattern



5. Punch one 1/4" circle and four 1/8" circles from flesh-painted fabric. Glue the 1/4" circle of flesh to head and the 1/8" circles to ends of arms on back and front. Paint the neck with flesh.

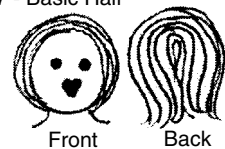


6. Face: With black marker or with toothpick and black paint, make two dots for eyes. For heart-shaped mouth make two dots side by side with toothpick, then drag down a "tail" with toothpick while paint is still wet.



7. Hair: Cut several 1" long strands of embroidery floss. Run bead of glue around face and glue five or six strands to front. Trim. Apply glue to back of head and attach strands following outside curve of head. Fill in rest of head back with floss. Trim.

Step 7 - Basic Hair



Witch

1. Follow Steps 1 and 2 to prepare fabric, painting face and hand fabric green. Use black fabric for clothes and hat. Follow Steps 3-5.
2. Make white dots with toothpick for eyes. When dry, make smaller black dots on top of white dots for crossed eyes. Make red dot for mouth. For nose, paint 1/4" of one end of a toothpick. When dry, cut off about 1/8" from point. Glue to face.
3. For hair, Follow Step 7, using gray floss.



Witch
Step 2

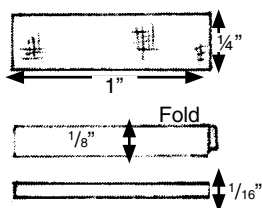


Witch &
Clown Hat
Pattern



4. Cut out one hat of starched black fabric. Glue two long edges to starched black fabric, leaving short edges open. Cut out. Glue open edge over head. Cut a brim of black fabric $\frac{1}{4}$ " by 1". Fold strip in half lengthwise and glue together. Trim strip to $\frac{1}{16}$ " wide. Cut in half and apply glue to each strip. Lay one half of strip over edge of hat above eyes. Glue other strip to back, gluing to back of head, and to end of front brim.

Step 4



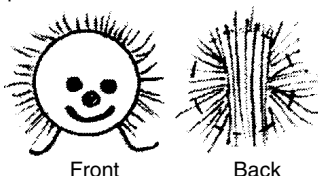
2. Face: With a toothpick, paint black dots for eyes, a red dot for a nose, and draw a red curve for a mouth.

Step 2



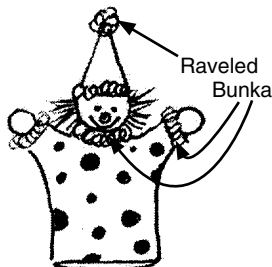
3. Hair: Cut several $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch pieces of orange floss. On back of the head glue floss in a crisscross pattern until back of head is covered and hair is sticking out around face. Open hat and glue it on head.

Step 3



4. Unravel Bunka and glue a piece around edge of hat, under face and around wrists. Glue a Bunka puff to point of hat.

Step 4



Boy

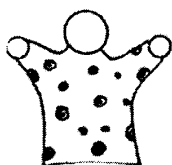
Follow Steps 1-7, using a narrow stripe for shirt, and cutting hair short.



Clown

1. Follow Steps 1 and 2 to prepare fabric, painting face and hand fabric white. Follow Steps 3-5 for clothes, using white for suit, then make dots of bright colors on suit. Paint a piece of white fabric red. When dry, cut out and glue a hat following Step 4 (witch hat) eliminating brim. Set aside.

Clown
Steps 3-5



If you have questions, please contact Nancy through *Miniature Collector magazine*.



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