

Making Your Costume

Costumes are not just clothes. Costumes show the audience what job a character does, what kind of person they are, and where they come from— they help bring your character to life.

Here are some ideas:

- Transform your body shape. You can use costumes to transform your body shape and turn yourself into a completely different person.
- Try padding out stretchy fabric like tights or socks to change the shape of your feet, legs, belly, or bum.
- Wear an oversized shirt with a belt or string around the middle. Stuff the inside of your shirt with newspaper or packing material to change your build. Padding on your shoulders can also make you look bigger.
- Attach material or paper to belts, hats, gloves, or shoes to make easy costumes.
- Tie string or paper to a belt to make a skirt.
- Add an eye patch to make character details pop.
- Express yourself with hair attachments and makeup.
- Use an eyebrow pencil or face paint to draw on facial hair and other markings such as a mustache, beard, age wrinkles, freckles, and eyebrow emotions.
- Face paint can also be used for streaks in your hair or to add tattoos.
- Comb your hair back using hairspray or gel. Or, go bold! Hide your real hair under a cap of stretchy fabric like tights or a shower cap.