

GET THE LOOK

The search for the perfect costume stops here. Find out how to turn yourself into a living artwork below, or browse our [online collection](#) for inspiration.

What you'll need:

- Red yarn or ribbon for wig
- Stockings
- Scissors and hot glue
- White, red, and black face paint
- White long-sleeved shirt
- Polka dot tank top

Directions:

1. Cut the legs off the stockings and secure with a knot. Stretch the stocking over a bowl.
2. Glue 6" long strands of yarn onto the stocking starting at the crown near the knot and working your way vertically down toward the bottom. Only glue down the top inch of the yarn.
3. Remove the stocking from the bowl once all the strands of yarn are secure.



Clown with Red Wig

Walt Kuhn, 1931

Rather than portray his subjects' smiling public personas, Kuhn emphasized their complex psychological states in private moments off stage. In this painting, the artist contrasts the clown's colorful costume and muscular physique with his introspective and melancholic disposition.

What you'll need:

- Choker necklace
- Cardboard or posterboard
- String
- Markers or paint
- White paper
- Scissors and hot glue

Directions:

1. Cut a wing shape out of cardboard 6" longer than the length of your arm. Use it as a template to cut out a second wing for your other arm.
2. On each wing, punch two holes vertically by the shoulder, and two more above the elbow.
3. Thread string long enough to tie around your arms through each set of holes. Glue the string down on the top side of the wing.
4. Using markers or paint, add color to your white paper.
5. To make feathers, cut 1" wide strips along the long edge of your paper, leaving 1" uncut at the top. The paper should stay intact and look like a fringe when complete.
6. Glue the strips of feathers to the top side of your wings in overlapping rows starting from the bottom.



Black-figure kylix

Attic, about 55–530 BCE

This black-figure kylix features an illustration of a siren inside the bowl. The siren is a figure of both enchantment and death, since its song can lure men to ruin, but, like the fearsome gorgon, it can also ward off evil.

What you'll need:

- Large paper bag
- Pencil

Directions:

1. Sketch a copy of the drawing on a large paper bag with the opening facing down.
2. Poke holes for the eyes.
3. Wear as a mask.



Cubist Head

Roger de la Fresnaye, about 1915–20

Breaking with traditional representations of space and perspective in the early 20th century, Cubist artists depicted objects from shifting points of view, as if seen from several markedly different angles at once. This resulted in images in which surfaces were fractured into different planes and overall forms were dismembered.

Couples Costume Part One

What you'll need:

- Two large sticks
- Ivy or other natural foliage
- Two pine cones or other natural materials
- Grapes
- Bed sheet
- Stuffed animal
- Foil and headband for horns
- Scissors and heavy-duty tape or hot glue

Directions:

1. Attach your pine cones or other natural materials to the end of your sticks using hot glue or tape.
2. To create the horns, roll pieces of foil together into long cylinders. Twist and bend them into the desired shape.
3. Place them on top of the headband and wrap a piece of foil underneath. Wrap the foil around the headband and mold it around your horns. Paint or decorate your horns.



Running Bacchant

Clodion, c. 1790-1799

This running figure is a follower of Bacchus, the Greek god of wine. The male bacchant is a satyr, half-man and half-goat. He holds pine-cone-tipped wands, known as a *thyrsi*, from which a small kid goat is suspended, probably intended for sacrifice.

Couples Costume Part Two

What you'll need:

- Two large sticks
- Ivy or other natural foliage
- Two pine cones or other natural materials
- Grapes
- Bed sheet
- Two paper plates and dried beans for tambourine
- Heavy duty tape or glue

Directions:

1. Attach your pine cones or other natural materials to the end of your sticks using hot glue or tape.
2. To create the tambourine, glue the plates together $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way.
3. Pour the beans into the gap.
4. Glue the gap closed to seal the tambourine.
5. Decorate your tambourine.



Running Bacchante

Clodion, about 1790–99

This running figure is a follower of Bacchus, the Greek god of wine. With breasts bared and curly hair flying in the wind, this female bacchante carries *thyrsi*, symbols of fertility. Her thin, finely pleated dress blows in billowing folds behind her, and next to her bare right foot rests a tambourine filled with grapes.