

Illinois 4-H COSTUME DESIGN PROJECT WORKBOOK



Use this workbook, along with the Illinois 4-H Costume Design Resource Guide, to plan your costume (go.illinois.edu/4H Costume Design Resources)! Feel free to add additional pages/inserts into this workbook.

Name: _____

County: _____

Costume idea: _____

Type of costume: Historical Theatrical Cultural Cosplay/fandom Other: _____

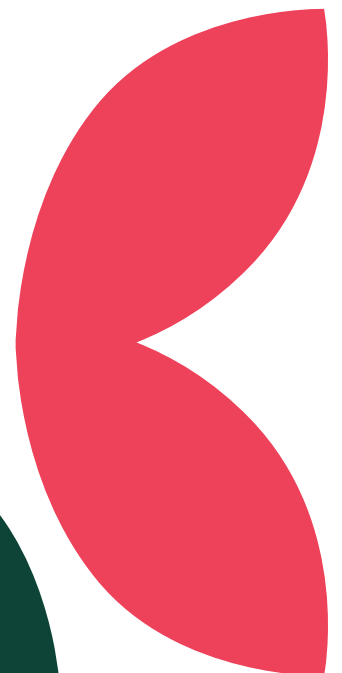
Who the costume is for: Self Other: _____

Why I chose this costume: _____

Note: Please consult the "4-H Dress Code Considerations" and "Respecting Intellectual Property" section of the Costume Design Resource Guide before you decide on a costume idea to pursue.



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN





ABOUT YOUR CHARACTER

Thinking about the character you are creating a costume for can help you get your ideas flowing. Use the space below to brainstorm about your character.

Name of character: _____

Character basics (e.g. who they are, what they do, what their status is, etc.): _____

Gender of character: Female Male No gender Other gender: _____

Character setting (e.g. where they live, what that place is like): _____

Time period of this character: _____

Colors this character might wear (based on their personality or the time period): _____

Other notes: _____





COSTUME RESEARCH

Use this page to do research on your chosen costume. Include reference images of any historic or cultural looks, or pop culture characters that are inspiring your work.

Notes: _____





INSPIRATION BOARD

Paste images here that will inspire your overall look. Include photos of outfits, color palettes, locations, accessories, and other things that will help you define and refine your costume. Feel free to use a digital image collection tool (like Pinterest) to help you find images.







PRELIMINARY SKETCHES

Sketch out some possible ideas for your costume based on your research and inspiration board. You can make copies of the templates on pages 14-18 of this workbook and use those to assist with your sketching, if desired.





COLOR PALETTE

Use the boxes below to highlight colors you'd like to use in your design. Check off if they will be a primary (main) or secondary (accent) colors.

Primary
 Secondary

Primary
 Secondary

Primary
 Secondary

Primary
 Secondary

Primary
 Secondary

Primary
 Secondary





FINAL SKETCH

Draw your final sketch below that you will use to create your costume. You can make copies of the templates on pages 14-18 of this workbook and use those to assist with your sketching, if desired.





ACCESSORIZING & STYLING YOUR LOOK

Plan what accessories (e.g. jewelry, armor, head wear, etc.) you can create or purchase to take your costume to the next level, and what you'll do with make-up and hair to complete your look.

ACCESSORIES

List the accessories you plan to use for your costume and how you'll get them.

Accessory: _____

How I'll get this accessory: Buy it Upcycle/modify an existing Item Create from scratch

Accessory: _____

How I'll get this accessory: Buy it Upcycle/modify an existing Item Create from scratch

Accessory: _____

How I'll get this accessory: Buy it Upcycle/modify an existing Item Create from scratch

Accessory: _____

How I'll get this accessory: Buy it Upcycle/modify an existing Item Create from scratch

Accessory: _____

How I'll get this accessory: Buy it Upcycle/modify an existing Item Create from scratch

STYLING

Indicate how you will use make-up, hair styling/wigs, or other techniques to complete your look.





MATERIAL & SKILL PLANNING

Reflect here on the materials you'll need to create your costume, as well as any skills, like sewing, you may need to learn or improve to put those materials together.

List of materials needed for costume (e.g. fabric, patterns, notions, foam, craft supplies, glue, etc.):

What skills do I need to find tutorials/training on (e.g. sewing, using a pattern, working with foam, leather working, etc.) and where can I find this training (e.g. book, online tutorial, mentor, class, etc.)?

Skill: _____

How I'll learn this skill: _____

Skill: _____

How I'll learn this skill: _____

Skill: _____

How I'll learn this skill: _____

Skill: _____

How I'll learn this skill: _____





THE FINAL PRODUCT

Share images of the costume on the wearer, complete with accessories and styling.





REFLECTION

Reflect on what you made and learned!

How did you feel about your final costume? _____

Where did you get to, or where do you plan to use the costume? _____

What new skills did you learn while creating your costume? _____

What would you do differently if you made this costume again? _____

What's next on your costume design journey? _____





NOTES

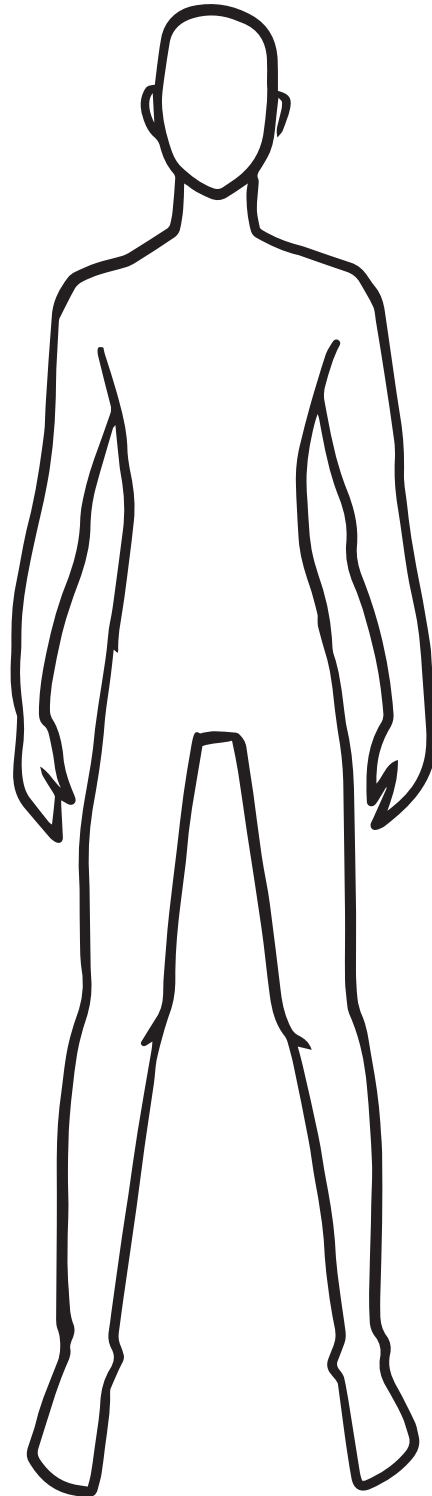
Use this space however you want to better track your process or thoughts!





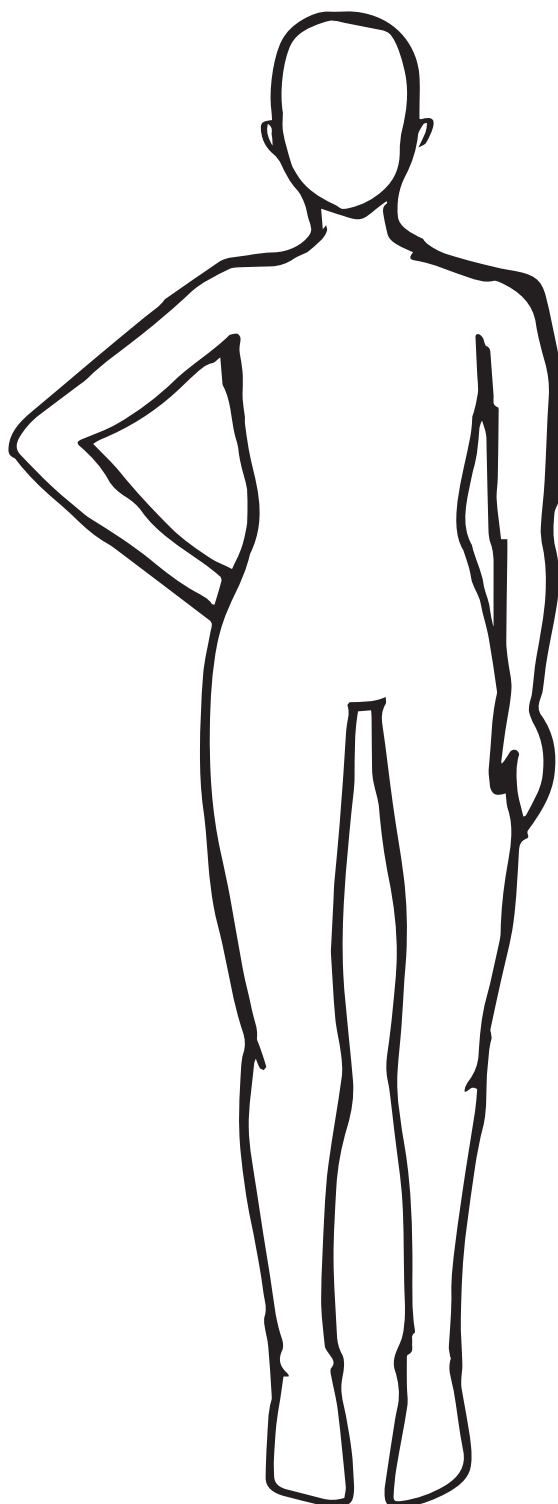
TEMPLATES

Print and use these templates to aide in your sketching and brainstorming processes. Choose the template shape and size that makes sense for your costume.





TEMPLATES



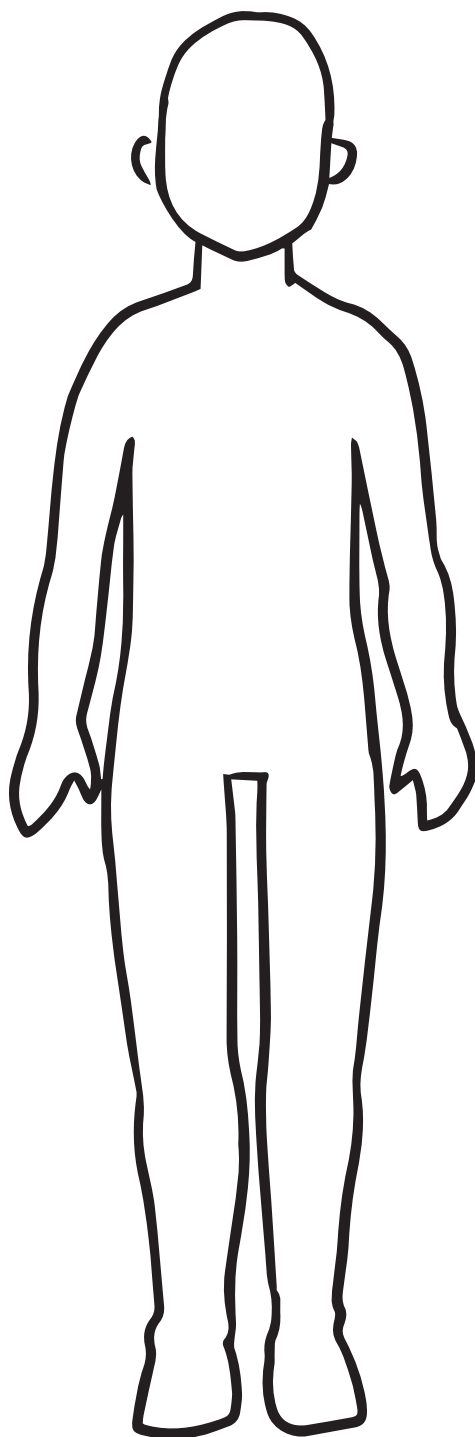


TEMPLATES



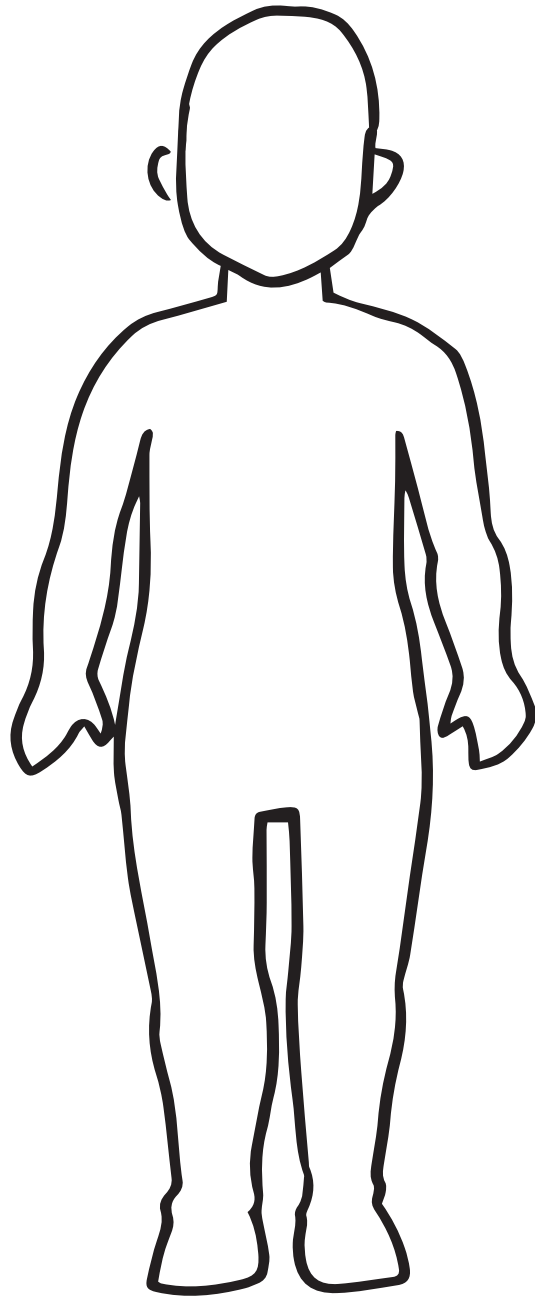


TEMPLATES





TEMPLATES



CREDITS

This resource was compiled by Amy Henschen. It was originally published in June 2024.

Template art drawn by Kristen Janes.

SOURCES

Pitts, N., & Sweet, J. (1995). *Creative costumes*. The Ohio State University: The Ohio State University Extension.



**University of Illinois College of ACES • United States Department of Agriculture
Local Extension Councils Cooperating**

University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in an Illinois Extension program, please contact your local University of Illinois Extension office. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.

© 2024 University of Illinois Board of Trustees.

For permission to reprint, revise or otherwise use material, contact extension@illinois.edu.



Illinois Extension

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

