

DUCT TAPE PRINCESS



How to make a quick custom fitted bodice pattern on the cheap!

Supplies Needed for Pattern

- Duct Tape
- Old T-shirt
- Model
- Scissors
- Sharpie Marker
- Pencil
- Pattern Paper (Art paper, paper bag, craft paper)

Instructions

1. Have model put on old T-shirt and situate self to how they wish the bodice to fit.
2. Begin duct taping around the middle area (stomach). Start as low as you wish the bodice to go. This may depend on the exact period clothing you are trying to create. (e.g. Elizabethan lower than Renaissance.)
3. Wrap Duct Tape around the model, layering as you go.
4. At the chest area, have model "fix" self however they wish their chest area to be positioned. (Obviously for younger actors, they will be more flat whereas older, more "adult" actors need to make sure that their "blessings" are in the proper position or pain will be guaranteed.)
5. Once things are in place, gently continue wrapping and taping the model.
6. At the shoulder, create straps over the shoulders connected to the wrapped chest area. (If making a strapless bodice, skip this step.)
7. On the back area, decide how high up the back you wish the bodice to ride. Wrap until you reach that height.
8. Once model is completely covered in the desired way, you can mark the cutting lines with the Sharpie.
9. Cutting lines to mark:
 - a. Top of shoulder
 - b. Sides from armpit to waist or just below.
 - c. Middle back or middle front depending on how you wish to close the bodice.
 - d. Bottom of waist area: straight, a "v", a curve, etc.

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10. Using sharp scissors carefully cut the drawn lines to create Duct Tape pattern pieces.
11. Cut away excess T-shirt material so you lay Duct Tape pieces as flat as possible.
12. Trace the Duct Tape pattern pieces onto your selected paper. "Eyeballing" add 5/8" for seam allowance. (Do not worry if you are absolutely accurate but keep it close so you do not lose the true fit. You can adjust the bodice pieces later if needed.)
13. Label the paper with the model's name immediately so you do not forget who gets which pattern paper. Since these are truly custom patterns, it is important not to mix things up.
14. Now you have your pattern to place on material and begin building your bodice.