




INTRODUCTION TO COSPLAY

HOSTED BY LOUISIANA COSPLAYERS

What is Louisiana Cosplayers?



We are an organization focused on discussing cosplay, helping each other and hosting meetups.

- Host events every other month 
- Provide a judge free environment for learning



COSPLAY MEETUPS



Valentine's Picnic 2022



Aquaricon 2019



ZooCon 2019



Halloween Photo Meetup 2020



Louisiana Renaissance Festival Meetup 2021



Christmas Party 2021



WHAT IS COSPLAY?

Cosplay is a mashup of the words
Costume & Play

It is the art of *making, wearing* and *embodying* your favorite characters.

- Started in the 80's with American pop culture
- Transformed by Japanese Anime popularity
- Reintroduced to the US and evolved into an art form

LEVELS OF COSPLAY

1

Store Bought Cosplay

0% Craftsmanship

2

Closet / Casual Cosplay

0-50% Craftsmanship

3

Handmade Cosplay

100% Craftsmanship

4

OH NO WHY DID I DO THIS

1000% Craftsmanship

STORE BOUGHT COSPLAY

Skills required



Money Skill \$\$\$

Can I compete in this?

Only performance-based categories, e.g., Skits

How?

Look for the character or series on a retail website.

BUY IT! WEAR IT! Optional: Alter it



CLOSET / CASUAL COSPLAY

Skills required

Ability to put together an outfit for a theme.

E.g., Pajama, Christmas, Festival



Can I compete in this?

Depends on the percent of items crafted

How?

Pick a character, imagine them in a particular setting, coordinate an outfit that character would wear to that event or location.



3 cosplays
1 character



HANDMADE COSPLAY

Skills required

Sewing, leather crafting or armor making



Can I compete in this?

Absolutely!

How?

Gather references (or make your own), list all the pieces you have to make or buy, take it step by step.



Skills required: ALL OF THEM



Can I compete in this? You owe it to yourself

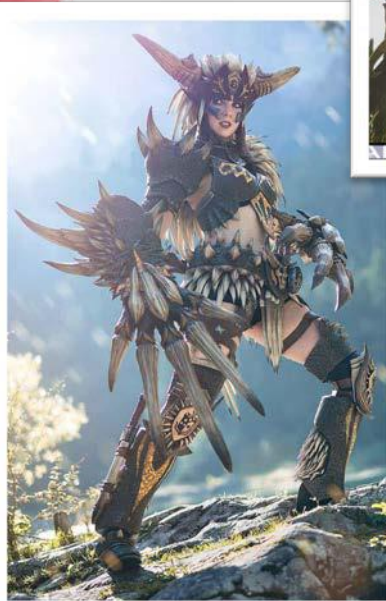
How? Try not to cry, cry a lot

**OH NO WHY
DID I DO THIS**



Kakashi Creations

Kamui Cosplay



AmenoKitarou (A.K. Wirru)

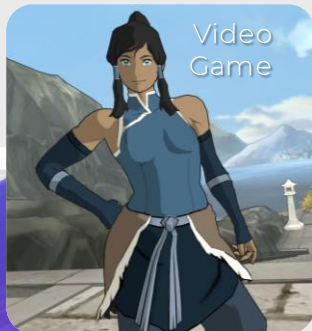
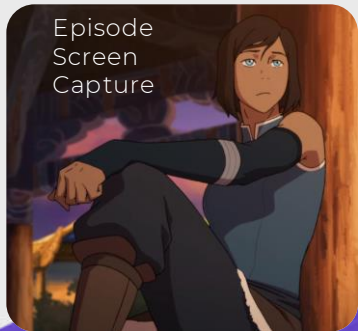
Alpacosplay



Choosing Your Cosplay 👍

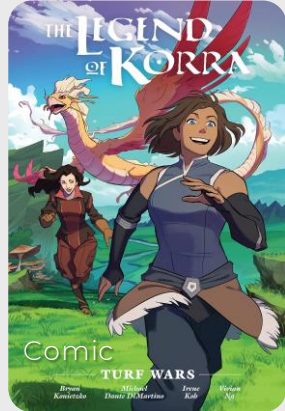
- Ask yourself “*WHY* do I want to cosplay?”
- Do you like the character?
- Do you like the character design?
- Do you relate to the series?
- Do you want to join your friends in a group?
- Does it fit your skill level?
- Is it a challenge for you?



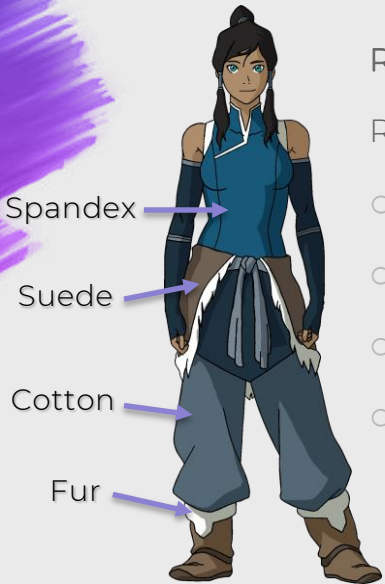


REFERENCES

Gather references from media for your character. Movies, Video Games, Comics, Manga, Anime, 3D models, Art books, etc. Even fan created art.



REFERENCES & RESEARCH



RESEARCH

- Research how each piece could be made.
- What materials could it be made of?
 - What have others used to make the same piece?
 - How would you attach it to yourself?
 - What colors should you use?

Where can I get fabric?



FABRIC

JOANN



fabric.com



HOBBY LOBBY EVERYDAY PER DELIVER



- Buy more than you think you need
- Order swatches for online fabric
- Hoard coupons!

FOAM

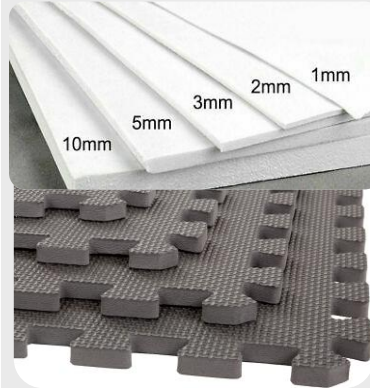
Types of Foam

Craft Foam



- Walmart
- Hobby Lobby
- JoAnn
- Amazon

EVA Foam



- Lowes / Home Depot
- Harbor Freight
- JoAnn
- Amazon
- TNT Cosplay Supply

Insulation Foam

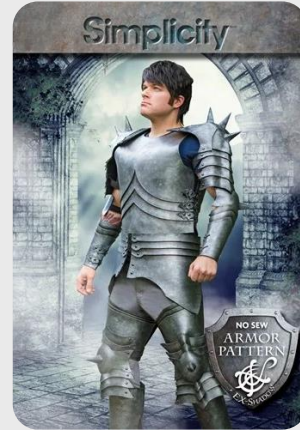


- Lowes
- Home Depot

Commercially available cosplay patterns!



PATTERNS
Simplicity
COSPLAY
by McCalls™



SEWING MACHINES

Beginner machine, cheaper and easy to learn. Has knobs to adjust stitches and tension.

Mechanical



Upgrade. Digital with automatic tension and built in stitches like button holes.

Electronic



Very expensive. Embroidery and decorative stitches. LCD display and software to use.

Computerized



Heavy Duty: Leather and thick materials
Serger / Overlocker: Professional finished edges

MOCKUPS

Mocking your design









- Use a similar fabric to your final design
- Try on several times for fit and ease









Where can I get wigs?

WIGS









arda
wigs

 <p>3/4 BANGS CLASSIC \$10.00</p>	 <p>AMBER CLASSIC \$35.00</p>	 <p>AMI CLASSIC \$110.00</p>	 <p>ANNE CLASSIC DISCONTINUED \$77.00</p>
			











EpicCosplay
Wigs

 <p>Author - Classic White and Dark Red Wig \$29.99</p>	 <p>Official Licensed Darling in the Franse Cosplay Wig \$38.99</p>	 <p>Official Site Cosplay and Costume Wig (Includes...) \$29.99</p>
 <p>Kanako - Aqua - Official Licensed Cosplay Wig \$43.99</p>	 <p>Wig - Classic White and Dark Red Wig \$39.99</p>	 <p>Official Licensed Haru's Cosplay Wig (Includes...) \$43.99</p>

amazon

 <p>Wigs For Black Women, Best Synthetic Wig, Light and Breathable, No Heat, Anti-Falling, Suitable For Work, School, Party, Christmas, Halloween... 13 Inch (Pack of 10) \$18.99 (10-Pack) \$19.99 (10-Pack) \$19.99 (10-Pack) \$19.99 (10-Pack)</p>	 <p>Women Orange Yellow Wig, HD Long Curly Hair Wig for Cos, 20.5 Inch Colorful Wig, Christmas, Party, Costume, Party, Party Wig Synthetic... 20.5 Inch (Pack of 10) \$18.99 (10-Pack) \$19.99 (10-Pack) \$19.99 (10-Pack)</p>	 <p>Wigs/Beauty Multi-color Lolita Long Curly Wig for Party/Cosplay Wig (Pink/Black) 19 Inch Set \$12.99 (10-Pack) \$12.99 (10-Pack) \$12.99 (10-Pack)</p>	 <p>Wigs/Beauty 20" 170cm Lolita Long Curly Wig for Party/Cosplay Wig (Purple/Pink) 19 Inch Set \$12.99 (10-Pack) \$12.99 (10-Pack) \$12.99 (10-Pack)</p>
 <p>REALITY Wavy Wig Short Purple Wig With No Bangs (Synthetic Long Wig) For Women Curly Wavy Synthetic Halloween Cosplay Wig... 13 Inch (Pack of 10) \$12.99 (10-Pack) \$12.99 (10-Pack) \$12.99 (10-Pack)</p>	 <p>Wigs/Beauty 20" Wavy Multi-Color Lolita Cosplay Wig Party Wig Synthetic Black/Light Purple/Pink) 20 Inch (Pack of 10) \$12.99 (10-Pack) \$12.99 (10-Pack) \$12.99 (10-Pack)</p>	 <p>Amegai Hair Cap Purple Cosplay Wig Costume Wig Synthetic Hair Bob Wig With Straight Hair 13 Inch (Pack of 10) \$12.99 (10-Pack) \$12.99 (10-Pack) \$12.99 (10-Pack)</p>	 <p>WIGS/20" 170cm Long Hair Wig for Women Black Synthetic Hair Natural Long Straight Wig With Bangs Party Cosplay Wig for Cos (Black/Silver) 20 Inch (Pack of 10) \$12.99 (10-Pack) \$12.99 (10-Pack) \$12.99 (10-Pack)</p>

2022
matcosumes.com

 <p>Halloween Little Devil Black and Pink Mixed Color Lolita Strawberry Malt's Hair Wig \$54.79 \$22.08 5.0 (12)</p>	 <p>Halloween Little Fairy Elf Baking Wares Long Hair Mixed Color Pink Gradient Cosplay Hair Wig \$55.00 \$28.02</p>	 <p>Genshin Impact Sucrose Wig Light Green Fluffy Game Cosplay Wig Synthetic Hair Wig \$50.41 \$19.99 5.0 (11)</p>	 <p>Halloween Strawberry Little Fairy Elf Baking Wares Long Hair Mixed Color Gray Black Cropped \$50.41 \$23.54 5.0 (11)</p>	 <p>Genshin Impact Hu Tao Long Straight Twin Tail Chestnut Gradient Cosplay Hair Wig \$50.41 \$25.99 5.0 (11)</p>
 <p>Genshin Impact Beidou Long Brown Fluffy Hair Cosplay Wig with Adjustable Hairnet \$50.41 \$25.99</p>	 <p>Genshin Impact Ningguang Long Straight Orange Gradient Long Double Ponytail Cosplay Wig \$50.41 \$25.99</p>	 <p>Fate Grand Order Doublebuttered Brown Gradient Color Double Ponytail Cosplay Wig \$50.41 \$25.99</p>	 <p>Miso Kobayashi Dragon Maid Anime Kawaii Cosplay Wig with Adjustable Hairnet \$50.41 \$25.99</p>	 <p>NEOPARA Coconut Long Straight Silver Hair Cosplay Wig with Adjustable Hairnet \$50.41 \$25.99</p>

3D PRINTERS

Melted filament
(plastic) printed
from a 3D model



Liquid resin
exposed to UV light



- 3D models from Etsy or Thingiverse
- Go to your local library or find a commissioner
- Buy or build your own 3D printer

Cosplay and Competitions


- Categories of Difficulty
 - Beginner
 - Intermediate
 - Master
- Craftsmanship
 - Majority of the cosplay needs to be handmade
- Pre-judging
 - Be able to tell a panel of judges about your process, usually with a portfolio
- Stage Presence
 - Become your character
- Awards! 



Photo Credit:
Senpai Noticed Me

★ COSPLAY IS FOR FUN! ★





QUESTIONS?

Download this presentation at

www.LouisianaCosplayers.com/event/panels