

Samurai Mask



Mask making is always fun.

Materials Needed:

- Inexpensive Styrofoam wig head
- Gel medium or white glue
- White acrylic paint
- Dark brown acrylic paint
- Brown wrapping paper or paper bags
- Masking tape
- 1" hanging ring
- Found objects
- Vaseline
- Jute cord
- Thai Screenprinted Unryu Paper

Build a paper mache mask using a vaseline coated wig form for the basic shape and size. Start off with several (6 or more) layers of the brown paper torn into strips, dipped into diluted gel medium or white glue (ratio 1:3) and smoothed onto wig form face. Let dry. Use found objects, such as foam tubing (insulation), sponge material, or tightly wadded up paper to build up cheeks, chins, and make exaggerated facial features. Secure into place with masking tape and cover with more layers of brown paper dipped in diluted gel medium. When dry, your mask should be smooth, rigid and strong. Attach hanging device on the back by layering several narrow strips with glue mixture through the hanging ring. For more security, apply a few pieces of torn paper over the ends of the strips. Paint front and back of the mask with inexpensive white acrylic paint. Let dry.

Tear Screenprinted Unryu into pieces and adhere with gel medium. For neatness, wrap the Unryu to the back. Coat the front of mask with thin coat of gel medium or a sealer. Adhere the jute "hair" with gel medium. When dry, shape the jute into the desired hairstyle, hang and enjoy.