Beaded Doll Headdress

Instructions by Kayla McDermott

This activity creates an Alutiiq-style beaded headdress that fits a Glitter Girls Doll (https://myglittergirls.com). It can be adapted for other dolls.

**MATERIALS:**

- 60 Oval Spaghetti Beads
- 100 Pony Beads
- 40 Decorative Beads
- Waxed Thread or Imitation Sinew
- Scissors
- Template (page 4)
- Doll
- Doll Stand
- Measuring Tape
- Wool Felt
- Leather Hole Punch
- Plastic Canvas Needle

Optional: Rotary Cutter, Cutting Mat, Pins, Hot Glue, Glue Gun

**STEP 1: CUT FELT PIECES**

Cut out the template and trace it onto the piece of wool felt. You can use pins to secure the paper template to the felt. After tracing, cut out the felt pieces. If not using the template, measure out a circle that is 1" inch across, then measure two strips—one small, one large. The small strip will be 8" long and 3/4" wide. The long strip will be 10 1/2" long and 3/4" wide. For other dolls, use a measuring tape to measure around the doll's head in two places to estimate the length of the felt strips.

**STEP 2: SECURE ENDS OF FELT STRIPS**

Once all the felt pieces are cut out, sew or hot glue the ends of the small felt strip together about 1/2" inch from the ends. Repeat for long strip.

**STEP 3: PUNCH HOLES IN FELT CIRCLE**

Use the leather hole punch on the smallest setting to punch 8 holes around the felt circle piece. This is the top of the headdress. These holes should be about 1/16" of an inch from the edge.

Produce by the Alutiiq Museum with support from the Munartet Project

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STEP 4: PUNCH HOLES IN SMALL STRIP
Next punch 8 holes along the top of the small felt strip and 16 holes along the bottom. Make sure the top 8 holes line up with those in the circular felt piece, with holes in between the spaces.

Top: 8 Holes

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Bottom: 16 Holes

Small Strip: 8 inches long and 3/4" wide

STEP 5: PUNCH HOLES IN LARGE STRIP
Repeat Step 4 with the large felt strip, but punch 16 holes on the top and bottom, matching up all the holes.

STEP 6: CUT WAX THREAD
Cut wax thread pieces as follows:
- 3 pieces @ 8" each for the front bangs
- 4 pieces @ 10" each for the side fringe
- 9 pieces @ 15" each for the back

STEP 7: START BEADING
Starting with the hole punches next to the back seam. Take a piece of the 15-inch waxed thread, thread the plastic needle and tie a knot. Put the needle through the hole punch top circle piece. Starting with the back middle, string 1 oval spaghetti bead through the needle. Then string the thread over and under the middle-felt piece.

STEP 8: CONTINUE BEADING
Continuing with the back middle string. Add 1 oval spaghetti bead and thread it through the long strip. Follow the back tail of the headdress pattern - see next page.
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Back Tail Pattern - 15" threads

Circle felt
Oval spaghetti bead
Small felt strip
Oval spaghetti bead
Long felt strip
Oval spaghetti bead
Pony bead (x2)
Decorative bead
Pony bead (x2)
Oval spaghetti bead
Pony bead (x2)
Decorative bead
Pony bead (x2)
Oval spaghetti bead
Decorative bead
Knot

Reverse

STEP 8: BEAD THE BANGS
Once finished with the back middle string, follow the order of work diagram on page 5 and bead the bangs.

Front Bang Pattern - 8" threads

Circle felt piece
Oval spaghetti bead
Small felt strip
Oval spaghetti bead
Long felt strip
Pony bead
Decorative bead
Knot

Reverse
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**STEP 10: BEAD THE SIDE FRINGE**
Once finished with the back middle string, follow the order of work diagram on page 5 and bead the bangs.

**Side Fringe Pattern - 10” threads**
- Circle felt
- Oval spaghetti bead
- Small felt strip
- Oval spaghetti bead
- Long felt strip
- Oval spaghetti bead
- Pony bead (x2)
- Decorative bead
- Pony bead (x2)
- Decorative bead
- Knot

**STEP 11: FINISH BEADING**
Continue to work around the headdress following the order for the top 8-hole punched pieces. Once you have completed all 8 top pieces. Start filling in the hole punched places in between on the small strip. Tie a knot underneath and continue with the patterns for the section you are working on.

**STEP 12: BEAD THE SIDE FRINGE**
Flip the headdress inside out. Cut another felt circle, small, and long strip. Hot glue another piece on top of the knots to secure them under the headdress.
Templates for Felt

- Circle: 1 inch around
- Long Strip: 10.5 inches and 3/4" wide
- Small Strip: 8 inches 3/4" wide

Order of Work Diagram:

1: Back (15 inches)
2: Front Bang (8 inches)
3: Back (15 inches)
4: Front of Head
5: Fringe (10 inches)
6: Back (15 inches)
7: Fringe (10 inches)
8: Back (15 inches)

Front of Head

Back of Head

Finish: 8: Back (15 inches)
4: Back (15 inches)
5: Fringe (10 inches)
7: Fringe (10 inches)
2: Front Bang (8 inches)
3: Back (15 inches)
6: Back (15 inches)
8: Back (15 inches)