

DIY TOADSTOOL CAP

With LES Polinko!

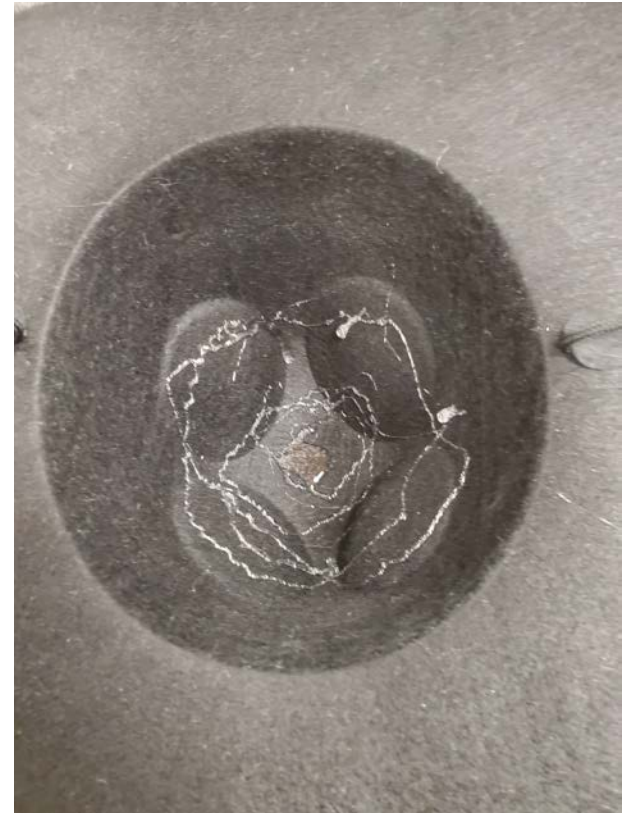


Tools:

- 21" Sombrero (molded felt is best)
- Nitrile gloves
- Hot glue gun and glue sticks
- White fabric (one half yard)
- Scissors
- Smooth Styrofoam half ball (5.8" diameter)
- Duct tape
- Foam pipe insulation (for $\frac{3}{4}$ " pipe)
- Red and white spotted fabric (one half yard)



- Invert the Sombrero
- Remove the chin strap cinching mechanism and cut the chin strap string evenly in half
- Put on your nitrile gloves (they help protect your hands from the hot glue!)
- Generously fill the inside of the cap with hot glue



- Quickly lay the center of your white fabric into the center of the cap, desired side up
- Press the fabric firmly into the glue to secure it to the hat
- Distribute your fabric loosely and evenly across the brim, the fabric pleats/folds represent the “gills” of the toadstool



- Locate the chin straps/strings and make a small cut in the white fabric
- Feed the string through the opening
- Place a dot of hot glue at the base of the string to tack the fabric down



- Reattach the chin straps with the clinching mechanism
- Knot the string ends together so the do not fray



- Lift the outer edge of the fabric up and generously hot glue the outer edge of the hat brim only
- Pinch the edge of the glued rim to secure the fabric to the hat
- Continue to glue all the way around the outer brim edge



- Flip your Sombrero over
- Using scissors,, trim excess fabric around the brim, leaving approx an inch around the edge
- Fold the trimmed fabric over the top edge of the brim and hot glue all the way around



You've done it!!!
What a mess, but it doesn't
matter because with this project
- perfection is not required!!!



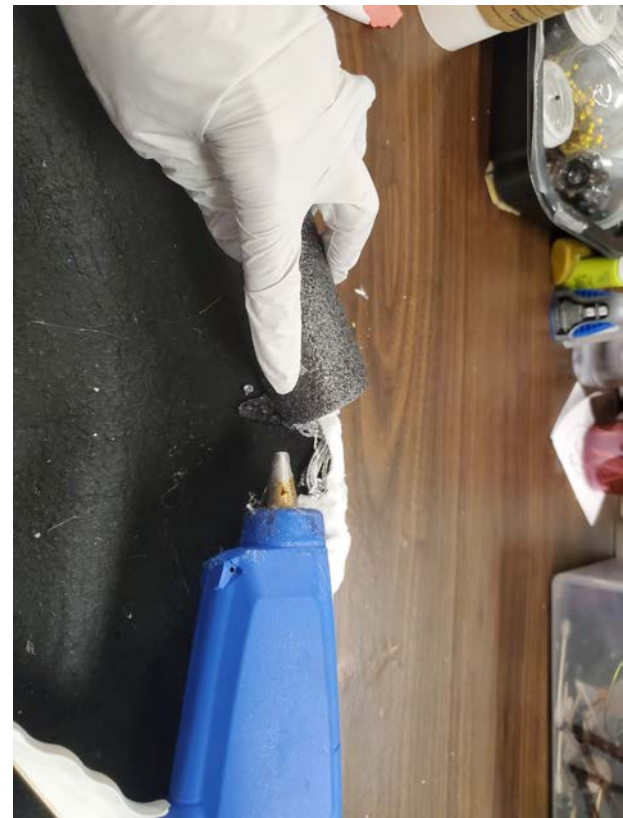
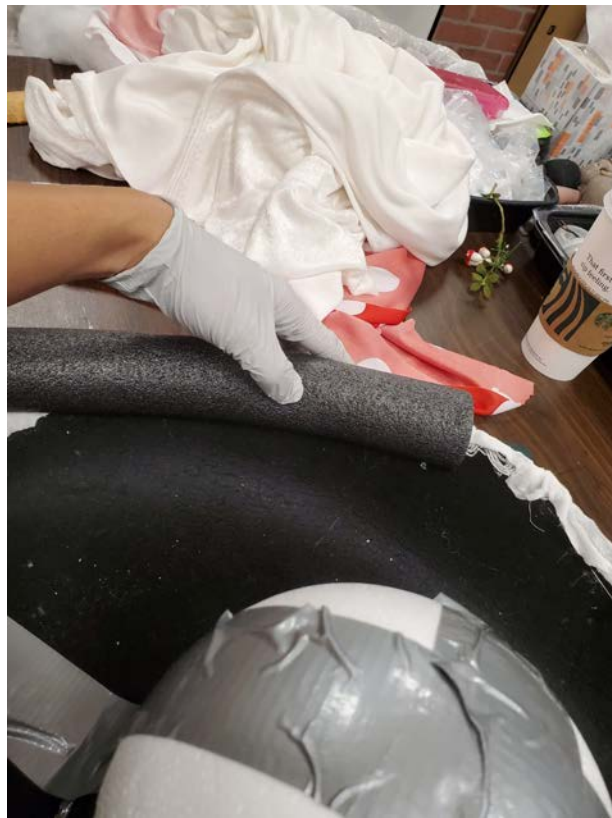
- To add height and a rounded top to the toadstool cap, generously apply hot glue to the top of the cap only
- Firmly and carefully place the Styrofoam half ball onto the hot glue
- Hold in place while it cools



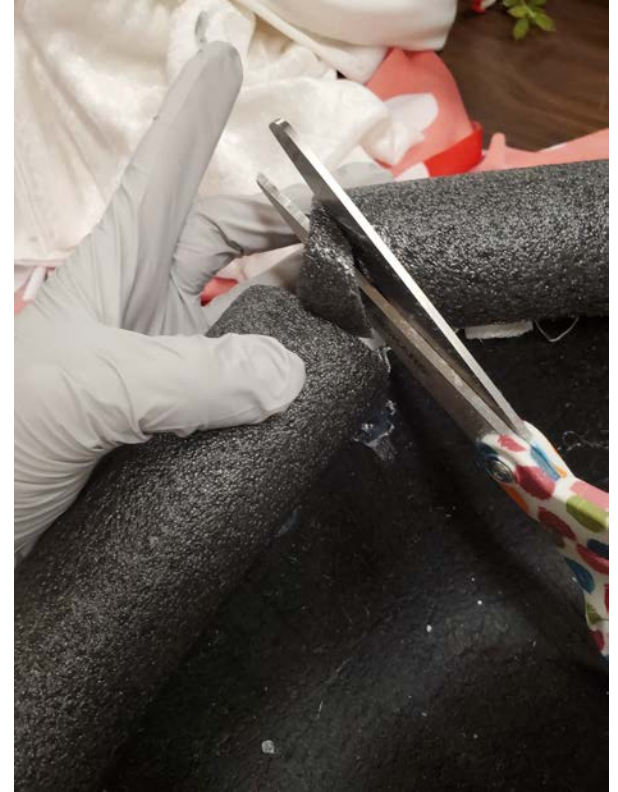
- When the hot glue has cooled, use strips of duct tape to also secure the styrofoam down
- I know!!! It looks good enough to wear right now, but don't give up, we are almost done!!!



- Find the opening of the foam pipe insulation tube
- Tuck the Sombrero brim into the opening of the tube
- Only glue the top of the foam tube edge to the top of the brim, do not glue underneath



- Wrap and glue the foam tube to the entire brim of the hat - it is easiest to patiently wrap, glue, and hold in small segments at a time to allow the glue to set
- Trim the excess foam where the ends meet with scissors



- Hot glue the edges of the foam tube ends together and hold while glue cools
- Further secure the foam tube ends with a piece of duct tape
- Your toadstool prep is done!!!



- If your fabric is see-through when stretched you may need to cover the styrofoam ball with duct tape entirely so that it looks uniform through the fabric
- Place center of spotted fabric on top of hat, do NOT glue down
- Gently wrap the red fabric over then under the edge of the rim and tuck into the bottom of the pipe foam where it meets the white fabric



- If you invert the hat and evenly tuck the material at opposite ends first, it will be easier to keep the fabric centered
- Excess fabric can be trimmed, just make sure you leave enough to tuck in
- It is unnecessary to hot glue the red fabric in, but you can if you would like to keep it extra secure - just be sure to place the glue under the foam so it is not seen



Congratulations, you've done it!!!

Way to go!!

You are now a Master Toadstool Crafts Person!!!

Woohoo, go ahead and put your feet up! ♡ LES

