

Intro to cosplay wig styling

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Hi! I'm Axxelcosplay!
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Intro to cosplay wig styling

- Wig types
- Where I recommend to purchase wigs
- Tools
- Dying wigs
- Prepare wigs for styling (teasing, adding wefts, cutting)
- Caring for your wigs
- Live styling/tips!**

Types of wigs used for cosplay

- Synthetic (HEAT SAFE)
- Lace front
- Ponytail
- False scalp
- Pre sectioned bangs



Pictures are from ardawigs.com

Where to buy your wigs?



- Arda wigs (my favorite)
- Epic cosplay wigs (most reliable)
- The Five Wits Wigs (great character styles)
- Amazon



Photo taken by @alphonsemedia

Tools you're gonna need!

- Shears (better known to most as scissors)
- Hairdryer
- Steamer
- Crimper, yes like the 90s
- Combs
- Brushes
- Clear Tacky glue
- UHU glue
- Hair bands, bobby pins
- Wig head/stand
- A pot and spoon you don't care about (if you plan to dye your wigs)
- All. The. Hairspray.



Dying wigs

- The process is slightly different from a “normal” wig than a lace front wig
- Rit Dyemore, NOT NORMAL RIT DYE!
- Wig must be able to flow in the pot, so the pot has to be kinda large depending on the wig
- Make sure you do a strand test!



Dying Lace Front Wigs



I followed a tutorial from Kinpatsu Cosplay on YouTube

After this step I used a Copic marker to finish off the “roots”



Before

Dying wigs Airbrush

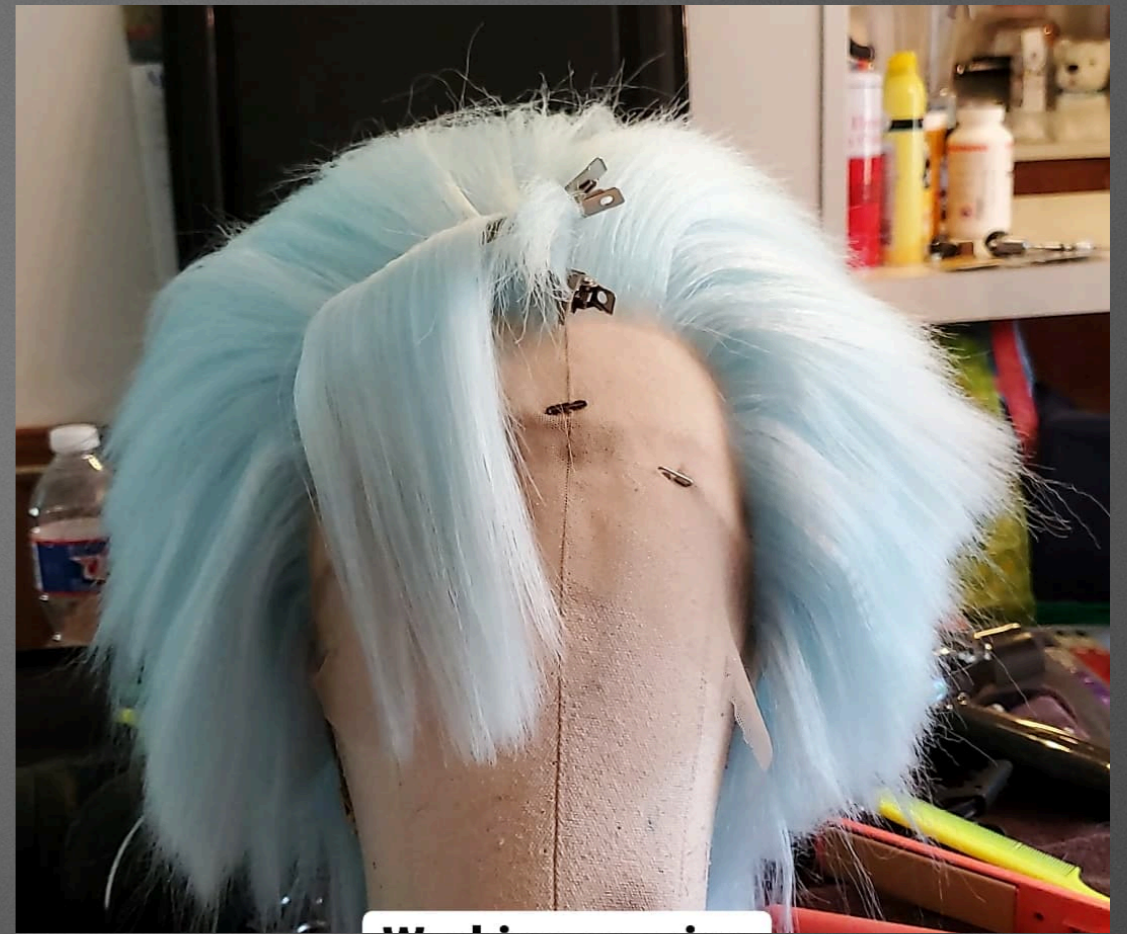
- You will need an airbrush for this method
- This is a great option for characters with multiple colors
- Make sure you do a strand test prior to the final wig
- Work section by section, and blow dry between layers, if you mess up its ok! It can be cleaned off.
- This method can make the wig look more stiff, so keep that in mind when choosing which way to color your wigs.

Example of an Airbrush colored wig



Good prep work makes for a happier wig

- If you're using a previously used wig give it a good bath
- Get a zillion reference photos of the character you're making (I love to use figures for my references because they show much more detail)
- Ensure your wig is heat-safe, always strand test if you're unsure.
- If you're going for massive poof or spikes I recommend using a crimper prior to teasing
- Make sure your tease is strong, a strong tease will hold a spike or a gravity defying detail better
- Keep hairspray handy, I also recommend having a wet paper towel nearby to wipe your hands off as they get sticky
- Be patient!



Denki it is



FLOOF



Caring for your wigs

- Wig heads
- Put a bag over their head (for the dust)
- Keep the netting the wigs come with!
- If they're not a "heavily" styled wig keep them in a ziplock bag
- Clean lace front wigs often, this avoids buildup and germs
- After I wear a wig I hit them with a spritz of alcohol to kill germs and avoid a stinky wig
- Keep in a climate controlled environment









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