



Cosplay 101

Presented by Foa Cosplay
Fiesta Equestria 2014



**I'm Foa, I cosplay.
And you could say I
know a few things
about ponies.**



This is Cosplay 101

Focus On: My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic!



Cosplay 101

Fiesta Equestria 2014



In this panel we'll discuss:

- Character Representation
- Cosplay Expectations
- Buying Costumes
- Making Costumes
- Basic Resources
- Questions & Answers



Character Representation

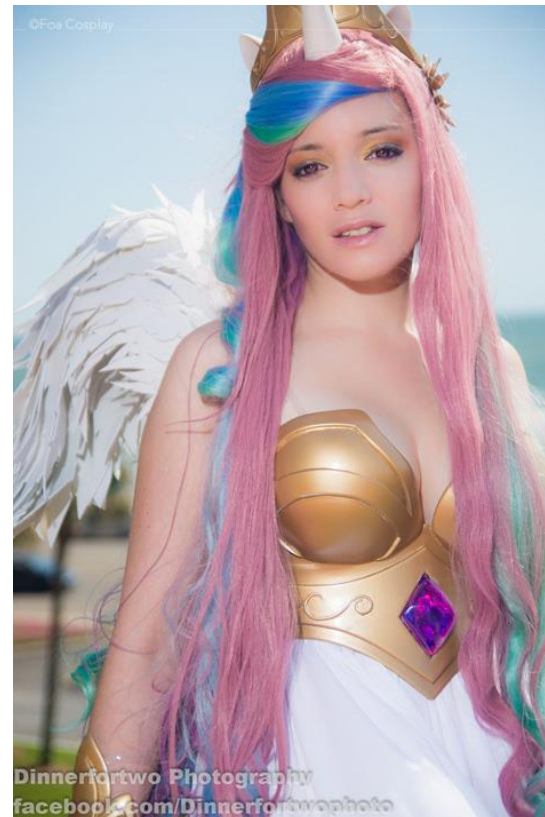
How to portray a character, who is neither your species, or wearing any clothing.

That is the challenge.

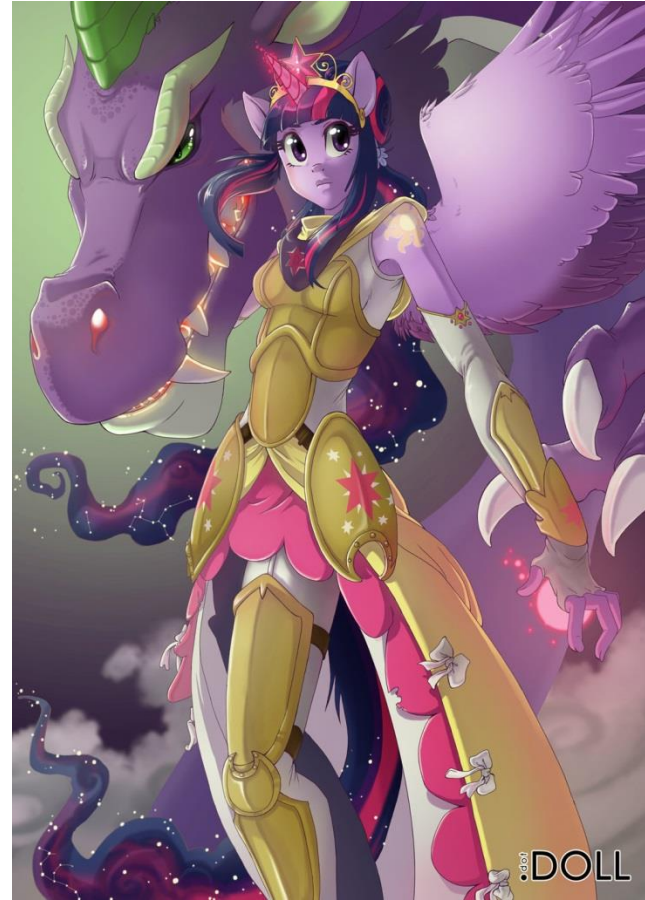


References & Inspiration

- Google
- Deviant Art







Gijinka & Anthropomorphism



10%

Not furry



50%

Furry



70%

Dangerously
Furry



100%

You Sick
Bastard



Expectations of Cosplay



Costs & Affordability

It can be expensive.

Making your own costume? Don't forget to consider...

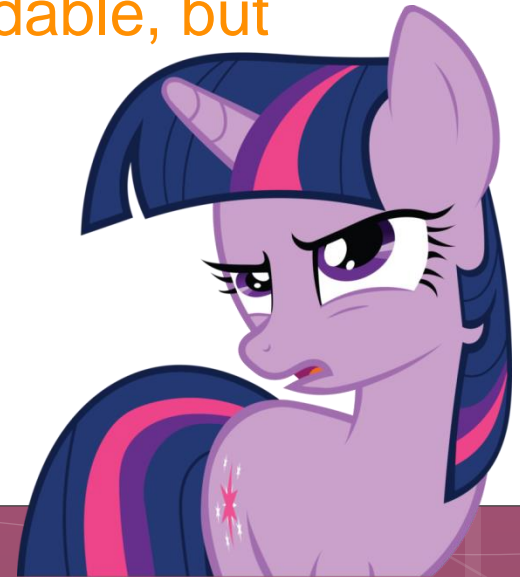
- Fabric
- Sewing Supplies
- Armor Making Materials
- Straps
- Velcro
- Glue
- Paints
- Polishes
- Cutters!
- More Cutters!
- Contacts
- Wigs
- Shoes
- Wig Styling Supplies
- Makeup
- More makeup
- Accessories
- Clay
- Sculpting Materials....
- Blah Blah Blah



But not to worry!

Cosplay can still be done at an affordable and fun way (I am pretty sure there is a panel about this at Fiesta Equestria – cosplay on a budget!)

But still – Cosplay can also be affordable, but you need to be prepared.



Planning a Costume

- Make Time for your costume.
- Buy Important Items with enough room for shipping.
- Make lists!
- Make Mockups
- Get Creative
- Ask Around
- Stay Motivated!



Wearing a Costume

- Plan your costume for wear-ability
- Allow plenty of time to get into costume - Makeup & Travel Time.
- Stay Hydrated & Take breaks.
- Consider your shoes.
- Consider the weather.
- Plan your routes.
- Maybe even take a round of the con, out of costume first.



Remembering Your Cosplay

- Network
- Scheduling Photoshoots
- Local Cosplay & Pony Groups



Buying Costumes

Plenty of Online Locations to Purchase a Costume. To name a few:

- Etsy
- Ebay
- Costrader
- EZCosplay
- Polyvore
- Amazon



Commissions

Sometimes it is easier to get what you want, by asking a skilled costumer / cosplayer.

- Cosplay.com
- Etsy
- Costrader
- Reaching Out to Cosplayers & Communities



Making Your Own Costume

Starting out you will want to go with your strength.
What are you good at?

Here are the common skills used in cosplaying.

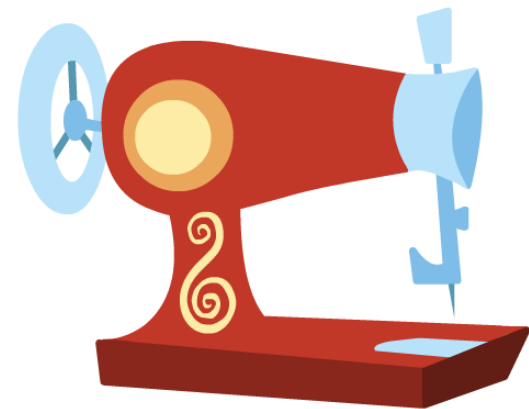
- Sewing
- Crafting
- Sculpting
- Wig Styling
- Make Up & Contacts
- Armor
- Props



Sewing Related Stuff...

Starting out though, you will need a machine.
Options for those without a machine...

- Cheap Machines
- Borrowing a Machine
- Off-Time Sewing Rooms (Joann's)
- Hand sewing



Sewing Related Stuff...

A few tips...

- Make a mock up with cheap fabric.
- Use patterns
- Consider your Fabric
- Practice on scrap pieces of the current fabric to help adjust tension.
- Don't forget to wrap up your seams. Hems / Rolled Seams, etc.
- Trim loose threads.
- Iron your seams when you are done with your piece.

Wig Styling

- Buy Early, or Save Money
- Get a Razor
- Learn where your face is on your mannequin
- Cutting isn't the end of the world
- Keep a Hair Dryer Handy.

Wig Styling

- A few Tips...
 - You can add wefts if the wig isn't thick enough
 - Glue does work
 - Hair products, like wax, hairspray and gels, will not work very well.
 - Use GotToBe hair products for hold.
 - Use fabric glue / tacky glue for styling & spiking.
 - Try Dying – its fun

Make Up

- Always wear make up – over exaggerate, camera flashes will wash you out, and it will hid blemishes.
- Cream Makeups Require a sealant
- Always exaggerate eye makeup.



Contacts

- Circle Lenses
- Lighter Eye colors tend to blur easier than darker eye colors
- Consider your perscription
- Always properly store your contacts.

A little about Props

- Armor & Weapons
- Materials
 - Paper Mache
 - Worbla / Wonderflex
 - PVC / Styrene
 - Vacuum forming & Mold Making
- Affordability

Cosplay Instructional

- CosplayTutorial.com
- TheRPF.com
- CosplaySupplies.com
- Cosplay.com -> Forums

Online Groups & Social

- [Cosplay.com](#)
- [ACP.com](#)
- [Cospix.com](#)
- [Deviant Art](#)
- [Cosplay World](#)
- [WorldCosplay](#)
- A few local cosplay Facebook Groups
 - [MLP Cosplayers of Texas](#)
 - [Houston Area Cosplayers](#)
 - [Texas Cosplay](#)

Credits

○ Cosplayer Credits

- Eclecticmaniac Design and Cosplay
- LadyMella
- Yaya Han
- Jessica Nigri
- Monika Lee
- RiddlesMessyWardrobe
- ScruffyRebel
- Vaporature
- KopiNinja
- Gbright1
- Cosmic-Empress
- Draggor_Lecanth
- Yutaka Oka
- Asterateya

○ Art Credits

- Dot-Doll.DA.com
- Shiron2611.DA.com
- N1mh.DA.com
- Hasbro
- Lauren Faust



Questions?