

Continue





































Halloween, Christmas, or a birthday, toga costumes are the best choice for any costume party. This article tells you how to make one using a sheet. The traditional Roman male attire are called togas. However, now, even the female attire (originally known as Stola) is also called a toga. These directions are for making a simple toga, however, a lot of imagination and improvisation can help you at making it more elaborate. Making Toga Costume Step 1 You will need a free-flowing material of cloth. Go for a white, maroon, off-white, or pearl shade. You could experiment with green and golden as well, depending on a color that flatters you the most. The reason why I mention these colors is because they have a more surreal and Roman feel about them. You will need about 4 or 5 yards of it. Step 2 Once you have the material, you need to get started on making the toga. The best looking toga would be one that is draped out of a semi-circular material. So, if you can, cut the material into a semi-circular arc from one side. However, this step is completely optional. So, if you find that you cannot do the cutting, drop the idea. Step 3 Now, we come to the draping. Originally, nothing used to be worn inside the toga. However, if you wish, you can wear a matching or a contrasting t-shirt inside. Women can opt for a drop neck halter top, or a spaghetti or tank top inside. Step 4 Now, take your toga and wrap it around your waist. Hold the ends of the toga over your shoulders. If you want to make it look like a real toga, you can add a gold thread around the border. However, this is also optional. Step 5 Once you have wrapped it comfortably around your waist, pin it to the side of your waist. Make sure you don't twist it too tight, else it would restrict movement of your legs. Now, according to your comfort, pin it on the side of your waist. Now, throw the rest over the opposite shoulder. Like, if you have pinned it to the right, throw the rest over the left shoulder. Step 6 Once you have thrown it over the shoulder, take it around the back. Make sure that it isn't too tight. It needs to be casually loose. Once you have the right fit, pin it to the waist again. Voila! You have draped your toga. Along with the toga, you need to accessorize right. So wear gladiators on your feet. You can also put on a leafy crown or a small wreath on your head. Women can couple it with bead necklaces, armlets, bangles, and anklets. Men can put on rope necklaces to give them more of a warrior look, they can couple it with a sword as well. How to Make a Roman Toga A Roman toga does not require one to wear a tunic. One can go for earthy colors and solid shades for a roman toga. A roman toga would generally be longer. It should reach below the knees... [The text continues with detailed instructions on how to make a toga, including variations for men and women, and tips on accessorizing.] ...and you're done! You can also use a belt to hold it in place. 6. Accessorize your toga. You can use plastic swords and shields that can be purchased at a dollar store, toy store, or costume store. You may also look for fake gold chains, jewelry, or amulets to accessorize your toga. Wear sandals to complete the look. Another option is to create a fake laurel wreath. Unfold a wire coat hanger, and reshape it into a wreath around your head. Get plastic leaves from an art supply store or gather real leaves and glue them or wrap around the wire. Make sure you let the glue dry. Be liberal when applying the leaves to cover the wire. Advertisement 1 Fold the sheet. How far you fold it depends on your preference. Nonetheless, it should be folded approximately in half lengthwise. [7] If you fold it exactly in half, you will make a very short toga. [9] For a longer toga, don't go all the way down when folding it. Just fold it partway. [20] Remember, togas were generally worn over tunics, so you can wear it over a shirt or some other type of garment, or even your regular clothes. Using a sheet, in particular, creates a fairly skimpy toga, so you probably won't want to wear something under it. 2 Drape one end over the left arm. You can drape the whole edge over the left arm. This end will hang down in front. [21] Another option is just draping the top corner over so it forms a point. [22] If you're draping the toga yourself, the easiest way to do this step is to throw the whole sheet over your shoulders like a cape, lengthwise. On your left side, pull it so just the end is hanging over your arm, then pull up the slack on the other side. [23] Pin it under your right arm. Now that you've got it draped on the left side, pull it under your right arm. [24] You can leave it over your right arm, as the Romans sometimes wore togas almost like a sling, but you'll have more movement if you pull it under. [25] Try to gently pleat the part that goes under your arm. That is, when it comes around your hip from the back, use your hands to fold the fabric back and forth, so it drapes in small folds. [26] 4 Throw the rest over your shoulder. Finally, take the end and push it over your left shoulder. Try to get as much of it over your shoulder, while still pulling the right side down over your hip somewhat. [27] Though the Romans usually didn't pin their togas, you can use a safety pin to pin it at the shoulder. That way, it won't slip off. [28] Advertisement Add New Question Question Does this really work? Yes, this does work a lot more than the sheet is the correct size. For an adult, a queen size sheet should work fine as long as you are under 6 feet tall. If you are taller, use a king size sheet. Question What if you don't have a sheet? You might try looking at a thrift store for an old sheet, or ask your friends/parents/grandparents if they have an extra. Question Can I dress as Poseidon while wearing a sea green toga? Yes, that's a good costume idea. See more answers Ask a Question Advertisement Co-authored by Seamstress & Costume Designer This article was co-authored by Sherri Miller, Sherri Miller is a Seamstress, Costume Designer, and a professional costume maker. She has been creating costumes for over 20 years. Views: 414,806 Categories: Historical Costumes Print Send fan mail to authors Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 414,806 times. "I was looking for a quick toga for a one-time Bible reenactment, and this info was exactly what I needed! Thank you!"... more Share your story Fold a plain bed sheet in half lengthwise, and drape one end over your left arm. Pull that same end under your right arm. Then, toss the opposite side over your shoulder, letting it fall across your torso, and pin it in place so it doesn't go anywhere. 1 Pick a color. Typically, adult Roman males wore an off-white cloth for their togas. The color was that of the undyed fabric. However, other colors were worn, though they typically denoted something specific about the person wearing them. For instance, if the toga was truly white because the fabric was bleached, that generally indicated the person was in public office. Dark colors indicated the person was in mourning. White with a purple border was worn by curule magistrates, while purple with a gold thread around the border was worn, at different times, by generals (although only those who had won battles and wars), kings, and emperors. 2 Choose a type of fabric. The Romans wore wool, mainly because it stayed in place better than other fabrics. However, wool can be itchy, as well as very warm. In addition, wool is an expensive fabric. If you want something cheaper, a cotton blend should be fine. [1] Muslin is a good option, because it is light and flowing. Another option is any flannel that is flowing. You can find both of these fabrics at your local fabric store. Basically, you don't want anything too smooth because it will slip right off. Advertisement 3 Get the right length. A true toga requires about 4 to 5 yards (4 to 5 m) of fabric, depending on your height and build. If you're a bit larger, you may want to spring for 6 yards (5.5 m), just in case. [2] At the fabric store, you can specify how much fabric you want. Sometimes, if you get the end of a bolt, the store will give you a discount on buying the rest of the bolt passed what you ordered to be cut. For instance, if you ask for 4 yards and the bolt has 4 3/4 yards, the store may give you a discount if you want that extra 3/4 of a yard. 4 Go for a sheet. Another, easier option is to use a simple bed sheet. While you can't get as much length as a traditional toga, it can be a simple way to create a toga. [3] A queen is a good size. It's slightly longer than a full, but it doesn't have as much width as a king. Some people prefer a twin or full because it doesn't add as much bulk. 5 Wash the fabric. It can help to wash and dry the fabric. Washing it makes it softer, which can help it flow better. Try adding a fabric softener to help with the process. You can run it through the washing machine twice if once doesn't soften it up enough to drape well. Advertisement 1 Decide if and how you want to sew your fabric. You can use the fabric just as it is. However, you can also sew it to make a toga that is more in line with a traditional shape. Another option is to simply hem the edges. While it won't matter with some fabrics, hemming the edges will keep your toga from fraying. If you don't care about fraying, you can skip the hemming process. 2 Cut the toga. The shape of the toga changed over the years. You can cut your toga to be more like a traditional toga, if you want. However, you can simply leave it as a rectangle, as well, which is how you will get it from the store. One shape was a straight line across the top and a curve across the bottom, creating pointed ends. A later shape was more of a hexagon, with a straight line across the top, with two lines slanting down to points. The bottom was a straight line with two lines slanting up to the same points, though these are slightly curved. This shape is flatter than an regular hexagon. [4] If you want either of these shapes, cut the fabric with fabric scissors, leaving about 2 1/4 inches (5.7 cm) around the sides to hem the fabric. 3 Hem the edges. Whether you are hemming the edges of the rectangle or of the toga you cut out, you can use a simple double-folded hem. [5] If you have any curved edges, you might need to take one extra step of sewing along it before folding. [6] Iron the edge. To hem the raw edges, fold the fabric in about 3/4 inch (1.9 cm). [7] If you're hemming a curved edge, you can make this part easier by sewing along the edge first, about 3/4 of an inch in, then fold it along that line. [8] Iron the edge. Fold it in again, this time about 1 1/2 of an inch in. Iron it again. [9] Sew along the inside edge. To tack the hem down, sew it down, closer to the inside edge than the outside edge. [10] You can also sew small weights into the hem to help it hang better. 4 Use fabric adhesive. If you prefer not to sew, you can use fabric adhesive. From the hem first, folding it over twice like you would if you were sewing, then either use a liquid adhesive or an iron-hem tape to glue it down. [11] If you use the hem tape, you'll probably need to iron the outside of the fabric to make it stick. Make sure not to make the glue too thick, or it can show through the other side. Test it first to see how it looks. Advertisement 1 Start with your left arm. Take one corner or edge, and fold it over your left arm. Take the other end and push it over your left shoulder. Try to get as much of it over your shoulder, while still pulling the right side down over your hip somewhat. [27] Though the Romans usually didn't pin their togas, you can use a safety pin to pin it at the shoulder. That way, it won't slip off. [28] Advertisement Add New Question Question Does this really work? Yes, this does work a lot more than the sheet is the correct size. For an adult, a queen size sheet should work fine as long as you are under 6 feet tall. If you are taller, use a king size sheet. Question What if you don't have a sheet? You might try looking at a thrift store for an old sheet, or ask your friends/parents/grandparents if they have an extra. Question Can I dress as Poseidon while wearing a sea green toga? Yes, that's a good costume idea. See more answers Ask a Question Advertisement Co-authored by Seamstress & Costume Designer This article was co-authored by Sherri Miller, Sherri Miller is a Seamstress, Costume Designer, and a professional costume maker. She has been creating costumes for over 20 years. Views: 414,806 Categories: Historical Costumes Print Send fan mail to authors Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 414,806 times. "I was looking for a quick toga for a one-time Bible reenactment, and this info was exactly what I needed! Thank you!"... more Share your story Fold a plain bed sheet in half lengthwise, and drape one end over your left arm. Pull that same end under your right arm. Then, toss the opposite side over your shoulder, letting it fall across your torso, and pin it in place so it doesn't go anywhere. 1 Pick a color. Typically, adult Roman males wore an off-white cloth for their togas. The color was that of the undyed fabric. However, other colors were worn, though they typically denoted something specific about the person wearing them. For instance, if the toga was truly white because the fabric was bleached, that generally indicated the person was in public office. Dark colors indicated the person was in mourning. White with a purple border was worn by curule magistrates, while purple with a gold thread around the border was worn, at different times, by generals (although only those who had won battles and wars), kings, and emperors. 2 Choose a type of fabric. The Romans wore wool, mainly because it stayed in place better than other fabrics. However, wool can be itchy, as well as very warm. In addition, wool is an expensive fabric. If you want something cheaper, a cotton blend should be fine. [1] Muslin is a good option, because it is light and flowing. Another option is any flannel that is flowing. You can find both of these fabrics at your local fabric store. Basically, you don't want anything too smooth because it will slip right off. Advertisement 3 Get the right length. A true toga requires about 4 to 5 yards (4 to 5 m) of fabric, depending on your height and build. If you're a bit larger, you may want to spring for 6 yards (5.5 m), just in case. [2] At the fabric store, you can specify how much fabric you want. Sometimes, if you get the end of a bolt, the store will give you a discount on buying the rest of the bolt passed what you ordered to be cut. For instance, if you ask for 4 yards and the bolt has 4 3/4 yards, the store may give you a discount if you want that extra 3/4 of a yard. 4 Go for a sheet. Another, easier option is to use a simple bed sheet. While you can't get as much length as a traditional toga, it can be a simple way to create a toga. [3] A queen is a good size. It's slightly longer than a full, but it doesn't have as much width as a king. Some people prefer a twin or full because it doesn't add as much bulk. 5 Wash the fabric. It can help to wash and dry the fabric. Washing it makes it softer, which can help it flow better. Try adding a fabric softener to help with the process. You can run it through the washing machine twice if once doesn't soften it up enough to drape well. Advertisement 1 Decide if and how you want to sew your fabric. You can use the fabric just as it is. However, you can also sew it to make a toga that is more in line with a traditional shape. Another option is to simply hem the edges. While it won't matter with some fabrics, hemming the edges will keep your toga from fraying. If you don't care about fraying, you can skip the hemming process. 2 Cut the toga. The shape of the toga changed over the years. You can cut your toga to be more like a traditional toga, if you want. However, you can simply leave it as a rectangle, as well, which is how you will get it from the store. One shape was a straight line across the top and a curve across the bottom, creating pointed ends. A later shape was more of a hexagon, with a straight line across the top, with two lines slanting down to points. The bottom was a straight line with two lines slanting up to the same points, though these are slightly curved. This shape is flatter than an regular hexagon. [4] If you want either of these shapes, cut the fabric with fabric scissors, leaving about 2 1/4 inches (5.7 cm) around the sides to hem the fabric. 3 Hem the edges. Whether you are hemming the edges of the rectangle or of the toga you cut out, you can use a simple double-folded hem. [5] If you have any curved edges, you might need to take one extra step of sewing along it before folding. [6] Iron the edge. To hem the raw edges, fold the fabric in about 3/4 inch (1.9 cm). [7] If you're hemming a curved edge, you can make this part easier by sewing along the edge first, about 3