THE ART OF WIGGING

(advanced level 2)

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GREETINGS!

And welcome to the next step in our advanced wigging tutorials. This time, Victorian Wigging is featured, using all the tips, tricks and techniques you learned in the three previous tutorials.

You will put to use:

1. Pleated Hair
2. Realistic Hairline
3. 3 Types of Curl
4. Flower Decoration

Tools/Materials Needed:

dollhead
viscose
pleater
curling rods (knitting needles)
glue/glue dispenser
tweezers
scissors
decorations as desired

Before we start, let’s recap on a few things and make sure we understand the terms and the methods.

Perfecting the Pleat

Glamorous Hollywood Movie stars of the 40's, instinctively knew how to capture that wonderful 'come hither' look ...simply by throwing back a shoulder of glorious wavy hair. Think Veronica Lake! ... (if you're too young to remember, look her up on the Internet). Veronica’s hair helped shape a visual persona that you can easily give to your miniature creations, simply with reading my how to, practice and patience.

WIGGING

Many articles have been written on making the up sweep bun or braid. But for now, here are the basics:

_Step one_ is to glue a hairline around the doll’s head with glue. The best example of this, is simply to go to a mirror, hold your hair up off your head, and see how the hair grows around your forehead. Your ears. The back of your neck. Next go to your doll head and repeat those same lines with glue. Gently smear back the glue onto rest of head so you have glue everywhere that hair should be. Let dry to tacky.
Step two is taking small sections of viscose and lay one nose to neck (gently pressing into glue) and another from ear to ear. (Think cross). Let dry. Then flip up sections to back of head, and twist into a bun. Hold with a pin (putting drop of glue underneath folds to hold in place).

Once you’ve accomplished this, you’re on your way! Congrats!!! However, one of the easiest and or difficult techniques...is 'Perfecting the Pleat'. That is what I am going to share with you in this tutorial.

PLEATER

Let’s begin by looking at the d.Anne Ruff pleater. Years ago, she created a pleater that was manufactured with 'rounded' edges and is now created with square. Trade, Plead or steal one of those 'rounded' edged ones. If someone makes curtains, and has the older pleater....trade anything...because it sure makes a BIG difference in this kind of hair style.

There are 3!! sizes of pleaters that I use. The ¼” is great for ethnic hair because it gives the fiber a slight frizz. The ½” is all around, and 1” is IT! for those gorgeous waves.

HAIR

I use viscose for all my wigging. Believe it or not, the best I've found is the WAVY LOCKS brand carried by many craft stores. It's easily accessible, inexpensive but only comes in 10 colors. Paulette Stinson also carries viscose in many colors for those wanting more fun.

OUR VICTORIAN WIG

Take the 1/4” pleater and a piece of damp viscose. Push the hair into the grooves and blow dry using a diffuser to prevent the hair from blowing out. Allow the hair to dry completely.

Gently roll or pull the hair from the pleater and press the grooves slightly to soften the look.

Now glue a nice hairline.
Lay a strip of viscose from nose to neck and press gently into tacky glue.

When dry, gently flip the front over the top of the head to the back.

See which way the hair wants to lay and twist into a bun. Glue into place.

When you first do the bun it’s too poofy as is shown in these pictures.

Put a little more glue underneath and squish the bun down to make it nicer. Hold in place until dry.

Now is the time to add the side decoration (at least flowers) so you know how to balance the rest of the hairdo.

I added the flowers shown in the pictures, then some large colored no hole pearls and then tiny cream ones. These were simply put on with a tiny dab of glue and then pushed into the hair.
After you glue on the basic flower decoration, you can determine how the rest of the hair needs to be styled. I saw that the front needed a larger style to the left so I glued part of the hair on the left to the head—see how it swoops in a heavy wave? I also shaped the hairline a bit more where it needed to curve.

Now on to the curls and ringlets

A—wrap the curl.
B—slide curl off.
C—bend in two
D—pull the ends to form spit curls
E—cut off two ends for sausage curls

Save the middle piece to fill in the back of the bun.

Glue on ear curls. I only did it on one ear to balance the heavy swoop on the left.

Next glue on the spit curls (the ones by her temple also balancing the heavy swoop on the left).
Glue two sausage curls to the back of the head to form ringlets. Then style the hair any way you wish.

I put a dot of glue on her shoulder to keep the ringlets in place.

Oooops….see the bald spot? How do we deal with that?

To fill in a bald spot, simply take a leftover curl and glue it in place. At this stage, add more flowers and beads.

These are the no hole beads I used.
QUEEN OF HEARTS

OR – WIGGING GRACE

A photo is worth a 1000 words — so take a peak at the photos below - and then read the directions. This seems to work easier for students!
Now to wig the doll

Make a wigging cross.
   a. Glue on a realistic hairline
   b. Now glue a strip of viscose from nose to neck at about chest height.
   c. Put a line of glue across viscose/top of hair and then place viscose from ear
to ear. This effectively forms a wigging cross.

2. Take a section of viscose and tie knots in it. Really <G> .... until you form a nice bun
shape. Glue this bun shape on top of her head as shown.

3. When bun is dry, gently pick front section of hair up and over bun, twisting excess into
snakey curls and gluing in place on top of her head.

4. Repeat with both sides.

5. Take remaining back section, and section horizontally into two parts. Lightly mist with a
plant mister. Take the top section and roll a size 7 (UK size 7—metric 45) knitting needle horizontally upward and glue to head.

6. Repeat with lower layer - but glue OVER Step #5. This forms the nice puff.

7. Dampen finger with mister filled with a touch of setting solution — and gently slide upwards to make all frizzies go away.

8. Curl a few small side spit curls on needle felting needle.

9. Decorate as desired.

10. When done - smooth again with a finger or light application of hairspray.

**EXTRA**

Making your mask! If you wish to make a mask like ours, form a small oval mask from Fimo ®. With a toothpick gently form a nose, by inserting toothpick into the middle and lifting upward. Then carefully cut out two eyes with scissors. (See photo on page 9)

Add a few horizontal lines and bake according to directions.

When cool - paint and decorate as desired. We used an *eye hook pin* for the stem for her to hold onto.

**JOSEPHINE**

From a gloriously flamboyant coiffure to a simple peasant style, this wigging begins with the basic cross—BUT it begins in two halves.

Glue a realistic hairline on HALF the doll’s head. Take a prepared strand of viscose and place it across the head from ear to ear (over both halves, both glued and unglued).
Allow to dry thoroughly then flip the unglued section back over the glued section and comb into place.

Repeat with the other side and let dry. Congrats! You should now have achieved a realistic ‘flesh’ part on the top of the doll’s head.

Twist one side and hold in place with a pin (as shown). Repeat on the other side then twist both strands together to form a bun.
Pin the bun into place then glue to hold.

You can now add long curls or ringlets that drape over the shoulders or simply ‘wet curl’ any of the strands of hair you have left hanging loose.

To wet curl, take a section of hanging viscose and mist lightly. Curl the hair up a knitting needle (just like a curler) and blow on it for a bit. Gently slide the curl off the needle and allow the damp curl to hang loose. Position the curl wherever you wish and allow to air dry.
Repeat as many times as you wish, then add simple decoration. The doll here wears a silk ribbon as her sole ornament.

Ethnic Hair

A great way to make tight hair is simply cut small snippets of upholstery thread in black and glue to her head. That is all I did to make my Egyptian. If you don’t have access to this wonderful cord - visit your local upholstery person. It’s basically a thread, wrapped around a larger thread that you pull apart forming curls.
Horizontal Wigging

1. Glue realistic hairline on dolls head.
2. Take straight piece of viscose - or pleated, and lay across dolls head horizontally (ear to ear).
3. Wrap excess hair to back into a bun - OR style long hair as desired.
4. Superglue hat to head.

**HINTS**

a. horizontal wigging is an excellent way to get the perfect *face* framing pleated curves in the right place.
b. you can also do a quick faux part (see directions below)

Both these young ladies have hair which was placed horizontally.

The Faux Part

This is done simply by doing horizontal wigging, and then putting a glue line on head where you want part to be. Now lay another strip of horizontal hair on top of glue, and fold back, like a crepe - making an instant faux part. Style as usual.

HINT:
Be sure to let 2nd layer of hair dry before flipping back. Also press hair gently into the glue when flipping back to make a *FLAT* part. If you want a bit more *teased* look - you can tease the hair a bit fuller with a corsage pin. This faux part also works for side parts like Tesa:

Finally, Harem Hottie .....seen here on the right ..... was made using the horizontal wigging with faux part.
The bonus was making the long hair into sectioned ringlets.
To do this, simply mist a small section of hair, wind around a knitting needle and let air dry, repeating until the entire head is covered with ringlets.
I also twisted part of the top hair into a bun shape to give her a bit more height.
there are enough new ideas and techniques in this tutorial to keep you happily creating for sometime to come!