

Tips on Styling Wigs - by Dianna Effner

Wigs are made to be styled. We are fortunate to have good quality wigs so we don't always have to make our own wigs. Synthetic Mohair is a wonderful new material that is especially good for our small dolls.

Many manufactured wigs require a bit of styling to help our dolls look their best. Some wigs come with tight curls put on at the factory with some kind of curling device. It look like the hair has been in curlers. It's waiting to be combed out. Carefully separate the curls and they will look like naturally curly hair.

Samantha wig:

I think the edge of the cap should be behind the natural hair line because of the thickness. The hair at the natural hair line is thin and wispy, not thick. If you set the wig too far forward on the forehead it really screams "WIG!!!" It doesn't look natural. I recommend setting the edge of the cap back a bit and arranging the bangs around the face.

Step 1: Position the wig on the head and adjust so that it is balanced and centered properly.

Step 2: Beginning at the front, lift the cap and apply a bit of glue.



An excellent glue to use is Ultimate by Crafters Pick. Put some into a small zip lock bag and snip a teeny hole in the bottom corner. This is very handy any time you need to use craft glue.

Press to the head and hold for few seconds.



Step 3: Glue the cap just over the ears as you did the front.





Step 4: Apply glue in 2 or 3 spots along the back.

Step 5: Apply gentle pressure around the cap in insure good contact.

Step 6: Allow glue to set for at least an hour before styling.

Step 7: Separate curls and and arrange around the dolls face.



Liza Wig:

This little wig has an outrageous amount of hair. We had it made that way. It is a most versatile wig but it definitely require some styling techniques to get the effect you want. Don't be afraid to cut away the excess. If you think of a way to use the curls let me know. Otherwise just do what I do. Pitch 'em!

Here is one style Liza wig for Portrait 10

Step 1: Position wig on head.



Step 2: Loosely tie up hair into 2 ponytails on each side of the head.

Step 3: Apply glue to front sides and back as shown in Samantha wig instructions.



Step 4: Adjust position and apply gentle pressure for a few seconds.



Step 5: Set aside to allow the glue to set up.

Step 6: When ready to begin styling, carefully separate a few tendrils at the edge of the wig at the back and around the face



Step 7: Securely tie the ponytails with ribbon or floss.



Step 8: Trim curls one at a time sliding the scissors in a downward motion as you cut. This causes a soft fuzzy effect.



Step 9: Continue to trim and shape until you achieve the desired effect.



Step 10: Trim and arrange from tendrils for bangs.

Here is Portrait 10 as I completed her. You can continue to trim if you desire shorter hair.



Miranda wig:

This wig doesn't require much in the way of styling other than a little trimming. Of course you can experiment with added pigtails and such. This wig was made a little bit small by the factory. I adjusted it by clipping the front with a pair of sharp scissors. The front bang piece will now stretch some to make it easier to put the wig in place. I prefer to use wigs that are on the snug side because that means less hair. With hair and dolls less is usually better. Of course a perfect fit is ideal but when the wigs have to fit a variety of heads we can't always have perfect fit. To position a snug wig.

Step 1: (If necessary) Clip into cap where more stretch is desired.



Step 2: Turn the wig inside out. Match the center front of wig to the center front of the head.

Step 3: Hold in place firmly with 2 fingers place on each side of center front while thumb and other fingers hold dolls neck.



Step 4: With your other hand stretch and pull the back of wig over the dolls head until it is in place.



Step 5: Pull on the sides of the hair to adjust and center the wig.



Step 6: Apply glue to the band of the wig as in the Samantha wig instructions.

Step 7: Allow glue to set.



Have fun styling wigs!

Dianna Effner