

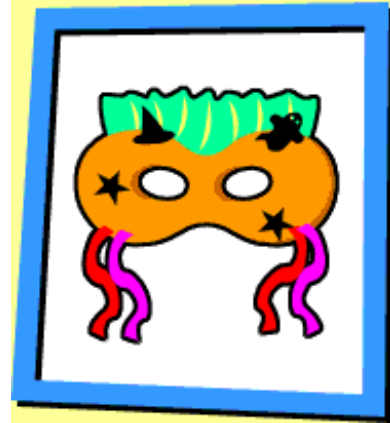


# Template Mask

One easy way to make a mask is to use a template. First decide on the character that you want to be. You can then start with a simple mask template design and decorate it to look like your character.

## Equipment

1. Some card large enough to cover your face. Coloured card works very well.
2. A computer and printer.
3. Some coloured pencils, felt-tip pens or paints. Watercolour paints are OK, but acrylic paints or poster paints will give you stronger colours.
4. A pair of scissors, a stapler, some elastic (about one metre) and some paper glue.
5. Other materials to decorate your mask, such as sequins, curly ribbon, shiny paper, paper doilies or wool.



## Safety Stuff

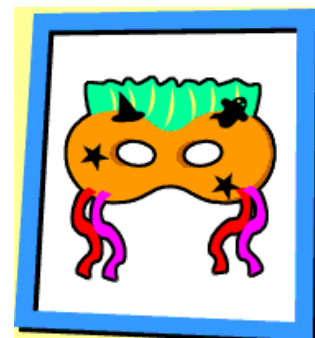
Working with items such as scissors and staplers can be dangerous, so be very careful when you use them. Make sure that you never leave them open or lying around where smaller children can reach them. Be particularly careful when you are using the stapler. Before starting to make any of the masks, cover the work surface you're going to use with some newspaper or an old cloth and make sure that you are wearing an apron or some old clothes. Glue can get everywhere! When you've made your mask, remember that masks can make it difficult to see, so be especially careful when you're wearing it, especially near stairs. Running while wearing a mask isn't a good idea either!

## Steps

### Step One

There are a number of different templates on the Website that you can use for your mask. They are:

- A Halloween mask
- A cat
- An elephant.



## Step Two

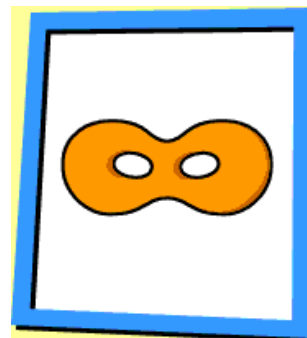
If you don't have access to a printer, then you can draw your template onto a piece of card. An easy one to start with might be the Halloween mask. (Hint: the easiest way to make sure that your mask is the same on the left side and the right side is to fold a piece of paper in half and then draw your template. When you cut it out, the two sides will be identical!)

Once you have printed out (or drawn) your template, cut it out. You will also need to measure and cut out the eye-holes.

## Step Three

You are now ready to begin decorating your mask. You can colour and decorate it as you wish, using any of the pencils, paints and other materials you have.

For a lion mask, for example, you could add some wool for the lion's mane, or for a cat mask add some pink fabric for the cat's tongue, or a trunk for the elephant. Can you think of some other materials that you could use to make parts of your mask?



## Step Four

For a Halloween mask, start by cutting out a strip of shiny paper that is slightly longer than the mask itself. (Alternatively, you could use some fabric or the frilly edge from a paper doily.)

Tape or glue the strip of material or paper on the back of the mask above the eyes, so that it sticks up above the mask with the shiny side pointing forward. Bunch the material up to make it fit.

Then make a hole at each side of the mask and thread the elastic through the holes. Make sure that the holes for the elastic aren't too near the edge. (Remember that you will first need to measure out the correct amount of elastic to fit your head!) Knot the ends securely.

## Step Five

Glue some curly ribbon to the front of the mask above the holes, so you can't see the elastic. If you don't have any curly ribbon, you can create your own by rolling strips of coloured paper around a pencil.

Finish off your mask by gluing on other decorations such as feathers, sequins or beads. If you are making a mask using a cat or an elephant template, can you think of different materials to use to decorate the mask? For example you could use bristles from a brush as cat's whiskers, but how will you fix them to the mask itself?