

SPECIAL EFFECTS MAKEUP WORKSHOP NOTES



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An introduction to special effects makeup products and tools. You will learn the process of character creation, how to apply prosthetics, create wounds, bruises, scars, burns and abrasions as well as proper blood application and delivery flow systems through lecture, discussion and a live demonstration.

Special Effects Makeup Workshop notes

WHAT IS SPECIAL EFFECT MAKEUP?

Special Effects Makeup is anything that is outside or in addition to normal stage makeup including but not limited to:

- BRUISES
- SCARS
- CUTS
- WOUNDS
- BURNS AND ABRASIONS

KNOW YOUR CHARACTER:

Be sure to do your research and character creation using photos and other information regarding to your character and the type of special effects needed.

SUGGESTED TIPS:

- Use pictures from your Makeup Morgue as a guide to assure accuracy in recreating special effects
- For bruises, keep in mind the area of the body that the bruise has occurred and how the blood pools in that area. (under the eye—in a thick dark circle, on the arm or leg in a spotted uneven patch)
- Also think about the age of the bruise and the way the colors form on the skin
- Use a little bit of Thick Blood or Scab Blood with a fine pore stipple sponge to “scrape” lightly across the skin to create abrasions or small cuts

BULLET WOUNDS OR CUTS:

To create bullet wounds or cuts on the skin with nose and scar wax use spirit gum or a medical adhesive such as Ad Med and wait until it is tacky on the skin.

- Scrape a small amount of nose and scar wax from pot with a plastic spatula or wooden craft stick
- Use a little bit of water to keep wax from getting sticky
- Roll in hands to warm the wax up and make it pliable
- Apply to skin over spirit gum and let sit for about 30 seconds
- Use your fingers or a metal palette knife with a little bit of Vaseline or baby oil gel to smooth wax into the skin until it is flush
- Make your wound into the mound of nose and scar wax using a metal palette knife with a bit of Vaseline or baby oil gel on it
- When making a cut remember a smooth knife leaves a clean cut and a serrated knife will leave a meatier, fleshy cut
- Clean area by blotting with a makeup remover wipe
- Match scar wax to skin with foundation tones
- Add thick blood into center of cut or wound and a little bit of stage blood if desired

BURNS:

For Burns or “mottled” skin use liquid latex applied with a fine pore stipple sponge directly onto skin.

- Add small, thin pieces of torn up tissue over latex
- Repeat the latex and tissue 3-4 times finishing with latex and allow to dry
- Match latex to skin with foundation
- Use an orangewood stick or tweezers to pick apart the center of the wound
- Use the Burn and Abrasion wheel to add black and dark red tones to the center of the burn then use a sponge to add red to the outer edges.
- Use a stipple sponge to lightly stipple thick blood on and around burn

FINAL NOTES:

Be sure to set all special effects with Mehron Barrier Spray or Ben Nye Final Seal and allow it to dry completely.