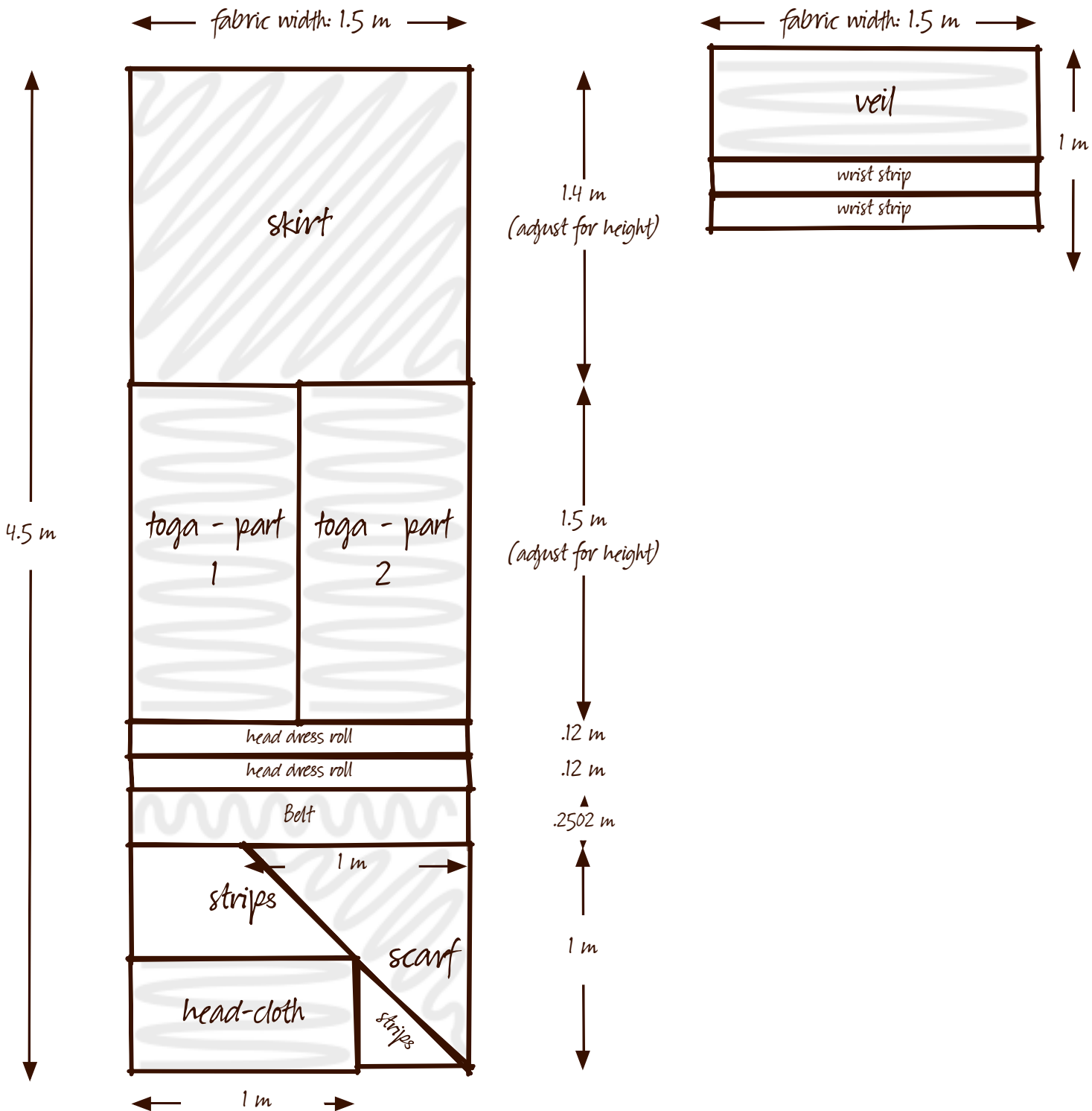


Red Rebel Costume

Cutting Pattern...



Construction...

General:

Ideally finish off the edges of all cut pieces. Overlock, sew or even just dab edges with some watered-down PVA. The better finished-off, the more wear you'll get out of it.

Skirt:

If you're using Doug's 'tie it at the back' method, ensure the length is generous as it will cinch up at the waist.

Toga:

Cut the strips and sew end-to-end. Should almost reach the floor. Adjust with belt. Might need a safety pin/velcro on shoulder to stop it slipping off.

Belt:

You might want to double the belt strips so that you can have a belt with long ends to dangle at the side. Adjust fabric amount as required. You might also want to attach a few additional long strips of light fabric to match your wrist

Head dress Rolls:

Overlock/Sew/Glue/Staple into tubes. Stuff central part (eg temple to temple) with light wadding. Helps to have a small mark/stitch at the central point. Ideally attach to head-cloth. (eg stitch centre and temple points).

Options:

You can sew in a quick belt-loop on the skirt to thread the belt through.

If your base-clothing doesn't have pockets, then you may want to make a small pouch for your belt or toga to hold leaflets/glasses/tissues/meds/phone..

Strategic velcro can be useful once you've tried the outfit on and can help hold things in-place nicely.

The costumes should all look consistent, but the design and finishing is up to you
- make it your own!

Resources...

Fabric:

Red crushed velvet is the primary fabric (at least for headdress and toga). Colour is deep red - probably closer to crimson. It's useful when looking around to take a small swatch with you to compare with. The crushed velvet should have some stretch, particularly if you want to make the skirt as well.

You'll ideally want some additional fabrics for the head/wrist strips, eg plain red polyester, fine net, organza, chiffon etc. Either buy fabric or re-use existing or charity shop items. If on a budget, get 1m of chiffon. As the saying goes, "it's better to be looking at it than for it".

Online Suppliers:

fabricland.co.uk (link →)

offsetwarehouse.co.uk (link →)

online-fabrics.co.uk (link →)

Videos:

Doug's headdress, costume, face-paint and movement:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_q1fSNP2nu0 (link →)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h6P0wALFw> (link →)

Additional Items:

Base clothing - eg leggings, long-sleeved t-shirt

Red cotton thread!

Plastic Roses (approx £1)

Stretch Gloves (approx £3)

Safety pins, velcro

Lipstick

Face paints: white (and black if you don't have makeup). Water-based rather than grease. Make sure it's dry -before- putting headdress on!

Philosophy...

The red rebel brigade symbolises the common blood we share with all species, that unifies us and makes us one. As such we move as one, act as one and more importantly feel as one.,

We are unity and we empathise with our surroundings, we are forgiving,

We are sympathetic and humble, compassionate and understanding,

We divert, distract, delight and inspire the people who watch us,

We illuminate the magic realm beneath the surface of all things and we invite people to enter in,

We make a bubble and calm the storm, we are peace in the midst of war.

We bring the change,

We are who the people have forgotten to be!

Doug Francisco

Performance...

When you're in costume, you're in character.

Preparation

Stretch and warm up! It's very taxing walking slowly and holding positions!

If there's a plan, make sure everyone knows what it is.

Join hands, make eye contact, connect with each other, breathe!

Check head-dress, toga, skirt are OK with your costume buddy (you have got a costume buddy?).

Avoid smoking, chewing gum, chatting on the phone etc - you're in-character.

Movement

SLOW DOWN! Breathing, walking, moving, looking...

...silent, calm, sombre, solemn, mournful, Greek chorus, Butoh dancers, Victorian funeral mourners.

Focus on your breathing. Soften your eyes, use your peripheral vision. This is a moving meditation - awareness without focus. If you're in front, you are the leader, all will follow. Don't look behind to see what's going on, they are with you!

Joy, Sorrow, Anger, Fear, Victory, Happiness, Peace, Fear, Love, Understanding, Connection. Feel the emotions, don't play them!

Process singly or 2x2 for processing down streets, led by solo or couple depending if numbers odd or even, or a V formation in wider areas. Freezing along kerbs weeping as cars go by, looking up at buildings confused in junctions etc. Front figures lead movement and poses, emotive. Move in slow unison, flocking, following leads, psychic synchronisation!

The 1000 yard stare

"...we are looking ahead, into the distance, seeking visions of the future from the shadows of the past, we see the world as it could be, as it is, behind the veil of illusion, beneath the thin facade of concrete steel and glass, if we look sad it's because we fear those that watch us cannot see this world, and we feel sorrow for this, but we invite them in, occasionally breaking our thousand yard stare to let our eyes drift into the artistry and edifice of our surroundings, or into the faces of the crowd, sadness surrounds them, but we connect between worlds, to help see the beauty in all things, even the concrete and steel....remember there are now hundreds of us all over the world carrying this message, feel this, remember this, we are one family."

Tableaux

Capture the gaze.

Use architecture and environment to make powerful imagery. Photobomb monuments, situations, structures, statues, tourist attractions - occupy them and capture the gaze. Consider how the whole group works to complete the image (heights, body positions etc).

Have fun, be at peace, send out the love.

- with love and rage Doug Francisco xxx