

EGYPTIAN CLOTHING

Ancient Egyptian clothing was mainly made of linen due to the hot climate of the region. Fabric was often draped and didn't require much sewing.

Men wore kilts or tunics. A kilt was a knee-length piece of material wrapped around the waist and tied. Tunics are similar to a long t-shirt. Men wore capes of linen around their shoulders as well. They usually wore their hair short because of the hot weather.

Women of the Old Kingdom wore a simple sheath dress which was long, straight. It had one or two broad shoulder straps. Their hair was worn in simple styles, usually short. During the New Kingdom clothing became more fancy. Heavy pleated, adorned robes were draped over the sheath dress. During this time women wore their hair longer and sometimes decorated it with flowers, ribbon, and hair ornaments. Wealthier Egyptians wore wigs, sometimes scented with perfume.

Egyptians often went barefoot, but also wore sandals. Both men and women wore jewelry. The wealthier wore items made from precious metals and gems. The common people had jewelry made of more inexpensive items like pottery beads or shells.

**If you don't have old sheets at home to use, it may be less expensive to buy material by the yard at a fabric store than to purchase bedsheets. Use large safety pins because they are more sturdy and will hold layers of fabric together better than small ones.*

BOYS:

Start with a white t-shirt. Create a kilt by folding a piece of material around your waist and securing it at the top and sides with pins or by sewing. The kilt should fall at or below your knees.

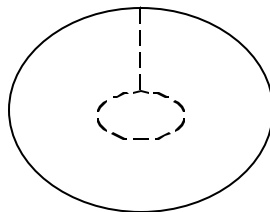
GIRLS:

Wrap fabric (such as a sheet) under your arms, wrapping tightly. The dress should fall to your ankles. Pin or sew closed. Attach one or two wide strips of material or ribbon to create straps.

ACCESSORIES:

You can make wrist cuffs (bracelets) by cutting a wide strip of cardstock, covering it with foil or paint, and decorating with gems. Wrap the cuff around your wrist and attach with adhesive Velcro or tape. Or, create an arm band by attaching a cuff above your elbow.

To make a collar, use the pattern below. The diameter should be a few inches smaller than the width of your shoulders. Paint and decorate with markers, paint, glitter, plastic gems or beads.



pattern for collar