Educational Theatre Association®

Grade Levels: 9-12

# Makeup Design



## Description

In this lesson, students will have the opportunity to explore the role of makeup designers in theatre and also how to express character through makeup design. The final project will be to complete a face template with unique makeup design for a character.

## Learning Outcomes

- Learn more about the role of makeup designers in theatre.
- Watch tutorials for how to apply basic stage makeup.
- Practice applying basic stage makeup to a face template.
- Create a mood/inspiration board for your character design.
- Design makeup for a character from Little Red Riding Hood.

## Materials Required For Instruction

- Creme makeup kit
  - Foundation color
  - Highlight color
  - Contour color
  - Natural lip color
  - Lipstick color
- Powder blush
- Face powder
- Powder eyeshadow
- Eyeliner
- Mascara
- Cotton swabs
- Powder puff
- Creme makeup brushes
- Powder makeup brushes
- Wedge makeup sponge
- Paper face template (attached)
- Color art materials
  - Colored pencils
  - Crayons
  - Pastels
- Inspiration/mood board materials

# Instructional Procedures

## Section 1: The Role of the Makeup Designer



Actors for hundreds of years have used stage makeup in the theatre. It is the job of the makeup designer to create designs for the cast that help show their character.

### Task

1. Watch the following two videos to hear from professional makeup designers and to learn more about the role that makeup designers play in the production of theatre.
   - Working in the Theatre: Makeup (source: American Theatre Wing)
   - WICKED Hair and Makeup: Makeup (source: WICKED The Musical)

   Pay particular attention to how the makeup designers help tell the story and show the character, as well as the tools they use to be successful and the challenges they may face in their job.

## Section 2: Basic Stage Makeup Tutorial



In addition to helping to show character, stage makeup also plays the important role of highlighting certain features of an actor's face so that their expressions can be seen by an audience member, no matter how far away they are.

To start your makeup design journey, it is important to understand how to apply basic stage makeup in order to highlight certain features on an actor's face.

### Task

1. Watch the following video.
   - Basic Stage Makeup Tutorial

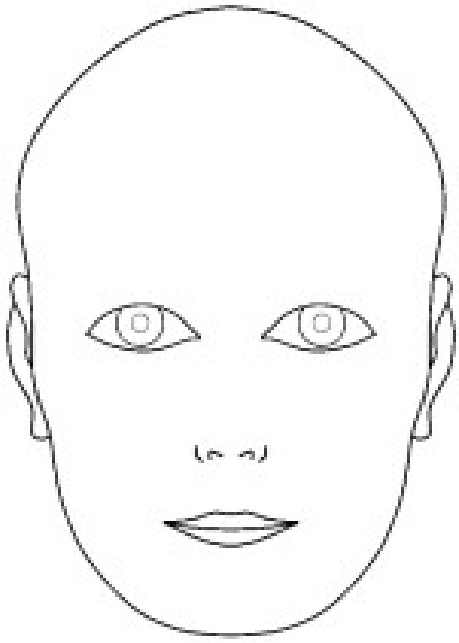
     (source: Carin Jacobs)

   Pay particular attention to where they apply highlight and contour on the face.

## Section 3: Practice Basic Stage Makeup

Using what you learned from the tutorial in the previous section, it's time to practice applying basic stage makeup (foundation, blush, lipstick, contour, eyeshadow, and eyeliner).

You can practice on a paper face template, similar to the ones that designers may give to actors to help them remember how to recreate their makeup look themselves. This gives you the option to use makeup, or if you don't have access to makeup you can also use other art materials to color in the template and convey the makeup look.



### Task

1. Print out a paper face template (attached).
2. Practice applying basic stage makeup to the face template. Make sure you practice contouring and highlighting based on the tips provided in the tutorial in the last section. Revisit the video and follow along if needed.

## Section 4: Create an Inspiration Board

For your final challenge, you will be designing a makeup look for one of the characters from the story "Little Red Riding Hood" by the Brothers Grimm.

In this activity you will listen to a recording of "Little Red Riding Hood." As you listen, create a mood/inspiration board to pull ideas for how a character of your choice from the story acts, appears, and would look like once you have designed their makeup! Remember, inspiration boards are supposed to capture a character's vibe and act as inspiration for their characteristics and features.

### Task

1. Listen to the following reading.
   - "Little Red Riding Hood" (source: Greatest AudioBooks)
2. Pick a character from the story that you would like to design a makeup look for.
3. Create a mood/inspiration board (a physical board or a digital slideshow/collection of images) for this character to help guide your final makeup design.

## Section 5: Makeup Design for a Character

During this journey, you learned more about the role of makeup designers, how makeup designs convey character, and watching some basic stage makeup tutorials. You also gained experience by practicing basic stage makeup on a paper template and creating an inspiration board for the character you are creating a makeup design for. Now, using the knowledge you gained along the way, you are ready to create a makeup design for a character from "Little Red Riding Hood."



### Task

1. Use the mood/inspiration board created in the last section in tandem with the blank face template and apply stage makeup with flair (adding your own twist to their makeup design). If you want to, you can also draw on hair to the template to round out your design.

# Learning for All

## Adaptions or Accommodations

Please use the space below for suggestions for any specific adaptations or accommodations needed for neuro-diverse or atypical learners. For general arts inclusion guidelines, see Guiding Principles for Inclusion (*The National Core Arts Standards Inclusion Strategies*).

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## Multi-Cultural Inclusions

Please use the space below to list any suggestions for multi-cultural inclusions. Whenever possible theatre teachers should strive to include references to objects, experiences and/or text which represents the diversity of the cultures in their student body.

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# Additional Tools & Resources

- Paper face template (attached)

