Step 1: Foil Sculpting

Materials: Facialiform, aluminum foil, masking tape

1. Cover the Facialiform with a large sheet of aluminum foil. Wrap the foil securely around the outer rim of the Facialiform.

2. Gently smooth the foil over the Facialiform, so you can easily distinguish the different facial features (eyes, nose, mouth). If the foil tears, use another large sheet of foil to cover any holes.

3. Crunch, fold, or twist other pieces of aluminum foil into any shapes you want to add to your mask. Additional features can be cut from cardboard and covered with aluminum foil. Horns and ears are fun additions to make.
4. Attach these shapes to your mask with masking tape. Make sure all shapes are taped securely in place. Do not attach any features to the rim of the Facialform. The rim will not be part of your finished mask.

5. Now add finer facial details (eyebrows, cheekbones, etc.) with smaller pieces of foil. Tape these securely to your mask.

6. Many creatures have facial “extensions.” Their antennae, antlers, and whiskers make interesting additions to masks. These extended shapes can be made by twisting foil and bending it into shape. Remember to fasten these extensions securely with masking tape.

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Step 2: Applying Plastergauze

**Materials:** Plastergauze, water and container, scissors, newspaper, foil-covered Facialform

1. Cut the entire roll of Plastergauze into strips varying in length from 1 to 5 inches (2.5 to 12.5 cm). As you work, choose a length of Plastergauze that will fit smoothly over the area you wish to cover.

2. Dip a strip of Plastergauze into the container of water. Rub it between your thumb and fingers to break down the powder and create a paste-like substance. Activating the Plastergauze in this manner is called “mushing” and will create a smoother effect. Run your fingers down the strip, gently squeezing the excess water back into the container. Start at the edge of your mask.

3. Add extra strength by folding each strip of wet Plastergauze in half lengthwise. Place the fold on the edge of the mask.
Place the folded strips of wet Magicast Plastergauze around the entire edge of your mask. Overlap one strip over the next about 1/2 inch (1.3 cm) to ensure a sturdy surface. Smooth the overlapping edges to bond them together for strength. IMPORTANT! Avoid covering the outer rim of the Facialform with Plastergauze. This would prevent you from separating it from your completed mask.

If you plan to wear your mask, leave holes for your eyes and mouth. Do not put Plastergauze over any area where you intend to leave a hole. If you want to leave eye and mouth holes, you should be able to see the foil or masking tape in those areas.

Surround the openings for the eyes and mouth with folded strips of wet Plastergauze. Smooth out the wet Plastergauze as much as possible so the surface of your mask will be smooth. Continue to "smush," overlap, and smooth the strips as you work. Details, such as eyebrows, can be added by shaping or rolling the wet Plastergauze, placing it appropriately while it's still wet, and holding it firmly in place while it dries.

Wrap flat pieces of wet Plastergauze around the bases of any ears, horns, etc. Continue to apply flat, wet Plastergauze strips over your foil form. Remember to overlap and smooth the strips as you work.

Note: To make a tighter mask, use a single layer of Plastergauze, making sure to "smush" the substance and spread it evenly over the entire mask surface. Be sure to overlap the gauze and smooth the surface as you work. For a sturdier but heavier mask, add a second layer of Plastergauze. Let the Plastergauze dry thoroughly before continuing. Drying time will vary.

Once the Plastergauze is completely dry, separate the Facialform from the Plastergauze by unfolding the foil around the edge and pulling the Facialform loose.

Carefully gather the foil inside the Plastergauze mask into a ball. Gently wiggle this ball of foil as you pull it away from the mask.

Remove any remaining pieces of foil that lift out easily. Remove foil from any holes you left in the mask. Foil in the nose, horns, or other extensions can be left in for added strength. Trim rough edges. If you plan to wear your mask, make a hole in each side of it, about an inch (2.5 cm) from the edge, to string elastic through when your mask is finished.

Materials: Your mask form, scissors
**Step 4: Painting Your Mask**

**Materials:** Tempera paint*, paintbrushes, newspapers, paper towels, disposable cups

1. Now you are ready to paint. Protect your work area with newspaper. First paint the large areas of your mask with a base color. Mix your tempera colors to achieve a wider color selection. (White with red makes pink, yellow with red makes orange, etc.). All areas that will be painted colors other than the base color should be left white at this time.

2. After the base color dries, paint the other areas of your mask. Add shadows by applying darker shades under the eyebrows, around the mouth, etc.

3. Add such details as eyelashes and freckles with a fine brush. As soon as you have finished painting your entire mask, rinse your brushes and cover your paints.

*Optional—You may wish to use other paint mediums on your mask to achieve different effects:
- Watercolors create a lighter, pastel look.
- Acrylics are excellent for both opaque and transparent colors.
- Fluorescent paints are perfect for "black light" presentations.

**Step 5: Glue Coating**

**Materials:** White glue, wax paper, paintbrush, container, small foam sponge pieces (optional)

1. When the paint is dry, place your mask on a large piece of wax paper. Pour some white glue into a container.

2. Brush a thick layer of glue on the inside of your mask. Set the mask on the wax paper. This will seal the Plaster of Paris with a protective coat that will be smooth against your skin. For added comfort and safety, you may want to add three one-inch (2.5 cm) round pieces of foam sponge. (Pieces of sheepskin can also be used.) Glue them to the inside of the mask, one at the forehead and one at each cheek.

3. Now carefully brush a thick coat of glue onto the front of your mask. This is different than painting your mask because you should apply only one thick coat of glue. Start at the highest point on the mask and brush the glue in only one direction, going over each area only once to prevent colors from running together.
Final Touches

1. While the glue is still wet, add interesting decorations to your mask. Fake fur is an easy way to add hair or a beard to your mask, for instance.

2. Felt pieces are great for inner ears, nostrils, and tongues.

3. Pom-poms, pipe cleaners, and cotton balls add dimension and color to your completed mask.

4. Use your imagination! Ribbon, feathers, yarn, or other materials can decorate your mask. If you wish to add an elastic strap to your mask, thread elastic through the holes you made and knot it.
MAKE-A-MASK™
Materials Checklist

You will need these materials (not included in this kit) for making your mask:
- Aluminum foil
- Wax paper
- Masking tape
- Scissors
- Water container or disposable cup
- White glue
- Water
- Newspapers (to cover work area)

You may wish to use these optional items (not included in this kit) for decoration:
- Felt
- Feathers
- Glitter
- Sequins
- Rickrack
- Pipe cleaners
- Bottle caps
- Costume jewelry
- Yarn
- Fake fur
- Lace
- Markers
- Elastic
- Foam sponge
- Cardboard

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NOTE: The materials in this kit have been tested by the United States Testing Company, Inc. and have been found to be nonflammable, nontoxic, and nonirritating to skin or eyes. However, you should discontinue use of this product immediately if you show any sign of irritation or sensitivity to the materials.