



# Creating your own Chesapeake Mermaid doll

You can make your own Chesapeake Mermaid doll! We will explain how...

## Time

Drying times vary so this will be a craft which may take a couple days. Find a clean, dry, well lit area to work and leave your tail where it will not be disturbed while you are working.

## Cost

Not including the doll, we spent about \$50 for all supplies, but some of the items you may have at home or can substitute with alternatives.

## Supplies

• We used a 10 inch Isabel doll from Disney's "Elena of Avalor."

*Note: You can scale the template to fit any size fashion doll or make your own tail template by wrapping your doll from waist to toes in plastic wrap, layer it with scotch tape, and carefully cut off a cast which you can then use to measure and draw. Kids, get an adult to help you with scissors and sharp objects.*

- Print out tail templates on white paper
- A couple plastic freezer bags
- Liquid latex
- "Rose gold" and "Mermaid" colored chunky cosmetic glitter
- Gold mica powder
- Talcum powder
- Clear nylon thread and needle
- 1/4 inch paintbrush
- Spoon
- Large make-up powder brush
- Small make-up powder brush
- Straight pins
- Scissors



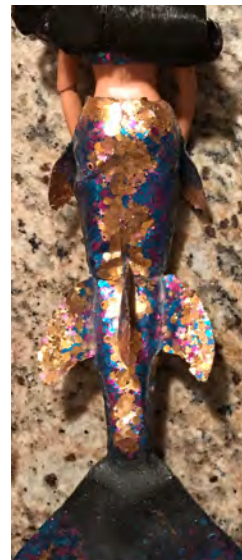
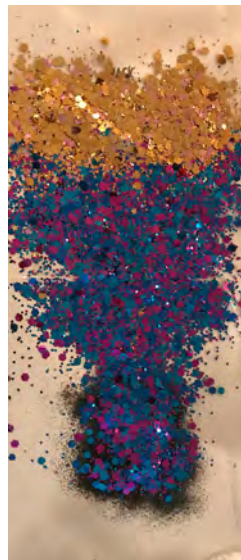
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# Creating your own Chesapeake Mermaid doll

## Instructions - Create

- Cut open the freezer bags until they are flat and place the plastic over the paper templates. Try to avoid creases in the plastic as these will imprint on your tail.
- Use the 1/4 brush to dab a layer of liquid latex over one tail design piece at a time. Include all areas within the dotted lines. Keep the latex within the lines of each piece as best you can. Once you have a flat layer of latex, you can add glitter.
- Mix your own chunky glitter colors or use the recommended glitter on our list. Using the spoon, sprinkle the glitter generously over the wet latex as you choose. It's ok if some glitter falls outside the lines. Note: For photo reference of the Chesapeake Mermaid's tail and colors, check out ChesapeakeMermaid.com or our social media pages on Facebook, Instagram, or YouTube.
- Once the latex is dry, use the large make-up powder brush to wipe away the extra glitter. Carefully save any extra glitter for future projects so it doesn't end up in the environment. Using the small make-up powder brush, highlight your mermaid's lap and the tips of her fins and tail with Gold mica powder.
- Once you have your glitter and mica balanced the way you like, enclose the entire design in another layer of liquid latex. Allow to dry. Repeat this step on all other tail pieces.



*Note: It's ok to do designs in sections if you have a complex pattern. For the diamond pattern on the back of the tail, we did the gold diamonds first, allowed them to dry, then did the rest of the tail. However, if you want a soft blend of colors, those colors need to be done at the same time.*

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# Creating your own Chesapeake Mermaid doll

## Instructions - Assembly

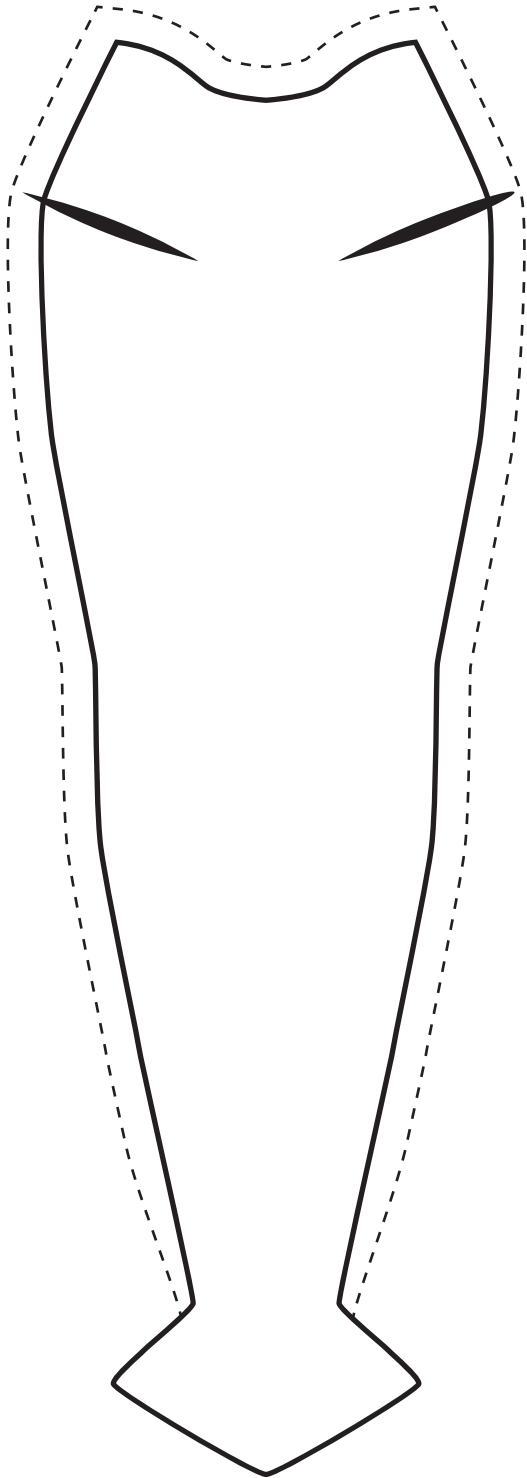
- Dry latex has a naturally sticky surface. Peel back the bottom of the tail front only and use this natural stickiness to press it against the fluke, connecting the two within the dotted lines.
- Using the large make-up brush, cover the top side of all pieces with Talcum powder to prevent them from sticking to each other or another surface. Keep the back of your pieces connected to the plastic.
- Remove the back tail piece and powder the back side. Use pins to hold the back center slit closed temporarily while we assemble the tail. Remove the front tail piece and fluke from the plastic and powder the back side.
- Use the 1/4 inch brush to dab a line of liquid latex along the bottom edge of the back tail piece and attach it to the fluke. Let dry.
- Next, place your doll inside the tail while we seal it closed on the sides. Working from the feet to the waist, dab a small edge of liquid latex along the area of the dotted lines along the front piece of the tail. Wrap the pieces around the doll and hold in place until it is secure. We suggested working one inch at a time on both sides for the best result. Once you reach the top, give it time to completely dry before the next step.
- Remove the rest of the fins from the plastic and powder the back side of all. Using a small line of liquid latex on the edge of each piece, press them against the tail along the thick black lines on the template. All to dry.
- Remove the pins and remove your doll from the tail. Powder the inside of your tail and outside again completely to set any sticky surfaces. Place the doll back inside the tail.
- Using the clear nylon thread and needle, close the back seam around your doll starting at the knees and working your way to the waist. Tie and cut the thread at the waist. If you want to seal it around the doll permanently, you can use liquid latex to seal with seam.
- Use scissors to trim the waistline to a clean shape and also cut any excess latex or glitter from the tip of the tail and fins.
- Remove the top from the plastic and powder the back side. Trim the edges if latex has gone out of the lines. Place the top on the doll and secure the back seam with clear nylon thread or latex as desired. Repeat for the bracers.



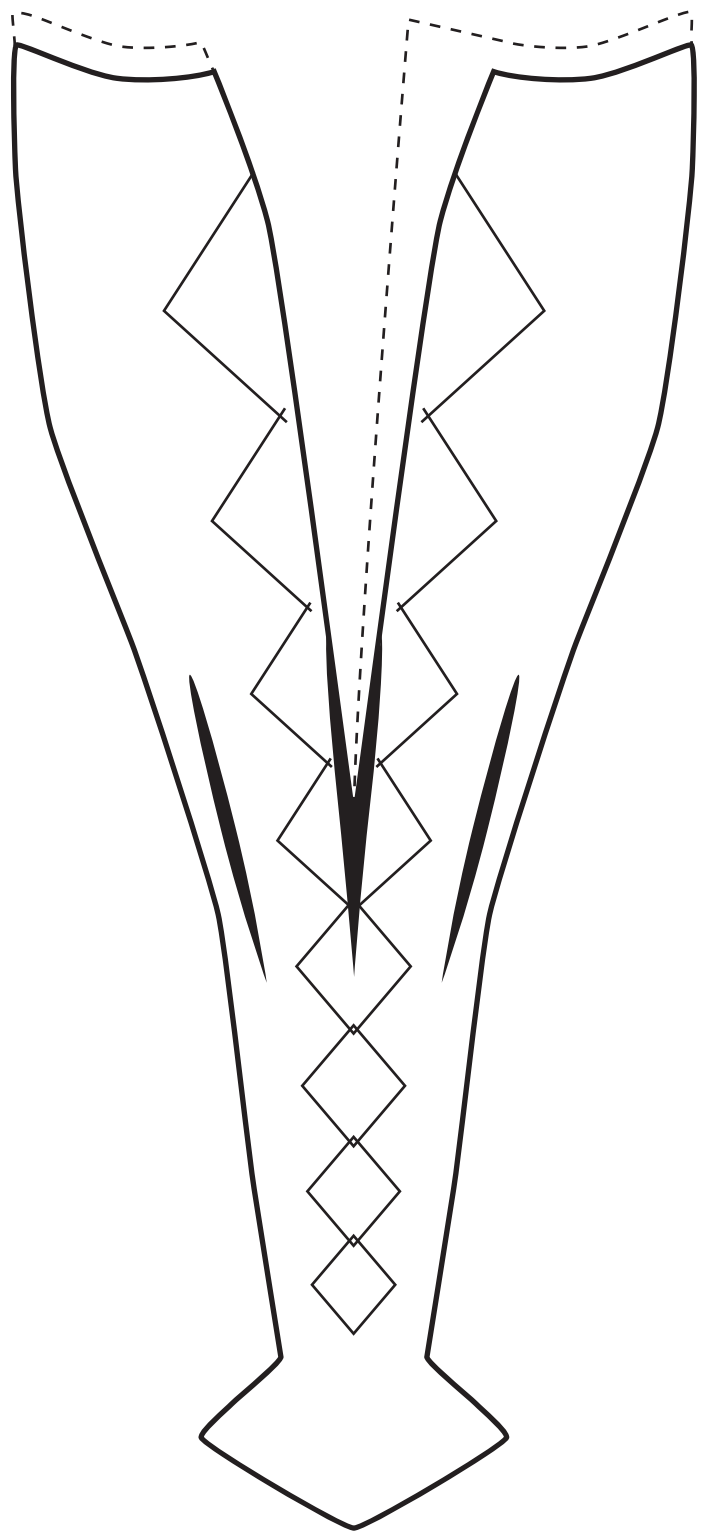
*You can buy our storybook to go with your doll at [ChesapeakeMermaid.com/shop](http://ChesapeakeMermaid.com/shop)*

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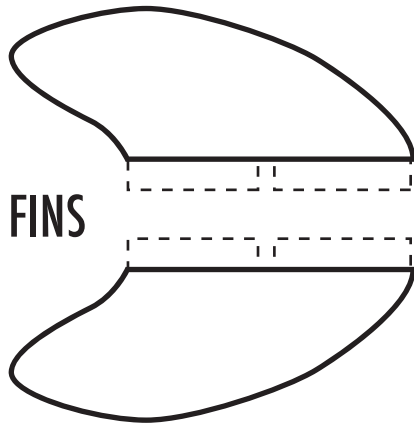
**FRONT**



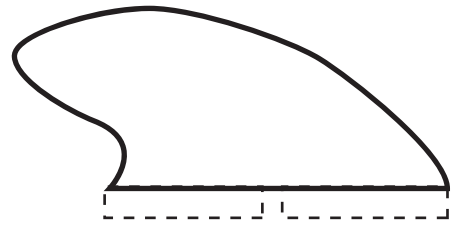
**BACK**



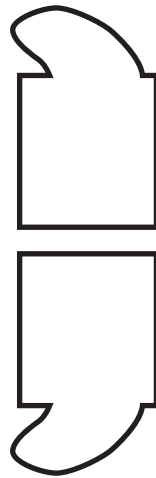
SIDE FINS



DORSAL FIN



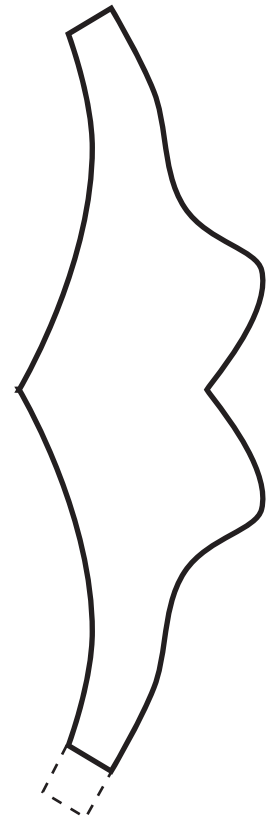
BRACERS



HIP FINS



TOP



FLUKE

