

BASIC MOULAGE

A Summary of Techniques and Ideas by Geri Chumley

ABRASIONS

Place a little red and a little brown or black on a pot scrubber. Drag it across the area where the abrasion is required. An alternate method is to mix red food coloring into baby powder to create a thick, pasty mixture, and drag a comb through the mixture. Apply makeup to the knuckles, if an altercation is being simulated.

AMPUTATIONS

It is often possible to find artificial body parts at Halloween. To simulate an amputation of a hand or foot, pull the sleeve or leg of the shirt or pants over the extremity. Seal the garment and apply blood to the edge. Full extremities can be simulated by placing the arm inside the body of the shirt, or by using baggy pants, and putting both legs in one pant leg.

BLACK EYES

Only blue and black colors are needed. Put a little blue around the eye, followed by the black.

BLOOD

Blood which is safe to use in the mouth, but which might stain the skin, can be created with red food coloring and Karo syrup. To create blood with a variety of degrees of coagulation, create it by mixing corn starch and water and bringing to a boil. Arterial blood (bright red) requires only red food coloring. Venous blood (which has a blue tone) should have a few drops of blue food coloring added to the red. Thicken blood to be used to simulate nosebleeds, bleeding from the ears or eyes, or blood clots by mixed into baby powder.

BRUISE

While this is not a life-threatening medical problem, it is often an effect which gives dramatic realism to a practice scenario. It is created by applying a light coat of red, blue and yellow. Begin with either the yellow or white, followed by the blue and then red around the outside. Each color should be blended separately, pulling the color from the middle to the outside. Use caution with the red, a little really does go a long ways. If trying to simulate old wounds, skip the red and add a little green.

BURNS

FIRST DEGREE burns are simply red skin. As a courtesy to the "victim" be sure to apply some face cream before the red color. SECOND DEGREE burns are highly inflamed and have blisters and oozing bodily fluids. Create this image by applying liquid latex (glue) and allowing to dry. Begin with red color to the entire area being simulated. Add blisters by covering petroleum jelly with a single ply tissue. Smooth the tissue into the Vaseline. Sprinkle or blow a small amount of charcoal powder around the edges. An alternate method is to apply Elmers glue to the burned area. After it has dried (use a blow drier to speed up the drying) use color to create the desired effect. Note: If using the Elmers glue method, do not apply face cream before the glue. One last alternate technique is to first apply the redness, then put Vaseline on top of the color and cover it with a single lay of tissue paper or Kleenex. However, if the "patient" is likely to get hot, the Vaseline may melt and the burn slide off. This can be prevented by carefully applying a layer of Elmer's glue over the entire burn and allowing it to dry, then adding the additional colors which are required. A peeling burn can be created by lifting the edges of the glue. THIRD DEGREE burns are a mixture of first and second combined with black lacerations. Begin by applying the redness. Highlight smoldering vessels with a make-up pencil. Darken around the edges of the burn

by flicking charcoal over the area with cotton balls or a brush. This burn will appear a reddish-purple and may also include charred and peeling skin.

DISLOCATIONS OR CLOSED FRACTURES

Apply plumbers putty, and match the skin color with make-up. Bruising and discoloration can be added as appropriate. This patient may also be in shock. Take the victim's shoe off, pad the sock with gauze to simulate the angulation. Put the shoe back on, but at the angle required to create the desired effect.

FRACTURES (OPEN)

After creating a laceration, place a broken chicken bone or pieces of tic tac candies in the wound. Pull the wax away from the bones to simulate torn skin. Apply blood to the jagged edges of the bone.

IMPALED OBJECT

Cut the end which would be inside the skin off. Bury the remainder of the object in mortician's wax or plumbers putty. Add bruise colors and a little blood. Pencils, glass, nails, sticks and arrows are commonly impaled objects.

LACERATION

A laceration is likely to expose bone, muscles and tendons. The amount of blood lost will determine the degree of shock which should be simulated. A simple laceration can be created by using a black eyebrow pencil to make a line the length of the desired laceration. Red can be smoothed in, around the edges of the black, with a Q-tip or knife. A more realistic approach is to apply a layer of latex glue to the selected area. Allow the glue to dry. Using mortician's wax or plumbers putty, (work it in your hands to soften) mold it to the area, smoothing edges so that they blend with the skin (again, cold cream will make it easier to smooth). Cover with liquid makeup. Using a sharp object, cut an even slit into the wax or putty. Put some skin tone into the wound, and apply bruise coloring around the wound. Complete the effect by applying blood, allowing some to drip down the skin. To make the wound appear deep, put some black grease into the bottom of the wound first.

OPEN CHEST WOUND

Create a small laceration, put a piece of an Alka Seltzer or some Alka Seltzer powder into the blood.

PREGNANT WOMAN

A pillow will not stay inside the clothing unless it is anchored. Be sure to include safety pins as a part of the moulage supplies. Remember that a pregnant woman will often have an increased blood pressure and may have swollen ankles.

RIGID ABDOMEN

A piece of tag board, cut and placed inside the victim's swimming suit, will give the feel of a rigid abdomen.

SOCK/DEATH

A patient in shock will usually have a pale face with cyanosis on the lips and ears; and beads of perspiration on the face and possibly on the arms. To simulate shock, apply a light coating of white base makeup and set it with a neutral powder. An option is to use face cream and apply baby powder which has a small amount of charcoal in

it. The powder is easily applied with a clean paint brush. To create diaphoresis, spray a mixture of 1/2 water and 1/2 glycerin (available from most pharmacies) to the forehead and upper lip area.

SWELLING

Mortician's wax or plumbers putty (which is available at most hardware store) can be applied to almost any area of the skin. It will stick best if applied to dry skin. It needs to stay on for quite a while, apply a layer of latex glue and let it get almost dry before applying the putty. Add coloration as needed to simulate the particular injury.

TEETH

White "Tic Tac" candies simulate broken teeth. Bleeding can be added by combining a blood capsule (or artificial blood); and frothing blood can be created by adding some Alka Seltzer. Chicklet gum also looks like teeth. Lost teeth can be simulated by using black wax and placing it on the teeth which should be missing. If this is the result of a trauma, some blood would be expected to be found on the teeth on each side of the one(s) which are missing.

VOMITUS

If it is necessary to have the patient vomit, put soup in the patients mouth prior to the beginning of the drill.

AFTER THE DRILL IS OVER—CLEAN UP SUPPLIES ARE NECESSARY

Paper towels, Kleenex, cotton balls, make-up remover, soap and water, alcohol and lots of clean wash cloths and towels are all useful after the drill is over.

SUPPLIES

Get them everywhere on the day after Halloween. The make-up is available at best prices, and the selection isn't too bad if you are willing to shop just a little. It's the easiest time too get great amputated parts – what fun! Yard sales, and other cosmetic sales are a great source of "stuff" any time! Watch for lipsticks (especially blue) and pale powder foundations.

Not much is really needed to get started. Make some blood and add a few tubes of red, blue, yellow, and green to take care of most wounds and bruises. A bit of brown and black are nice for road rash and white is needed for shock. Remember that the white need not be make-up – it might be baby powder or a pale foundation. Other supplies that are handy include: an abrasive pot scrubbing brush, Kleenex, Vaseline, mineral oil, spray bottles (one for blood and one for diaphoresis), plumbers putty, dry chicken bones, Alka Seltzer, small white candies, impaled items, padding, sponge make-up applicators and a few brushes, Elmers white glue and veggie soup (for vomit).

Ben Nye Moulage (310-839-1984
5935 Bowcroft Street; Lost Angeles, CA 90016

Tribout's Traumatic Technologies (618-234-7606)
1711 West Main St., Belleville, IL 62223