



Coraline Button-Eyes Makeup
Prosthetic Application
Companion Workbook

By Stuart Bray

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Health and safety

When using any products, materials or equipment you should familiarise yourself with them and take appropriate health and safety measures to protect yourself and others around you from harm. Ensure you read and understand user instructions supplied with tools and materials before using them. You should always obtain and consult the relevant MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheets) from your supplier whenever possible, and retain them for future reference.

Disclaimer

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Thank you for checking out my videos and for downloading this workbook.

What is a workbook? Well, essentially it is a condensed collection of the key points to help you remember the process so you can do it better yourself. You can print this off to keep with when working and refer to it along the way.

If something goes wrong...well...you will have learnt something valuable. Doing that a lot means you're getting closer.

If you get stuck or if something goes wrong or you just are not happy then you can drop me an email (and better yet, a photo of the problem) and I will do all I can to help you out:
mail@learnprostheticmakeup.com.

If you haven't done so already, check out the archived articles and tutorials on my original workshop site.

- You can also get the free 7-part mini ecourse there:
<http://www.learnprostheticmakeup.com/page9.htm>
- My blog, where I now post all new tutorials:
<http://www.learnmakeupeffects.com/blog/>
- And of course my YouTube channel:
<http://www.youtube.com/user/stuartbray73>

Happy sticking!
-Stuart

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Clean off the back of the appliance using alcohol to remove any dirt or grease that may reduce the effect of the glue.



Snip away the areas on the inside where the gelatine went around the eyelid fold. This will make it more comfortable to wear.



Then, I painted a layer of makeup sealer onto the back and allow it to dry. Keep slightly away from the very edge, and allow it to dry thoroughly.

Gelatine is affected by sweat, so by putting a sealer such as this on the back, we can reduce the likelihood of any problems later.



I used Kryolan Fixier Spray, but you could also use Matthew Mungle Sealer A, Green Marble or something similar. If the Fixier Spray you find comes in an aerosol can, then you can spray this into a cup to get liquid which can be brushed on for better control.



While the fixer spray is drying, I use a mild astringent to clean Paul's skin. This will help ensure maximum glue strength.



I offer the appliance up to make sure it fits as it should, and to make a note of any possible problem areas.



Then I use adhesive to glue down Paul's eyebrows. I want to be sure that the volume of the brow sits as flat as possible, and that the appliance is stuck to brows that are themselves stuck firmly flat to the face.



I am using a water based acrylic adhesive known as Aqua Fix from Mouldlife. Other glues include Pros Aide and Beta Bond, and these are all professional makeup adhesives developed for application to skin. They all appear white when wet and dry clear whilst remaining tacky.

Using a blow dryer, I dry the brows and press them flat firmly.



Then I glue the area of the skin which is covered by the appliance. Some people work in sections, and that works too. Personally, I like to get all the glue on and then place the appliance lightly on to check position.

Don't glue the eyelids or lashes - there is no need and doing so will be uncomfortable, and make the removal process much more tricky later.



It is a good idea to stand back and check if it looks right. If the position is off, you can lift it away to reposition. When you are happy, press firmly to make it stick well.

Press from the centre and work outwards to avoid trapping any pockets of air which will appear as bubbles under the surface.



Then, once everything is pressed, glue any edges which are not stuck flat to the skin. I like to use cotton swabs to apply the glue as they can be easily ditched and replaced once they clog up. Cleaning brushes while doing this will add extra time.



Lift the edges that are loose and make sure you overlap the glue to ensure no areas are left unglued. Press the edge down onto the dry glue



I use a powder puff and a brush handle to press and roll out the edges to ensure they are stuck well.



Once everything is stuck, I tend to wipe a little 99% alcohol over the edge to help blend the edges further. Now, this does not melt the gelatine - but what it does do is creep under the edge and cause the glue to unstick slightly.

This allows me to massage them even flatter and then the alcohol evaporates, leaving the glue behind unharmed. It is very effective for any edges which roll under or creases that may appear.

You can see how well these edges are blending into the skin. You can now appreciate the level of tolerance you have to work to when making appliances. The edges need to be made feather thin, and accurate mould making is essential. A bad mould can undo the work of a good sculpt.



If there are any remaining edges which need blending, use a little witch hazel astringent (from chemists/ pharmacies) to melt them away. Note that you can't melt away a bad edge with witch hazel - only a fairly decent one to start with.



Now that the appliance is stuck down, it is time to seal the outside of the piece just like we did the back before it was glued on.

Doing this ensures that moisture landing on the surface also will not affect the gelatine. I apply with a brush and sponge, and used a blow dryer to speed up the drying time.



I then stippled a layer of anti-shine cream over the surface to kill the slightly glossy effects of the sealer. I am using Super-Matte anti shine by Makeup international.

You could use a light coat of translucent powder, but I prefer a good anti shine. Whatever you use, make sure it is not greasy as we still need to apply makeup over the top of this.



I am using Skin Illustrator with 99% alcohol to make a thin wash of colour. This kind of alcohol activated makeup is very popular among prosthetic makeup artists as it is durable, creates translucent skin effects and dries matte. Also, they are not easily affected by moisture, heat or touch.



I now start adding a red tone to put back the appearance of blood under the skin surface.

It is easier to start lightly and add more. Red becomes apparent after you have applied it, so go easy at the start until you find your feet with it.



Stipple the brush in a random fashion, and allow an area to dry before going over it again. You can also flick the wash of colour on too. This allows the colour specks to fall in a random fashion that better approximates the way natural skin is pigmented.

The colour is very washy, so there is no heavy pigment going on with any one layer - you accumulate layers to build a translucent finish over several passes.



You can also flick colours on using a cut down paint brush. This creates random specks of thin colour to land over the surface, which better approximates how real skin is pigmented.



I now start punching up the eye area, and making the wrinkles look sore using a bruisy red.



I also messed the lips up a bit, making them look sore and breaking up the even border.



I mixed up a blood colour wash using Skin Illustrator, and allow it to drip from the eye area. It runs in a natural pattern that is not easily done otherwise.



Then I add a caked blood around the edge, and in a few other choice spots to help the look. Dab this with a scrunched up tissue to move it around a bit.

I apply a strong silicone adhesive to both the holes over the eyes and the back of the buttons.



The glue I am using is Snappy G, a silicone adhesive from Mouldlife, but you can use any glue that will work.

Once the glue is dry, I press the buttons into place, and apply some drying blood around the outside edge. This stuff is an alcohol based blood by Maekup which then dries and stays securely in place. Dirty down the buttons if they look too clean with brown and dusty colours.



Then I put some blood paste around the chin and mouth area, just to help with the creepy, gross look. I apply it quite heavily, then mop a lot off, so it looks more like real blood which has dried and flaked off the skin.



And that's it - ready for business.

Once we are ready to remove the makeup, I gently remove the buttons (they should pull away reasonably easily) and then tear a hole so Paul can see once again. This is easily done as the eyelids were not glued!

A suitable remover is used, applied with soft brushes to work the appliance away from the skin.

You need to get under the appliance - the remover dissolves the glue so no good wiping it on the front of the appliance.

Take care around the eyes. It is a good idea to keep tissues handy in case of spills and drips.

Once the piece is off, we used wet wipes (baby wipes) with some remover to massage and clean the skin off. The glue is transparent so check carefully that all of it has been removed.

If necessary, cleanse and tone the skin and use a suitable moisturiser to help the skin recover from the experience.

Normal skin is quite durable, but skin types vary so take note of any reactions (*a little reddening from rubbing is quite normal*). If you experience any problems then discontinue use.

The products used here are all professional makeup products cleared for normal skin use.



Materials used

- **99% alcohol**
(from pharmacy or chemical supplier)
- **Curved nail scissors**
(chemists/beauty salon supplies)
- **Kryolan Fixier Makeup Sealer**
(professional makeup supplier)
- **Aqua Fix - Acrylic Adhesive**
(Mouldlife)
<http://www.mouldlife.net/>
- **Snappy G - Silicone Adhesive**
(Mouldlife)
<http://www.mouldlife.net/>
- **Witch Hazel**
(astringent - pharmacy/beauty supplier)
- **Super Matte Anti-Shine**
(from Makeup International)
<http://www.make-upinternational.com/>
- **Skin Illustrator**
(professional makeup supplier)zz
<http://www.ppi.cc/>
- **Bloody Gloopy Blood**
(Maekup Online)
<http://www.maekuponline.co.uk/>
- **Drying Blood**
(Maekup Online)
<http://www.maekuponline.co.uk/>
- **Super Solv Remover**
(professional makeup supplier)
<http://www.ppi.cc/>

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