# Drill Curl Tutorial ♥

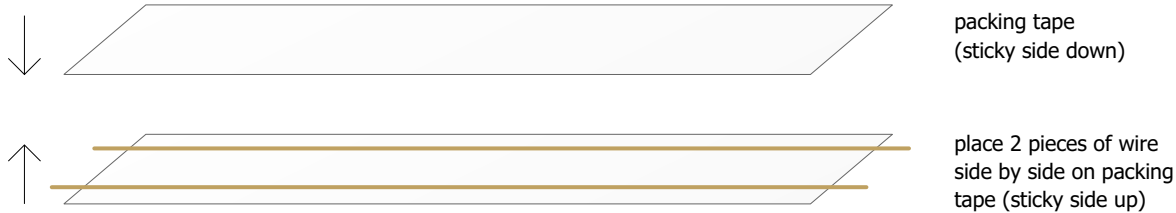by Sparkle Pipsi



## MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Pre-parted Ponytail Wig (can be found for sale at Arda Wigs)
- Clear Packing Tape
- 20 Gauge Wire
- Clear Adhesive Caulk
- Hot Glue Gun
- Comb (that you don't mind getting a little messy!)
- Extra-Hold Hairspray (ie: Aquanet)
- Extra-Hold Hair Gel (ie: Got2B Glued)
- Clear Jewelry Wire (optional)

**Note:** Another option is to make your curls separately and attach them to a short bob wig... up to you!

# ♥ Step 1 - Create your Curl Base

They key to these super-gravity defying curls is the base inside, made of packing tape and wire. Here's the basic structure to follow; essentially you're creating a wire sandwich with tape!

packing tape (sticky side down)

place 2 pieces of wire side by side on packing tape (sticky side up)

Experiment with the tape and wire until you get your curl the length and shape that you want! For my curls, I stuck with the original width of the tape (about 2.5") and made it about 28" long (the same length as the Leia wig from Arda), but you can cut the width and length of the tape to whatever suits your project! Practice curl your base to make sure it's long enough, but flatten it back out when you actually glue your hair on; it's just easier that way.
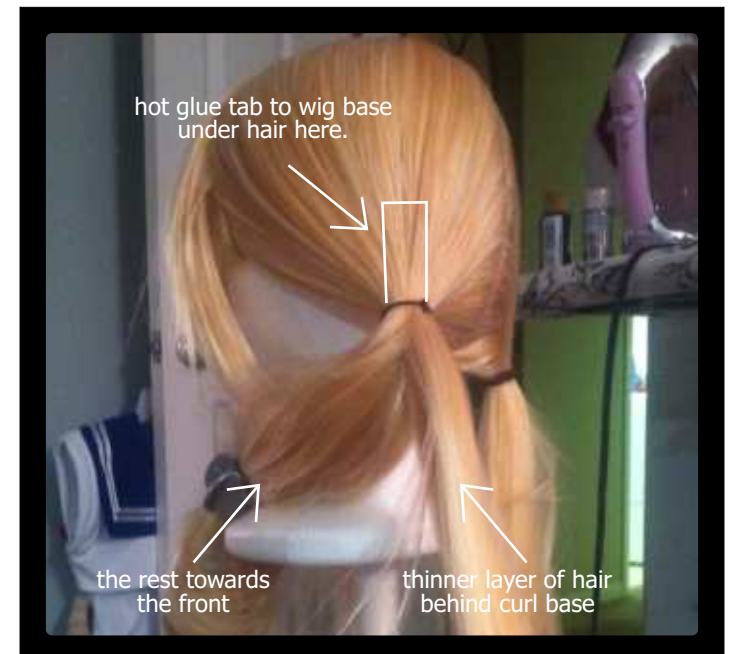
Also, be sure to leave a 2-3" tab at the top of the curl; this it where the curl base will attach to your wig.
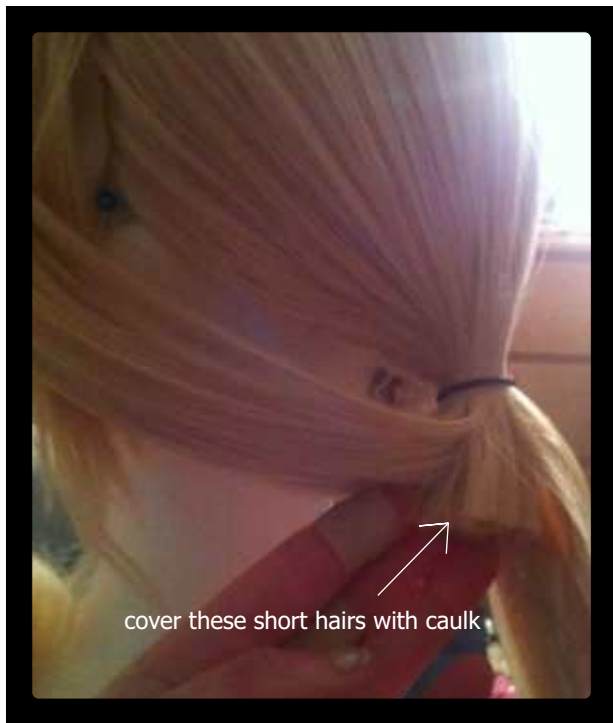


leave a tab at the top

# ♥ Step 2 - Attach Base to Wig

Before you attach the curl base, decide where you want the curls to sit. Place your wig on a styrofoam head or holder and position your ponytails where you'd like them to be when the wig is finished. Mark the area directly above the ponytail with a pin. Then remove the ponytail and move the hair by the pin to the side so you can see the wig cap. Attach the tab of the curl base to the spot you marked on the wig cap with a dab of hotglue.

Once it's attached, position the hair around the curl base. Divide the hair into two sections; piece out a thin layer of hair to go behind the base, enough to cover the packing tape on the outside. Position the rest of the hair on the front side of the curl. Once you have the hair arranged nicely, secure with a ponytail holder (I just tied the holder in a knot and cut off the extra).

Before you move on, make sure the area above the ponytail looks nice and pretty, cuz once you start gluing you won't be able to restyle it much!



hot glue tab to wig base under hair here.

the rest towards the front

thinner layer of hair behind curl base

cover these short hairs with caulk

## ♥ Step 3 - Stubs

Ponytail wigs tend to be too thick to be manageable for drill curls, so we're gonna remove some of that hair by stubbing it!

Take the hair in front of the base and separate our a thin section towards the front (about the same amount that you separated out to go behind the curl base). Clip that part out of the way for now; this part will eventually be part of the actual curl. The rest you will be cutting short to create a stub. Carefully trim that section short to create the stub, then SATURATE it in clear adhesive caulk. Seriously, use a LOT!! You want to make sure this thing doesn't budge! Allow to dry completely before moving on to the next step.
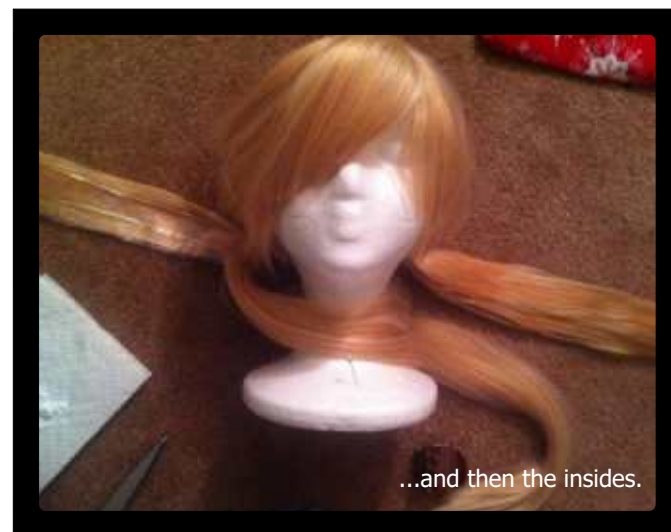

hair-ifying the outsides of the curls...

## ♥ Step 4 - Hair-ifying Your Curls

Start with the outside of the curl. Spread a layer of clear adhesive caulk on the tape, starting at the top of the curl. Press the hair into the caulk, using a comb to smooth out and arrange the hairs so they all lay flat and go in the same direction. Once you have the hair positioned, apply a thin layer of caulk on top of the hair as well. Work slowly, only caulking 4-6" at a time, and allowing the hair to curve slightly along the shape of the tape. To manage the messy caulk, clean off your hands with a damp paper towel as you go. Once all outside hair is glued, allow to dry completely.

Once outside of the curl is dry, lay wig down flat and do the inside. Start by positioning the hair to make sure it completely covers the stub at the top. Be sure the caulk the crap out of that area, since you definitely don't want the stub to show!! After that, you pretty much follow the same steps as you did for the outside. Allow to dry.

Throughout this process, keep your Aquanet handy to deal with dem pesky flyaways. A healthy coating of Aquanet when you're completely done doesn't hurt, either!


...and then the insides.

# ♥ Step 5 - Position & Secure

Once your curls are dry, bend the wires and position the curls how you want! As you start to bend the curls, little pieces of flyaway hairs may start to pop out, but just put them back in their place with some Aquanet. If it's a REALLY big piece, you may be able to just trim it off completely; the caulk makes it so the curls are pretty solid, so even if you trim off a portion of hair the rest probably won't move. Finish the tips of the curls with some Got2B Glued gel.

If your curls seem heavy and don't want to stay in place, you can use some clear jewelry wire between curl loops for extra security. I know it sounds kinda ghetto, but I promise it really isn't noticeable! I ended up having to do this with my curls, it just helps them stay in place a bit better. I attached the clear wire in two key places; from the wig cap right behind my ear to the top of the inside curl, and between the two curls on the outside (see picture on right).

And now you have some fabulous curls, yay!!



one clear wire here...

...and one here!

I hope this tutorial was helpful!! Please feel free to poke me if you have any questions ~ my email is sparklepipsi@gmail.com or you can find me on facebook. Good luck with your cosplay :D

♥ **Suzanne / Sparkle Pipsi**

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Cosplay photos thanks to Ljinto and Mr. Muggles.