

The Most Memorable Makeup in the Movies [Infographic]

Posted by [Richard Peck](#) / 04 Nov, 2016



We know some of you have your minds made up and are going to be America's hardest twerking sweetheart: Miley Cyrus. But for most of us, there's still a lot to decide on! Funny Costume? Scary Costume? Sexy Costume? Hybrid of those three if that's possible? Celebrity? High Heels? Mask? Do it yourself or buy it online? The questions go on and on.

We'll agree that a lot goes into a costume but one thing is for sure we can help you pull off the makeup of some of Hollywood's most memorable characters. We created a list of some of our favorite Hollywood makeup jobs over the decades and provided insight on how the look was achieved.

Take a look and see if these makeup tips help you achieve your Hollywood/Halloween look! Lastly, we also have temporary tattoos and a variety of other products to help you really pull it off.



The movies have always had the unparalleled power to transport us to another world, and makeup has had a significant role in creating this magic of the movies. Although it always looks flawless on screen, the makeup process is often long and grueling, and many people work tirelessly to ensure the characters look startlingly real. Here are some of the greatest makeup moments in movie history:



THE JOKER
"THE DARK KNIGHT"

MAKEUP ARTIST: JOHN CAGLIONE JR.
ACTOR: HEATH LEDGER

ARTIST'S PROCESS:

- The aesthetic sensibility of the makeup was influenced by Francis Bacon's painting "Study for a Portrait, 1953," which Christopher Nolan greatly admired
- They wanted to find a "lived in look" for the Joker's makeup; a look that had much texture and expression
- The artist's technique was "dance-like," before he would apply the makeup, Ledger would "lead by contorting his face, scrunching his eyes, and raising his forehead"
- The artist would then brush the makeup over his various expressions, and that is what created all the textured cracks and creases



MYSTIQUE
"X-MEN"

MAKEUP ARTIST: GORDON SMITH
ACTOR: REBECCA ROMIJN

ARTIST'S PROCESS:

- Gordon Smith and a team of 4 makeup artists spent 12 hours each day before shooting painstakingly bringing Mystique to life
- Silicone prosthetics were applied directly to the skin, and their see-through nature provided a life-like realism
- After applying the prosthetics, the team would apply paints, powders, and Temptu Pro Dura makeup to enhance her appearance
- As the team became more efficient, the application process was reduced to 6 hours



MAKEUP ARTIST: PETER KING & PETER DWEN;
JASON DOCHERTY & GINO ACEVEDO
ACTOR: LAWRENCE MAKOARE

ARTIST'S PROCESS:



LURTZ "THE LORD OF THE RINGS"

- Peter King & Peter Owen were the heads of the makeup and wig department, and are primarily responsible for the design of the makeup
- Jason Docherty and Gino Acevedo physically put the costume on Lawrence Makoare everyday
- Full body makeup and prosthetics took 11 hrs. to apply
- The terrifying headpiece was made of 5 separate parts of silicon, some up to 4 inches thick. This made for a very uncomfortable time in costume for the actor
- Makoare would be on set in full costume for 12 hours, and afterward would have to go through a 3-hour process to remove all the makeup



CLEOPATRA "CLEOPATRA"

MAKEUP ARTIST: ALBERTO DE ROSSI
ACTOR: ELIZABETH TAYLOR

ARTIST'S PROCESS:

- Elizabeth Taylor's famous cat eye makeup universally changed the way women wore their eyeliner in the 1960s
- Though simple to put on, her makeup's profound elegance perfectly accentuated her timeless beauty
- Alberto De Rossi designed the makeup through sketches in preproduction. However, before production began, he needed back surgery, so Elizabeth Taylor had to put the makeup on each herself each day



FRANKENSTEIN'S MONSTER "FRANKENSTEIN"

MAKEUP ARTIST: JACK PIERCE
ACTOR: BORIS KARLOFF

ARTIST'S PROCESS:

- Jack Pierce, a founding father of movie makeup, is responsible for the looks of Universal's iconic monsters, from Frankenstein's Monster to the Wolfman
- Pierce designed the makeup to align seamlessly with Karloff's interesting anatomy. He designed every aspect of the Monster, from his flat top skull to his bolted neck
- To give The Monster hollow cheeks, they removed a dental bridge in Karloff's mouth
- Pierce refused to use molds, and would duplicate his makeup from scratch everyday
- It would take 5 hours to put on every bolt, scar, and stitch, and another 2 hours to remove it



JOANNE EBERHART
"THE STEPFORD WIVES"

MAKEUP ARTIST: BERNADETTE MAZUR & DON KOZMA
ACTOR: NICOLE KIDMAN

ARTIST'S PROCESS:

- While not as showy as some of the monsters and machines on this list, the eerily doll-like appearance of the women in *The Stepford Wives* shows a high level of makeup artistry
- Bernadette Mazur & Don Kozma made an extremely difficult makeup regime seem effortless
- Temptu airbrush makeup was extensively used to create the porcelain appearance of the robot wives in this iconic science fiction tale



THE TERMINATOR
"TERMINATOR 2:
JUDGMENT DAY"

MAKEUP ARTIST: STAN WINSTON
ACTOR: ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

ARTIST'S PROCESS:

- The makeup process for this film was much more complicated than many things that came prior. This is because it was about finding seamlessness between Arnold in makeup and the animatronic Arnold
- In preproduction, Stan Winston's workshop spent months designing custom prosthetics that would make it appear as if parts of the T-800 flesh face had been removed, revealing the robot underneath
- They designed prosthetics that do not stick out from Arnold's face, and lay flat enough to seem realistic
- They also created a chrome under-skull that was actually believable as makeup, and nearly indiscernible from the animatronic and endoskeleton T-800 models



MAKEUP ARTIST: GREG CANNOM, VE NEILL,
YOLANDA TOUSSIENG
ACTOR: ROBIN WILLIAMS

ARTIST'S PROCESS:

- Greg Cannom specially designed the makeup that was used for Robin Williams' transformation
- Everyday, Williams would sit for 4 ½ hours as makeup artist Ve Neill applied a complex series of latex pieces on Williams' face
- Additionally, she would have to paint the surfaces of these pieces to simulate a realistic skin tone

MRS. DOUBTFIRE "MRS. DOUBTFIRE"

• Mrs. Doubtfire showed that innovation in movie makeup wasn't solely reserved for the genres of horror and science fiction



MAX CADY "CAPE FEAR"

MAKEUP ARTIST: ILONA HERMAN
ACTOR: ROBERT DE NIRO

ARTIST'S PROCESS:

- Ilona Herman and a team of makeup designers at Temptu Pro created Robert De Niro's intimidating tattoos in Cape Fear
- Much research was done for the tattoos, and an in-depth collaboration between De Niro and the makeup artists allowed for fake tattoos that looked real and authentic to De Niro's character, and quoted from religious texts Max Cady would have held dear to his heart
- The tattoos alone took 1.5 hours to put on, and were touched up every morning
- De Niro delved so deep into his role and gained so much muscle, that Temptu Pro had to increase the size of his tattoos by 10%

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