



MAKE A PURIM PIÑATA

by Jamie Schoenwald

Make a Purim Pinata!

This is a very messy, but fun, project. You may want to lay down some newspapers to keep the area clean where you are working.

Supplies:

- One 9" - 25" balloon
- 4-inch wide strips of newspaper
- Decoupage glue
- Candy or small toys for filling
- optional tape
- Crepe paper and paint for decorating

General Directions:

Decide on your design. For Purim you could make a Crown, a traditional Hamantaschen cookie, a three dimensional star of David, etc. Your choices are only as many as your imagination. Be creative!! Have fun!!

Inflate your balloon to desired size and tie.

Dip strips of newspaper into Decoupage glue and lay onto the balloon, starting vertically. After a layer of vertical strips, do a layer of horizontal strips. Rotate back and forth until it is feeling rather solid and firm. A Styrofoam plate works nicely for the decoupage to dip the strips into. *Note:* The more decoupage you have on the strips, the more solid your piñata will be.

Dry overnight. Once dry, use a pin to pop the balloon inside the newspaper.

Decorate the piñata. You can embellish with paint, streamers, crepe paper etc. This is the fun part.

Find a place not easily seen to put the

hole for the goodies. Cut three sides of a square, like a door that can be opened to fill the pinata. You can fill it with anything from candy to little prizes from the dollar store.

For hanging the pinata, run one long piece of wire or coat hanger through three points in the top and twist together at the ends. Then tie a rope to the wire to hang on a hook from the ceiling or something else that would hold the weight and stress of the game.

The game is played by blindfolding children in turn. Each one takes a couple swings at the pinata with a stick or plastic bat. When it breaks open and all the goodies fall out, the children collect everything in bags. It is best to label a bag for each child and set aside some extra goodies for anyone who feels as if they couldn't gather much. Its also a good time to teach your children about mercy and kindness. There always seems to be someone in need of comfort.

For safety, make a line at a safe distance from the swinging stick that everyone can stand behind. For an added challenge for older kids, turn them around a couple times to disorient them before they try to swing at the pinata. Decide ahead of time how many swings each batter will get. It is also helpful to tell the children to wait for the go signal from a parent before they start collecting goodies.



Note: For the hamantaschen pinata, use three balloons taped to each other to get the triangle shape.

Purim Costume Masks

by Elisabeth Niedrauer

Photocopy the patterns on the following page. There is one pattern for a large size mask, one for a small size mask., and one for a doll-sized mask. The same instructions apply to all.

You will need:

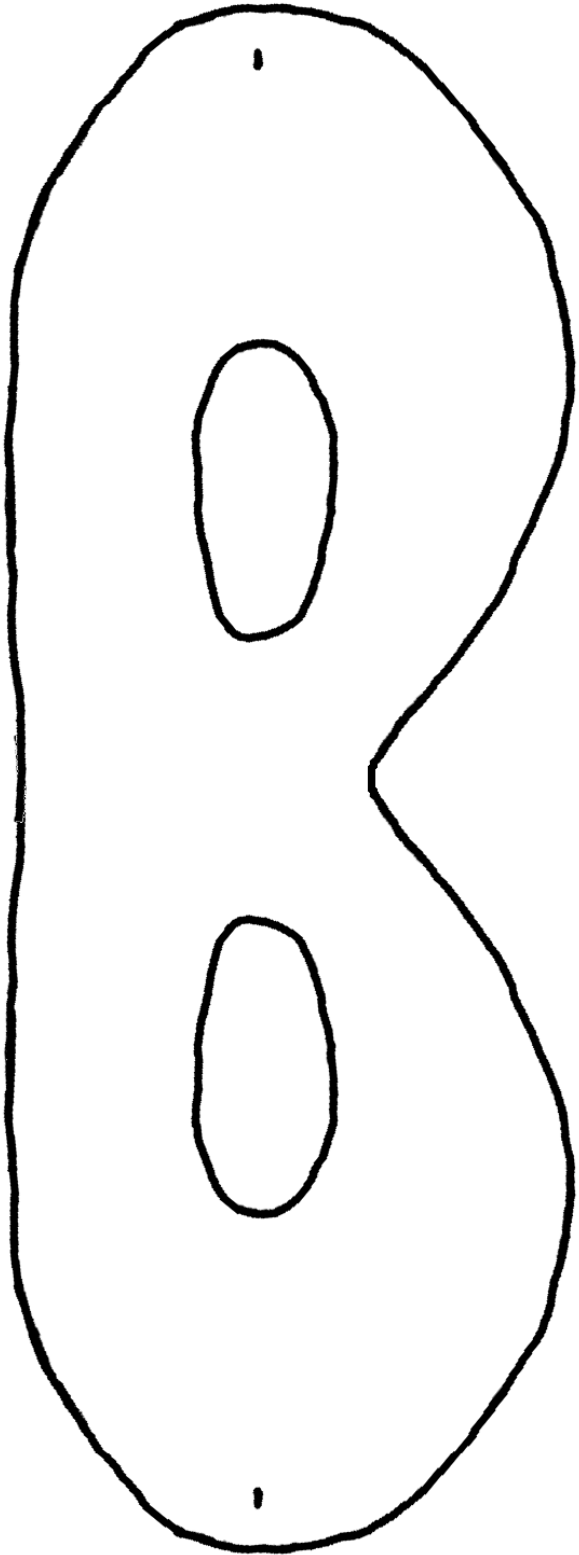
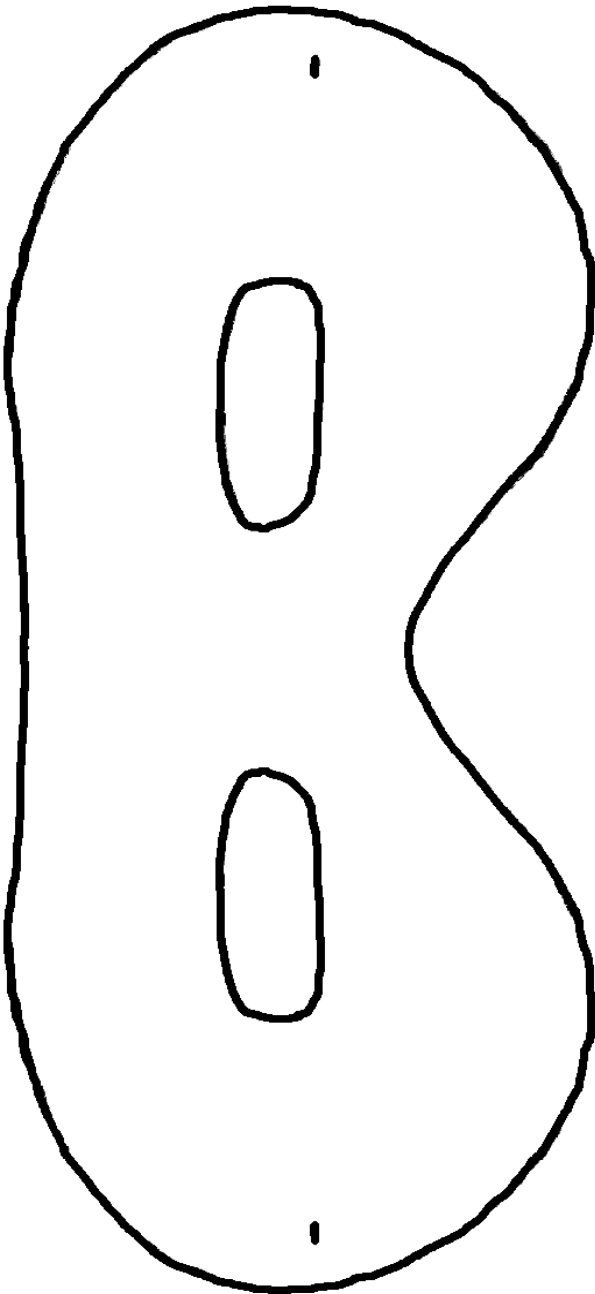
- Small pieces of black felt (this can be purchased by the square at Wal-mart)

—1/4" elastic

Using the pattern, cut the mask out of black felt. Try it on the person who will be wearing it to measure the distance across the back of the head from one end of the mask to the other. Cut a piece of elastic to fit. Fold over each end and stitch it to the side of the mask (the pattern is marked to show where to attach the elastic).

Decorate with fabric paints if desired.

*Purim Costume Mask
Patterns*



for an 18" doll