

Gauzy Fairy Wings

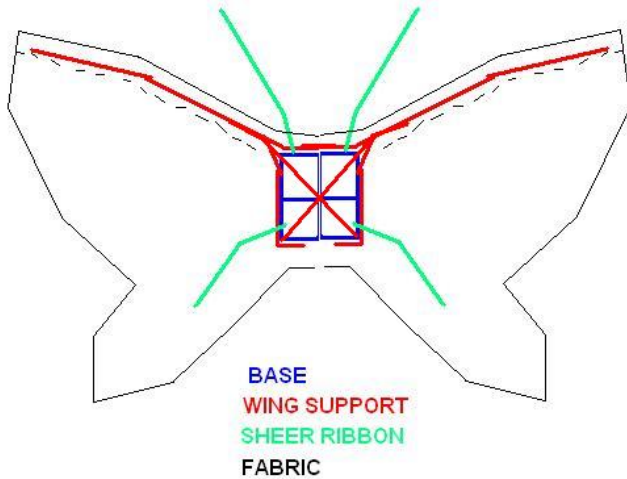
by

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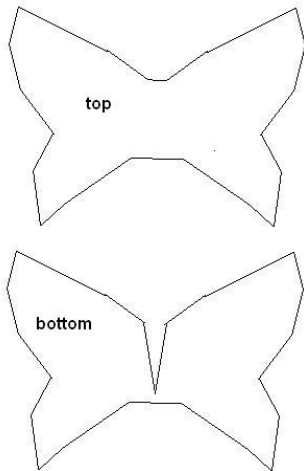
Your dress looks a lot like the flower and vase-bearer girls' dresses i made for my wedding in April;
i made them wings too (in about an hour...)
the wings i made for them are very quick, and looked really awesome in the breeze (they are very gauzy!)
(directions below piccies...)



Make a sturdy square base and attach strong wire 'bar' at top, stabilize with bits that go crosswise and down the sides, make sure the 'stabilizer bars' attach to the 'arms' at least 6 inches, even a foot. Cover the whole support system with electric or duck tape in a complimentary color to your wing color (or use plain and spray paint, that's what i did). Then, tie or sew and hot glue on 3/4" sheer ribbon (these aren't all that heavy, so it will stand up fine) to the corners. (Note: double back the ends of the 'arms' so they are not pointy and eye-pokey!)



The wing membrane is tulle (i think- the nylon(?) or poly(?) small-holed netting stuff on rolls in the drapery dept, not very expensive, and sturdier than the tulle in the garment section, I got mine at Hancock's.) serge all the outside edges except the top middle, and stitch a 'sleeve pocket' along the upper edge by stitching a couple inches in from the serged edge. lay the membrane on a smooth surface and draw veins w/ dimensional paint (have at Wal-Mart) and let dry... (serging gives a decorative edge and a little stability to the edges, if you don't have access to one, do a rolled hem all along the edges.)



Then, thread the arms into the pockets (you'll be bending some wires back here, just go slow!), and hot glue upper edge (and for security, random other spots) to the membrane.)

i like these for weddings because people can run into them and they

don't bend, you can sit back in a chair, and they are dramatic enough to add to the look but understated enough to not take over the look you're trying to achieve. (plus, they flutter in the slightest breeze or movement!)

I think it was just 17g galvanized electric fencing wire; the tulle stuff is very lightweight (also, I still have at least half my 1/2 mile each spools of 17g and 22g fence wire from when I started experimenting w/ chain mail)... I might go for either a doubled layer or a couple gauges stronger for more substantial fabric; the little stabilizer bar thingies I made helps w/ that-- moves the weak attachment point further up the arms, helps b/c then only the weight of the wings past that point are pulling on it.

The fabric is **like** the ballerina tulle netting, except it came from the upholstery section and is just a **bit** more substantial.