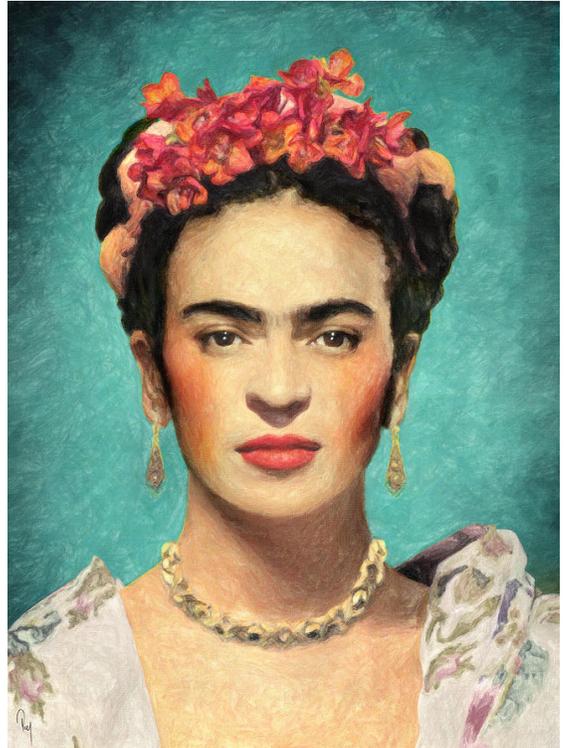


FRIDA KAHLO TEHUANA DOLL

Cut out, assemble, decorate, and personalize
your own Frida Kahlo doll!



Following her death in 1954, Frida Kahlo's possessions were locked away in La Casa Azul (the Blue House) in Mexico City, her lifelong home. Half a century later, her collection of clothing, jewelry, cosmetics, and other personal items was discovered. Unique, subversive, and contradictory, Mexican painter Frida Kahlo (July 6, 1907 - July 13, 1954) is today celebrated as one of the most significant artists of the 20th Century. Known as much for her extraordinary life and personal style as for her vivid artwork, Kahlo has become a cult figure, her image immortalized through the lens of many photographers and used by feminists, artists, and fashion designers alike.



In 2004, the revelation of this overwhelmingly intimate collection of Kahlo's belongings dramatically changed our understanding of her life and her art. These objects, which include clothing (distinctive and colorful indigenous Mexican garments, some flecked with paint and visible signs of wear), jewelry (pre-Columbian necklaces that Frida strung herself), examples of intricately hand-painted medical corsets and orthopedic devices, love letters and several items of make-up still in their original packaging had been locked away in La Casa Azul for 50 years according to the wishes of her husband, the Mexican muralist Diego Rivera, and Dolores Olmedo, friend and patron of Rivera.

The collection also reveals how Kahlo used indigenous textiles as well as art for emotional strength and to develop a sense of personal identity. Her striking appearance was a political statement, and she crafted her identity to reflect her own mixed-race heritage and allegiance to Mexico. Her wardrobe includes examples of traditional Mexican dress—rebozos (fringed shawls), embroidered huipiles (square-cut tops), enaguas (skirts), and holanes (flounces)—as well as corsets painted with religious and Communist symbolism.

SUPPLIES

- Frida Tehuana doll template (next page)
- X-Acto knife (adults only!) or scissors
- Markers, colored pencils, or crayons
- Hole punch
- 5 brass fasteners
- Sequins (optional)
- Tissue paper (optional)
- Bamboo skewer (optional)
- Tape (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1.) Have an adult print the template on the next page for you.
- 2.) Use scissors to cut the dress, head, hands, and bones out of the template. If you want to, ask an adult to help you with an X-Acto knife.
- 3.) Color the pieces with markers, colored pencils, or crayons. Use bright, vibrant colors, just like Frida liked using!
- 4.) Have a grown up help you pierce the brass fasteners through the dots on the hands, bones, and neck. This will allow all of the pieces to move on their own!
- 5.) Decorate your Frida doll even more by adding sequins and paper flowers made out of tissue paper. If you want to, you can even use tape to attach your doll to a bamboo skewer. Look at the example online if you need ideas.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

ShoreLake Arts is proud to present this project created by local Seattle artist Amaranta Ibarra Sandys. Amaranta was born and raised in Mexico City and creates artwork that is inspired by social change, nature and cycles, and reclaiming ancestral images.

Find out more about Amaranta, Dia de Muertos, and ShoreLake Arts, and even download another art project at www.shorelakearts.org/dia. Oh, and don't forget to come by the ShoreLake Arts Gallery after 12:00 PM on November 2 to add to the community altar and pick up free sugar skull stickers!

