

A Resource Document on Understanding and Portraying Black Hair Respectfully

by [louham]

This is a compilation of resources I've gathered, mainly as a reference point for those wishing to improve on drawing black hair, but also linking a few articles/videos to understand the cultural context, and hopefully understand where black artists are coming from expressing our frustration. This document coincides with my video looking into black hair in gaming and animation:

<https://youtu.be/CIWUHh8PUgc>

Hopefully this helps out those having trouble.

*(this document is subject to change, may add
resources as necessary)*

“A Black Woman’s History of Hair” by Intelxual Media

- ***An in-depth and comprehensive deep-dive into the historical context that comes with the tighter texture:***

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hWVzi8pX2jw>

“17 Black Celebrities Who Faced Hair Discrimination” by Lauren Edmonds and Pauline Villegas of Insider

- ***Numbered list detailing a multitude of celebrities expressing their grievances with the unprofessionalism and lack of experience with black hair by hairstylists in the entertainment business:***

<https://www.insider.com/black-celebrities-who-experienced-hair-discrimination-on-set-2023-5>

“We Need to Fix Black Hair In Video Games” by Blessing Adeoye Jr. of Kinda Funny Games

- *A well produced YouTube video, unpacking the complacency shown by the gaming industry, with perspectives from the people and industry professional that hits the points concisely:*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pepkcF9UXng&t=25s>

“Black Woman Create Themselves In The Sims: No Mods vs. Mods (ft. EbonixSims)” by BuzzFeed Multiplayer

- *Ignoring BuzzFeed’s meme reputations for a second, this video not only showcases the skills and variety that custom content creators possess in The Sims community, but it also shows the perspectives of regular black woman also expressing their frustrations with the lack of customization options*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fZhi2bSdXnQ>

“Black Actors Whose Hair Was Damaged on Set”

- *This is a reposted Tiktok (couldn’t find the author, will change once I found the original) of an individual listing Black celebrities whose hair was messed with on set*
<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/S4SMWuWV9Ow>

“How ‘Marvel’s Moon Girl and Devil Dinosaur’ and ‘My Dad the Bounty Hunter’ Break Ground for Black Families in Animation” by Abbey White of the Hollywood Reporter

- *An article.interview serving as a conversation of black representation in animation, and how the two shows approached portrayal in both productions*
<https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/tv/tv-features/moon-girl-and-devil-dinosaur-my-dad-the-bounty-hunter-animation-style-1235321289/>

“Setting New Standards for Hair and Makeup Equity” by SAG-AFTRA

- *A presentation/conversation regarding the industry blunders and negligence within the film/TV industry in regards to representing black features correctly*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2i52jTKzXhE>

“The Sims Enlisted One of Hollywood’s Favorite Hairstylists to Create Its Latest Inclusive Hairstyles” by Gabi Thorne of Allure

- ***An article going over The Sims’ “Growing Together,” a DLC featuring hair work by Lacy Redway, with the article exploring her thought process and experiences for the duration of the collaboration***

<https://www.allure.com/story/sims-lacy-redway-black-hairstyle-expansion>

Now for where the artists are looking for:

“How to Draw African American Hair/4C hair types” by ItsAJArt

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GxPVgRjaPK8>

“How I draw black hairstyles (simple)” by Likelihood Art

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t4P-MbWum3Y>

“My TikTok Viral How to Draw Hair Videos” by Whyt Manga

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F8UOb9YgjHs>

“Drawing Black Hairstyles” by BlakeOBK

<https://twitter.com/BlakeOhBeKay/status/1630607926086844424>

“How to Make Afro & Dreadlocks Stylized Hair in Blender 3.5 (Tutorial)” by Nino

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hCvNN9aZ2vM>