

Disclaimer

- I am an employee of The Pokemon Company International, however, this does not offer me any advantage in creating a Pokemon-inspired costume. I do not have access to special reference materials aside from larger versions of the reference images I've included below.
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Costume Overview and Concept

FINALIST PORTFOLIO

Crunchyroll Hime's Cosplay Cup - 2020

Entry Name: Luluko

Entry Email: [REDACTED]

Level: Advanced

Character Name: Alcremie/Gigantamax Alcremie

Series: Pokemon Sword/Shield



Alcremie



Gigantamax Alcremie

My design features tearaway elements that will allow me to transform from Alcremie to its bigger, more powerful, more delicious form, Gigantamax Alcremie. I love drag and have done previous costumes with tearaway elements, so I wanted to push those skills further. This is also the first ballgown I've ever made.

I used as many materials from my stash as possible--fortunately I keep a lot of glitter on hand! Nearly everything else I purchased for this costume was ordered online. I wanted to limit my in-store visits as much as possible, which required a lot of planning ahead and improvising with materials I already had. Given the time restraint, I wasn't able to order swatches, which presented challenges as well.

Wig

Base wig: Extra wefts added for volume and to add pink tint/streaks. Middle layer of wefts teased for volume. Trimmed and curled with roll brush/hair dryer. Rare earth magnets attached to headband inside to hold buns/hair bow.

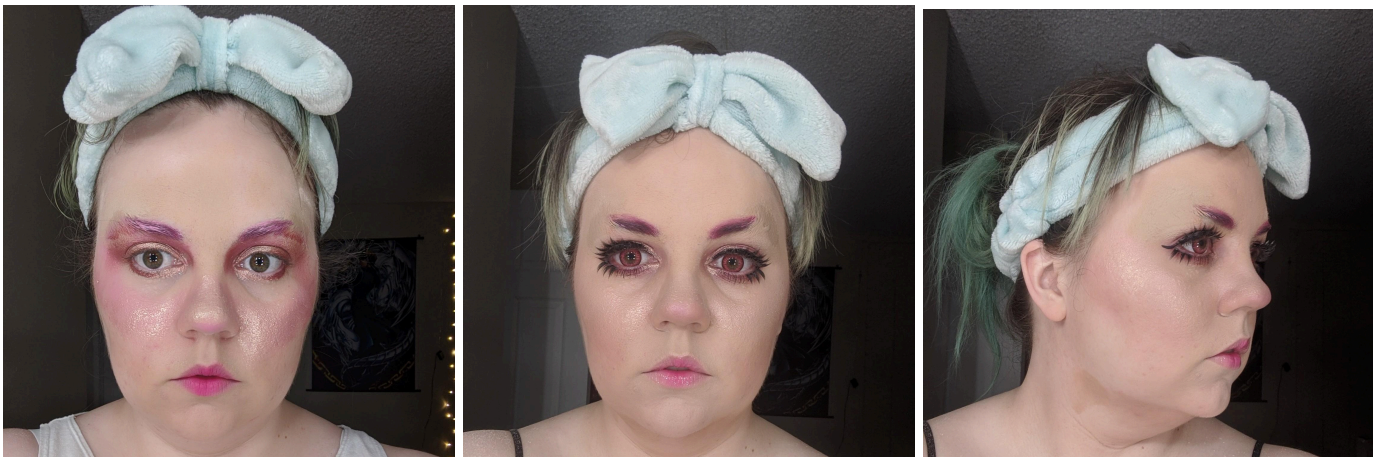
Buns: Pre-made from Arda wigs. It seemed impossible to add wefts to these without destroying them so I carefully added pink wefts on top with Freeze Spray and glue. Rare earth magnets sewn/glued into the bottom. Strawberries made by covering plastic egg halves with stretch fabric and rhinestones.

Hair bow: Fosshape base covered in teased wefts then straight wefts. Attached with tacky glue and a lot of Freeze Spray. Rare earth magnet hidden in middle wefts.



Makeup

Makeup inspired by decora looks with drag elements like (partially) blocked brows and stacked lashes. As this is a new style of makeup for me, I did multiple makeup tests, taking photos and notes to document what worked and what didn't.



Tearaway

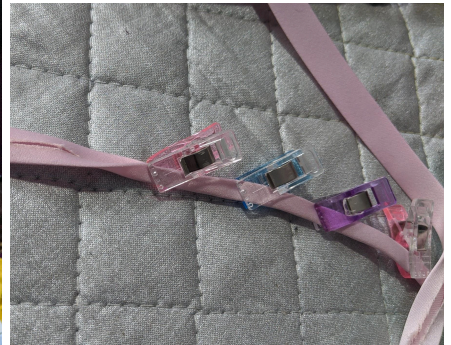
My plan was to roll the ballgown up in a hidden skirt to create a bubble skirt, which is why my design doesn't include a hoop skirt or petticoat. As you can see, it worked in theory--and with a LOT of binder clips. Unfortunately, binder clips aren't yet an acceptable way of achieving a tearaway, and I didn't realize until the deadline day that it wouldn't work, so I had to think on my feet. Fortunately, the tearaway skirt was already as long as the longest layer of the ballgown, so it

now snaps in place over the ballgown instead of under it. The capelet also tears away easily thanks to snaps. I'm disappointed that I wasn't able to pull off my original concept, but proud that I was able to course-correct quickly.



Bodice and bow

Bodice made from an altered commercial pattern. Boned with steel and rigiline from my stash. I chose a lace-up back because I lift weights and have to be mindful of changes in my measurements. Lacing made from handmade satin bias tape. Bow is interfaced but has chopsticks inside to make sure it doesn't droop since it's so big. Confetti dot on bow is flat lined with cotton. Bow attaches with a large snap.



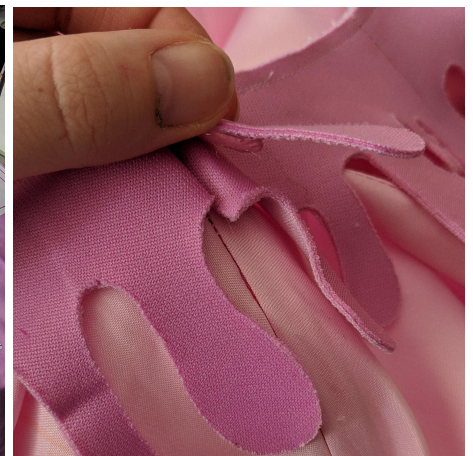
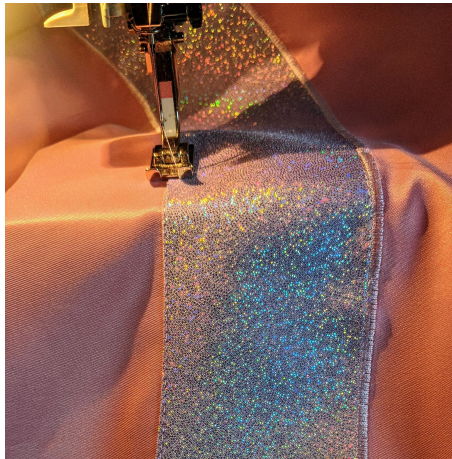
Skirts

Each skirt was patterned by me, left to hang for 48+ hours before being trued up. I used heavier 3 inch horsehair for the bottom three tiers; it didn't have a gathering string so I did my best to steam it into shape.

I used the wrong side of peau de soie to mimic the matte finish of frosting and to contrast with the sparkly decorations. The yellow skirt was dyed with iDye Poly as the fabric I received was champagne-colored.

Appliques were added with Heat N Bond and satin stitched.

The "drip" layers are made from Heat N Bonded scuba knit that I hand-cut into shape. The pink scuba knit was also dyed with iDye Poly as the fabric I received ended up being the exact same color as the top pink skirt. I even added a "drip" to the zipper pull to help it blend in. I don't have photos of the white drip layer as I did it the night before deadline--sorry!



Ruffles

Used the “zig zag” method to replicate the look of ribbons of frosting around the edge of a cake. I roll hemmed each fabric strip on my serger then gathered along a zig zag line rather than the typical straight line. I used gradient thread because the color was called “rainbow sprinkle” so...yeah of course I had to use it.



Decorations

Made using vectors I commissioned from [Mel Shardae](#). For the clover and ribbon sweets I cut craft foam on my vinyl cutter and wrapped the foam in fabric, but this was time consuming and trickier to make neat around curved corners. For the stars and flowers, I tried a different method. I cut both the fabric and foam on my vinyl cutter, then used spray adhesive to adhere.

The berry and heart sweets were made from KobraCast shaped over forms (a capsule from a gacha machine and a plastic ornament), covered in stretch fabrics, and backed with craft foam.

