

BIGIMOTIK
corporate skills adapted for a cosplayer world



So You Want to Do A Cosplay Skit

Collaboration and Group Work

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Facebook | [facebook.com/bigimotikcosplay](#) | *Photo Albums: WIP, references, project files*

Website | [www.bigimotikcosplay.com](#) | *Costume portfolio, content archive*



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So you want to do a cosplay skit (Finding People to Work With)

Most skits require more than one person. How do you get around to forming a group, coming up with ideas, and working together to put together a performance?

Getting the Players

1. Ask your friends

You may have friends that are interested in participating. This includes friends that don't usually cosplay.

2. Check on your local forum

The first cosplay skit I was a part of was one where the group leader found me on the Anime Boston forums. You never know who might be interested?

Tip: If you don't want to spoil the surprise of your idea, try sending the person a private message to ask if their interested. Or post your idea ambiguously. For example: comedy skit, Sword Art Online, looking for a Kirito.

3. Use social media

Many conventions have social groups run by fellow attendees or fans. Posting in one of the groups is a great way to find others who want to be in skits too!

Regardless of where you recruit from, it is important that you set expectations upfront regarding time commitments, whether the person needs to bring their own costume, and what their role in the skit is.



Our first competitive skit was a member of Anime Boston staff recruiting on a forum, looking for people to be a part of their performance.

It was a lot of fun and we still talk to our group members today!

Pictured:
Anime Boston 2013
Novice Division

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So you want to do a cosplay skit *(Working in a Group)*

Working in a group is challenging, but here are my top 4 tips for making it work!

Set Expectations

Make sure that expectations are clear and communicated from the start. Projects fall apart when people make assumptions about time commitment, cost, and responsibilities. If everyone knows what's what, then you'll have fewer arguments and everything will run more smoothly.

Designate a leader

There will be a time when you cannot come to a consensus or you need to make decisions quickly. You may also want someone who is the central point for communication. Ideally, pick someone who can foster compromise and be impartial when needed.

Assign Responsibilities

Putting a skit together requires everyone to do their share. Figure out who has which skills and delegate so that everyone has something to do. Got a friend who's good at writing? Have them write the script. Got a friend who dances? Ask them to do choreography.

Put all tasks in a central place so that the group can hold themselves accountable for making sure that things get done.

Provide Support

When someone in the group is feeling stressed, anxious, or under pressure, lend a helping hand. Some people may have stage fright. Some may have real-world obligations that make it hard to keep up with the group. Be accommodating and help your group mates.

A cosplay skit can be stressful experience, but it is important to remember that you are doing this as a team.

Treat everyone with respect.

Be clear about responsibilities and expectations.

Have a ton of fun with your friends!





So you want to make your cosplay skit work for you

This purpose of this guide is to help translate skills you may have acquired by working on cosplay skits into professional examples that you can use during an interview or on the job.

Interview Question: *Give an example of a time where you demonstrated leadership qualities.*

Let's start by defining what *being a leader* actually means. There are many different definitions, but the one that resonates the most with me is:



There are two types of leadership scenarios: one that leverages a chain of command and one that does not. For example: if your boss tells you to do something, you have to do it because as a culture, we respect the chain of command.

But in the latter case, the leader does not possess that authority and must *convince everyone to do the work instead*. For example: if you are putting a skit together with your friends, you can't control their actions, so you have to use other means to inspire them to do their portion of the work.

A true leader is someone who can inspire others to follow their vision and plan. Employers are often looking for people who have experience and techniques in convincing others to work together and reach a goal. If you have been a leader of a cosplay skit group, then you have this experience – whether you realize it or not!

Some specific examples you can consider:

- **Decision making** – Did you have a group member drop at the last minute? How did you respond to that challenge?
- **Collaboration** – Did your group have members that were not on good terms? How did you include them in the project? How did you communicate?
- **Delegation of responsibility** – Was there a situation where you had to ask another group member to complete a task (e.g. audio/video, choreography, script)? How did you make sure the task was completed on time?
- **Independent thought and vision** – Who came up with the plan? Were you able to bring your own ideas to the table? How did you contribute?

Start by taking notes of times that you demonstrated specific leadership qualities in order to achieve an objective or complete a plan. Then practice answering similar questions using those examples!