



Spudman

for ages 5 and up

The Mr. Potato head toy was created in 1952 by a guy named George Lerner who got the idea by dressing up potatoes out of his parents' garden. It was originally available as the prizes in cereal boxes and you used your own potato!

For more fun facts and trivia, visit the Potato Head collector's web page:
<http://www.mrpotatohead.net/>

materials:

wood base

nails - approx 3-4" long, no head

potato

elmers or tacky glue

scissors

Hot glue guns (optional – use low temp)

hot glue sticks

decorative bits: we like beads, buttons, sequins, bottle caps, feathers, small recycle bits, scrap fabric, yarn scrap (hair & whiskers)



parent prep:

Hammer nails into bases making an inverted V – 2 nails is better. With one nail, the potato will spin. Keep the nails close together. Gently push the potato onto the nails. If you don't have a wood base, any sturdy material will work, but be sure to secure your potato to it before you begin!

Glue Gun Safety!

Before starting the project, review the rules of glue gun safety:

- Be aware of where your glue gun is at all times.
- NEVER touch the metal tip.
- Dispense the glue by aiming at the larger object and pulling the trigger, then place the smaller object on top, being careful not to touch the glue.
- Slowly count to ten to let it cool and form a bond.

Only low-temp glue guns should be used, and parents should closely supervise. Keep a small bowl of cold water handy – if the child does get glue on their finger, immediately immersing it in water reduces the risk of a burn.

process:

Bring your potato to life with elements such as feathers, hair, eyes and clothing. Are there any other things this particular potato should have? Does it need accessories? Do you want to decorate the base? Give an "earthquake test" to make sure all features are secure and your Spudman (or Spudwoman) is ready to go!

