

HOW TO RECAPITATE A DOLL

RAG DOLL

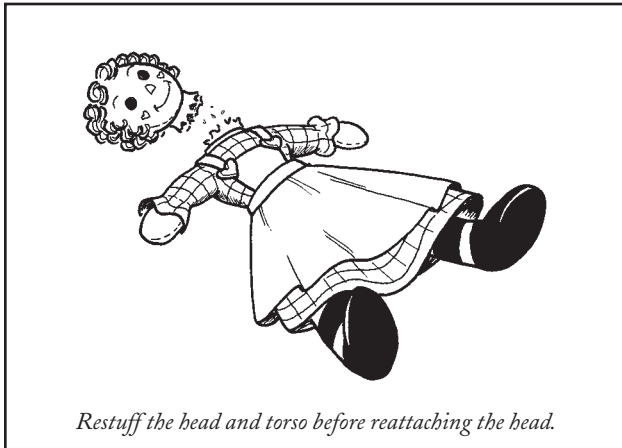
1 Restuff the head and torso.

If the neck area is mostly loose fabric and/or stuffing, use polyester fiberfill, available at craft stores, to replace lost stuffing. If fiberfill is unavailable, stuff nylon stockings into the head and neck areas.

2 Overlap the fabric of the head and neck slightly.

3 Sew the head to the neck.

Use standard-weight thread close to the color of the doll. Begin about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch from the initial stitch and sew three-quarters of the way around the doll's head.



Restuff the head and torso before reattaching the head.

4 Check the position of the head.

If the doll's head lolls to either side, use additional stuffing to stiffen its position.

5 Complete the sewing.

Stitching once around the neck should be sufficient to hold the head in place. Cut the thread and tie it off.

6 Hide the stitches with an accessory.

If the stitch work is unsightly, tie a colorful ribbon or bandanna around the doll's neck to conceal the surgery.

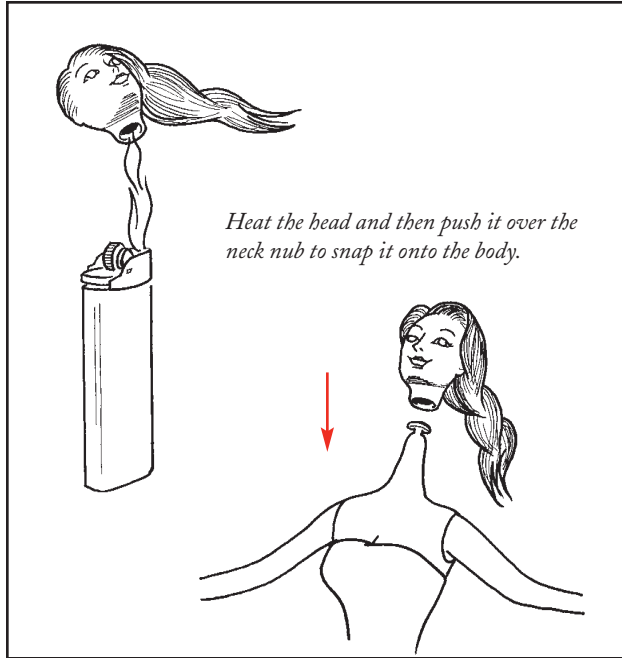
PLASTIC DOLL

1 Determine if the doll has a cuff joint at the nub.

Most plastic dolls have a cuff joint at the area where the head meets the neck. The nub is the part of the doll, either the neck or the top of the shoulders, that has separated from the head.

2 Heat the head.

Heating the plastic will make it pliable enough to reinsert into the cuff joint. Use a lighter or hair dryer on its highest setting to heat only the area of the head that fits over the nub. Heat for 2 minutes. Alternatively, boil a pot of water, remove from the heat, and let stand 1 minute, then submerge the affected part of the head for 2 minutes. Do not heat hair, eyebrows, or eyelashes.



3 Push the head over the nub on the torso.

Work quickly, applying firm, steady pressure. Use a flathead screwdriver for added leverage, if necessary. The head should snap tightly onto the body.

4 Cool.

Allow the plastic to cool and reharden for several minutes before returning the doll to your child.

AN 18-INCH VINYL-HEADED DOLL

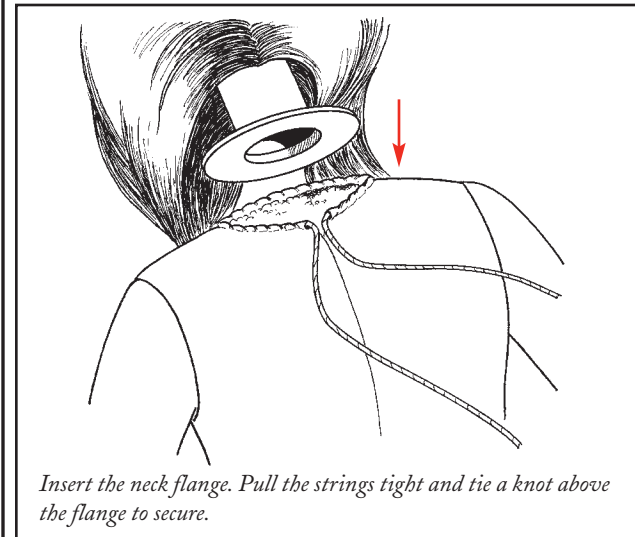
1 Find the neck string.

The doll head is held in place by a string that runs through the neck casing at the top of the doll's body. The string will be visible where it comes out of the casing on the back of the body (where the back of the neck would be).

2 Untie the neck string.

3 Reposition the head.

Place the head of the doll on the torso. You may need a second pair of hands to hold it steady while you prepare the string.



4 Pull the string to tighten.

Grasp the ends of the string and pull firmly until you feel it tighten around the neck flange and secure the head to the body.

5 Retie the string.

Tie the neck string in a square knot (see the diagram on page 49) to prevent it from coming loose. Tie a bow to shorten the ends of the string. Double-knot for added security.

**WORST-CASE
SCENARIO.**