



Make your own sword

In role playing, battles are fought with special soft role-playing weapons so it is possible to hit one another without it hurting. It is recommended that adults first make their own sword. It takes 30 minutes to an hour to make a sword for the first time.

Materials

- Duct (gaffa) tape
- Double-sided sticky tape
- 1 foam-rubber sleeping pad
- 1 10 mm bamboo cane
- Leather or cloth for the grip

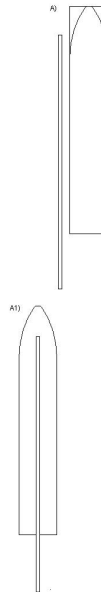
Tools

- Saw
- Sharp hobby knife

Here is what you do

A)

- Saw the bamboo cane to the correct length. The finished sword will be about 15 cm longer than the cane
- Cut out the shape of the sword blade in the foam-rubber sleeping pad. Use the bamboo cane to measure the length. The sword blade should be 10 cm longer than the cane.
- Cut two further sword blades from the sleeping pad.
- Place the cane on one of the sword blades so the blade extends 10 cm beyond the end of the cane. Draw a line all the way around the cane and cut out the thin strip within the line.





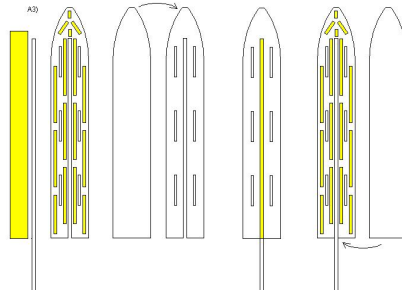
A2)

- Cut air holes in this middle piece to make the sword softer. See drawing A2.
- Enough room should be left for the double-sided sticky tape between the holes and the cut-out for the cane.



A3)

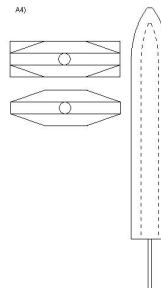
- Place a strip of double-sided sticky tape on the cane, level with the slit in the middle piece.
- Place double-sided sticky tape on one side of the middle piece. The tape should not cover the air holes.
- Attach the middle piece to one of the side pieces.
- Place the bamboo cane in the slot you have made in the middle piece.
- Place double-sided sticky tape to the other side of the middle piece and attach the other side piece.



You now have the rough shape of the blade. Now an edge needs to be cut on it.

A4)

- Make an angled cut along both sides of the blade with a very sharp hobby knife.
- Take care not to cut into the air holes in the middle.

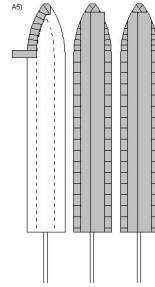




Now you need to use the duct tape.

A5)

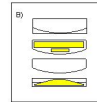
- Begin with narrow pieces of tape at the tip of the sword and on the rounded back. Over-large pieces are difficult to smooth out. Larger pieces can be used on the straight sides.
- When the whole of the edge is covered, long strips of tape can be laid down over the flat sides of the blade. See the last drawing in A5.



Now you need to make the piece between the grip and the blade (the hilt).

B)

- Cut out the first template in the foam rubber pad and then copy it four times. Fix four pieces together in pairs using double-sided sticky tape. Now you have two thick pieces and one thin piece of foam rubber.
- Take one of the thick pieces and place a piece of doubled-sided tape on top of it where it is to be attached to the blade as shown lowermost in drawing B.
- Do the same for the other thick piece.



B1)

- Divide the narrow piece of foam rubber into two.
- Take the cane and lay it on top of this piece, draw a line around it and cut out the strip so you have two pieces.
- Put double-sided tape on the pieces and fix them to one of the thick pieces so there is room for the cane.
- Fix double-sided tape to the cane in the position where the hilt will be.

B2)

- Fix the piece to the cane and place a piece of double-sided tape so the other thick piece can be fixed in position.
- Wrap duct tape on the hilt and up the blade to hold everything together.





- Again, use narrow pieces of tape. Now you have finished the hilt.

Now you must make the grip

C)

- Start by cutting a piece of foam rubber which tapers at one end, see drawing C.
- Fix double-sided tape on the cane where the grip is to be.
- Take the strip of foam rubber and wind it around the cane. It must sit tightly.
- Use pieces of duct tape to secure it and end 2 cm from the end of the cane.
- Cut off any remaining piece of foam rubber so that 2 cm of the cane is visible.
- The grip should be covered with leather or cloth at the end.

Now you must make the pommel. This is done in almost the same way as the hilt.

D)

- Cut the first template out from the foam rubber and copy it four times. Fix four of the pieces together in pairs with double-sided tape. Now you have two thick pieces and one thin piece of foam rubber. The thin piece goes in the middle.
- Lay the cane on the middle of the thin piece and draw a line around it.
- Cut the piece out and lay it together with one of the thick pieces.
- Fix double-sided tape on the cane where the pommel is to sit.
- Fix one thick piece to the cane.
- Attach the other thick piece using double-sided tape.
- Cover the pommel and further up the grip with duct tape to hold it together.

The finishing touches.

E)

- Cover the grip by winding around pieces of leather or cloth.
- Then use some string to secure it with.
- Pull it very tight so it grips better and gives a good finish.

