



## THE PIRATE CUTLASS Assembly Instructions Page 2.

**WHAT YOU'LL NEED:** Scissors, glue (or a glue stick), a ruler, tape, a pen or pencil, and a piece of corrugated cardboard (at least 8 inches square).

A utility knife is optional for cutting the cardboard and the hole in the guard, but scissors will work.

**CUTLASS ASSEMBLY:** Be sure you have CORRUGATED cardboard so the sword will be sturdy. Cut out the CORE TEMPLATE on Parts Page 1. Lay the CORE TEMPLATE over the cardboard, following the grain as shown in Figure 1, and cut out 5 matching pieces.

Remove 2 inches from the CORE TEMPLATE by cutting along the black dotted line. Now use the CORE TEMPLATE to shorten one of the cardboard pieces to the same length.

Remove another two inches from the CORE TEMPLATE. Then use the CORE TEMPLATE to cut one of the cardboard pieces in half. You should now have three 8 inch pieces, one 6 inch piece, and two 4 inch pieces, as shown in Figure 2.

Tape the 6 inch piece to the end of an 8 inch piece. Tape each 4 inch piece to the end of an 8 inch piece. You should now have two 12 inch pieces and one 14 inch piece, as shown in Figure 3.

Sandwich the 14 inch piece between the two 12 inch pieces, as shown in Figure 4, and tape together. (Be sure the seams are not lined up. If they are, turn the center piece around so they are NOT lined up.)

The end of the core that's three pieces thick will go toward the back of the sword. The end that's only one piece thick will go toward the front.

Cut out the TIP TEMPLATE on Parts Page 1. Place the template over the remaining cardboard (again following the grain) and cut out two cardboard tips. Place the tips on either side of the single layered front of the core. The back of each tip should meet the part of the core that's three layers thick. Tape the tips securely to the core.

Cut out the HANDLE TEMPLATE on Parts Page 1. Use the HANDLE TEMPLATE to make a mark 4 and a quarter inches from the back of the core, as shown in Figure 5. Turn the core over and mark the opposite side in the same way. Remove the HANDLE TEMPLATE.

Cut out the LOWER BLADE on Parts Page 2. Fold the two tabs with yellow dots UPWARD, fold DOWNWARD along the center line, and then flatten the piece back out.

Cut out the two UPPER BLADES and glue them over the blank gray tabs on the LOWER BLADE, as shown in Figure 6.

Fold the blade along the center line and place the cardboard core between the two sides of the blade. (Be sure the tip of the core slants upward like the blade.) Position the blade so the back of the blade meets the mark we made earlier on the core, as shown in Figure 7. Fold the tab with the yellow dot down and glue it to the core as shown in Figure 8. Turn the sword over and glue the other tab with a yellow dot in the same way.

To finish the blade, put lots of glue on the inside edges of both blade halves. Press the edges together, starting at the tip and working your way towards the back. (The blade fits very snug over the core, so use plenty of glue to connect the two sides of the blade.) Trim the finished blade edges if needed.

Cut out the OUTER GUARD on Parts Page 4 and remove the white rectangle.

Cut out the INNER GUARD on Parts Page 5 and remove the white rectangle.

Glue the INNER and OUTER GUARD pieces together and trim as needed.

Slide the sword handle through the rectangular hole in the guard as shown in Figure 9. Cut out the RIGHT FRONT BRACE on Parts Page 5. Fold the brown tab UPWARD and then glue the brace to the guard and handle as shown in Figure 10. Cut out the LEFT FRONT BRACE and attach it to the sword in the same way.

Cut out the RIGHT REAR BRACE on Parts Page 5. Fold the brown tab UPWARD and glue the tab to the back of the handle as shown in Figure 11. The fold in the brace should line up with the back edge of the handle. Cut out the LEFT REAR BRACE and attach it to the handle in the same manner.

Curve the GUARD back and glue both REAR BRACES to the brown areas on the GUARD as shown in Figure 12. Trim as needed. To finish the guard, curve the front peak over a pencil or pen so it's curved as shown in Figure 13.

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To finish the cutlass, cut out the HANDLE WRAP on Parts Page 1. Glue one side of the HANDLE WRAP to the sword handle, wrap the HANDLE WRAP tightly around the handle as shown in Figure 14, and then glue the remaining side of the HANDLE WRAP securely to the handle.

Your pirate cutlass is now complete!

But to display your new weapon properly, you'll need a stand. Cut out the DISPLAY STAND on Parts Page 6. Fold the two triangular wood panels and the two notched triangular panels all DOWNWARD. Fold the front panel (with metal trim) DOWNWARD. Fold UPWARD along the blue center line and then fold the rear panel (with gray triangles) DOWNWARD. Glue the two triangular wood panels directly over the two gray panels. You should now have a triangular stand with a notch in the top, as shown in Figure 15. The notch will hold the sword's blade to proudly display your new cutlass.

**NOTE: Never swing your cutlass at another person or stab another person. Even a paper sword can do accidental damage. And then the fearsome pirate captain who originally wielded this cutlass would have to come back and haunt you for all eternity. Better to let him rest in peace, wouldn't you say?**