

# FLINTLOCK RUBBER BAND GUN Assembly Instructions Page 1.



**WHAT YOU'LL NEED:** Scissors, Elmer's glue (or a glue stick), a large utility knife (suitable for cutting cardboard), a needle, two toothpicks, a pen or pencil, tape (of any kind), some corrugated cardboard and an emery board (or fine sandpaper). A large black marker is useful but not essential.

## ASSEMBLY:

Begin by cutting out all five pattern pieces on Parts Page 1. Then trace the pattern pieces onto cardboard and cut out 2 STOCKS, 2 LOCK SPACERS, 1 BARREL CORE, 1 GRIP CORE and 1 TRIGGER. For the two stocks, it's best to use cardboard pieces that are at least 12" long, measured WITH (not against) the grain, as shown in Figure 1, so the gun will be sturdy.

Cut out the RIGHT STOCK on Parts Page 2 and the LEFT STOCK on Parts Page 3. Glue the LEFT STOCK to one of the cardboard stocks, then glue the RIGHT STOCK to the remaining cardboard stock.

Both stock pieces have a blank gray area with a small white dot. Use the needle to pierce both white dots. Then run the toothpick through both dots to enlarge the holes.

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Now glue the BARREL CORE and GRIP CORE to the unprinted side of one of the stock pieces, as shown in Figure 2. Then glue the remaining stock piece to the BARREL CORE and GRIP CORE.

If you want, you can now use a large black marker to darken the edges of the assembled stock.

Cut out the RIGHT TRIGGER on Parts Page 2 and the LEFT TRIGGER on Parts Page 3. Glue these two pieces to either side of the cardboard TRIGGER. Use the needle to pierce the white dot. Then run the toothpick through the dot to enlarge the hole. You can now use a large black marker to darken the edges of the trigger if you want to.

When adding the trigger to the stock, the hole in the trigger should be towards the front of the stock as shown in Figure 3. If your toothpick has points on both ends, cut off one point to make a flat end. Slide the trigger into the gap in the stock and then slide the trigger around until you can push the toothpick through the large gray area, through the hole in the trigger, and finally through the small gray area, as shown in Figure 4.

Push the toothpick through the holes until the flat end is flush with the large gray area. Place a small piece of tape over the flat end of the toothpick as shown in Figure 5. (Be sure the tape doesn't extend beyond the gray area.) Cut out the LEFT PLATE on Parts page 3 and glue it directly over the large gray area on the stock.

Before proceeding, you may want to use a black marker to darken the edges of both LOCK SPACERS.

Flip the stock over and use scissors to cut off the toothpick, cutting as close as possible to the surface of the small gray area. There will probably be a small stub of toothpick remaining above the surface of the stock, as shown in Figure 6. With the stock lying on a hard flat surface, place one of the cardboard LOCK SPACERS directly over the small gray area and press down until the toothpick stub leaves a mark on the cardboard spacer. Use the needle to puncture this mark and then use the second, uncut toothpick to enlarge the hole. Place the spacer back over the gray area and glue the spacer in place. Glue the remaining cardboard LOCK SPACER directly over the previously attached LOCK SPACER, as shown in Figure 7.

Now we'll add a decorative flintlock mechanism to finish things off. Cut out the LOCK on Parts Page 2, cutting around the black rectangle (don't cut along the green center line). Carefully fold DOWNWARD along the green center line and then glue the two sides together. Now cut away the white area and trim as needed. Glue the gray area on the LOCK directly over the LOCK SPACERS, as shown in Figure 8.

The Flintlock Rubber Band Gun is now assembled, so it's time to test the trigger. Place a rubber band over the front of the barrel and then stretch it until it rests in the notch at the back of the barrel, as shown in Figure 9. (The decorative flintlock mechanism should remain outside of the rubber band.) Grasp the rubber band in the center with your free hand, to prevent it from firing. Squeeze the trigger and be sure the trigger mechanism pushes the rubber band completely off the back of the barrel, as shown in Figure 10. If the rubber band gets stuck, use the emery board (or fine sandpaper) to gently sand down the angle of the back of the barrel until the rubber band no longer sticks. Don't sand any more than needed, we want the rubber band to stay secure until fired.

Once the angle of the back of the barrel has been sanded so the rubber band releases consistently, your Flintlock Rubber Band Gun is complete. Cut out the TARGETS on Parts Page 4. Fold the bottom panels DOWNWARD and then stand the targets up and have fun knocking them over with your new cardboard weaponry!

Handy Tip: You can use your thumb as a safety mechanism. Just place your thumb behind the barrel as shown in Figure A. This will prevent the trigger from releasing the rubber band. Return your thumb to the grip, as shown in Figure B, to fire the rubber band.



**NOTE: Never fire your rubber band gun at or towards another person. Even a rubber band can do accidental damage. And then the fearsome pirate who originally carried this flintlock would have to come back and haunt you for all eternity. Better to let him rest in peace, wouldn't you say?**