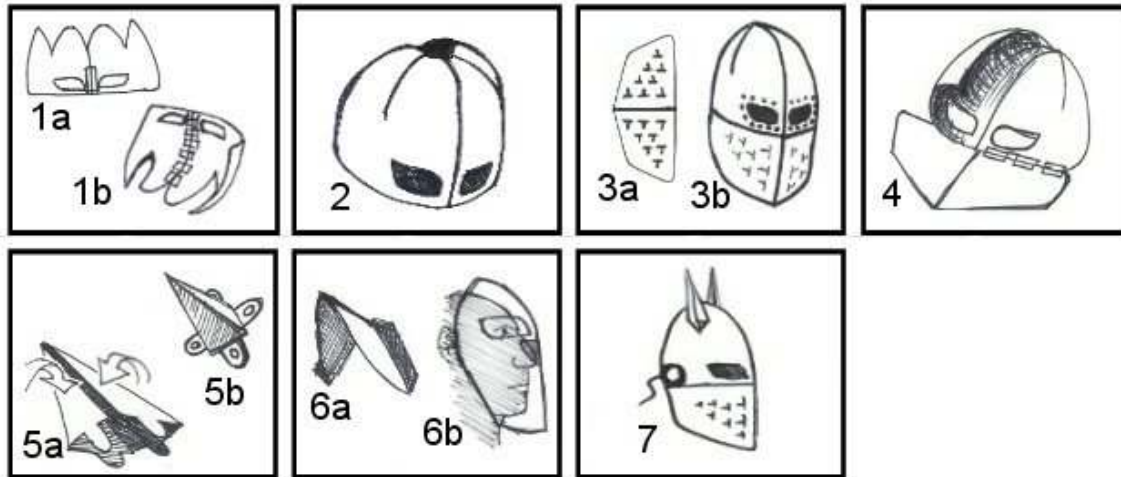


SPANGENHELM GLADIATOR/ S HELMET

-ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS-



WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Scissors, Tape, Elmer's glue (or a glue stick), and a length of String or Elastic Cord (about 24 inches should be plenty).

TO BUILD THE SPANGENHELM: Print out all 4 parts pages. Cut out the top left piece on page 1 and the top right piece on page 2. Cut out the eye hole in each piece and then turn the two pieces over (face down) and position them together as shown in figure 1a, with the edges touching but not overlapping. Tape the straight area where they meet. Now turn the entire piece around so the four points are facing you. Begin taping together the two middle edges, starting between the eyes and working towards the outside. It's VERY important to join only half an inch or so at a time, and don't let the edges overlap. The piece should begin to curve as you work your way outwards, as shown in figure 1b. This seam may prove difficult at first, but it's easy once you get the hang of it. After the two edges are joined all the way to the corners (don't join the small flat areas at the top) you may join the two outer seams in this same manner. When finished you should have a curved piece similar to the top of a baseball cap. Made of iron. With rivets. Well, you get the idea...

Next cut out the lower left and right pieces on page 3. The red marks outside the pieces indicate which edges of the two pieces go together. Place the two pieces together as in figure 3a (shown sideways). Turn them face down and tape the middle seam. Now fold the two halves together (Face out) and crease the middle seam. Unfold the piece and position it over the top section as shown in figure 3b. The top edge of the lower section should rest just below the rivets under the eye holes. Tape loosely (on the inside) in the middle and at the two outer ends. Be sure the rivets with black centers (on the top section) are not covered. Lay the mask face down and begin taping the two sections together from the inside, as shown in figure 4. Tape first one side and then the other, starting in the middle and working outward. You can untape the outer ends if the pieces buckle as you proceed outward. The two sections should lie smoothly together when you're

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done, with the front edge of the mask straight down as shown in figure 7. If the mask now looks something like a shovel... you're doing it right!

Next snip out the two horns on page 4. Don't divide the four sections of each horn, just cut along the outer edges. For each piece, fold the tabs upward. Then fold down along all three inside lines. To tape the horn together, place it face down and fold the two outside panels over as shown in figure 5a. Tape the outside panels together and then unflatten the horn so it resembles figure 5b, with the tabs outward. After both horns are taped, decide where you want to place them on the top section, and glue the tabs down securely. Hmm...this shovel is shaping up nicely.

Time to attach this thing to our face! Begin by cutting out the nose rest on page 4. This nose rest will help keep the mask from slipping down over our eyes. Don't separate the two halves, but DO cut the small red mark to separate the two blank grey tabs. Fold the tabs up and then fold the entire piece down along the center line. You should now have a piece shaped like the one shown in figure 6a. Keep it folded out into a triangle and place it inside the mask between the eyes and slightly below them (about where you'd put the nose on a jack-o-lantern). Tape it lightly in place and put the mask on your head. The nose rest should sit comfortably over your nose and hold the eye holes in the right place, as shown in figure 6b. If your eyes are not in the center of the eye holes, reposition the nose rest until the eye holes are where they should be. Then tape the nose rest firmly in place.

Now find the two rivets in the upper section that have black centers. Punch a hole in each rivet using a pen or pencil. Be very careful not to tear the paper (or stab yourself). Place small pieces of tape over the holes, both on the inside of the mask and on the outside, to strengthen the paper around the holes. Then puncture the holes (carefully) again, and use the holes to connect about a foot of string (or elastic cord) to each side of the mask. Tie the string securely to the mask and place the mask on your head. Now tie the two pieces of string so the mask fits snugly. It shouldn't be tight enough to tear the paper, or loose enough to slip over your eyes. If the mask now fits comfortably, you're nearly finished. Cut out the two side discs on page 4 and glue them over the ends of the string, as shown in figure 7. They'll hide the string a little, and will also help keep the paper from tearing where the string's attached.

To make the mask EXTRA creepy... tape a piece of THIN black nylon material, such as pantyhose material, behind the eyes. If you do this, be sure the material is thin enough to see through easily and be extra careful when wearing the mask.

And the final step... take a look in the mirror. Is there a monstrous rusty gladiator staring at you? Groovy! Your Spangenhelm Gladiator Helmet is complete.