

Eryndor Presents: Spear Design 210

Design Key:

- 8' x 1" bandshoppe pole (hollow fiberglass)
- Blue Camping Foam
- 1/2" EVALite
- 2" High Density Open Cell
- Fabric Cover
- Duct Tape

Products Used in the Tutorial:

1. High Density Open Cell
2. 1/2" thick EVALite
3. Duct tape
4. Hockey Tape
5. DAP Contact Cement
6. 1" bandshoppe pole
7. Fabric
8. Blue Camping Foam

Product Notes:

The 1" by 8' hollow fiberglass pole can be purchased from www.bandshoppe.com. Be sure to order in quantity to receive the best value.

This design is essentially the same as the javelin design we use as well.

Tutorial Notes:

The left image is the side view of the Spear, while the right image is the front view of the Spear (as though its about to stab you in the gut).

Approx. Cost of Weapon:

\$16 - \$30

Approx. Time to Complete Weapon:

2 - 4 hours

Difficulty:

for a generally simple design that has one finishing sep that is exceedingly difficult and requires a developed foamsmithing "touch" to execute properly

Created by: Athron
 Last Updated: 8-4-2006
 Comments: athron@dagorhir.com
 This weapon is designed to meet the safety specifications per RWC XXI.

Making the Head: Steps 1-7

1 Cap both ends of your bandshoppe pole with Duct Tape wraps.

2 Take a 5" x 19.5" strip of blue camping foam. Dap both sides of the foam, then spiral wrap itself flush against one end of the Pole. This is how you build up the base of the striking surface. The finished surface area of the cylindrical wrap should be about 3.5" inches in diameter.

3 Cut TWO 3.5" circles of blue foam and ONE 3.5" circle of Evalite (they can also be cut into an Octagon shape if making a circle is too tricky). DAP the pieces together so that the Evalite is sandwiched in the middle.

4 DAP the foam sandwich from Step 3 onto the foam base you built in Step 2.

5 Cut TWO 2" thick pieces of high density open cell foam (computer packing foam or Unifoam, for example) into 4.5" circles (or octagons). DAP the two open cell pieces together (use Spray Adhesive if you have it available, its superior to DAP for this application).

6 Center the open cell to the top of the javelin head and DAP it into place. If you have open cell foams of different densities, the more dense foam should be adhered CLOSER to the weapon core (the bottom).

7 This is the most complicated step, read carefully. Right now, your spear head is safe, but much too wobbly. To fix this, you will create a support wrap around the head. Take a 4" x 13.5" piece of blue foam and DAP it 2 inches onto the open cell and 2 inches on the closed cell foam. The key is to "wrench" (see Green arrows) the foam support wrap tightly around the head to compress the open cell it covers, do not be afraid to pull pretty hard. The "seams" of the blue foam support wrap will meet, so be sure to DAP the edges as well. Make sure the DAP is set well, and then use duct tape to cover the seam of the support wrap, it will want to peel away otherwise.

Making the Shaft & Pommel: Steps 8-11

8 Cut a piece of 5.25" x 32" blue foam (about 1/3 the length of remaining exposed core). DAP and wrap it down the shaft... be sure to let the blue foam overlap itself a little bit. While it doesn't look quite as sexy as a perfect cylinder, the foam is less likely to separate and create permanent gaps in the shaft (a reason for Spear Failure). As soon as you DAP the wrap together, duct tape the seam together as well... it will help keep the foam in place as the DAP sets all the way. Alternatively, you can use pipe insulation to cover the haft, if you wish.

Once the foam sets, you can trim off the edge to make it more circular.

9 Cut a piece of 5.25" x 3" piece of foam and wrap it flush against the bottom end of the Pole. This is the base for your pommel.

Once the foam sets, you can trim off the edge to make it more circular.

10 Cut two 2" circles (or octagons) of blue foam. DAP them together then DAP it to the bottom of the Pole (for your pommel).

11 Take a 4" x 7.25" piece of blue foam and DAP and wrap it flush against the end of the Spear. This completes your pommel.

Finishing Touches: Steps 12-14

12 Take a 14" square of fabric. Put a small square of duct tape on all four corners. Center the yellow foam over the top of the Spear head, and then pull the four corners down onto the head and use the small pieces of duct tape to help hold it in place.

13 Wrap the head in duct tape or athletic tape. Don't overdo it, if you wrap TOO many times, you could make the head too heavy. Next, wrap the pommel in duct tape or athletic tape - bottom first, then sides.

14 Four long lengths of duct tape will entirely cover the haft padding lengthwise. This seems to work better than "spiral wrapping" duct tape around the shaft. Put your chapter symbol on the head of the Spear (or if you don't have a good symbol, the Everledden LifeTree works quite nicely).