

CODENAME

OPERATION ARMORER

♦ Build Manual ♦

▶ EDITION	PUBLIC RELEASE · FREE TO SHARE
▶ SUBJECT	Bronze Mandalorian armour + apron + tools
▶ BUDGET	€200-450
▶ BUILD TIME	50-100 hrs
▶ TIMELINE	8 weeks

**A LONG TIME AGO, IN A WORKSHOP FAR, FAR
AWAY....**

FROM ZERO TO ARMORER

The Armorer – the leader of the Mandalorian covert, the smith of Beskar. Distinctive horned bronze helmet, heavy leather apron over Mando armour, hammer and tongs.

May the Force be with all who walk this path.



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READING ORDER · IF YOU READ NOTHING ELSE

Start here: [Reality Check](#) — it tells you what you are signing up for.

Before the event: [Game Day Lines](#) — the chapter that matters at hour two.

Everything in between is your build, in order. Take it one section at a time.



READ ME FIRST

This is a field manual, not a novel — you are not meant to read it front to back. Jump to the station you need:

RIGHT NOWReality Check + The Bronze.

BEFORE BUYINGThe Complete Parts List — order everything in one batch; shipping is the bottleneck.

WHILE BUILDINGWork the build chapters in order; each one is a station, not a lecture.

BEFORE THE EVENTGame Day Lines — the only chapter that matters at hour two.

RUNNING LATE?Open the companion WEEK-BY-WEEK calendar and jump to your current week.

■ ONE SITTING RULE

Read Reality Check + The Bronze today. Everything else waits until its week.



PICK YOUR BAR

*The horned helmet and the leather apron are what sell the smith — everything else is standard Mando shell. Pick the finish that fits your forge. The same build can be finished to three different bars — pick yours **now**, because builders who polish for the wrong one burn weeks.*

LEAN · €200-280

Casual

Reads as the Armorer at 5m if the helmet has horns and the apron reads as heavy leather. Skip the beskar texture, run a foam or resin-cast horned helmet, fake the bronze with rattle-can metallic, and let a thrift-store leather apron stand in — most eyes lock onto the silhouette, not the plates.

EFFORT · ~50 hrs

MID · €300-380

Convention

Reads as the Armorer at conversation distance with a properly proportioned horned helmet, true bronze/antique-gold paint with brown wash in the recesses, and a real tooled-leather apron with the chest yoke. Most builders land here: sintra or fiberglass plates, working belt with tool loops, and a hammer and tongs you can actually pose with.

EFFORT · ~75 hrs

MANDO MERCS · €450+

Approved

Reads as the Armorer under inspection — MMCC needs the horn curvature and helmet dome exact, hand-finished bronze with real metal leaf or cold-cast bronze, and a full-grain leather apron with correct stitching and hardware. Screen-accuracy demands the layered cuff gauntlets, beskar-pattern chest, and forge-worn weathering on every plate.

EFFORT · ~100 hrs



THE FALLBACK PLAN

*A first-time build of this suit is **50–100 hrs** of hands-on work across **8 weeks**. Life happens — so decide right now what gets cut when the clock wins. Finished beats perfect.*

BEHIND EARLY Drop first: No Cape. Nobody will notice at 5m.

BEHIND LATE Simplify next: Reference & Fit, Boots — buy instead of make, or borrow.

EMERGENCY Every printed part has a buy option. Switching one part to bought can save a whole week.

ALWAYS The final week is for wearing it, not building it — dress rehearsal beats one more coat of paint.

🕒 THE HONEST RULE

If a piece is not started two weeks before the event, it is not in this year's costume. Build it for the next one.



THE COUNTDOWN

The whole plan on one page — tick the boxes as the weeks fall. The full week-by-week calendar is a separate companion PDF.

Weeks 8–7 ☐ Plan + order filament, leather for apron, bronze paint

Weeks 6–5 ☐ Print + finish helmet — horns + bronze patina

Weeks 4–3 ☐ Chest, pauldrons, vambraces — all bronze

Week 2 ☐ Heavy leather apron + tool belt + smith tools

Week 1 ☐ Bronze patina + dress rehearsal + game day



REALITY CHECK

*The Armorer is a **Mando build + a smith.***

Same armour family as Mando, in BRONZE, with the heavy leather apron over the top.



THE BRONZE

Aged bronze, not gold.

| PATINA

Start with bronze paint, then add a wash of dark green or black to settle into the recesses. That's what makes it look like a real ancient metal, not a yellow toy.



THE HELMET

Horns are the silhouette.

Two short horns rising from the top — don't omit them.

The Horns Must Be Secure

Anchor the horns solidly — they're the silhouette, and you don't want one drooping mid-event. Build them light so they don't unbalance the helmet, and confirm you can see well through the T-visor before finishing.



THE APRON

Heavy leather smith's apron over the chest plate.

Real leather drapes best. Heavy weight, brown, stained.

The Fur Mantle

The shaggy fur cape across her shoulders is a signature — it reads 'smith and elder,' not 'soldier.' Use a faux-fur piece that drapes over the shoulders and upper back. It also helpfully covers the tops of the pauldrons and any strap-work.



THE TOOLS

Hammer + tongs.

The Armorer's identity. Carry them visibly — they're the costume's purpose.



BRONZE PATINA METHOD

Bronze base → black/green wash → dry-brush metallic high spots → sealer.

The result reads as ancient ceremonial bronze, not a costume colour.



BUILDER TIPS

- ▶ Bronze, not gold.
- ▶ Horns up.
- ▶ Apron heavy.
- ▶ Hammer and tongs always visible.

Play Her Grave

The Armorer is grave, ceremonial, and wise. Move slow and deliberate — she speaks the Creed. Hold the tongs or hammer as if you've used them ten thousand times. She pairs beautifully with a Mando (Din Djarin) — smith and foundling — and belongs with the Mando Mercs, the Mandalorian costuming club.



GAME DAY LINES

The costume gets you noticed — the **lines** make it unforgettable. Say them in character, time the pauses, and let the laughs land.

● ● MORE GAME DAY LINES

- ▶ “This is the Way.” — *solemn, slow nod* — everyone nearby must repeat it back
- ▶ “You are a clan of two.” — *quiet and formal, like handing over something precious*
- ▶ “When one chooses to walk the Way of the Mandalore, you are both hunter and prey.” — *measured forge-speech rhythm, never hurried*

😄 FOR LAUGHS — KID EDITION

- ▶ You have eaten your vegetables. This is the Way.
- ▶ A backpack is in your care. Guard it well.
- ▶ I have forged this armor from cardboard. It is still the Way.

COMPLETE PARTS LIST

Every piece referenced in this manual, grouped by where you get it. Shop in batches — fewer trips, fewer forgotten items.

PRINT THESE PARTS

Your 3D-printing queue. Test-print one piece before committing the whole suit.

- **Horned helmet** — Bronze + green patina.
- **Chest plate** — Match the bronze.
- **Pauldrons (×2)** — Same bronze.
- **Vambraces (×2)** — Bronze.
- **Shin + knee plates** — Both legs.
- **Cod + thigh plates** — Same bronze.
- **Hammer + tongs** — Forge tools.

BUY THESE

Order all at once — shipping is the bottleneck.

- **Heavy brown leather apron** — Real leather drapes best.
- **Tall dark boots** — Plain.
- **Heavy work gloves** — Thicker than Mando.
- **Bronze paint + green wash** — For patina effect.
- **Tool belt + loops** — To carry hammer + tongs.

3D FILES & SOURCES

Where to find the printable files and reference standards. Nothing copyrighted is hosted here — these point to community designers and costume-club resources. Always check a model's licence before printing.

Armorer helmet STL

Thingiverse

► [thingiverse.com](https://www.thingiverse.com/thing/3114444)

Mandalorian armour set

Cults3D

► [cults3d.com](https://cults3d.com/en/3d-model-print/mandalorian-armour-set)

Smith's tools STL

Thingiverse

► [thingiverse.com](https://www.thingiverse.com/thing/3114444)

Mando Mercs

mandalorianmercs.org

► mandalorianmercs.org



THE REPAIR KIT

Everything breaks at hour two. A sandwich bag with these seven things turns a costume emergency into a two-minute pit stop.

SUPER GLUE GELReattaches snapped prints and popped seams in 60 seconds. Gel doesn't run.

BLACK GAFFER TAPEInvisible on dark builds — holds a cracked plate through a whole event.

SAFETY PINS + VELCROInstant strap repair, hem fix, cape re-hang.

ZIP TIES (BLACK)Broken buckle, loose greeble, sagging belt box — tie it and move on.

PAINT PEN (BLACK + SILVER)Covers scratches and scuffed edges between photos.

SPARE BATTERIESFor LEDs and soundboards. The saber always dies at the door.

MICROFIBRE CLOTHHelmet fingerprints, lens fog, dusty boots.

■ PACK IT THE NIGHT BEFORE

One bag, one pocket (or a helper's backpack). If you have to go looking for glue, it is already too late.



Mid-build with painty fingers? This is the inside back cover index — every station and its page.

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MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU

"A foundling is in your care."

— ALWAYS —

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