

CODENAME

OPERATION CHEWIE

♦ Week by Week ♦

- ▶ EDITION FREE TO SHARE · WEEK BY WEEK
- ▶ SUBJECT Fur suit + bandolier + bowcaster
- ▶ SCHEDULE 8 weeks plan
- ▶ BUILD TIME 50-100 hrs
- ▶ FORMAT Do this, then that

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

8 WEEKS WEEK BY WEEK

The roster's first FUR build – a head-to-toe Wookiee fursuit, not an armour shell. This is a sewing-and-fur-grooming project: a brown shag bodysuit, a separate animatronic-optional head, one diagonal leather bandolier of silver ammo boxes, and the bowcaster. Advanced, hot to wear, and worth every hour.

Steady wins. May the Force be with you.



8 WEEKS TO CHEWIE

Week 8	Plan + measure. Order fur (mixed brown/grey-brown long pile), backing fabric, base layer, leather strap and silver ammo-box stock, bowcaster STL or toy donor	.
Week 7	Pattern the bodysuit on a duct-tape dummy or old coveralls; do a calico/cheap-fabric mockup before cutting the real fur	.
Week 6	Cut and sew the fur torso, arms and legs – pile pointing down, seams hidden. Test fit and check range of motion	.
Week 5	Build the head: muzzle armature, set the eyes and leather nose, install teeth, fur the crown sweeping back	.
Week 4	Hands, claws and furred feet. Make sure you can grip the bowcaster and walk all day in the feet	.
Week 3	Build the bandolier – rivet silver ammo boxes evenly along the leather strap (left shoulder to right hip). Finish and weather the bowcaster	.
Week 2	Grooming pass: brush, blend and trim ALL fur downward; hide every seam; test height add-on (platforms/stilts) safely	.
Week 1	Full dress rehearsal with cooling packs and water. Practise the walk and the roar. Game day	.
APPENDIX	Quick reference & game day	.

🕒 YOUR FIRST WEEKS — WHERE MOST BUILDS DIE

Nearly every abandoned build dies in the first quarter: parts not ordered, printer not tested, nothing started. Win the first weeks — order everything, print one test piece — and the rest is downhill.



PICK YOUR BAR

*The line's first FUR build — three ways up the mountain, from a soft costume-shop Wookiee to a club-card fursuit you'll wear for a decade. The same build can be finished to three different bars — pick yours **now**, because builders who polish for the wrong one burn weeks.*

LEAN · €250-400

Costume-Shop

Reads as Chewbacca at 5m in a crowd — a bought or rental-grade brown fur suit and mask, a single quick bandolier of silver-painted boxes, and a toy bowcaster. Skip the sculpted muzzle and stilts; brush all the fur downward and lean on the bandolier and the roar to sell it.

EFFORT · ~40 hrs

MID · €400-600

Convention

Reads as Chewbacca at conversation distance — a custom-sewn long-pile fur suit in blended browns, a proper built head with a foam muzzle and set eyes, functional furred hands, a riveted leather bandolier and a weathered bowcaster. The all-day, photo-clean version most builders aim for.

EFFORT · ~70 hrs

REBEL LEGION · €700+

Approved

Reads as Chewbacca under inspection — screen-matched fur colour and length, an animatronic-optional head with accurate muzzle and brow, claws, height stilts to push toward 2.3m, correct left-shoulder bandolier and a screen-accurate bowcaster. The lifetime piece that passes Rebel Legion costume judging.

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 Armour, No Cape. Nobody will notice at 5m.

BEHIND LATE Simplify next: Hip & Seat Fur, Reference & Fit (Rebel Legion), Furred Feet / Paws — 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.



PLAN + MEASURE. ORDER FUR (MIXED BROWN/GREY-BROWN LONG PILE), BACKING FABRIC, BASE LAYER, LEATHER STRAP AND SILVER AMMO-BOX STOCK, BOWCASTER STL OR TOY DONOR

WEEK 8

Plan + measure. Order fur (mixed brown/grey-brown long pile), backing fabric, base layer, leather strap and silver ammo-box stock, bowcaster STL or toy donor.

PARTS IN PLAY THIS WEEK

CRITICALBandoier (Ammo Boxes) — ⌚ 6h · €45

Real Chewie wears it left-shoulder-to-right-hip. The boxes are simple silver-painted blocks — wood, foam or 3D print — riveted evenly along the strap.

CRITICALBowcaster — ⌚ 8h · €50

3D print or kitbash from a toy crossbow; weather the metal and wood, and add the worn-leather wrap on the grip. Check your event's prop rules before you go.

PROGRESS · PHASE 1 OF 8 · 12% THROUGH THE PLAN



PATTERN THE BODYSUIT ON A DUCT-TAPE DUMMY OR OLD COVERALLS; DO A CALICO/CHEAP-FABRIC MOCKUP BEFORE CUTTING THE REAL FUR

WEEK 7

Pattern the bodysuit on a duct-tape dummy or old coveralls; do a calico/cheap-fabric mockup before cutting the real fur.

PARTS IN PLAY THIS WEEK

CRITICAL Fur Bodysuit (Torso) — ⌚ 22h · €110

Use a stretch backing where you bend (elbows, knees, armpits) so you can actually move; sew with fur pile pointing DOWN and tucked into every seam.

PROGRESS · PHASE 2 OF 8 · 25% THROUGH THE PLAN



CUT AND SEW THE FUR TORSO, ARMS AND LEGS — PILE POINTING DOWN, SEAMS HIDDEN. TEST FIT AND CHECK RANGE OF MOTION

WEEK 6

Cut and sew the fur torso, arms and legs — pile pointing down, seams hidden. Test fit and check range of motion.

PARTS IN PLAY THIS WEEK

CRITICAL Fur Bodysuit (Torso) — ⌚ 22h · €110

Use a stretch backing where you bend (elbows, knees, armpits) so you can actually move; sew with fur pile pointing DOWN and tucked into every seam.

HIGH Fur Legs / Height Stilts — ⌚ 10h · €60

Stilts are advanced — only attempt if you've practised walking in them. A safe win is thick platform soles plus an extended head crown for cheap, stable height.

PROGRESS · PHASE 3 OF 8 · 38% THROUGH THE PLAN



BUILD THE HEAD: MUZZLE ARMATURE, SET THE EYES AND LEATHER NOSE, INSTALL TEETH, FUR THE CROWN SWEEPING BACK

WEEK 5

Build the head: muzzle armature, set the eyes and leather nose, install teeth, fur the crown sweeping back.

PARTS IN PLAY THIS WEEK

CRITICAL Wookiee Head & Face — ⌚ 25h · €130

Build the muzzle on a buckram or foam armature so it holds shape; line up your real eyes to look out through the fur shadow under the brow, not through the fake eyes.

PROGRESS · PHASE 4 OF 8 · 50% THROUGH THE PLAN



HANDS, CLAWS AND FURRED FEET. MAKE SURE YOU CAN GRIP THE BOWCASTER AND WALK ALL DAY IN THE FEET

WEEK 4

Hands, claws and furred feet. Make sure you can grip the bowcaster and walk all day in the feet.

PARTS IN PLAY THIS WEEK

MEDIUM Furred Feet / Paws — ⌚ 5h · €35

Build them over shoes you can stand in all day — comfort beats screen-accuracy when you're carrying this much suit.

HIGH Furred Hands & Claws — ⌚ 6h · €30

Leave the fingertips functional so you can actually hold the bowcaster and shake hands; trim the palm fur short so it doesn't look mitten-like.

CRITICAL Bowcaster — ⌚ 8h · €50

3D print or kitbash from a toy crossbow; weather the metal and wood, and add the worn-leather wrap on the grip. Check your event's prop rules before you go.

PROGRESS · PHASE 5 OF 8 · 62% THROUGH THE PLAN



BUILD THE BANDOLIER — RIVET SILVER AMMO BOXES EVENLY ALONG THE LEATHER STRAP (LEFT SHOULDER TO RIGHT HIP). FINISH AND WEATHER THE BOWCASTER

WEEK 3

Build the bandolier — rivet silver ammo boxes evenly along the leather strap (left shoulder to right hip). Finish and weather the bowcaster.

PARTS IN PLAY THIS WEEK

CRITICAL Bandolier (Ammo Boxes) — ⌚ 6h · €45

Real Chewie wears it left-shoulder-to-right-hip. The boxes are simple silver-painted blocks — wood, foam or 3D print — riveted evenly along the strap.

CRITICAL Bowcaster — ⌚ 8h · €50

3D print or kitbash from a toy crossbow; weather the metal and wood, and add the worn-leather wrap on the grip. Check your event's prop rules before you go.

PROGRESS · PHASE 6 OF 8 · 75% THROUGH THE PLAN



GROOMING PASS: BRUSH, BLEND AND TRIM ALL FUR DOWNWARD; HIDE EVERY SEAM; TEST HEIGHT ADD-ON (PLATFORMS/STILTS) SAFELY

WEEK 2

Grooming pass: brush, blend and trim ALL fur downward; hide every seam; test height add-on (platforms/stilts) safely.

PARTS IN PLAY THIS WEEK

HIGHFur Legs / Height Stilts — ⌚ 10h · €60

Stilts are advanced — only attempt if you've practised walking in them. A safe win is thick platform soles plus an extended head crown for cheap, stable height.

PROGRESS · PHASE 7 OF 8 · 88% THROUGH THE PLAN



FULL DRESS REHEARSAL WITH COOLING PACKS AND WATER. PRACTISE THE WALK AND THE ROAR. GAME DAY

WEEK 1

Full dress rehearsal with cooling packs and water. Practise the walk and the roar. Game day.

PARTS IN PLAY THIS WEEK

HIGHUndersuit & Cooling — ⌚ 2h · €35

Freeze a couple of cooling-vest ice packs and bottles of water; budget for them now, you'll thank yourself on game day.

PROGRESS · PHASE 8 OF 8 · 100% THROUGH THE PLAN



MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU

"RRRRRGH-GHHHHHRRRR-AAARRRWHHGGWWWW. (Wookiee for "let's go.")"

— ALWAYS —

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