

CODENAME

OPERATION DOOKU

♦ Build Manual ♦

▶ EDITION	PUBLIC RELEASE · FREE TO SHARE
▶ SUBJECT	Cloth + curved saber
▶ BUDGET	€70-250
▶ BUILD TIME	10-20 hrs
▶ TIMELINE	4 weeks

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

FROM ZERO TO DOOKU

Count Dooku – the Sith Lord, the Separatist leader, the fallen Jedi.
A regal, aristocratic build: long dark-brown robes, white hair and
beard, and the iconic curved-hilt red lightsaber.

May the Force be with all who walk this path.



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READING ORDER · IF YOU READ NOTHING ELSE

Start here: Mission Brief — 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 NOW Mission Brief + The Robes.

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

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

BEFORE THE EVENT Game 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 Mission Brief + The Robes today. Everything else waits until its week.



PICK YOUR BAR

*Same aristocratic Sith — three levels of how regal it reads. The same build can be finished to three different bars — pick yours **now**, because builders who polish for the wrong one burn weeks.*

LEAN · €70-110

Casual

Reads as Count Dooku at 5m under low light. Skip the tailored cape and high collar — a plain brown robe over a dark tunic plus a cheap white wig and stick-on beard sells the silhouette; the curved saber hilt is optional and can be a basic prop.

EFFORT · ~10 hrs

MID · €130-200

Convention

Reads as Count Dooku at conversation distance. Most builders land here: a properly weighted outer robe with the structured high collar, a fitted inner tunic, real belt with curved clip, and a styled wig-and-beard combo trimmed to his aristocratic line — paired with a curved-hilt saber that actually reads on camera.

EFFORT · ~16 hrs

501ST · €250+

Approved

Reads as Count Dooku under inspection. 501st-grade screen accuracy demands tailored dark-brown robes in the correct heavy fabric, a sculpted high collar that holds its shape, ventilated lay-flat sash and long cape, a hand-laid white hairpiece and groomed beard, plus a machined curved-hilt saber with the correct hand-guard geometry.

EFFORT · ~22 hrs



THE FALLBACK PLAN

*A first-time build of this suit is **10–20 hrs** of hands-on work across **4 weeks**. Life happens — so decide right now what gets cut when the clock wins. Finished beats perfect.*

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

BEHIND LATE Simplify next: Sash, Reference & Fit, Black Trousers — 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 4–3 ☐ Plan + order robe, cape, curved saber, wig/beard

Week 2 ☐ First fit + hem; practice the swept-back hair

Week 1.5 ☐ Set saber to red; fit the curved-hilt belt clip

Week 1 ☐ Dress rehearsal + game day



MISSION BRIEF

*This builds **Count Dooku** — the Sith Lord, the Count of Serenno, the elegant villain.*

Almost entirely cloth + a curved saber + the white hair and beard.

The Elegant-Villain Build

Where Vader is brute menace, Dooku is cold elegance. Play him with a straight back, slow precise movements, and quiet contempt — Dooku looks down on everyone, politely. The fencer's saber salute is a perfect photo pose. The performance is half the costume.



THE ROBES

Aristocratic, not Jedi.

■ HIGH COLLAR, NO HOOD

Dooku's defining silhouette: the stiff high collar instead of a hood. Don't substitute a Jedi robe.

The Layers

- ▶ Inner tunic — dark, simple.
- ▶ Outer robe — long, dark grey/black, with the high collar; stiffen it with interfacing or wire so it stands up properly.
- ▶ Cape — floor-length, clean cut, no hood, pinned at the shoulders — aristocratic, like an old-world duellist.
- ▶ Sash + belt — dark, at the waist, with a clip for the curved saber.



HAIR & BEARD

The single most important detail.

Silver-grey, swept back, with the long sharp-pointed beard. Grow it or use a costume beard matched to your wig.



THE CURVED SABER

Red blade, the curved hilt is the icon.

The curve fits the fencer's grip he uses in duels. A curved neopixel hilt is the showpiece.

Plan the Clip

Because the hilt curves, it needs a slightly different belt clip than a straight saber — plan for that so it hangs correctly on the hip.



BUILD SEQUENCE

- ▶ Order robe, cape, boots, saber, wig + beard.
- ▶ Fit & hem.
- ▶ Hair + beard + red saber. Done.



BUILDER TIPS

- ▶ High collar, NOT a hood.
- ▶ Beard is mandatory.
- ▶ Curved hilt, red blade.



SABER CRAFT

*The blade is half the costume — fight like the character. **Makashi**, wielded single.*

FORM II · MAKASHI — “The Way of the Ysalamiri”

Duelist's precision — one hand behind the back, all economy and point control, built purely for blade-to-blade combat. He wins with the smallest movement in the room and never wastes an inch of it. Makashi is Dooku distilled — an aristocrat's form for an aristocrat, right down to the curved hilt made for a fencer's angle of attack.

BLADE

● Red — curved fencing hilt, one-handed grip

WIELD

single

Drill it

Tape a straight line on the floor and stay on it: advance and retreat in small fencing steps, off hand behind your back, throwing single thrusts and tight wrist-circle parries. If your feet leave the line, start over.

▲ DUEL SAFELY

Duel-grade polycarbonate blades only, never thin display tubes. Agree intensity before you start, no strikes to head or hands, and staff or dual spins need a full 3m of clear space.



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

- ▶ “Twice the pride, double the fall.” — *silky and slow* — savor every word like Christopher Lee
- ▶ “What if I told you that the Republic was now under the control of a Dark Lord of the Sith?” — *lean in, conspiratorial* — you know something they don't
- ▶ “I sense great fear in you, Skywalker. You have hate. You have anger. But you don't use them.” — *circling, taunting* — one beat between each sentence
- ▶ “It is obvious that this contest cannot be decided by our knowledge of the Force... but by our skills with a lightsaber.” — *aristocratic shrug, then ignite*

😄 FOR LAUGHS — KID EDITION

- ▶ I have become more powerful than any hall monitor.
- ▶ Twice the homework, double the fall.
- ▶ It is obvious this contest cannot be decided by our knowledge of the Force... but by rock, paper, scissors.

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.

- **Curved saber hilt (optional)** — Or buy a curved neopixel.

BUY THESE

Order all at once — shipping is the bottleneck.

- **Dark robe with high collar** — NOT a hooded Jedi robe.
- **Inner tunic + sash** — Dark layers.
- **Floor-length cape** — Clean cut, no hood.
- **Brown trousers + tall boots** — Aristocratic.
- **Black gloves** — Both hands.
- **Silver-grey wig + costume beard** — The signature.
- **Curved-hilt red saber** — The icon.

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.

Dooku curved saber STL

Thingiverse

Curved hilt designs

Cults3D

Full Dooku costume

eBay

501st standards

501st.com

► 501st.com



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.



QUICK JUMP

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

"I have become more powerful than any Jedi."

— ALWAYS —

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