

BUILDERS · MAKERS · COSPLAYERS
€80-120 (LEAN) → €140-180 (MID) → €200+ (501ST)
BUILT BY A KID · FREE FOR EVERYONE

IMPERIAL ARCHIVE

FIELD MANUAL

FREE TO SHARE

CODENAME

OPERATION KYLLO

♦ Build Manual ♦

- ▶ EDITION PUBLIC RELEASE · FREE TO SHARE
- ▶ SUBJECT Cloth + helmet
- ▶ BUDGET €80-200
- ▶ BUILD TIME 20-40 hrs
- ▶ TIMELINE 6 weeks

FIRST ORDER

BUILD MANUAL

FILE REN

FREE TO SHARE

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

FROM ZERO TO KYLO

Vader's grandson, three looks: masked, unmasked, and the cracked Rise of Skywalker mask. Layered black robes and a red crossguard blade.

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: **The Three Looks, Side by Side** — 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 + Pick Your Look.

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 + Pick Your Look today. Everything else waits until its week.



PICK YOUR BAR

*Same brooding First Order silhouette, three ways to finish it — from thrift-store black to a sealed-and-riveted helmet. The same build can be finished to three different bars — pick yours **now**, because builders who polish for the wrong one burn weeks.*

LEAN · €80-120

Casual

Reads as Kylo Ren at 5m and across a dim party — a black hoodie-and-trousers stack under a long black coat, with a snap-front mask in cheap resin or foam. Skip the ribbed sleeve detailing and the real cowl; lean on the saber and the brooding stance to sell it.

EFFORT · ~20 hrs

MID · €140-180

Convention

Reads as Kylo Ren at conversation distance, where most builders land — a proper layered tunic with ribbed forearm sleeves, a fitted cowl into a hooded outer robe, and a painted-and-lined fibreglass or 3D-printed helmet with real silver detailing. The crossguard saber gets a crackle-flicker LED instead of a bare tube.

EFFORT · ~30 hrs

501ST · €200+

Approved

Reads as Kylo Ren under inspection and passes 501st Legion review — screen-matched wool weights, correctly draped sash and skirt over tailored layers, and a screen-accurate helmet with the chrome-banded eye slit (or the gold-veined cracked Rise of Skywalker repair). Every seam, rivet, and the sound-board hum are dialed to reference.

EFFORT · ~40 hrs



THE FALLBACK PLAN

*A first-time build of this suit is **20–40 hrs** of hands-on work across **6 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 / Skirt, Reference & Fit, 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 6–5 ☐ Plan + order robes, helmet, saber
- Weeks 4–3 ☐ Helmet finish + layer the tunic
- Week 2 ☐ Cowl, belt, sash, gloves
- Week 1.5 ☐ TROS cracks (optional) + saber to red
- Week 1 ☐ Dress rehearsal + game day



MISSION BRIEF

*This builds **Kylo Ren** three ways: masked, unmasked, and the cracked TROS mask.*

Layered black robes and a red crossguard blade. Cloth build with one printed helmet.

Dark Side = 501st

Kylo is Vader's grandson — Ben Solo, fallen to the dark side. As a villain he belongs in the **501st Legion** (the bad-guys' costuming club), same as his grandfather Vader.



PICK YOUR LOOK

- ▶ **Masked** — the full helmet.
- ▶ **Unmasked** — hair + scar, no helmet.
- ▶ **TROS cracked** — reassembled mask with glowing red cracks.

The Scar

After his fight with Rey, Kylo has a long diagonal scar from his forehead, across the eye area, down to the neck. Draw it with cream scar makeup or thin scar wax — a clean line, not a gash. (In *The Force Awakens*, before the fight, there's no scar.)

Upgrade path: start unmasked for the fastest win — add a mask later for the masked look, or a cracked mask for the *Rise of Skywalker* version. Same robes the whole way.



THE HELMET

Print, finish matte black, add the silver mesh face strip.

■ TROS CRACKS

Run red-painted hot-glue lines into the seams for the repaired look.



THE ROBES

Layers, layers, layers.

Hood + cowl + ribbed-sleeve tunic + sash + outer cloak. The ribbed sleeves are the key detail.

Wire the Scarf

The hood and scarf give Kylo his hunched, looming silhouette — the screen costume hides wire inside the scarf so it holds its shape. A length of bendable craft wire sewn into the scarf and hood edge lets you shape that signature draped collar — the single biggest "that's really Kylo" upgrade to a cheap robe.

Layer Order & Texture

Skin → out: under-tunic (high collar) → sleeved shirt → surcoat (the long ribbed outer layer) → belt with saber clip → hooded cowl + scarf → gloves and boots. Kylo's robes have a subtle ribbed / quilted texture, not plain flat black — textured fabric or pintucked panels read far more accurate than a smooth costume robe. Keep the surcoat matte black and floor-skimming: hem it about 5 cm (2 inches) off the floor, safe on stairs but still dramatic.

WIRE THE SCARF

"Let the past die — but wire your scarf so the hood doesn't flop." The screen costume hides wire inside the scarf so it holds its shape. Craft wire sewn into the scarf and hood edge shapes that hunched, looming draped collar — the single biggest "that's really Kylo" upgrade to a cheap robe.



THE SABER

Red crossguard, two side vents, unstable look.

A crossguard neopixel saber is the showpiece.

Ways to Get One

The crossguard is the two small side blades venting out of the hilt, next to the main red blade. Own a saber from another build? You can set any saber to RED for the basic look — but the true crossguard needs the three-blade hilt: buy or print it.

- ▶ **A · Buy a crossguard saber** — the easy route.
- ▶ **B · Neopixel crossguard** — bright red, sound, crackle effect. Best value.
- ▶ **C · Print the hilt** — search "Kylo Ren crossguard saber" on Thingiverse / Printables.

501ST APPROVAL

Red main blade + two short crossguard vents, battered/sparking hilt. A hilt-only static prop is fine.

A crossguard is special, but you can set any saber to RED for the look while you save up or build the real thing — the robes and the attitude carry the costume.



THE UNMASKED LOOK

The easiest Kylo: same robes, no helmet. The whole costume rests on two details — the scar and the hair.

The Scar

After his fight with Rey, Kylo has a long diagonal scar from his forehead, across the eye area, down to the neck. Draw it with cream scar makeup or thin scar wax — a clean line, not a gash. (In *The Force Awakens*, before the fight, there's no scar.)

The Hair

Dark, wavy, shoulder-length hair, parted and swept. A wig nails it instantly if your hair is short. Clean-shaven to light stubble.

Posture & Photos

Kylo is intense and a little unstable. For photos: red crossguard lit, an angry or brooding expression, blade held low and angled. The scar catches the eye — turn that side to the camera.



FINISHING THE HELMET

(Unmasked builders skip this.) For the masked and cracked looks, the helmet is the showpiece: matte/satin black with silver/chrome ridges around the eye slot — the opposite of a glossy trooper. A fresh print is rough and striped; here's the routine that turns it into a screen-style mask.

Print & Shopping List

Print in pieces (it's bigger than the bed), glue, fill the seams. You'll need:

- ▶ Sandpaper (180 / 320 / 600) · grey filler primer
- ▶ Matte or satin black spray (not gloss) · chrome/silver spray or trim for the ridges
- ▶ Black sheer mesh for the eye slot · painter's tape · super glue + putty
- ▶ Cracked look: red LED strip + a diffuser (material that spreads the light into a smooth glow) + a battery pack

The Step-by-Step

1 · SAND 180 → 320 → 600. 2 · GLUE & FILL the seams, sand flat. 3 · PRIME grey, wet-sand, repeat until smooth. 4 · BASE matte/satin black, 2–3 thin coats. 5 · RIDGES — mask around the eye and spray chrome (or apply chrome trim). 6 · MESH — glue black sheer fabric behind the eye slot: hidden eyes, but you can still see. 7 · CRACKED? Cut thin crack lines and back them with red LEDs + a diffuser so they truly glow. Bonus detail: the screen helmet hides a vocoder — the voice-changer behind Kylo's modulated voice.

SEE OUT, STAY SAFE

Test your visibility before the event — the eye slot is small. Use breathable sheer fabric, not solid plastic, behind the slot. Never drive in the mask.

SPRAY SAFETY

Spray outside or in an open garage only — never indoors. If you're under 18, have an adult with you — especially for any wiring/soldering on the LED cracks.



BUILD SEQUENCE

Two tracks: cloth for every look, mask only if you're going masked or cracked.

Cloth Track (All Looks)

1 · Order robes, cowl, scarf, gloves, boots, belt, crossguard saber — order early. 2 · Fit & hem: surcoat ~5 cm off the floor, sleeves to the wrist. 3 · Wire the scarf/hood so the collar drapes right. 4 · Layer drill: under-tunic → shirt → surcoat → belt → cowl. Gloves + boots on.

Mask Track (Masked + Cracked Only)

A · Print or buy the helmet early. B · Finish it: sand, prime, matte black, chrome ridges, mesh eyes. C · Cracked look? Cut cracks, wire red LEDs + diffuser, test the glow. D · Unmasked instead? Skip all this — just do the scar + hair.

THE 90-MINUTE RULE

First full wear, do 90 minutes at home. Robes are hot, the scarf shifts, the mask limits your view. Find the problems before the event.

GAME DAY KIT

Night-before check: saber charged and RED, scarf wired and draping, mesh eyes clear, cracks glowing — or scar drawn and wig ready. Pack safety pins, spare gloves, blade + LED batteries, and a touch-up of scar makeup.



MANUFACTURING FILES

Every file and link in this manual, gathered for quick reference. Three ways to source the costume: (A) buy a full Kylo set, (B) buy the pieces, (C) sew/print it — most builders do B.

Helmet Files

- ▶ Kylo Ren helmet (wearable) — [cults3d.com](#) / [Thingiverse](#) / [Printables](#) (search: Kylo Ren helmet) — free + paid versions exist
- ▶ TROS cracked helmet — [thingiverse.com](#) (search: Kylo Ren broken helmet) — some are pre-grooved for LED strips

Lightsaber Files

- ▶ Crossguard hilt — [printables.com](#) / [Thingiverse](#) (search: Kylo Ren crossguard lightsaber)
- ▶ Neopixel-ready crossguard hilts — [thingiverse.com](#) (search: Kylo crossguard neopixel) — for the glow + crackle

Standards & Shopping

- ▶ Kylo TFA standards — [crls.501st.com](#) (search: Kylo Ren)
- ▶ Full set — [AliExpress](#) / [eBay](#) (search: Kylo Ren costume)
- ▶ Crossguard saber — [AliExpress](#) (search: Kylo Ren crossguard lightsaber)

FREE TO LEARN, PAID TO PERFECT

Same as every build in this series: start on a free file to practise, buy a screen-accurate set once you know you'll finish. The helmet is worth getting right — it's the whole look.



BUILDER TIPS

- ▶ Layer everything; never a flat single tunic.
- ▶ Both hands gloved.
- ▶ Red blade, crossguard.



SABER CRAFT

The blade is half the costume — fight like the character. **Unorthodox**, wielded single (crossguard).

STYLE · UNORTHODOX

All rage, no textbook — wide broadsword swings, brute-force blade locks, and forward pressure even while wounded. Reads closest to Form V Djem So pushed past its limits into raw, untamed fury. Trained by Luke, twisted by Snoke — the cracked, spitting crossguard blade is his conflicted fighting style made visible.

BLADE

● Red (unstable) — crossguard hilt with two side-vent quillon blades — cracked kyber crystal

WIELD

single (crossguard)

Drill it

Heavy cuts: slow, exaggerated broadsword swings from the shoulder, freezing at the end of each one to check that the crossguard vents cleared your own arm and body.

△ 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

- ▶ “You need a teacher! I can show you the ways of the Force!” — *shout it mid-duel, saber arm out*
- ▶ “I will finish what you started.” — *whisper it to a helmet if you've got one*
- ▶ “I know what I have to do, but I don't know if I have the strength to do it.” — *slow and quiet — no shouting*

😄 FOR LAUGHS — KID EDITION

- ▶ Let the past die. Especially the photo of my old haircut.
- ▶ I will finish what you started... unless it's broccoli.
- ▶ Nobody touches the helmet. The glue is still drying.

Meeting Your Fans

GOLDEN RULE · READ THE ROOM

Villains are the best part of a photo — but a looming Sith can terrify a 4-year-old. If a little one looks unsure, drop the scary instantly and go kind: “Even I started small — you're going to do big things.” · “Be brave. Even grumpy knights respect brave kids.”

Universal tips for young fans: kneel to their eye level, never break character to correct them, ask their name and make them the hero, and keep the saber lowered and pointed away. Every kid walks away thinking they just met the real one.

READ THE ROOM

Half the magic of a costume is what you say when someone walks up. Villains make the best photos — but if a little one looks unsure, drop the scary instantly and switch to the kind lines.



THE THREE LOOKS, SIDE BY SIDE

All three looks share the same black layered robes; what changes is the head — mask, no mask, or the cracked mask — and one scar.

The Three Looks

- ▶ **1 • Masked (The Force Awakens)** — black robes + the silver-ridged helmet. The classic.
- ▶ **2 • Unmasked** — same robes, no helmet, plus the diagonal facial scar and Kylo's dark hair.
- ▶ **3 • Cracked mask (Rise of Skywalker)** — the helmet rebuilt with glowing red cracks, Kintsugi style (the Japanese art of repairing pottery with gold seams).

Head	Silver-ridged helmet · bare face + scar + dark hair · helmet with glowing cracks
Robes	Black layered — identical in all three
Blade	Red crossguard — identical in all three
Difficulty	Masked: medium · Unmasked: easiest · Cracked: hardest (LEDs)

Quick Start & Upgrade Path

Pick before you build — it decides whether you need a mask, and which mask. First Kylo? Build the unmasked look — it's just the black robes + saber + a drawn-on scar, no helmet to print or buy. Add a finished helmet → the masked look. Cut and backlight cracks in the helmet → the Rise of Skywalker look. Same robes and blade the whole way.

ALL THREE SHARE THESE

Red crossguard saber · black layered robes · hooded cape/cowl · gloves · black boots. Only the head changes between looks.

DARK SIDE = 501ST

Kylo is a villain, so he belongs in the 501st Legion (the bad-guys' costuming club), same as his grandfather Vader.

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.

- **Helmet** — Matte black + silver mesh strip.
- **Crossguard saber hilt** — Or buy a crossguard neopixel.

BUY THESE

Order all at once — shipping is the bottleneck.

- **Layered black tunic** — Ribbed sleeves — the signature.
- **Hood + cowl** — Big part of the silhouette.
- **Outer cloak** — Long, hemmed off the floor.
- **Belt + sash** — Over the tunic.
- **Black trousers + tall boots** — Plain black.
- **Black gloves** — Both hands.
- **Red crossguard saber** — The weapon.



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

"Let the past die."

— ALWAYS —

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