

CODENAME

OPERATION ROYAL GUARD

♦ Build Manual ♦

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|--------------|---------------------------------|
| ▶ EDITION | PUBLIC RELEASE · FREE TO SHARE |
| ▶ SUBJECT | Red robes + helmet + force pike |
| ▶ BUDGET | €100-300 |
| ▶ BUILD TIME | 25-50 hrs |
| ▶ TIMELINE | 6 weeks |

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

FROM ZERO TO ROYAL GUARD

The Emperor's Royal Guards – the silent crimson sentinels. A striking head-to-toe red build: long robes, the tinted-visor helmet, and the force pike.

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** — 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 + Match Your Reds.

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 — 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 + Match Your Reds today. Everything else waits until its week.



PICK YOUR BAR

*All crimson, three depths — from a flat-red robe to a screen-matched Imperial sentinel. The same build can be finished to three different bars — pick yours **now**, because builders who polish for the wrong one burn weeks.*

LEAN · €100-150

Casual

Reads as a Royal Guard at 5m: a deep-red robe, hood, and a craft-foam helmet shell with a dark visor sell the silhouette in a crowd. Skip the layered shoulder folds and the force pike — a single flowing red drape carries the look.

EFFORT · ~14 hrs

MID · €170-240

Convention

Reads as a Royal Guard at conversation distance: most builders pleat the separate shoulder mantle, chest robe, and full cape robe in matching crimson and add a tinted-visor helmet that fully hides the face. A capped force pike with a metallic head completes the sentinel stance.

EFFORT · ~28 hrs

501ST · €280+

Approved

Reads as a Royal Guard under inspection: 501st-grade demands the exact correct crimson tone across every layer, crisp structured shoulder folds, a smooth helmet with the proper visor rake and no skin showing, and a full-length force pike with the right two-tone blade. Nothing breaks the silent, monolithic red.

EFFORT · ~46 hrs



THE FALLBACK PLAN

*A first-time build of this suit is **25–50 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 Panel, Hidden Belt, No Codpiece. Nobody will notice at 5m.

BEHIND LATE Simplify next: Reference & Fit, Red Trousers, Red 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 6–5 ☐ Plan + order red fabric, helmet filament, pole for the pike

Weeks 4–3 ☐ Print + finish the helmet — match the fabric red

Week 2 ☐ Sew the long cape robe + shoulder folds

Week 1.5 ☐ Build the force pike + match all reds

Week 1 ☐ Dress rehearsal + game day



MISSION BRIEF

The Emperor's silent sentinels — head-to-toe crimson.

Long robe, slit-visored helmet, force pike. A striking silhouette built almost entirely from heavy red fabric.



MATCH YOUR REDS

■ ONE RED, EVERYWHERE

Robe, helmet, gloves, boots — ALL the same red. Bring a fabric swatch when shopping for anything. Mismatched reds are the single most common mistake.



THE HELMET

Tall, narrow vertical visor slit.

Print, prime, then paint to MATCH the robe fabric exactly. Take the fabric to the paint store.

Seeing Out

The narrow visor slit is your view-port — back it with dark mesh so you can see out while your face stays hidden. Confirm vision and airflow before you finish. The hood sits over the helmet, so leave room for both.



THE ROBE

Heavy fabric, floor-length, structured shoulders.

Thin fabric falls flat — you need weight. Wool blend or heavy synthetic.

Fabric & Coverage

Heavy, matte fabric drapes best — avoid shiny costume satin. Add red gloves and soft red boots so no skin shows anywhere.



THE FORCE PIKE

Tall staff with bladed ends.

Lightweight pole + foam caps painted to match. Mind its length around small kids and ceilings.



GAME DAY

- ▶ Silent, slow movement is part of the character.
- ▶ Mind the pike around crowds and ceilings.
- ▶ Stand at parade rest by the throne.

● ● MORE GAME DAY LINES

- ▶ “(Return of the Jedi — the throne room) The Emperor says "Leave us." The Guards turn in perfect sync and glide out without one word. That IS the line.” — *your whole performance is the silent pivot-and-exit*
- ▶ “(Return of the Jedi — the shuttle landing) Rows of crimson Guards flank the Emperor's arrival, motionless as statues. Not a sound, not a twitch.” — *practice standing perfectly still for 30 seconds — it's harder than it looks*

😊 FOR LAUGHS — KID EDITION

- ▶ (says nothing — but points at the snack table with tremendous authority)
- ▶ (turns head very slowly toward whoever took the last cookie. Says nothing. It works.)
- ▶ (silence. But it is an extremely loud silence.)

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.

- **Slit helmet** — Match the robe red exactly.
- **Force pike STL parts** — Pole + bladed ends.

BUY THESE

Order all at once — shipping is the bottleneck.

- **Heavy red fabric (long robe)** — Wool blend or heavy synthetic.
- **Red trousers + boots** — Match the robe.
- **Red gloves** — Both hands, matching.
- **Hidden belt** — Under the robe.
- **Lightweight pole** — For the force pike.
- **Red spray paint** — To match all components.

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.

Royal Guard helmet STL

Thingiverse

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

Force pike STL

Thingiverse

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

Full Royal Guard costume

eBay

[► ebay.com](https://www.ebay.com/itm/1234567890)

501st standards

501st.com

[► 501st.com](https://www.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.



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

"(silent – duty above all)"

– ALWAYS –

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