

How To Make...

A Quick and Easy “New Tech” Amtgard Sword

Materials:

Graphite golf club

½ stick of Funnoodle

Duct tape

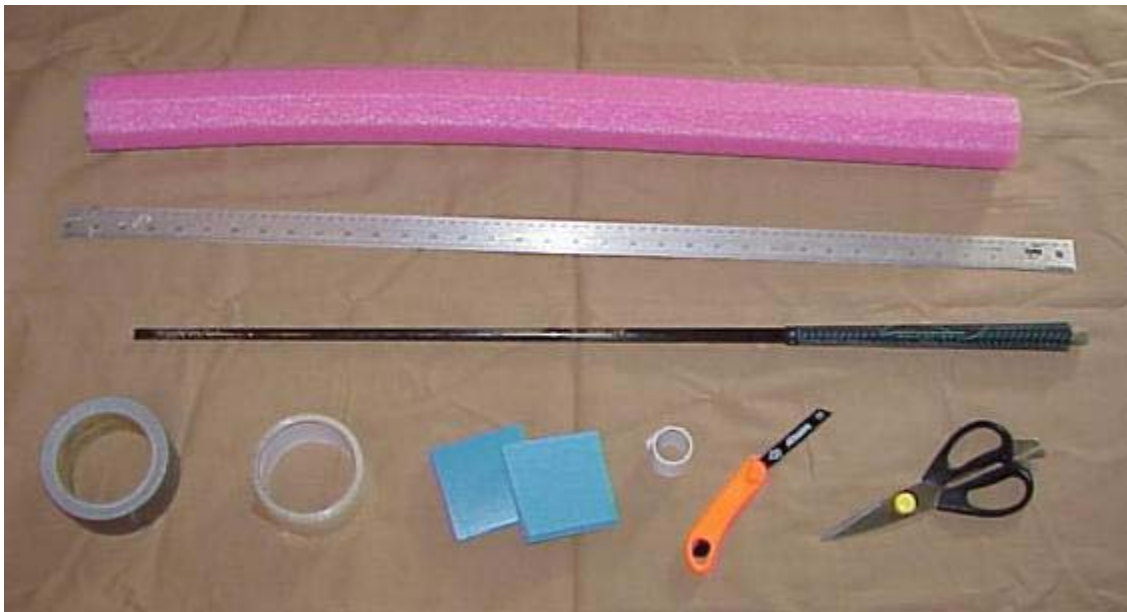
Clear packing tape

2 pieces of Camp pad foam

Yard stick / Tape measure

Grip tape (optional)

Hacksaw (if needed)

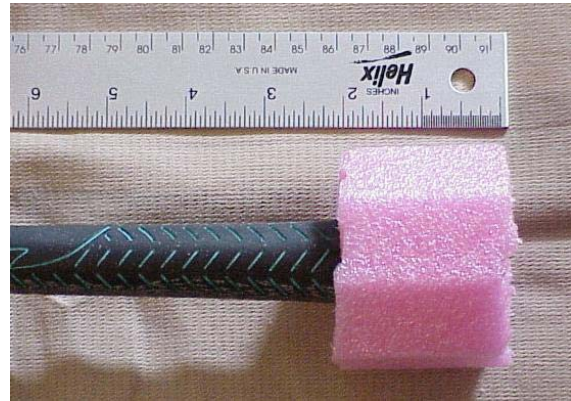


Step 1: Length

Decide how long you'd like your sword to be when finished, and cut the core approximately three inches shorter to allow space between the core and tip of pommel as well as core and stabbing tip. For our example, a 36" short sword, we'll cut the core to 33".

Step 2: The Pommel

Generally, I attach the pommel first. I use a piece of Fun noodle approximately 2" – 3" long. The handle end of the golf club is inserted halfway into the noodle, and is fastened on with clear packing tape by "torque wrapping". (Note: Do not torque wrap the butt end of the pommel, it must meet the 2" minimum requirement).



Once the pommel has been fastened with packing tape, duct tape is used to cover the pommel by running lengthwise and over the butt of the pommel. The pommel is then again torque wrapped with clear packing tape. This ensures the pommel will be solid enough to hold the sword by if you choose, and also won't accidentally turn or come off during a fight.



Step 3: The Core Tip

Section a piece of Funnoodle approximately 4-5 inches long into thirds. “Hollow” one of those thirds carefully, and then affix it to the tip of the core with clear packing tape. Be sure to extend this small bit of noodle a quarter inch past the tip of the core, to allow for extra cushion against breaking through the stabbing tip. To ensure this “splint” of noodle does not slide down the core when placing on the blade, torque wrap it at the end away from the tip.



Step 4: Measuring the Handle



The rule for sword handles in Neverwinter is $\frac{1}{3}$ the length of the overall weapon, measure from end of blade to beginning of pommel. (Does not include pommel). For our example, we're making a 36-inch sword. Therefore, our handle is allowed to be a maximum of 12 inches. A small piece of grip tape to mark off 12 inches, and we're ready to add the blade.

Step 5: The Blade

Place your weapon core next to a piece of noodle. Cut the noodle so that it measures from the tape marking the end of the handle, to at least an inch and a half past the tip of the core. Slide the noodle onto the core, and torque wrap it at the base to the spot where the tape denotes the handle, making sure the core stays at least a half inch from the tip of the noodle. Once the blade has been attached to the core, take the pieces of camp pad from the material list, and cut them to fit the end of the Funnoodle on the tip.



Using packing tape, starting at the base of the blade and running vertically toward the tip, begin to encase the blade in tape. You should be able to do this in 3 strips. Start at the base of the blade; tape over the tip (taping the camp pad in place as you do) and down the other side. Repeat twice more, and the entire blade should be taped.



Step 6: Finishing touches



A step found to help lengthen the life of stabbing tips is to then “candy wrap” them (without torquing!) from ¼ inch past the tip, folding the tape down, to just below the camp pad. After that, slide a cover on the blade (no pantyhose – tights and trouser socks are fine, or sew one) fix it in place with a small bit of tape, add some grip tape if you like, and your sword is ready to use. Enjoy!

