

KINGDOM HEARTS FINAL FANTASY VII
ADVENT CHILDREN
CLOUD STRIFE



NO. OF PAGES - 48
NO. OF PARTS - 245

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REFERENCE MANUAL

Stuff you need:

The parts (duh!) Lined or Lineless, your choice, printed on A4 200gsm paper (or whatever suits your fancy!)

Hobby knife or scissors (hobby knife for small areas, scissors for the bigger parts)

Quick Drying Glue or Tacky Glue (DO NOT USE SCHOOL GLUE!)

Cutting Mat (where else do you intend to cut the parts on, your palm??)

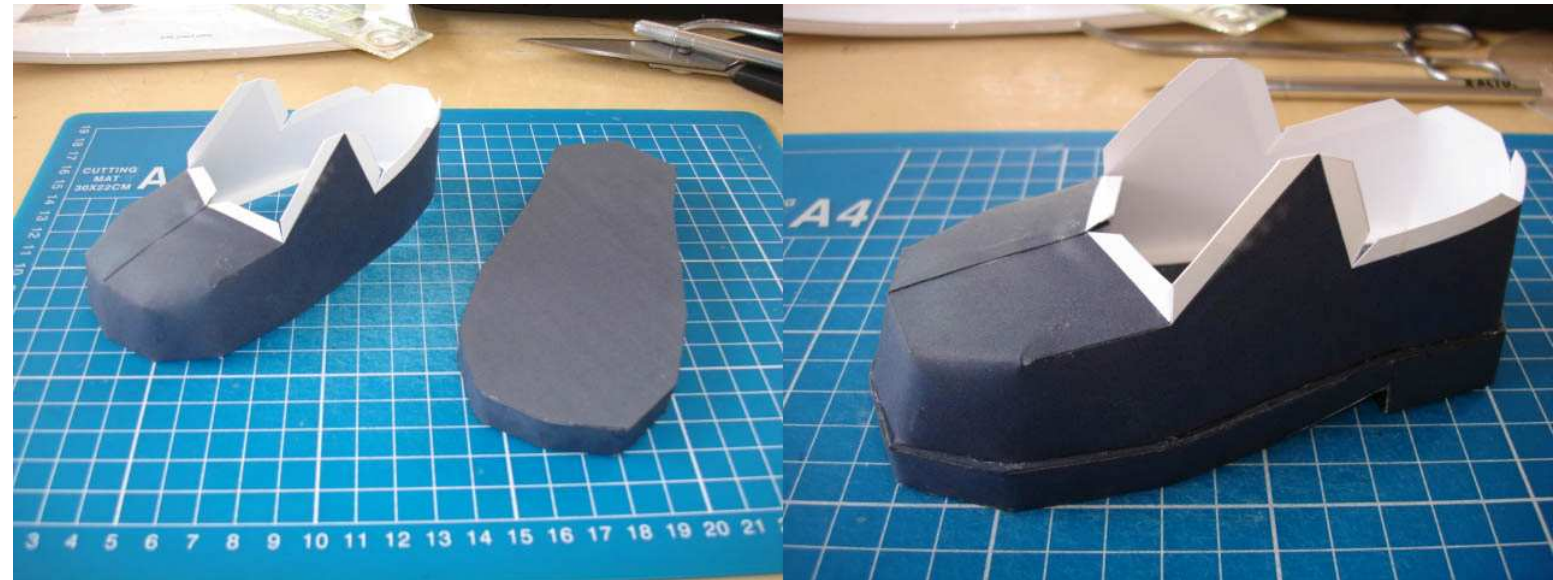
Tweezers (useful in hard to reach areas)

Toothpicks (used to spread the glue around)

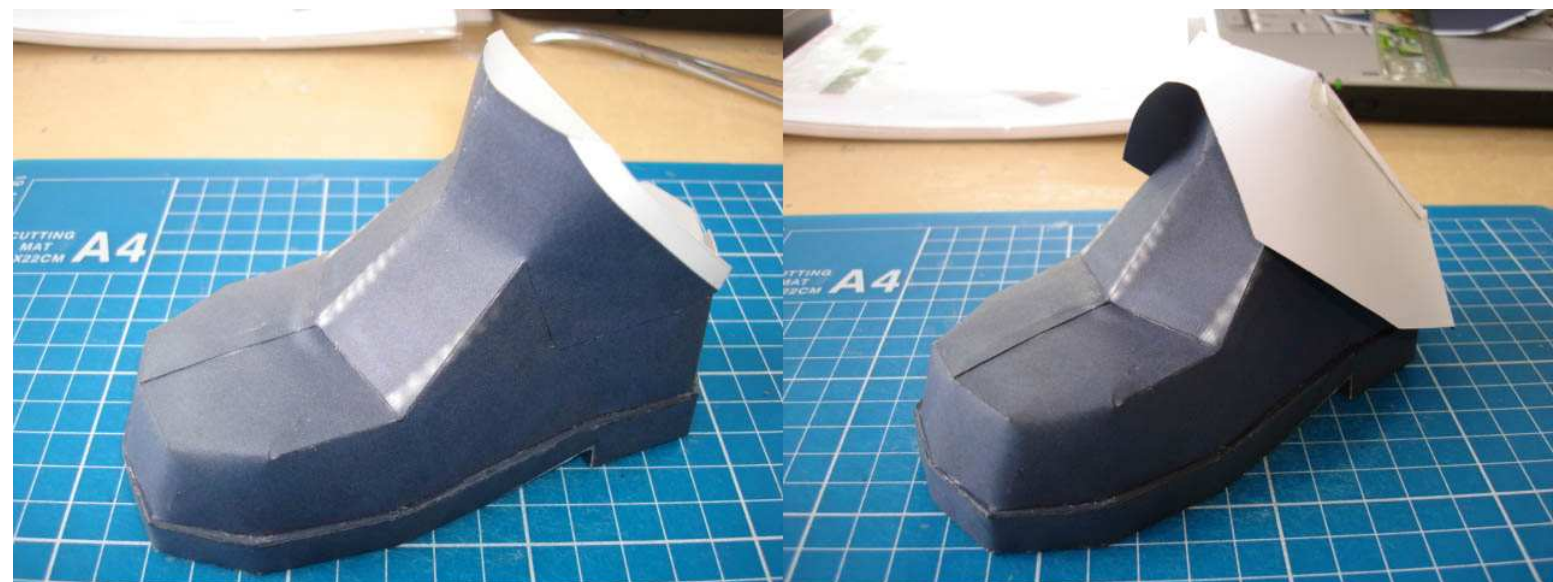
Glue palette (a discarded cd, or the one that comes with a disc spindle, whatever that's called)

Ruler (helps a bit when it comes to scoring straight tabs and folding)

Scoring tool (anything with a blunt or rounded tip... like a used ballpen perhaps?)

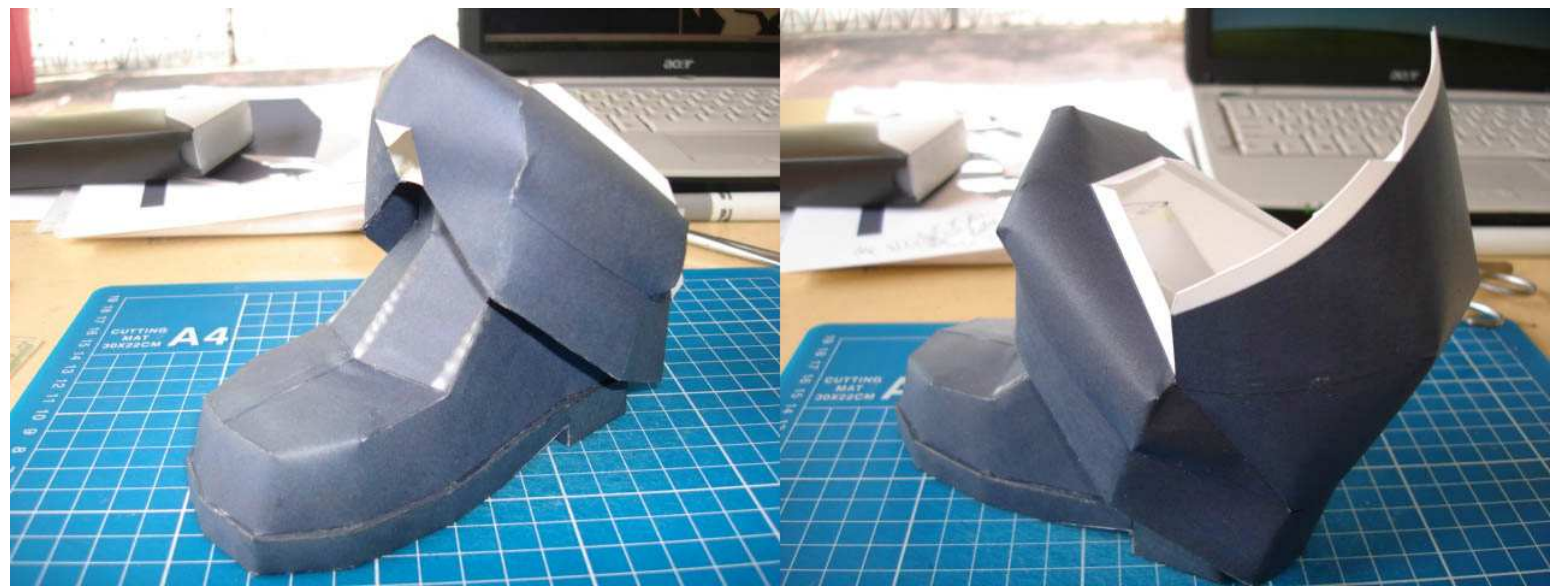


First let's start with the RIGHT foot. Assemble parts 1 and 2 followed by 3; then simply attach part 3 on top of part 1+2. It's not an exact fit, so simply balance out the space between the front and back also the sides as well.

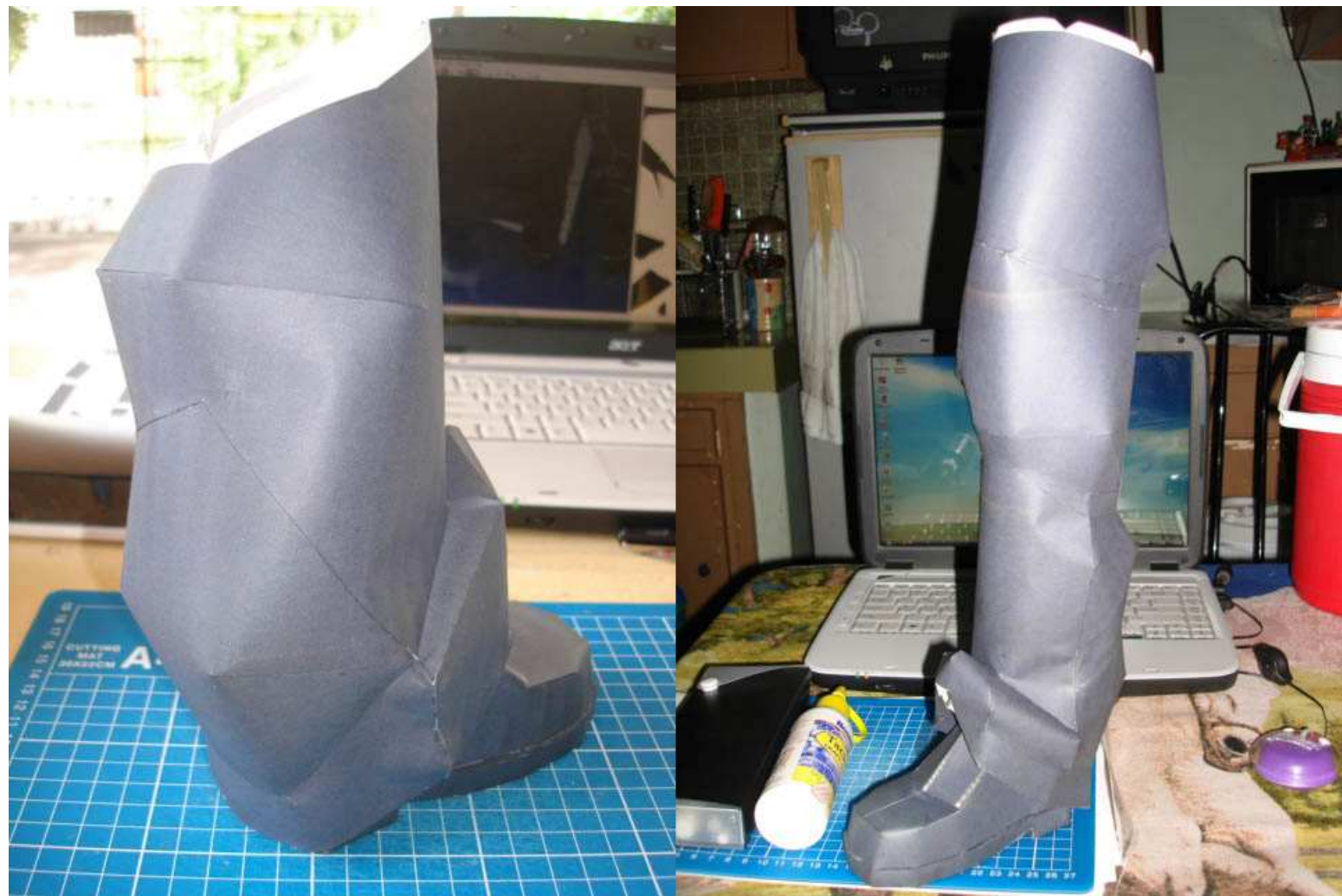


Now attach parts 4 and 5; followed by attaching part 6. Take note that the textured side is underneath. (If you got that wrong, then there's no hope for you... *laughs*)

Note: You may also consider coloring the edges by the way. Take your time attaching part 6, don't rush it. Trick here is to start from the back, gluing tabs in a clockwise manner.



Now simply assemble part 7 and attach to the foot. If you decided to go without folding, this might be a bit tricky. Either way I think it's still going to be tough, folded or not. Anyway just take your time. Follow up by attaching part 8 (you can also attach part 9 first, instead of part 8... works either way anyway, your decision)



Now just continue on attaching parts 9-17. Note however that you need to attach the straps R1-R4 according to where they need to go (refer to the .PDO). Trick here is to cut a slit diagonally that's just big enough to fit the tabs through, so simply apply some glue onto the tab and insert it. Tab-on-Tab does not work here, it'll look weird, so stick with the insert method instead.



Simply do the same for the LEFT foot with parts 18-34 and the straps L1-L4. Notice that the straps are not yet attached on my Cloud build? I forgot to add them... so don't forget ok?!

Anyway, after assembling both legs, time to attach them together. Cut out and attach parts 35+36 onto both legs. Take care not to tug at parts 35+36 too much or the small tabs would break off. Immediately attach parts 37 and 38 to add support to the connection between both legs.

Note: Notice that the remaining straps needed to be attached to the foot are not included yet R5-R6 and L5-L6? Reason being is that you NEED to complete the ENTIRE build first before attaching these straps. If for some reason your model does not lean FORWARDS after you have completed your Cloud, you must correct this asap. So the straps are used to attach the Legs to the Foot (there's a bit of tension between the connection) to make Cloud lean FORWARD, I'll show you a picture of it later on. So just follow my advice and DO NOT attach parts R5-R6 and L5-L6.

Also, noticed that the PDO shows Cloud leaning forward as well, you need to eplicate that pose of his to ensure that he won't fall backwards once the Buster Sword is added. His center of gravity determines how balance he is, so it's really important to get that "Michael Jackson" leaning effect.

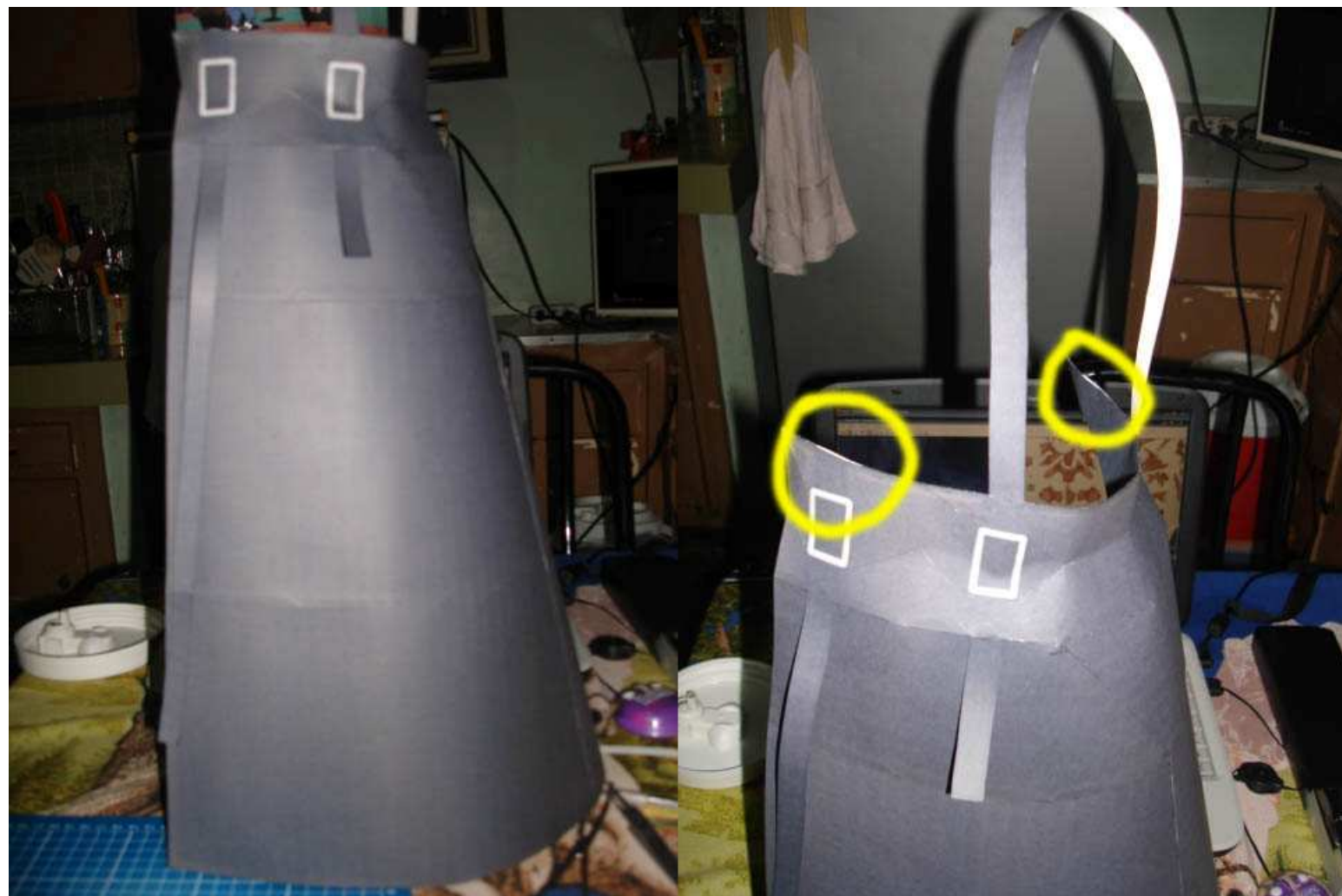
The picture below shows the straps attached to the back of Cloud's legs. The method I used here is simply cutting a small diagonal slit the size of the tab on the strap, and simply applying some glue, I inserted the tab into the slit. Voila, double tabs not required, plus this method ensures that the placement of the straps would look natural.



Now it's time to build his butt and crotch area *laughs*. Attach parts 39 and 40. After that, simply go on and assemble parts 41-49. Do not, I repeat, **DO NOT** attach parts 50-52 just yet. It's easier to attach the arms if you have the freedom to move your hand around without the collar getting in the way. Well, that's all for the body assembly, now to move onto other things.... The Man Skirt!



So start off with parts 1-4. Take note of the **MARKED** tabs on parts 1 and 2, do not glue these tabs onto part 4, just simply mountain fold them and glue the surrounding tabs. (you will insert part 16 in between part 1+4 into these marked tabs **LATER**) The remaining **UNMARKED** tabs on part 2 will be attached to parts 14+15 **LATER**



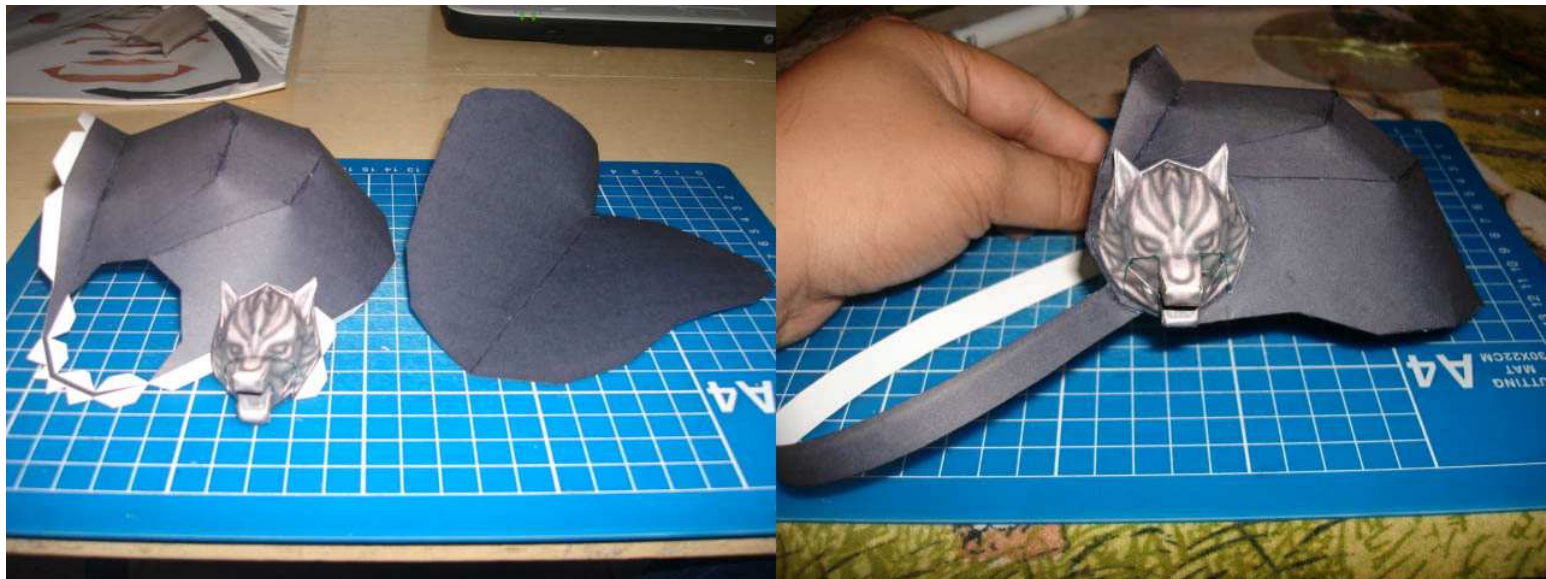
So continue on with parts 5+6 and part 7 will be attached on the marked tabs on part 8. Once done, continue on with parts 9-13. First picture above shows what the skirt should look like as of completing parts 1-13. Now simply attach parts 14+15 onto the UNMARKED tabs on part 2 (you didn't glue those tabs to anything else right? Riiight???). Second picture above shows the connection of parts 14+15, also take note of those yellow "circles", those are the MARKED tabs on parts 1 and 2 that are NOT supposed to be glued onto anything. So that leaves parts 16 and 17 for a LATER attachment.



Now lets get back to the hands and arms then, shall we. First we'll tackle the LEFT arm. Assemble parts 91+92 followed by attaching part 93, shown above. Forgive that little advertisement... it'll get covered anyway.



Continue on with parts 94-97 to complete Cloud's LEFT arm. That's about it for now, you have the option of going ahead and building both hands (left and right) as well as the RIGHT arm if you wish, if not then follow my build pattern then.



Back to Cloud's shoulder guard. (If you think this build is a puzzle, well you're wrong, this is MY method in building Cloud, so if you wish to build him in a different way, then go for it.) Anyway, start off with part 98-99 to build the Wolf Head, this part of the build would take every ounce of your patience to accomplish, but it's worth every cursing moment I tell you. So once you're done with the Wolf Head, continue on with making the upper portion of the shoulder guard. Assemble parts 100-105; attach the Wolf Head onto this assembly. Next attach part 100A to the marked tabs on parts 100 and 103, these are double tabs yet again.

The next portion of this build **REQUIRES** that you fold parts 104+105, I didn't fold this and it was a pain to complete this assembly. So trust me on this... **FOLD/PRESHAPE** parts 104+105 then attach to complete Cloud's shoulder guard.

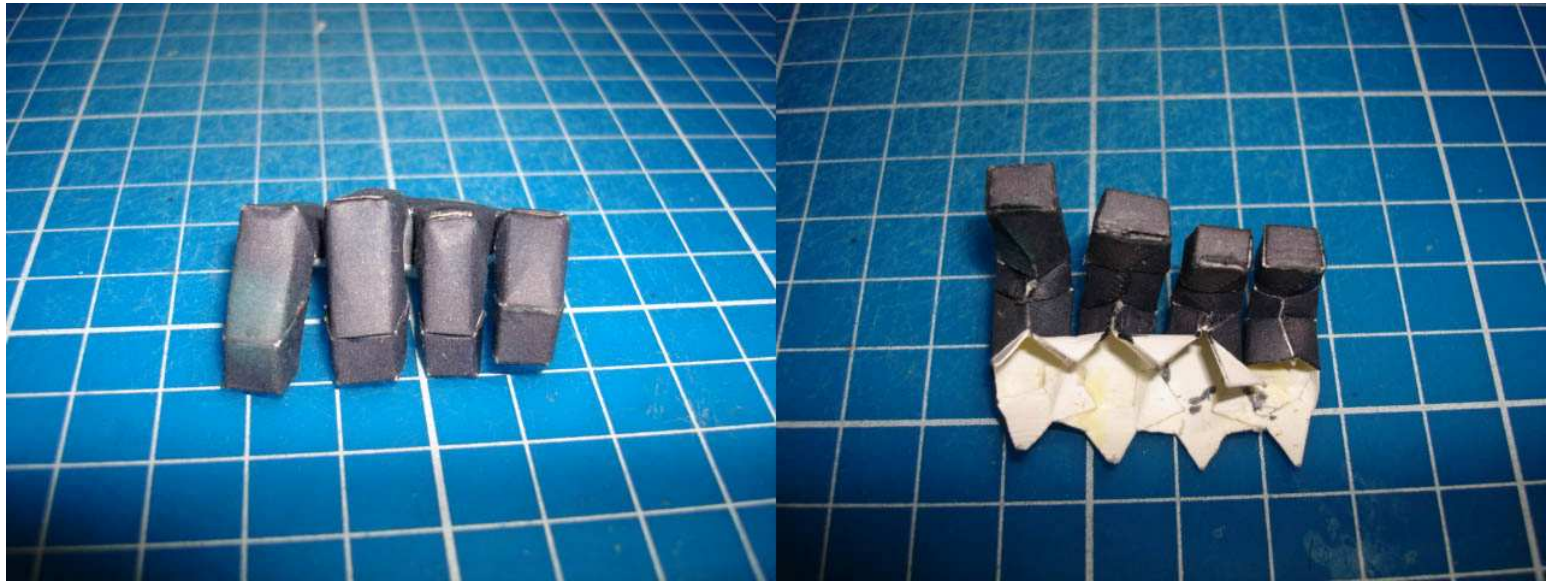


Now, let's get back to building the arms, if in case you went ahead and built the arms then good for you, kindly read the previous page to assemble the shoulder guard then. ^_^.

Anyway, if you haven't noticed yet, this Cloud build is Pose A, so if you wish to build Pose B, then it's the same thing anyway, just a slightly different arm position that's all. So simply assemble parts 109-115 and parts 71+72 for Pose A (upper and lower arm), for Pose B assemble parts 1A-6A and 7A+8A (upper and lower arm). 7A and 8A are exclusively for the Alternate Arm Pose; don't use them for parts 109-115. Well, you can try, but don't complain if it doesn't work.

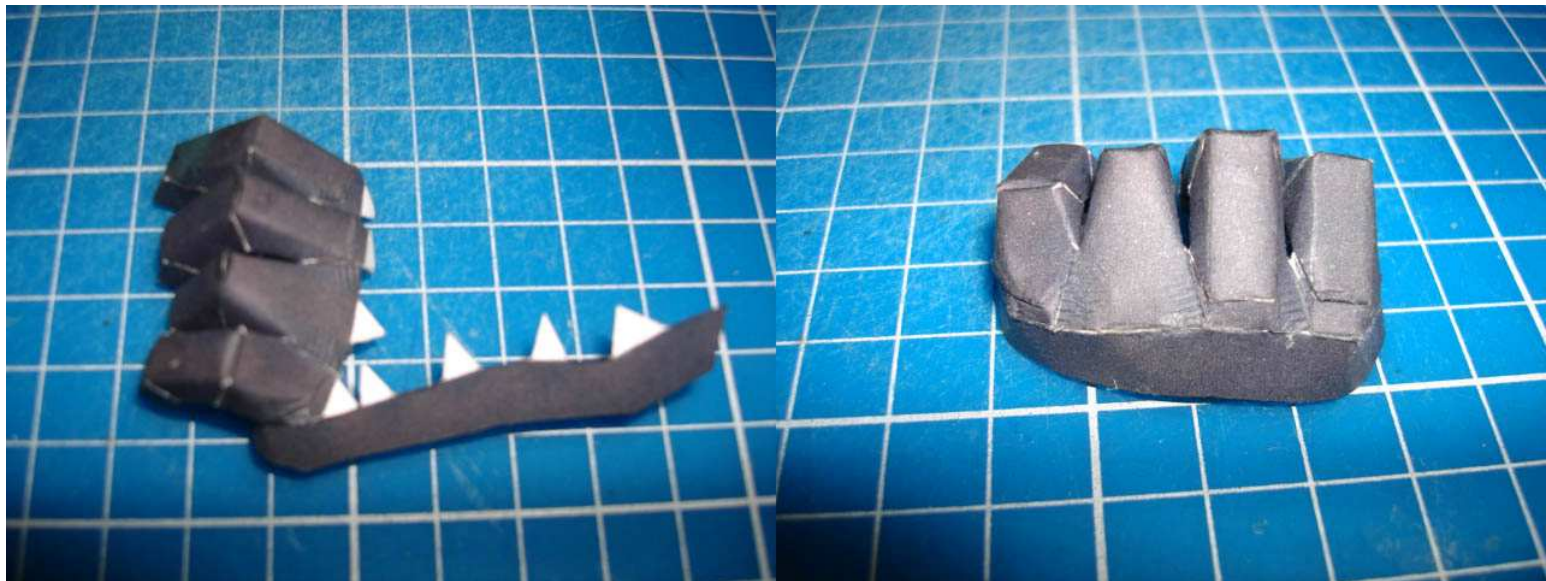
So, once you completed the arms, simply attach them to the body. You may now fit the shoulder guard and the man skirt. Remember, shoulder guard first, then the man skirt. This is when you finally attach parts 16 and 17 for the skirt assembly. Part 16 is simply inserted into the marked tabs that you didn't glue earlier, so feel free to glue them now to make part 16 permanent. Part 17 however is different; you can attach this however you want, as long as it helps keep the skirt fit around Cloud's waist and legs. So adjust as necessary. Refer to the PDO if you're unsure what to do.

You may now complete the collar assembly. Attach parts 50-52 to the body. If you already attached the collars, then no problem, I just hope you didn't have a hard time attaching the arms. Now onto the fun part, building the hands!



I started with the LEFT hand instead, so simply build the fingers according to the part numbers, parts 73-84, we'll leave out the thumb for now.

Note: best to fold these parts to make the build easier. Always start from the tip of the finger moving towards the knuckles. Then you can simply apply a considerable amount of glue and just attach them, one segment after the other. Picture above shows the LEFT hand fingers, 4 of them actually.



Next simply attach part 87. Just take your time and glue one tab one at a time. I used the zipper tab method on this one to ensure that you get to place the tabs correctly and equally spaced from one another.

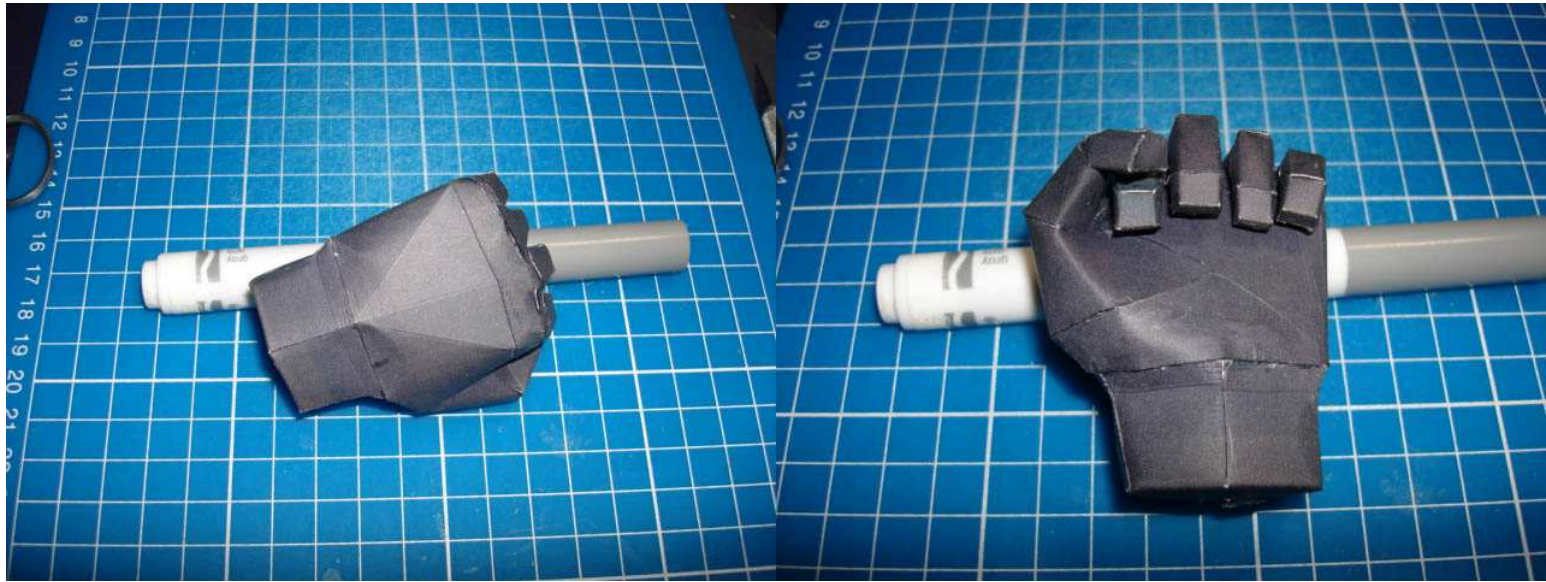


You may now assemble the thumb, parts 85-86. Afterwards you can begin the palm assembly. Attach part 88 carefully onto the assembled fingers.

Note: You may need to score/fold the palm to make things easier for you if you wish. To make this part of the build easier, start from the back of the hand, working your way in a clockwise motion towards the palm, as shown in the pic above. Just take things slowly and use your tweezers.

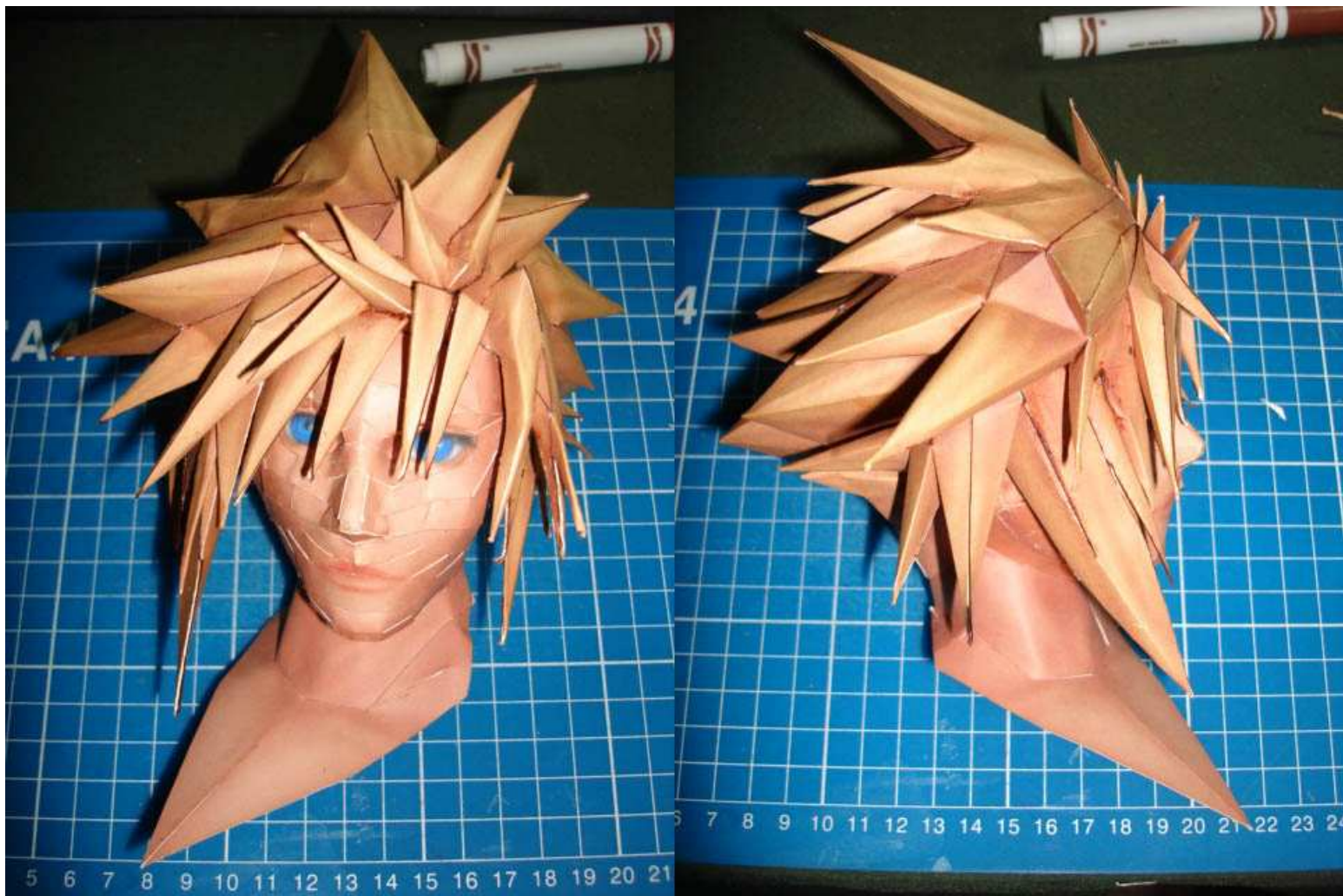


At this point, simply attach part 89 and then close the palm, you can then simply insert the thumb assembly onto part 89. You now have all 5 fingers assembled along with the palm.



To complete the LEFT fist, just simply attach part 90, take your time, this is quite tough, if you did things correctly and folded appropriately, inserting part 90 onto the fist is quite easy, time consuming, but easy.

Now simply do the same for the RIGHT hand parts 53-70, following the exact same procedure I mentioned above and things will go smoothly. So, set both hands aside for now, we'll tackle the hair/head assembly next!



Oh how I wish I could show y'all the build pictures for the hair, unfortunately I forgot to take pictures coz I got too excited over this segment of the build.

Anyway, simply follow the part numbers on the PDO for the hair build (Parts 1-33), cut out and assemble 1 spike hair at a time, then simply attach them to one another, until you get the result as shown above. I built the hair first, and then built the face parts directly onto the hair assembly. That may NOT be the easiest thing to do, but it worked for me. After the hair assembly I went directly by adding the ears to the hair parts 1 and 2, the ears serves as my guide as I continue building the face 1 part at a time. But that's my method, so your mileage may vary depending on how skilled and patient you are in trying my method.

However, the best suggestion I could prolly give is to build the face FIRST parts 1-22, then attach each spike hair to the face assembly 1 spike at a time. Start off from the front spikes and work your way towards the back of the head. The front spikes are the tricky parts but with a little time, patience and effort you'll get it right. I did it, so could you (hopefully).



You gotta wonder, who was it that first came up with the idea to make Cloud have those ridiculous spikes as a hairdo?
Well whatever, still looks effing cool though.

Ok, the face assembly is pretty straightforward (Parts 1-22), nothing fancy, I didn't have to preshape the parts, simply gluing the tabs and appropriately tugging when necessary I ended up with a decent looking model. Oh yeah, the tab orientation on my build was completely different from what you will build. I wanted to try something different but, failed miserably to get the effect I was after. So I adhered to the tab-facing-up method that worked for LeBlanc for the final PDO that you'll be building.

Anyway, after building the face and hair, simply attach the neck assembly, parts 1-3 (2nd pic above) and then follow up by attaching the remainder of the collar assembly, parts 106-108. Now it's time to assemble every part that you've made so far, both hands and the head!



Here we go! Attaching the hands onto the appropriate arms is quite easy, apply a fair enough amount of glue and simply stick them on. Not that hard issit?

What's hard is attaching the entire head assembly onto the collar. My apologies if this part would be really hard to do, this is the best way I could think off while building Cloud. Anyway, to close this build, start off from the back of the collar and glue the tabs 1 at a time, adjusting when necessary, and move towards the front of the collar. It's fairly easy actually, just time consuming yet again since you need to ensure that your glue has ample time enough to dry up before moving onto the next tab.

So yeah, just take your time until you get things right. Best suggestion, try dry fitting the head assembly first, and figure out what method would best work for you, then stick to that method from start to finish!

Once you're done with that, let's attach the remainder of the straps then R5-R6, L5-L6 (at this point you have the option to add some weights before closing the foot assembly with the straps). My Cloud build was already leaning forward so it wasn't necessary for me to apply any tension between the straps to make Cloud, as seen on the pic above I used the "Insert Method". Best to refer to the PDO if you're having trouble figuring this part out.

Onto my favorite part of the build.... The Ink Buster Sword!!!! This thing is HUGE, 34 inches long... Cloud stands nearly 33 inches, so yeah.... That sword of his is just HUUUUUGE!!!



Pretty straightforward, just simply assemble the blade with parts 1-12. Best way to tackle this build is to concentrate on 1 side of the sword, 1+3+4+7+8+11 and then work on 2+5+6+9+10, once that's done, simply combine both sides then close the build by attaching part 12 at the very end of the blade. Easy right.

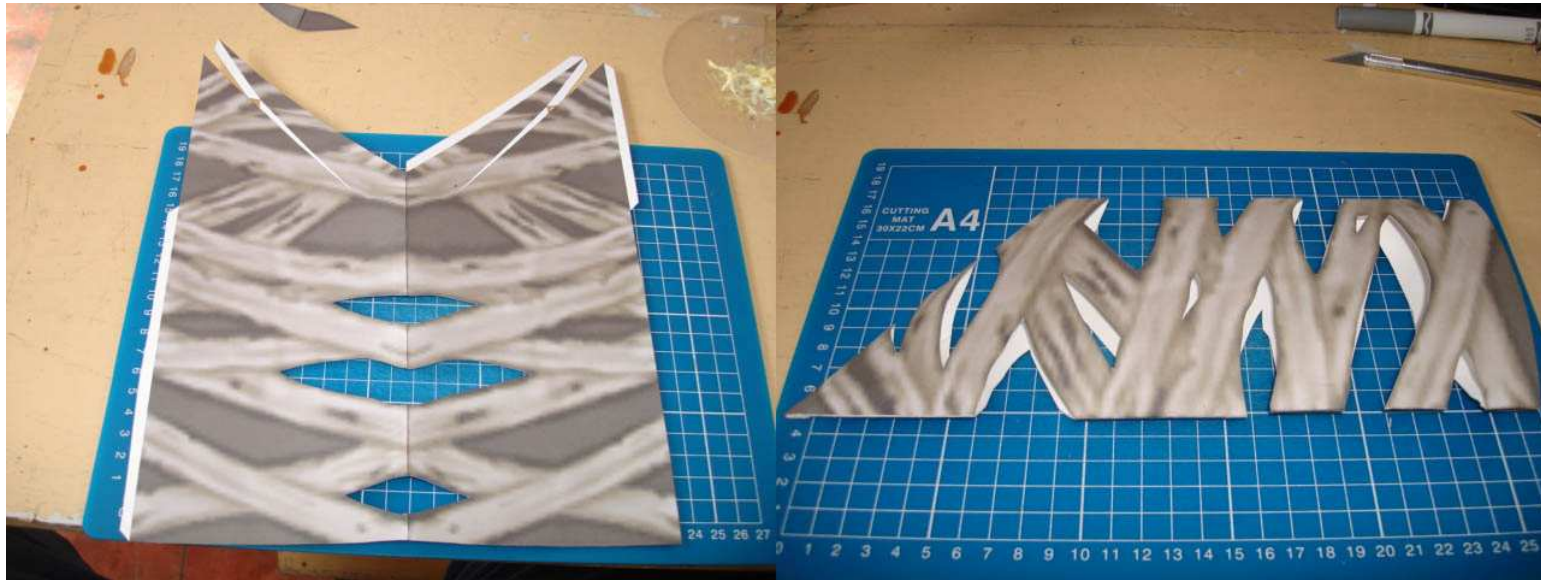
Let's build the hilt and guard then, just cut out and assemble parts 13-16. You know you did things right if it looks like a small hammer.

Note: Once you insert the sword handle onto Cloud's hands, there's a tendency that the handle gets squished/deformed... best way to avoid this is to insert any cylindrical object that fits the circumference of the handle. In this situation I happen to have one of those huge straws that you get when you buy a fruit shake... or just find the biggest straw you have around... or even an already empty marker would suffice since it's the same size.



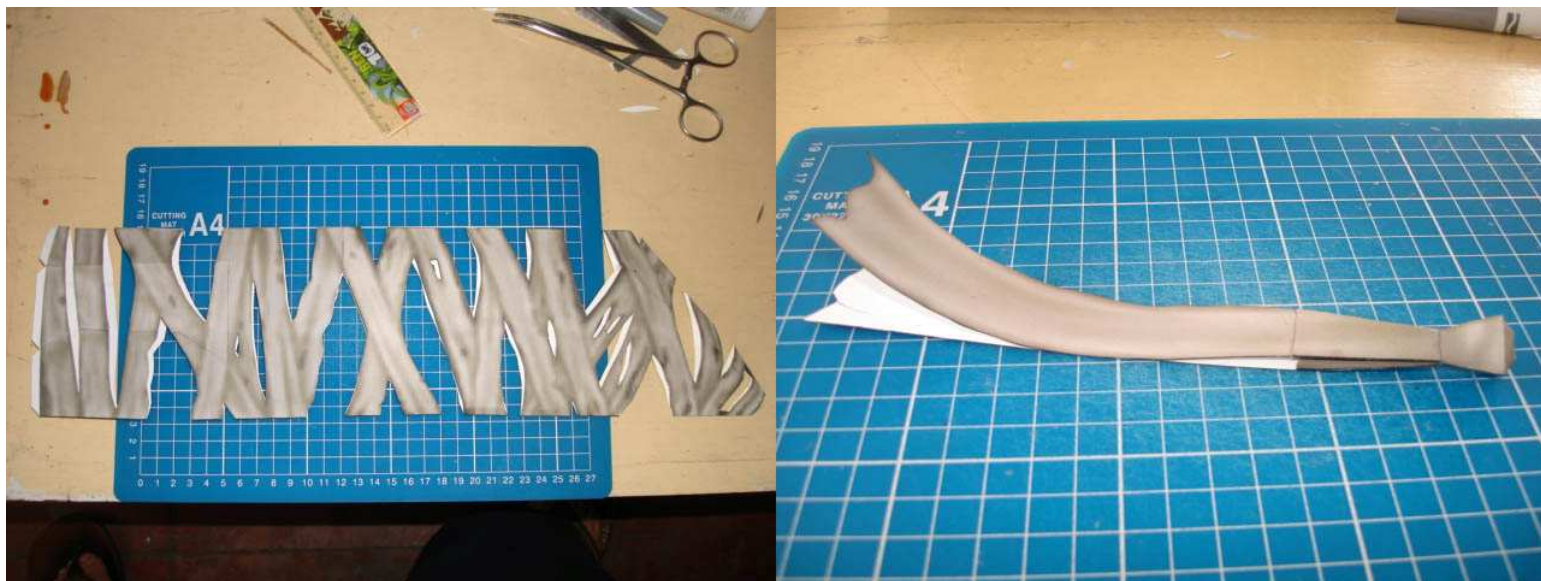
Ok, so that was easy, remember that part 14 rests in between parts 13+15 and you need to add a considerable amount of glue to make it permanently fixed between both flat surfaces, also take note that you don't need to close the last flap on part 15 right now, you can do that later once you fix it to Cloud's hand, so if you need to add any additional weight, you can do so. I made a complete mess there while attaching part 14 didn't I? Do not attach the handle to the blade just yet, we need to assemble the bandages first, so set them aside.

Mesh time!

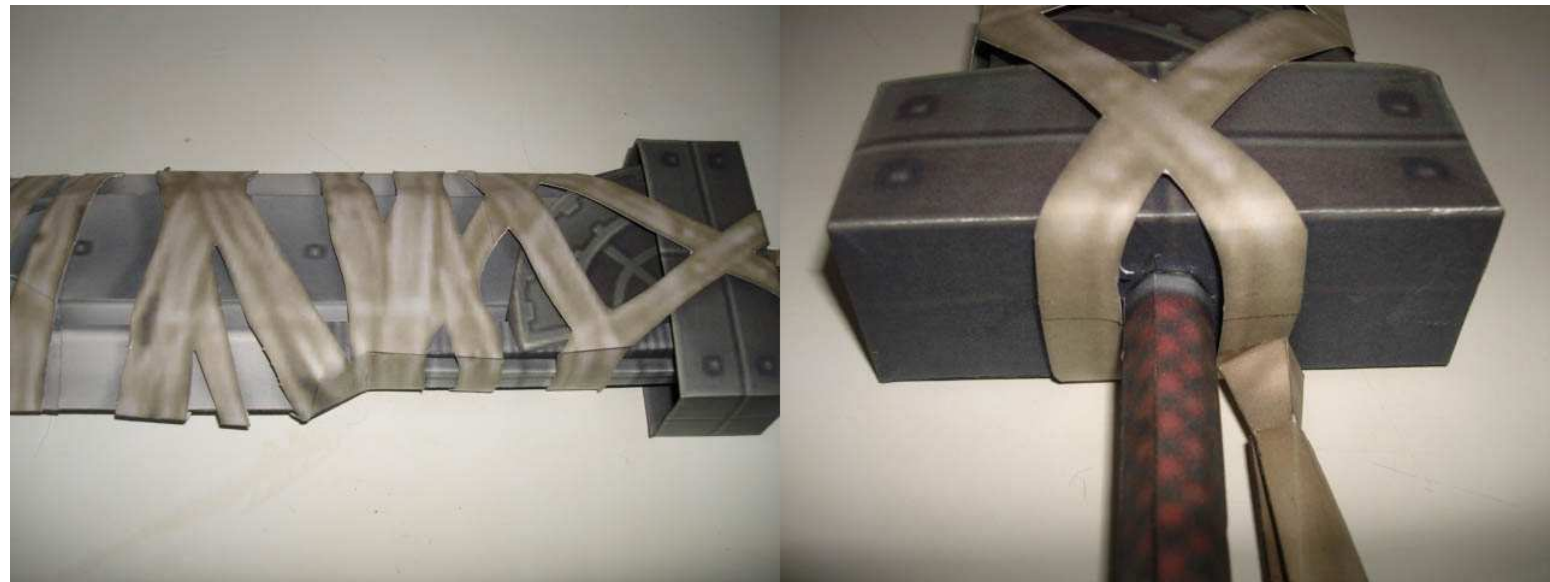


Only attempt this if you know what you're actually doing. If you mess up, then that's not my fault I warned you already.

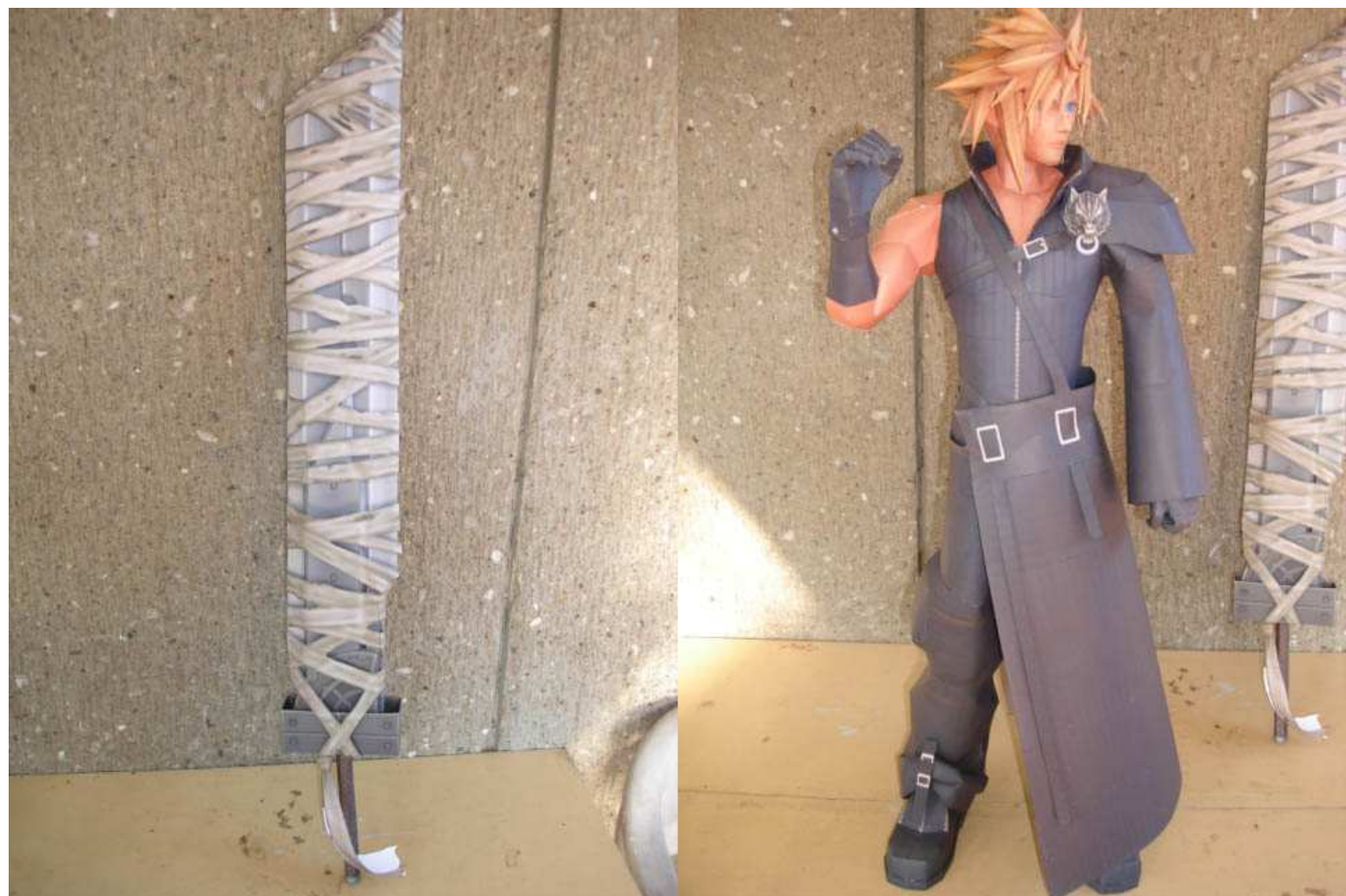
Assemble each part by pair, 19+20, 21+22+23+24, 25+26+27, 28+29, then, as pictured above simply cut out those dark gray areas till you have the effect shown on the second picture. However, I must warn you, there are certain areas that would have a tab adjacent to the dark gray area you wish to cut out, it is **COMPLETELY UP TO YOU** if you wish to cut that portion out or not. As for my build, I went ahead and cut it out along with the tab that was in the way.



After you're done cutting out as much of the gray areas that you feel is appropriate, simply assemble them all together. Parts 19-24 can be assembled together and can be inserted from the pointed end of the sword. However, parts 25-29 can **ONLY** be inserted from the blunt end of the sword. Set those aside for now and assemble the "ribbon" with parts 30-32. as with attaching the straps, that method can be used in attaching parts 31+32 into part 30, refer to pic above.



Once you're done with everything, insert the bandages onto the sword. Parts 19-24 goes at the pointed edge of the sword; parts 25-29 at the blunt/flat end of the sword. You can now attach the hilt/guard to the sword along with parts 17 and 18. Finally close the end of part 29 as shown above. Only add the completed ribbon after you test fitted the sword onto Clouds hands.



Finished "Ink" Buster Sword and its "pointy haired owner" Cloud Strife. The Buster Sword already looks cosplay worthy eh?



Well, that's all folks... this Reference Manual prolly didn't help much, but at least you get to see how I built my model. Just as it is called, just use this as reference on how you will build your model and always use the PDO included since that gives you a better idea how to tackle this model. Anyway, I guess that's all, so enjoy!

