




CONSTRUCTION METHOD

Materials Chosen and Why

		
<p>12mm EVA foam mats available from the Warehouse in economical packs of 4. Flexible, shapeable and simply what everyone seemed to be using</p>	<p>6mm EVA foam sheet available from the SuperCheap Auto in a rather expensive roll. I needed larger sheets to get around me!</p>	<p>3mm EVA foam sheets available from Spotlight. I used this for the decorative little bits</p>
		
<p>I needed several heavy density foam blocks to use as platforms for my boots to compensate for my short....</p>	<p>Low density foam like that in packaging was used to fill the voids between my belly and the massive chest of the character. I also used this for the equipment cases.</p>	<p>I needed to create a curved shapes for around the neck and the backpack. Pool Noodles were great for this but melted whenever hot glue came too close.</p>
		
<p>I initially started boot construction using PVC Foam board used by sign writers. This was in the initial boot build but became a horrible fail !</p>	<p>Foam core board was used for the light slits in the back of the backpack. Accuracy was important here so these were cut on the laser printer.</p>	<p>Small cable details were created using plastic cable piping stripped from another project. They were difficult to shape even with the hot air gun.</p>



The under garment of the character was what looked like raw calico. This was easy to source and colour appropriately.



Elastic strapping was used to hold the parts together that required some flexibility. It meshed well with the foam when hot glued in place.



I used real large head aluminum rivets for the boots. From my research this was actually how the costume was held together in the GoW universe.



Fortunately I had access to a 3D printer as I needed to create a number of technical parts and of course print the Lance Mk II rifle/chainsaw. I used PLA plastic for this.



The costume was lit in two places with blue accent lights, and a number of lights on the back pack. It took a bit of finding but the result was perfect!



The cable connection between the light and back pack needed to be easily removed and reconnected once the battery pack was in place. JST connectors proved useful.









I used a ton of hot glue... especially where I made a mistake. But I also found that the elastic webbing bound so well if stretched that it was a no brainer to use.



ADOS F2 contact adhesive was used for all large areas to glue foam on foam. It cured quickly and I really liked the smell!



Super glue was used to fix the small finer foam details in place. I kept gluing my fingers together so had to have some acetone close at hand. Hated the stuff!

		
<p>All foam parts were heat sealed with a hot air gun and then sealed with a watered down coat of PVA glue.</p>	<p>Plastidip was used to coat all foam parts ready for painting. This gave a nice clean paint ready finish.</p>	<p>I used a combination of acrylic and oil paints to create my faux leather. Took a long time to dry but looked great.</p>
		
<p>I used a combination of metallic and black paints from Dulux to create the basic colour scheme. This was fun but made my hand very tired. The devil is truly in the detail.</p>	<p>I used Crystal Kote to apply a clear protective finish to the paintwork.</p>	<p>I needed a portable battery pack with enough grunt to drive my lights ... and charge my phone for all photos/videos I wanted to take.</p>

PARTS & MATERIALS USED

Products / Items	Used to make	Sourced from
Foam	Almost everything	Various Bunnings, Payless Plastics, The Warehouse & Spotlight
Foam Core Board	Back plate	Bunnings
Hose	Hoses on back pack	Bunnings
Calico	Under garment	Arthurs Emporium, Whangarei
Elastic & Strapping	Strapping	Arthurs Emporium, Whangarei
Rivets	Boot Rivets	Bunnings
3D Filament	Gun, Shoulder & Back pack lighting	Northland Copier Solutions
LED Light Strip	All lighting effects	Banggood, China
Glues	Almost everywhere	Bunnings
Spray Paints & Plastidip	Painting all foam parts	Mitre 10, Whangarei
Acrylic Paints	Finishing touches	Arthurs Emporium, Whangarei
Power Pack	Powering lights	Acquire Online Store, NZ