

HYLIAN SHIELD TUTORIAL

Twilight Princess Version



Step One:

Everything I make starts out with a template, and the Hylian Shield is no exception.

To make a template, take a large sheet of paper, or tape many sheets together until you have the desired size, then start sketching!

It helps if you have someone with you to match the shield's proportions to your own size, my dad helped with this.

Fold the paper in half, or draw a line straight down the centre, then go about making the outer shape of the shield. Once you are happy with what you have, cut down the centre line and trace both halves onto a separate sheet of paper to give yourself a perfectly symmetrical shield. Alternatively, fold the paper in half again and cut around the one half.

You'll want to duplicate the shield 3 times and modify two of those.

You will use one as the main shield piece, this one will be the one you don't change.

One will be used as the border which goes on the front of the shield and the third as the border which goes on the back.

To create the borders simply draw inside the lines of the template you have to create the shapes you see on the shield.

You will also want to create a template for the design on the face of the shield. This is done in the same way.

Make sure everything is symmetrical and that your templates all match before you continue as this is the most important step! If you don't get the shape and templates right now there will be serious problems later on, so take your time and be careful!

Step Two:

Take the templates you made and trace them onto whatever material you will be using for your shield. I used wood, but you could also apply this method to foam board or any other material you like to work with. I'm going to write about working with wood for this tutorial.



To cut your shield pieces from wood you will need a jigsaw and a steady hand.

I also drilled holes in my shield. These are where the screws will go later. These are both for decoration, and to hold the shield together.

Once you've cut out your pieces sand all the edges smooth (don't forget the insides!).

Next you need to cut out the design for the centre of the shield. For this I used craft foam which can be easily cut with scissors.



Step Three:

Glue everything together!
Now this is an easy one.

Be sure to use a strong glue, especially if working with wood (I used an industrial strength wood glue) and give it plenty of time to dry. **At least 24 hours!** The longer the better though, you don't want it falling apart.

Try to clamp your pieces together while they dry, or at the very least lay something heavy on top of them to apply pressure and keep them together.

Don't glue your design just yet though! Wait for the next step first!

Sand the outside of the shield again to make sure it is smooth and level. Use a belt sander if possible



Step Four:

Add the handles to your shield.
Unfortunately I have no photos of this either sorry!

It's quite simple though, you just need to drill holes in the shield where you want them to be and use screws to hold the handles in place. If you're not using wood, you can use a strong glue to keep your handles in place.

As for making handles, I bought a drawer handle from a hardware store and cut a belt down to use for a strap. Now you can glue on the details. To create the raised details you see at the top of my shield use a hot glue gun.

Step Five:

The next step is to prime your shield.
Pick up a high build primer and spray away!
Once you've given the shield a layer wait for it to dry and sand it smooth.

Repeat this process until your shield is well coated and/or you run out of primer, preferably the latter.
You want to make sure you do this properly or the paint won't hold as well, so give it a many layers as you can.

Here you can also see the handles on the back of the shield for reference.



Step Six:

It's finally time to paint your shield. There are a number of ways to do this, but here is mine.

First spray the all of the parts which need to be silver. You don't need to mask anything off to do this, but try to avoid spraying the centre.

Next, use masking tape to mask of everything except for the blue part pictures. Spray that, leave it a few minutes and remove.

Do the same for the red crest and finally go over the shield by hand to touch up any parts that you missed or where you may have spilled paint.

Finish with a coat of laquer and add your screws (which I still haven't done...)



VOILA!

You should now have your very own Hylian Shield!

If you have any questions about this tutorial or props please visit:

linkylex.deviantart.com

OR

www.thelegendoflex.weebly.com

