

GULF WARS PREPARATIONS!

Making a project list you will stick to

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In this class you will learn how to make lists of things you will need to attend Gulf Wars. You will also learn the difference between classifying a NEED from a WANT.

GULF WARS!!!! One of the best times you will ever have! 3,000-5,000 of your best friends all camping together and hitting each other with sticks. It has been called many things. Gulf Wash. Gulf Ice. Gulfnado. The terms used for Gulf Wars stem mostly from the weather that happens during the event. It can be as hot as the Sahara, or as cold as Antarctica. You can have gentle breezes, or gale force winds. What starts out in the morning as a gentle rain can become an ice storm by tea time.

How do I prepare for such weather? What do I bring to wear?

The answer is EVERYTHING. Preparing yourself for anything is always the best plan. Here are some ways to get a handle on what you have and what you need to be able to make Gulf Wars fun.

Step One: Take an inventory.

Take out every single item of garb that fits you and is comfortable. You need to know what you have so that you can know what you are going to have to come up with. BE HONEST. Don't put something in the "fine" pile if it is too snug or too baggy. Everyone always tells themselves they will lose enough weight for it to fit before they get there. WRONG. If it doesn't fit now, it won't fit then.

Step Two: Sort your stuff.

Separate all your garments into "piles". ANYTHING that needs repairing (seam, sleeve, hole, you name it) goes into a pile together. Then separate all your pants/dresses/tunics into their own separate piles. Use the sheet I have attached to take your inventory and put numbers to your stash. **DO NOT DO THIS FROM YOUR MEMORY. GET EVERYTHING OUT AND PHYSICALLY LOOK AT IT!!** It is also to make sure that gremlins have not taken a piece of your garb. Just because you "think" it is somewhere, does not mean it is. Pull it out. Put your eyes on it. If you cannot put your hands on a piece of garb for this step, it DOES NOT EXIST...

Step Three: Make your list.

Once you have your totals on the worksheet, look at the second sheet and see what you are working towards. I have compiled a suggested list of how many of each item you should bring to Gulf Wars, based on which day you arrive. This list is NOT the end-all be-all. It is simply a suggested list to get you started. If you don't have enough garb, then you can re-use some pieces. DO NOT STRESS. Think of it as a goal to work toward. There is room for you to add things that I may have forgotten, or are special to your own needs.

Step Four: Plan your attack.

So now you have your list, you have double checked it. You know what you have, and what you don't. TIME TO DO THE THINGS!!! Before you can commence to kicking your list's butt, you need to do some recon.

- Check your fabric stashes. Remember that cool piece of linen you were holding onto? Maybe you have a friend that has something they hate, but would look great on you.
- Make sure you have your basic supplies:
 - Fabric
 - Scissors
 - Sewing machine
 - Thread
 - Needles (machine and hand)
 - Pins
 - Embroidery floss
 - Notebook/pencils
 - **MEASUREMENTS**

Wait...WHAT?!! YES! Have a GREAT set of CURRENT measurements so that you will be ready to pull the trigger and make those things you need.

Step Five: PLAN, PLAN, PLAN!

Now that you have your list, and your material, GET A CALENDAR. I like to color code things; blue marker for pants, red for tunics, green for dresses, yellow for aprons. Use whatever colors tickle your fancy. Sit down and look at your list, and your calendar, and SET YOUR GOALS. If you want to make one tunic and one pair of pants, then mark what days you are setting aside to do it on. You have to prioritize what comes first. Here is an example of my priorities when it comes to prepping for GW.

THING TO BE DONE	ORDER
Any and all repairs	First; also, two to three per night the first week, depending on how many need doing.
Tunics	Second cut out on weekend, sew one per night during the week
Pants	Third cut out on weekend, sew one per night during the week
Dresses/aprons	Fourth cut out on Saturday, sew together on Sunday
Handwork/hems/decoration	Last. After everything is cut and sewn together, use this to take the place of repairs in the evenings watching TV

Step Six: Divide and Conquer.

Now that you have your list, and your plan, time to get started. What did you say? Hate cutting stuff out? HMMMM...Ok. Find someone that has strengths where you are weak. Tag team your projects. You may LOVE to cut stuff out, but hate sewing. Someone else may love sewing, but suck at cutting stuff out. TRADE YOUR TIME. Make a point of teaming up with someone who compliments your work style, and use it to your advantage. One of you cut everything out (for both parties) and have the other person sew it together. Maybe someone can't do either. Maybe they are great at ironing, or perhaps they have plenty of space to lay everything out and all of you work on it at the same time. Trade

their space for helping them out. No one is completely without skills of some sort. Find out what those are and use them to your advantage. Many hands make light work. Knowing others are in the same boat and sharing the load makes time go faster, and things get done!

Step Seven: Check your progress.

After each item is completed on your list, check it off. DOESN'T THAT FEEL GREAT???? Once a week, sit down and really look at your list. By now, you should be able to recognize items that take priority over others. My golden rule is this: **UNLESS IT IS A LIFE OR DEATH NECESSITY, YOU DO NOT ADD SOMETHING TO YOUR LIST THAT NEEDS DOING UNTIL AT LEAST THREE (3) ITEMS ON YOUR LIST HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.** This will keep your list from becoming a never-ending nightmare.

This is by no means a complete list of steps; but it is enough to get you started. These steps can also be applied to other projects in your life. Taking small steps can lead you to greater things! I look forward to seeing you all at Gulf Wars!

December 2017 (United States)

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2018 (United States)

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

February 2018 (United States)

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	1	2	3	4

March 2018 (United States)

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
26	27	28	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1