

Ultralight Weapons Playtest

2010

Overview

- All foam on the weapon must be '33' weight or softer foam but no less than '25'.
- Core must be 1/2" in diameter and must be made of carbon fiber or fiberglass pipe (No graphite cores).
- Minimum 5/8" foam depth to core on all surfaces
- Minimum 1" foam depth for end caps (ends of the core)
- Core must have protection (i.e. "capped") on weapon tips to prevent tearing/splitting of the foam
- Core must not rattle or twist inside the foam
- Otherwise follows all rules for weapon safety in the Core Rules Set

How to Make an Ultralight Weapon

Materials:

Materials needed for creating a NERO-safe one handed weapon:

- *1/2" diameter carbon fiber or fiberglass pipe core*
- *5/8" wall pipe insulating foam (typically light green in color)*
- *Open cell foam*
- *Gray duct tape*
- *Electrical tape*
- *Hacksaw*
- *Scissors*
- *Glue (some sort of glue that will stick to foam...spray adhesive works well)*
- *Razor blade*
- *Ruler or yardstick*
- *Marker*

Instructions:

1. Using the hacksaw, cut the core into the desired weapon length minus 6 inches.
2. Using the scissors or knife, cut the pipe foam into the desired blade length plus one inch.
3. With duct tape, cap or cover the ends of the pipe so that there are no open ends and the foam end caps will be protected against damage
4. Slide the pipe foam over the core so that one inch of foam hangs over one end.
5. Mark the other end of the pipe where the foam ends to form the handle
6. Take the foam off the core and apply **GENEROUS** amounts of glue to the inside of the pipe foam and on the pole. Slip the foam onto the pole and line it up with

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- the mark you made on the core. Making sure to leave 1 inch of overhang at the tip of the blade.
7. Twist the core to ensure glue is on all sides. Wait for the glue to dry.
 8. Stuff the end of the overlap with pipe foam. Close off the end of the blade with duct tape. **If you are planning to use a cloth cover you must cover the last 7 inches of the blade tip with duct tape.** This is very important, do not skip this step.
 9. Cut three inches of pipe foam to be used as the butt end (the “Waylay tip”). Slide the pipe foam over the open end of the core so that it hangs one inch over the end. As with the blade tip, place a piece of foam into the end of the butt end and cover it with duct tape. Secure the butt end to the core with glue and duct tape.
 10. Cut a block of open cell foam to cover the end of the weapon. Secure the open cell foam to the pipe foam with duct tape and cover with tape.
 11. Repeat this process for the butt end.
 12. Poke a few holes into the tips to allow air to flow more freely. The goal is for the tips to crush easily and regain their shape quickly.
 13. Apply a blade covering of duct tape or cloth.
 14. Wrap electrical tape, leather, or grip tape in a spiral around the hand grip.

Your weapon is now complete! Check it for safety. (Is it too stiff? Too whippy? Is the pipe protruding? Does it hurt when you hit yourself? etc.)

Maintenance:

- Check the integrity of your weapon after every fight
- Store your Ultralight weapon away from extreme heat and cold
- Do not store the weapon with heavy weight on it
- Do not store the weapon bent, and in general in a way that will keep it from wearing out.
- Remember that the fiberglass and carbon fiber cores are fragile - they will hold up to normal use but if you should compromise the integrity of the core it will break.