

Cardboard Sawfish – Build Instructions

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Materials

1. Unassembled 18 x18 x 16 box, cut along one edge to create a cardboard sheet 34 x 72 inches
2. Book mailer box 10 x 16 x ¾ inches (like an envelope, with triangular flaps)
3. 5 x 10 x 7 inch box (assembled, with one long side cut away)
4. Extra cardboard to create: (a) dorsal (11 inches high); (b) caudal fin (14 inches long) with flaps as bottom; (c) three strap-shaped braces to hold sides of body together underneath (or these can simply be made as part of the main body panel)
5. Two strips of cardboard 34 x 4.5 inches (for the top and bottom of the saw)
6. One piece of white foam board 30 x 8 inches, plus an additional 4 x 8 inch piece

Tools

- Retractable craft knife
- Hot glue gun (with glue sticks)
- Clear shipping tape
- Tape measure
- Scissors

Instructions

1. Take the unassembled 18 x 18 x 16 box and cut one edge to create a flat sheet 34 x 72 inches
2. Draw outline of sawfish with head from below the saw (with snout about 4.5 inches wide) at one end down to the end of the first panel, with pectoral fins on the next panel; and the narrowing body and tail on the remaining two panels (see illustration below); the missing tips of the pectoral fins can be added as separate glued-on pieces



3. Cut out the sawfish outline, including thin belt-like straps just below the panel flap edges where the head meets the body, just below the pectoral fins, and just below the pelvic fins (later, these traps will be glued together under the body to give the body height)
4. Create the dorsal and tail fins, folding cardboard into triangles (or glue two identical pieces together) with flaps at the bottom, and glue these on the body, the dorsal fin on the third panel, and the tail at the end of the fourth panel



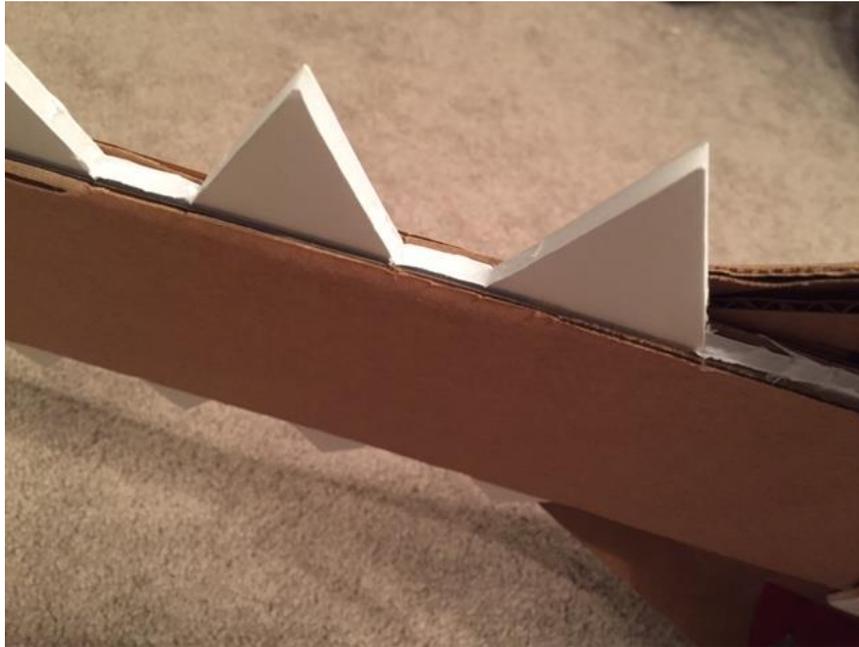


7. Fold head panel down and glue the assembled 5 x 10 x 7 inch box (with one long side cut away) centered under the head, so one short edge is flush with the now vertical body panel (only glued on the long side against the head panel); glue two strips of foam board alongside the box to make the head panel stronger to support the saw



5. Separately, layer the 30 x 8 inch white foam board piece between the two 34 x 4.5 inch strips of cardboard, with the foam board centered side to side, and flush with the tip at one end; add an extra foam board piece 4 x 8 to fill in the missing area between the saw boards; draw the teeth and carefully cut them out with your knife; round the tip of the saw with knife or scissors

6. Glue the saw centered on the underside of the head panel, flush with the edge of the assembled box; glue a wide support brace of cardboard between the box and the saw for stability (see previous photo & below)



7. Create a cardboard headband that fits snugly (but not too tight) around the wearer's head and tape it on three sides inside the front of the head-box; glue a cardboard tube to fill the space under the headband to provide cushion between the wearer's head and the top of the box



8. Take the unassembled 10 x 16 x ¾ inch book-mailer box (looks like an envelope), and placing it with one corner on the saw, shape and curl the edges by hand to create a 3D head to attach to the top of the head panel; cut and shape with scissors as needed; the side flaps can be retained to hide the head box below (see photo above); glue the box corner securely to the saw, and then

use L-braces of cardboard to attach the rear of the sculpted head floating a few inches above the head panel; add cardboard eyes



L-brackets glued under the sculpted head piece to attach the back of the head to the head panel

8. Using your craft knife with just a couple of millimeters of blade tip exposed, carefully score the top of the body panels from the pectoral fin panel all the way to the tail tip a few inches in from the sides of the body panel, and then carefully fold down along these lines to create a rounded body form



9. While holding the scored body panels down (with a helper), connect the straps underneath with glue, to retain the 3D shape



10. Fold the pectoral and pelvic fins where they meet the body upwards, so that they will not point downwards
11. Decorate with paints, stickers, markers, etc... as desired!
12. The mask can be worn on the head, with the sawfish head & saw projecting straight outwards and the sawfish body trailing down the wearer's back; wearers may wish to hold the sides of the head-box with their hands (on or above the wearer's head) for more control and comfort, allowing for more ease of movement (like swinging the saw, wagging the head up and down, etc...)

