



Building Marozzo's Imbracciatura

- white & wood glue
- 3'x4' thin plywood **x2**
- muslin
- canvas
- thick leather strips
- Nuts, bolts & washers
- clamps or straps
- jigsaw



Start by coating one side of the plywood sheets with wood glue. Here we're using a trowel to spread the glue evenly over the entire sheet.



Take your muslin and spread it over the plywood, making sure the entire sheet is covered. We used a flat edge of a thick piece of plastic to push the muslin into the glue and eliminate any wrinkles.



Coat the top side of the muslin (which is now glued to the first sheet of plywood) with wood glue in the same manner as we coated the plywood.



Take the second sheet of plywood and lay it on top of the muslin. We've now made a sandwich of two sheets of plywood with muslin in between. Two sheets of plywood will give us the mass we need and will allow us to bend the boards into place. The muslin



between prevents the boards from cracking. Clamp the perimeter of the plywood while the glue dries. We used two long clamps across the width to bend the plywood into place. Straps can also be used to get the desired curvature.



Let the glue dry overnight and remove clamps. Trim excess muslin. We now have a curved 'blank' to work with.



Mark the center of the plywood on both the top and the bottom. Trace half the shape of the shield on paper or any extra muslin. Place that 'half' pattern on one half of the plywood and trace it onto the wood. Flip the pattern and repeat on the other half.



Use a jigsaw to cut out the shape of the traced pattern (remember your eye protection!).



Coat the backside of the shield with white glue.



Lay the canvas over the glued side. We used the same flat edge of a flat piece of plastic to press the canvas into the shield and to remove and wrinkles.



Cut the canvas to the edge of the shield using a box cutter. Place the leather straps on the back side and mark their placement. The top strap should be just below the armpit while the small strap should be an arm's length away so the hand can grasp it.



Drill holes through the leather and the shield at the ends of the leather straps. There should be enough play in the straps to get an arm through. Don't leave too much slop or it will be too loose. Put the bolt through the holes from the front of the shield so you can put the washer and nut on the back side.



Coat the front side
with white glue.



Apply white glue
around the edges of
the shield



Trim the canvas, leaving 2 inches around the outside edge of the shield. Apply white glue to the canvas extending past the shield and double-fold the edge and apply it to the back of the shield.



(another view)



Let the glue dry and
paint your shield!

(this version does not
have a spike at the
end, one might be
added later)

