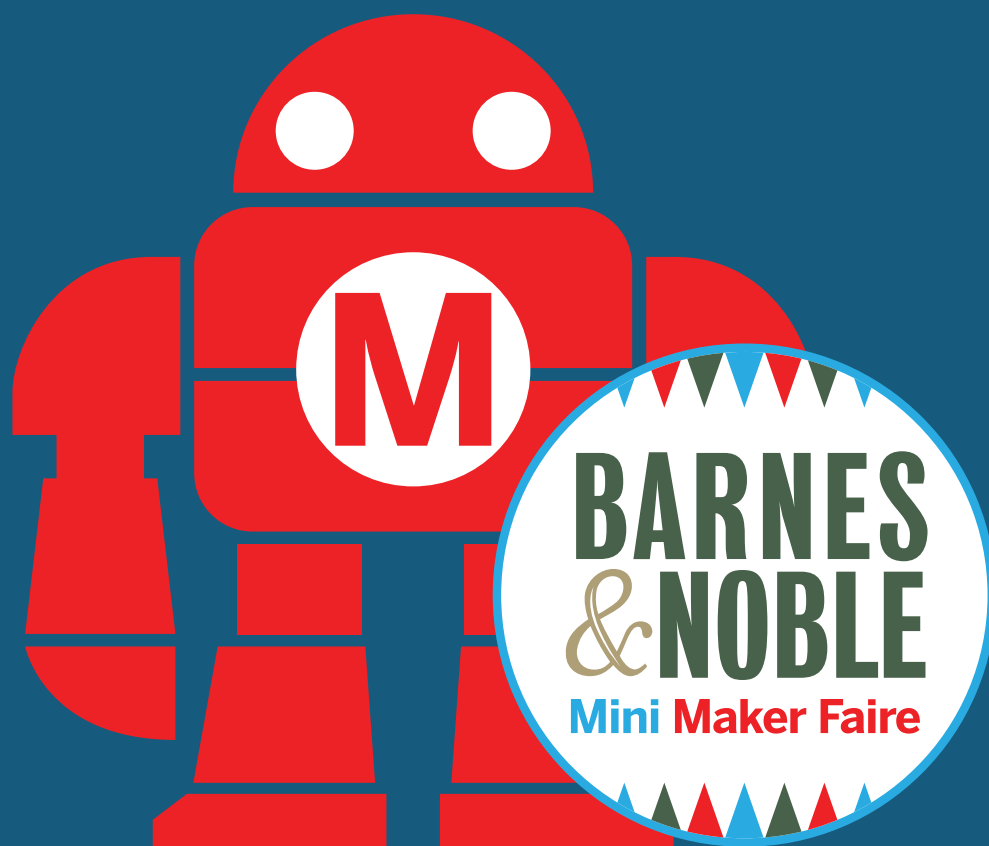
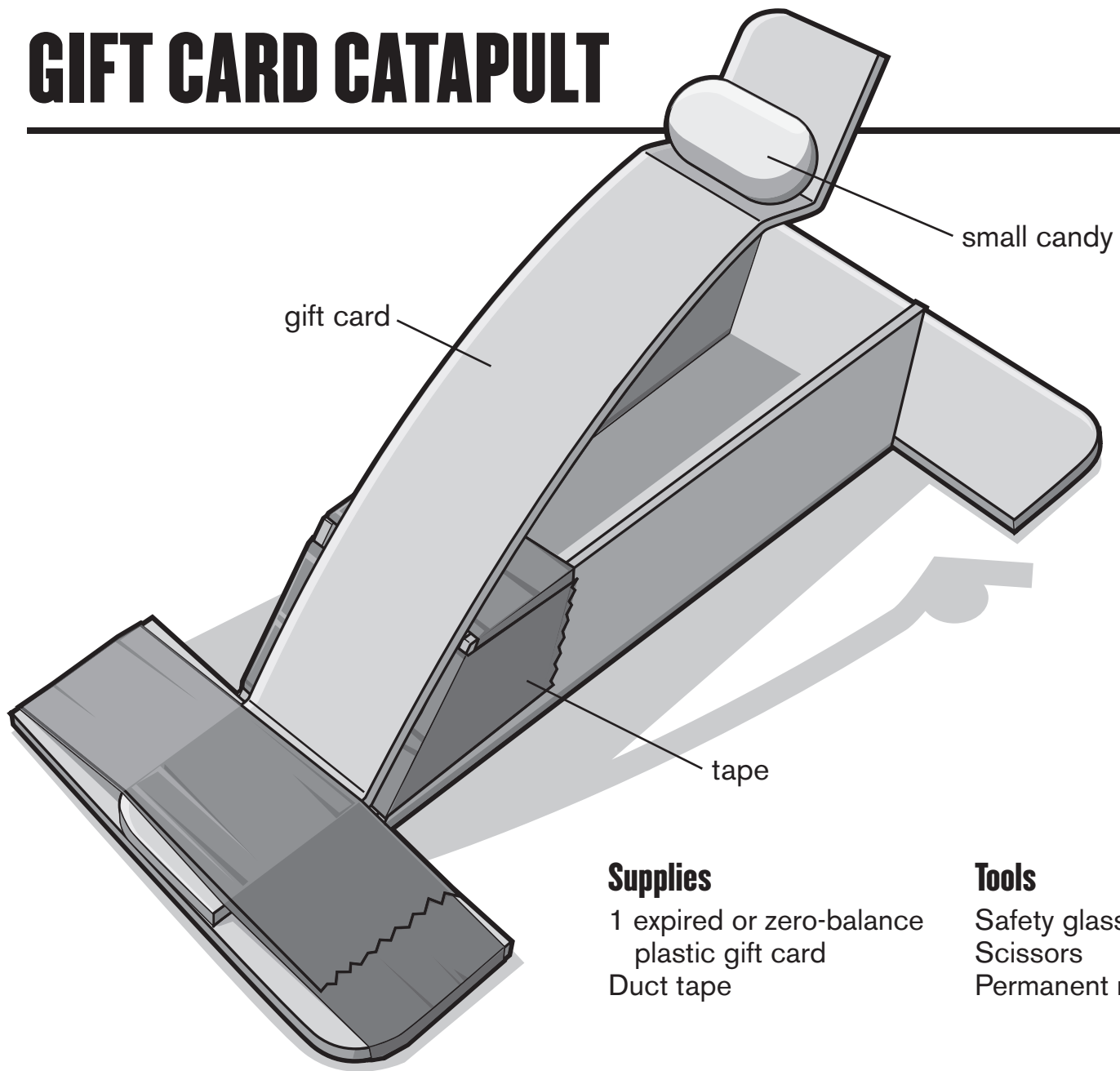


MAKE & COLLABORATE: GIFT CARD CATAPULT



A project from
**Mini Weapons of Mass Destruction 3:
Build Siege Weapons of the Dark Ages**

GIFT CARD CATAPULT



Supplies

1 expired or zero-balance
plastic gift card
Duct tape

Tools

Safety glasses
Scissors
Permanent marker

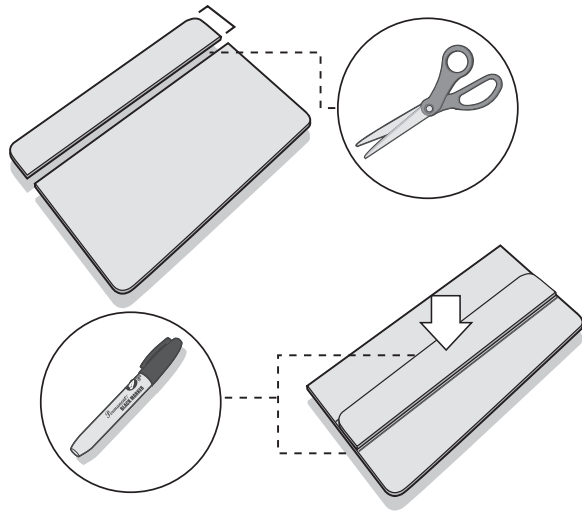
Tribute-strapped warlords will drool at the Gift Card Catapult's simplicity while they witness its projectile-hurling potential. Plus, assembling this siege weapon requires only tape and scissors.

From *Mini Weapons of Mass Destruction:
Build Siege Weapons of the Dark Ages*

9781613745489, \$16.95 (CAN \$18.95)
published by Chicago Review Press Copyright ©2013 Austin Design

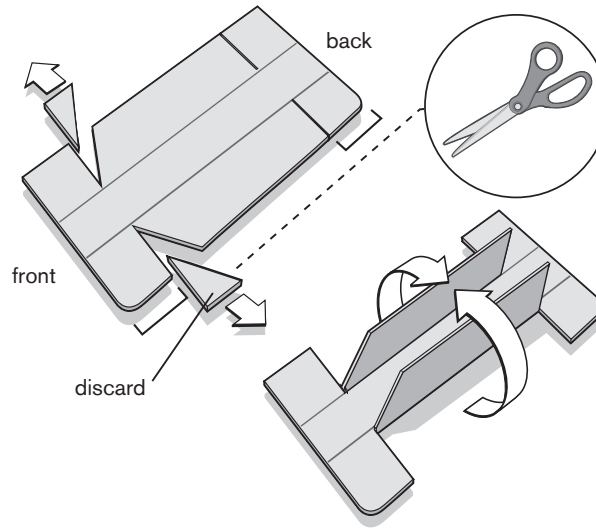


Step 1



With scissors, cut one 1/2-inch strip off the long side of an old gift card. Next, center the 1/2-inch strip on top of the leftover gift card piece, as illustrated on the right. Use a marker to trace guidelines down both edges of the centered smaller strip.

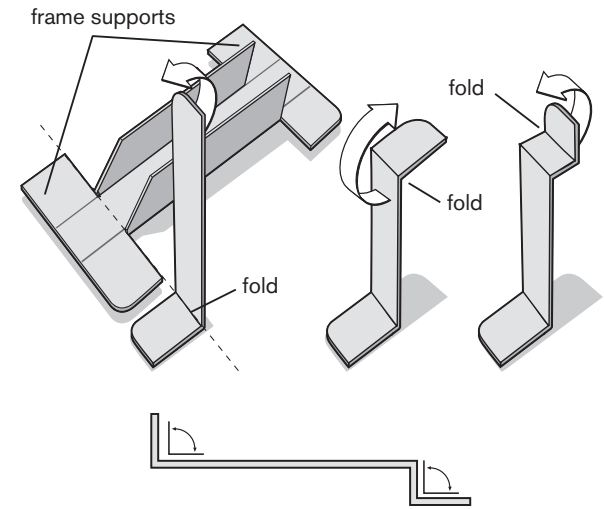
Step 2



To construct the frame, make several small cuts into the larger card. First, cut four small lines up to the marker guidelines. Each of these cuts should be 1/2 inch from the front and back ends of the card. Then, on the front, cut a small 1/4-inch wedge toward the back of the card and then discard the removed plastic wedges.

Next, using the guidelines, fold the center of the card upward to a 90-degree angle, forming two walls parallel with one another.

Step 3

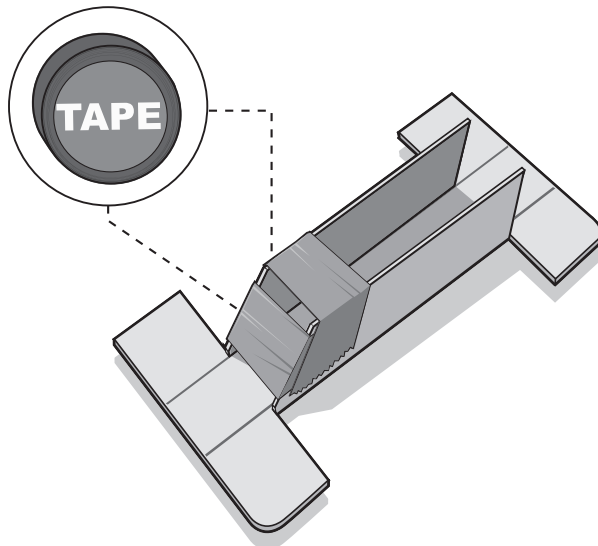


The catapult swing arm will be constructed from the 1/2-inch strip you removed in step 1. The strip will be folded three times in this step in order for the swing arm to function properly.

Make the first 90-degree fold the width of the frame supports. Create the next 90-degree fold on the opposite end of the strip, 3/4 inch from the end. Finally, make the last 90-degree fold in the center of that 3/4-inch section of swing arm and parallel to the main swing arm.

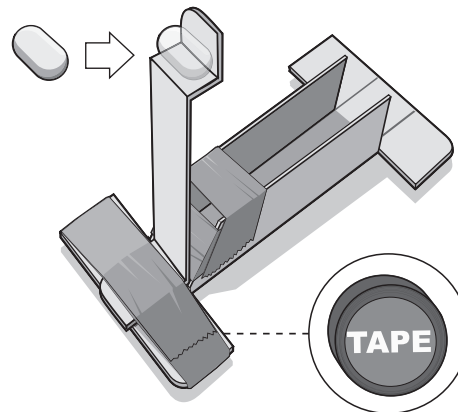
Use the illustration on the bottom as a guide. Notice how the finished folds are 90-degree steps.

Step 4



Place two small pieces of tape over the front angled supports and front top surface of the frame. This tape will provide a stop for the swing arm, allowing the plastic swing arm added in the next step to bend backward and then spring forward to launch projectiles.

Step 5



It's time to assemble the catapult. Place the swing arm's lone 90-degree bend on top of the front frame support, in front of the taped angle, as shown. Then secure the swing arm by wrapping tape around the front support and over the swing arm.

Test your Gift Card Catapult by placing a small candy on the swing arm step detail. This makeshift basket will hold the ammo in place as you pull down and release the swing arm.

Remember to use eye protection! Never aim this catapult at a living target and use only safe ammunition. Soft mints, pencil erasers, and mini marshmallows work nicely.

Also available from John Austin

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