

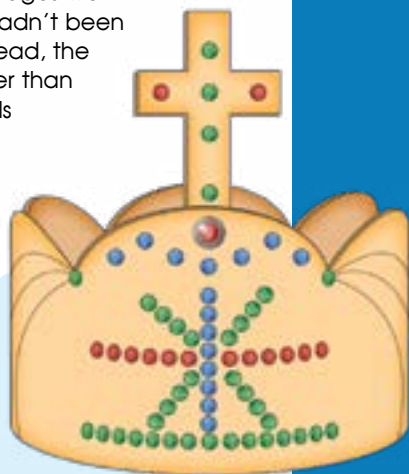
IMPERIAL CROWN

The Holy Roman Empire consisted of multiple territories in Western and Central Europe dating from 800-1806. While the official name of “Holy Roman Empire” wasn’t used until the 13th century, the crown dates back to the 10th century. The Imperial Crown wasn’t made until the reign of Otto the Great, who was the Holy Roman emperor from 962-973 AD.

The crown was used in the coronation ceremony for the “King of the Romans”, which was the title given to the elected emperor immediately after he was elected, until the Holy Roman Empire was dissolved early in the 19th century. The crown still exists today and is preserved in the national treasury in Vienna, Austria. Unlike other modern crowns, the Imperial Crown isn’t round. Instead it is made up of 8 flat plates which form an octagonal band rather than a circular one. The jewels on the crown aren’t cut into facets either (the flat edges we think of on most jewels) because this technique hadn’t been developed when the crown was made. Instead, the stones are polished and rounded. And, rather than being set into the gold, the stones and pearls are held in place in openings in the gold plates with thin wires. This way, light could shine through them and they would appear to be lit from within.

Materials Needed:

- Two 9x12 foam sheets (yellow) OR 2 sheets of construction paper
- Two gold fasteners (or brads) or a stapler
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Ballpoint pen or pencil
- Template (located back of the booklet)
- Markers to draw decorations. (Permanent ones work well on foam.)
- Optional: Jewel stickers for decoration (*check your local dollar store or favorite craft store*)



INSTRUCTIONS:

1. CUT OUT THE TEMPLATES

Once you have cut out the templates, position your foam sheets in front of you lengthwise with the cut out pieces.



2. TRACE THE TEMPLATES

- a) Lay the scalloped headpiece template on the foam sheet, lining up the left corner of the template with the left edge of the foam sheet.



- b) With a ballpoint pen or pencil, trace the templates on the yellow foam sheets. You'll need two large headpieces to form the body of the crown—created from the large scalloped template and arrow—and one cross. Reserve the remaining yellow foam for another part of the crown.

Note: While the real crown has eight plate sections, your crown will only have six as we found this fit better on smaller heads!

TIP: you can trace and cut both pieces together by doubling up paper or foam.

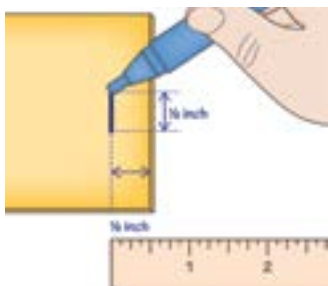
3. CUT OUT THE PIECES

Cut out the traced piece from the yellow foam sheets.



4. CONNECT THE HEADPIECE

- a) Using a ballpoint pen or pencil, make a $\frac{1}{2}$ " line on the uncut end of each large scalloped headpiece. The line should be about $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the edge of the foam strip.

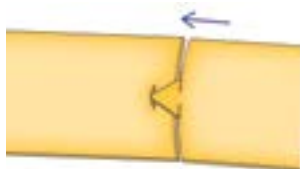


- b) Use scissors to cut the line. This is best done by folding the fold the foam gently in half and cutting the line.



5. FORM A RING

Form a ring with your scalloped foam pieces by pulling the dart from one foam piece through the opening of the other. Place the foam crown around your child's head to check for size. Set aside once done.



Note: If the headband is too large, cut a new opening $\frac{1}{2}$ " behind the first one and repeat this step. You can also simply use a stapler to fasten the band pieces together, or secure them better if it feels too floppy.

6. MAKE THE ARCH

From the uncut edge of one of the reserved foam piece/paper, cut one (1) strip that is $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide and as long as the length of the foam or paper.



7. ATTACH THE CROSS AND ARCH

- a) With the crown facing you, and the seams to the side, take one of the brads and push it through the top of the center scallop, about $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the edge.

TIP: If you do not have brads you can use a stapler to fasten these pieces together.

- b) Line the edge of the 10" strip with the bottom of the cross.

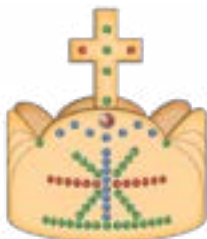
- c) Position both pieces together behind the front of the crown and push the gold fastener or stapler through both, as close to the base of the cross as you can. Leave only about $\frac{1}{4}$ " of foam below the fastener at most. Secure in place.



- d) Repeat with the back of the crown to secure just the foam strip in place, creating an arc that connects the front and back of the crown.

8. DECORATE YOUR CROWN

- a) Decorate the cross and center of the crown with your jewel stickers
- b) Draw patterns on the other scalloped sections



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IMPERIAL CROWN TEMPLATE

