



Jawa Labs

Care and feeding of the NEXT GENERATION Jawa Mask

Power: All masks have a push-on/push-off switch on the inside of the mask near your left cheek. The original masks used black switches which can be hard to see, but the switch is there. Look for the dot of white paint.

Fit: The Next Generation mask is based on a protective softball mask that lets you adjust the strapping to get the best fit. The side straps even have two positions where they can be attached to the plastic (though we may have covered the alternate position with tape). The chin padding is also removable and adjustable. Work with it to get it comfortable. The triangle of strapping in back provides space for a ponytail if you have long hair.

Visibility: In any mask there's a trade-off between visibility and keeping your eyes hidden. The bigger the opening in the front of your mask, the more you can see, but it also lets more light in on your face and people can see your eyes. We've tried to strike a balance, but you can tweak that balance if you like. The top and bottom of the opening are made of corrugated plastic that could be trimmed away to make the opening larger. (Be careful not to cut any wiring!) Alternatively, you could narrow the opening by adding a bit more gaffer's tape underneath the fabric, limiting your visibility more but better preserving your Jawa-hood.

Fans and Battery: We did not provide a USB-style battery with these masks, but they work well with the ANKER PowerCore 5000 mAh 5-volt battery we used in the prior mask build. The on/off switch controls LEDs, fans and sound system. With the Anker, we've found that a fully charged battery will last several hours, but it makes sense to keep a spare lipstick-style USB battery in your kit for a quick replacement. The fans are set to pull air through the fabric (from outside the mask) and blow it to the sides of your face. As with anything like this, the moving parts are the most vulnerable to failure (and we've used relatively cheap fans to keep costs down). Should one of your fans fail, they are attached to the mask with simple zip ties, so replacement shouldn't be hard.

Sound & Blink: Your mask comes with a remote that is specifically paired with the mask's receiver. The remote has 4 buttons: 3 sound buttons and one that blinks the eyes. For the sound buttons, one is Utinni, one is "Yeeeeee!" and the last generates one of 10 random Jawa sounds. You can adjust the sound volume using the knob on the inside right front of your mask; if you turn it down to the lowest point it will click all the way off.

You'll need to hand sew the sound buttons into a glove install the remote into an appropriate glove. (We like the fingerless arthritis compression gloves that you can find on Amazon. Pro tip: order 2 pair, so that you have 2 same-hand gloves for the sound system. Cut the fingers off the 2nd glove, then pull it over the glove with the buttons, so that you can nest all the wires/button battery inside to make a very neat package!) Turn your mask on when you're sewing the buttons so you get the action you want on the finger you like! The remote uses a CR2032 3-volt battery. These are readily available and should last ages but get a spare to toss into your kit because you know the battery will die at the worst time. When you push a button on the remote a red light should glow on the transmitter board. If it doesn't, replace the battery. Wear your regular jawa gloves over the sound glove to conceal the buttons and provide appropriate coverage.

Tuckage: This model of Jawa mask includes a band of elastic around the bottom of the mask fabric with a bit of Velcro at the ends. Fasten this around your neck and it should help keep the fabric inside your robe/hood.

Photography: You'll find that you photograph better without a flash. The flash lights up the area inside the hood that you want to be a dark and mysterious void filled only with your glowing eyes.

Enjoy your Jawa! Utinni!

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