



SON OF THANJAI

Cosplay Guide

The incognito outfit. Every choice in it hides who he is. Nothing may look like money. Nothing may look like rank.

Turnaround

Four views of one costume



FRONT



BACK



THREE-QUARTER A



THREE-QUARTER B

Print this sheet at A4 and keep it on the table while you build. The two three-quarter views answer the most questions. They show how the chest wrap falls behind the shoulder, and where the waist cloth overlaps itself.

Front

SHEET 01 OF 02



Keyed to the drawing

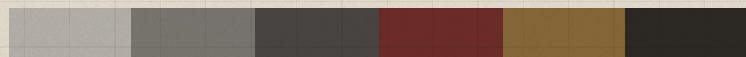
- 1 Head scarf
- 2 Chest wrap and blade band
- 3 Upper garment
- 4 Waist cloth and jute rope
- 5 Sandals
- 6 Arms

Get the silhouette before any detail. It is narrow through the chest, heavy and horizontal at the waist, then loose to just below the knee. If your waist cloth reads thin, the whole costume reads wrong.

START HERE

Build the upper garment and the waist cloth first. They carry the read at distance. Everything else is refinement you can add between cons.

Palette, sampled off the model



BLEACHED ASH SLATE WAIST RED BRASS CHAR

READS AT 8 m, silhouette only

BUILD 40 to 60 h, no patterning needed

HARD PART The waist cloth. Bulk it out.

Head, face, upper body



① Head scarf

one piece, cut in two

Coarse black cotton, wrapped over the head. It is one half of a single larger piece. The other half crosses the chest. Undyed and rough on purpose. Nothing here may suggest money.

CLOTH	Coarse black cotton, undyed
CUT	One piece, halved; see zone 4
FINISH	Raw edges, no hemming



② Vibhoothi and kumkum

the only thing on him that is not a disguise

Sacred ash and a red mark. Everything else he wears is a disguise. This is the one trace of the real man, worn where a stranger looks first. Most of it sits under the wrap. What reads at distance is the red at the brow.

VIBHOOTHI	Ash, drawn at the brow
KUMKUM	Red, brow centre
NOTE	Keep it crisp. It is the tell.



③ Upper garment

hand-stitched, and it must look it

Loose cotton, cut uneven, seams left imperfect on purpose. A well-fitted garment belongs to a rich man. His has to look unfinished. If your vest looks tailored, you have built the wrong thing.

CLOTH	Loose cotton, hand-stitched
CUT	Deliberately uneven
SEAMS	Visible, irregular, unfinished

Chest wrap, arms, waist



4 Chest wrap and blade band

the scarf's other half

Worn diagonally across the torso, over a plain leather band. No buckles. No metal fastenings. Those mark army rank or a trained fighter, and he is pretending to be neither. The band carries three valaris. Each is wrapped in leather so the blades do not nick each other.

CLOTH	Second half of the head scarf
BAND	Plain leather, no fastenings
CARRIES	Three valaris, leather-wrapped
RULE	Nothing metal where it shows



BEAD ARM



WRAPPED ARM

5 Arms

asymmetric, and deliberately so

The two arms never match. One wrist carries brown rudraksha beads. On that same arm, a black thread cuff holds a thayathu at the forearm. The other palm is wrapped fighter-style and bound with leather straps.

BEADS	Brown rudraksha, one wrist
PALM	Cloth wrapped, leather straps
CUFF	Black thread with thayathu



6 Waist cloth

the bulk is the point

Red cloth with a white-lined border, tied deliberately bulky. The bulk is not decoration. The surul vaal lies coiled underneath, and the wrap is what hides it. Jute rope over the top holds the weapon in place and carries the pouches. Pull the cloth open and the weapon comes free.

CLOTH	Red, white-lined border
TIE	Bulky; the bulk is the concealment
OVER	Jute rope, also the pouch hanger
HIDES	The surul vaal

Pouches, lower body, feet



7 Pouches

hung off the rope, not the belt

Leather, closed with an animal tooth instead of a buckle. They hang from the jute rope at his side. They carry the pellets for the blowpipe.

BODY	Leather
FASTENING	Animal tooth
HUNG FROM	The jute rope at the waist
CARRIES	Blowdart pellets



8 Lower garment

mundu, tied like trousers

A mundu, tied as trousers in the kalari payattu manner. It is cut for moving in a fight, not for looking neat. If it hangs like a skirt, the tie is wrong.

GARMENT	Mundu
TIE	Trouser-style, kalari payattu
BUILT FOR	Movement, not neatness



9 Feet

leather-soled, woven strap

Leather-soled sandals. A woven strap pattern crosses the foot, with a thin tie at the ankle.

SOLE	Leather
STRAPS	Woven pattern
ANKLE	Thin tie

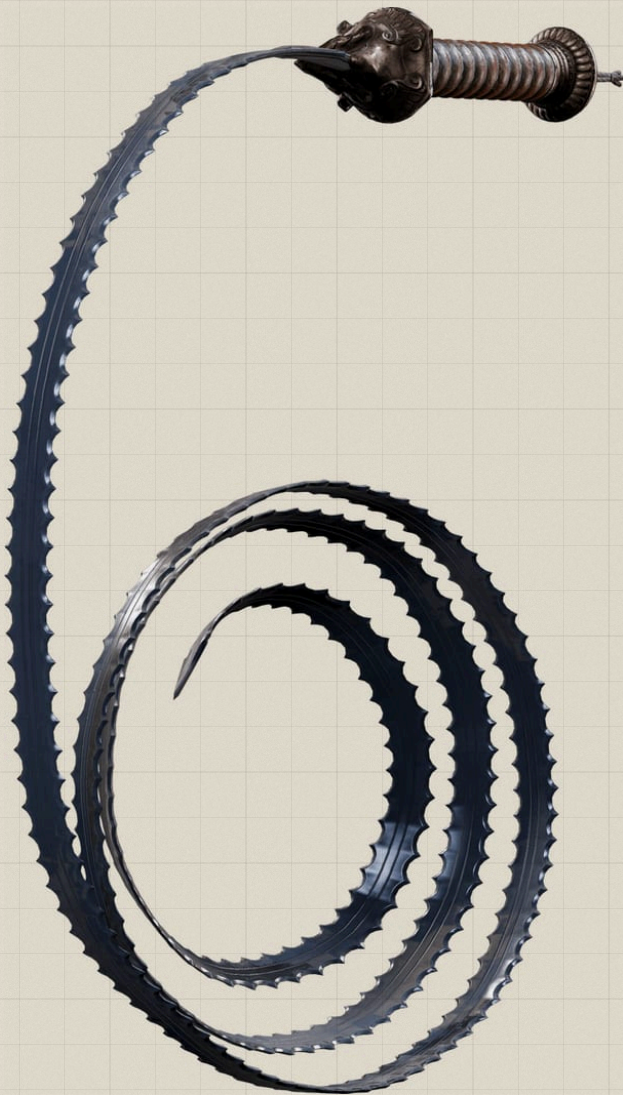
Surul Vaal

சுருள் வாள் *the coiled sword*

PRIMARY

A long spring band, serrated on both edges. It stays coiled under the waist cloth until it is thrown out. This is the hardest piece in the guide to build well.

BLADE	Long spring band, serrated along both edges
GRIP	Turned hardwood, brass ferrules top and bottom
POMMEL	Cast brass yāli head, beaded collar
CARRIED	Coiled under the red waist cloth, held by the jute rope



POMMEL, CAST BRASS YĀLI

BUILD IT SOFT

Do not use steel. Almost no convention will pass a long metal band. Cut the blade from 2 mm EVA foam or upholstery webbing. Print the serration as a repeating edge, seal it, then dry-brush graphite over black. You keep the coil and the drape, and it clears prop check.

Aruvaal

அருவாள் *the hooked blade*

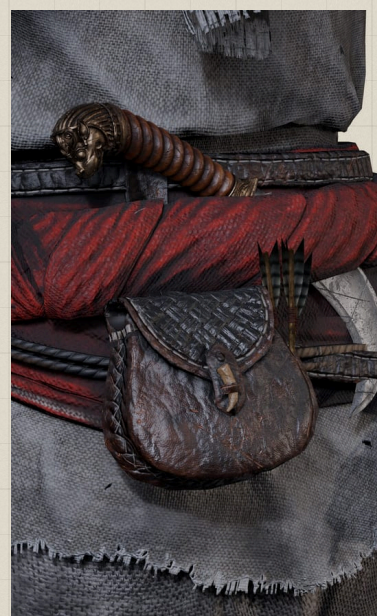
CLOSE WORK

A farm tool that never stopped being a weapon. The edge sits on the inside of the curve. A saw section runs back at the throat for the pull stroke.

BLADE	Deep crescent, edge on the concave side
TEETH	Raked serrations, throat to mid-belly
GRIP	Spiral-turned hardwood, warm red-brown
POMMEL	Brass yāli head on a beaded crown collar
CARRIED	Tucked back-right of the sash, blade curving up



POMMEL



AS CARRIED

BUILD IT SOFT

The curve is the whole silhouette. Cut it from a single 10 mm EVA sheet rather than joining segments. A seam mid-belly reads immediately. Turn the grip from dowel, or wrap cord in a tight spiral and seal it. Cast or 3D-print the pommel. It is the one part worth the effort.

Valari

வளரி *three of them, worn across the chest*

THROWN

A forged crescent, thrown flat and spinning. Only the outer edge is sharpened. The inner edge carries the scrollwork and stays blunt. A weighted knob sits at one end, a squared terminal at the other.



SPAN	Shallow crescent, flat section
BODY	Dark forged steel, hammer texture
EDGE	Sharpened on the outer curve only
INNER	Blunt, carries the chased vine scroll
ENDS	Rounded knob / squared socket
CARRIED	Three, on the leather chest band, each leather-wrapped



REVERSE, SHOWING THE BLUNT SCROLLED EDGE

BUILD IT SOFT

12 mm EVA foam, cut on the outline. Round the edges with a rotary tool, but bevel only the outer curve so the asymmetry reads. Carve the scroll with a soldering iron before you seal it. Finish black, then dry-brush graphite on the high points.

Blowpipe & dart

carried in the sash

OPTIONAL



PIPE AND DART, AS RENDERED

A turned tube bound with cord and a tassel, worn slung behind the hip. It is open at both ends. The pellets ride in the leather pouches on the jute rope.



PIPE	Turned hardwood, flared mouthpiece
BINDING	Maroon cord whipping, single tassel
ENDS	Open at both ends, uncapped
GRIP	Leather-wrapped mid-section, feather trim
DART	Slim shaft, dark fletch, red cord at the throat
CARRIED	Pellets in the tooth-fastened pouches at the hip

BUILD IT SOFT

A length of dowel, sanded and stained, is the whole job. Leave both ends open, as the original is. Make the darts from foam and keep the tips blunt.