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181st Imperial Fighter Group



Model **Tyler P. Huffman**, Photo by **Allison Lipka**



Description: TIE Pilot, 181st Imperial Fighter Group

Prefix: TI

Detachment: Jolly Roger Squadron

Context: Star Wars Expanded Universe.

The 181st Imperial Fighter Group is an elite unit that served in the Imperial navy, handpicked by Baron Soontir Fel and feared throughout the galaxy as the best TIE pilots in the Empire. Their elite status is denoted by distinctive red stripes

sewn onto their uniforms and painted onto the solar wing arrays of their TIE Interceptor series starfighters.

The 501st approval requirements are listed in black. For Legion approval, only these requirements must be met.

While the Jolly Roger Squadron does not have any detachment specific costume certification programs, some parts of the costume below may be shared with other detachments that do. Features listed in blue or **red** are not required for 501st approval, but are noted here for those interested in these additional details.

This Visual Guide has been reviewed by the detachment staff and the LMO team and is certified for use as a minimum approval guideline for GMLs. GMLs are free to approve this costume type.

- Any uncertainties or questionable aspects of the submitted costume should be brought to the appropriate DL/GML peer review section of the legion forum.

Required Costume Components

The following costume components are present and appear as described below.



Helmet
For 501st approval:

- See the [TIE Helmet Detail page](#) for more views and information about canon paint schemes.
- Helmet may have flat or bubbled lenses in Dark Gray or Dark Green.
- The helmet must also have imperial disks (greeblies) on the ear wells.
- Two 2.75" diameter Imperial Emblems in either white or silver should be on the crest of the helmet as seen in the diagrams below.
- The frown between the teeth may optionally be drilled out. If the teeth are cut out, the openings must be backed by material so that the face is not seen.
- Colours of markings may range from chrome to silver, brushed aluminum to light gray to dark gray (gun metal).
 - ◆ The chosen colour is the same for all markings.

Hoses
For 501st approval:

- Black Ribbed Hoses with a 1.25" diameter and 18" to 21" in length from the helmet hose port to connect to the chestbox upper hose ports.
- A third hose exits the bottom of the Type A box and the Type B box, and is wrapped with a black communications cable. See descriptions of both chestboxes for hose sizes required.



Balaclava
For 501st approval:

- A balaclava is a black head sock/hood that is worn under the helmet and is used primarily to hide any view of the wearer's skin and/or facial hair.



Black Imperial Flight Suit
For 501st approval:

- See the [181st Flightsuit guide](#) page
- One piece black coverall/jumpsuit/flight suit with a front invisible zipper.
- Approximately 1.5" (38.1mm) tall mandarin collar with a chevron shaped, left-over-right velcro closure.
- A silver or white "imperial cog" emblem on a black background must be present on both shoulders. The cog should be 3" or 3.5" in diameter, and 1" from the shoulder seam affixed over the blood stripe.
- Red blood stipers 1" (25.4mm) to 1.5" (38.1mm) wide extend from the base of the collar to the wrist closure, and begins at the armpit seam and extends to the hem of the pant leg. See attached graphic.
- On the left forearm there is a com-pad pocket approximately 5" (127mm) wide by 5.75" (146.05mm) tall with no flap and a 2.25" (57.15mm) window in it.
- On the left bicep, below the cog emblem, there is a code cylinder pocket with no flap, and vertical stitching dividing it into pen sleeves.
- The bottom front corner of the pocket is cut off at a bevel on the side pointing in view direction with the broader upside forming the border of the pen sleeves.

- The right sleeve has a cargo pocket on the bicep, approximately located below the cog emblem.
- 2 large chest pockets and 2 large front pockets below the belt without any zipper or flaps.
- 2 leg pockets with flaps similar in proportion as the one on the right arm sleeve. Size may differ. (Usually the width of the front pockets equals the width of the leg pockets)
- Rank bars of any kind are not permitted.

For level two certification (if applicable):

- In the films, the Imperial patches on the shoulders were printed vinyl.
- The suit should have a pointed collar in the back.



Arm Bracers

For 501st approval:

- Bracers closely resemble soccer shinguards and shall be gloss or satin black in colour.
- Communications pad is not required when the bracers are worn.
- the bracers must fit down inside the gauntlet of the glove.



Grey Flak Vest

For 501st approval:

- The grey, ribbed flak vest should consist of nylon or nylon like fabric.
- There are a total of 9 correctly spaced ribs on the front with a gap between the 2 upper and 9 lower ribs. 8 "flat" ribs are sewn into the vest between the upper and lower ribs, and are left flat.
- There are 13 evenly spaced ribs in the back.
- Tubing should be permitted to create the illusion that the ribs are filled.
- Leather or leather like tabs with correct buckle hardware connects the front to back near the wearer's waist. A 1" (25mm) adjustment strap with adjustment tab buckle detail is found at the back of the vest. Two 2" (48mm) shoulder straps with horizontal rib stitching detail connect the front and back of the vest.



Web harness and optional web belt

For 501st approval:

- The web harness and belt is the classic US Military A.L.I.C.E load bearing system. Grey or black is accepted. A.L.I.C.E belt must match harness in colour.
- The Chestbox is connected directly to the harness via hooks, magnets or other method that will securely mount the box to the suspenders.
- The web belt is optional on this uniform, and may be worn alone or in combination with the standard Officer's belt and buckle.
- If only the web belt is to be worn, a standard Officers type buckle with affixed greeble shall be mounted directly to the web belt buckle.



Type A Chestbox
For 501st approval:

- Two types of chestbox are approved for 501st Legion use.
- The chestbox will have the same configuration as shown in the photo.
- Type A box is rectangular in shape, not square. It is permissible to have a flange that extends ½" (12.5mm) around the backside of the chestbox.
- The third hose connection exits the bottom of the box, slightly to the left of wearer's center. The third hose shall be 1.25" in diameter. The free end of the bottom hose shall be worn connected to the belt at the wearers left hip and terminate in a quick-disconnect assembly, black-painted thermal detonator/O2 canister, or other means of hiding the hose's opening..
- A communications wire exits the box to the right of the third hose exit point and will be wrapped around the third hose.
- Two curved 45 degree, angled hose connectors exit at the sides of the box, just above the angle of the bottom plate. These may swivel to accommodate the hose when the helmet is worn.
- The box has 4 1" square x 1/8th" thick detail pieces. surrounded by a 1/4" wide white stripe. Accepted colors are grey, white, blue, blue.
- Three rocker switches are mounted to the wearer's left front of the box. correct colors are grey, white, grey.
- Two circular red and white "lights" are mounted near the top of the front of the box.



Type B Chestbox
For 501st approval:

- The chestbox is required to have the same configurations as seen in the photo.
- Type B box front vertical plate is rectangular with a beveled lower plate angling toward wearer. The beveled plate has the communications wire connection near the hose mount. The communications wire shall be wrapped around the third hose.
- Two curved 45 degree, angled hose connectors exit at the sides of the box, just above the angle of the bottom plate. These may swivel to accommodate the hose when the helmet is worn.
- A third hose is mounted to its own connector at the bottom of the box, slightly to the left of wearers center. The hose is worn draped to the left, terminating on the wearers left hip and terminate in a quick-disconnect assembly, black-painted thermal detonator/O2 canister, or other means of hiding the hose's opening.. Hose size shall be between 1.25" and 2" diameter.
- The box has four rectangular plates mounted to the wearer's left. One white, three grey are accepted. A 1/4" wide white rectangular strip surrounds these.
- The box has 6 white rocker switches, on the wearer's right side of the box.
- A single greeble similar to a audio jack is mounted on the front of the box.
- Two circular white "lights" are mounted above the rocker switches.

Ejection Harness
For 501st approval:



- Gray 2? webbing extending from the below front flak vest to the back vest below the crotch.
- Two loops wrap around each leg at the knees and are attached to the rest of the webbing below the crotch.
- Gray 2? elastic may be substituted for gray webbing.



Belt

For 501st approval:

- The belt is constructed from a non-textured leather or a leather-like material.
- Approximately 2" (50.8 mm) in width, up to 3" (76.2 mm) is acceptable.
- There are no loops on the belt.
- A single large snap or rivet is visible approximately 1" (25.4 mm) from the buckle.
 - ◆ The belt may be worn with the snap to the right or left of the wearer.
- The buckle is constructed from a horizontally brushed metal, or metal looking material.
- The buckle size is approximately 2 5/8" (66.7 mm) high and 4 1/8" (104.5 mm) wide with 0.5" (12.7 mm) radius rounded corners.
- Buckle is adorned with an [Imperial Code Disk](#) at the center.
- ◆ Please refer to the [Imperial Buckle](#) reference page for information on accurate and inaccurate style buckles.

For level two certification (if applicable):

- Belt is made of leather.
- Snap is worn to the left of the wearer.
- Buckle has a slight horizontal curve.



Black Gauntlet Gloves

For 501st approval:

- Black, leather or leather-like, enclosed fingered, non-textured, fitted gauntlet style.
- No buckles, straps, or decorative stitching.
- Three straight lines, on the back of the hand (that match some references), are optional.

For level two certification (if applicable):

- Gloves are made of leather.

For level three certification (if applicable):

- Gauntlets slightly flair-out, upward from the wrist to the mid-forearm.

Black Boots

For 501st approval:



- Calf high black leather or leather like material.
- Free of laces, decorative stitching, buckles on the instep or any other embellishments.
- Boots may have a single adjustment strap at the top outside of the boot, with the buckle no wider than 1".
 - ◆ This need not be functional.
- Zippers on the inside of the boot are acceptable, so long as they are concealed.
 - ◆ If the zipper is not covered by vinyl/leather, it is painted black.
- German "jack boot" style boots are most canon.

For level two certification (if applicable):

- Boots are made of leather.

For level three certification (if applicable):

- Boots are German jack boots (or ?Knobelbechers?) or an authentic replication thereof.
- Boots have the top adjustment strap.

Optional Accessories

Items below are optional costume accessories. These items are not required for approval, but if present appear as described below.



Neck Seal

For 501st approval:

- Artwork depicts pilots of the 181st Fighter Group with a Stormtrooper style neckseal worn under the flight suit.
- Black with horizontal ribs, fitted to the wearer, and extending from the base of the neck to the top of the Adam's apple.



Imperial Communications Pad

For 501st approval:

- Rectangular communications pad, with buttons and detailing as shown, on a grey or silver background.

For level two certification (if applicable):

- Compad is not electronically lit.



DL-44 Blaster Pistol

For 501st approval:

Manufactured by BlasTech Industries, the DL-44 Blaster has the ability to charge a heavier blast, nearly twice as powerful as similar pistols. Because the sidearm is highly modifiable and is one of the few blasters shown to have the ability to penetrate imperial armor, the Empire has placed heavy restrictions on this model and in many cases ownership is outlawed outside of imperial forces.

- Scratch built or high-end prop replica.



E-11 Blaster

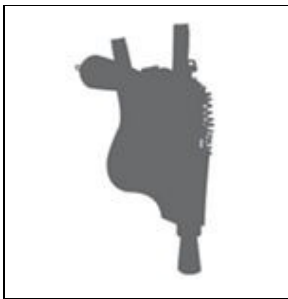
For 501st approval:

Manufactured by BlasTech Industries, the E-11 is standard-issue for many Imperial troops. Light, compact yet powerful, the E-11 blaster is always in high demand throughout the galaxy.

- Based on a real or replica Sterling sub-machine gun, scratch-built, or a modified commercial toy Stormtrooper blaster.

For level two certification (if applicable):

- Folding stock.
 - ◆ Stock does not need to function.
- A real or replica ammo counter - based off of a Hengstler counter - should be present.
- D-ring mounted on the rear.
- Correct style scope.
- Two power cylinders on the magazine.
- Scratch-built, resin cast, Hyperfirm rubber cast blasters should have a total of 6 t-racks on blaster (leaving the lowest row on the Hengstler side un-covered).
- If using the Hasbro E11 toy blaster, it is modified to have the correct number of T-tracks (6 total), with a lower row of open vent holes on the magazine housing side.
 - ◆ This is accomplished by covering the pre-existing rows of holes with T-tracks, then grinding off the lower integrated T-track on the magazine housing side, and drilling a new row of holes in its place.



Holster

For 501st approval:

- Holster is the appropriate color and style for the specific blaster.
 - ◆ Holster is not present if no blaster is carried.



Kneepads

For 501st approval:

- Kneepads as depicted in the original artwork are optional . The art depicts them as similar to Biker Scout kneepads with no indentations and small extensions at the sides.

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- [This CRL is available as a PDF at www.501st.com/databank/Costuming:TI_-_181st](http://www.501st.com/databank/Costuming:TI_-_181st)

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