BLACK ROD

PARLIAMENTARY
EDUCATION OFFICE

You will need:

1 plywood or strong cardboard (approx. A4 size)

2 dowel or wooden curtain rod of 3cm diameter and 1.3m length (dimensions may vary a little)

3 handsaw or craft knife (depending on your choice of material)

4 black paint (spray or canned)

5 silver paint (spray or canned)

6 glue.

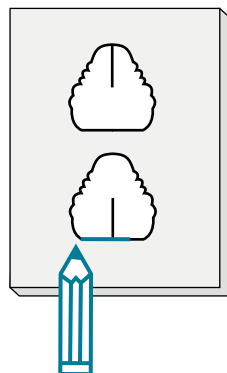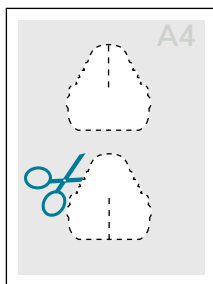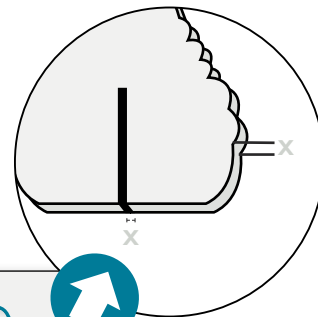*The Black Rod in the Senate*

1

Making the crown

a) Photocopy crown 1 and crown 2 templates (over page).

b) Cut the crown templates from the paper and trace onto the plywood or cardboard.
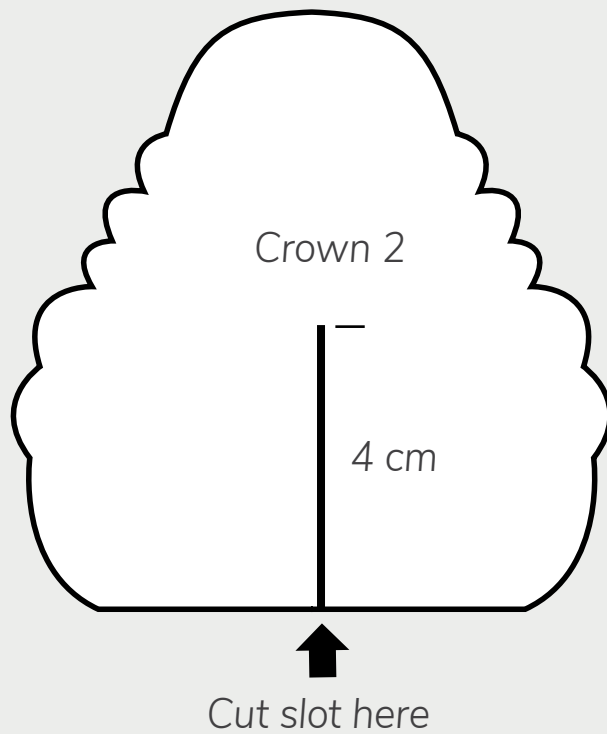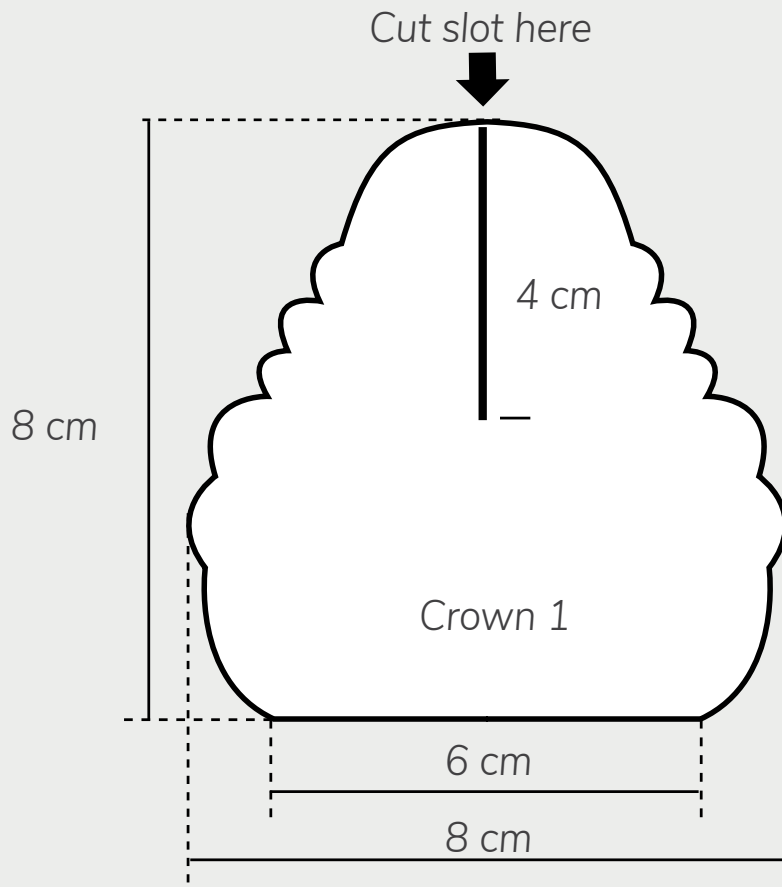

Plywood or cardboard

c) Cut the crown pieces from your material. Make sure that the 4 cm slots in the crown pieces are the same width as your plywood or cardboard.

d) Sand or smooth the crown pieces.

Plywood or cardboard

Cut slot here

4 cm

8 cm

Crown 1

6 cm

8 cm

Crown 2

4 cm

Cut slot here
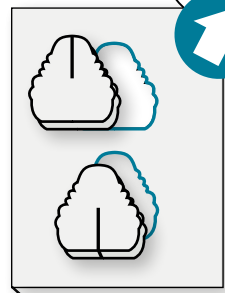
2

Putting the crown together

a) Slot both parts of the crown together and ensure they fit properly.

Crown 1

Crown 2

Your crown should now look like this.
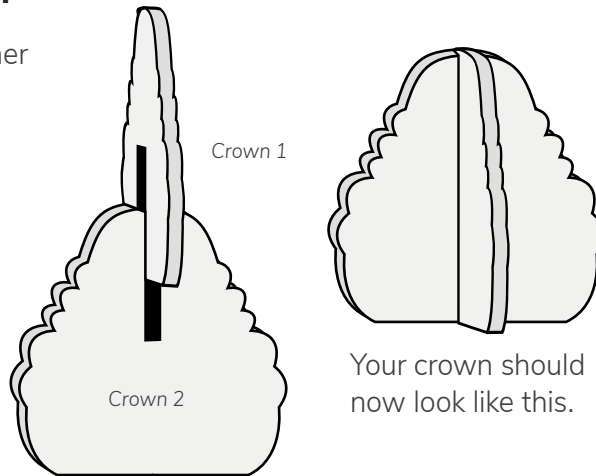
3

Making the Black Rod

a) Take the 1.3 m length of dowel or wooden curtain rod. Mark the centre point of the dowel or rod and draw a right-angled cross-shape through it.

b) Use a handsaw to cut the cross-shaped slots 2.5 cm deep into one end of the Black Rod stem. Make sure that the width of each slot is equal to the thickness of the plywood or cardboard that you are using.

Centre point

Stem

*2.5 cm*

Your stem should now look like this.

Width of each slot must be equal to the thickness of the plywood or cardboard that you are using.

X
X
X
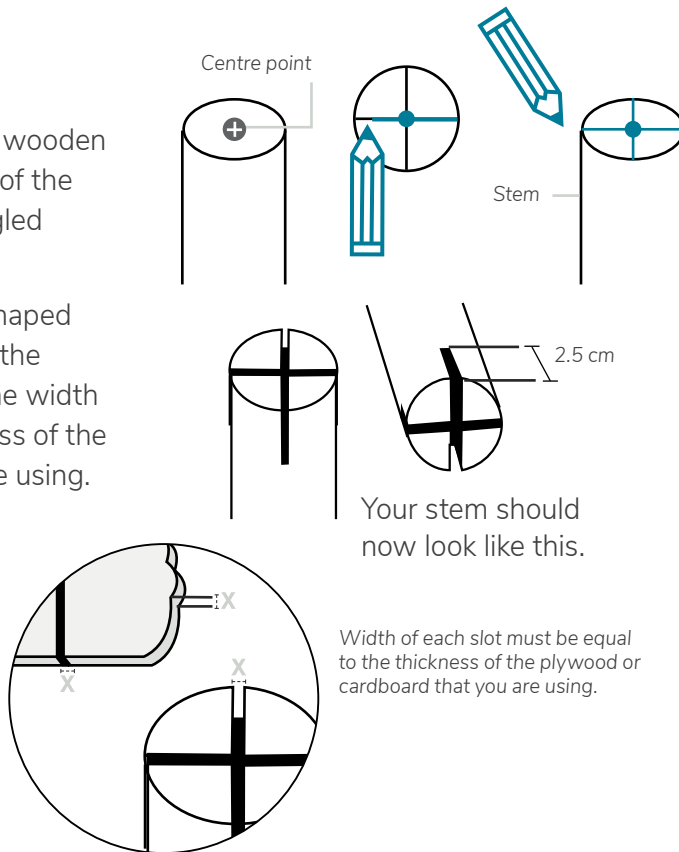
4

Assembling the Black Rod

a) Slide the assembled crown onto the slots in the rod.

b) Glue the parts in place.
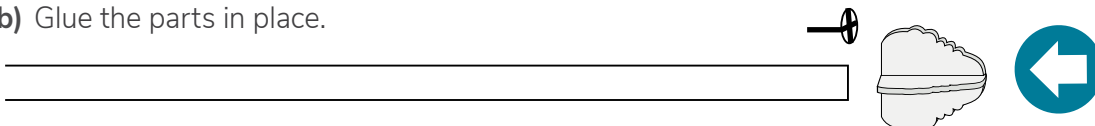
5

Finishing the Black Rod

a) Undercoat the assembled Black Rod with undercoat paint.

b) When the undercoat is dry, paint the crown and the top 12 cm of the rod silver to create a collar.

c) Paint the remainder of the rod black.
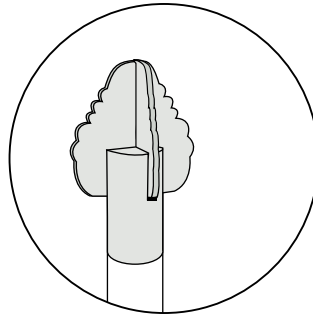
Your finished Black Rod should look like this.