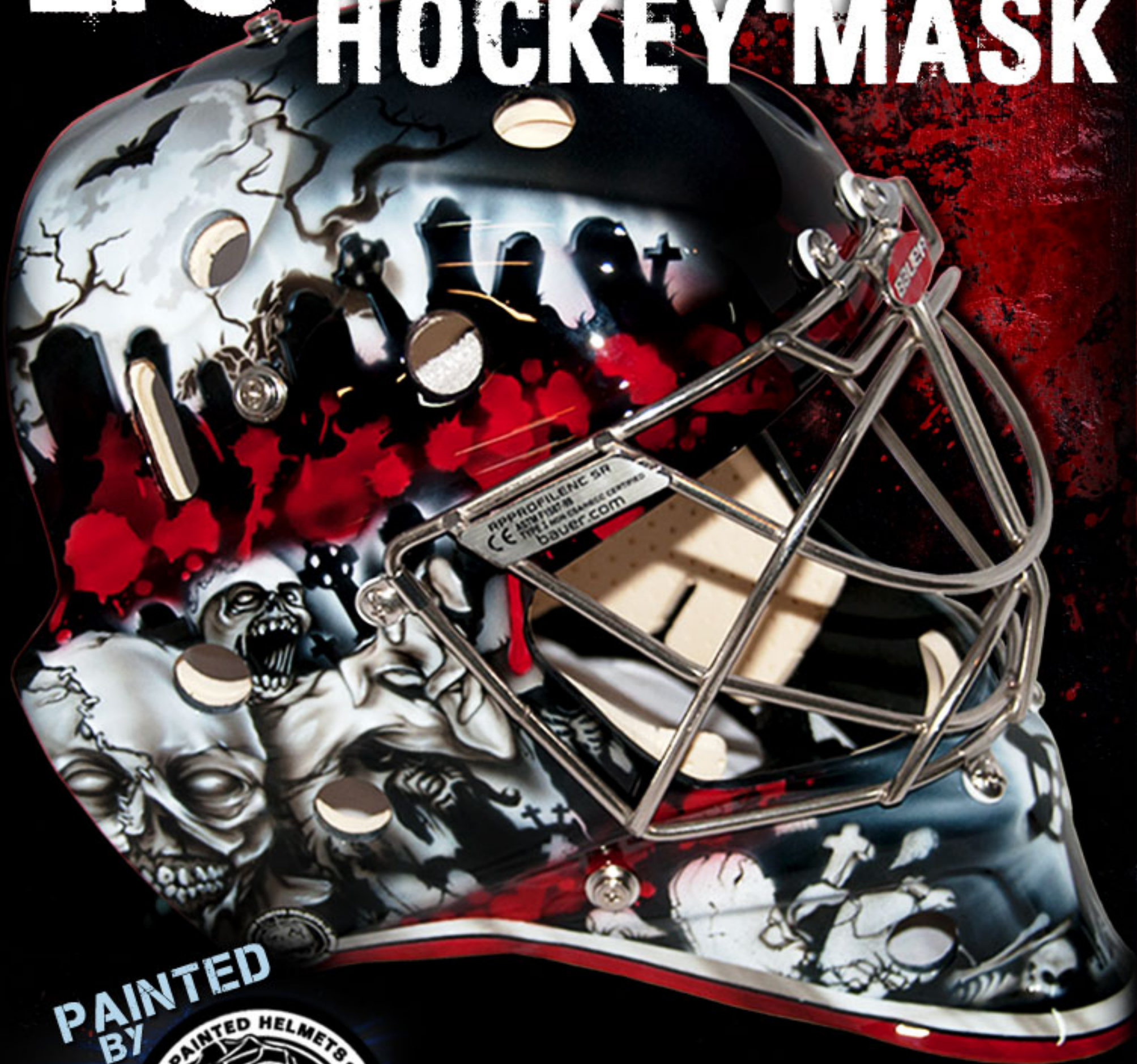


HEAD STRONG GRAFX

ZOMBIE HOCKEY MASK



PAINTED
BY



We are very excited to bring you all our second how-to article by Jason Livery over at Head Strong Grafx. Head Strong specializes in one-of-a-kind, custom painted hockey masks. In this step-by-step, Jason will walk you through a complete project, and share his expertise while painting a mask using the newly released AirSick Mini Zombie Stencils. Lets get to it!

STEP 1



I mask off the hockey mask so that no overspray can get inside, and onto the padding (Step 1). I use a red scotch brite pad to scuff the entire mask, this is the most important step in the process. without scuffing every nook and cranny, you will take a chance that the paint you're about to apply will not adhere to the mask. This is very important, as these masks go through some hard-core abuse on the ice.

I wipe down the entire mask with a wax and grease remover. I use the Scott brand shop towels and a water based de-greaser. you can use any brand really, I just prefer the water based product.

STEP 2



I then wipe the entire mask down with a tack cloth. The reason for this step is that shop towels sometime leave fine tiny fabric strands that you really don't see unless you really look for them. If you don't tack it and start painting these strands, they pop out at you... after it's too late.

STEP 3



I use the FBS brand fine-line tape to mask off any areas that I don't want painted.

STEP 4



I now start using Kustom Shop KUS PSB8617-4Z Bone white to blow in the white base of the stencils. All the artwork on the mask will be sprayed with a T/C Omni 3000 and a Badger Anthem.

STEP 5



I work in two main zombies on this side of the helmet. I am using the "Mini Zombie Head 3" and the "Mini Zombie Torso 2".

STEP 6



By fogging around one of my "Mini Zombie Silhouette" stencils, I create some quick background interest behind the main zombies.

STEP 7



Now its time to go in freehand and clean up the stencil work. I use HOK BC25 Black for this step. I like the HOK black over other brands it really sprays smooth and over-reduces nicely.

STEP 8



I use more stencils for the tombstones, moon, creepy trees, and blood splatters. The customer wanted to keep the mask black and white with just a touch of red, so I then sprayed Kustom Shop KUS UKB8301-4Z Apple Red Kandy over the blood splatters.

I add a silhouetted bat in front of the moon using the AirSick "Boneyard 1" stencil (Step 9).

STEP 9



STEP 10



I use "Saral" brand paper to transfer a zombie drawing onto the other side of the mask. This acts much like carbon paper but is wax free and can easily be painted over without any negative effects later on in the design.

STEP 11



again using the bone white and black, I work the newly transferred zombie face freehand.

STEP 12



I begin add in some red on this side of the mask. I used the same red candy, and run some blood down from the eyes, mouth, and flesh tears

STEP 13



Again, I use some Airsick skull templates with white paint to place the skulls behind the zombie. The stencil that I am using here is the smaller skull from the Airsick "Skull 11B" set.

STEP 14



Here I am adding another skull (from the Airsick "Mini Skull Set 1").

STEP 15



I begin to freehand the skulls with black, to add detail and dimension.

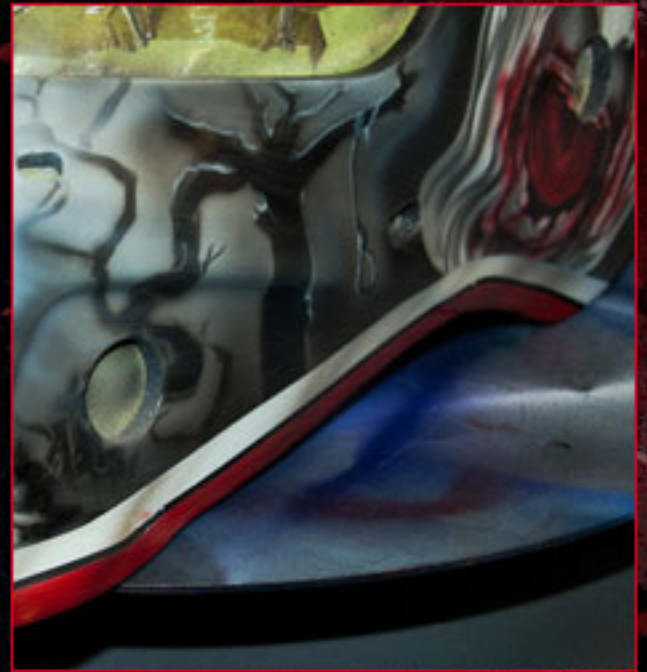
STEP 16



I use the FBS fine-line tape to mask off the bottom of the helmet, so I can add some stripes.

I am always very careful about properly masking surrounding areas to avoid overspray.

STEP 17



STEP 18



I am using the AirSick "Boneyard 1" stencil to add a cross to the front of the helmet.

STEP 19

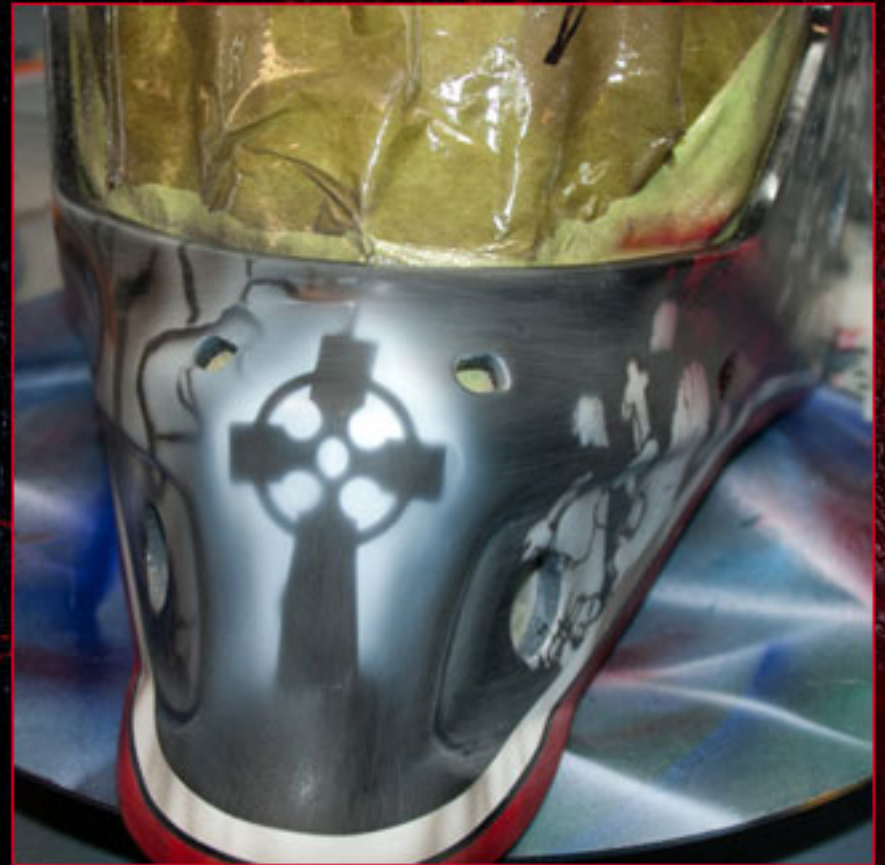


I work in a skull, and a small pile of bones using the "Boneyard 1" stencil as well.

STEP 20



STEP 21



I like to give my masks the most glass-like finish possible, so at this time I put the first coat of clear on the mask (Step 20). I use Sherwin Williams Elegance clear 1100751 which is a 2:1:1 mixture and I spray my clear with a Sata mini jet spray gun. After drying, you need to scuff the mask again (Step 21) like you originally did in the beginning (and for the exact same reasons), followed by wipe, and tack. now your mask should have a very smooth finish. If you find any tape edges that didn't come out with the scuff pad, I recommend using some 800 wet sand paper and knock them down.

Now its time for final clear once again with the same SW elegance clear. I allow to dry typically overnight even though the clear is ready to handle in 3-4 hours. Final assembly is completed and the mask is now ready to ship back to the customer (Step 23).

STEP 22



STEP 23





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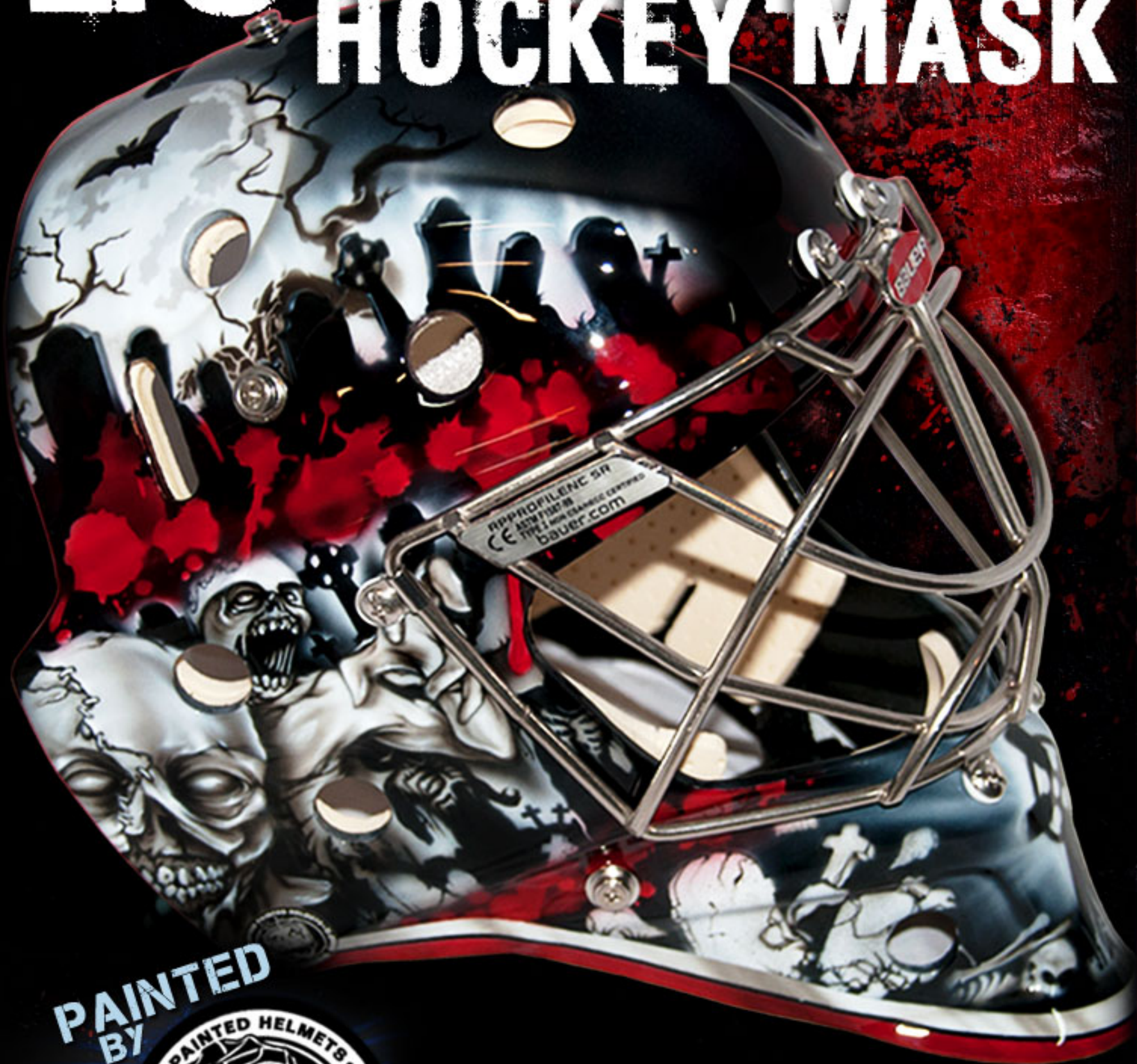


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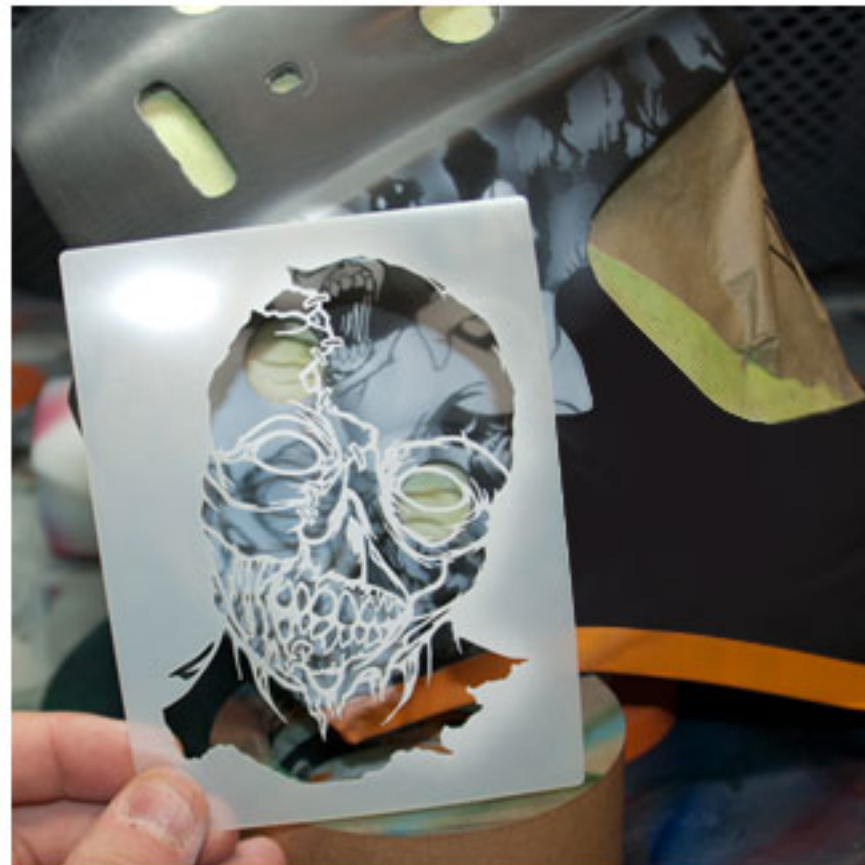
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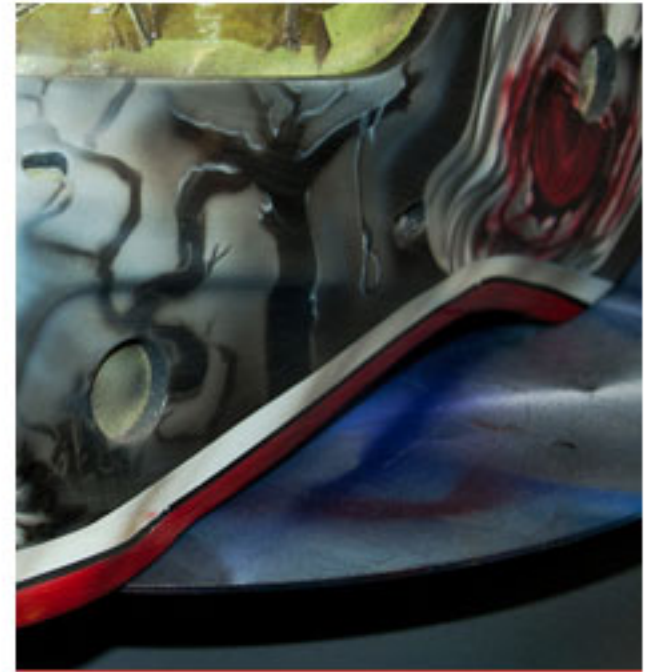
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