

# Basic Detail Report

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## Original Stormtrooper Helmet Used in the Films "Star Wars" and "Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back"

### Date

1977-1980

### Primary Maker

Star Wars

### Medium

polyurethane; rubber; metal; celluloid; vinyl; paint

### Description

This Imperial Stormtrooper's helmet is constructed of high density polyethylene, painted white with black rubber detail at the front communications section, with mouth

and chin pieces also painted black. Two original metal microphone tips are molded into the front, while the cheeks have black and grey decals to simulate vents. The eyes are fitted with a strip of green celluloid, with foam crown and black elastic chin strap. This helmet was used in both "Star Wars" and "Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back", and can be positively identified on-screen when small imperfections on the helmet are matched up to the screen-worn piece in certain scenes - an almost unheard-of authenticity lock when similar costume pieces are present in one film! In the second film, when the Rebel forces have landed on the cloud city, Lando Calrissian (Billy Dee Williams) argues with Darth Vader over the torture of Han Solo. Walking away in disgust, he passes two Stormtroopers standing guard in the corridor - it is the second Stormtrooper in the corridor who is wearing this very helmet. This is one of only six Stormtrooper helmets that were originally made for George Lucas to use in pitching the film to Fox, and since the first "Star Wars" film had a relatively low budget, many props and costumes were held over and used in the second film. Thus, this piece was used in at least the first two of the "Star Wars" films, although it could possibly have been used in the third. Rare and highly desirable, this Stormtrooper helmet is an instantly-recognizable piece of film history, and one of the best designs in all of science-fiction film. "Star Wars" was released by 20th Century Fox in 1977. "The Empire Strikes Back" was released by 20th Century Fox in 1980.

### Dimensions

12 x 12 x 12 in. (30.5 x 30.5 x 30.5 cm)