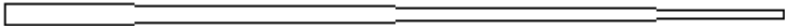
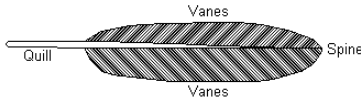
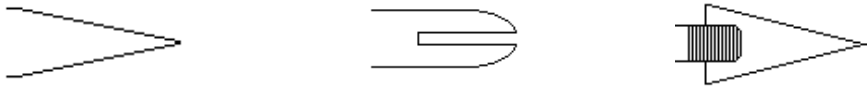
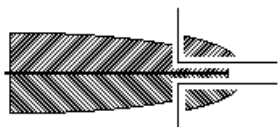


Simple Dart Construction



<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shaft • Large feather • Point • Cordage • Glue 	 <p>Shaft</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Straight piece of wood or bamboo, 4' to 6' long • 3/8" diameter minimum on thin end (rear) • 3/4" maximum diameter on large end (front) • Fairly flexible
<p>Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knife • Scissors 	 <p>Feather</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large vanes - 8" or more • Strong - turkey or goose wing feathers work well
<p>Glue</p> <p>Hot glue will set fast and work well, but it will leave large lumps on the shaft. White glue takes longer to dry, but it holds well, dries clear, and lies flat. Epoxy works very well but isn't really necessary.</p>	<p>Cordage</p> <p>This is whatever you use to wrap the point and fletching. Kite string works, but you may want to go over it with glue when done to hold it securely. Artificial sinew also works very well, if you have it.</p>
	<p>Point</p> <p>If you want to add a point, you can use either stone points or bone. Stone points look better and are more easily available, but bone points don't snap as easily. Whatever point you use, make sure it is at least 1" long and as wide as the front of the shaft.</p>
<p>Assembling the Dart</p> <p>1) Create a nock on the rear. Using your knife, simply carve out a small dimple in the end.</p> <p>2) Make the point. You can either simply sharpen the end or notch it for a stone point. If you notch it, put some glue in the notch, insert the point, and wrap it securely.</p>  <p>3) Add the fletching. Trim the quill of the feather so it is about 1" long, and then trim down from the tip of the feather so you have some exposed spine to wrap. Put a small amount of glue on the dart shaft where the quill will rest, then wrap it down securely. Put some more glue on the tip of the feather and wrap that to the shaft as well.</p>  <p>4) Congratulations! When the glue is dry, go out and have some fun!</p>	