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Batman's (Val Kilmer) Panther Suit Ω
Batman Forever (1995)

Batman's (Val Kilmer) "Panther Suit" from Joel Schumacher's superhero sequel Batman Forever. Batman wore his black "Panther Suit" early in the film before it was destroyed, prompting him to switch to the silver-coloured "Sonar Suit".

For two years Batman Forever held the record for the highest-grossing opening weekend, and for six years held the record for Warner Bros.' biggest opening weekend.

The "Panther Suit" drew influence from the Batsuits of Tim Burton's Batman and Batman Returns, while incorporating Schumacher's distinctive vision for the costume. Designed and sculpted by José Fernández under costume designer Bob Ringwood, its sleek, anatomically defined silhouette was influenced by Fernández's study of Roman Centurion armour, while Schumacher drew inspiration from Ancient Greek statues and anatomical studies. Advances in rubber-moulding techniques allowed the costume department to move away from the bulkier construction of Michael Keaton's Batsuit and achieve the more streamlined, panther-like appearance that gave the costume its production nickname.

The suit comprises a black foam-rubber cowl; a resin Batman chest emblem; a two-part matching foam-rubber bodysuit with a neoprene base; a heavy rubber latex cape; a pair of leather gloves with rubber fins; a resin utility belt; and a pair of leather boots. The Batman emblem attaches to the cowl with Velcro and is secured within a recess on the bodysuit's chest. The cape attaches to the upper back of the bodysuit and the rear of the cowl with Velcro. A zip runs along the back of the bodysuit, and the entire ensemble is mounted on a custom-made mannequin.

The cowl exhibits wear revealing patches of the underlying foam, particularly at the centre of the brow. The lower rim of the chest emblem is split, while the upper left-wing tip of the bat exhibits evidence of restoration. The cape has been sympathetically restored with reinforcing strips added for support, and there are signs of delamination and colour loss. The lot generally exhibits grime and foam fragility consistent with production use, age and storage.
Dimensions (display): 46 cm x 73 cm x 206.5 cm (18" x 28.75" x 81.25")

Special shipping required; see special shipping notice in the Terms and Conditions.

Estimate: £30,000 - 60,000





