

# WHEEL ASSEMBLY

Carefully cut out the four large wheels. Stack wheels on top of each other from largest to smallest. Make a hole in the center. Fasten with a rivet, brad, thumb-tack or whatever. Voila! It is ALIVE!

Well sort of. Not at all, really. It's only made of paper.

Be careful to center the holes very well. A poorly aligned wheel is hard to read.

Now you can decode the secret messages that will appear in the *Girl Genius* comics and write complicated notes to your friends!

Check our website for updates and news!

[www.girlgenius.net](http://www.girlgenius.net)



Did you think we would forget to give you something to decode? Never! At the bottom of the page you will find a short, simple message to start with. Read the instructions on the back of the large wheel carefully before you start.

Warning: all encoded mail arriving at the Studio Foglio offices will be delegated to the only individuals with time to deal with it. And the cats are really slow at answering mail.

Important—  
Cut the wheel  
out from  
this side!



今9M\*#

U6C A U6J\* A A I6UU6 U3ALP6 6C86E ABA3NA UAKU #6  
 UGI6 3Q I⊗CX Q8AJ3⊗C6 EJQP6 3Q U3G⊗⊗Q \*QBJ⊗Q HD S%W N  
 SW99 I#W2WPI9. %SS9W A%%U #H⊗PL ⊗NH#NW7 R \* A A \*

the official  
**girl genius**<sup>TM</sup>  
Decoder Wheel

### THE KEY BOX

Setup instructions are given at the beginning of the message and will be contained within a box or < > brackets.

*These symbols are not encoded* and provide the initial configuration for a decoding session.

Look at the first three symbols in the box. Starting with the center ring and working outward, set the rings so that these three symbols align with the red arrow. You are now set up to begin decoding. Symbol alignment can shift during a decoding session (see *Commands*.)

The next two symbols in the box indicate the *Code Ring* and the *Target Ring*. The *Code Ring* represents the symbols in the coded message. The corresponding symbols on the *Target Ring* form the translation. Code and Target Rings can shift during a decoding session (see *Commands*.)

### COMMANDS

The *Commands* are the eight symbols on the rings that are neither numbers nor letters. Except for the *Commands* given in the *Key Box*, which are not encoded, always make sure that you decode a symbol before acting on it! Sometimes a *Command* symbol is really just a letter or number in disguise, and *Commands* are often encoded as other symbols. Some *Commands* are made up of more than one symbol (see below). When you decode a *Command*, follow its instructions before decoding any further.

\* =Blue (inner) Ring

† =Yellow (middle) Ring

⊗ =Red (outer) Ring

⊕ (FOLLOWED BY A RING COMMAND) =Code Ring. The indicated ring immediately becomes the new Code Ring.

⊖ (FOLLOWED BY A RING COMMAND) =Target Ring. The indicated Ring immediately becomes the new Target Ring.

⤵ (FOLLOWED BY A RING COMMAND AND A ONE DIGIT NUMBER) =Spin Clockwise. Spin the indicated ring as many symbols clockwise as is indicated by the following number. Use the red arrow as a guide.

⤴ (FOLLOWED BY A RING COMMAND AND A ONE DIGIT NUMBER) =Spin Counter-Clockwise. Spin the indicated ring as many symbols counter-clockwise as is indicated by the following number. Use the red arrow as a guide.

⊗ (FOLLOWED BY A RING COMMAND AND A ONE DIGIT NUMBER) =Ignore/Resume. Ignore everything (including *Commands*) until you see this *Command* again.

### DECODING THE MESSAGE

Work from left to right. Find the symbol that you wish to decode on the Code Ring. Look for its corresponding symbol on the Target Ring. If what you decode turns out to be a *Command*, follow its instructions before proceeding.

ALWAYS DECODE A SYMBOL BEFORE FOLLOWING COMMAND INSTRUCTIONS!



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