

## Soviet Aviator's Leather Flight Mask, dated 1941.

In soft leather with satin liner and elastic straps. On the inside is a sewn-in cloth label of the Leningrad Rotfront Fur Goods Factory with the "194.." date and the last digit "1" filled-in with a fountain pen. The date is consistent with the quality of the mask: it was probably produced just before the German invasion in June 1941 (Leningrad came under siege in late August and was completely cut off about a week later).

The mask is in excellent unissued condition; shows storage age only (minor scuffing on the forehead). The leather is good as new, beautifully soft and supple; the elastic straps are completely intact. The long strap is much longer than needed but it should be easy to adjust to necessary length.

The mask was designed not only for open cockpit airplanes such as U-2 (Po-2) night bombers and R-2 reconnaissance planes, but also for any WW2 era unheated airplane cockpit, especially when flying at high altitude or during Russian winter. A great piece of early aviation history, this mask will make an excellent addition to a WW2 Soviet pilot's kit and will display nicely either on a full mannequin or Styrofoam head.

Please note, our photos on a mannequin show an example of a very similar face mask, but not of the actual mask we are offering now. The price is for the face mask only; other items shown in our photos (pilot's helmet, goggles) are not included but may be available separately on our website.

Item# 38508

**\$110.00**

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A leather mask with a white and blue striped headband, displayed on a wooden mannequin head against a red background. The mask is made of brown leather and features large, irregular eye openings, a prominent nose, and a wide, open mouth. The headband is white with blue and red stripes. The mask is mounted on a light-colored wooden mannequin head. The background is a solid red color.

A close-up photograph of the crown of a vintage hat. The hat features a dark brown leather body with visible stitching along the seams. A blue and white striped fabric band is wrapped around the crown. The leather shows signs of wear and discoloration. The hat is resting on a red surface.

A close-up portrait of a man wearing a brown leather flight suit and goggles. He is looking directly at the camera. The background is a solid red color. In the top left corner, there is a copyright notice: "© Atlantic Crossroads, Inc. www.collectrussia.com".