

HOW TO REALISTICALLY CUT OFF SOMEONE'S EAR

In the Gospel account of Jesus' last days Peter cuts off the ear of a soldier when they come to arrest Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus then heals the man and allows himself to be led off and crucified.

The cutting off of someone's ear could also be part of an earlier story showing how Roman soldiers treated petty criminals (such as thieves or pickpockets who might cause trouble among the crowd which gathers to hear Jesus).

In some productions, ear-cutting scenes are performed with the following stage tips for a noisy and realistic scene:

Soldier (holding a fake ear in their hand) grabs thief's ear and starts shouting aggressively. Thief also holds the soldier's hand and is also shouting. Soldier holds the ear with left hand and pushes thief down while holding sword above his ear. Thief is kneeling. Soldier makes cutting action with the sword and pulls away. The thief falls to the ground holding his ear while the soldier holds up the fake ear.



