

## Edwardian Hat circa 1917

**History:** Large brimmed hats trimmed with ostrich feathers were common in this era - the delicacy of the trimming echoed the light and airy voiles of the dresses of the period.

As the pompadour hairstyle involved raising the hair in an "onion" style, a frame called a "transformation" was bobby-pinned firmly to the head and the hair was then dressed up over this. The very large crown was necessary both to accommodate the pompadour hairstyle which was so popular and also out of necessity!

Previous to the advent of the automobile, hats perched daintily on the head but it was now important to anchor them against the wind. As a result, the hat was redesigned to sit lower on the head where it was firmly anchored with hatpins to keep it from flying away!



### **REQUIREMENTS:**

Glues - STICK (Pritt), ALEENE's TACKY

Card - White or coloured card about the thickness of a business card. (Cereal box will do)

Fabric - A solid fabric - 2 pieces approximately 10cm square (this is the most you will need)

The fabric used in this demonstration is a polyester Dupion (Wild Silk finish) which comes in a wide range of colours and may have a different coloured satin on the reverse.

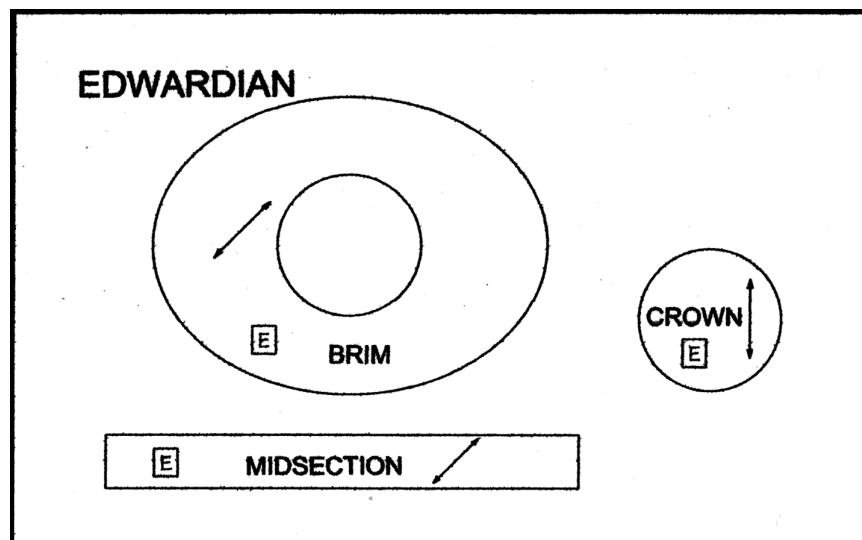
Cottons, good quality velveteens with a tiny pile and taffetas are also suitable but test to make sure the glue doesn't show through first.

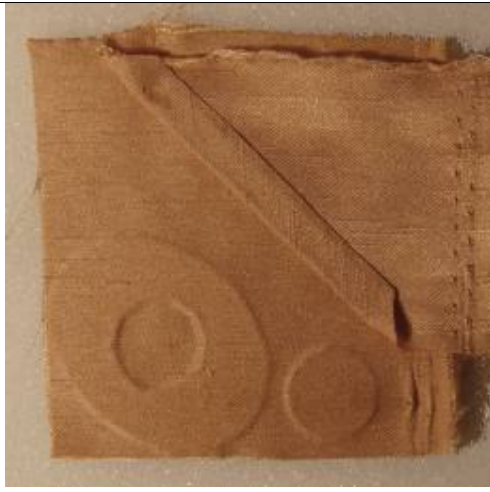
Edge trim - The Edwardian Hat requires 15cms ( $\pm 6''$ ) of braid or plait trimming.

### **CONSTRUCTION:**

Temporarily STICK Glue a copy of the card pattern onto thin card (business card or cereal box thickness) and cut out. Remove the pattern once it is cut out as it may work loose during the glueing.

You can always print another copy next time you want to make it.





Apply STICK glue lavishly to card (no lumps) and lay card pieces labelled **Midsection** and **Brim**, glue side down, onto wrong side of fabric at a 45° angle so that the fabric will be on the bias.

**Tip:** Make sure the card is well covered with glue as it must hold the fabric when it is curved.

Press down firmly.

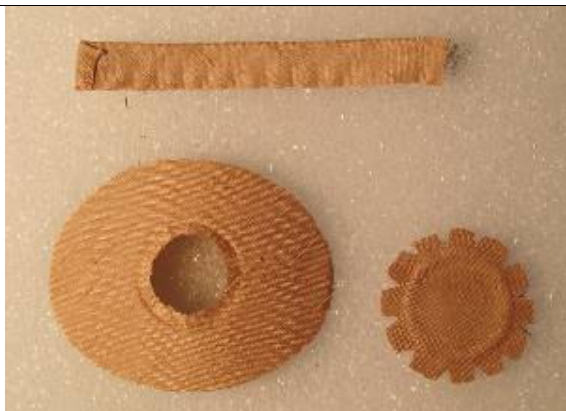
**Crown** pattern piece is laid on the straight of the fabric.

Apply STICK glue lavishly over card and onto fabric around edges to a distance of 3mm (1/8"). Lightly press down a second piece of fabric (right side up) over **Brim & Crown** pieces (keep grain in the same direction).

Once in position, flatten out and press down hard to bond the fabric and card.

Run your fingernail around the edge of the card, outlining the pieces.

The fabric on the **Mid-section** is glued and doubled over. Leave 3mm (1/8") on the one end and 6mm (1/4") on the other.



Leave a seam allowance of 3mm (1/8"), as shown, on the Brim and Crown of the bonnet. On the Midsection the 3mm end is glued under to form a neat end. (Note the angle the seam is glued at - this is to avoid ends showing when it is assembled - use a peg or clamp to hold it flat while it dries)

**Brim** outer edge and **Mid section** bottom are trimmed flush with edge of card.

Use a toothpick to run a bead of ALEENE's glue around the unseamed edges. Leave to dry.

Clip every 3mm(1/8") or so along seam allowances as indicated in illustration.

(Right) Place Crown over a former (in this case the glue stick) if possible to force the seams to lie correctly. Tape a strip of paper over the clipped seam edges and leave for a while to press into place.

**TIP:** To give the crown a more realistic shape, emboss from the inside with a ball tool or rounded end of a paintbrush handle.



Use a large toothpaste cap as the former for the brim. Pad up with a couple of strips of card taped to the lid and then cover with a small square of polythene. (The idea is to keep the **Brim** up high enough so that the top of the hat can be glued on easily and to spread the seam allowance of the **Brim** to the correct size)

**Tip:** Flex the **Brim** into a curve by drawing over forefinger, between thumb and finger, a few times.

Draw the hat **Brim** down the former until the card of the **Brim** fits snugly against the cap. The **Brim** should have a slight curve as shown.

Add ALEENE's glue to the seam allowance of the brim and carefully ease the Top down to make contact with the surface of the Brim - use a long pin to tuck any loose ends of the seam up and under the Top.

The Hat is now ready to be trimmed.

Gently push the **Crown** into the Mid-section. (The folded edge of Mid-section is the top.) Push the seam clippings into the centre - put a dot of ALEENE's glue on each section. Check the top of the hat to see that the Crown sits neatly in the Mid-section. Press the glued seam firmly against the sides. Leave to dry.

