

Poke Bonnet circa 1835

History: A Bonnet is a hat with some form of tie. Originally the lace seen round the face was that of the cap worn underneath but later this just became a suggestion of the cap. Some versions also have a lace frill at the back of the neck and in South Africa most bonnets had this frill, presumably to keep the sun off the back of the neck! In time the ties became purely ornamentation and although tied in a bow, they didn't hold the hat in place! At this time only married women were allowed to wear bonnets. Young unmarried women wore hats.



REQUIREMENTS:

Glues - STICK (Pritt), ALEENE's TACKY, Transparent CONTACT (Pattex is the one I use)

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

Wire - a short length of fine florists wire

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

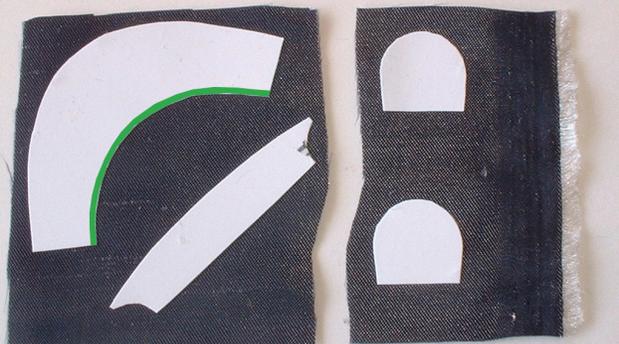
The fabric used in this demonstration is a polyester Dupion (Wild Silk finish) which comes in a wide range of colours and is a different coloured satin on the reverse.

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

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 gluing. (You can print another copy next time you want to make it.)

CONTACT Glue a piece of fine florists wire along the inner edge of the brim piece. (Shown In green below)



Apply STICK glue lavishly to card and lay card pieces A & B, glue side down, onto wrong side of fabric at a 45° angle so that the fabric will be on the bias. (Make sure the card is well covered with glue as it must hold the fabric when it is curved)

Press down firmly.

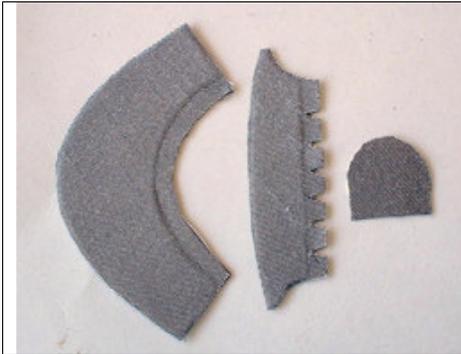
Back of Bonnet piece C is laid on the straight of the fabric.

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 first (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.

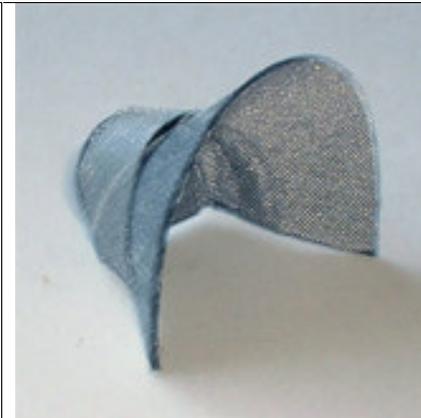


Leave a seam allowance of 3mm (1/8"), as shown, on the Brim and Mid section of the bonnet. The rest, including a single Back, is trimmed flush with edge of card.
Use a toothpick to run a bead of ALEENE's glue around the unseamed edges. Leave to dry.

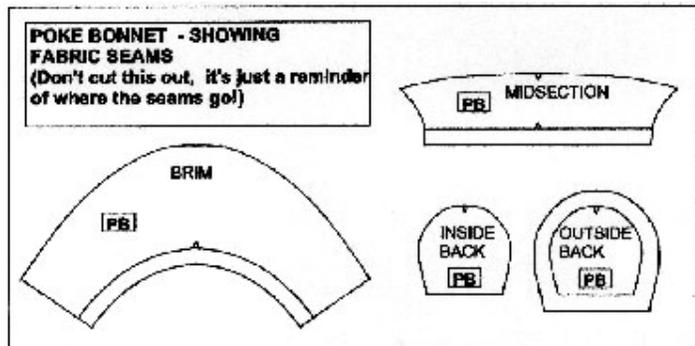
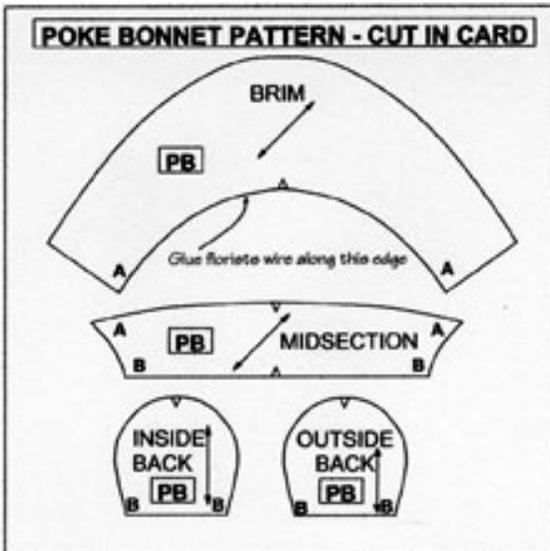
The second Back is trimmed to leave a 3mm seam allowance all round. Spread CONTACT glue over the complete piece and when touch dry, clip as shown and neatly fold in edges (check the right side to see that it is smooth as you fold).

The Bonnet is now ready to trim.

See "Trimming Hats"



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(above) This is just to show you where the seam allowances go

(above) This the pattern you need to cut in card

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