

Materials List

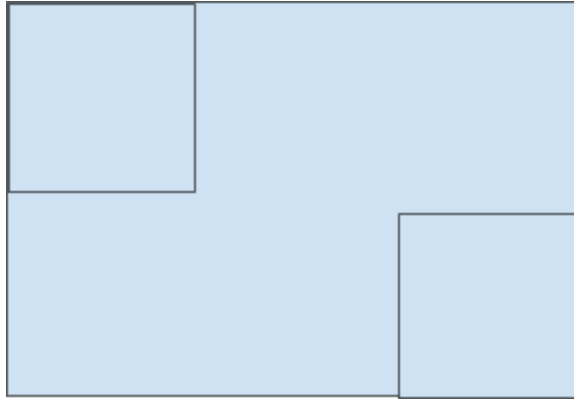
- 1 yard Sinamay
- Matching Thread
- 1 yard Millinery Wire
- 1 Wire Joiner
- 1 Yard Cotton Bias Tape
- Hat Elastic
- Rit Dye

Supplies List

- Pencil
- 2-in. see-through ruler
- Head Block
- Aluminum Foil
- Plastic Wrap
- Masking tape
- Craft scissors
- Fabric scissors
- Seam ripper
- Thimble
- Size 10 milliner needles
- Push Pins or Tacks
- T-Pins
- 2 Pressing cloths
- Iron
- Water Spray
- Sizing
- Glue
- Needle Nose Pliers
- Wire Cutters

Construction Instructions

1. Pin the one yard of sinamay flat. Trace two 15X15 in squares at opposite corners of the sinamay. In between the two squares cut 6" bias strips.



2. The next step involves dying the sinamay, but there are safety precautions that need to be taken before dying. Wear a mask or respirator that completely covers the nose and mouth, and wear gloves. Either wear clothing that is already distressed or cover clothing to avoid getting dye on it. Work in a well lit, well ventilated area with access to running water. Lay down plastic where the dyed sinamay will be hanging to keep the dye from staining the floor.
3. To actually dye the sinamay heat water until it is hot. Pour water into separate containers, one container for each color of dye. Pour in either dry or liquid dye until you get the color you want, stirring to integrate the dye into the water.
4. Soak the sinamay in clean hot water, then place into a container of dye. The two squares should be dyed in the same color. Keep sinamay pieces in the dye until they become the color you want.
5. Rinse the extra dye from the sinamay pieces and hang to dry. If you wish to dye a piece of cotton bias, repeat this process with the bias.
6. Cover your head block in aluminum foil, then plastic wrap. Keep the foil as smooth as possible, and tape with masking tape.
7. Using the water spray, wet one of the sinamay squares until it is saturated. Holding it on the bias, diagonal to the grain of the material, pull it over top of the

head block and pin into place. As you pull it around the head block, smooth the sinamay flat. Repeat with the sinamay square, being sure to not pin any pins underneath the second sinamay square.



8. Spray the sinamay with sizing and brush down any globs that may form. This should be done at least two times.
9. After the pulled sinamay is dry, measure where you would like to cut the sinamay. This should be where you want the finished edge of the hat PLUS 1 inch.



10. Remove the tacks from the pulled sinamay and remove the sinamay from the head block. The best solution I have found is to remove the foil, plastic wrap, and sinamay as a unit, then pull the foil and plastic wrap out of the sinamay.
11. Trim the sinamay along the drawn line to remove excess.



12. Take your wire and get a general measurement of the inside circumference of the sinamay crown. Cut the wire generously, adding a couple inches on each end. Check the size of the wire inside of the crown, marking where the wire meets.
13. Clip the wire at the marks. Strip the covering of the wire to expose the metal, removing enough on each side to accommodate a wire joiner. Connect the two ends of the wire with the joiner and crimp to secure. Place the wire inside of the crown so that it is level with the cut edge and the metal joiner is at center back.



14. Thread a needle with matching color, and knot as a single thread. Starting from the inside whip stitch through the wire and crown, with the diagonal stitches overtop of the wire. Pull your stitch tight, but not so tight that it distorts the

shape of the sinamay. Keeping your stitches $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{3}{8}$ " apart, continue the process around the rest of the hat.



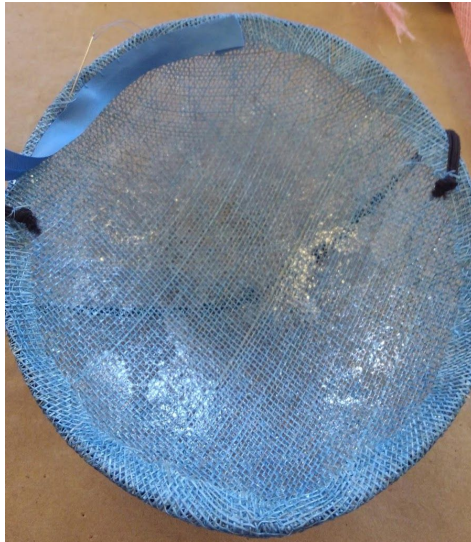
15. Finger press the sinamay down over the wire. Fold the sinamay back up and trim to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, then fold back down.



16. Place the sinamay crown on your head. Taking the elastic and wrap it around the back of your head, holding the ends to the side of the crown. Make sure the elastic is taut but not tight to the point of being uncomfortable.
17. Cut the elastic to the length you have measured, then knot the ends. Using a matching color thread, tack each end of the elastic to the inside of the crown,

stitching into the folded over sinamay and not the outer crown. The elastic in the crown can be seen in the picture of the next step.

18. Press the bias into a curve. Hold the end of the bias at center back, folding under $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Thread a needle in a color that matches the bias. Make a tiny stitch at center back, hiding the needle between the grosgrain and folded over sinamay. Continuing along the bias tape, make tiny whip stitches $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ " apart.



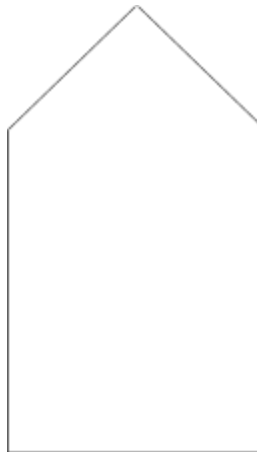
19. Once you reach the end, trim the bias so it overlaps at center back. Fold under the excess bias and whip stitch the two ends together.



20. Your sinamay crown is now finished!



21. Check your sinamay bias pieces for any rough edges. If there are any, trim them now. Cut the pieces to the desired length, making sure they have one end pointed and one end flat.



22. Place a pressing cloth onto the ironing board. Using an iron with steam, press one edge of the sinamay bias in $\frac{1}{8}$ ", pulling the bias as you go. Turn and press the edge again, so no raw edges are visible. Repeat with the other edge of the bias, leaving the blunt edge unfinished.

23. After all of the sinamay bias pieces are finished, they can be molded into various shapes. To help mold them, be sure to wet the pieces with the water spray first. I molded most of mine around a tube to create spirals.



24. To finish the ends of these trim pieces, thread a needle in a matching color double threaded with a knot at the end. Pull the needle through the trim piece near the unfinished edge, then wrap the thread around the sinamay. This will pull the sinamay together. Once the end is how you want it, pull the needle through the thread and sinamay and knot it. Trim any extra sinamay fibers that may be coming out from the thread.
25. Placing your crown on the head form, t-pin the trim in the arrangement you want. Take pictures so that the pieces can be placed in the same places.



26. Take off the upper layer of trim. Re-pin the trim using straight pins, and try on the hat with the trim. Make any adjustments needed to trim placement and take another picture.



27. Remove the top layers of trim. Thread a needle with hy-mark thread in a similar color to your trim and double thread. Starting under the trim piece, pull your needle through the trim, then back down through the crown, creating a small but sturdy stitch. Repeat this one or two times on the trim piece, making sure it is secure. Knot the thread on the outside of the crown. Repeat this process with the other pieces of trim.



28. You have finished your fascinator.



Tips & Tricks

- Needle nosed pliers may be needed to remove the thumbtacks or pins from the pulled sinamay.
- Use another piece of sinamay to cover the edges of any trim pieces that may be showing.