

## Materials List

- 1" Muslin Bias Strips
- ½ to 1 Yard of Buckram
- 1 to 1 ½ Yards of Fashion Fabric
- ¼ yard of Lining Fabric
- Matching Thread
- 2 yards of Millinery Wire
- 1 Yard of Grosgrain Ribbon
- Your Choice of Trims

## Supplies List

- Paper pattern pieces for Tip, Side Band, and Brim
- Colored pencil or chalk that will be visible on fabric and lining
- 2-in. see-through ruler
- Tape measure
- Masking tape
- Paper scissors
- Fabric scissors
- Seam ripper
- Thimble
- Size 10 milliner needles
- Pressing cloth
- Iron

## Construction Instructions

1. Trace the one of each pattern piece onto the buckram. The only seam allowance needed is  $\frac{1}{2}$ " on both short sides of the sideband. Cut the pieces out, leaving the center of the brim intact.
2. Lay the ends of the sideband over top of each other, so that the stitching lines overlap. Zigzag on a sewing machine to secure.
3. Lay the wire on top of the outer edge of the brim, with the end slightly over the center back mark. Set your sewing machine to a medium length zigzag stitch. Center the wire under the needle and stitch the wire in place.
4. When you get to the end of stitching wire onto the brim, overlap the wire by  $\frac{1}{4}$ ", then clip off the excess. Stitch over the end of the wire several times to secure it in place.
5. Repeat this process with both sides of the side band.
6. "Tack" the tip in place on the side band with masking tape, making sure to line up the center front, center back, and side seam notches.
7. Thread a needle with high mark, and knot as a single thread. Pull the needle up through the tip, so that the knot is on the inside of the hat. Whip stitch through the sideband, making sure to go past the wire into the buckram. Pull your stitch tight, but not so tight that it doesn't distort the shape of the buckram. Keeping your stitches  $\frac{1}{8}$ " apart, continue the process around the rest of the hat.
8. Fold over and press the muslin bias strips so they have a crease down the center. Starting at center back of the crown, place the muslin so half of the muslin is on the tip, and the other half is on the sideband. Using a light colored thread single threaded, hide the knot behind the muslin, then stab through both the muslin and buckram to the inside  $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the edge. Continue this process around the crown with  $\frac{1}{2}$ " stitches, being sure to pull the muslin strip to keep it taught on the hat.
9. Repeat for the other side of the muslin. The process for the brim is similar, with the muslin being folded over the edge of the brim. This is called mulling.

10. Cut out two brims, a tip, and a side band from your fashion fabric, and a tip and a sideband of the lining fabric. All pieces will need  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance, and do not cut out the inside of the brims yet.
11. Press the tip cut out of the fashion fabric flat. Place over the tip of the crown, fashion side out, and pin at center front and center back stretching slightly if needed. Pin at the side seams, then pin along the crown to hold the fabric down. With a single threaded needle with a color similar to the fashion fabric, stab stitch the fabric to the crown  $\frac{1}{8}$ " down the side of the side band.
12. With the wrong side out, line up the side band along the crown at center front and the side seams. Pin along the center back so the sideband is tight around the crown. Slip the side band off and stitch on a sewing machine. Press the seam allowance open, then press the seam allowance on one long side down by  $\frac{1}{4}$ ".
13. Slip the side band over the top of the crown with the pressed seam allowance on top, lining up at center back. Pin over top of the tip fabric, keeping it level with the top of the crown. Slip stitch the sideband to the tip, using  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{8}$ " stitches.
14. Fold the bottom edge of the sideband either between the fabric and the buckram, or to the inside of the buckram. Stab stitch right above the wire, taking tiny stitches into the side band  $\frac{1}{2}$ " apart. Don't pull the thread so tight that it makes a visible mark in the fabric.
15. Press both fabric brims. Decide which side of the buckram brim will be the top and place a fabric brim on top of that side. Fold the seam allowance over the buckram and pin, making sure the center front, center back, and side seams are matched.
16. Cross stitch the fashion fabric to the muslin, using  $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide stitches.
17. Baste through the buckram around the inner edge of the brim, similarly to how you mulled the edge of the brim.
18. Press the seam allowance of the other fabric brim to the wrong side. Pin the second fabric brim onto the buckram, with the edge of the second brim slightly inside the edge of the brim. Pin into place and slip stitch  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{8}$ " stitches.

19. Baste along the inner edge of the brim again, using the previous basting as a guide.
20. Using a box cutter or rotary cutter, cut an X into the inner seam allowance of the brim. Use this X to cut out the inside of the brim,  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{5}{8}$ " away from the inner edge of the brim. Clip into the seam allowance to create tabs that can be flipped up into the hat.
21. Place the crown onto the brim so that the tabs flip into the crown. Stab stitch the crown to the brim through the tab, using small stitches going into the crown.
22. Machine stitch the ends of the lining side band together, and press open. Pin the lining tip to the sideband on the sideband side, and stitch on the machine.
23. Cut a length of grosgrain long enough to go around your head with some seam allowance. Spritz the grosgrain with water then press into a curve.
24. Line up the lining inside of the hat so that the center back, center front, and side seams are lining, making sure the lining is flush with the inside of the tip. Pin the grosgrain to the lining flush at the opening edge of the sideband, with the wider edge toward the brim. Pin the edges of the grosgrain together, unpin from the lining, and stitch together on the machine. Press the seam allowance open.
25. Repin the grosgrain to the lining, and stitch on the machine on the side of the grosgrain to the inside of the hat. Trim the lining fabric behind the grosgrain.
26. Pin the grosgrain directly to the inside of the hat, making sure the center front, center back, and side seams are lined up. Thread a needle in a color that matches the grosgrain. Make a tiny stitch at center back, hiding the needle between the grosgrain and hat. Continuing along the grosgrain, make tiny whip stitches  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$ " apart.
27. Decorate your hat as desired, making sure to strategically plan out stitches so as few can be used as possible.

## Tips & Tricks

- Make sure the pattern is traced onto both sides of the buckram brim.
- Check the sizing of the hat after every step to make sure it fits!
- Follow the roll of the buckram when tracing your hat pieces, such as placing the sideband so it curves inward.
- Buckram can be steamed to help control the roll, but this can only do so much.