

## EASY, INEXPENSIVE, CUSTOM HAT BOX

Just so you know, this hatbox is really simple to make. However, it takes a few hours and a good surface to work on. Once you do one though, the rest will go much faster. Mark each cutout with the appropriate letter so you have easy reference as you go.

### WHAT YOU NEED

Heavy cardboard (a large cardboard box)

Light cardboard (two bristleboards taped firmly together for length will do)

Lightweight firmly woven cotton fabric (115 cm wide) I like having different fabrics for the lining and the outside (get creative here)

35cm x 35cm batting

1.2 M decorative trim

1.2 M cording

Strong white glue; Pencil; Ruler; Compass; Scissors; Scalpel or craft knife; Wide masking tape; Clothespins

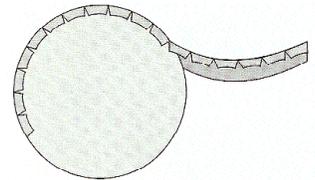
### CUTTING OUT THE CARDBOARD

From the heavy cardboard, cut out (A) one circle with radius 15.3cm. for the top; and (B) one circle with radius 15.0cm for the base.

From the light cardboard, cut out (C) one circle with radius 15.3cm for the lid liner; (D) two circles with radius 14.6cm for the inside and outside base liners; (E) two strips 102 cm x 4.2cm for the lid rims; (F) one strip 102cm x 3.8cm for the lid rim liner; (G) one rectangle 99cm x 18cm for the base wall; (H) one strip 99cm x 17.6cm for the base wall liner.

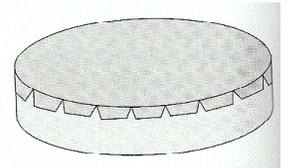
### THE LID

- 1) Apply a strip of masking tape along one edge of (E), so that half the width of the tape overhangs the edge of the cardboard.
- 2) Cut V-shaped notches along the overhanging tape.
- 3) Take (A) and roll its edge along the taped edge of (E) and attach by pulling the notched masking tape onto the lid and pressing it firmly into place.
- 4) Overlap the ends of (E) and tape them together.



### COVERING THE LID

- 1) Apply glue to the lid top (A) and place it on the batting. Trim the batting to fit (A) exactly.
- 2) Trace the outside of the lid top (A) on the the fabric and cut out a circle, allowing at least 1.5cm extra for seam allowance.
- 3) Glue the fabric to the batting-covered lid top, then notch out the 1.5cm seam allowance and glue down along the sides of the lid all the way around.
- 4) Take the second lid rim (E) and cover with fabric by tracing its shape onto the fabric allowing a 1.5 cm seam allowance. Glue down only ONE edge of fabric along a long edge of (E).
- 5) Glue this fabric-covered (E) to the first (E) with the glued-down seam allowance at the top edge of the lid to hide the glued down seam allowance of the top. Trim one end so that the cardboard ends sit flush. Glue the remaining seam allowance over the join.
- 6) Glue the lower edge of seam allowance to the inside of the rim. Clamp with clothespins until dry.



### LINING THE LID

- 1) Take (C) and cover with lining fabric by tracing it onto the liner fabric and allowing 1.5cm for seam allowance. Notch it out and glue down to wrong side of (C). Glue this to the inside of the lid.
- 2) Take (F) and cover with lining fabric by tracing its shape, allowing a 1.5 seam allowance. Glue down seam allowance all the way around, then glue to the inside sides of the lid; again trimming one end to fit snugly and gluing the seam allowance over the join.
- 3) Glue the braid to the outside, top edge of the lid. You can do the bottom edge too if you like; whatever suits.

#### THE BASE

- 1) Trace out fabric to fit (G) with 1.5 cm allowance all around.
- 2) Just like with the lid, take (G) and put masking tape along one long edge, with half overhanging, then notch and roll (B) along its edge. Press the tape firmly to (B) as you roll. Overlap the ends of (G) and tape.
- 3) Glue the fabric to the base sides (G). Notch out the bottom seam allowance and stick to the bottom of the base with glue. Glue the top seam allowance to the inside edge of (G).

#### THE CORD HANDLE

- 1) Using the scissors, poke two holes opposite each other, through the sides of the base about 5cm from the top (to allow the lid to sit without impeding on the cord). Allow enough cord to hang loosely for the handle.
- 2) Glue and tape the ends snugly to the inside side of the base.

#### LINING THE BASE

- 1) Take both (D) circles and cover with liner fabric using same process of notching seam allowance and gluing down.
- 2) Glue one to the inside bottom of the base, and the other to the outside bottom of the base.
- 3) Cover (H) with the liner fabric using the same process of 1.5 cm seam allowance and gluing the seam allowance down. Glue to the inside sides of the base again trimming the end so that they sit flush and glue the seam allowance over the join.

You now have your easy, inexpensive, custom hatbox!