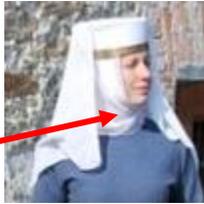


Easy Fillet, Barbette, Veil and Wimple Instructions

Many elegant looks can be created with different combinations of the fillet, barbette, veil and wimple.

Wimple



“Cheater” Pleated Fillet

The original pleated fillet or pleated toque hats (origin of a chef’s hat) were made out pleated fabric. Amanda’s “cheater” fillet method is to wrap a plastic canvas crown in a long strip. Here’s a link to some more [authentic directions](#).

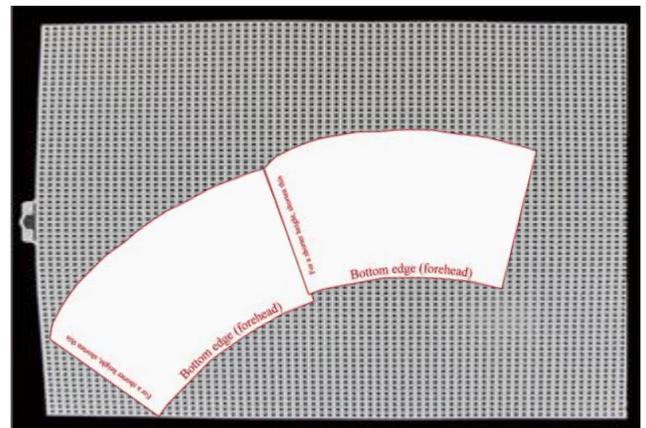
Pleated Fillet Materials

- Two pieces of 13x22-inch plastic canvas
- A half-yard of fabric (ideally matching your blanket binding or other wrap above as closely as possible). This will become the top of your hat.
- Cardboard for making a circle approximately 10-12 inches diameter
- Can of spray adhesive such as Krylon All Purpose 7010 Spray Adhesive
- 2 packages of 2-inch wide satin blanket binding (4.75 yards in the package), sold at fabric stores in a wide variety of colors. You might be able to achieve a similar effect with 2-inch wide solid color ribbon (but without the folded edges it won’t look as much like the original pleats). You could also theoretically cut your own blanket binding from any fabric, but without the convenience of the premade binding an unpleated style or a more traditional method might make more sense.



Step 1: Measure your head circumference where you’d like your hat to sit. The national average head size is 22.5 inches.

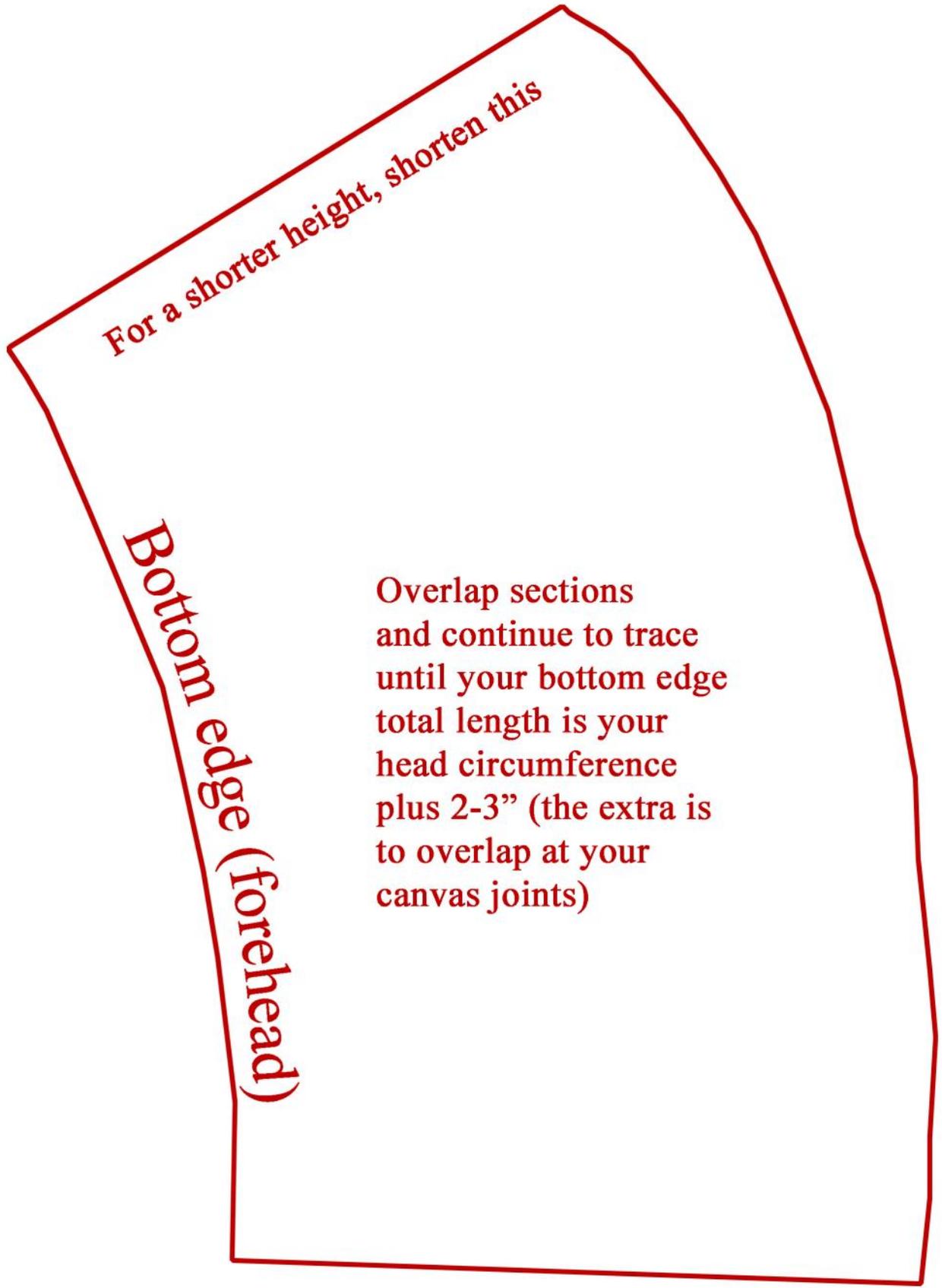
Step 2: Print out and cut out the pattern on the next page at 100% size on a 8.5x11 paper. Use the pattern to draw a gentle curve shape. Overlap the pattern pieces to get as much of the arc as you need to end up with the bottom edge of your arc equal to your head circumference plus 2-3 inches. You will probably need to cut your arc in two pieces as one piece of canvas is not big enough. The 3-4” extra allows for an overlap to secure your joints.



Step 3: If your arc was cut in 2 pieces, overlap the 2 pieces by a couple of inches and staple or neatly wrap duct tape to join the 2 arcs into one.

Step 4: Overlap the ends of your arc to create the crown shape. Try it on your head and adjust the overlap until it fits just right. Secure the overlap with staples or duct tape to close the loop.





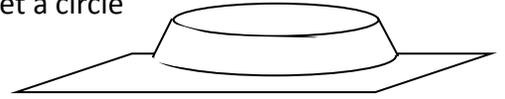
For a shorter height, shorten this

Bottom edge (forehead)

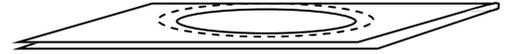
Overlap sections and continue to trace until your bottom edge total length is your head circumference plus 2-3" (the extra is to overlap at your canvas joints)

To wear the fillet with a veil on top, a solid top (step 5-7 & 10) is best. To wear the fillet over a veil, you can leave the top open and wear it like a cloth crown to hold the veil in place (or a solid top too).

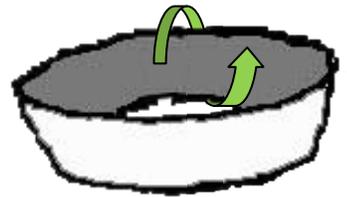
Step 5: Turn your crown upside down on the cardboard and trace it to get a circle to fit on top your hat. Cut out the circle a hair smaller than you drew it.



Step 6: Lay out your hat top fabric folded to cut two circles at a time. Use the cardboard circle you just cut to draw a circle with a one-inch margin all around the hat top. Cut.

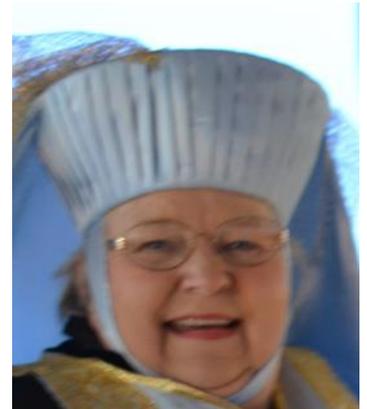


Step 7: Lay one of the fabric circles face down. Shake the can of spray adhesive and spray one side of the cardboard. Let dry one minute (if suggested on your can's directions) and then center the cardboard on the fabric and smooth it. Let dry 20-30 minutes. Lay out the other circle face down and repeat to create a sandwich with the two fabric circles on the outside and the cardboard in the middle. Set it aside to dry while you cover the plastic canvas.



Step 8: Starting at the back of your hat, use a needle and thread to tack one end of your blanket binding to the middle inside of the plastic canvas crown. Secure it with a few stitches and knot your thread.

Step 9: Wrap the blanket binding neatly around the canvas, overlapping a little each wrap. The look at right was done with two blanket binding packages and a wide overlap. Just tack the end to the canvas and the other layers of wrap on the inside of the hat to secure it, then start your second piece and continue until the plastic is covered. To finish, tuck the end inside the layers of wrap and put in a few stitches to secure it inside the hat.



Step 10: Carefully set your fabric covered cardboard top into the top of your hat with the fabric edges tucked inside the hat. It can be tricky to keep it in since you cut it to a nearly exact fit, but you really only need the section you're working on to be lined up perfectly. Hand stitch the 2 layers of fabric in your cardboard sandwich to the layers of wrap all around the hat. This is tedious, but our experiments found that glues simply will not hold. Now you're done with the fillet, and you have the option of adding a barrette (chin strap), wimple (head wrap) and/or veil to top it off.

For a straight, not pleated look



Follow the directions above to create your plastic canvas crown shape. Once you have your full arc (while it is still flat), use it to trace the arc shape with a half-inch margin all around on the back of your fabric. Cut 2 arc shapes (right sides together). Sew on the long sides. Turn right side out. Press. Insert the plastic arc inside the casing you've just made. Top stitch if you like. Push back the fabric to expose the plastic ends. Overlap the plastic and secure with duct tape or staples. Smooth the fabric back over, tucking one end inside the other and folding the top inside so no raw edges are showing. Hand stitch to secure. Press. Optional: finish with a top following the directions above.



Barbette (chin strap)

Cheater Barbette: Take a piece of your extra blanket binding from making your fillet, about 18 inches long. Topstitch the two sides together if you like. Position the fillet on your head and figure out where the barbette should go for looks and comfort. Straight pin it in place; take the hat off and hand stitch the barbette to the layers of the fillet on the inside. Repeat for the other side. The [Medieval Tailor's Assistant](#) offers instructions for a more authentic barbette.

To make an authentic barbette, cut a piece of cloth about 4 inches wide by 28-30 inches long. Sew the long edge right sides together, turn right side out and press. Place the midpoint under your chin, pull the two sides up around to the top of your head, and secure it with a straight pin or two. Then put on your fillet and use a straight pin to secure the fillet to the barbette.



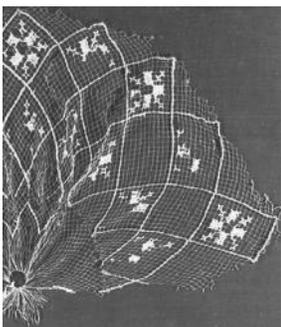
Veil

A veil can be worn alone, or over or under a fillet or other type of hat., and/or over a wimple. For the parade, a veil is a great way to create the swing and flow of long hair without messing with a wig. Lengths and styles vary widely. A veil can be simply a piece of cloth



Gossamer-fine sheer in a medieval painting

secured to the head but you can get a nicer look with a shaped veil.



1300s lace-like fine mesh hair net

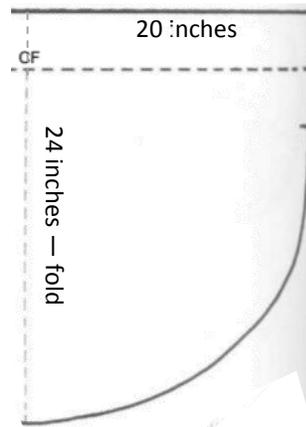
Fabrics: An authentic look for all social classes can be created with a linen or linen-look white veil (above); sheer, silk and/or mesh veils for an upperclass look. Medieval fabrics included delicate silk sheers, fine mesh, open weaves and embroidery for a lace-like look, (lace had not been invented).

The veils for our Krewe's Voices of Joan battalion costumes (right) use a light satin to maximize flutter with a [metallic mesh](#) to catch the light.



Cut a piece of fabric at least 40 inches wide by 24 inches (front to back). Fold it in half lengthwise and round off the corners as shown at right. Try it on and adjust the length and curve until you like it. Once you're happy with the shape, finish the edge. For light or sheer fabrics, serge the edge or do a decorative or buttonhole stitch or a [rolled hem](#). Use a needle and thread to tack your finished veil to a fillet.

If you plan to wear the veil alone, costumers suggest a wide hem such as 1-2 inches along the front edge to give it more shape. Since we modern women don't have piles of braids to pin veils to, and the weight tends to pull a veil back, Amanda suggests tacking your veil to a [headband](#).



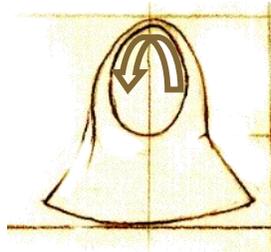


“Cheater” Wimple

A wimple, an extra piece of cloth that wraps around the neck could be as simple as a rectangle of cloth (usually linen or sheer) about 24" x 14" pinned to a fillet, to hair, or to itself on top the head, and wrapped under the chin and around the neck and pinned in back, usually of white linen or silk. A wimple is great for the parade because it hides your modern hair and is warm. The [Medieval Tailor's Assistant](#) offers instructions on real wimples, and [Revival Clothing.com](#) offers wimples and other accurate headwear to buy. The pinned wimple can be tricky for modern women since we often lack: a) pinning skills, b) piles of long hair to pin things to, and c) servants to help us dress. So we came up with this “Cheater Wimple” to get a similar look that you can put on ready to go, seen on our supporting cast nuns (right top), mimicking the medieval look (right middle).

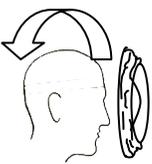


Materials: 1 yard of a white soft fabric with a good drape such as a light knit (top right), perhaps a bit of stretch if you're going for a fitted look.



Step 1: Measure your face circumference depending on how tight or loose you'd like the wimple to fit and your shoulder to shoulder width. (The wimple doesn't actually go shoulder to shoulder, but this width seems to be a handy dimension to get a nice drape.)

Step 2: Cut two pieces of fabric based on the sketch at right. Right sides together, seam both long sides to create a tube. Hem the top and bottom, turn right side out.



Step 3: To put it on, scrunch up the tube to create a donut. Stick your face in the wide end of the donut and pull the wide end back down over your hair to your neck. Let the small end frame your face while the wide end drapes around your neck like a cowl. If you plan to wear the wimple alone or topped with a fillet or other hat, you're done. To wear a veil over the wimple as above, Amanda suggests a sturdy headband such as a metal “sport” headband with teeth. The weight of the veil tends to pull everything back. Put the headband on first, then the wimple, then the veil. Position it how you want and use a few stitches to secure it to the headband.

