

Pinner Cap



In colonial times, women and girls wore caps to protect their hair from getting untidy or dirty. Caps came in lots of different styles that varied that varied according to what was fashionable. It was also traditional for a married woman to wear a cap because it was considered proper. By the end of the 18th century, most of the time a woman or girl wearing a cap was connected to practical and fashionable reasons.

The pinner cap is a smaller type of cap that didn't need to be tied around the neck. It was used if a bigger cap was undesirable for a more social event but wearing a cap was still needed for a fashionable look. The pinner cap could be pinned to the hair with clothing pins. Today we would best use bobby pins or alligator hair pins. Both are preferably sewn underneath the cap. Bobby pins could be used without being attached to the fabric, but sewing the pins to the underside of the cap makes the pinning more secure and convenient.



Pinner Cap Material

To create the fabric pieces that will be sewn together, follow the instructions below to draw the pattern on a piece of paper. Cut the piece of paper and copy it on the fabric. Cut the fabric with fabric scissors. The pattern instructions below will give you the measurements of the lines. To create the pattern, you need a sharp pencil and a good ruler with a right angle.

Seam allowance (SA): $\frac{1}{2}$ " , included in measurements below

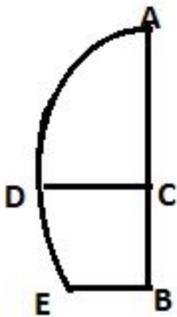
Fabric: Linen, Silk or cotton

Lace: about 30" long

Ribbon for optional bow: piece of ribbon about 15" long

Fabric:

You need to cut 2 pieces on fold at line AB. This means you fold the fabric in half and you don't cut the folding line, but just around it.



Measurements: Change measurements if desired

AB = 5"

DC = $2 \frac{1}{2}$ "

EB = $1 \frac{3}{4}$ "

BC = $2 \frac{1}{2}$ "

Lace:

1 piece of lace, approximately 4 -6 times the length of AE, ruffled to fit double the length of AE. Trim ends of lace to prevent unravelling.

Ribbon: piece of ribbon, about 15" long



Pinner Cap Sewing Instructions:

Step 1:

Place both fabric pieces right sides together on top of each other so that they match. Sew around the curve about $\frac{1}{4}$ "- $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the edge, leaving the straight edge on the bottom open. Sew with a back stitch or a running stitch back and forth.

Step 2:

Turn fabric around so that the seam and raw edges are inside. Press or iron the fabric flat. Sew the opening shut either with a back stitch, running stitch back and forth or a whip stitch.

Step 3:

In order to stitch the lace around the cap, position the lace at the round edges and sew the lace to the edge using a running stitch or a back stitch. If the lace endings are fraying, use the whip stitch to whip around the fraying edges to secure them.

Step 4:

Decorate the cap with a bow. Make a bow out of the ribbon and sew it to the top of the cap near the end of the cap closer to the straight line. Sew bobby pins under the cap.

