
"Hat Making Fun- Damentals"

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Introduction

What can a hat say about a doll? More than any other clothing item, a hat expresses style, attitude, status and a wide range of moods. It can suggest financial means, convey marital status and indicate religion. A hat can create the costume or complete the outfit. It reveals the inner nature of the wearer and thus, a hat makes a defining statement about the doll.



After completing our shoe class in 1998 "Creating Fabulous Footwear for Cloth Dolls ([Class Open as Selfpaced - More Information go to http://craftycollege.com/academics/shoes.html](http://craftycollege.com/academics/shoes.html))

the next stop on our doll making journey was to improve our millinery skills. We researched and studied human hat making techniques and then converted what we learned into doll terms. We were most influenced by the wonderful book *From the Neck Up - An Illustrated Guide to Hatmaking* by Denise Dreher (ISBN-41082-00-8.)

We eventually published a new book "*Creating Heavenly Hats for Discriminating Dolls*" in 1999. We then worked to develop online hatmaking classes for dolls. This first course, "**Hat Making Fun-damentals**", lays the groundwork for the other class. Because this information is so important and is a pre-requisite for all the other hat class, we are offering it as a free class.

Our hatmaking courses are based on information published in our book, but we have added new projects, colored photographs with step-by-step directions and updated information.

When we are developing material we have what we call "work days" where we'll spend the day making a certain thing. It is not unusual, however, for us to start out making bonnets and end up making a Samurai helmet instead! We just never know where the seed of an idea will take us. For this series of hatmaking courses, we have endeavored to lay out and present the material in a logical progression, each lesson building on the one before. Our goal is to help you build a strong foundation on classic millinery techniques. Our ultimate goal is to enable you to look at any hat, recognize and understand how it is made and recreate it for a doll of any size, shape or composition. Every technique will also apply to hat making for animals and non-human figures.

Once you have completed "Hat Making Fundamentals" feel free to take our next class "**From the Inside**

Out - Creating Hats with Structure" . Join us now as we continue our Dollmaker's Journey into the wonderful world of millinery.

Bonnie and Mary Ann

Hat Making Class

"From the Inside Out - Creating Hats with Structure"

Classic millinery techniques of flat pattern design through the construction of buckram and wire forms for the desired hat shapes are used to create a pillbox, gaucho, fez, pilgrim, outback cowboy, musketeer, elaborate ladies hats, top hat, summer satin wedding hat, and much more.

Starts: Selfpaced - Register and Start Today!

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