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How to Make a Fascinator

A fascinator is like a tiny hat with a base and any number of embellishments on top. Make one using scraps from your latest project!



Step 1 of 13

First of all, make the base of your fascinator out of stiff plastic. I used an old plastic lampshade but you could equally use something like a milk jug or CoolWhip container. Cup your hand with your fingers as the point and trace around that to get a nice teardrop shape. At the bulbous end, cut a slit and overlap slightly so the piece cups your head. Staple a few times so it stays.



Step 2 of 13

Get some fleece or thick felt (or even sweatshirt fabric) and trace around your plastic base, leaving about an inch the whole way around.



Step 3 of 13

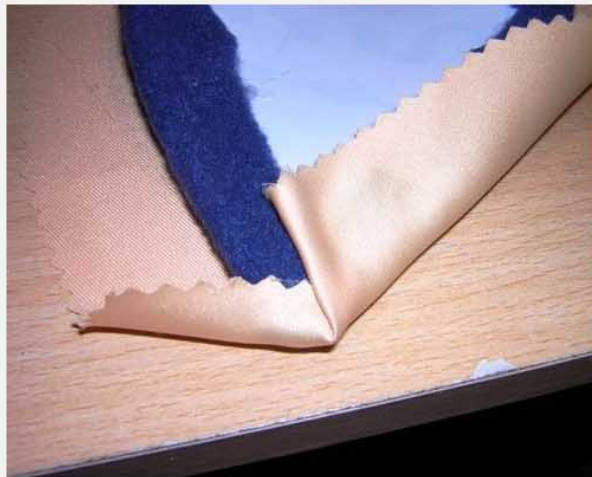
Starting at the point, use a glue gun to affix the felt onto your base on the cupped (concave) side. Around the curved area make sure to slit and trim the felt so it lies flat on the outside.

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Step 4 of 13

Get your fashion fabric and lay it wrong side down with the felt side of the base facing down on top of it. Cut around the base, leaving an inch all around as before.



Step 5 of 13

Starting at the tip, put a tiny dot of glue on the very tip of the base and fold the fashion fabric up making a horizontal fold. Then fold the right side over and glue that onto the base as in the photo.



Step 6 of 13

Fold the left side over at the top and fasten with some glue so you get a nice edge at the tip.

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Step 7 of 13

Working your way up from the tip, glue the fashion fabric to the inside, making sure not to get any wrinkles on the good side. Around the curved edge you might need to clip the seam allowance to get a smooth fit.



Step 8 of 13

Cut a piece of felt (or any other fabric) to be just big enough to cover the raw edges of your fashion fabric and glue it to the base, making sure it's affixed very well in the cupped area.



Step 9 of 13

Get a comb off an unloved hair bauble (or buy one from an accessories store like I did) and glue it onto the felt underside of your fascinator.

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Step 10 of 13

You should now have a nice clean top with no wrinkles!



Step 11 of 13

Get out your embellishments and start playing! Pin stuff down, check it out in the mirror, move it around, cut stuff up, add more - be creative! When you're finally happy with it, glue or sew it all in place.



Step 12 of 13

My finished fascinator looked like this, with yellow and peach netting and a black sequined flower.

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Step 13 of 13

Now go strut your stuff!