

Make a Tricorn Hat: Overview



Hatmaking was an important job in colonial days. Hatmakers used felt and leather to make the 3 parts of three-cornered hat (Top, Band, and Brim). You can make this full-size replica out of butcher paper and tagboard or sentence strip.

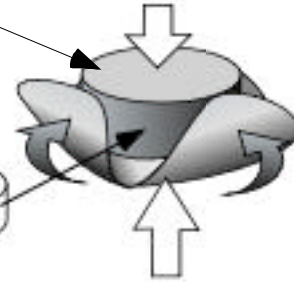
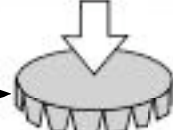
If you are adventurous, you can make your own pattern, but pre-made patterns are included on the next pages. Get familiar with the overall procedure on this page before starting.

TOP:

- **Cut from an oval pattern** →



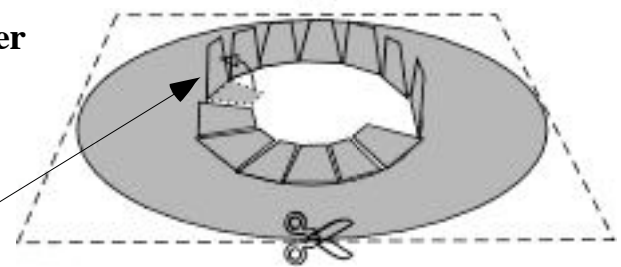
- **Fold tabs down and glue inside the BAND.**



BAND: (*A Sentence Strip works great!*)



- **Make the BAND first because it determines the final hat size. Later the TOP and BRIM can be adjusted.**



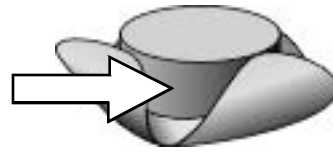
BRIM:

- **The middle tabs fold up and are glued inside the BAND.**
- **The brim is lifted attached at three spots (tricorners!) for the finished look.**

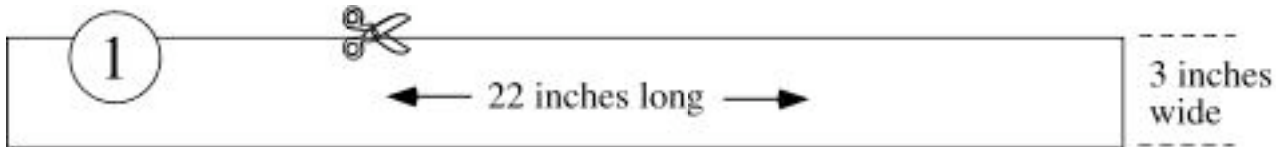
NOTE: You will make the parts in this order: (1) BAND (2) TOP (3) BRIM

GOOD LUCK and HAPPY HAT-MAKING!

(1) Make the HAT BAND



1. Cut a piece of tag 22 inches long and 3 inches wide (*a Sentence Strip is great!*).

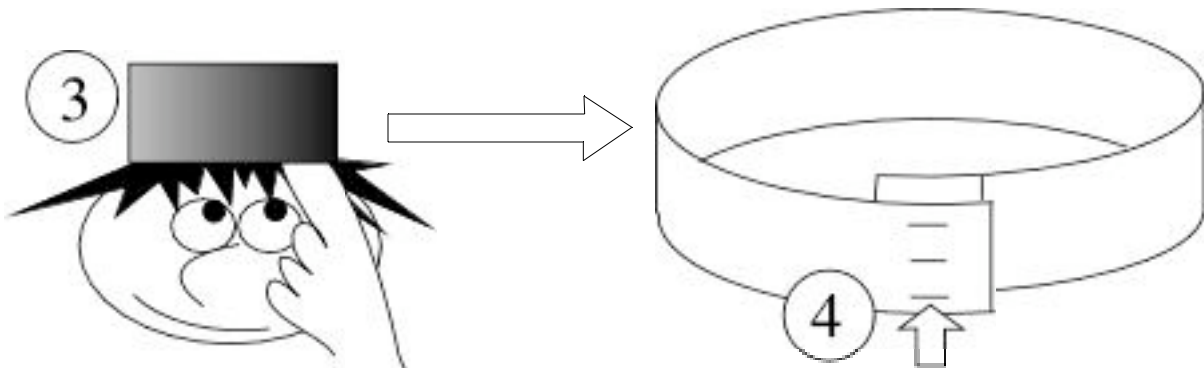


2. Draw a line 1 inch from one end for the overlap (This line is only an approximation; the band length can be adjusted to fit different students).



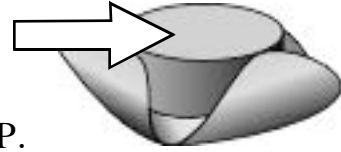
3. Roll the band into a circle so the ends overlap to the 1-inch line.

Set the band on the your head and adjust the size to fit. **IMPORTANT:** when it fits perfectly, *loosen* it a little – you should be able to place a finger between the head and the band.



4. Staple, tape, or glue the overlapped ends.

(2) Make the TOP

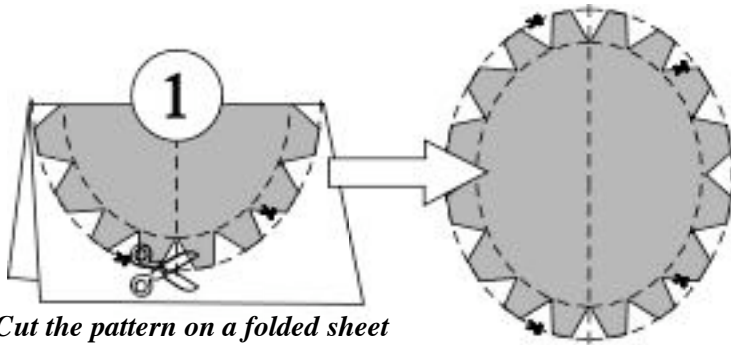


Below is a half-pattern that will work for the TRICORN TOP.

- The pattern is actual size, so you may trace it, then flip it for another half, OR fold this sheet on the heavy dotted line and cut through both sides, then open it to have a whole pattern.

1. Make the pattern below FULL SIZE.

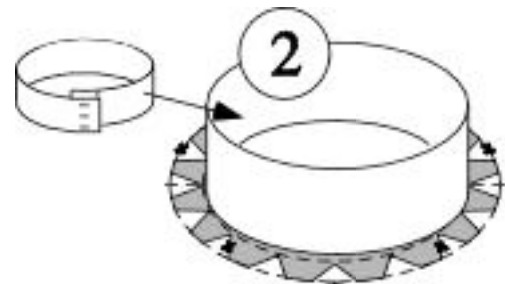
Lay it on a folded sheet of paper and cut through both layers.



Cut the pattern on a folded sheet

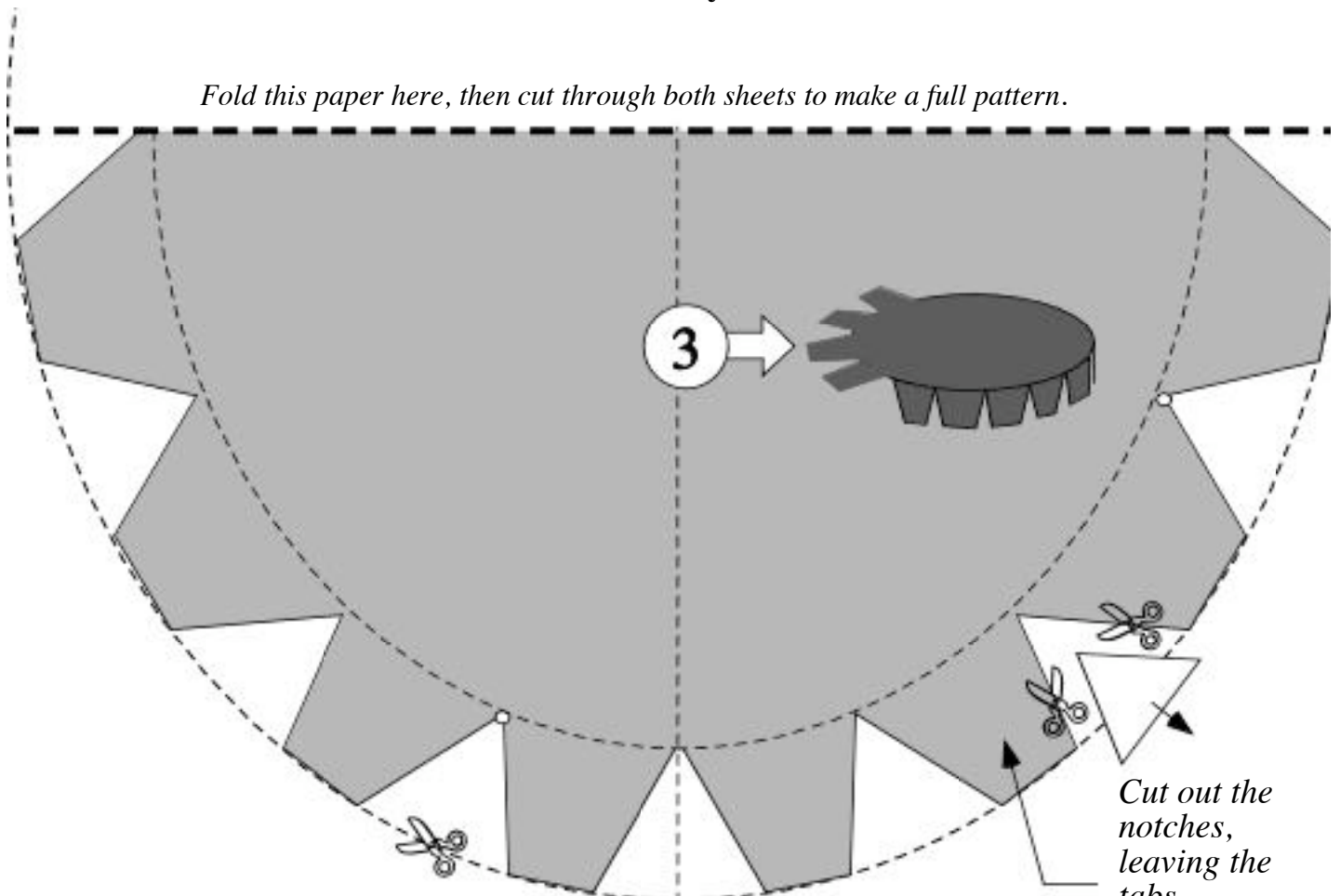
2. Set the BAND on the TOP pattern.

Adjust the pattern size by cutting deeper notches so when they are folded they will fit nicely inside the BAND.

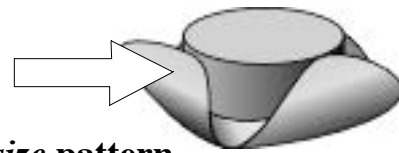


3. Fold the tabs down so they fit *inside* the BAND.

Fold this paper here, then cut through both sheets to make a full pattern.

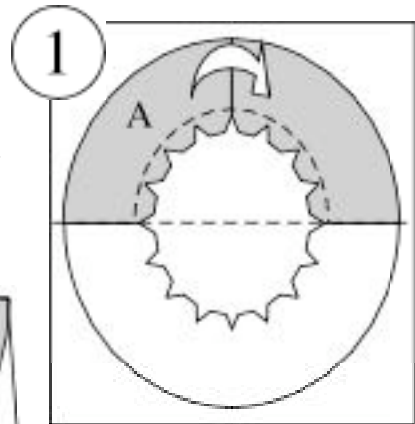


(3) Make the HAT BRIM:



This is a 1/4-size PATTERN. Use it to make a *full-size* pattern.

1. First, find and mark the center of a piece of 12x11-in. paper. Then place the 1/4 PATTERN on the paper with its center point on the mark and trace around it with a pencil. *Flip* the pattern, as shown here, and trace another section. You now have a 1/2 PATTERN!

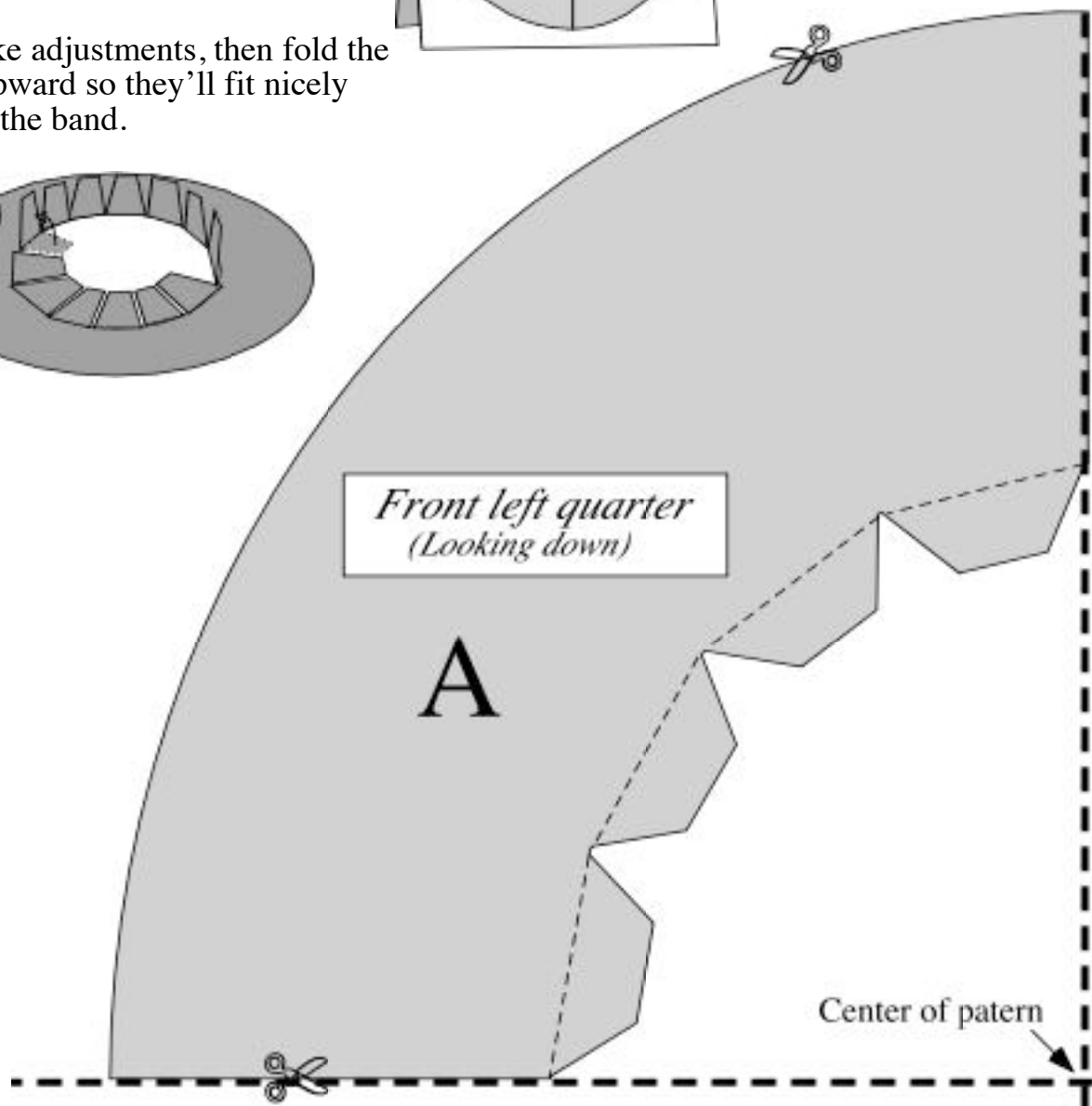
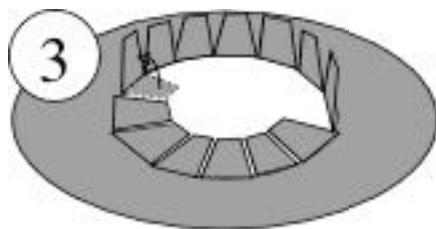


2. Fold the paper in half and cut the 1/2 PATTERN through both sides to make the final shape.



Use the hat band to check the size (see page 3, step 3).

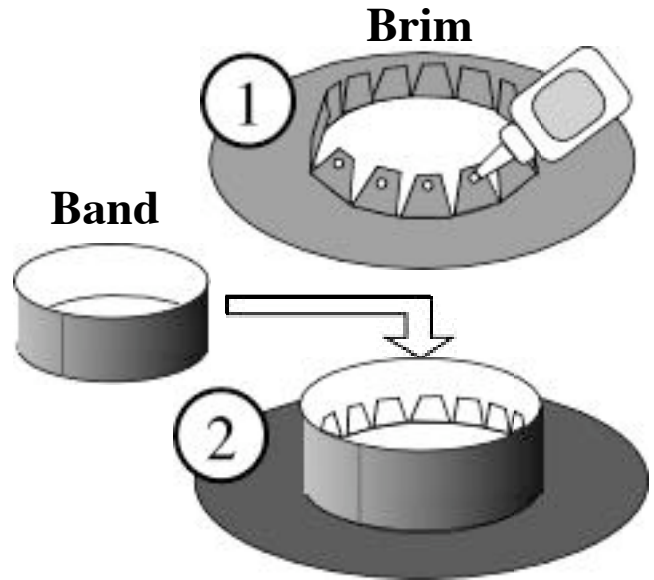
3. Make adjustments, then fold the tabs upward so they'll fit nicely inside the band.



(4) Put it all Together

*** Before you begin gluing, make sure each part fits the others; now is the time for any final adjustments. Glue the BAND to the BRIM:**

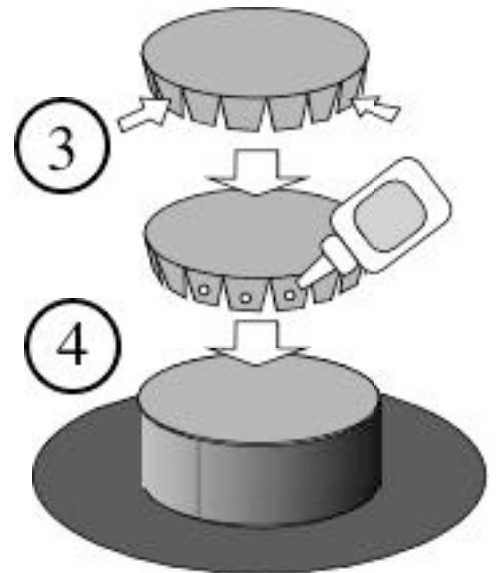
1. Put a small amount of glue on each tab.
2. Set the BAND on top of the BRIM, and press each tab to the BAND so it is securely fastened.



Glue the TOP to the BAND:

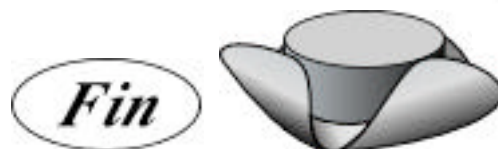
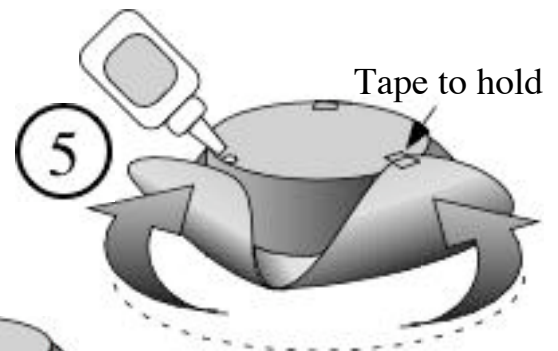
3. Fold the TOP tabs a little more than necessary so they will easily go inside the band.
4. Put a small amount of glue on each tab where it will contact the TOP. Place the TOP inside the BAND, and turn the hat over to press the tabs against the BAND.

WARNING: don't put your hat on! Wait until the glue dries!



Make the TRI-CORNERS:

5. Remember, the hat is not round, it is oval (like the shape of your head). After the glue has dried, place the hat on your head and turn it to fit. Have a friend curl up three edges of your hat to form the tricorn, and tape or glue them in place.



Congratulations, Patriot!