

Turning a Cowboy Hat into a Steampunk Top Hat

One accessory that every cowboy or cowgirl has is a cowboy hat. This activity will take your old cowboy hat and turn it into a futuristic steampunk top hat. Follow along to learn how to make this activity.

Materials needed:

- A suede or felt cowboy hat
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Hot water/ sink
- Seam ripper
- Sandpaper
- Decorations
- Rocks or heavy books

Step 1:

Make sure your felt or suede cowboy hat is clean of hair and lint. Remove any exterior decoration from the hat. You can use a lint roller or tape for this process.



Step 2:

Remove any inside lining with a seam ripper. The lining is usually sealed with glue so be extra careful that you don't rip the hat.

Step 3:

Using hot water, place the hat in the sink and pour the water over the hat. Once the hat has been saturated with hot water, begin forming the shape. To form the shape of the top hat, follow these instructions:

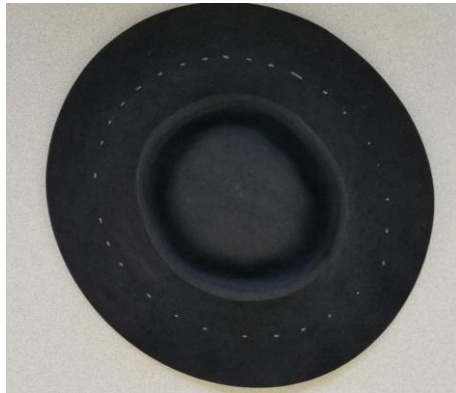


- Push the center of the hat down and start forming the outside brim of the cap. You can use a sauce pan lid to make sure everything is even.
- Once you are happy with the shape turn the hat upside down and push the center of the hat out to create a dome.
- Let the hat completely dry before moving onto the next step. This usually takes 12-24 hours. Also, while the hat is drying make sure to use rocks or heavy books to weigh down the bill so it does not curl.



Step 4:

Using the ruler and pencil measure 1 ½" (from the dome) around the brim, mark the circle with the pencil. Grab your scissors and trim around your newly drawn line. For a more finished look use sand paper to file down the edges of your new brim.



Step 5:

Decorate your hat with steampunk finishes such as gears, goggles, feathers or fabric.

