

Hold onto your Hats!
Developing time
efficient, adaptable
internal mounts for
the storage of
headwear in museum
collections.

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Presentation Outline

- Introduction –
Why hats?
- Project aims and
objectives
- Method
- The final mount
- Conclusion



Introduction

- Why hats?

- Complex 3D textile objects with internal cavities – and because of this are inherently vulnerable to distortion.
- Often do not have a flat face to sit on, due to shape, brim etc.
- Commonly found in large numbers in museum costume collections.
- Large variation in size, shape and style, so not suited to a one-size-fits-all approach.



Project aims and objectives

Research aim: To develop a storage solution for items of headwear that:

- Prevents/minimises damage.
- Improves on existing practices, in terms of support given.
- Is time and cost efficient.
- Is easily reproducible.



Method

- Literature review and research into existing mount solutions for hats.
- Collection survey at National Museums Scotland (NMS), to determine:
 - current storage mount situation
 - suitability of current storage mounts
 - size and style variation of the hats in the collection
- Grouping the hats at NMS according to shape profile.



Tissue paper puff used as hat support.

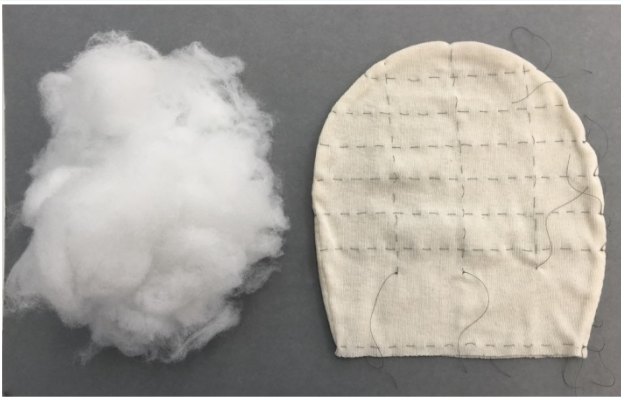


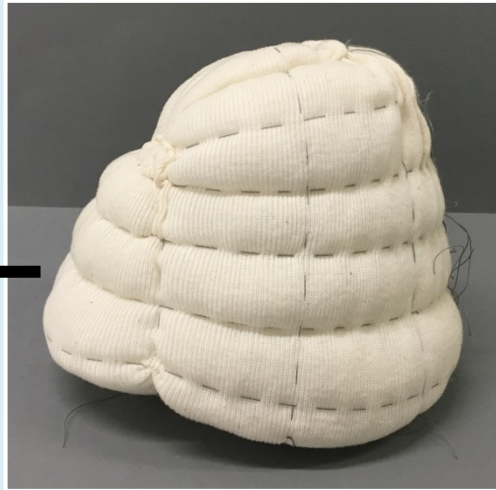
Carved ethafoam custom mount supporting a Jean Muir headpiece.



Shape profiles.

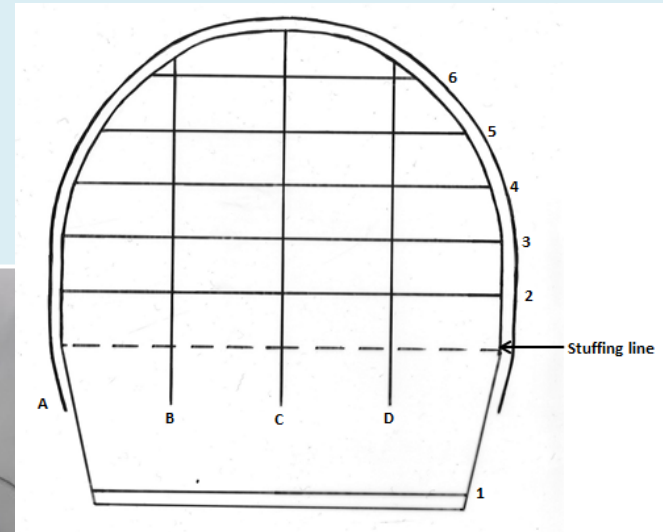
The Final Mount





- Supports the top of the crown.
- Raises the hat off its brim.
- Simple making process, with template.
- Easily adjustable by pulling the gathering threads.
- Can be adjusted to create a wide variety of shapes.

Conclusion



- Standardised making process is time efficient and allows the potential for bulk production.
- Adapts to a wide variety of shapes and sizes.
- Provides better fit and support than the tissue puff equivalent.

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Thank you for listening!
Any questions?



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