

MIT OpenCourseWare  
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

21M.606 Introduction to Stagecraft  
Spring 2009

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.

21M.606

## Midterm Project Report

For my final Stagecraft project, I want to make a matching hat and vest combo. The vest will be a standard single-breasted men's waist coat that ends 1-2 inches above the hips, landing right where one wears the top of one's pants. It will have lining and back of a different fabric. The hat will be fedora-like, with a band around the bottom above the brim. It is based off of a hat I already own. Both will be made out of black and purple houndstooth. The lining and back of the vest and the inner lining of the hat will be either black or purple satin.

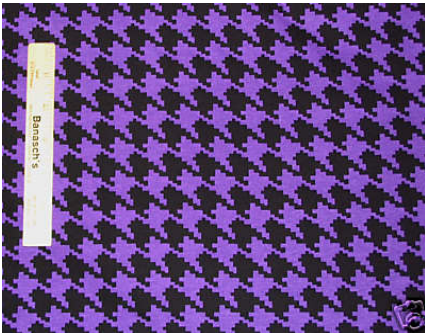
There is one main problem with both the hat and the vest. For the hat, I'm not attempting to buy or find a pattern because I am attempting to copy something I already own. As such, my first project problem will be adapting a pattern for a hat from what I already own without taking it apart. I'm hoping to do this with the help of Leslie and Diane by measuring from a part of the hat from seam to seam, then sketching out that part individually on paper. I will then repeat for each part, taking into account the arch, which means I may have to add some extra fabric on the sides of each part. The next issue with the hat is the brim. I want the brim to have some shape and be less flexible than the rest of the hat so it can stand on its own. This means I need to find something washable that can go into the brim so it keeps a stiffer form. Hopefully, doubling over the fabric to make the brim will make it a bit stiffer, and all I will have to do is put a bit of card stock between the fabric to give it that last bit of firmness.

As for the vest, my main issue will be the techniques involved. I can buy a pattern for the vest, and I have found instructions without a pattern online, but understanding the

process will be the most difficult. When I read the instructions I have, I don't know where to cut or how things go together. The only real way to solve this is to familiarize myself with the techniques and terminology used in the pattern books and instruction manuals. If I don't fully understand what I am doing, which I may not, my main problem will probably end up being making a catastrophic mistake and having to start over. I can't afford to make doubles of everything, nor can I be supervised at all times, so my best chance of making sure I don't make a mistake is to do everything with paper first. If the cuts work out on paper, and the pieces go together correctly, then I know it'll work with fabric. As well, I'll probably end up practicing particular techniques on scrap fabric that I have.

### Fabric Samples

Outer Houndstooth



Inner Lining (& back of vest)



or



## Vest Research Images

[http://www.clotilde.com/images/products/super\\_closeups/10155\\_1.jpg](http://www.clotilde.com/images/products/super_closeups/10155_1.jpg)

## Timeline

By 3/22 I will have bought or found a pattern for the vest and adapted a pattern for the hat.

By 3/31 I will have bought all of my fabrics and thread

By 4/7 I will have attempted all of the vest cuts on paper

By 4/14 I will have cut all of the pieces for the vest, both back and front

By 4/18 I will have cut all the pieces for the hat, inner lining and outer fabric

By 4/28 The outer part of the vest will be complete (everything sans lining and back belt)

By 5/1 The entire vest will be done and I will have begun assembling the hat.

By 5/11 Both the hat and the vest will be fully assembled and ready to be worn