

Fur Sewing Workshop – Beaver Toque

by Sheila Schmutz

at the 2020 Saskatchewan Trapper's Convention in Humboldt

This workshop will last approximately 1 hour. The preliminary instruction to cut out the two pieces needed for this hat from a tanned pelt and hand-stitch the pieces together will be given. Adding lining will be demonstrated, but most people will not reach that step in the hour class time. Sheila will be around all day to assist anyone with questions as they work on their hat.

Please see <http://munster.sasktelwebsite.net/BeaverToque.html> for photos of this hat in progress.

Materials to bring if you can (some will be available):

-If the hat is for someone else, bring their head measurement, sitting lower than a fedora

- glover's needles (2?)
- thimble
- scissors to cut thread
- thread, such as cotton quilting thread in brown (or thread of your choice)
- tanned beaver pelt or other tanned pelt of your choice

(note the prepared beaver pelt should measure 18 inches wide at the center for this hat which is the second oval for Small = 27.5 X 19.5", but tanned size)

If you only have a large skunk pelt, then you will have to use black leather or wool for the top of the hat instead.)

Pelt preparation before class.

If possible, try to dampen (using water), stretch, and block your pelt with tacks on a board for 24 hours at home. See the webpage for a photo of this. This step will make your pelt softer, smoother, and easier to work with. It is not absolutely necessary, so if you plan to purchase a pelt on Friday, that can work too. We hope that some pelts may be available for sale.

Materials Supplied for People who Pre-register:

- Lining and/or interlining
- Furrier knife, scalpel, box cutter
- Self-healing cutting matt typically used by quilter's
- Paper patterns in Medium (23") and Large (24")

Please Pre-register by emailing Sheila Schmutz in Saskatoon at sheila.schmutz@usask.ca by Wednesday, March 11 and let her know what fur you plan to use for your hat and whether you plan for medium or large size (or small, etc.) I am reluctantly on Facebook but not good at sending or receiving messages that way yet, so email is preferred. Phone is 306-382-8964.