

Art Project: Make a *Kokoshnik*



A Boyar Wedding Feast, Konstantin Makovsky, St. Petersburg, 1883, oil on canvas (51.79)



Kokoshnik, Kostroma, Russia, late 1700s-early 1800s, silk, linen, cotton, gold plate thread, gold-wrapped silk thread, silver-wrapped silk thread, seed pearls, turquoise-colored stones, colored pastes (47.52)

In this painting a bride and groom stand at the head of the table at their wedding feast. They are boyars, who were a group of powerful, rich Russians from long ago.

The women in the painting wear *kokoshniks* (pronounced kuh-koe-shniks) on their heads. The *kokoshniks* are beautifully decorated and come in many shapes and styles from different parts of Russia.

The image next to the painting shows a tall, pointed *kokoshnik*. It is decorated with gold- and silver-wrapped silk threads and seed pearls.

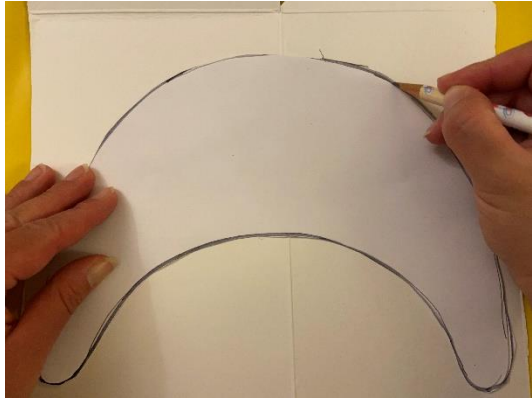
Take inspiration from these *kokoshniks* to design and decorate one of your own!



Materials:

- Visor (or use the *kokoshnik* template at the end of this document and follow the instructions below to create your own)
- Decorative paper
- Decorations, such as ribbon, doilies, beaded fringe, and rhinestones
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Glue

Steps:



1. If you do not have a visor, create your own by using the *kokoshnik* template at the end of this document.

Print the template, cut it out, and trace it on a thin piece of cardboard, such as a cereal box.

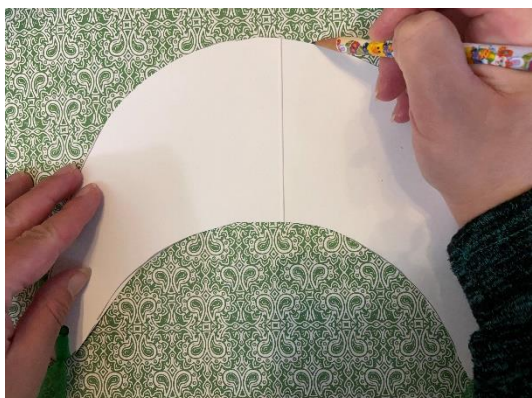


2. Cut the cardboard along the traced lines.



3. Punch holes, or use scissors to poke holes, at the ends of your visor.

Tie ribbon or string through the holes.



4. Choose paper to decorate your *kokoshnik*. Trace the visor on the paper, and cut the paper along the traced lines.



5. Glue the paper to the visor.



6. Rather than paper, you can also use ribbon to cover your *kokoshnik*.

Glue ribbon to the back of the visor to secure it (hot glue or glue dots work well for this), then wrap the ribbon around the visor until the surface is covered with the ribbon.



7. Add decorations, such as ribbon, doilies, and rhinestones.



8. Enjoy wearing your *kokoshnik*!

Please share your finished product on social media!



***Kokoshnik* Template**

