CHAPTER VI

Crow-Foot

The crow-foot is ornamental as well as useful in plain tailored gowns. It is used to make a corner of a pocket strong and at the end of an inverted plait where it terminates at the waistline in a coat or part way down the skirt; it is also used as an ornamental finish in various ways according to the prevailing styles.

Make a triangle the desired size on the garment with tailors’ chalk, drawing the line from point to point with a slight curve toward the center. Use rope silk or twist.

Bring needle up through material at outer point then take stitch at next point, taking only two or three threads of material at first stitch. Take stitch toward you, turn work in left hand outward from left to right which will
seem at first backwards, but which causes the ends to cross and forms the crow-foot.

Continue these same stitches taking them very close together and each one a thread or two longer until the center is reached, and
you will find you have formed a pretty crow-foot with a surprisingly pretty center.

*Arrow-Head*

The arrow-head is used for the same purpose as the crow-foot. It is just a matter of choice as to which one is preferred. The diagram is made the same.

Bring needle up through at base of arrow-head to the left of where it is to cover the end of pocket or plait or seam, take stitch as for crow-foot at outer point of arrow-head, put needle down through at right point and under material, bringing it out again at left point just inside the first stitch. Again take stitch at outer point outside and just under the top stitch and two or three threads wider across as for crow-foot. Again put needle down through material just inside last stitch as before. The stitch at outer point is taken from right to left, then down through at right point which crosses the thread.
Plackets

The finish of a placket depends on the fabric from which it is made also the style of the garment.

A well-made placket is of the utmost im-
importance. The continuous placket is used for material such as thin silks, net, lace, chiffon, etc.

Make placket thirteen inches long, cut facing one and one-half inches wide and twenty-six inches long on lengthwise of material.

Pin and baste the entire length of both sides of placket, seam on wrong side. Stitch narrow seam all around placket. Pull bastings, clip seam clear to stitching at lower end of placket where facing turns. The outer edge should be turned in a seam width and folded over to just cover the machine stitching of seam just made and fell down, being careful to have stitches invisible on right side.

Placket facing should extend about one-half of an inch. Turn through to wrong side turning right side back at top, allowing left side to extend out for fly or underlap. Close with snap fasteners about one inch apart, marking where fasteners are to be placed on both sides of facing before beginning to saw them on.
The Dress You Wear

This should be very carefully done as any variation in these marks may spoil the looks of the closing. Always press placket before sewing on fasteners.

In heavy material make the tailored placket. Cut one strip of material one and one-half inches wide and thirteen and one-half inches long, sew to left side of placket, seam to wrong side, face with silk, sewing facing to outer edge of under facing or fly, turn back and fell down over seam using tailor's fell-stitch as given in previous lesson. Cut strip of silk one and one-half inches wide and face back right side, press, pin placket up carefully so it lies smoothly, turn wrong side out and sew the right side facing to fly at bottom of placket, but not to the skirt.

Mark for hooks and eyes or snaps with tailors' chalk on one side of placket one inch apart. Make marks heavy, close placket, lay flat on work table, slap with hand several times. This will cause the chalk marks to mark the other side, leaving marks for hooks
and eyes or snaps directly opposite each other.

In thirteen inch placket you can place the first snap or hook and eye close to the bottom, close tight with pinchers or place blotter on top after fastening this one or hooking it, hit with hammer lightly, letting it lie on flat iron. This will close it so it will not unfasten and your placket will still be long enough and never tear out at the bottom.

Where hooks and eyes are used they should be covered where they are sewed on with narrow silk or bias cut from silk. If material is heavy silk or light-weight wool facing may all be made of the goods, cutting fly double width, three inches, and right side facing one and one-half inches.

Cutting Bias

The cutting of bias is so important we cannot be too careful, whether for ruffles, milliner’s folds, or the uses previously mentioned.
The Dress You Wear

If bias is unevenly cut our work must be imperfect when finished. This is why "The finish begins with the beginning."

The selection of suitable design and material with nap running correctly, together with correct cutting in every particular and nicely worked stitches all unite in making the successful, smart garment.

In cutting the bias unfold material, place smoothly on cutting table, use a yard stick or
better still a tailors' skirt rule which is forty-eight inches long and is made of good, hard wood with straight edge. The yard sticks given away for advertising are seldom straight enough to cut by.

With skirt rule mark five inches from right-hand corner on selvage edge, also five inches from same corner on cut edge with tailors' chalk or pencil. Draw line across material connecting these marks. Mark again from this line the width of bias desired and continue until sufficient bias is cut.

*Shirring Bias Bands*

This is very pretty trimming that Dame Fashion frequently favors and we are never sorry to see it return.

Cut bias two and one-half inches wide or more. Turn under one-half inch on each side and shirr over cord. Gather about as full as a ruffle, which is one and one-half the space to be covered. Gathered bands are
sometimes put on in different designs similar to the illustration shown here.

SHIRRING BIAS BANDS

*Bands and Straps*

Trimming bands and straps of many kinds, both crosswise and bias of various widths are used by our fashion designers at different times for ornamental purposes.

Bands are usually used on tailored skirts and coats as they retain the plain simplicity suited to the garment. They are made
usually from one inch to five inches in width. The wider are used only on skirts and should be cut the shape of the skirt.

Pin gores of skirt pattern together, lay flat on cutting table, measure up even distance from the bottom of the skirt and mark every four or five inches all around where the band is to be applied. Connect these marks, then mark again above this line the width of band, connecting marks. Slip under skirt pattern a plain piece of paper, trace lines through on to paper, remove pattern, cut on traced lines and you have a correct pattern for a perfect fitting band.
Lay center front of pattern on fold of material when cutting.

Straps of wool material up to three inches wide finished may be cut on true bias. After edges are turned in if the skirt is circular, place band on padded pressboard, dampen lightly with wet sponge on wrong side, then with hot iron stretch one edge a little by laying bias band in circular position on board and press dry. It will retain the shape.

Bias facing when used for bottom of skirt or at back of neck in waists may be shaped the same way.

In medium weight goods, bands are usually lined with cambric or crinoline to give firmness.

Material such as taffeta, satin, etc., may be cut double the width, folding both edges at the top or if one wishes to economize they may be lined as well.

When bands are stitched on both edges, stitch the same direction on both sides of fold, for no matter how firm they are basted if
stitched to the right on upper edge, then in opposite direction on lower edge, the machine crowds the band enough to make numerous little wrinkles that may press out but they come back.

![Diagram](here)

THE MATERIAL IN THE ORIGINAL MODEL FOR THIS FOLD WAS BIAS, SAME AS IN FOLD I

The beauty in all strap and fold trimming depends on even width of fold or strap, straight edges, and straight stitching.

**Milliners' Folds**

Milliners' folds are very ornamental when nicely made.
The width is determined by the use made of the fold. A pretty medium width is made by turning the top edge one-half to three-fourths of an inch, then turn lower edge to one-eighth of an inch of the top.

This must be straight and even, and perfectly smooth when finished.

Other wide folds for skirts, etc., can be made the same way by cutting bias the desired width and the lower edge may be turned even with the top.

For wide folds, three or four inches, when made of silk for skirt trimming, fold through center, turn both raw edges together and stitch one-eighth inch from top edge.
Questions

1. For what may the crow-foot be used?
2. What is its shape?
3. Describe how to make an arrow-head.
4. Upon what does the finish of a placket depend?
5. How long should a placket be?
6. Suggest some fitting places to use bias.
7. Explain how to cut bias strips.
8. Describe shirring bias bands.
9. For what are bands and straps used?
10. Explain how to press a bias band to fit skirt or neck.
11. Describe how to make milliners’ folds.