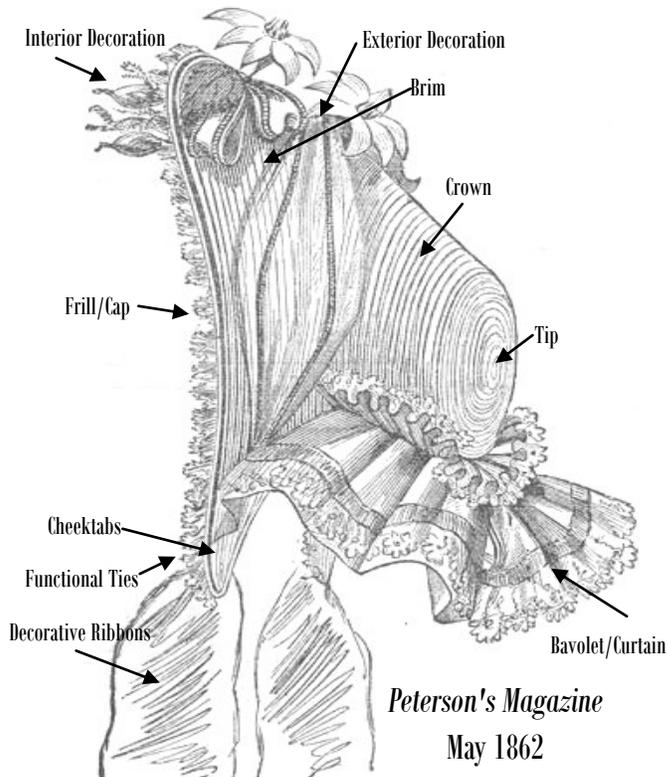


# Millinery Guidelines

## Fashionable Bonnets



Peterson's Magazine  
May 1862

**Cheek-tabs** have a gentle curve coming from the neck edge of the crown along the side of the bonnet dropping down to roughly your jaw line. This is a graceful line, not a straight edge or angular transition. The cheek-tab is quite narrow and long, helping hold the bonnet on.

**Bavolet or Curtain** is attached to the neck edge of a bonnet along the sides and crown. This silk piece should be lined with net to give it more body. The bavolet may also be decorated.

**Functional Ties** - The functional ties are attached to the interior of the cheek-tabs or under the decorative ties. These are narrower ribbon to hold the bonnet in place.

**Decorative Ties** - Decorative ribbons are wide, 3"-5". They are on the grain, not bias. These are tied in the center under the chin.

**Frill/Cap/Ruche** - This is very fine silk or cotton net, lace or organza, that is pleated or gathered into the inside of the brim. The full frill aides in holding the bonnet in place.

## Fashionable Hats

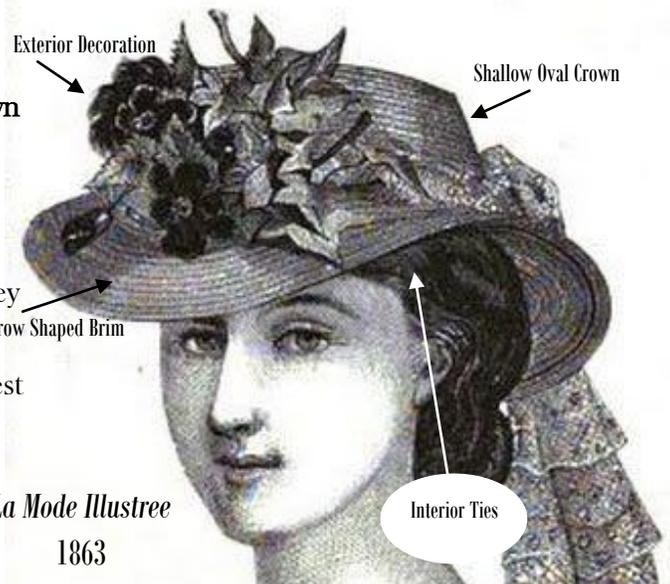
The *most common* fashionable hat style had a **Shallow Oval Crown** rising 1.5" to 2.5" with a taper, straight or curve to the crown.

The **Narrow Shaped Brim** was 2 - 4 inches wide with a graceful curve most often dipping in the front and back.

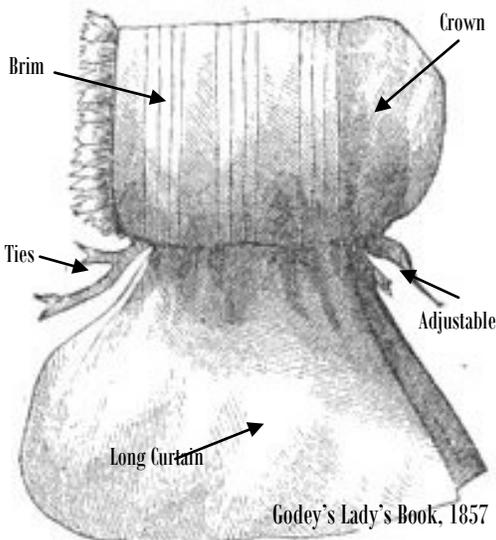
**Exterior Decorations** ranged from simple to more elaborate. They were most often center front, center back, or along one side.

**Interior Ties or Elastic Cord** can help hold the hat on. This can rest under the chin, or behind under the hair. Some *high fashion* hats have wider ribbon ties.

Notice the hat is worn with the brim **parallel to the ground**.



La Mode Illustree  
1863



Godey's Lady's Book, 1857

## Sunbonnets

Sunbonnets included corded, slat, and quilted bonnets. These were most frequently made from light weight cotton, light weight wool, and occasionally silk.

Most had a **Long Curtain** to protect the wear's neck and shoulders while they work.

The **Brim** often reached forward of the face to protect the face.

Most had a set of draw-string type ties along the neck edge to adjust for a comfortable fit.