How to Fold the CCH Nurses' Cap

Mary Anne Newman, RN and Sue Hall, RN

The Chester County Hospital School of Nursing Cap resides in the Museum of Nursing History at Lasalle University



This is what it should look like when you are finished.



You will need: a laundered and starched nursing cap, six short (1-1/4 inch) and two long (2-1/2 inch) hat pins with pearl type heads.

Lay the cap in front of you with the back part nearest to you, and the long folded strip side facing up.

Start with a nice cup of tea and follow these steps



Take the brim, excluding the thick seamed area, and crease it up.

Pick up the back part of the cap. On one side, make a pleat by folding the fabric under and toward the middle of the cap. Start about ¼ inch away from the long folded stripe, and keep about 2 inches of fabric underneath the long folded stripe. Hold this in one hand.



You should be holding three layers of fabric. Make sure back edges of the pleat are aligned as much as possible. This gives you the start of the height in the top of the cap, and the curve in the brim.

Put a small hat pin through the 3 layers of fabric starting at the back edge. Then, keeping the pin parallel to the long fabric stripe, guide the pin "point" up and back into the pleat. The pin point will rest in between layers of fabric. The first pleat is done.

Add a little hot water to your tea



Underside with two folds



Top side with two folds

Good job! Have another cup of tea.



Make your next pleat on the opposite side of the cap. Repeat, going back and forth until you have three pleats on both sides.



Take the long hat pins and insert them on either side of the cap, parallel and between the brim and the pleats. These pin points will rest on top of the fabric. We hope this brings back fond memories of your nursing cap days

Best Wishes from the CCH School of Nursing Alumni Association