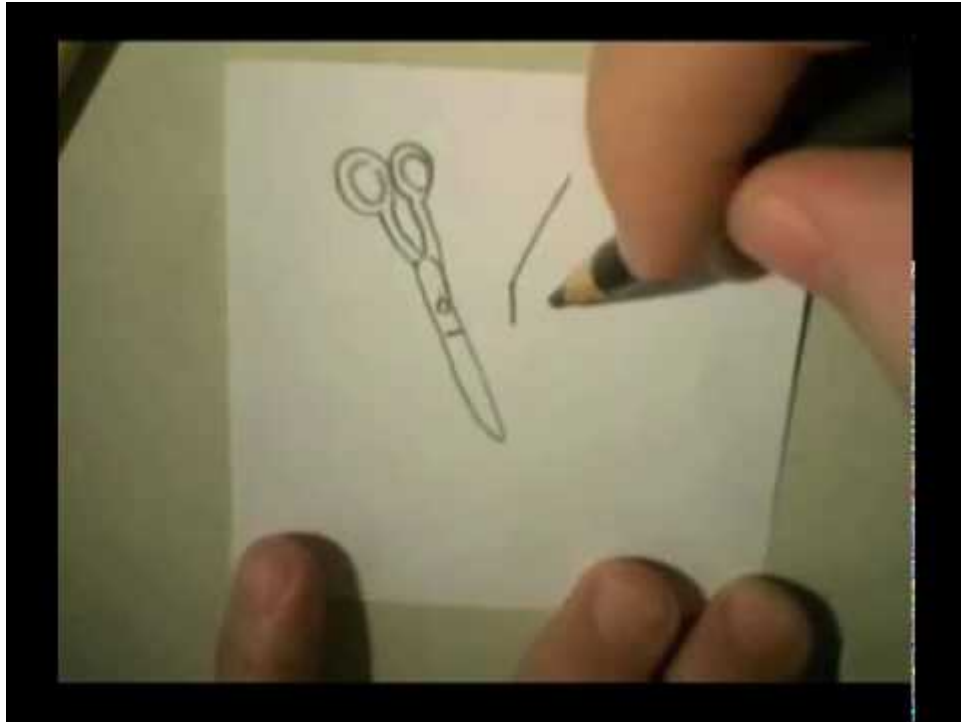


Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers



What type of material do you
think they use to make wigs?

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Who can tell me about the spinners and weavers? Spinners made thread out of cotton, flax, or wool. Weavers took this thread or yarn and wove cloth out of it. There was still an important step left to make specific pieces of clothing, such as dresses or shirts. This last step involved cutting out pieces of cloth and then sewing them together. Today you will learn about tradespeople who sewed clothes out of cloth.

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

What is it like to go shopping for clothes today? Today's stores have a lot of clothes in a variety of sizes and styles ready to buy when customers come to the store. Most stores have clothes for boys and girls, in addition to shoes, hats, and any other garments you might need. Customers in a clothing store can choose what they want. If they prefer, they can go into a fitting room and try it on before they pay for it so they can decide if they like it.

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

How do you get your clothes? Do you go to a store and try it on, or does someone shop for you clothes for you? Maybe you get your clothes from an older brother or sister or a cousin or neighbor. Most of today's garments are made in factories where people use machines to make many garments very quickly.

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Long ago, making even just one dress or shirt took a lot of time and effort, even for an expert tradesperson.

Tradespeople didn't have the time or money to make a lot of clothes in advance and hang them up in their shops, hoping customers would come in and buy them. Instead, they had to make sure that they had a customer first, and then they would make what the customer wanted. This is called made to order or a custom order, because it is made in a specific way for a specific customer.

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

It usually took many days, even weeks, between the time the customer first came into the shop and ordered a garment and when he or she actually took home the completed clothing.

Imagine what it would be like to buy clothes without even seeing a sample first. In the old days, people had to trust the tradesperson who was sewing the garment, because they couldn't try it on or bring it back to the store if they didn't like it. Most children's clothes were made at home.

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Making a pair of pants was very different from making a dress, or shoes, or hats, so you had to go to a different tradesperson who was a specialist in the type of clothing you needed.

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Listen carefully to today's read aloud to find out about four different tradespeople during colonial times who made different types of clothing.

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

In Colonial America, most people made their own clothing. This was especially true for farmers., who had everything they needed to make clothes on their farms. Because making clothes was hard work, most people had only two outfits: one set of work clothes and one set of fancier clothes to wear on Sunday--that was it!



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

People did not get new clothes until their old clothes were worn out.

Some farmers and their families had the money to buy clothing, instead of making it themselves, so they would take a trip to town when they needed new clothing.



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

There, they would find several different people who specialized in making different things: the dressmaker, the tailor, the hatter, and the cobbler.

Think how much time farmers' wives could save if they bought dresses instead of making them!



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

In the old days, there were no racks full of dresses for women to try on. It took a lot of time for a dressmaker to make a dress, so she wanted to make sure someone would buy every dress made. And it cost a lot of money to buy a dress, so a farmer's wife wanted to choose the exact color and style she wanted. The dressmaker might display one or two dresses in the shop window, but most dresses had to be made-to-order.



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

What does made-to-order mean?

If a woman was very wealthy, she might even order a dress from England.



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

When a woman came in looking for a new dress, the dressmaker might show her some patterns, designed according to the latest fashions. Patterns were made of paper and showed what pieces would need to be sewed together to make a dress. The woman could choose the pattern and fabric she liked best. Fabric is cloth that comes in a variety of colors and materials.



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

The dressmaker would then use a measuring tape to measure the woman's arms and legs, as well as her chest, neck, and waist. The measuring tape would help the dressmaker figure out a woman's size.



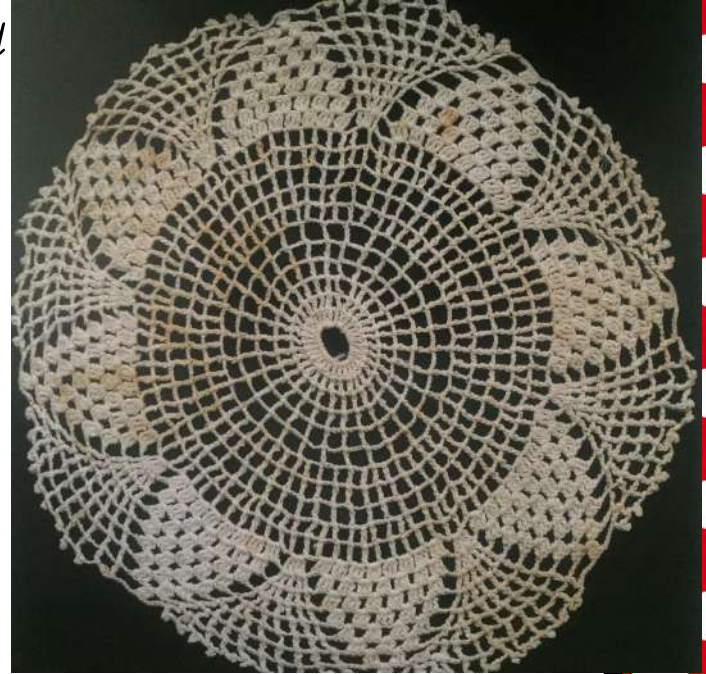
Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

The measurements told the dressmaker how much cloth would be needed for the dress. The dressmaker would then cut the cloth into pieces according to the shape of the patterns. After all the pieces were cut, the dressmaker would hand stitch or sew the pieces together using a fine needle and thread. Remember back then there were no electric sewing machines like we have today, so this was slow, careful work.



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Finally, the dressmaker might add fancy finishing touches, like hand-knitted lace or embroidery around the collar or hem of the dress. It would sometimes take several weeks to make a new dress!



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Tailors did the same kind of work as dressmakers, but they made clothing for both men and women. People who wanted new clothes could visit a tailor and have their measurements taken. The tailor would then make a shirt or a pair of breeches, to order. Breeches were the knee-length pants that men wore in colonial times along with long, woolen stockings.



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Almost everyone in early America wore a hat. In fact, it was considered strange or rude to walk around bareheaded. Men wore hats with brims, and women wore soft bonnets. People wore hats to keep their heads warm and dry, to keep the sun out of their eyes, and to protect the expensive wigs they frequently wore.



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

People who made men's hats were called hatmakers or hatters. Men's hats were made out of beaver skin, wool, or camel fur, and were fastened, held together or attached with glue that the hatter mixed himself. As with clothing, people could not simply walk into a hat shop and walk out with a hat on the same day.



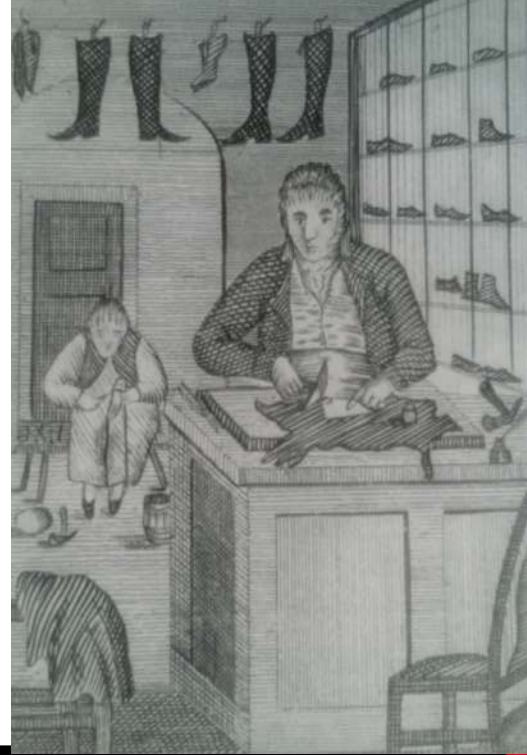
Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Instead, a customer chose a particular style of hat, had his or her head measured by the hatter, and came back days or weeks later, when the hat was done.



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Of all their clothing, shoes were the hardest for farmers to make themselves. So when a farmer needed a new pair of shoes, he would visit the cobbler or shoemaker. The cobbler would make shoes to order, just as was done with the dressmaker, tailor and hatter.



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Most people had only one or two pairs of shoes. Plenty of people had no shoes at all! Poor farmers and their families didn't wear shoes for most of the year. If a farmer did have shoes, he might wear the same pair of shoes every day for months. As a result, shoes wore out quickly.



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Most farmers could not afford to buy a new pair of shoes very often. So, instead of buying new shoes, they would take their old shoes to the cobbler to have them patched, or repaired. Cobblers spent as much time fixing old shoes as they did making new ones.



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

The shoemaker used many specialized tools for his trade. In early America, most shoes were made out of leather, which comes from the dried hide or skin of a cow. There were two parts to a shoe: the sole and the upper, both made from leather.



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

The sole was the bottom of the shoe, and the upper was the top part of the shoe. Just like a dressmaker or tailor, the shoemaker would take measurements, cut the leather, and then use a needle and thread to sew the pieces together.



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Making clothes, hats, and shoes was hard work. Farmers who could afford it were very happy to pay others--dressmakers, tailors, hatters, and cobblers--to do that work for them! Today it's much easier to purchase clothes.



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

We can choose from a variety of styles that are already sewn, rather than getting measured and waiting for weeks to get our new clothes. And we don't even have to go to four different tradespeople to get the clothes, hats, and shoes we wear. We can just go to one department store.



Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

Which tradespeople made clothes for women?
For men?

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

Which tradespeople made hats?

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Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

Which tradespeople made or fixed shoes?

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Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

What was a dress pattern used for?

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

Describe what a dressmaker did when a customer came to her shop and ordered a dress.

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

Why was a measuring tape an important tool in making clothing?

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

What materials did a hatter use to make hats?

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

Why did cobblers often fix old shoes instead of making new shoes?

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

What material were shoes made out of?

Think Pair. Share.



I'm going to ask you a question. I will give you a minute to think about the question, and then I will ask you to turn to your neighbor and discuss the question. Finally I will call on several of you to share what you discussed with your partner.

Think Pair. Share

Evaluative:



We learned that paying someone else to make new clothes was expensive. We also learned that because new shoes were expensive, people brought their old shoes to the cobbler to get them patched, or repaired. But people didn't usually bring their old clothes to the dressmaker or tailor to have them patched. Why not?

Word Work

Explicit Vocabulary Instruction

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

In the read aloud you heard, “The dressmaker would use a measuring tape to **measure** a woman’s arms and legs, as well as her chest, neck, and waist before cutting the fabric to make her dress.”

Say the word **measure** with me.

Whisper measure to the ceiling.

Whisper measure to your neighbor.

Let’s clap it out.

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

*To **measure** means to figure out the size (the length, height, or weight) of something by comparing it to another object or by using a special tool.*

I like to measure my height and my brother's to see who is taller.

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Tell me an example of something you might like to measure. Use the word *measure* when you tell about it.

“ I would like to measure_____ .”

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

*What's the word we have been talking
about?*

Let's clap it out.

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

I am going to say some sentences. If you think the sentence describes a way to measure, thumbs up. If it is not a way to measure, thumbs down.

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

*Joe looks at himself in a mirror and
think he looks bigger than he did the
day before.*

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

*Mary uses a ruler to see how long her
desk is.*

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

*My dad counts how many steps it
takes for him to get from one end of
the room to the other.*

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

*The baby puts the measuring tape in
her mouth.*

Dressmakers, Tailors, Hatters & Cobblers

Mom puts the apples on a scale at the grocery store to see how many pounds of apples she has.