

Peaked Cap

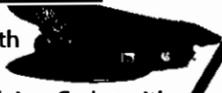
Alaska State Museum - *Just Old Hat(s)*

395 Whittier St., Juneau, AK 99801 www.museums.state.ak.us

What would you like to be when you grow up? Maybe you are thinking of becoming a ship captain, a police officer, an airline pilot, or a military officer. If you do these jobs you will need a special hat called a peaked cap. The "peak" of the cap is another name for the visor. On high ranking officers it is often decorated with bright gold swirls of leaves known in the military as "scrambled eggs." Can you see why? The most important part of the cap is the cap badge. This badge identifies the company or service the wearer works for and sometimes their rank. Two of the peaked caps displayed in the museum's *Just Old Hat(s)* exhibit have a story about the important jobs the wearers did in Alaska.

A brown peaked cap with a gold metallic eagle badge was worn by a Flying Cadet with the U.S. Army Air Corps who served during World War II in a battle over Kiska, Alaska in 1942.

The other peaked cap is white with a blue peak and a gold band, gold trim, and a cap badge with a red flag. It was worn by the ship captains that worked for the Alaska Steamship Company. From a time before roads and air travel were available, this company's fleet of ships carried freight, important officials, military, prospectors, tourists, and residents to and from Alaska.



Alaska Steamship Company Cap Badge



United States Army Air Corps Cap Badge

Make your own badge or color and cut out one of the 2 cap badges for the front of your cap.

Match up the center lines on the two halves of the crown and tape this flap on the back.

Right side of crown

Left side of crown

Fold the visor tabs upward and Tape around the inside center Front of the crown.

Peak (visor)

Make the Hat

1. Color and cut out the 2 halves of the crown, the peak, and a cap badge.
2. Match up the crown halves at the center lines & tape.
3. Fold the tabs on the visor forward and attach the visor to the center front of the crown with tape.
4. Wrap the crown band around your head to size and tape the overlapping bands at the back of the hat.
5. If you wish to make a lid for your hat, cut a 9-inch circle of paper or use a paper plate and tape it to the top of the crown.