

Pattern Architecture: The Mary-Jane Evolution

A Freehand Design Study on Silhouette Transformation (Adapted from the proprietary teaching methodology of www.shoemakingcoursesonline.com)

This guide explains how to work with classic footwear types, change them, and make different types of classic footwear using the Freehand Pattern Technique. To use this technique, you should have already made the Basic Pattern of flat ballet shoes.

1. Use your cardboard basic pattern of the flat ballet shoes and cut the paper patterns. Place it on the shoe last.

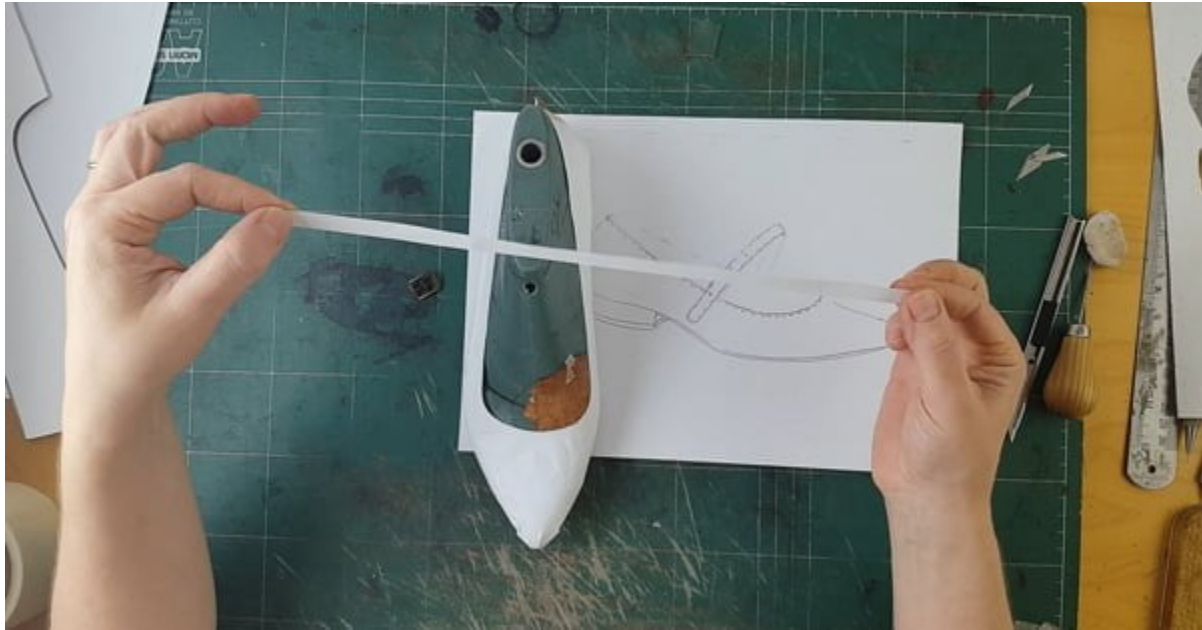


2. Select the buckle you want to use for your Mary Jane pumps. The width of the strap depends on the width of the buckle (e.g., 8mm, 10mm, 12mm).

The width of the strap for your Mary Jane will depend on the width of the buckle you use, as existing buckles for footwear have only a few possible widths.

For example, there are buckles with a width of 8mm, 10mm, and may be 1mm or 12mm. So, check first the width of the buckle you can use for your Mary-Jane pumps.

3. Make a paper pattern of the strap that will hold the buckle. The width of this paper strap should be 1mm less than the buckle width. Cut a long enough paper strap.



The width of this paper strap will be less than 1mm from the width of the buckle.
You will find the length of the strap when you place it on the shoes last (you will figure it out in a few mins).

4. Find the right placement for the strap on the shoe last. I prefer to put it in the middle of the shoe last, in the instep area.



5. Place it straight. If you place it straight on the top side of the shoe last, the edges of the strap at the shoe bottom will also lie along a straight line. Do not place it in an inclined line.



6. Mark the placement of the strap on both sides of the paper pattern.



7. Mark on the strap also the line of the top line of the paper pattern.



8. Take the buckle and place it on the outer side of the paper pattern close to the top line.



9. Hold the buckle and mark on the strap the placement of the middle pin of the buckle (Point A). Mark Point B between the middle pin and the inner top side of the buckle (this is the first hole). Mark subsequent holes 6-8mm apart.



10. To find the end of the strap (fastening holes), measure 45 mm from point B. Cut the strap according to this measurement.



11. Create a pattern for the part of the strap that holds the buckle. Measure the distance between point A and the top line of the paper pattern, plus an extra 8-15 mm for the underline (to sew it to the main part).



12. Leave the paper strap attached to the paper pattern and take it off the shoe last.



13. Copy your cardboard basic pattern on a new piece of cardboard and place the paper pattern with the strap on it. Transfer the cardboard to create the basic pattern of the Mary-Jane pumps.



CONCLUSION: This is how you can use your basic knowledge of pattern making and shoemaking to design different classic footwear types.

For the full tutorial and video, visit: www.shoemakingcoursesonline.com

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