

Instructions for a *Gebende* in the style of the Codex Manesse

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<http://www.monacensis.de/tipps/gewand/>

[Anleitung fuer ein Gebende nach der Codex Manesse/](#)

Translated by Wenyeva atte Grene (mka Wendi Dunlap)



The *Gebende* (also known as a *fillet* and *barbette*) consists of two parts: a headband with pleats (the *fillet*) and a chin band (*barbette*).

You need about 1m white linen, stiff iron-on interfacing¹, and about 1m white cord (0.5 cm diameter). If you don't find iron-on interfacing authentic enough, you can cut the equivalent shape in buckram and fasten it to the fabric with small handstitching. If you do this, only the inner part of the forehead band will be stiffened, not both parts.

The headband is made of slightly curved stiffened linen. The pattern is drawn as follows (see Fig. 1 for the pattern shape²): A: head circumference, B: head circumference + 3cm, C: 4 to 5 cm tall, D: 4 cm.

¹ I used “cuff and collar” weight interfacing and it worked well. -- *WaG*

² Figure 1 does not show on the web site, so the version you see here is my recreation – the drawing is a bit uneven, sorry. -- *WaG*

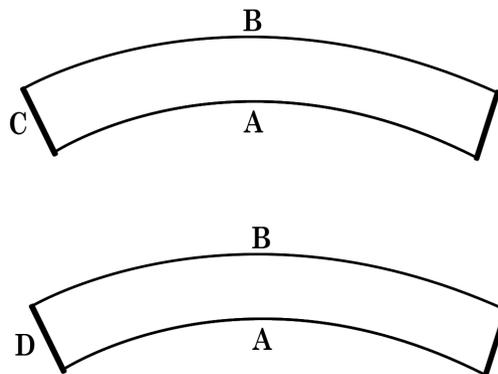
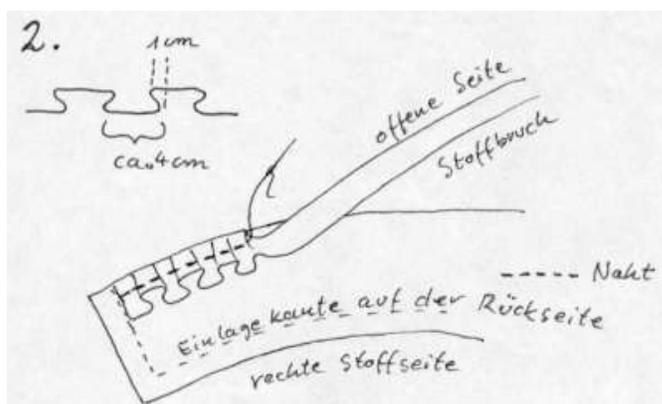


Figure 1.

Two strips of interfacing are cut in these shapes, and they are then ironed onto the linen, and cut out with the addition of a 1.5cm seam allowance. One piece is the “outer layer” (which will have pleats attached) and the other will be the “inner layer.”

You then need to cut a third piece, the strip that will be pleated. The strip for the pleats is rectangular, 8cm tall, and twice as wide as the upper edge of the headband piece. (So, it is *head circumference* $\times 2 + 6\text{cm}$ in width.)

Fold this piece lengthwise and iron flat. Lay the cord into the fold and topstitch or secure with handstitching. Take the lower edge of the pleat strip (that is, the edge that is made up of two layers of loose material without any cord) and, as in Fig. 2, pleat it, attach it to the right side of the outer layer piece, and iron it.



(In Figure 2, *offene Seite* = open side, *Stoffbruch* = fold, *Naht* = seam, *Einlage kante auf der Rückseite* = interfacing edge on the reverse side, *rechte Stoffseite* = right side)

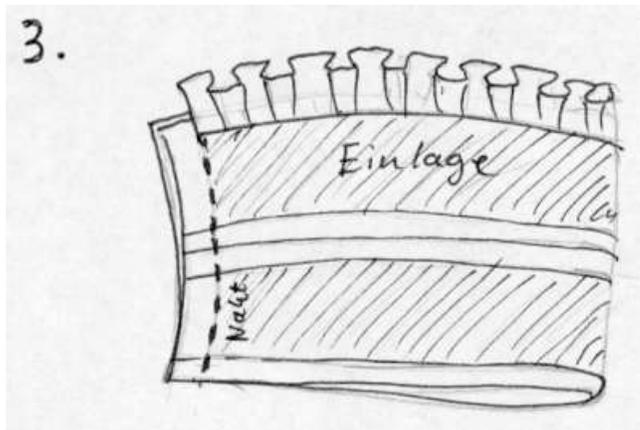
The pleat width of 4cm is a rough estimate; it can be adjusted ± 0.5 cm at the upper edge of the headband as necessary. In any case, the pleat

depth of 1 cm must be used.

The beginning and end of the pleats will be folded inward, to make a neat edge. Then the pleats, as in Fig. 2, will be sewn to the top edge of the headband, along the interlining edge (but not on the side seam allowance!)

Take the second piece of the headband (the “inner layer” one without the pleats) and iron its upper seam allowance inward. Sew the lower edge right side of that piece to the lower edge of the right side of the “outer layer/pleated” headband piece. Iron the seam allowances flat.

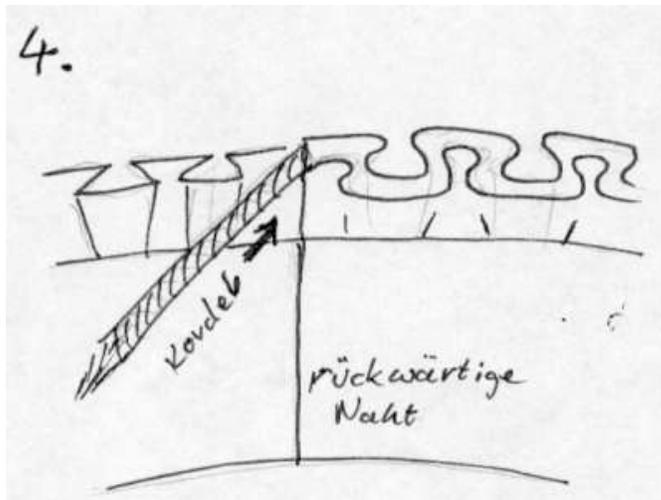
Next, as in Fig.3, fold it widthwise right side to right side and sew into a closed ring, through both headband parts.



(In Figure 3, *Naht* = seam, *Einlage* = interfacing)

Fold the “inner layer” part without the pleats upward. Iron and secure with handstitching underneath the pleats. Turn so that the outer layer is on the outside.

To finish, join the cord and the open side of the pleats together with hand stitching. (Fig. 4)



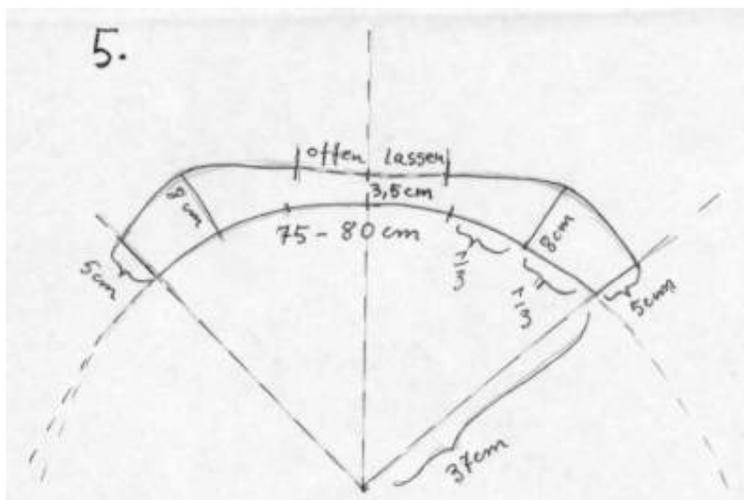
(In Figure 4, *Kordel* = cord, *rückwärtige Naht* = rearward seam; I think this means the wrong side seam)

The Kinnbinde (Chin band, or *barbette*):

The chinband is a straight, doubled strip:

Cut about 11 x 80 cm (including seam allowance). The length, of course, depends on the size of your head. The chinband should fit comfortably over the top of the head, pinned on with 10 to 15 cm of overlap.

A half-round cut chin band is a little more work, but it fits better and looks better too. Cut the following pattern:

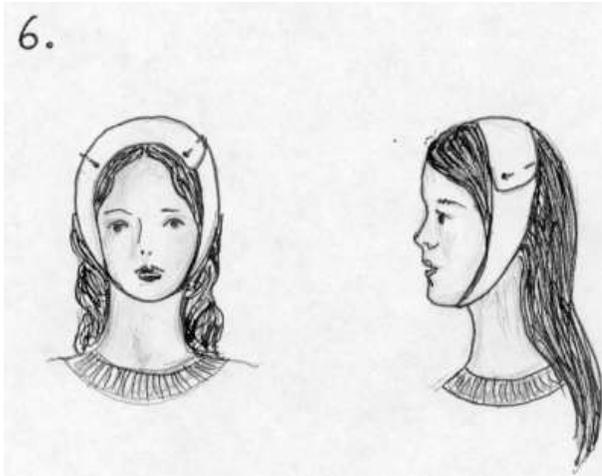


(In Figure 5, *offen lassen* = leave open)

A semi-circle of 37 cm radius is used as a foundation. 75 to 80 cm of it,

according to the circumference of the head, will become the outer edge. Draw a center line. Starting from the center line, divide each side into thirds. Following the drawing, draw the other points and connect them with a neat curved line.

Cut two pieces with a 1.5cm seam allowance. Sew together, but in the middle, leave an opening unsewn (important – see Fig. 5 “*offen lassen*”) for turning.



Turn, iron, and handsew the opening. This area will be facing the neck.

Put it on your head, and fasten the chin band on the top of the head with pins. Set the headband over it and pin it to the chin band.