

MIDSUMMER MILLINERY.

THIS month we are putting away Dresden ribbons and using that airiest and most becoming of summer materials—tulle.

It appears on all the July hats and bonnets, chiefly in box plaits about crown or brim, or as a shirred underlining.

It is not a durable material; but freshness is the one needful effect for summer days, and tulle is easily replaced at slight expense.

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Flowers are in vogue for the midsummer months,—not heavy masses of blossoms—but delicate summer blooms—or one large perfect spray.

Single flowers have never been larger than during the present season, and, although all kinds of blossoms are used, perhaps the rose still holds preference.

Miss Paynter—to whom thanks are due for our sketches this month—showed me a box of exquisite, full-blossomed French roses, loose curling, and of richest tints; one spray of flame colour in changing tints being especially effective. One such flower will stamp the fine finish of a hat.

There is nothing tells more in a hat than the quality of flowers used in the trimming; yet the present pretty fashion of half veiling the flowers in tulle, permits a commoner quality of flower to be used successfully.

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In straws, leghorn is the fashion for dress purposes. Some charming leghorns have brims finished with a lacey fancy straw weaving. Shirred hats formed on wire frames are made for weddings and dress occasions, but the leghorn is in preference.

Rustic straw comes second in popularity. Some pretty shapes are shown in this especially durable material.

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In No. 1 we sketch a lovely midsummer picture hat of leghorn, with round crown and shaped brim. A band of heliotrope passementerie over white silk encircles the crown. Three cream Prince of Wales feathers, three-quarter length, stand erect at left toward the back. A bow of broad, white satin ribbon on the left is brought over the brim and caught up at the side. A double box plaiting of white tulle lies on the edge of the broad brim, giving a charming effect of softness. Between the ostrich plumes and bow at the back are two crush roses, heliotrope and green in colour.

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Another dainty dress hat (No. 4) might be termed a study in lilacs. It is of white chip, with brim finished in open lace effect in the straw. It is trimmed upon the brim and about the crown with white tulle, plaited and in loose knots, which lightly veil sprays of lovely lilacs in white and lilac tints. The blossoms are delicious in their soft natural effects. The tulle is caught up loosely at one side and finished with a feathery white osprey. Two clusters of the lilacs with knot of tulle rest upon the hair at the back.

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A charming morning hat (No. 2) is of rustic straw, of the popular low sailor shape, worn over the face and turned up at the back. The yellow effect given by the straw is accentuated throughout the trimming. The hat is double box plaiting of yellow dotted net. A tall yellow thistle nods erect at one side, with a cluster of yellow and purple pansies and grasses at its base. Clusters of yellow primroses and net rest upon the hair at the back. The brim is laced with shirring of tulle.



No. 3 might be termed a dryad effect, since it carries a delightful suggestion of wood nymphs in its tones of soft brown. It is a low sailor, with brim a trifle wider than usual, is of brown rustic straw. A full frill of brown accordion-plaited silk gauze is gathered about the crown and extends to edge of brim. Slightly veiled by the gauze and lying all about the brim are white and golden brown chrysanthemums. A bow and erect ends of golden brown satin ribbon gives the requisite erect touch. The brim is faced with shirring of soft brown tulle.

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The sailor hat appears in two shapes this season—the pretty rustic straw, which we have just described, with wide brim and low crown; and the fine straw with a decidedly narrow brim and high crown, which is frequently shaped in tan fashion.

In No. 5 we show a stylish high-crown sailor, fit for bicycling or general travel. It is of fine black straw with shaped tan crown, and is trimmed only with ribbon band and two white quills. This hat is not unbecoming, and is decidedly modish as well as serviceable.

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Quills are the favourite finish for bicycling hats.

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A charming little hat suitable for costume in mourning, is of black rough straw with narrow brim and shaped semi-oval tan crown. It is trimmed about the crown with soft accordion plaited silk, a rosette of the same and black quills. At one side are sprays of jetted elderberry blossoms.

A French effect comes in the rosettes of deep purple tulle, which rest upon the hair at either side of the back. It is curious how this touch of sombre colour accentuates the effect intended.

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Tulle of two colours, puffed all round the crown in front to almost cover the brim, is a very effective decoration on the shade hats of rough soft straw, and white lace combined with tulle and flowers or with plumes and a touch of black velvet makes a very pretty trimming.

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Roses, lilacs, clover, coloured tulle, and black velvet are the favourite trimmings for large hats; but bows of taffeta ribbon in light tints are also used.

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For some inexplicable reason, Alpine hats are on the list of fashionable headgear once more, and an occasional woman has the courage or enough disregard for her good looks to appear in one; but if she could be once convinced of their extremely unbecoming qualities, they would be soon banished, never to bob up again.

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Pink is the prevailing colour in much of the summer millinery, and pink straw hats, pink roses, and pink tulle abound. Another popular colour is green, in all the divers shades imaginable, and pale lime-green straw trimmed with blue or purple is one of the picturesque effects commonly seen this season.

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The sailor hats of the season have higher crowns than in the past, and there are soft visions of laces and roses which overflow in streamers of white lace to twist beneath the throat and waken envy.

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Tan, in all the varying shades, is still a popular colour, both for hat straws and canvas gowns.

MADAM.