



HOME OF THE
CHELSEA PENSIONERS

Make your own shako

A shako is a tall, circular hat worn by people in the army. Chelsea Pensioners wear shakos every day as part of their uniform. They look like this:



To make your own shako, you will need:

- 3 pieces of A4 paper or card – preferably black
- Scissors
- A ruler
- Sellotape or glue
- A pencil
- A black pen or pencil
- A yellow pen
- Colouring pencils (optional)

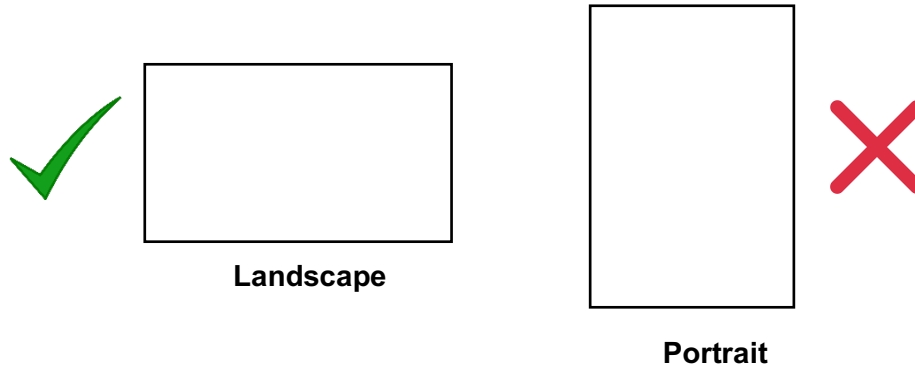




HOME OF THE
CHELSEA PENSIONERS

Instructions:

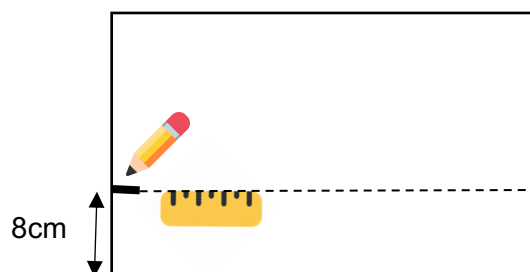
1. Take your first piece of paper and turn it landscape.
This means that the longer side should be at the bottom like this:



2. Using your ruler, measure 8cm up from the bottom of the page. Mark this with your pencil.



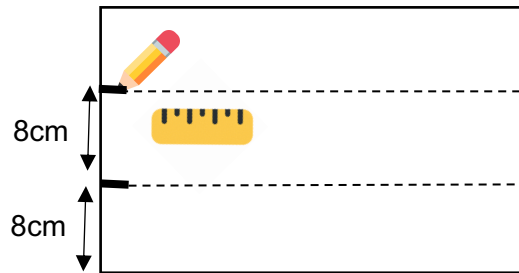
Where you made your pencil mark, take your ruler and draw a straight line to the other side of the paper.



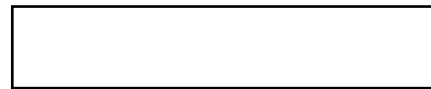
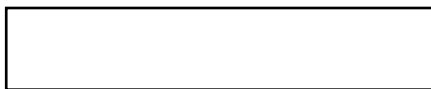
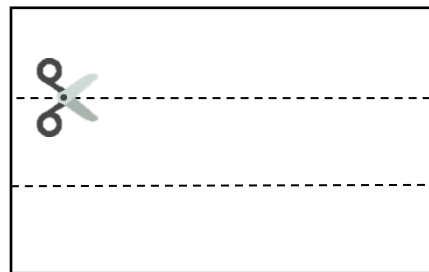


HOME OF THE
CHELSEA PENSIONERS

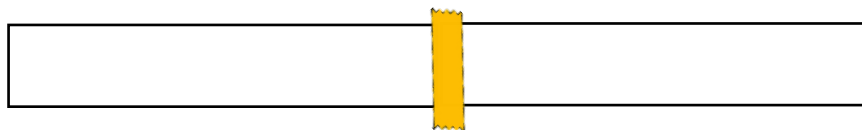
3. Repeat the previous step so that you have two lines drawn across your page, each 8cm apart.



4. Use your scissors to cut along these lines. When you have finished cutting, you should have 2 long rectangles.



5. Using glue or Sellotape, stick your two rectangles together along the short end to make an even longer rectangle.



6. Wrap your rectangle around your forehead and use a pencil to draw a mark on the paper where the two ends meet – you might need to ask someone in your family to help you!

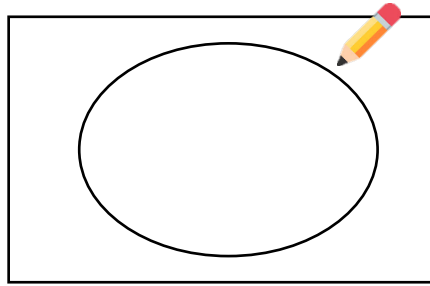
7. Stick the two ends together to make a ring around your head like a crown!

8. Take your ring and put it on top of another piece of paper. Using your pencil, draw around the ring

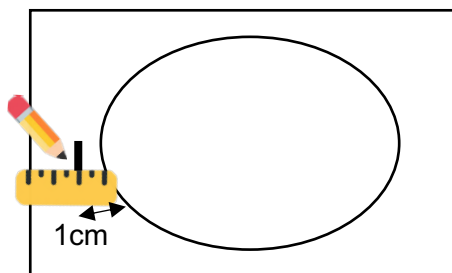




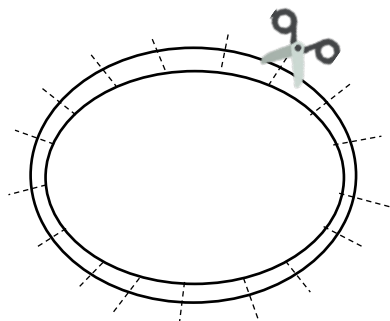
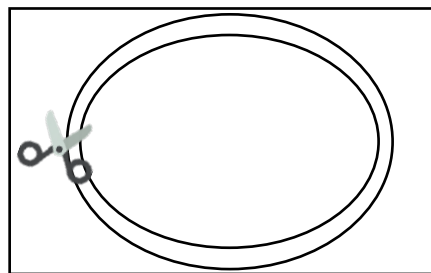
HOME OF THE
CHELSEA PENSIONERS



9. Once you have drawn your circle, remove the ring from the paper. Then choose any point on your circle and use your ruler to measure 1cm outwards (towards the edge of the paper). Mark this point with your pencil.



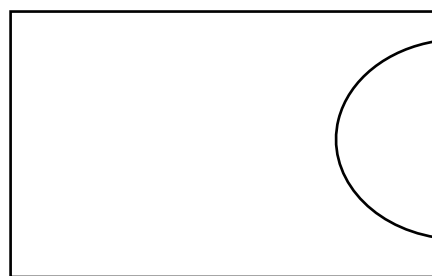
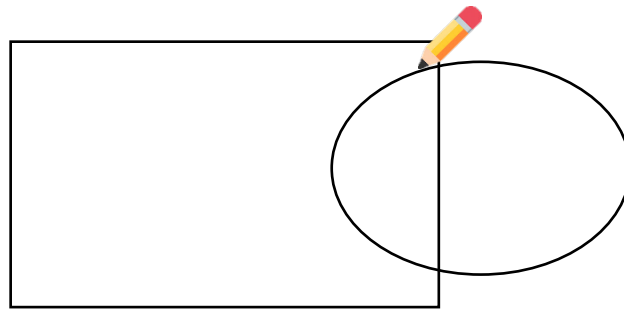
10. Where you have just made your pencil mark, draw another circle around your first circle. Then use your scissors to cut out the larger circle. Make small cuts into it, meeting the inner circle, to make tabs as shown on the picture below. Fold in the tabs.



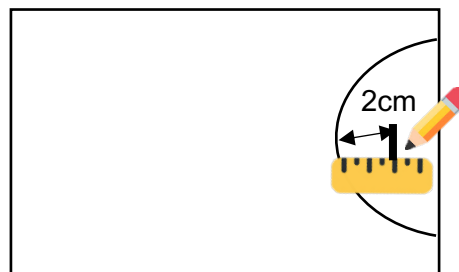
11. Take your last piece of paper. Using your ring as a template, draw half a semi-circle from the edge of the page.



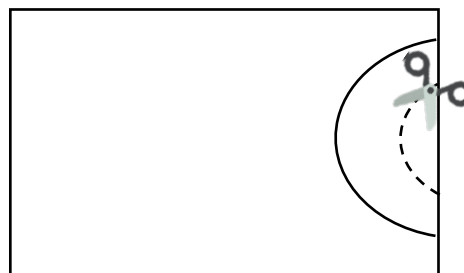
HOME OF THE
CHELSEA PENSIONERS



12. Place your ruler on your semi-circle and measure 2cm towards the edge of the page. Mark this with your pencil.

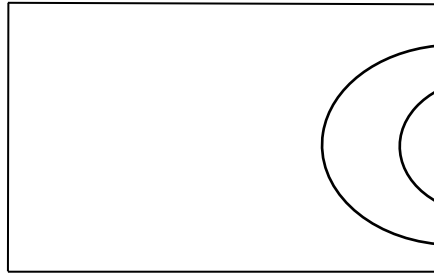


13. Draw another, smaller semi-circle that is 2 cm away from your first line. Use your scissors to cut out the smaller semi-circle (the dashed line on the picture below). You won't be needing it for your shako so you can recycle it.

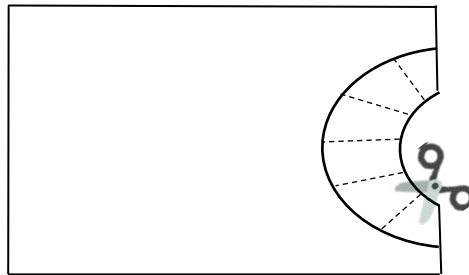




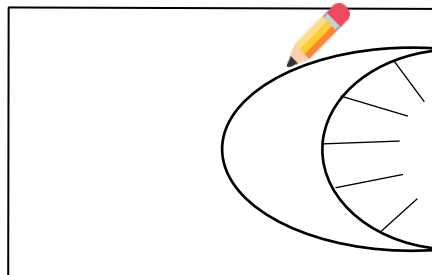
HOME OF THE
CHELSEA PENSIONERS



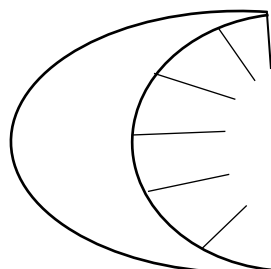
14. Using your scissors, start from the outside edge and make small cuts into the paper to meet the line, creating tabs (shown by the dashed line on the picture below). Fold the tabs upwards.



15. Draw another large semi-circle from the edge of your original line. This will make the peak of your shako.



Using your scissors, cut out your peak.



16. This step is optional but, if you like, you can use your colouring pencils to colour all the parts that you have made so far - the ring, circle, and peak.



HOME OF THE
CHELSEA PENSIONERS

Our Chelsea Pensioners wear black shakos so you can colour them in black or get creative!

17. It's now time to start assembling your shako!

Take the circle that you have made. You will need to glue or Sellotape the circle to your ring using the tabs, making sure that the tabs are on the inside of the ring.

Next, use your glue or Sellotape to stick the peak to the front of your ring, making sure that the tabs are on the inside of the ring.

18. Make your finishing touches by using your yellow pen to draw RH for 'Royal Hospital' on the front the hat, in the middle above the peak.

Now you are ready to wear your shako proudly, just like the Chelsea Pensioners do!

Don't forget to share your creations with us on social media.

Facebook: @RoyalHospitalChelsea

Twitter: @RHChelsea

Instagram: @RoyalHospitalChelsea