

6 Reasons to Have Your Summer Hat Made by a Milliner

Katie
Dillon



Summer is here. This means sunshine, vacations to tropical places and Opening Day at the races. You need a hat so learn why you're better off purchasing through a milliner like [Jill Courtemanche Millinery](#) in Solana Beach.

What is a Milliner?

These days, a milliner refers to a professional who designs, maintains and sells hats for men and/or women. The name is a variant of *Milaner*, a now obsolete term for a native of Milan or someone in Milan specializing in the clothing trade.



The Benefits of a Custom Hat

There are almost too many to list, but the bottom line is that a milliner is more likely to design or find a great hat that you feel comfortable in. Here are six reasons to give it a try:

1. Not everyone has the same size head.

A custom hat is sized and designed to suit you and no one else. And, when it comes to hats, height, face shape and personal preference also play major factors. Good proportion is key.

2. A milliner can service your custom hat.

Bring your hat in on an annual basis to preserve its shape and longevity. Department stores don't offer this.

3. Pricing can be similar.

Custom hats can (depending on the hat) be similar in price to nice department store hats. You just might be surprised.

4. A custom hat can be tweaked.

A milliner can add or remove flair to suit an occasion or outfit. Bring both the outfit and hat to Jill and let her work her magic.

5. Milliners have a sixth sense.

Part of the custom hat process involves trying on hats in a variety of shapes. Jill says she can gauge whether or not a particular hat shape is right for someone based on their facial expressions.

6. It's a relationship worth having.

Like a good stylist or tailor, a milliner also understands your style over time enabling accurate future recommendations. Once you have a custom hat made, you're likely to do it again.

The Hat Making Process



Call to make an appointment (now, if you're looking for an Opening Day hat). The first thing Jill will have you do is try on hats of different shapes to determine a style that suits you.

Have a specific outfit in mind? Bring it with you. Feathers, flowers and other flair are dyed in-house so this allows Jill and her team to match color and for you to see the entire look first hand.

The lead time is typically 2-3 weeks. Jill makes sure that the hat is more or less complete at the time of fitting so clients can properly assess the entire look. Small tweaks can be made, if necessary, but you should be more or less good to go at this point.

Semi-Custom and Off-the-Rack Hats Are Available, Too



Jill Courtemanche Millinery stocks roughly 200 hats for men and women with more of an immediate need to choose from. These hats can also be tweaked to suit outfits, occasions and personal style with less lead time. Or, you can grab one and go. Lines from six other milliners can be custom ordered through Jill as well.

Jill Courtemanche Millinery

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Again, if you are considering an Opening Day hat, call Jill to make an appointment ASAP!