Mess Tin Cover

Use unbleached linen. Using the pattern provided, cut out the pieces as follows:

- Cut out two of the top/bottom pieces. If you wish to feld the seams, add ¼"
to the outside of the curved edge of the pattern.
- The side piece is ½ of the pattern; double the material, with the fold at the
edge of the pattern marked "fold", before cutting.
- Cut out three keeper straps; or, cut one strap 3X the length of the pattern, to
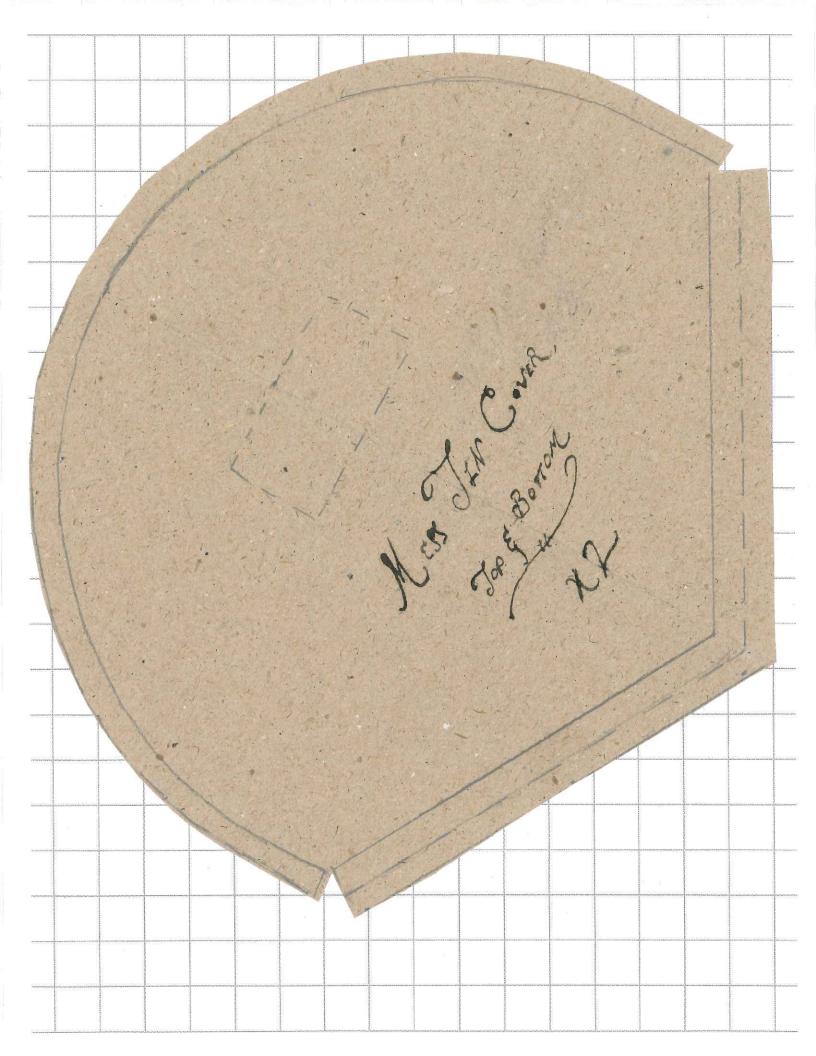be cut into thirds after sewing the strap.

Cut two tabs out of undyed or buff leather. Punch a small hole in each tab, and cut
up from the hole to create a button hole in the tab.

You will also need a strong thread for hand sewing, either linen or unbleached
cotton, and two ½" bone or horn buttons.

1. Hem the edges of the back flaps on the top, bottom, and sides. Fold the cut
edge in ¼", then fold again. Pin, and hem with a whip stitch.

2. Fold the keeper strap lengthwise into thirds (like a letter), using the dotted lines
on the pattern as a guide. Turn the upper cut edge under at the middle of the strap,
and pin. Sew with a whip stitch through all layers of the strap, "short" stitch at the
back seam, "long" stitch on the front side, parallel to the direction of the strap.

3. Fold ends of the straps under. Sew one strap to the centre of each of the top,
bottom and side pieces, using a back stitch to sew 2 lines at each end of the strap.

4. Sew the top and bottom to the side piece, using a back stitch. Sew a running
stitch half-way between the seam and the cut edge of the fabric to prevent the cut
edge from fraying. (Or, feld the seam.)

5. Place the mess tin into the cover, and use a pencil to lightly mark where the
leather tabs will be sewn to the back flaps. I find it helpful to lightly glue the
leather to the fabric before sewing; acrylic glue, contact or rubber cement works.
Sew one tab to one of the side flaps, and one tab to the top flap.

6. Place the tin into the cover again, and mark where the buttonholes fall. Sew
the buttons to the bottom and side flaps opposite the tabs.

Mens Tea Cover

Top & Bottom

XV

Mess Tin Cover

Side

Fold →

TAG
LEATHER
x3

KEEPER
x 3