4-panel cycling cap pattern/template by James Black Caution:

This pattern was meant to fit me and does that well; it was not meant to be one-size-fits-all. My head is 23" around. If yours is much bigger or smaller, modify accordingly. Do not let acrobat automatically scale this drawing to fit when you print it, or else obvious trouble will ensue.

Make the cap part first, then worry about the back elastic (if necessary) and the bill.

Cut out four panels in the shape of the solid line; use chalk or sim. to draw the dotted curved line onto the fabric (it is 3/4" offset from the outer line).

Then form the pleat in each panel by sewing the dotted lines together (inside, of course). Then it would be prudent to iron the seam down so it sits on one side or the other, and cut off some of that extra fabric, but not so that it will unravel and your seam falls apart.

Then sew three of the panels together, mating along the dotted lines, similar to the pleats.

Then you will find that if you sew the fourth panel on the same way, the cap is a little too big, so I increased the fabric overlap where the fourth panel meets the other already assembled panels from 3/4" to about 1 1/8" or something. This means that the front panel is n" wide; the two side panels are n"-x" wide; and the rear panel is n"-2x" wide. I wonder if other seamsters and tailors think in these algebraic terms.

