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Hispanic Society of America
Spain Costume Details. Coats
Coiffure

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WOMEN'S COIFFURE

TEN ILLUSTRATIONS
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COIFFURE WITH *MOÑO* AND *RIZOS*
Montehermoso, Cáceres

A *montehermoseña* wears her hair parted in the middle with a large knot at the back. This knot serves as a support for the kerchief which usually covers the head. The poke bonnet worn on work days is made open at the back to accommodate the *chignon*.

The women of Montehermoso, finding it difficult to comb their own hair in this fashion, perform the service for each other, frequently in the street outside the home.

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VIUDA RICA COIFFURE (SIDE VIEW)
Toro, Zamora

The hair is dressed as follows: the front and the back hair are separated by a parting from ear to ear; the front hair is coiled into a knot on the brow and pinned temporarily; the back hair is tied with a cord, separated into strands, and dampened; the strands, sometimes numbering as many as thirty-two, are braided into a wide, flat plait; the end of the plait is fastened to the top of the plait; the looped plait is laid over the back of the head and tied through the middle; the front hair is unpinned and parted through the middle; a small round mat of false hair is pinned on either side just above the ear; the front hair is wound around this mat and fastened in place; the whole coil of hair, false and real, is covered with another mat of false hair, crimped in short waves; silver hairpins with knobs of filigree are placed around the edge of the mat. A bow of black velvet is sometimes worn over the cord at the centre of the *chignon*.

The coiffure is worn without a kerchief.



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COIFFURE WITH *MONO* AND *RIZOS*, SHOWING BRAID
READY TO BE TIED
Montehermoso, Cáceres

The back hair, braided loosely, is being wound into a *chignon*, which will be tied at the top of the head. The girl holds in her lap an earthenware basin containing water.

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GALICIAN COIFFURE
Pontevedra, Pontevedra

The hair is parted from the middle of the brow to the nape of the neck and plaited in two simple braids which are joined halfway. The coiffure is worn under a kerchief.



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VIUDA RICA COIFFURE, SHOWING PLAIT LOOPED AND
TIED IN PLACE
Toro, Zamora

The end of the plait having been fastened to the top, the plait is spread over the back of the head and tied through the middle.

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VIUDA RICA COIFFURE

Toro, Zamora

The festival dress of the women of Toro is called the Costume of the Rich Widow (*Viuda Rica*), presumably because it is made of black velvet and richly adorned with heavy gold embroidery. The coiffure which accompanies this costume consists of a broad plait tied into a *chignon* at the back of the head with large rolls of hair, outlined with gold or silver hairpins, framing the face.

It is said that this coiffure was once in daily use, but that some forty years ago it was abandoned for everyday wear. Certain women in the town conserve the skill to dress the hair in this fashion, and their services are in much demand at carnival time. It requires more than an hour for the hair-dresser to arrange the coiffure.

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CHINATA COIFFURE (SIDE VIEW)

Malpartida de Plasencia, Cáceres

The hair is dressed as follows: the front and the back hair are separated by a part from ear to ear; the back hair is tied and wound into a long loop, which is tied above the middle; the front hair is parted through the middle and twisted on each side just above the ear; the ends are wound into an oval coil and pinned at the side of the *chignon*. Hairpins of silver with a knob of filigree complete the coiffure.



COIFFURE WITH *MOÑO* AND *RIZOS* (SIDE VIEW)
Montehermoso, Cáceres

The hair is dressed as follows: the hair is divided into three sections by a middle parting and a parting from ear to ear; the back hair is tied with a cord; coils (*rizos*) are made on either side of the head; the ends of the coils are tied to the rest of the hair; the hair is braided loosely, and the braid is wound into a knot (*moño*) at the top of the head; the *moño* is tied through the middle.

The women who have little hair use a pad of black sheep's wool to enlarge the *moño*.



CHINATA COIFFURE
Malpartida de Plasencia, Cáceres

A legend relates that the men of Malpartida de Plasencia once fought with the men of Plasencia, using pebbles (*chinas*) for ammunition. Since then the inhabitants of Malpartida have had the nickname of *chinatos*.

On festival days the *chinatas* wear their hair rolled at the sides with a large loop tied into a *chignon* at the back. This coiffure is worn without a kerchief.

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The image shows a full-page view of marbled paper with a complex, organic pattern of swirling, cell-like shapes in various shades of grey and white. The pattern is dense and covers the entire surface.

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