

# REPAIR OF CLOTHING

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A little care of clothing pays in dollars and cents and in satisfaction.

1. Garments when taken off should be put on coat hangers so that they hang smoothly, placed where the air will strike them for a while, then hung in a closet. Do not crowd garments in the closet.
2. Keep dresses, suits, coats, well pressed.
3. Keep all garments cleaned either by dry cleaning or washing. Keeping clothing clean extends its life. Many spots and stains eat into the fabric as well as ruin the appearance.
4. Undergarments, cotton and washable clothing should be kept clean—those not in use folded and put away. Wash garments before they become too badly soiled. A badly soiled garment has to be scrubbed hard, this friction is hard on fabric, and makes it wear out sooner.
5. Watch clothing for snags, tears and worn places. Mend at once, as tears become larger, worn places become holes, and soon the garment is gone. Reinforcing places on garments that have hard wear extends the use of the garments. Reinforce the elbows of sweaters before the children start to school. Chamois pads are often put on the elbows of boys' sweaters.
6. Some of the places on garments that receive hard wear:
  - a. Elbows of Sleeve
  - b. Knees of pants
  - c. Seats of pants
  - d. Back, across shoulders
  - e. Under arms
  - f. Armscye at back

Stockings—heels, toes, knee of children's stockings.

Gloves—finger tips.

Underwear—Seams pull; seats of bloomers and drawers; elastic gives out, bands pull off.

Buttonholes split out, buttons pulled off, hooks and eyes and snaps, pull off.

Edges become frayed of—cuffs, collars, skirt hems, trouser hems.

Lace, especially on underwear, becomes worn, tears in places.

Mending may be done by:

Reinforcing

Patching

Darning

Mending tissue used on  
woolen clothing.

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," and a "Stitch in time saves nine," this latter should be a stitch in time saves 99. Good care of clothing will reduce the clothing budget.

## CARE OF SHOES

Shoes last longer if given good care. Put shoe trees in to preserve shape when not being worn. Repair shoes as soon as sole begins to wear thin.

Repair heels as soon as they begin to wear. Mud should be removed from shoes immediately as mud stains leather. If shoes are damp, dry before putting away. Damp shoes should not be placed near the heat as this injures the leather. If shoes have become stiff, clean them and when dry rub vaseline into them. Vaseline or castor oil rubbed at intervals on walking boots is a help to the leather.

## DARNING

### 1.—Stockings:

If good care is taken of stockings it will not be necessary to mend them so often. They should be washed after each wearing in warm water with a mild soap. Do not wring. Watch carefully for breaks, runs and worn places. Mend when a hole is worn through, darning as follows:

Thread should match the color of stocking and not be too large for the stocking. There should be no knot at end of thread. Begin by taking only a few stitches and drawing the thread through the cloth so that only a tiny end is left out. The darning stitch is made so that the thread goes in and out of the cloth as shown in Illustration No. 1. The threads should be drawn back and forth across the hole as shown in illustration. Make the stitches the other way of cloth, weaving darning thread in and out so as to form a plain weave through the hole, Illustration No. 2. Be sure to have the stitches extend far enough beyond the hole so that they will not pull out. A darning gourd is a convenience for darning.

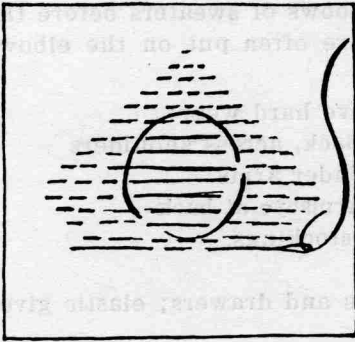


ILLUSTRATION 1

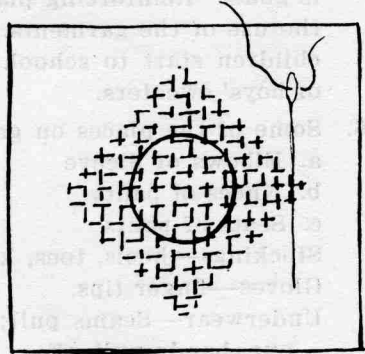
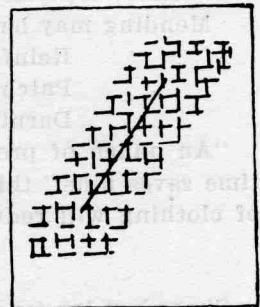
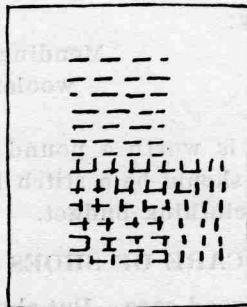
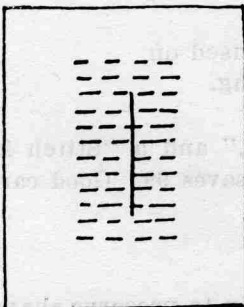


ILLUSTRATION 2

### 2.—Snags, Breaks and Tears in Clothing:



- a. Use thread same color of garment, and one that is an nearly like the thread in the cloth as possible. Sometimes it pays to ravel a

thread from the seam or hem of the garment and use to darn with. This makes a much less conspicuous darn.

Make very small stitches.

Making the stitches go in the same direction as the thread of cloth is another way to make the darn inconspicuous.

The stitch is the same as used in darning a stocking.

- b. When there is a very bad snag or tear or a ragged one, use a piece of material underneath and darn this to the torn place.

## MENDING

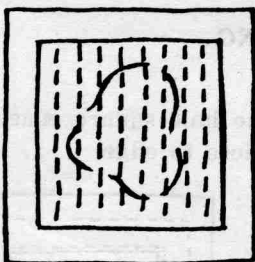
### Methods of Reinforcing When Signs of Wear Appear:

1. Take a thread of same color as article to be repaired and as near same texture as possible. For a silk dress use a silk or mercerized thread; for a sweater use wool yarn; table cloth or towel use cotton thread; for a tweed use a ravelled thread from material.



The drawing in the square represents a place that begins to show wear. Reinforce by putting in small running stitches back and forth as in illustration.

2. Reinforce by sewing a piece of material on underneath side. This method should be used if garment is too far gone to use the above method. Cut a piece from scrap like garment larger than worn place. Baste underneath the worn place, then sew the two together with running stitches. Be sure the threads of both pieces of material run the same way.



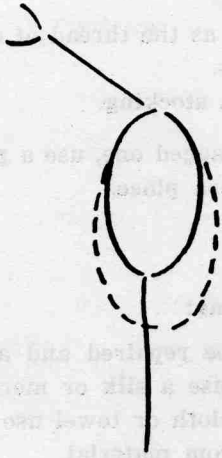
In some materials, especially woolsens, slip sitch may be used—in either case the thread should not be pulled tight. Very tiny stitches on top, longer underneath. The edge of extra piece may be overcast, or held in place by a loose cat-stitch.

3. For Stockings:

Reinforcing the heel and toe before wearing lengthens the life of the stocking. If this is not done, watch heel and toe, reinforce with running stitches at the very first sign of wear. For a patch darn, use piece cut from top of stocking leg at seam in back.

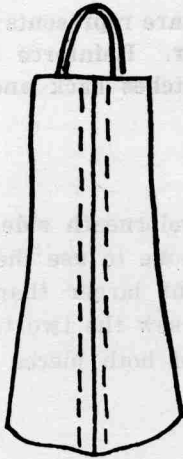
4. Finger tips of fabric gloves: Reinforcing before wearing extends the life of the gloves. Reinforce with tiny darning stitches.

5. Armscye at back, under arm, across shoulders. It pays to reinforce these places with a piece of material like dress before wearing if a person has much trouble with garments pulling out at these places. A yoke across shoulders of back saves pull and protects dress. This is put in on underneath side. The neck, shoulders and armscye seams can go right in with other seams. The lower edge of yoke may be slip-stitched across back, or left loose.



To reinforce the back of armseye or under arm, cut a piece of material like dress, shaped by armscye line of pattern. Sew into sleeve seam on under side. Baste the lower edge and slip-stitch to waist. Put in a few slip stitches between seams and lower edge to hold the two together.

6. Underwear: Seams of slips or gowns that have pulled: Reinforce with strips of footing sewed over the seam, on wrong side; stitch each outer edge.



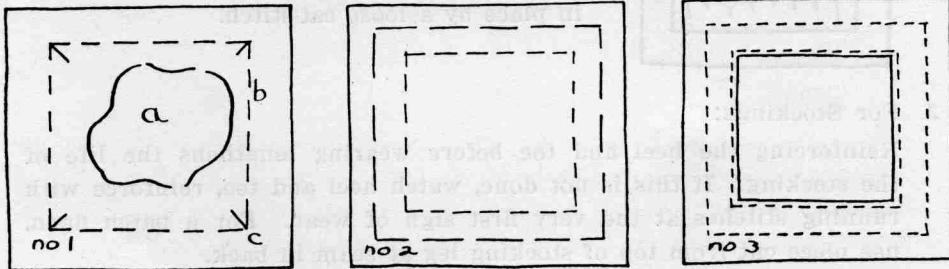
Lace brassieres will last much longer if reinforced with net.

Tops of slips should be reinforced when they show signs of wear, either by stitching across top several times, or by reinforcing with new material. Straps on brassieres and slips, often pull out or wear out. Replace with new ones, reinforcing place where strap pulls out.

## PATCHING AND MENDING

### I.—Hemmed Patch:

Have the patch larger than the hole. Cut the hole square, slash in at corner, turn edges under, baste carefully close to edge.



1. a. Represents the hole. b. The dotted line represents hole cut square. c. Corners slashed to give a square turn.

2. Wrong side—patch basted on—the weight of material will determine whether or not the edge of patch should be turned under or over-cast.
3. The finished patch—right side. Finishing may be done by machine or hand.

**II.—When button pulls off, bringing part of material with it, trim off smoothly, put a small patch on top and reinforce underneath with another piece. Sew button to this.**

### **REMOVING SHINE AND GLOSS FROM GARMENTS**

There is no permanent means of removing from woolen garments the shine produced by wear, that is, if the fibers are actually worn down smooth. Gloss produced by the wearing down of the fibers may be temporarily removed by sponging the shiny place with a cloth dipped into ammonia solution (1 teaspoon of ammonia to 1 quart water). Rub with even strokes, then place a damp cloth on right side of the fabric and press until dry.

Shine on silk may be removed by sponging well with water and pressing on the wrong side.

Shine that appears on the sides of a dress caused by oil and soil from the hands may be permanently removed by cleaning.

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Corsets and girdles last much longer if kept clean. They should never be allowed to become badly soiled. Make a suds of neutral soap and warm water. Add a tablespoonful of borax. Put the corset on a flat surface, scrub vigorously with a scrub brush. Rinse in several waters, then hang up to dry. Two-way stretch and lastex girdles may be washed in warm water with neutral suds, then rinsed and hung up to dry. Do not place elastic near heat.