A Manual for Home Sewing

This bulletin is prepared to serve three groups of Oregon homemakers: those who have little experience in home sewing and who find it economical to make much of the family’s clothing; the more experienced who desire a ready reference on home sewing; those families who at this time are under the necessity of receiving clothing from their Federal and State government. It is hoped that the directions may be found helpful in the program of self-help and home-made living in which a large proportion of these citizens desire to participate.

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ECONOMY and satisfaction are the two chief reasons for making or remodeling garments at home. If the “clothing dollar” is a small one even the very little cash saving which may be the difference between the ready-made and home-made garment is worth the consideration of the homemaker. Without skill home sewing may, of course, be expensive and wasteful. But even a person unaccustomed to sewing can develop skill by following directions accurately. With success comes satisfaction and enjoyment. The making of clothing may become a channel for artistic expression when an understanding of color, line, and design is achieved in addition to skill in construction.

SEWING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUE

In the hands of a skillful homemaker a sewing machine, shears, and other equipment are tools for production much as farm machines are tools for production in the hands of a skillful farmer. Well selected, carefully kept, and skillfully used they make possible efficiency and satisfaction in work. An understanding of the selection and care of sewing equipment means economy.

SEWING MACHINE

Cleaning and oiling. Study the instruction book that comes with the machine. Oil and clean at regular intervals. Before oiling any part of the machine, remove dust, lint, and threads especially in and around the shuttle plate. Any gummy deposits which may be caused by using low-grade oil can be removed by applying kerosene with a brush. Then run the machine rapidly for a minute and wipe thoroughly with cheese-cloth. Before oiling it let the machine dry. Use only high-grade oil. Apply one drop to each bearing and each point where there is friction.

Occasionally a thorough cleaning and oiling should be given. In order to do this the face-plate, throat-plate, slide-plate, bobbin-case, needle, and pressure-foot are removed.

Regulating the stitch and tension. Study the machine direction book for adjusting the tension and length of stitch. Variations are recommended for different weights and weaves of material. Fine materials require a light tension and shorter stitch. Heavy materials require more tension and a longer stitch.

Treadling. Use a chair high enough to allow the feet to be placed comfortably on the treadle. Sit squarely in front of the machine in line with the needle. The most comfortable and effective position for treadling is with the ball of the left foot upon the upper left corner of the treadle and the heel of the right foot on the lower right corner. Treadling in this
position takes much less effort than when the feet are in any other position.

Start the balance-wheel with the right hand and at the same time apply pressure to the treadle. The direction in which the balance-wheel should turn in starting depends on the make of the machine. It must turn in the direction which will enable the feed plate to carry the material backward away from the needle.

For those who are learning to use the machine it is well to practice treadling before actually sewing on the machine. For this practice the belt is taken off the balance-wheel and the upper thread and shuttle removed from the machine. In an electric machine, foot or knee pressure against a control lever regulates the speed and evenness of action.

**Machine attachments.** The use of the more simple attachments such as the foot hemmer, binder, tucker, and ruffler will save time if a considerable quantity of sewing is to be done. Study carefully the machine book of instructions.

**Position of machine.** Place the machine where a good light comes in from the side. Do not face the light. Some machines are equipped with a shaded light.

### OTHER EQUIPMENT

**Scissors and shears** should be of the best quality steel, kept well sharpened and used only for cutting cloth. Choose scissors about five inches long with sharp-pointed blades. Seven inches is a satisfactory length for shears. Left-handed shears can be obtained.

**Pins.** Steel dressmaker pins bought in quarter-pound boxes in sizes four or five are most satisfactory. These sizes are thin, sharp, and small enough to use without making a hole in the fabric.

**Needles.** Finely polished steel needles are best. A package of five-ten is usable for a variety of work. Number seven is satisfactory for general sewing. Number ten is preferred for fine sewing. A milliner’s needle, which is long and slender, is excellent for basting. Crewel needles with long eyes are used for embroidery. Blunt-edged, wide-eyed needles may be obtained for yarn work.

**Thimble.** Select a thimble that fits the finger. Celluloid is inexpensive and light in weight. Aluminum is satisfactory if the metal is hard enough so that the needle does not puncture a hole in the top. Brass should not be used.

**Tape measure.** Choose a tape measure which is sixty inches long and accurate, with numbers starting at each end on opposite sides. If the end of the measure is stiffened it is helpful in measuring hems, facings, etc. If a tape measure does not have a stiffened end, a short corset steel or brassiere steel may be inserted in the end.

**Rules and yardsticks.** Have two, thin, accurate six-inch rulers marked in one-quarter and one-eighth inch units. Keep one in the sewing-machine drawer and one in the work-basket or cabinet for use in making tucks, hems, widths of facings, pockets, and many other things. A yard stick, or even better a T square, is essential for measuring the length of garments.
Tracing wheel. Select a tracing-wheel of good quality steel. This equipment is helpful in marking seams and trimming lines. A board or soft table on which to trace is necessary. For short tracings a magazine can be used.

Tailor’s chalk. A light-gray tailor’s chalk (French chalk) brushes off easily. The chalk comes in square pieces, ⅛-inch thick in the center and thin on both ends. It is used in marking lines in fitting, indicating perforations and pattern markings when tailor’s tacks are not used. Crayon chalk should not be used.

Size of thread. A perfect machine stitch depends on the correct size of both needle and thread for the material. If a needle is too fine for the thread and the material, it may break when it crosses a seam. If a large needle is used on fine material in either hand or machine stitching, the perforations made by the needle show on the finished work.

In matching threads in color, select thread that seems slightly darker than the fabric. One shade darker is the general rule.

Number twenty or thirty thread; number five hand needle; coarse machine needle. Used for bed ticking, awnings, porch-furniture covering, boys’ duck suits, sewing buttons on men’s clothing.

Number thirty or forty thread; number five or six needle; medium coarse machine needle. Used for heavy cretonnes, madras, muslin, aprons, men's work shirts, sewing buttons on medium-weight fabrics, making buttonholes.

Number fifty, sixty, or seventy thread; number six or seven needle; medium machine needle. Used for light-weight woolens, firm silks and cottons, draperies and fabric furnishings, men's fine shirts, fine quilting.

Number eighty or ninety thread; number eight needle; medium fine machine needle. Used for medium light-weight, summer-time fabrics, children's fine clothes, dainty dresses, undergarments, glass curtains.

Number one hundred and fifty thread; number ten hand needle; finest machine needle. Used for fine lace, sheerest of fabrics, and exquisitely fine hand work.

Desirable small equipment—

Small pincushion, attachable to the wrist or dress of the worker
Razorblade for ripping.
Small, glass, wide-topped jars for buttons and fasteners.
Carbon paper for tracing
Pencil
Scrap bag
Desirable large equipment—
- Sewing-table
- Mirror (full length if possible)
- Foundation pattern and dress-form
- Waste-basket

PRESSING EQUIPMENT

An iron, a well-padded ironing-board, a tailor's pressing cushion, pressing roll, or sleeve-board, and both thick and thin pressing cloths should be at hand when one is sewing. In making a garment, each seam should be pressed as soon as it is made. This makes the next step much easier and the general result more satisfactory. Seams, unless used for decoration, should be as inconspicuous as possible.

Tailor's cushion. Cut two pieces of material either oval or ham-shaped with the diameter of the oval not more than six inches, and the ham-shaped diameter twelve inches the long way. If possible, have one piece of wool and one piece of firm muslin. Cut a strip of muslin two inches wide and long enough to encircle the cushion. Join the two ends of the strip together with a basted seam. Stitch the side pieces to the strip, right sides together. Remove basting. Turn right side out. Stuff firmly with dry sawdust. Sew up strip seam. A tailor's cushion is used when pressing shoulders, collars, tops of sleeves, and any curved or shaped seam.

Pressing roll. Roll a magazine tightly and tie with fine thread. Cut a strip of outing flannel or similar soft padding material as long as the magazine and long enough to wind around a couple of times. Cover the entire roll with firm muslin, sewing it together at the ends. This is particularly good for pressing sleeve seams.

Pressing rules. A few general rules for pressing can be applied to the different kinds of materials.

1. Sponging and pressing cloths. For sponging, use a light-weight muslin free from lint. For pressing use a firm muslin that has been laundered and is free from lint. Flour sacks are too light in weight and have excessive lint. Use a long narrow cloth for seams and hems, and a large one for general pressing.

2. Use a pressing cloth with wool, silk, rayon, and the modern cottons which have the general appearance of wool.

3. Press on the wrong side as much as possible. Sometimes with heavy fabrics it is necessary to press certain parts, such as pockets, on the right side to flatten them.

4. When heavy material is pressed, moisture is needed. Wet the pressing cloth thoroughly, then wring out all excess moisture. When the least possible dampness is required, as in pressing light-weight materials, pass a fairly hot iron once over the pressing cloth after wringing it and before placing on the material; or merely sponge the pressing cloth very lightly.

5. To keep a seam edge from showing on the right side, put strips of paper between the edge of the seam and the material while pressing.
6. To press long plaits, baste each plait carefully. The use of fine silk thread for basting prevents the leaving of marks. Press on the wrong side. If marks are left by the basting threads after removing them, pin the plait at top and bottom on the board and press again.

In addition to general rules in pressing, special rules apply to the different fibers.

1. Wool: A wool pressing cloth pinned across the ironing-board helps to prevent shine. Do not press wool entirely dry as there is danger of it becoming shiny. Heavy-weight woolens require a hot iron, lighter-weight woolens a moderately hot iron.

2. Silk: Since many silks water-spot, do not use a wet pressing cloth next to the silk. If the silk is badly wrinkled sponge the pressing cloth very lightly; or the pressing cloth may be wet, ironed until but little steam is left and then used as a pressing cloth. Use a moderately warm iron.

3. Rayon: Treat the same as silk.

4. Cotton: The modern rough cotton materials which resemble wool are treated in pressing as if they were wool. Heavily sized cotton materials frequently water-spot and should be pressed in the same way as silk. The majority of cottons of firm weave that are used for home and school dresses are pressed on the right side without a pressing cloth.

SEAMS AND SEAM FINISHES

Patterns usually allow for ½- to ¾-inch seams. If the material frays easily or if a special type of seam finish is to be used that requires more material, provide for this in cutting the garment, but always baste on the original seam line.

Straight seams in firm cotton fabrics can be stitched without basting, but pinning is necessary. Seams in all other fabrics and wiry or sheer cottons should be basted. The length of the basting stitch depends on the fabric. A loosely woven material requires short, even bastings. On a firm silk or suiting both long (1 inch) and uneven bastings can be used.

Before stitching, test the machine stitch on a scrap of the material for size and color of thread and length and tension of the stitch.

In sewing seams, start at the top—that is, at the neck for the shoulder seam and at the armseye for the underarm seams.

PLAIN SEAMS AND FINISHES

Plain seams. Place the right sides of the material together. Baste. Stitch with moderately short stitches. This seam is used on every type of garment.

Overcast: Single. Make a plain seam. Open and press flat. Overcast each edge to prevent raveling. In overcasting take several stitches on the needle at one time, and avoid taking too deep or too tight stitches. This finish is used on light-weight woolens, silks, and rayons, which ravel easily. Use thread of matching color.

Overcast: Double. When the seam comes on a curved line overcast the raw edges together. Clip the seam at intervals before overcasting to be sure that the seam will lie flat when pressed. Use this seam where the
skirt joins the waist; also for armhole seams and for yoke seams where
they are not pressed open.

**Notched and pinked.** Notching is done with sharp pointed scissors.
Fold the material and snip V's from the edge. It is suitable to use for firm
woolens such as broadcloth and flannel, firm silks such as taffeta. It is not
practical for garments that are to be washed.

**Bound.** Use bias tape or silk binding. Crease the tape through the
center, baste down, covering the raw edge, then stitch. The silk tape may
be stitched down by hand. (2) A second way of binding with bias tape is
to slash the binding through the center, stitch one edge to the seam edge
with a % inch seam, turn the free edge back underneath and add a second
row of stitching directly on the edge of the binding. (Figure 1, A.) This
seam is used on silk, woolens, and rayons that fray easily, and also on
unlined jackets and coats.

**Mock French.** (Figure 1, B.) The edges of the seam are turned in
toward each other and stitched. This finish is used on cotton dresses for
women and children.

**Ready-made.** (Figure 1, C.) Make a plain seam, then turn the raw
edges back under and stitch on the folded edge, but do not stitch to the
garment. When used on curves, clip the edges before stitching. This
finish is used on finely woven, non-transparent, materials.

**Catch-stitch.** Make a plain seam. Press open and catch stitch. Used
on woolens, outing flannel and flannelette garments.

**Double stitched.** (Figure 1, D.) Make a plain seam. Open flat and press.
On the right side add a row of stitching on either side of the seam line. Two
rows of stitching may be used on either side. This finish is used as a trim
on light-weight woolens and on cotton and linen sport clothes.

**SPECIAL SEAMS**

**French.** (Figure 2, A.) Make a narrow seam (½ to 3/16 inch in width)
on the right side. Trim evenly, press the seam from the wrong side, and
make a second row of stitching on the wrong side deep enough to cover
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Figure 2. Seams and finishes. a. French. b. Flat fell. c. Tucked or open welt. d. Slot.

the raw edges. This seam is used with many materials and is especially favored for sheer, firm material such as organdy, lawn, and batiste.

**Flat fell.** (Figure 2, B.) Place the wrong side of the material together. Let one side extend 3/16 inch beyond the other. Seam lines must be even. Make a plain seam ½ inch from the narrow edge. Press. Fold the extended edge over the narrow edge and turn the raw edge under. Stitch from the right side. Two stitchings are shown on the right side and the fold is toward the front of the garment. This seam is used on tailored blouses, middy blouses, men's shirts and pajamas.

**Welt.** Place the right sides together and have one edge extend ½ inch beyond the other. Stitch a plain seam ½ to 3/16 inch in from the narrow edge. Press both edges of the seam toward the front so that the wide edge covers the narrow edge. Turn to the right side. Stitch 3-16 to ½ inch from the folded edge.

A double-stitched welt may be made by making a second stitching line 1-16 inch from the folded edge.

This seam is used on firm fabrics, tailored garments, especially children's suits and wool shirts that have several seams. The single stitched welt is used on men's trousers.

**Tucked or open welt.** (Figure 2, C.) On the upper piece turn the edge of the material under ¾ inch—or more if allowance has been made for a wider tuck. Press. Lay over the edge of the other piece and stitch on the right side as far from the edge of the fold as the width of the tuck is to be. This seam is used as a trim. Frequently found on gored skirts and jackets.

**Slot.** (Figure 2, D.) Baste a plain seam ¾ inch from the edge and press seam out flat. Pin on the back a piece of material the width of the entire seam. Stitch on the right side,
equal distance on each side of the seam line. Remove basting. The slot seam is used as a trimming seam on firm fabrics.

**Piped.** Cut a true bias piece of material, fold it, and place it in the seam so that all the raw edges come together and so that when a plain seam is stitched the piping will be from \( \frac{3}{8} \) to 3/16 inch wide, depending on the design. Pipings are used as a trim and may be of either selfsame or contrasting material.

**Corded.** (Figure 3.) Cable cord \( \frac{3}{8} \)- to \( \frac{1}{2} \)-inch size is preferred for garments. Cover the cord with a true bias piece of material. Hand stitch the cord in the fold or use a machine cording foot attachment to hug the bias up close to the cord. Cover as many yards as needed. Slip in a plain seam and stitch. The decorative corded seam, besides being used on garments, is used in slip covers and box pillows.

**HEMS AND HEMSTITCHES**

Both fabric and fashion determine the hem finish that is used. Delicate and sheer fabrics with circular flounces and ruffles may have a \( \frac{3}{4} \)-inch hem, while heavy woolens may have a 4-inch hem. In a child's dress a wide hem even up to 6 inches is desirable. Hems on women's cotton house dresses and children's wash frocks can be put in by the machine. Hems on all other materials and the fine cottons should be put in by hand. When many ruffles and flounces are used, narrow hems can be put in by the machine hemmer in order to save time, although they are more effective if hemmed by hand.

**STITCHES USED IN HEMS**

The stitches are made from \( \frac{1}{4} \) to \( \frac{3}{8} \) inch apart, depending on the kind of material and the kind of hem used.

**Hemming stitch.** Work from the right to the left with the folded edge to be hemmed pointing toward the sewer. Catch the thread in the folded edge, then take a slanting stitch, catching only a few threads in the material and bringing the needle out on the folded edge. When hemming woolens, a second stitch made over the first one will add to the durability of the stitch. If the hem is made on the straight of the material a straight hemming stitch is better. Catch the thread as before, bring the needle out on top and close to the folding edge and take a small stitch into the material even with the folded edge of the hem, bringing the needle out again through the folded edge.

**Blindstitch.** This is similar to the straight hemming stitch except that instead of bringing the needle out through the fold or the hem it is caught into the upper part of the fold, a short stitch is taken, and there is no visible stitch on the folded edge. As small an amount of material as will hold is taken up, making this a good method where strength is not necessary, as in the case of delicate fabrics.

**Seed or backstitch.** This stitch is used on woolens where silk or bias tape is used, to conceal the raw edge. The stitching is done through the tape. Fasten the thread, take a short backstitch (\( \frac{1}{8} \) inch) catching only a few threads, bring the needle up to the starting place through the tape. Then put the needle through the tape only and run it for \( \frac{1}{4} \) inch, bring it...
up through the tape and take another short backstitch. Leave the thread fairly loose.

This same stitch can be used on sheer materials when tape is not used. First fold back the raw edge 3/16 inch and stitch by hand or machine. Press. Then turn up the hem the required depth and baste. Fine thread and needle are essential for success in this stitch. Work from the right side. A tiny backstitch is taken on the right side of the material, then the needle is slipped through the stitched-back fold for a ¼ to ½-inch stitch.

**Catch-stitch.** This stitch is used on woolens where there is not the second turning of the hem and on coats and jackets having a loose lining. Work from the left to the right, holding the work over the fingers of the left hand. Fasten the thread in the hem side, ½ inch to the right. Insert the needle in the garment side as close as possible to the hem line and take a ⅛-inch stitch to the left. Then ½ inch to the right take a ⅛-inch stitch on the hem side ¼ inch down from the raw edge, but be sure to catch only one thickness of material. When the raw edge of a seam or hem is finished with the catch-stitch the stitch is taken over the raw edge, but through only one thickness of material.

**Overhanging stitch.** Work may be done from right to left or left to right. Turn back the raw edges and press the hem in. Then crease the hem back so that the right sides of the material are together. Sew toward you just barely catching the two edges. Either a straight or slanting stitch may be used. Overhanging is used in sewing on laces or hemming table linen.

**HEMS AND HEM FINISHES**

A cardboard gauge is a useful aid in even hemming. The piece of cardboard must have a square corner and a straight edge. Measure down from the corner the amount needed, mark the joint, cut a gash straight in, then diagonally out to the edge. (Figure 4).

**Plain hem.** (Hand finishing.) Turn the raw edge back ⅜-inch and stitch by machine to give foundation. Press. Use the blind stitch, hemming, or seed stitch. This finish is used on heavy and medium weight silks and rayons, linen, and light-weight cottons.

**Narrow machine hem on bias ruffle.** Press open the joining seams and clip the ends to avoid bulk in the hem. Stitch with the narrowest machine hemmer, using fine thread and a small machine stitch.

**Rolled hem.** (Figure 5, A.) The edge of the material to be rolled must be trimmed free from ravelings. Hold the wrong side of the material toward the worker. Hold the material on the middle finger and roll with the thumb, rolling the edge from you. Either the left or right hand may be used or both hands may be worked together. Keep the fingers free
from perspiration. Rolled hems may be finished with the hemming or overcasting stitch. If the hemming stitch is used, the stitch is taken under but not into the roll. This type of rolled hem is used on ber- theas, collars, and ruffles, on fine cottons, linens, silks, and velvets.

An attractive finish for baby clothes is made by using the over- casting stitch, drawing up the thread to gather the material slightly.

**Damask or napery hem.** (Figure 5, B.) This is used as a finish for table-linen and towels. Fold the hem the desired width. This is usually from ½ to ¾ inch for napkins and wider for table-cloths. Fold the hem back on the right side with the first fold of hem parallel to this third fold. Overhand the two folds together. Crease open.

**French hem.** 1. Turn a narrow hem (½ to ¾ inch wide) toward the right side. Finish by blindstitching. This hem is used for finishing, either straight edges or true bias edges. When finishing satin-back crepe or two-faced material, a contrast is obtained in the finish.

2. This hem is used where lace is sewed to a garment. The hem is held to position and lace sewed on at the same time by the overhanding stitch, holding the lace next to the sewer against the right side of the garment or article. After the sewing is completed the line of over- handing is creased or pressed flat, allowing the lace to stand away from the material.

**Bound hem: silk tape (straight).** For silks, rayons, and light-weight woolens, the raw edge is bound and either machine or hand stitched and then pressed. The blind, hemming, back or seed stitch may be used. The silk tape may be used flat as well as by binding the raw edge. To use it flat, machine stitch the tape ¼ inch from the raw edge. Then hem the other edge to the garment, using any of the stitches just mentioned.

**Bound hem: cotton tape (bias).** (Figure 6.) For heavy-weight wool, silks, and cotton materials. Machine stitch the tape ½ inch from the raw edge. Keep flat. Press. The other folded edge of the tape may be hemmed to the garment by hand, using the hem- ming or back-stitch. Heavy woolens should never have a second turning at the hem.

This is one of the quickest and most commonly used hem finishes for heavy materials. Fine lawn bias is best
Hems for circular flares. Use great care so that they do not pull or stretch out of shape. Handle as little as possible. As circular flares have a tendency to sag, place them on the garment before finishing the edge. Before finishing hang up the garment overnight to permit sagging.

1. For medium cotton and light-weight silks, turn the raw edge back and stitch it, making as small a turn as possible and stitch directly on the edge. Then turn back this stitched edge the desired hem width and hem it down, using the hemming stitch. Make tiny, easy stitches so that they are not noticeable on the right side.

2. For georgettes and chiffons, turn the narrowest possible edge back and baste, taking the basting stitches on the edge. Turn once more and hem down, using the hemming stitch. Remove bastings and press. This makes a soft limp hem.

3. For voiles, organics, batistes, and crisp fabrics, turn the edge and machine-stitch as directed in paragraph 1, above. Then make a second turning and machine-stitch or hand-stitch from the right side directly on the edge.

4. For firm materials such as medium-weight woolens, cotton suitings, and linen, three rows of stitchings are sometimes used which give a trimming effect. Turn the raw edge back \( \frac{3}{4} \) inch, baste, then machine-stitch from the right side, making the first stitching close to the edge, the second \( \frac{3}{4} \) inch from the first, and the third \( \frac{3}{4} \) inch from the second. Trim the raw edge close to the last row of stitching.

Circular hems. (Figure 7, A.)

For wool material run two rows of gathering threads, one \( \frac{3}{4} \) inch from the raw edge, the other \( \frac{3}{16} \) inches from it. Turn up the hem the desired width and baste near the folded edge. Pull up the gathering threads until the material fits smoothly. With a damp cloth, a pressing cloth, and a hot iron, shrink out as much of the fullness as possible. Finish the hem with the flat-tape method (Figure 7, B).

For silks, rayons, and cottons use the same method as given for wool but do not attempt to shrink the fullness out.

To remove fullness by darts, turn up the hem the desired width. Baste in place. Even the fullness by pinning in place. Remove the fullness by stitching small darts.

Fitted-faced hems. Cut fitted facings with the same grain of the
Figure 8. Fitted-faced hem.

MITERED CORNERS

Mitered corners are used in the finish of a square neckline. The corners in a wide hem are mitered to avoid bulkiness. Mitered corners are more commonly used in making household articles than in dressmaking.

Used in household articles. Crease the hem as in A, Figure 9, then open and cut off the corner, leaving ¼-inch seam allowance. Fold the right sides together and stitch a seam as in B, Figure 9. Trim the corners of the seam and turn the hem to the wrong side. This makes a diagonal seam at the corner (Figure 9, C). To miter a corner on a border, fold the border crosswise at the point where the corner is to be (Figure 10, A). At the center, B, fold the corners C and D as in Figure 10, B. Stitch on this crease (Figure 10, C). Cut off the corners, leaving a seam allowance. Turn right side out. Seam borders on to the material as in Figure 10, D.

Fitted facings for a square neckline. Pin a true bias piece around a square neck, right sides together, to obtain a
Figure 10. Mitered border.

fitted facing. Turn the corners squarely. Stitch the seam at A. Cut away the material, open the seam, and press. Baste the facing to the neckline. In basting ease the bias so that it will not tighten. Stitch in place as Figure 11, B. Clip the seam edges to avoid bulk. Turn the facing to the wrong side and stitch on the machine or by hand (Figure 11, C).

Figure 11. Fitted facing for square neckline.

Reinforced hem for square neckline. Clip material at the corners and fold the hem the desired width (Figure 12, A). Stitch a triangular piece of cloth across the diagonal ends of the hems (Figure 12, B), then fold and complete the square corner with the set-in piece, and hem to the garment (Figure 12, C).

FABRIC BUTTONHOLES

Bound buttonholes. Bound buttonholes add to the value of a garment. They are used on tailored and semi-tailored garments.

The following combinations may be used: (1) Selfsame material. (2) Material contrasting in color, design, or texture; for example, a light pink may be used with a deeper pink or a plaid with a plain material, or a silk on a woolen.

The spacing and size of buttonholes must be carefully planned. Have
Figure 12. Reinforced hem for square neckline.

the buttonholes extend slightly beyond one edge of the button. The material for binding may be on the bias or straight.

1. Mark with a thread the locations of the buttonholes.

2. Cut a strip 1 inch longer than the desired length and 1¼ inch to 2 inches wider than the desired width.

3. Place the right sides of the material together and baste in place (Figure 13, A).

4. Machine-stitch an oblong as long and as wide as the desired buttonhole is to be. Remove basting thread. Press.

5. Cut down through the center and into each corner, being careful not to cut the machine stitching (Figure 13, B).

6. Draw the facing piece through to the wrong side and bring these pieces exactly to the center of the buttonhole and crease down. This covers the raw edges of the cut. Tack to hold in place.

7. Catch-stitch the buttonholes together on the right side. This holds them in place and makes the finishing easier.

8. On woolen materials, stitch by hand with minute stitches on the right side around the seam lines. The stitches should not be discernable. This adds strength and helps to keep them in place. Bound buttonholes on other fabrics may be held in place by stitching across the folded end, on the wrong side, catching in the triangle piece of material (Figure 13, C).

9. Stitch facing to the garment on the wrong side. Mark ends of buttonholes on facing with pins. Cut facing from pin to pin. Turn under the raw edges and blind-stitch (Figure 14, A). If the buttonhole is reversible, the facing may be cut like the original (Figure 14, B). The corners are neatly tucked in, forming a rectangular frame around the buttonhole. Blind-stitch by hand (Figure 14, C). Finished buttonhole on the right side is seen in Figure 14, D.
Corded buttonhole. This type of buttonhole is used in coats and dresses when a large buttonhole is desired.

1. Cut a bias strip 2 inches wide and as long as the total length of the buttonhole, allowing 2½ inches for each buttonhole.

2. Mark the center of the strip. Baste in two cords, one on either side of the center line, so that when the corded tucks are turned toward each other they just meet. Stitch on the machine as close to the cord as possible.

3. Cut the corded strip into 2½-inch lengths.

4. Place on the garment with the corded tucks down, right side of the material to right side and turned out. Baste.

5. Stitch an oblong as long as the desired buttonhole is to be and as wide as the distance between the seam line of the corded tuck.

6. Cut as directed in the bound buttonhole, and draw the material through to the right side. In this buttonhole the raw edges will be turned back on to the material and the corded tucks will fill the space.

7. Finish as directed in the bound buttonhole.

Eyelet or slash buttonhole. This is a quickly made buttonhole, used on children's clothes and wash dresses of firm material.

1. Cut a strip of material 1 inch longer than the desired length and 1½ inches wider than the desired width.

2. Mark the locations of the buttonholes on the garment.

3. Place the right side of the facing piece to the right side of the garment. Baste.

4. Machine stitch an oblong ¼ inch apart. Cut through the center, being careful not to cut the end threads, and draw the material through on to the wrong side. Turn the raw edges back, leaving a slit opening.

5. The wrong side may be finished by turning under the raw edges of the facing piece and whipping it down.

For children's clothes, the buttonhole can be made stouter by stitching on the right side, around the buttonhole, and close to the edge.
POCKETS

Pockets have two functions—utility and decoration. They are used on tailored and semi-tailored garments, on all kinds of fabrics, in both adults' and children's clothes. Children's dresses, coats, and suits should have pockets if possible.

The type of material used in making pockets influences both the design and the fit of the garment. Material similar in texture is desirable. In the case of heavy woolens, the under part of the pocket may well be made of lighter-weight material, such as silk or cotton.

Pockets must be carefully placed. They are part of the design and accent figure lines. Hip or bust measurements may be distorted by faulty placing of pockets.

Even though patterns indicate where pockets are to go, it is advisable to wait until the first fitting to mark exact location. Pockets should never be placed farther down on a garment than the position of the wrist when the arm is held slightly crooked.

The pockets must harmonize with the rest of the finishes in design, texture, grain of material, and details of stitching, piping or binding.

Bound pocket. This type of pocket is used on women's tailored dresses, suits, and coats, of wool, linen, heavy-weight silks, firm cottons and rayons.

1. Cut pocket facing 1 inch wider than the desired width and twice as long—for example, for a 3-inch pocket, a 4- by 8-inch piece of material may be used. This is the width commonly used in dresses and blouses. Coat pockets are larger; a piece 6 inches wide and 12 inches long is desirable.

2. Crease on the short middle. Place right side to right side, with crease on pocket line.

3. Baste in position. Then machine-stitch an oblong as long and as wide as the opening is to be. Overlap stitching. Count the stitches on the width to be sure that the width of the rectangle will be the same at both ends. An attractive width is 1-inch apart.

Figure 15. Bound pocket.
4. Cut through the two materials on the center line to within about \( \frac{1}{2} \) inch of the ends. Make diagonal slashes exactly to each corner, being careful to cut to but not through the stitching thread (Figure 15, A).

5. Pull the facing through the slit and fill the opening by covering the raw edges with the material (Figure 15, B).

6. Stitch around the pocket by hand on the right side close to the seam lines, making sure that the stitching does not show. This holds the material in place. If machine stitching is used, use fine thread and stitch only on the upper and lower edges and on the seam line.

7. Turn the top section of the underfacing of the pocket down and stitch to lower part in square or rounding fashion, taking care to stitch across diagonal points of the slashings in order to make it more durable and hold its shape better.

8. Double stitch for strength and finish the edge as lightly as possible. Overcasting or a silk tape may be used (Figure 15, C).

**Stand pocket.** This type of pocket is made in the same way as the bound pocket except that in drawing the facing through to the wrong side, both raw edges of the cut rectangle are pressed back on the garment. The pocket is stitched above the center line of the pocket facing—as much above as the depth of the opening (Figure 16, A). The facing on the lower side of the pocket is folded so as to fill in the opening completely (Figure 16, B). The finishing is the same as given in the bound pocket. The upper cut edge will have to be overcast (Figure 16, C).

![Figure 16. Stand pocket.](image)

**Piped pocket.** Proceed as for the bound pocket (1, 2, 3, 4, 5). Then turn the seams away from the opening and arrange folds of the facing section so that the edges meet at the center of the opening. Finish as suggested (6, 7, 8).

A bound pocket has four thicknesses in the edge finish.

A piped pocket has two thicknesses in the edge finish.

**Novelty pocket.** Novelty pockets may be used on children’s clothes or adult’s cotton dresses of firm material. The design of the pocket should
conform to the rest of the garment; for example, a fancy cut is better on plain material. A decorative cut on figured material gives pattern upon pattern.

1. Cut patterns, using pieces of paper in proportions of 1 inch by 2 inches. For a 3-inch pocket, use a rectangular piece of paper 1½ inches by 3 inches. Cut as suggested in Figure 17.

2. Cut facing sections on the straight or bias 1 inch wider than the desired length and two and one-half times as long as the necessary width. For a 3-inch pocket, cut a strip 4 inches by 10 inches.

3. Mark pocket locations on the garment.

4. Place pocket facing right side to right side of garment with the top edge of facing ¼ inch above upper line of pocket.

5. Place pocket pattern ¼ inch down from top edge and mark around it with tailor’s chalk. Remove pattern.

6. Stitch on marked line.

7. Cut through the two sections of cloth a seam’s width (¼ inch) inside of stitching, clipping all points and cutting diagonally to all corners to prevent bulky or drawn seams.

8. Draw pocket section through opening and crease on seam lines. Press carefully.

9. Leave top edge creased back on seam line.

10. Fold lower part of pocket section to form a piping that meets the top seam line.

11. Stitch pocket piping in place on right side of dress close to seam across ends and around lower seam line. Do not stitch across upper seam line.

12. Turn up lower edge of pocket section so that it underlaps top edge ½ inch.

13. Stitch on right side of dress, stitching top seam line to secure under-pocket section. Fasten threads.

14. Stitch pocket together on under side and finish as directed for bound pocket.
Welt pocket. This type of pocket is used on suit jackets and coats. Two pieces are necessary for this pocket—a flap section of the same material or contrasting to the garment, and a pocket section of the same material as the flap. If the material is too heavy, a firm, light-weight lining should be used.

Figure 18. Welt pocket.

1. Baste length of the pocket opening on the right side of the garment.

2. Cut welt section the desired length plus two seam widths and twice as wide as the finished width, plus two seam widths. If a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch by 3 inch welt is desired, cut the material 2 inches by $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Fold through the center with the right side in, and stitch across both ends. Clip corners, turn right side out, and press. This makes a rectangular piece 1 inch by 3 inches. It may be stitched around the outer edge if desired.

3. Cut pocket lining 1 inch wider than the welt length and twice the desired depth of the pocket. Mark short center.

4. Place the notched welt on the pocket mark, with right side to right side of garment. Baste in position (Figure 18, A).

5. Place pocket-lining section on top of this with the right sides together and short center on pocket line—that is, the shorter end on the bottom side. Baste in position (Figure 18, B).

6. Stitch pocket lining and welt section to garment with rectangular line of stitching, making the rectangle as narrow as possible—$\frac{1}{4}$ inch is desirable. The lower line of stitching should catch both the welt and pocket section to the garment. The upper line should catch the pocket section to the garment but should just escape catching the welt section.

7. Cut through the pocket section and the garment to within $\frac{1}{4}$ inch of the ends. Cut diagonal slashes into each corner but do not cut the thread.

8. Draw pocket section through slash to under side of garment leaving welt on right side (Figure 18, C). Press on seam line.

9. Bring top half of the pocket section down over opening and stitch


Lap Pocket. The lap pocket is made in the same way as the welt pocket except that the flap is sewed to the top edge instead of the lower edge.

Patch pocket. A double stitching will strengthen a patch pocket. If a single stitching only is used a triangle stitching should be made at the top to keep the pocket from ripping. On children's clothes a strip of cotton straight tape placed on the wrong side of the garment, caught by the stitching at the top of the pocket, will tend to keep the pocket from tearing the material (Figure 19).

PLACKETS

Narrow-hem placket. Make a narrow hem on each side of the opening, the upper one folded under to form a lap which is held in place by a diagonal line of stitching at the lower end of the placket (Figure 20). This type of placket is used on infant's dresses and gertrudes.

Continuous facing placket. (Bound and faced.) Cut a lengthwise strip of material twice the length of the placket and 1½ inches wide. Crease the center of the width of the strip. Mark the center of the length of the strip; trim the material away ½ inch from the center of the length and to within ⅜ inch of the center of the width (Figure 21, A). The wide part of the strip will make a lap which is the underside of the placket. The narrow part of the strip will face the top or front of the placket. Place the right side of the wider facing to the right side of the garment on the underside of the placket for a lap. Baste a ⅜-inch seam to within ½ inch of the lower end of the placket. Beginning at this point, sew the facing by hand, using small stitches and easing the fullness in around the end of the placket to within ⅜ inch above the end. Lay the remainder of the strip to the upper side of the placket and stitch in place (Figure 21, B). Turn under the raw edges and hem down by hand or machine stitch (Figure 22). This placket is used on children's bloomers, boys' suits, and children's and adults' dresses.

Seam, tucked, or open-welt placket. (Figure 23.) This is the simplest type of placket and is used on wool skirts. The placket is a continuation of the Tucked or Open Welt seam described on page 9. Sew the seam on the outside of the garment as far as the desired placket opening. Then,
without breaking the thread, continue to sew the same distance from the folded edge to the top of the skirt, but only through the upper or top piece of material. Sew a facing to the under side or fasten a straight cotton tape on the inside of the length of the placket as a reinforcement for the fasteners.

**Plackets for necklines** includes Faced and Bound Plackets, Fitted Faced Plackets on the Right Side, and Tailored Plackets.

To make **FACED AND BOUND PLACKETS**:
Facings may be cut various widths from 2 inches to 6 inches for plackets 1 and 2; ½ inch to 6 inches for plackets 3 and 4, and as long as the measurement from the shoulder seam line to 1 inch below the lower edge of the placket.

a. Mark the center length of the facing.

b. Place right side of facing to right side of garment on marked lines, being sure that the facing is placed high enough so that it meets the neckline curves (Figure 25).

c. Stitch placket section to garment.

For the faced placket have stitching a scant two seams-widths apart, so that it will hold 3/16 inch, narrowing the stitch to a point at the lower end. Double-stitch one inch or more around the point for reinforcement (Figure 24, A). Slash from neckline down to end of the placket, taking care not to cut the thread. Turn inside out and crease on the edges. The raw edges of the facing may be turned under and stitched to the garment; or the raw edges may be turned under and stitched and then a straight hemming stitch used to sew it to the garment. Figure 24, B, shows the finished right side.

For the bound placket, stitch the seams apart the desired width of the opening and make the bottom turn a square. Cut down through the center to within ½ inch to ¾ inch of end, and then diagonally into each corner (Figure 24, C). Pull through and fill opening of placket by folding the material back over the raw edges (Figure 24, D). Finish as described under faced plackets.

To make **FITTED FACED PLACKETS ON THE RIGHT SIDE**:
Cut the facing the desired width and length. Lay the right side of the facing on the wrong side of the garment (Figure
Figure 23. Placket for wool skirt.

25. Proceed as when making the plain facing opening for the Faced Placket. When the facing material is turned to the outside of the dress, turn the edges under, press and stitch close to the edge. Figure 26 illustrates the Fitted Faced Placket used as a trim on the right side of the garment.

To make Tailored Placket: The same method is used as in making the Bound Placket except that instead of the folds coming merely to the center of the opening and turning back, each fold must be the full width of the space between the stitchings. It may be stitched straight across the bottom or to a V. The right side must lap over the left (Figure 27, B).

Figure 24. a, b, Faced placket. c, d, Bound placket.

Figure 25. Facing for neckline.

Figure 26. Fitted faced placket.

BINDINGS, PIPINGS, AND FOLDS

Bindings and pipings must be either on an absolutely true bias or on the straight thread of the goods.

A bias cutting gauge which comes with many standard boxes of attachments is useful in cutting narrow strips of either bias or straight materials. Three widths of strips may be cut with this attachment.
PREPARATION OF BIAS

A bias is the diagonal of the cloth made by folding the cloth with the lengthwise threads directly over and parallel to the crosswise threads (Figure 28, A). Crease along the diagonal, then cut on the crease. Mark the width of the strip on the wrong side with a light pencil line drawn parallel to the diagonal line and the width of the binding from it. The ends of the strips should be cut straight with the thread of the material.

To sew two bias strips together place them with the two right sides together and the two ends meeting so that the bias edges of one are at right-angles to the other, and the point of one extends from 1/2 to 1 inch beyond the other. Stitch across 1/4 or 1/2 inch from the edge, as the case may be (Figure 28, B).

If long strips of bias are needed which necessitate many seams, cut a bias several times the width desired. Mark as many strips the desired width on this as possible, but along the two outside edges. Then join the two straight edges along the thread of the material, as indicated in Figure 29, with the seams a' and b, b' and c, c' and d coinciding. After the seam is stitched, cut along the marking lines for each strip. This gives a long piece of bias with the seams joined correctly.

BINDINGS

Single. Used on heavy materials and made by stitching one edge of binding strip to garment, folding it over seam and hemming.

Double. Cut bias four times the desired finished width plus seams—1 1/4 inch or wider.
depending on the bulkiness of the material. Fold on the middle line, bringing raw edges together, and press. Be careful to have the folded edge on a true bias. Stitch bias edge to edge to be finished, with right sides together. Bring the fold over the raw edges, baste close to seam line, blind hem.

**Self.** Used on straight or true bias edges or outward curves. A binding effect may be obtained without the addition of a separate piece of material. Turn raw edge up on right side of garment \( \frac{1}{2} \) inch or more. Stitch a tuck \( \frac{1}{4} \) inch or more from folded edge, depending on the effect desired. Bring raw edge to underside and finish as for binding. This is a suitable finish for collars, cuffs, blouse edges, etc. Neckline curves or sharp corners cannot be finished in this way.

**PIPINGS**

Cut the piping strip at least twice the width of the desired trimming effect plus seams. Turn under edge of piping a seam's width. Press and stitch. Place right side of piping to right side of garment, with raw edges together. Stitch piping to garment (Figure 30, A). Turn piping to under side of garment and extend a fold the desired distance beyond the seam (Figure 30, B). Baste and press. Blindstitch or seed stitch in place.

**FRENCH FOLD**

This type of finish gives the effect of piping and is desirable for a finer underfinish for sleeves and necklines. Strips are usually cut bias and in various widths, depending on reinforcement or finish necessary for underside of garments.

Fold strip as indicated in Figure 31, A, making the first turn a little more than one third the width of the strip. Press. Place folded strip with raw edge side to right side of garment, with raw edge pointing toward and even with the garment
edge to be finished. Stitch as shown in Figure 31, B. Turn to under-side, press, and secure to shoulder seams or under-arm seams if possible. Leave under-fold free; or if this cannot be done, blind stitch on under side.

PLAITS

Kinds of Plaits. Plaits cut as part of the garment, inserted in slashes or seams, kick plaits, box plaits, inverted plaits, etc., all play a part in the design of the garment as well as adding inches to the width of it. They are an accenting line and may make a person appear taller or shorter, stouter or more slender. Consequently they should be used with a great deal of care.

Kick plait. Fold the plait material lengthwise at the center, crease, fold again lengthwise, allowing seams at the raw edges. Crease. This divides the material into fourths. Lay this material on the dress so that one fourth of the material is on one side and three fourths of it on the other side of the line where the plait is to be. Stitch as in Figure 32, making the two rows of stitching about 1 inch apart. Cut through both materials to the top point, and to each side point. Turn the material to the wrong side. Place the two raw edges of the plait together and seam. Press plait into place. Overcast or bind the raw edges. The plait must not be too wide. From 3 to 4 inches finished is a good width. At the present time arrowheads are not used at the top to secure the upper seam line to prevent sagging. If necessary, a single tacking may be used at the upper and outer corners of the plait, as at A and B, Figure 33.

FASTENINGS

Steps in making buttonholes

1. Mark position of buttonhole, giving regard to spacing between buttonholes and the distance from the edge of the hem or band (Figure 34, A).

2. Size. This should be \( \frac{1}{4} \) inch more than the diameter of the button, depending on the thickness of the button.

3. Cut the buttonhole exactly along the thread of the material.

4. Work the buttonholes from right to left. Overcast the edges to prevent them from slipping or fraying while being worked. Hold the slit
diagonally across the cushion of the first finger of the left hand. Insert the needle between the two layers of cloth and bring it out exactly below the end of the slit. The distance from the edge will be governed by the size of the buttonhole and the kind of material. The last overcasting stitch will be exactly opposite the first one (Figure 34, B). Bring the needle through immediately below the first overcasting stitch. The thread is now in position for the first buttonhole stitch at the inner end of the slit provided the latter has been cut at right-angles to the edge of the garment. Pass the needle through the slit and bring it up through the cloth exactly beside the last stitch. While the needle is still in the cloth, pass the double strand of thread from the eye of the needle around the point from right to left, then pull the needle through the cloth and straight up from the edge of the slit so that the twist or purl is on the raw edge. Repeat as in Figure 34, C. The outer end may be finished as a fan, and the inner end by a cross bar (Figure 34, D), or both ends may be finished by the cross-bar (Figure 34, E). To make the bar, make two or three long stitches full across the end on top of each other. Work tiny blanket stitches over the long stitches just made (Figure 34, D and E).

Hooks and eyes. The edge of a circular eye should merely peep over the edge of the garment. The end of the hook should be placed 3 inch back from the opposite edge. A straight eye may be set wherever it is needed on the garment. Use a buttonhole stitch to fasten hooks and eyes to the garment (Figure 35).

Snap fasteners. Set the ball part of the fastener on the garment so that in fastening, pressure will come from the socket part of the fastener. Snap fasteners may be sewed to the garment by an over-and-over stitch or by the buttonhole stitch.

Corded loops. Loops may be made of silk or cotton cord, of cord covered with silk or wool material, of silk or wool material alone, or there may be a few threads of silk or cotton, blanket-stitched to form a firm fastening edge.

Cut a true bias four times the width of the finished loop and long enough to make the desired number of buttonholes. Place in this fold a fine cord and stitch the bias to encase the cord. Be sure not to catch the cord with the stitching. Cut off the corners of the seam at one end. At this end sew the fine cord firmly.
to the material, using a needle and thread. Then pull the cord so that the tubing will be turned right side out (Figure 36, A). The seam makes padding for the tubing. To make the tubing "rounder" and firmer, cord or yarn is drawn through it. Attach the cord or yarn to a bodkin or tapestry needle. Draw into the tubing. Cut the tubing into lengths suited to the size of the button. Lay the loops between the facing and the garment as in Figure 36, B. Stitch two or more times on the seam to prevent loops pulling out. Turn facing to the wrong side and press.

**GARMENT REPAIR**

Proper care of clothes adds materially to their life. Frequent brushing and cleaning, together with mending and darning as soon as holes appear, are excellent ways of stretching the clothing dollar. Consider the time, effort, and care spent in repair in relation to the value of the garment or article.

**DARNING**

When darning, use as fine a needle as will carry the thread. A crewel needle is good for a stocking darn. Select darning threads for stockings from silk, mercerized cotton, cotton, or wool depending on the type of hose. For garment darns, ravelings of the material to be darned, fine cotton thread, or split silk may be used. The threads used in darning should be as near the weight and color of the material as possible.

**Hosiery darn.** Holes in hosiery should be darned as soon as they appear. A stocking darner will help to keep the threads from being drawn too tight. Darn on the right side. The darn should extend far enough from the hole on all sides to strengthen the weak places. Begin the darn without using a knot, taking a tiny backstitch to hold the thread. Put in the lengthwise threads first, making rows of small running stitches in the form of a diamond to distribute the strain over a greater area. Let every other thread go over the edge of the hole in crossing it, and the alternate thread go under it. Do not draw the thread tight. Leave a small loop of floss at the turning of each row to provide for stretching and shrinkage. When the lengthwise threads have been put in, weave the filling stitches over and
under the foundation threads already laid (Figure 37). Fasten the thread with a few backstitches.

**Garment darn**

1. Darn tears with fine running stitches, weaving in and out and in the same direction as the threads of the material. Heavy materials may be darned on the wrong side. To strengthen the tear, net may be used on the wrong side; the weaving of the running stitches will fasten the net to the garment. A lengthwise or crosswise tear may be repaired by darning across the torn part, using very fine stitches but not drawing the thread tight (Figure 38, A). Omit the loop used in stocking darning. A diagonal tear needs two sets of threads crossing each other (Figure 38, B). Keep the stitchings on the grain of the material. A three-cornered tear may be treated as a lengthwise and crosswise tear, the threads crossing each other at the corners (Figure 38, C).

Clean cuts in woolen materials may be mended with tailor's mending tissue.

2. Holes caused by the wearing through of the material have weakened material surrounding them. The darning must be extended far enough to strengthen worn parts and to find strong material to support the darn. Placing a piece of similar material under the hole and catching it in the darning will add to the strength of the darn.

**PATCHING**

Patches are used when holes are too large to be darned neatly and firmly, or when they will be less conspicuous than darns. If striped, plaid, or figured material is to be mended, the design in the patch must match the design in the material.

**The hemmed patch.** This patch is used on undergarments and on any other garment or article that receives frequent laundering. Since there are two stitchings, the patch is firm and flat. Cut away the worn edges of the hole so that it is square or oblong in shape. The piece for the patch must be cut large enough to extend beyond the hole and to allow turning under the raw edge. Cut the patch parallel with the threads of the material in both directions. Place the patch on the wrong side of the garment with the right side of the patch touching the wrong of the garment. If the material is figured, be sure that the designs match and that the threads of both pieces are exactly parallel. Pin to place. Turn to the right side. Make a cut between \( \frac{3}{4} \) and \( \frac{1}{2} \) inch at each corner of the hole on the diagonal, and turn under the four sides of the square. Pin and baste carefully to the patch. Hem in place, using the hemming stitch. Turn to the wrong side, and trim the patch to the same width on all sides of the hole. Turn under the raw edges of the patch, baste, and hem. The width of the seam...
depends on the weight of the material, the weave and the amount of reinforcement required. For firmly woven materials, such as long cloth, a \( \frac{1}{2} \)-inch seam is sufficient.

**The overhand patch.** This type of patch is used mostly on outside garments because it is less conspicuous than a hemmed patch. It is less serviceable, and should not be used on garments that require constant laundering. The weight and weave of the materials determine the width of each finished seam. For firmly woven materials such as ginghams, the edges of the seams should be about \( \frac{1}{2} \) inch wide. Trim the hole to a square or rectangle, cutting away the worn edges, always keeping the cut edge on a thread of the goods. Cut the piece for the patch on the grain of the material and larger than the hole. Place the patch on the garment, with the right side of the patch to the wrong side of the garment, matching perfectly the thread and design. Baste in position. Clip the corners about \( \frac{1}{

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