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Care and Repair of Clothing

No Author Listed
CARE AND REPAIR OF CLOTHING

Articles to be mended --

1. Patch - Any cotton garment such as apron, dress, petticoat, man's shirt or sampler.
2. Darn - Stocking, woolen dress, or sampler.
3. Buttonhole - Apron, dress, undergarment or sampler.

In patching a garment made of striped, checked or figured material, the pattern of the figure must be matched. If the patch is to be put on a wash garment, the material for the patch should be shrunked. The material should be faded to match the garment.

Hommed Patch --

Trim the hole in form of square or oblong. Cut diagonally 1 inch at each corner. Turn back 1/inch to the wrong side on all sides of the hole. Cut the patch so that it will be larger than the hole on all sides, taking care to match the figure or strips if there be such. Have warp threads of garment and patch parallelized. Pin patch in place. Turn inside edges of patch 1/8 inch on to right side. Daste patch half way between outer edge of patch and hole. Hem patch down on wrong side and edges of hole on right side. Remove bastin threads. Tr press on wrong side.

Darning is a process of weaving over worn portions. In darning, use a thread or cotton of color and texture matching the material as nearly as possible.

Darning Stitch -- Begin a little distance above the worn place and work downward. Follow the warp threads, weaving over and under the weft threads. Carry the weave a little beyond.
the worn place then turn and work upward, passing the needle over the threads which you worked under while coming downward and under the threads which were worked over.

**Woven Darn**

1. Use the darning stitch lengthwise covering the worn place.

2. Turn the work and make the same stitch crosswise of the garment. Do not draw the threads too tightly.

**Stocking Darn** — The darn in the foot of the stocking should be made on the right side and in the leg on the wrong side, as the underside of a darn is usually the smoother.

1. Place the darning inside the stocking.

2. Trim the ragged edges.

3. Begin at the right hand side ½ inch from the edge of the hole and parallel with the ribs of the stocking. Point needle from you and take two stitches, leaving ½ inch of thread to be cut off afterward. Take a couple of stitches on opposite side of hole. Do the same process on the return and do not draw stitches tightly.

4. Continue making each row a little longer at both top and bottom until center has been reached, then decrease in same proportion. Edge of darn must never be made in single thread, as a single thread is not strong enough to bear the strain.

**Plain Button Holes** — Button holes should be properly spaced and marked before they are cut. The slit should be cut 1/8 to 1/4 inch larger than the button to be used and straight with the thread of the goods if possible. Have the thread just long enough to complete one button hole, usually 18 inches. For goods of medium weight use No. 50 thread and a No. 8 needle. A large needle frays the edges.
Begin working at the end farthest from the fold of the hem and work from right to left. Strand the button hole as follows: Insert the needle at the right-hand end of the hole and a little above the edge of the cut. Bring it out across the end on the side toward you and at the same distance from the edge as it was inserted, leaving an end of thread half an inch long.

Carry the thread across the lower side of the button hole and take a stitch under the left-hand end of the hole in the same way as at the first end. Carry the thread across the upper side and take a stitch in the same hole with the first stitch. This strengthens the button hole.

Now overcast the edges of the button hole, making shallow stitches, and just enough of them to keep the edges from fraying, making about three stitches on each side.

Place the button hole over the left forefinger and make button hole stitches working from right to left. Curve the stitches around the end which gets the strain and for the other end, making two stitches the complete width of the button hole for the bar. Take over and over stitch or blanket stitches over these threads forming the bar.

Cautions: Do not place stitches so that they overlap each other but close enough to fit the puris together firmly. Do not draw stitches too tightly, the cloth should not be puckered.