

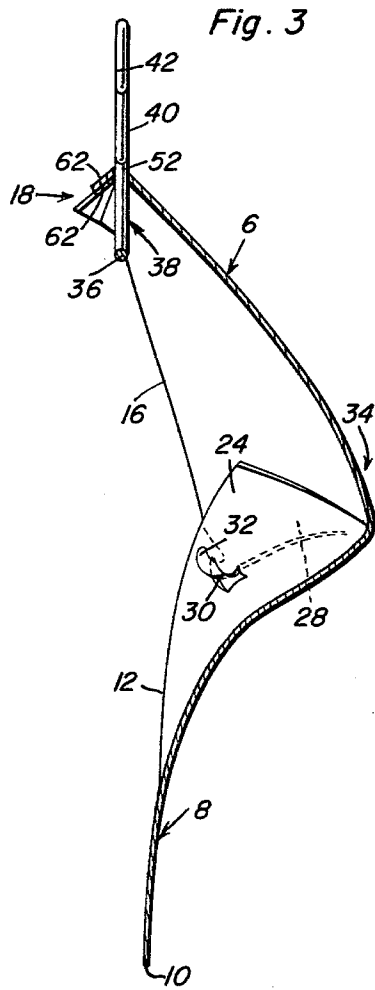
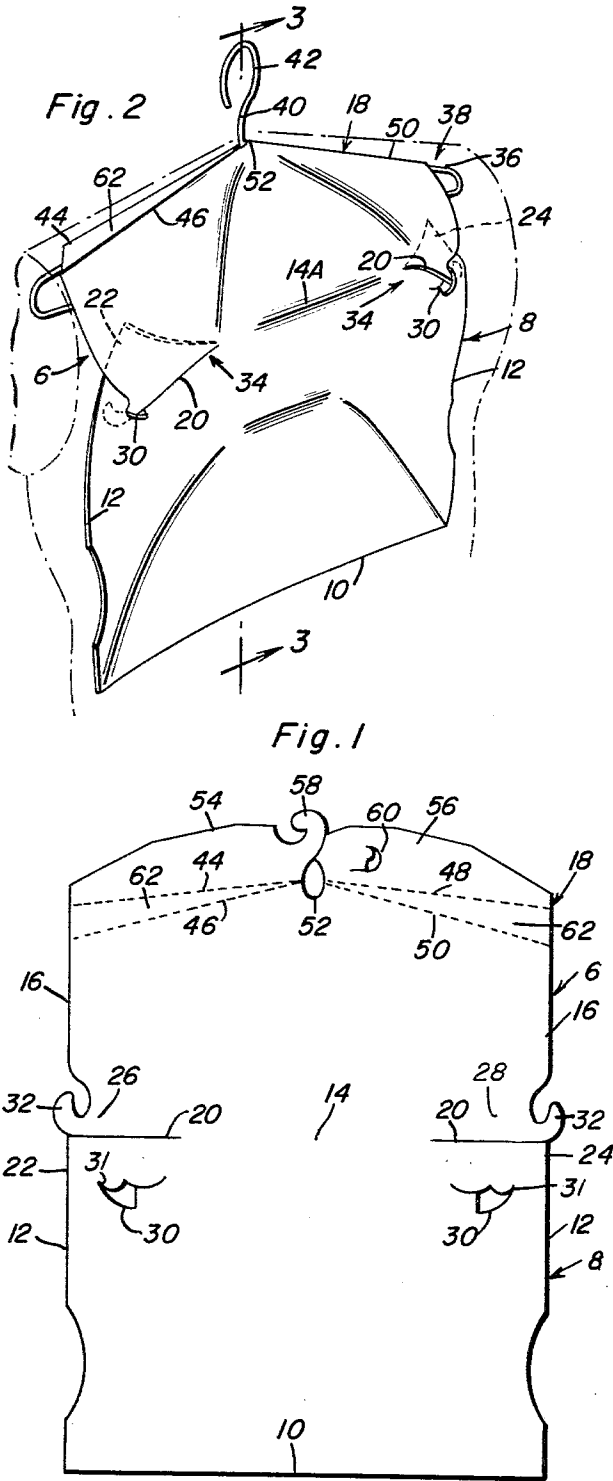
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SHAPE IMPARTING FORM FOR GARMENTS

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SHAPE IMPARTING FORM FOR GARMENTS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 223-68)

The present invention relates to a form which is functionally designed and structurally made to enable a user thereof to fit the upper or bodice part of a dress there-
 over for temporary handling and storage subsequent to
 laundering the same and which functions to impart shape
 thereto simulating the shape and appearance of the com-
 ponent parts thereof when being worn, and has to do,
 more particularly, with a conventional-type wire or an
 equivalent garment hanger and a sheet material novelly
 patterned form which is connectible to the frame of the
 hanger and contributes the garment shaping feature to
 the hanger.

Persons conversant with the art to which the invention
 relates are aware that hook-suspended garment hangers
 of many and varied types and forms are old and that,
 likewise, shape-imparting and shape-maintaining forms
 and inserts for women's wearing apparel and garments
 are well known and are also of distinguishably different
 styles and construction. Hangers and forms singly and
 collectively are popularly used but primarily for display
 and sales purposes in store windows, fashion shops,
 apparel merchandising stores and the like. While the
 present invention is such that it could satisfactorily serve
 in a competitive manner in establishments such as those
 mentioned and for display it has been evolved and pro-
 duced primarily, but not necessarily, for use by dry clean-
 ers and garment repair and servicing places of business
 with the idea that when the form is attached to the
 hanger and a dress is fitted over both hanger and form,
 the form functions with requisite nicety to impart a shape
 to the garment preventing wrinkling and simulating the
 appearance when worn and adapts the same for use by
 delivery men and thereafter in one's clothes closet with or
 without the commonly used transparent or other types of
 garment bags.

As is perhaps already evident from the disclosure,
 particularly after having glanced at the views of the
 drawing, the garment hanger is and will continue to be of
 any conventional type. On the other hand the card-
 board, sheet material, plastic or equivalent form is of the
 utmost significance and is characterized by features not
 found, it is believed, in similarly constructed and per-
 forming prior art forms.

The herein disclosed form features as one of its com-
 ponents parts an adapter, that is adapter means which
 is provided at the upper end of the form and which can
 be capped or hooded over the garment hanger, which
 when properly attached stays put and which not only
 accommodates the hook and shank of the hanger but
 provides amply broad surfaces for adequate support of
 the shoulder portions of the bodice, waist or other co-
 operable part of the dress or other garment.

The adapter also is characterized by cooperating flaps
 or flanges which assist in shaping and constructing the
 adapter means and which have their inner ends fashioned
 one with a hook and the other with a keeper slot or open-
 ing into which the hook is slipped by hand and fastened
 to thus define and provide the novel adapter.

The invention also features a form which is character-
 ized by upper and lower half portions constituting sec-
 tions or component parts of a generally rectangular bend-
 able cardboard blank or panel. The lower part func-
 tions as a sort of a brace for the back of the waist part

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of the dress or garment and in addition cooperates
 with the junctional area of the upper part in defining a
 forwardly and downwardly sloping vest-like shield and
 wherein the adjacent portions of the two parts are fash-
 ioned into projecting breast-like cups which retain and
 impart the shape to the oriented portions of the front of
 the bodice cooperable therewith.

Then, too, novelty is predicated on a normally flat
 cardboard or equivalent panel which is marginally cut
 and provided with fold lines to define the adapter at the
 upper end and which is slitted at its median portion with
 the slits in line with each other and designating the
 upper and lower half sections or parts and also wherein
 the junctional portions adjacent the slits are provided
 with hooked keeper tongues fitting into keeper slots or
 openings provided therefor in such a manner that the
 portions of the cardboard which are hooked together
 are overlapped and define the desired protruding cup-
 like portions.

These together with other objects and advantages
 which will become subsequently apparent reside in the
 details of construction and operation as more fully here-
 inafter described and claimed, reference being had to
 the accompanying drawing forming a part hereof,
 wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and
 in which:

FIGURE 1 is a plan view of a cardboard or equivalent
 sheet material blank or panel wherein the component
 parts are cut, shaped and marginally delineated to pro-
 vide the coacting features necessary in forming the
 hand-made form and applying it to the garment hanger;

FIGURE 2 is a view in perspective showing a con-
 ventional wire or equivalent garment hanger and show-
 ing, what is more important, the form, how it is fash-
 ioned to provide the features desired and how, in
 phantom lines, the bodice of a dress or garment is
 fitted in place; and

FIGURE 3 is a section on an enlarged scale taken on
 the plane of the line 3-3 of FIGURE 2 looking in the
 direction of the arrows.

The normally flat cardboard or sheet material blank
 or panel is of general rectangular form when laid flat
 and is characterized by an upper generally rectangular
 part or section 6 and a complementary generally rectangu-
 lar lower part or section 8. The bottom edge of the lat-
 ter is denoted at 10 and the transverse edges or ends at
 12. The bottom portion of the upper part is denoted
 generally at 14, the transverse ends at 16 and the upper
 end portion is denoted generally at 18.

Since the two companion sections or parts 6 and 8 are
 of the utmost in significance it should be noted that at
 the junctional portion, which is bendable as shown in FIG.
 2 when in use, two aligned relatively short slits 20 are
 provided. These are closed at their inner ends and open
 at the outer ends through the marginal edges and they
 define left and right corner portions 22 and 24 for the
 lower section 8 and left and right corner portions 26 and
 28 for the upper section. Each corner portion 22 and
 24 is provided with a semi-crescent shaped keeper slot 30,
 the outer restricted end portions being denoted at 31.
 These slots in effect are similar to bayonet slots in that
 they serve to accommodate the hooked tongues or as-
 sembling and connecting hooks 32 which are carried by
 the respective corner portions 26 and 28. In other words,
 the corners 22 and 24 are ducked underneath and are
 overlapped by the two corners 26 and 28 and at the same
 time the tongues or keeper hooks 32 are engaged in their
 respective keeper slots 30 with the result that the two
 sections 6 and 8 provide a creased ridge as at 14A in FIG.
 2. In other words, this is the same area 14 except that it
 has now been transformed into a prominent ridge or

crease. Also, by overlapping the corner portions and interconnecting the tongues and slots it will be evident that the spaced cardboard portions are caused to protrude as at 34 and to thus provide breast-like cups. At the same time the lower half-portion 8 then becomes a stabilizing brace with the result that the lower edge 10 is approximately in line with the bottom bar of the frame portion 36 of the wire garment hanger 38. This is to say the edge 10 is in a plane not only with the frame but with the axial suspension shank 40 and its pole-engaging hook 42. However and in order to maintain the overall form within the confines of the dress or other garment in the manner shown in FIG. 2 it is necessary and desirable to construct the upper end portion of the section 6 so that it provides a hanger capping and sheathing adapter. This adapter is characterized by outwardly diverging fold and crease lines, those at the left being denoted at 44 and 46 in FIG. 1 and those at the right by the numerals 48 and 50. The converging ends join with a cutout hole 52 which serves to accommodate the shank of the hook as shown in FIGS. 2 and 3. The foldlines 44 and 48 also define a pair of elongated flaps 54 and 56 whose inner adjacent ends are separably connectible as shown. One end is provided with a curvate hook-shaped tongue 58 which is adapted to be engaged with the keeper slot 60. In other words, by bending the cardboard on the lines 44 and 46 and 48 and 50 substantially V-shaped webs 62 are provided at the left and right and these webs in turn provide outwardly and downwardly inclined shoulder portions which overlie the frame of the wire hanger and provide seats for the shoulder portions of the bodice of the dress or other garment in the manner shown in FIG. 2. It follows that by providing the cutout and shaped cardboard or equivalent bendable blank of FIG. 1 with the slits 20, the corner portions 22 and 26 at the left, 24 and 28 at the right and overlapping the corners and interconnecting the hooks 32 with their respective keeper slots 30 the median portion of the overall blank is fashioned into a form characterized by an upper outwardly and downwardly sloping part with the imitation breast cups 34 and the downwardly and rearwardly sloping brace or apron-like part 8 which engages the interior of the back of the dress and thus enables the garment hanger and form to cooperate in the manner shown and described.

It is believed that a careful consideration of the specification in conjunction with the views of the drawing will enable the reader to thoroughly understand the construction and delineation of the flat blank in FIG. 1 but also

the manner in which the parts 6 and 8 are interconnected to provide the adapter and overall form depicted in FIGS. 2 and 3. Accordingly, a more extended description is thought to be unnecessary.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

A shaping form for the upper portion of a dress comprising a generally rectangular panel including a top edge and a bottom edge and generally parallel side edges, each side edge having an inwardly extending slit adjacent the middle of the edge defining pairs of flaps orientated in overlapping relation and defining generally conical projections with the apex of each projection generally coinciding with the inner end of said slit, means detachably interconnecting the flaps for retaining them in overlapping position to retain the projections when in use thus simulating a pair of breast-like cups for positioning within a dress to form the dress in accordance therewith, the top edge of said panel including a centrally disposed entrance slit terminating in a generally circular aperture receiving the hook shank of a conventional coat hanger, laterally extending diverging foldlines extending outwardly from the aperture defining shoulder portions overlying the shoulder portions of a garment hanger, means interconnecting the edges of the entrance slit in overlapping relation thus orientating the portions of the panel between the foldlines on each side of the panel in a downwardly inclined manner to engage the shoulder portions of a garment hanger and to form relatively wide supporting areas for engaging the dress thereby shaping the shoulder portions of the dress in a manner similar to the manner of the dress engaging the shoulders of a wearer.

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