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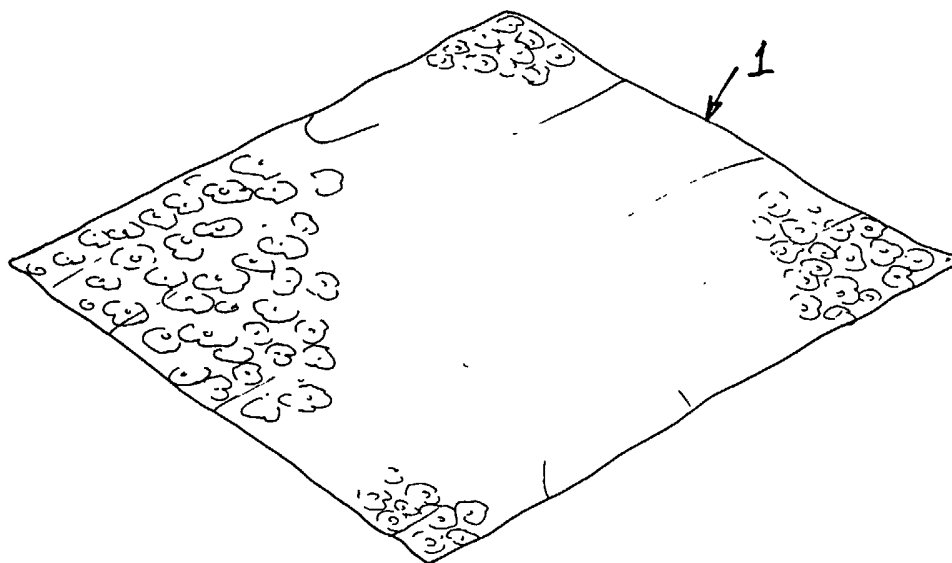
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(54) Title: METHOD FOR MAKING SHOULDER PORTIONS FOR CLOTHES, BATH COSTUMES AND THE LIKE



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method for making shoulder portions for clothes, bath costumes and the like, comprising the steps of providing a fabric piece, impregnating and/or spreading or coupling the fabric piece with a plastic material and cutting for the impregnated fabric piece strips for forming the shoulder portions to be applied to a cloth, a bath costume or the like.



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## DESCRIPTION

**METHOD FOR MAKING SHOULDER PORTIONS FOR CLOTHES, BATH COSTUMES AND THE LIKE****BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

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The present invention relates to a method for making shoulder portions and the like for cloth articles, bath costumes and the like, and also relates to the thus made shoulders.

10

As is known, for forming shoulders for cloth articles, bath costumes and the like, it is at present necessary to use strip or band elements which do not have the same aesthetic aspect of the fabric making the cloth article on which the shoulder strips or bands are applied.

15

Another prior solution, which allows to at least partially overcome that problem, provides to make, by fabric strips taken from the same cloth article fabric, shoulder portions by performing a plurality of seaming operations, which practically provide a tubular fabric.

20

Such a making method, in addition to being very complex to be carried out, since it is necessary to perform a plurality of seaming operations, is not satisfactory from a mere aesthetic standpoint, since the shoulder portion would necessarily assume a tubular cord configuration, the size of which cannot be changed depending on the requirements.

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**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Accordingly, the aim of the present

invention is to solve the above mentioned problem, by providing a method for making shoulder portions and the like for cloth articles, bath costumes and the like, allowing to make reinforced shoulders, by using  
5 the same fabric forming the cloth article to which the shoulder portions would be applied, without performing any seaming operations.

Within the scope of the above mentioned aim, a main object of the present invention is to  
10 provide such a method allowing to make any desired types of shoulder patterns, thereby providing shoulder portions having an optimum finishing quality.

Yet another object of the present invention  
15 is to provide such a method which is adapted to provide a lot of different types of shoulder portions which are very reliable in operation and of long duration.

Yet another object of the present invention  
20 is to provide such a method allowing to make shoulder portions for cloth articles, bath costumes and the like, which can be easily made starting from easily commercially available elements and materials.

According to one aspect of the present  
25 invention, the above mentioned aim and objects, as well as yet other objects, which will become more apparent hereinafter, are achieved by a method for making shoulder portions and the like for cloth articles, bath costumes and the like, characterized  
30 in that said method comprises the step of providing a fabric piece, impregnating or coupling or spreading said fabric piece with a plastic material, and

cutting from said impregnated or coupled fabric piece strips forming shoulder portions to be applied to said cloth article, bath costume and the like.

5                   **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Further characteristics and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent hereinafter from the following detailed disclosure of  
10 a preferred, though not exclusive, embodiment of a method for making shoulder portions and the like for cloth articles, bath costumes and the like, which is shown, by way of an indicative, but not limitative, example, in the figures of the accompanying drawings,  
15 where:

Figure 1 is a schematic view showing the fabric material;

Figure 2 shows the fabric material as impregnated or coupled with a plastic material;

20 Figure 3 shows strips cut from the impregnated and/or coupled fabric material;

Figure 4 shows a possible pattern or configuration of a shoulder;

25 Figure 5 shows a cloth article comprising the shoulders according to the invention;

Figure 6 shows the fabric material used for making the shoulders, which is layered so as to present two fabric outer layers and a fabric middle layer to which is coupled or spread upon a resin;

30 and

Figure 7 shows a shoulder portion formed by three layers.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT**

With reference to the number references of the above mentioned figures, the method for making shoulder portions and the like for cloth articles, bath costumes and the like, according to the present invention, comprises the step of providing a fabric piece 1, or fabric portion, which is directly taken from the fabric piece to make the cloth article, bath costume or the like.

The fabric piece or portion 1 is coupled with or impregnated by a plastic material or a synthetic resin, preferably comprising an optically transparent or clear polyurethane resin, embedding the fabric material to provide a set thickness, thereby providing a soft and compact layer, having high surface gloss and lustre properties.

Upon impregnating or coupling the fabric material with the plastic material layer 2, a plurality of strips 3 are cut therefrom, which strips, owing to the provision of said plastic material layer or film 2, will be perfectly finished at their edges, and will have sufficient softness properties.

The shoulders 3 can be coupled to conventional fitting such as bridge elements, length adjusters and the like, generally indicated by the reference number 4.

At the end portion of the strips it is possible, if required, to form eyelets, by simply folding one above the other the end portions and thermosealing them at any desired points.

Alternately, the method according to the present invention comprises the step of making a shoulder by using a multiple-layer coupled material, comprising two fabric layers 1 and 1' and a synthetic resin middle layer 2, which are applied by a coupling or spreading or impregnating method.

With the disclosed arrangement, it would be possible to make a shoulder starting from the same fabric as that of the cloth article, bath costume and the like, without the need of performing seaming operations, which shoulder does not unravel and has a pleasant feel since it is coupled to or impregnated with a soft and flexible plastic material or a synthetic resin.

The coupled, or impregnated, or spread upon fabric, moreover, can be easily and quickly processed, without the need of performing seaming operations, since the fabric layer or layers 1 and 1' would be constructionally stabilized and perfectly finished.

From the above disclosure it should be apparent that the invention fully achieves the intended aim and objects.

In fact, the invention provides a method for easily making shoulders which can be easily coupled to any desired cloth articles or bath costumes, while always providing very good aesthetic effects.

The invention, as disclosed, is susceptible to several modifications and variations, all of which will come within the scope of the invention.

Moreover, all of the constructional details

can be replaced by other technically equivalent elements.

In practicing the invention, the used materials, as well as the contingent size and shapes,  
5 can be any, depending on requirements.

**CLAIMS**

1. A method for making shoulder portions and the like for cloth articles, bath costumes and the like, characterized in that said method comprises the step of providing a fabric piece, impregnating or coupling or spreading said fabric piece with a plastic material, and cutting from said impregnated or coupled fabric piece strips forming shoulder portions to be applied to said cloth article, bath costume and the like.

2. A method, according to the preceding claim, characterized in that said plastic material provides a desired thickness in said fabric piece.

3. A method, according to the preceding claims, characterized in that said fabric piece is made of the same fabric as that used for making said cloth article, bath costume and the like, on which said shoulder is applied.

4. A method, according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that said plastic material comprises an optically clear polyurethane resin.

5. A shoulder for cloth articles, bath costumes and the like, made by a method according to Claims 1 to 4, characterized in that said shoulder comprises a strip constituted by a fabric impregnated with or spread upon by a fluid plastic material.

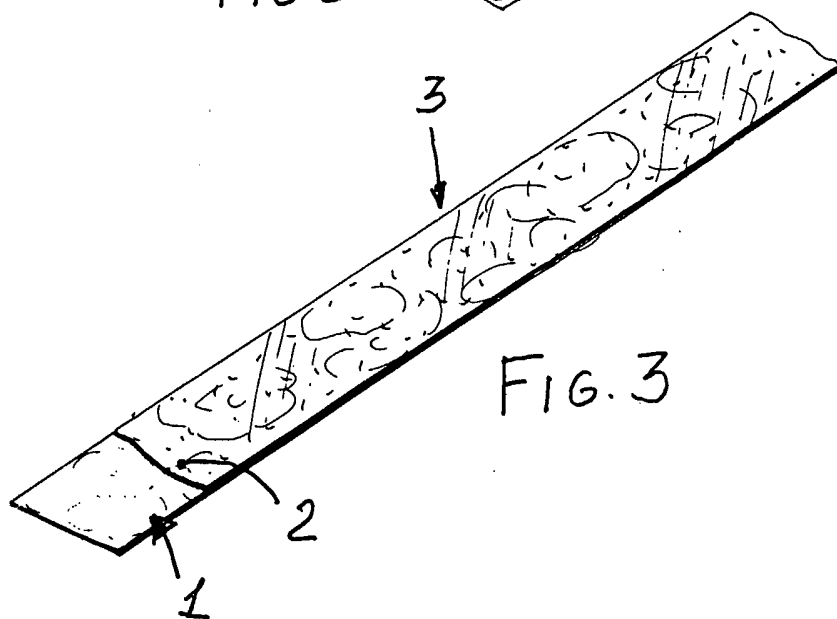
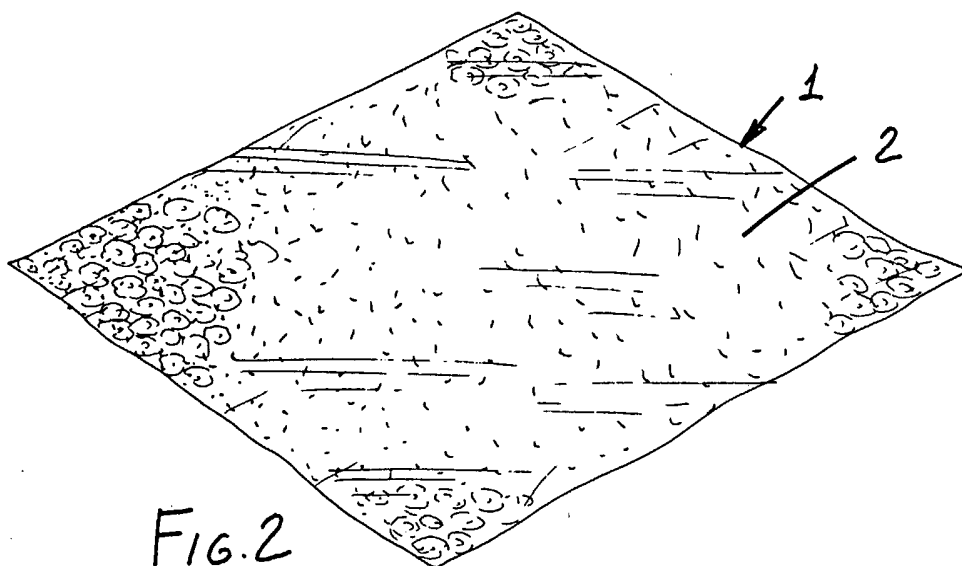
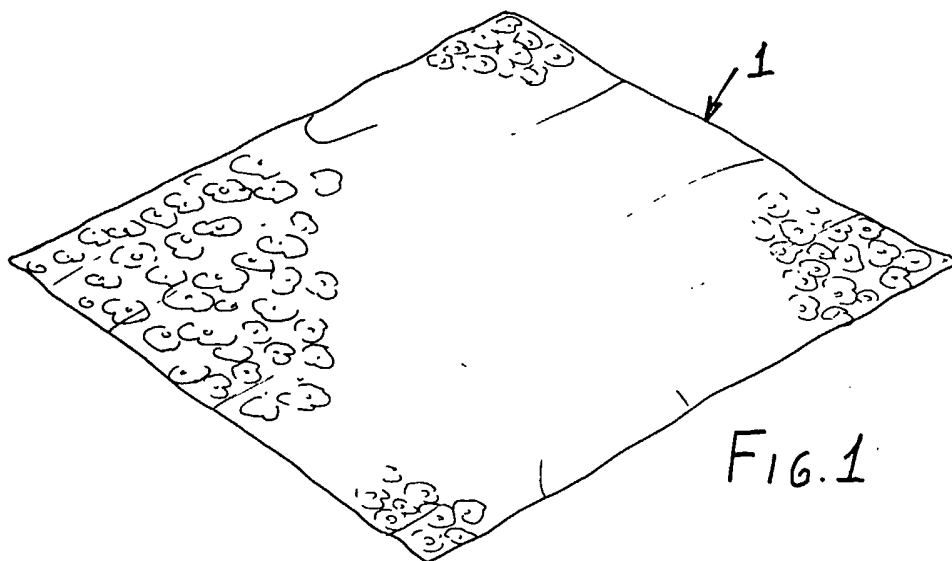
6. A shoulder for cloth articles, bath costumes and the like, according to Claim 5, characterized in that said shoulder comprises a fabric strip coupled to a plastic material or

synthetic resin layer.

7. A shoulder for cloth articles, bath costumes and the like, according to Claims 5 and 6, characterized in that said shoulder comprises two  
5 fabric outer layers therebetween at least a plastic material or synthetic resin layer is applied.

8. A shoulder, according to Claims 5 to 7, characterized in that said strip is made of the same fabric material as that of said cloth article, bath  
10 costume and the like, thereon it is applied.

9. A method for making shoulders and the like for cloth articles, bath costumes and the like, and a shoulder made by said method, characterized in that that comprise one or more of the disclosed  
15 and/or illustrated features.



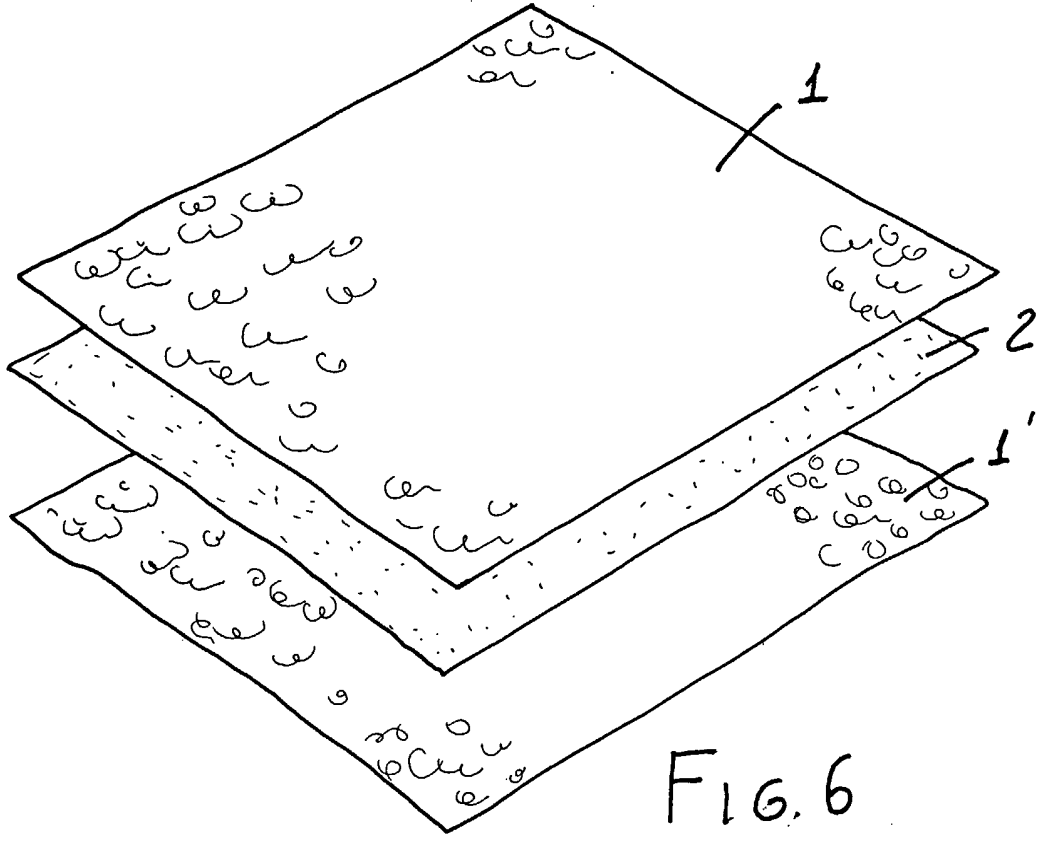


FIG. 6

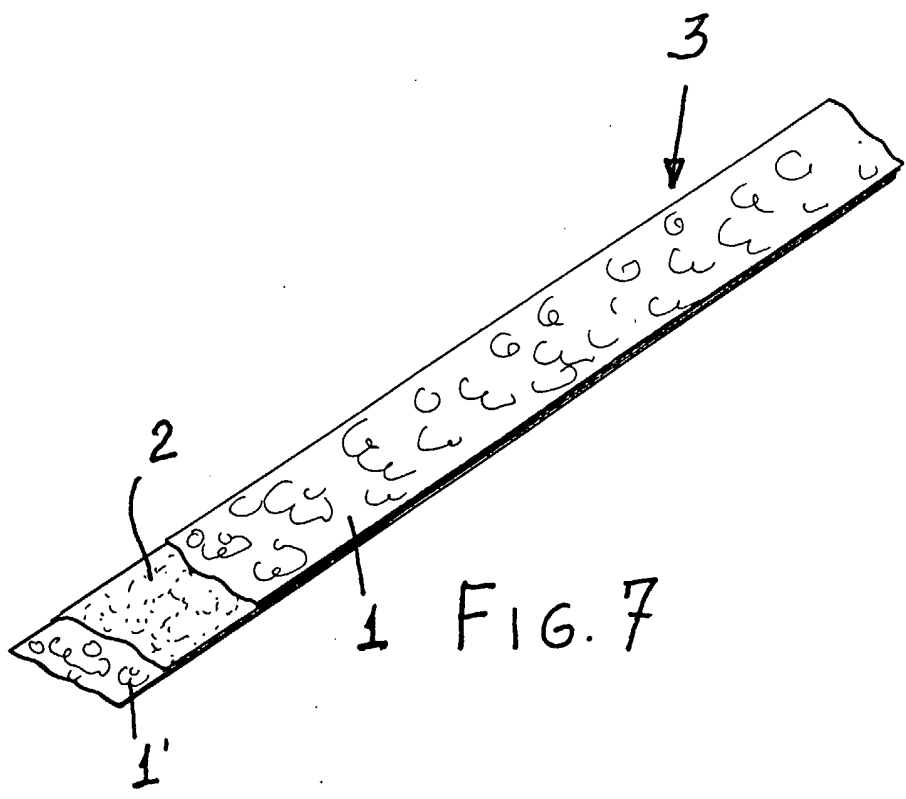


FIG. 7

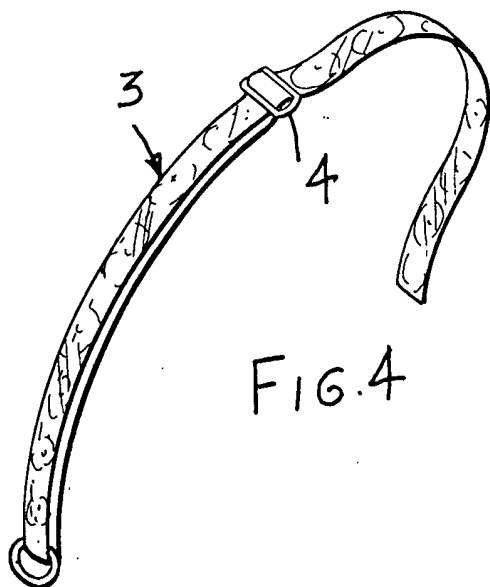


FIG. 4



FIG. 5