March 4, 1969 S. KENDALL 3,430,591

PLEAT SEWING GUIDE

Filed June 7, 1967 Sheet 1 of 2

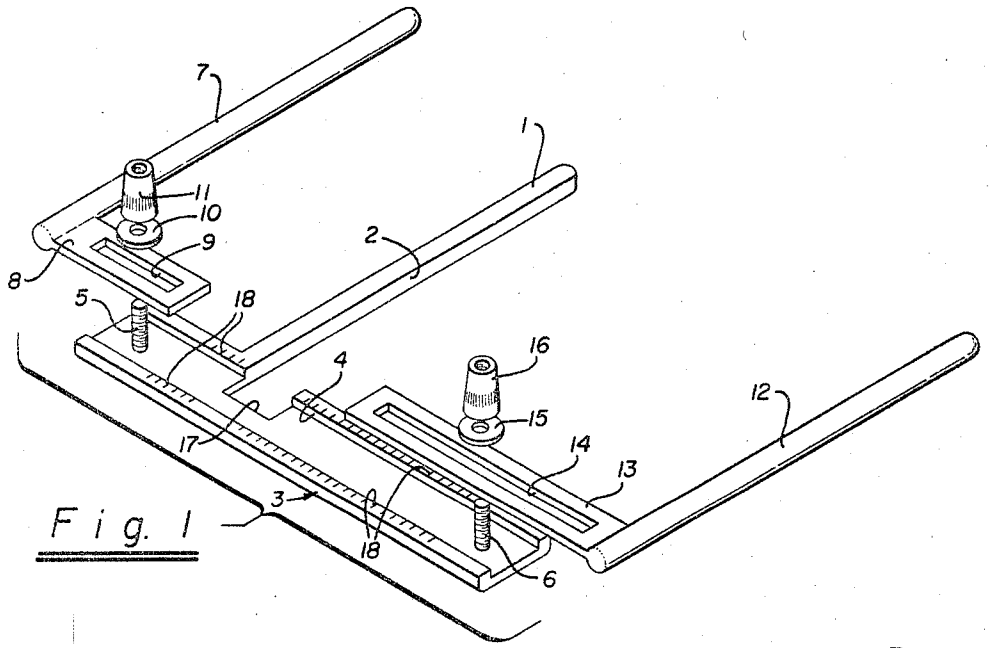


Fig. 1

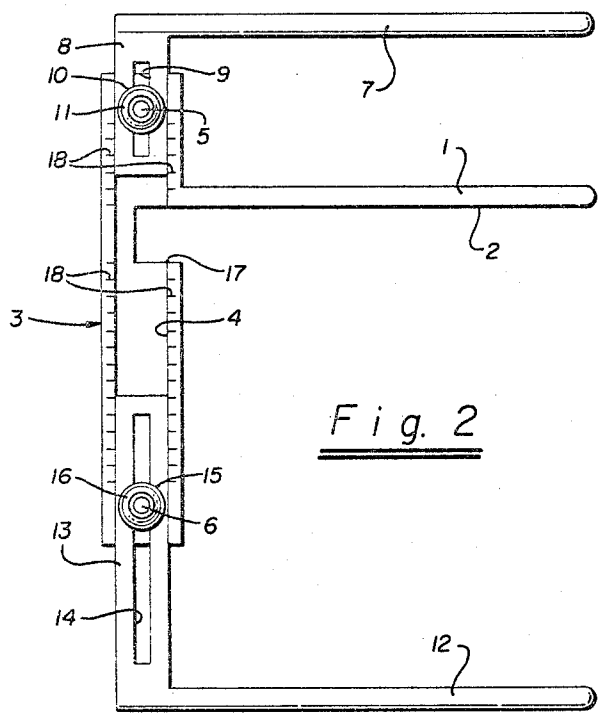


Fig. 2

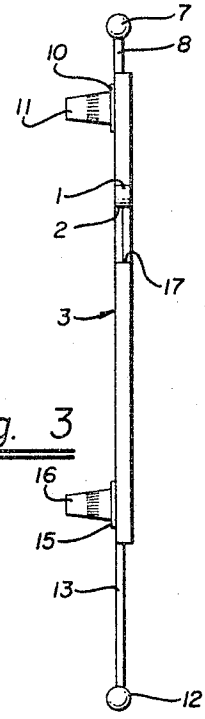


Fig. 3

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March 4, 1969 S. KENDALL 3,430,591

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Filed June 7, 1967 Sheet 2 of 2

Fig. 4

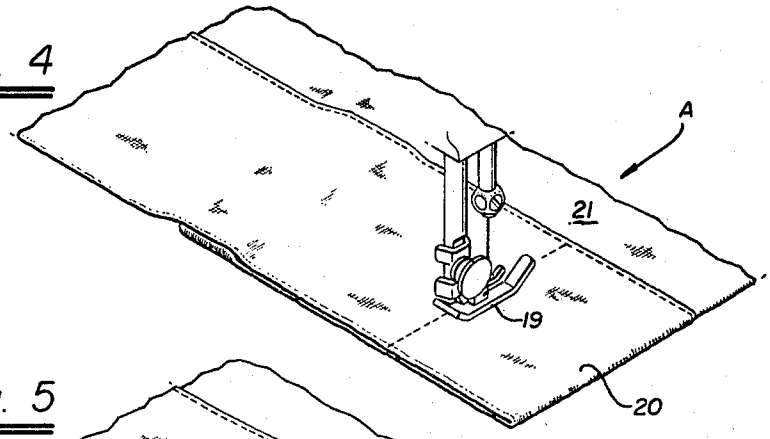


Fig. 5

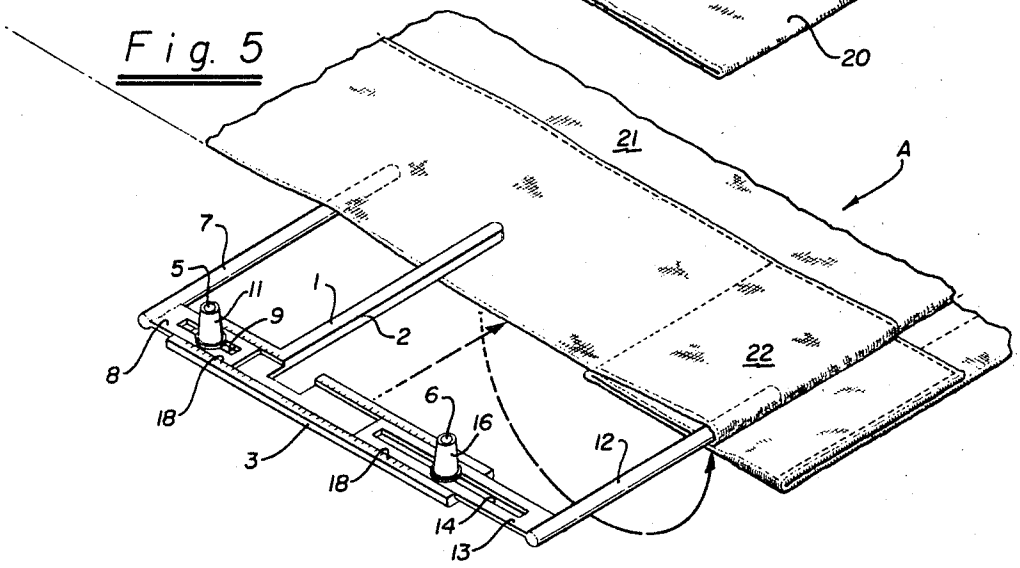
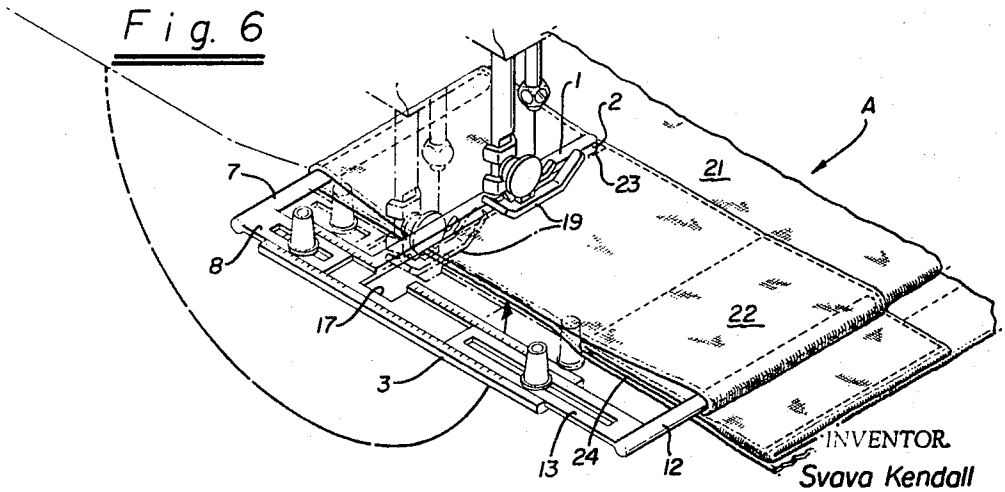


Fig. 6



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PLEAT SEWING GUIDE

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Int. Cl. D05b 35/08

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The pleat sewing guide is adjustable to determine the correct spacing and desired depth of pleat on drapery and the like. A flat sewing guide is provided at one end thereof with a transverse head or a cross-head elongated which latter has a channel in its top and a pair of threaded guide pins extended from the channel spaced on opposite sides of the sewing guide leg; a pair of movable or adjustable legs are spaced on the opposite sides of the fixed sewing guide; one of the adjustable legs is adjusted to indicate the depth of the pleat and the other leg is adapted to engage the next preceding pleat to determine the spacing of the pleats.

Brief description of the invention

The adjustable sewing guide for draperies or drapery pleater is preadjusted to a desired depth and spacing of pleats and facilitates the sewing down the pleat along a fixed guide while the guide is held in a predetermined position relatively to the preceding pleat and the doubled portion of the material forming the next pleat thereby assuring accurate spacing and depth of pleat and also provides a guide for straight sewing of the seam for the pleat, and thereby obviating the difficulty in the pleating of draperies encountered because of the crinoline and doubled thickness in the heading and enabling even the inexperienced sewer to do an accurate, professional-looking pleat with minimum effort.

Description of figures

FIG. 1 is a developed view of the parts of the pleat sewing guide.

FIG. 2 is a top plan view of the assembled pleat sewing guide.

FIG. 3 is a side view of the pleat sewing guide.

FIG. 4 is a perspective view of the head of a drapery with the pressure foot of the sewing machine in position thereon for sewing a seam for a pleat.

FIG. 5 is a perspective view showing the pleat sewing guide about to be placed in position on the head of the drapery.

FIG. 6 is a perspective view of the pleat sewing guide in position in a previous pleat and with the material folded under and around the spacer leg of the sewing guide, the position of the pressure foot and guide in operative position fully inserted being shown in broken lines.

Detailed description

The drapery pleater and sewing guide in the herein illustrated embodiment includes a fixed sewing guide leg **1** which is preferably flat with a straight guide edge or side **2**. A transverse head or crosshead **3** is on one end of the sewing guide **1**. This crosshead **3** is also flat and it is at right angles to the sewing guide **1** so that when the crosshead is placed against the edge of the material, as shown in FIG. 6 in broken lines, then the sewing guide **1** is located at right angles to the edge of the material. In the top of the crosshead **3** is an elongated channel **4**. Threaded guide pins **5** and **6** extend from the channel **4** spaced in opposite directions from the sewing guide leg **1**.

An adjustable leg **7**, in this illustration used for determining the depth of the pleat, will be herein referred to as the depth measuring leg **7**. The depth measuring leg **7** has a transverse head **8** extended from an end thereof. The transverse head **8** has a slot **9** in it which latter rides on the guide pin **5**. The transverse head **8** is flat and is slideable in the adjacent portion of the channel **4**. A washer **10** and a knurled knob **11** on the guide pin **5** can be loosened or tightened at will respectively to allow the adjustment of the position of the depth measuring leg **7** and the securing of the leg **7** in the adjusted position.

Another leg **12** will be hereinafter referred to as pleat spacing leg **12**, has a transverse head **13** at one end thereof with an elongated slot **14** thereof slideable over the adjacent guide pin **6**. The transverse head **13** is flat and is slideable in the other end portion of the channel **4** and can be secured in adjusted position by another washer **15** and knob **16** on the threaded guide pin **6**.

The depth measuring leg **7** and the pleat spacer leg **12** are shown round to facilitate the insertion thereof in operative position. The side of the crosshead **3** adjacent the guide edge **2** of the sewing guide leg **1** is cut away to form a pocket or recess **17** of such dimension as to accommodate the presser foot therein so that the stitching by the machine can begin from the adjacent edge of the material against which the edge of the crosshead **3** is placed. On the top edges of the crosshead **4** are suitable calibrations or markings **18** which cooperate with the respective ends of the transverse heads **8** and **13** to indicate the calibration or measurement respectively of the depth and spacing of the pleats.

In operation to make the first pleat, the fabric is placed on the sewing machine right side up, and viewing FIGS. 4 and 5 the person operating the sewing machine would be located at the top of said figures looking toward the presser foot **19** of the sewing machine so that the heading **20** of the drapery material **21** is being fed under the presser foot **19** from right to left, viewing FIGS. 4, 5 and 6.

To make the first pleat the operator begins with the lower corner shown in FIG. 4 which would be the left-hand corner viewing FIG. 4 from the direction of the arrow A. The fabric is then pulled to the left viewing FIG. 4 from the direction of the arrow A and the depth measuring leg **7** is slipped under the fabric. The fabric is pulled to the left and then turned under around the sewing guide leg and then back under the sewing guide leg and the depth measuring leg far enough to allow sufficient space for drapery return. Then the depth measuring leg **7** is adjusted to be spaced from the sewing guide leg **1** to a distance corresponding to the desired depth of the pleat. Then the sewing guide leg is placed next to the presser foot **19** at the measured distance to guide the presser foot **19** for stitching the first seam.

Thereafter the operation continues for each pleat the following way:

The pleat spacer leg **12** is slipped into the completed pleat **22**, being allowed to fall to the left viewing FIG. 5 from the direction of the arrow A. The spacing is measured by sliding the cross-head **3** to the desired distance from spacer leg **12** and then the knob **16** is tightened to secure the leg **12** in the adjusted position; thereafter the spacer leg **12** is held in the pleat **22** in the position shown in FIG. 5 and the material is pulled around the depth measuring leg **7** and back under the head **20** and material **21** as shown in FIG. 6 and the material is aligned with the presser foot **19** so that the presser foot **19** is in the pocket **17** as shown in FIG. 6; and finally the head **20** of the material **21** is moved away from the position indicated by the arrow A under the presser foot **19** while sewing the seam **23** as the presser foot **19** is guided by the sewing guide leg **1** as shown in FIG. 6. After the seam **23** is completed the sewing guide and pleat spacer

device is removed. The newly formed pleat **22** is turned toward the completed pleats, namely to the left viewing FIGS. 5 and 6 from the direction of the arrow A. The spacer leg **12** is placed into the turned end of the pleat **22** and the sewing guide leg **1** is placed over the material, while the depth measuring leg **7** is placed under the material, whereupon the material is turned around the depth measuring leg **7** as shown in FIG. 6 and the device is completely pushed into the dotted line position shown in FIG. 6 so that the inner edge of the cross-head **3** is against edge **24** of the heading **20**; then the turned material with the guide is brought into the position next to the presser foot **19** in the pocket **17** and the sewing proceeds along the guide edge **2** of the sewing guide leg **1** as heretofore described to complete the next pleat. This operation is repeated as many times as needed and assures even the inexperienced sewer accurate spacing and depth of pleats and also a sewing guide for sewing straight pleats, and will facilitate doing a professional looking pleat with minimum effort.

I claim:

1. In a pleat sewing guide,

(a) a flat transverse head, an edge of said head being engageable by an edge of the material to be pleated,

(b) a sewing guide leg extended at right angles from said edge of said head and substantially in the plane of said head, and overlying said material and being adapted to move along the presser foot of the sewing machine adjacent to the needle of the sewing machine for guiding the sewing of said material,

(c) a pleat depth measuring leg spaced from one side of said sewing guide leg and being parallel therewith and being adapted to be placed into the turned end of a completed pleat to determine spacing of the seam for the next pleat.

(d) a pleat spacing leg spaced from the other side of said sewing guide leg and being parallel therewith whereby the material from under said guide leg is foldable over said depth measuring leg and turned back upon itself under said guide leg to be sewn at said seam as the material with said head and guide leg is being moved toward and under said presser foot,

(e) and means to adjustably connect respectively said depth measuring leg and said spacing leg to said transverse head.

2. The pleat sewing guide defined in claim **1**, and said means to adjustably connect the respective legs including

(f) a head on the pleat depth measuring leg and on the pleat spacing leg adjustable on said transverse head,

(g) and releasable means to secure said heads of said measuring and spacing legs in adjusted positions on said transverse head.

3. The pleat sewing guide defined in claim **2**, and

(h) said heads and said legs being of a thickness fitting under the presser foot of a sewing machine.

4. The pleat sewing guide defined in claim **2**, and

(h) said transverse head having a channel therein at right angles to said legs, and said adjustable heads being slideable in said channel for adjusting the spacing of the adjustable legs from said sewing guide leg.

5. The pleat sewing guide defined in claim **4**, and

(i) calibrations on said transverse head coacting with said adjustable heads to indicate the depth and spacing of the pleats corresponding to the adjusted spacing of said adjustable legs.

6. The pleat sewing guide defined in claim **4**, and

(i) said transverse head having a recess therein adjacent said sewing guide leg to accommodate the presser foot of a sewing machine at the beginning of sewing along said sewing guide leg.

7. The pleat sewing guide defined in claim **4**, and said releasable means including,

(i) guide elements spaced from opposite sides of said sewing guide leg and projecting from said channel,

(j) each adjustable head having a longitudinal slot therethrough parallel with said channel and being movable over the adjacent projection for adjusting the respective adjustable heads, and

(k) a releasable clamping element on each guide element for fastening the respective adjustable head in adjusted position.

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