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METHOD OF REPAIRING DAMAGED FABRIC

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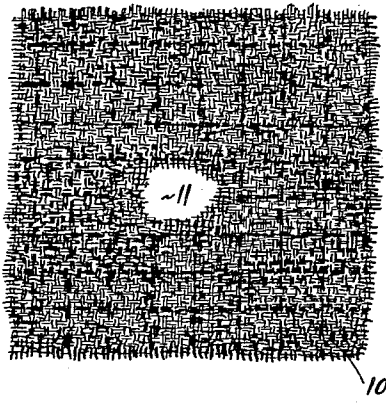


FIG. 1.

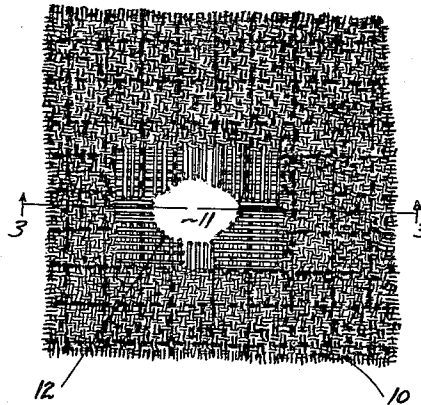


FIG. 2.

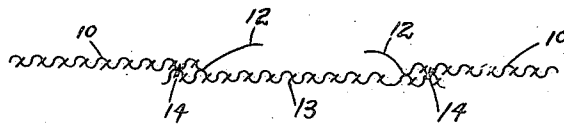


FIG. 3.

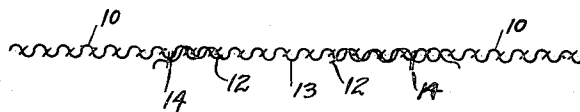


FIG. 4.

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METHOD OF REPAIRING DAMAGED FABRIC

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2 Claims. (Cl. 2—243)

This invention relates to a method of repairing damaged fabric and more particularly to a method whereby a repair may be effected rapidly and hence economically.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a method of repairing damaged fabric which restores damaged fabric to its original strength and appearance.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a method of repairing damaged fabric which may be easily and quickly learned.

It is well known that several methods of repairing damaged fabrics have been devised which methods have comprised either the inweaving of individual threads in a piece of damaged fabric, which method is slow and costly and therefore economically impractical, and the method of disposing a patch of similar fabric over the damaged portion of the fabric to be repaired, fringing the edges of the said patch and weaving these fringed edges into the fabric itself in an area about the damaged portion of the fabric, thus, in effect, simply placing a patch over the damaged portion of the fabric. This method, while relatively simple, is objectionable in that the fabric itself is not repaired but merely patched and, further, in that as the patch must necessarily be placed upon the front of the material as the damaged portion of the fabric is left exposed on the back thereof, the patch necessarily is subject to undue strains and often becomes disengaged from the repaired material as the fringed edges may be readily pulled out of engagement with the fabric itself thus again exposing the damaged portion of the fabric. In order to overcome the objections of these methods of repairing or patching damaged fabrics, the present method has been devised which method not only insures an attractive and neat repair job but the manner of its accomplishment results in a repaired section of the fabric that is considerably stronger than the original undamaged fabric and is therefore not subject to failure as is the patching method heretofore mentioned.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the method of repairing damaged fabrics hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed, can be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a view of a section of fabric having a damaged or torn portion.

Figure 2 is a view of the section of the fabric illustrated in Figure 1 showing the edges of the torn or damaged portion of the fabric fringed in accordance with the invention.

Figure 3 is an enlarged cross sectional illustration taken on lines 3—3 of Figure 2 and shows a piece of similar fabric disposed beneath the fringed edges of the damaged portion thereof and sewed thereto.

Figure 4 is an enlarged cross sectional view similar to Figure 3 and shows the fringed edges of the fabric woven into the piece disposed therebeneath.

By referring to the drawing and Figures 1 and 2 in particular it will be seen that a damaged section of fabric 10 has been illustrated, the damage comprising a torn portion 11 therein. In order to repair this torn portion and restore it to its former appearance and textile strength, the edges of the torn portion as illustrated in Figure 2 have been fringed, as indicated by the numeral 12, by the removal of certain component threads of the fabric with the actual result of increasing the size of the torn portion to a roughly square section as illustrated in Figure 2. A piece of similar fabric 13 matching the pattern or design is then disposed beneath the torn portion 11 or rather on the back side of the damaged fabric 10 as illustrated in Figure 3, and arranged so that the pattern or design of the piece 13 matches the pattern or design of the fabric 10. In this position the piece 13 is sewed to the edges of the torn portion 10, as indicated in Figure 3 by the numeral 14, and subsequently a latched needle, not shown, is inserted longitudinally through the piece 13 so as to follow a thread pattern therethrough and then extended upwardly and the latch of the needle engaged upon one of the threads comprising the fringed edges 12 of the damaged portion of the fabric 10. The needle, while grasping the thread of the fabric 10, is then withdrawn through the piece 13 with the result that the fringed edge 12 is interwoven into the piece 13. When all of the fringed edges 12 have been thus woven into the piece 13 as illustrated in Figure 4, the piece 13 has, in effect, become aligned with the front surface of the fabric 10 and to all intents and purposes has become an actual part thereof both as to appearance and structural quality. The interweaving of the fringed sections 12 through the piece 13 conceals the sewing which has previously affixed the piece 13 to the edges of the torn por-

tion of the fabric 10 and the resulting repair as illustrated in Figure 5 is of a character and quality insuring the positive engagement of the piece 13 with the material 10 at all times. This is due to the criss-cross pattern of the fringed threads of the fabric 10 in their inwoven position of the piece 13. As a matter of fact, tension may be brought to bear in an effort to separate the piece 13 from the repaired fabric 10 which will be unavailing as the bond between the piece 13 and the fabric 10 which has now been interwoven into it is stronger than the original fabric itself.

According to this invention, therefore, it is possible to repair cut, torn, burnt, or otherwise damaged fabric in a manner so as to insure perfect appearance of the repaired article on the front surface thereof, and further to effect the repair in a manner that makes the repaired portion an actual portion of the fabric being repaired rather than merely a patch the edges of which are fringed thereto. It will be observed that in accordance with the invention the latch needle is preferably run through the repair piece in the direction of the weft or warp threads as necessary and thus when removed after having engaged one portion of the fringed edge of the damaged section of fabric the innerweaving takes place in strict accordance with the pattern and design of the fabric being repaired. If the fringed edges of the fabric 10 being interwoven into the piece 13 are longer than necessary to become adequately secured therein, the remaining end sections may be easily clipped. It will thus be seen that a simple and very efficient method of repairing damaged fabric has been devised whereby a piece of fabric used to effect the repair actually becomes an integral part of the repaired fabric rather than merely a patch positioned over a damaged place therein and, further, the damaged portion of the fabric being repaired is completely filled by the piece of material disposed therein in a manner insuring a satisfactory appearing and wearing repair.

The repair effected becomes, in effect, a portion of the fabric repaired and efforts to dislodge the repair piece from the fabric repaired are unavailing as the criss-cross pattern of the inwoven fringed sections of the damaged fabric have the effect of making the repair piece stronger than the fabric itself. Thus the repair piece is not subject to accidental removal as is the case of repairs effected by other methods heretofore mentioned.

What I claim is:

1. The method of repairing damaged fabrics comprising the fringing of the edges of the damaged portion of the fabric by the step consisting in fraying the damaged portion of the fabric by displacing the warp threads and the weft threads so that they lie in loosely criss-cross overlying relation at the corners of the frayed area, disposing a repair piece of fabric adjacent the damaged portion in a manner so that the repair piece replaces the damaged portion, and weaving the fringed edges of the fabric in criss-cross manner into the repair piece in alignment with their original position in the damaged fabric, the fringed edges crossing one another in the repair piece.

2. The method of repairing damaged fabrics comprising the fringing of the edges of the damaged portion of the fabric by the step consisting in fraying the damaged portion of the fabric by displacing the warp threads and the weft threads so that they lie in loosely criss-cross overlying relation at the corners of the frayed area, disposing a repair piece of fabric adjacent the damaged portion in a manner so that the repair piece replaces the damaged portion, and weaving the fringed edges of the fabric in the criss-cross manner into the repair piece in alignment with their original position in the damaged fabric, the fringed edges crossing one another in the repair piece, and stitching the repair piece to the damaged fabric.

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