May 22, 1945. D. G. PATTEN 2,376,553

INDIVIDUAL DRESS-FORM

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Fig. 1.

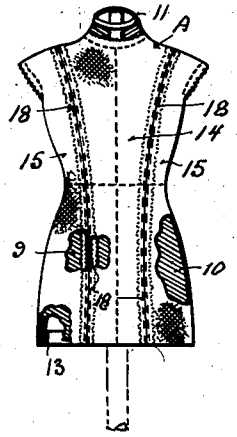


Fig. 2.

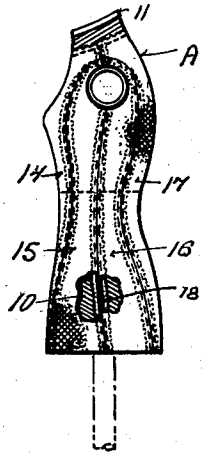


Fig. 3.

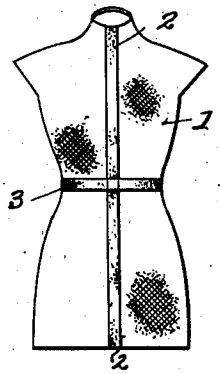


Fig. 4.

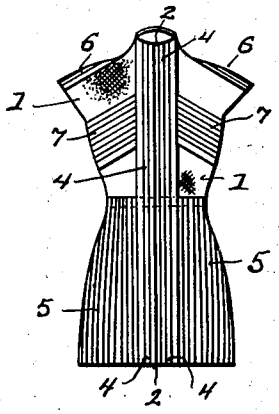


Fig. 5.

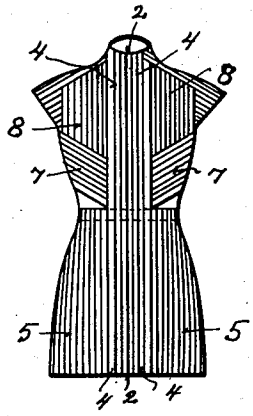
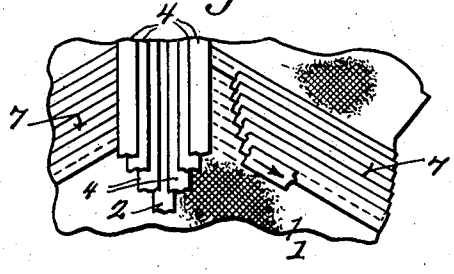


Fig. 6.



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INDIVIDUAL DRESS-FORM

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Fig. 7.

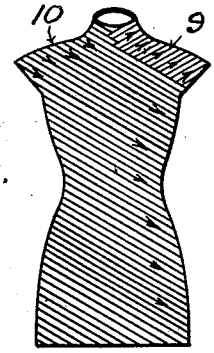


Fig. 2a.

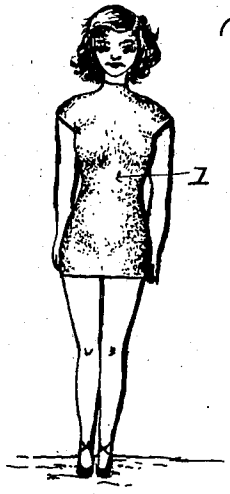


Fig. 8.

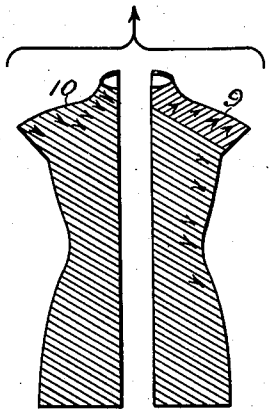


Fig. 9.

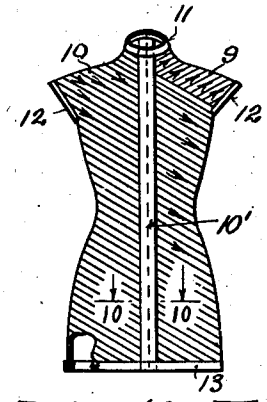


Fig. 10.

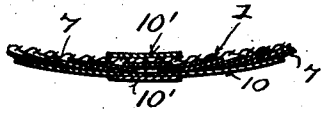


Fig. 11.

Fig. 12.

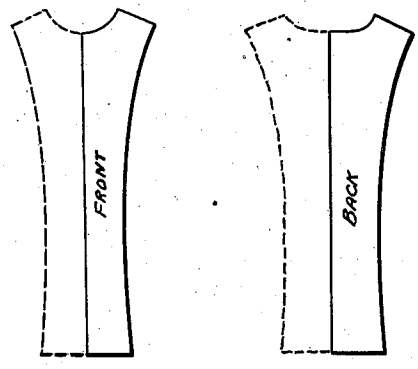
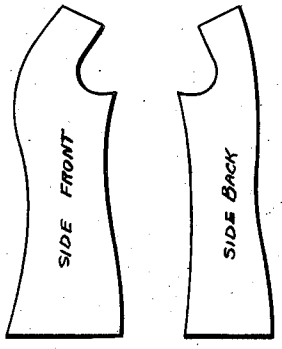


Fig. 13.

Fig. 14.



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Patented May 22, 1945 2,376,553

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,376,553

INDIVIDUAL DRESS-FORM

Dorathy G. Patten, Milwaukee, Wis.

Application November 18, 1943, Serial No. 510,772

3 Claims. (Cl. 223—68)

My invention refers to individual dress-forms, and it has for its object to provide a simple, economical, and durable article molded upon the torso of the human body in a succession of steps embodying an inner fabric vest base in conjunction with bracing means including the application of inner and outer layers of gummed tape having a finishing fabric cover assembled from pattern panels, the same being seamed together.

A further object of my invention resides in a process for building the dress-form in such a simple manner that the same may readily be accomplished by those unskilled in the art, whereby individual home people may be supplied with dress-forms, which are a replica of each person, for use in home dressmaking.

From a marketing standpoint, I provide sets of the various articles necessary in the construction of the dress-form, to wit, the fabric vest, rolls of gummed tape, and patterns for an outer cover, with a folder explaining the method or process of construction, all contained in an envelope for distribution.

With the above and other minor objects in view, the invention consists in certain peculiarities of construction and combination of parts, as will be hereinafter set forth with reference to the accompanying drawings and subsequently claimed.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 represents a front, face view of a completed dress-form embodying the features of my invention with parts broken away to more clearly illustrate structural details.

Figure 2 is a side, elevational view of the same.

Figure 2*a* is a face view of a life model having fitted thereto a fabric vest illustrating the first step in the process for building up the dress-form.

Figure 3 is a diagrammatic, front view of the base vest with initial gummed tape.

Figure 4 is a similar view illustrating the manner of applying the first skeleton layer of gummed tape.

Figure 5 is a rear view of the same.

Figure 6 is a magnified fragmentary view illustrating the manner of applying vertical and diagonal groups of tapes.

Figure 7 is a front face view illustrating the manner of applying a diagonal layer of tape spirally wound about the first skeleton layer.

Figure 8 illustrates the taped form or shell separated longitudinally for removal from the body of the model.

Figure 9 is a similar view illustrating the form sections adhesively secured at their front meeting edges by lengthwise tapes.

Figure 10 is a magnified cross sectional view of the taped joint between the separable shell sections.

Figures 11 and 12 illustrate face views of the front and back pattern panels of the outer cover of the dress-form.

Figures 13 and 14 illustrate side-front and side-back panels of the pattern for the shell cover.

Referring by characters to the drawings, 1 indicates a fabric vest fitted tightly to the torso of a model, as indicated in Figure 2*a*. As shown in Figure 3, the first step in the development of the dress-form is to insert centrally disposed lengthwise gummed tape strips 2 at the front and back of the vest and a single similar waist strip or tape 3. As indicated, particularly in Figures 4 and 6, the front and back strips or tapes 2, have applied thereto, in opposite directions, a group of overlapped lengthwise strips 4, which extend from the neck of the vest to the bottom of the same. The hip line is then reinforced by overlapped lengthwise disposed strips 5, which completely cover the hip line. The crown or shoulders, as indicated in Figures 3 and 5, are then reinforced by groups of overlapped tapes 6—6, which diagonally follow the shoulder line and groups of overlapped tapes 7—7 constituting the bust reinforcements extend obliquely from the lengthwise front strips, backwardly under the arms and terminate at the junction with the rear group 4 of lengthwise strips. As shown in Figure 5, the space between the group of shoulder tapes and bust tape, at the back, may be filled in with vertical patches of overlapped gummed strips 8—8.

It is understood that the gummed strips, being moist when placed upon the vest, will adhere thereto and quickly dry. Hence, after the first layer of strips, which may be termed a skeleton layer, is completed, a second or reinforcing layer of gummed tapes is positioned over the first layer. It should be further understood that in positioning the strips, in the event that, due to curves, etc., in the body, the strips tend to wrinkle or roughen at any point, the strip may be severed and so on throughout the entire operation.

As best shown in Figure 7, the second, or reinforcing tape cover may quickly be applied by starting a diagonal group of strips 9 about one shoulder of the shell, which strips are continuously wound downwardly and spirally to the bottom of the vest and a second group of overlapping strips 10 may start from the back of the opposite shoulder and wound spirally and down-

wardly in the same direction as the first group, whereby the vest is completely reinforced by a tape cover and it is understood that the tapes, while they continue downwardly, may be broken and extended from time to time in the winding process.

When the reinforcing strip layer is completed, the vest is, more or less, rigid due to the fact that the layers applied have dried out thoroughly and in order to remove the shell from the torso of the model, said shell is longitudinally severed from top to bottom, both front and back upon the vertical line of the tapes 2—2, whereby the severed shell sections are separated, as indicated in Figure 8 of the drawings.

In practice the shell sections may then be butted together and the hip, waist line, and bust line are measured to check the corresponding dimensions of the model. Should the dimensions be slightly larger than those of the model, the vertical edges of said shell sections may be trimmed down to reconcile the discrepancies in measurements. Thereafter the shell sections are permanently secured together at their meeting edges by strips of longitudinally disposed tapes 10', which lap said edges.

After the dress-form is complete, as indicated in Figure 9, it is subjected to one or more coatings of shellac to insure rigidity.

As indicated in Figure 9, the neck, armholes, and bottom edges of the shell are then suitably finished by tapes 11, 12—12, and 13. To complete the dress-form, it then has fitted thereto a fabric cover A, as shown in Figures 1 and 2, which cover is an essential finishing element, whereby the dress parts to be draped thereon are smoothly applied. The cover is developed from the patterns illustrated in Figures 11 to 14 of the drawings, and said cover comprises a front panel 14, companion side-front panels 15—15, companion side-back panels 16—16, and a pair of back panels 17. All of the panels are permanently secured by seams 18—18 and the seam laps, as best shown in Figures 1 and 2, are folded back and smoothly pressed. The back center seam is left open, whereby the cover is adjusted and snugly fitted to the shell and thereafter said back seam may be pinned or secured by stitching.

The dress-form, as indicated by dotted lines in Figures 1 and 2, may then be mounted upon a stand having a head fitted in the top of the shell and suitable legs fitted in the bottom. As said parts form no invention, they are not illustrated.

Attention is directed to the fact that the cover is first fitted on the model and seam lines adjusted to the figure. This gives the form accuracy when completed. The final seaming is then done.

I claim:

1. The process for molding an individual body dress-form consisting of enveloping the human torso with a woven vest, applying lengthwise folded lapped gummed tapes to the same and groups of bust tapes extending from the front to the back, thereafter applying a complete second layer of gummed tapes extending spirally from the top of the vest to the bottom, shellacing the last mentioned layer and encasing the same in a fabric cover comprising front and rear panels matched with side-front and side-back panels seamed together.

2. The process for molding an individual body dress-form consisting of enveloping the human torso with a woven vest, initially applying lengthwise central back and front adhesive tapes thereto, encircling the waist line with a similar tape, applying a group of overlapped lengthwise tapes upon opposite sides of the back and front central tapes, completing the encirclement of the torso from the waist line down with overlapped lengthwise tapes, crowning the shoulders of the vest with overlapped tapes, diagonally winding groups of overlapped tapes from the front group of lengthwise tapes about the bust, under the arms, and terminating at the back group of lengthwise tapes, to complete a skeleton base reinforcement for the vest, encasing the skeleton base reinforcements with spirally wound overlapped tapes starting in the back and front over groups of the shoulder tapes and diagonally winding downwardly to the bottom of the vest, whereby a light stiff shell is developed, slitting the shell back and front lengthwise upon a line intersecting the initial central tapes, sealing the shell sections together, at the front and rear central lines by lengthwise strips overlapping the severed shell edges, forming a cover jacket for said shell from front and rear panels of fabric matched with side-front and side-back panels and seaming the panels together.

3. The process for molding individual-body dress forms, consisting of enveloping the human torso with a vest, applying a group of lapped gum tapes to the back and front lengthwise from the bottom of the vest to the neck, filling in from the waistline to the bottom of the vest lapped gum strips from the said front and back groups to envelop that portion of the vest about the hips, adding groups of bust tapes extending diagonally from the front to the back, thereafter applying a complete second layer of gummed tapes extending spirally from the top of the vest to the bottom, and encasing the same in a fabric cover.

DORATHY G. PATTEN.