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T. S. McDERMOTT
METHOD OF MAKING PILE FABRICS

Filed July 16, 1925

Fig. 1.

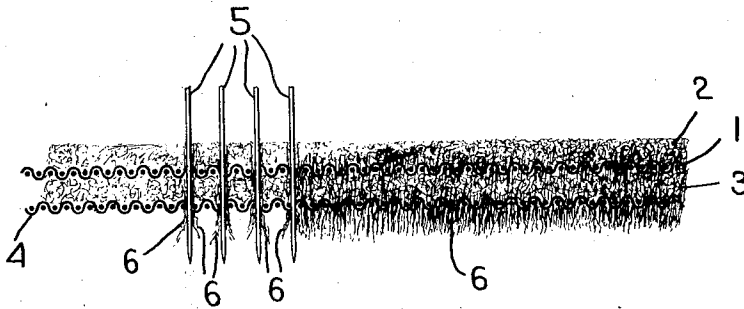


Fig. 2.

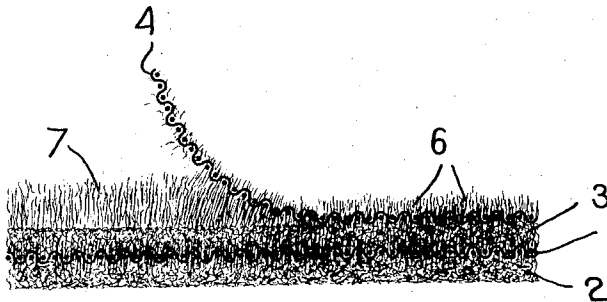
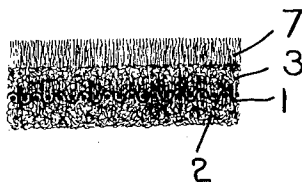


Fig. 3.



Inventor.
Thomas S. McDermott
by *Heard Smith & Tennant.*
Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS S. McDERMOTT, OF FRANKLIN, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO CLARE-CUTLER-McDERMOTT CO., OF FRANKLIN, MASSACHUSETTS, A CORPORATION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

METHOD OF MAKING PILE FABRICS.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS S. McDERMOTT, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Franklin, county of Norfolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Methods of Making Pile Fabrics, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawing, is a specification, like characters on the drawing representing like parts.

This invention relates to a method of making a pile fabric which is adaptable for use as a rug, robe, etc. The foundation is a fabric made by attaching or securing a layer of unspun, fibrous material to one or both sides of a fabric core, such, for instance, as burlap. The invention relates to a novel method of raising a pile on the surface of the fabric which is formed by the layer of unspun, fibrous material. In accordance with the invention, I apply to the surface of the fabric a layer of burlap or other suitable woven or knitted fabric and then prick through the entire fabric foundation so as to carry fibres through and anchor them in the layer of woven fabric. Subsequently the layer of woven fabric is pulled or stripped off from the foundation fabric, and in doing this, many of the fibres are pulled up from the mass of unspun fibres to form a pile. This operation will leave a pile of irregular length and the fabric may be finished by shearing the pile thus formed to give it an even length.

In order to give an understanding of my invention, I have illustrated herein a selected embodiment thereof which will now be described, after which the novel features thereof will be pointed out in the appended claims.

Fig. 1 of the drawings illustrates a step in the process of making the improved fabric.

Fig. 2 illustrates the next succeeding step of raising the pile.

Fig. 3 illustrates the completed fabric.

All of the figures are shown as sectional views.

The foundation for my improved fabric may vary more or less but is preferably a fabric having a core portion and having at least one face formed of a layer of unspun fibrous material which is anchored to the

core portion. In the construction shown in Fig. 1 the core is in the form of a piece of woven or knitted fabric 1 which may be of burlap or any other suitable fabric. This has secured to each face thereof a layer of unspun fibrous material, said layers being illustrated at 2 and 3 respectively. These layers may be attached to the core by the usual processes of pricking through the fabric with a plurality of needles, thereby carrying some of the fibres through the core and causing the fibres of one layer to be interlocked with the fibres of the other layer. This method of making a fabric is not of itself new.

In accordance with my invention, I take a fabric of this nature and apply to one face thereof a layer of burlap, or other coarse woven or knitted fabric, and then I prick through the foundation fabric and the superposed layer 4 by means of needles 5, as shown in Fig. 1. This operation serves to carry some of the fibres 6 of the fibrous layer 3 through the fabric layer 4, as shown at 7, so that when the pricking operation has been completed, the fabric layer 4 will be anchored to the foundation fabric. This pricking operation also carries some of the fibres of the layer 2 through the core fabric 1 and causes them to interlock with the fibres of the layer 3.

After the pricking operation has been completed, then the fabric layer 4 is stripped or pulled off from the foundation fabric, as illustrated in Fig. 2, and because of the fact that the fibres 6 are anchored in the fabric 4, this stripping operation will serve to pull up a pile 7 from the surface of the foundation fabric. The pile 7 thus produced is more or less irregular, because the raising of the pile 7 is produced by a sort of tearing action. After the fabric 4 (which may be referred to as a pile-producing fabric) has been stripped off from the foundation fabric, then the raised pile 7 may be sheared to give an even surface, as shown in Fig. 3. The pile thus produced is a very good imitation of a regular pile fabric and is better than could be produced by a napping operation.

While I have herein illustrated one foundation fabric I desire to state that so far as the invention is concerned the foundation fabric may vary more or less,

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is:

- 5 1. The process of making a pile fabric which consists in forming a foundation fabric by securing a layer of unspun, fibrous material to a core fabric, applying to the face of the unspun layer a woven fabric, pricking through the foundation fabric and
10 the woven fabric to carry some of the unspun fibres through the woven fabric and then stripping the woven fabric off from the foundation fabric, thereby drawing up a pile from the layer of unspun fibres.
- 15 2. The process of making a pile fabric

which consists in forming a foundation fabric by securing a layer of unspun, fibrous material to each side of a core fabric, placing a woven fabric against one of the unspun layers, pricking through the foundation fabric and the woven fabric to carry some of the unspun fibres through the woven fabric, and then stripping the woven fabric off from the foundation fabric thereby drawing up a pile from the layer of unspun
20 fibres.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

THOMAS S. McDERMOTT.