Oct. 4, 1955 M. L. J. CROMARTIE 2,719,656

GARMENT HANGER AND SHAPER

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Fig. 1

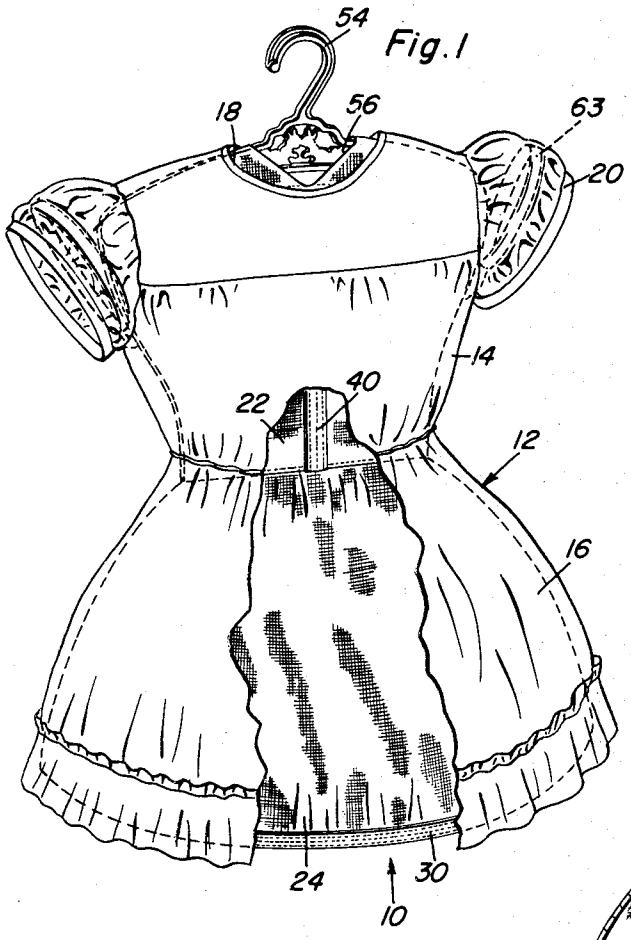


Fig. 3

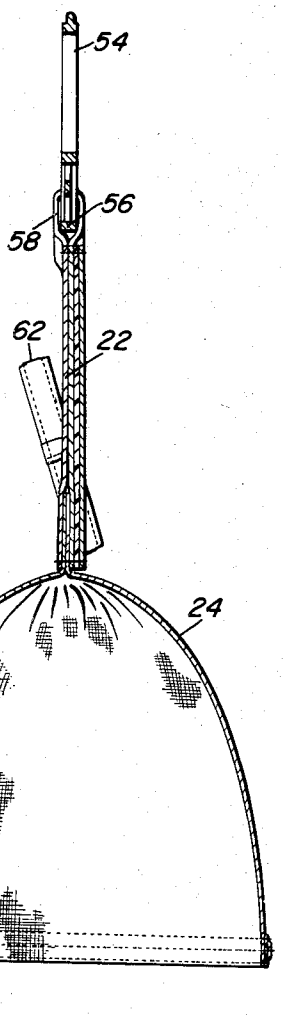
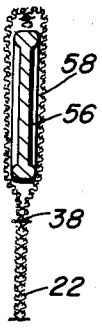


Fig. 6



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Fig. 2

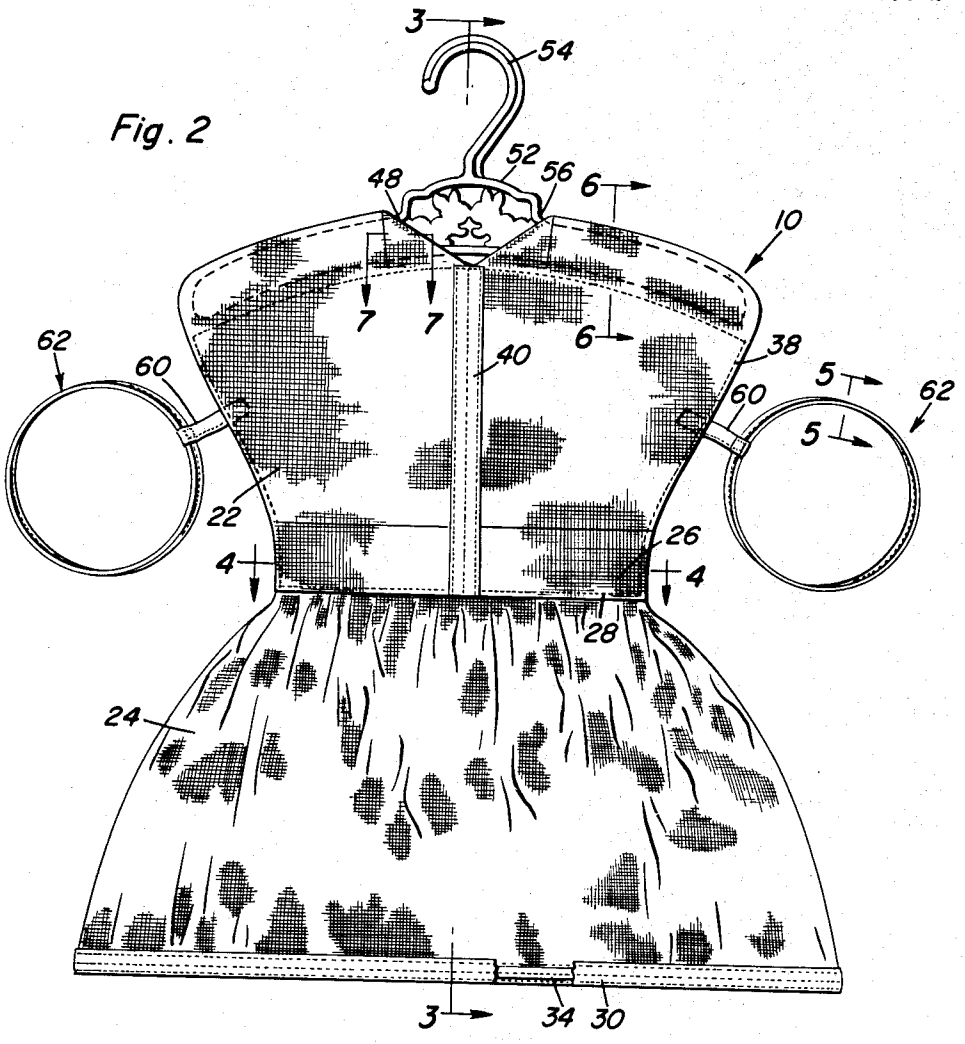


Fig. 4

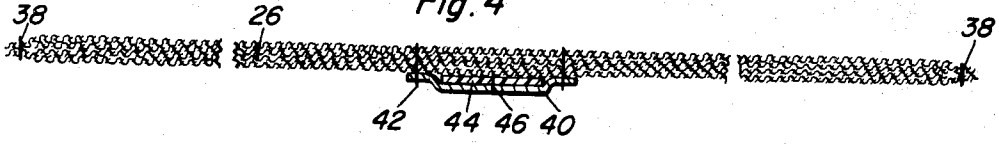


Fig. 5

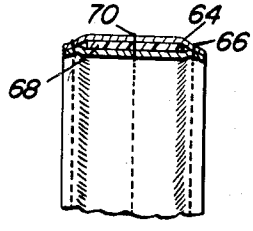
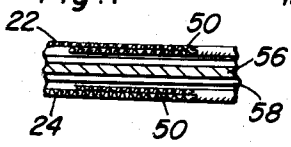


Fig. 7



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GARMENT HANGER AND SHAPER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 223—68)

This invention generally relates to a garment hanger, and more specifically provides an improved and novel device for supporting garments and retaining such garments in a desired shape whereby such garments will be retained in a neat and attractive manner.

In hanging garments along a garment rack or on a suitable support, adjacent garments tend to crush each other wherein the garments will be flattened and wrinkled, thereby causing unnecessary and undesirable wrinkles and creases in such garments. This is especially true of garments of the type having full or billowed portions, such as the skirt portions of dresses. Also, this condition is prevalent where such garments are stored along a horizontally disposed rack so that the garments may be viewed by prospective customers, such as would occur in a dress shop or the like. While such dresses would normally become unwrinkled after hanging free for a while, the problem is especially critical in small children's clothes wherein the skirt portion may be substantially bell-shaped and various ruffles and gathers may be provided in the sleeves as well as in the skirts. This type of garment is especially susceptible to wrinkling and other detrimental effects caused by the positioning of such garments in close juxtaposition whereby the garments will be substantially flattened and crushed. It is well known that garments that are neat and attractive in their display racks will ordinarily entice a prospective customer to make a purchase. Accordingly, it is the primary object of the present invention to provide a garment hanger including certain shaping characteristics that will retain the garments in their most attractive shape and yet permit easy support of such garments.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a garment hanger and shaper including a main body portion generally conforming to the silhouette of the garment to be supported together with a bell-shaped lower or skirt portion and resilient rings for engaging the sleeves whereby all portion of a garment may be retained in the most attractive condition.

Yet another important object of the present invention is to provide a garment hanger and shaper constructed of suitable lightweight flexible mesh material that is provided with a reinforcing boning or the like for retaining the shape of the garment.

Still another important feature of the present invention is to provide a garment hanger and shaper that is simple in construction, easy to utilize, retains the garments in neat and attractive condition, well adapted for its intended purposes and relatively inexpensive to manufacture and maintain.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully thereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the garment hanger and shaper of the present invention in use on a small child's dress wherein the dress is retained in the desired condition;

Figure 2 is a side elevational view with a portion of the hem being broken away showing the silhouette of the shape of the garment hanger of the present invention wherein the garment will be substantially shaped;

Figure 3 is a longitudinal, vertical sectional view taken substantially upon a plane passing along section line 3—3 of Figure 2 showing the details of construction of the garment hanger and shaper of the present invention;

Figure 4 is a top plan sectional view taken substantially upon a plane passing along section line 4—4 of Figure 2 showing further structural details of the present invention;

Figure 5 is a detail sectional view taken substantially upon a plane passing along section line 5—5 of Figure 2 showing the details of construction of one of the resilient loops for positioning in the sleeve of the garment;

Figure 6 is a detail, sectional view taken substantially upon a plane pasing along section line 6—6 of Figure 2, showing the details of construction of the upper end of the present invention and illustrating the positioning of the supporting hanger in the loop provided therefor; and

Figure 7 is a detail sectional view taken substantially upon a plane passing along section line 7—7 of Figure 2 showing further structural details of the upper portion of the garment hanger and shaper of the present invention.

Referring now specifically to the drawings, it will be seen that the numeral **10** generally designates the garment hanger and shaper of the present invention and the device is illustrated for use in supporting and shaping a small child's dress generally designated by the numeral **12** and including an upper body portion **14** and a lower body portion **16** that generally forms a skirt portion. The upper body portion **14** generally forms a blouse portion and includes a neck opening **18** and sleeves **20**. The dress **12** is provided with various ruffles and gathers normally appearing in such garments, and the skirt portion **16** is generally bell-shaped thereby forming an attractive dress.

Referring now specifically to Figure 2, it will be seen that the garment hanger and shaper **10** generally includes an upper body portion **22** and a lower body portion **24** each of which is constructed of mesh material that is flexible for changing the shapes thereof. The upper body portion **22** is secured to the lower body portion **24** by a waist portion **26** and a line of horizontal stitching **28** forming a seam. The lower end of the lower body portion **24** is provided with a hem portion **30** formed by vertically spaced horizontal seams **32** thereby forming a loop for receiving a reinforcing ring or boning **34** which is secured to the hem portion **30** by a seam **36**, thereby retaining the lower end of the lower body portion **24** in extended position, thereby forming a full skirt portion that is substantially bell-shaped, as illustrated in Figures 2 and 3.

The upper body portion **22** is formed of a double thickness of material that is flattened out and secured together at the side edges by a peripheral line of stitching or seam **38**. Centrally and vertically on the upper body portion **22** is secured a loop of fabric material **40** which extends vertically in the center of the upper body portion **22** and is secured thereto by stitching **42**. Positioned within the vertical loop **40** is an elongated piece of boning or reinforcing **44** secured to the loop **40** by a line of stitching **46**. Also, the upper central portion of the upper body portion **22** is provided with a generally flattened V-shaped opening **48** that is formed by folding flaps of material **50** inwardly, thereby forming an opening for receiving a

hanger or supporting member **52** having a hook **54** on the upper end thereof and terminating in a transversely extending member **56** at the lower end, wherein the transversely extending member **66** generally curves downwardly for reception in oppositely disposed loops **58** formed by the upper edge of the double thickness of material forming the upper body portion **22** and the line of stitching **38**, whereby the hanger **52** will be positioned within the upper end of the garment hanger and shaper **10** of the present invention.

Attached to opposite edges of the upper body portion **22** is a securing strap **60** being attached to a flexible resilient ring generally designated by the numeral **62** and and including a pair of fabric members **64** secured together at opposite edges by stitching **66** and receiving a reinforcing annular boning member **68** therein that is secured thereto by stitching **70** wherein the ring **62** is adapted to be positioned within the sleeves **20** of the garment **12**.

In practical use of the device, the garment hanger and support **10** with the hanger **52** attached thereto is positioned within the garment **12** and the rings **62** are positioned within the sleeves **20** wherein the garment **12** will be retained in extended and neat condition. The various elements of the present invention may be constructed of any suitable material, although they should be washable and relatively inexpensive so that the garment hangers of the present invention may be reused and washed as often as desired. Further, the hangers **52** may be of any suitable construction, but preferably of plastic construction as are the boning reinforcing members **34** and **44**. Also, it will be understood that the sleeve rings **62** may be omitted for utility with certain types of garments and the particular length of the securing strap **16** may be changed as desired for retaining long sleeved garments in an extended position. The boning **34** may be placed in a hem or loop as illustrated or merely stitched to either surface of the lower body portion. This also is true of the other reinforcing or boning members.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A hanger and shaper for a dress type garment comprising an upper body portion, a lower body portion attached to said upper body portion, said lower body portion being generally bell-shaped for shaping the skirt portion of a dress, said upper portion being generally flat for shaping the blouse portion of a dress, means for supporting said hanger and shaper from a support, said body portions being constructed of semi-rigid mesh material whereby said body portions may be shaped, and resilient loops movably attached to the outer edges of said upper body portion for transverse positioning in the sleeves of a dress.

2. A hanger and shaper for a dress type garment comprising an upper body portion, a lower body portion attached to said upper body portion, said lower body portion being generally bell-shaped for shaping the skirt portion of a dress, said upper portion being generally flat for shaping the blouse portion of a dress, means for supporting said hanger and shaper from a support, said body portions being constructed of semi-rigid mesh material whereby said body portions may be shaped, and resilient loops movably attached to the outer edges of said upper body portion for transverse positioning in the sleeves of a dress, said body portions being constructed with resilient plastic reinforcing members for retaining the shape thereof.

3. A device for shaping a dress type garment comprising an upper body portion, a lower body portion attached to said upper body portion, said lower body portion being generally bell shaped for shaping the skirt portion of a dress, said upper body portion being generally flat and provided with outwardly and upwardly flared side edges for shaping the blouse portion of a dress, said upper and lower body portions being constructed of semi-rigid mesh material for permitting the body portions to be shaped, said lower body portion terminating in a lower edge with a hem portion, a reinforcing member disposed in said hem portion, said upper body portion being constructed of double thickness of mesh material, the central upper edge of the upper body portion having a downwardly extending notch, a transverse member disposed between the thicknesses of material and bridging said notch, and a hook member attached to said transverse member for supporting said body portions, said upper body portion having a vertically disposed reinforcing member extending downwardly from the lower end of said notch.

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