March 27, 1956 T. V. HENSON 2,739,399

MARKING DEVICES

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Fig. 1.

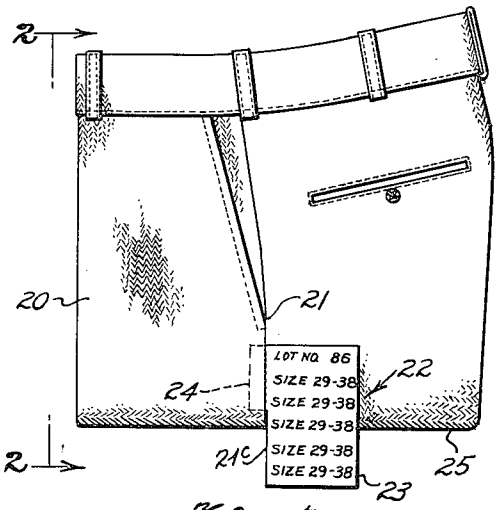


Fig. 2.

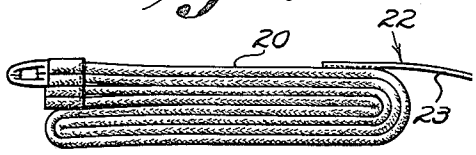


Fig. 3.

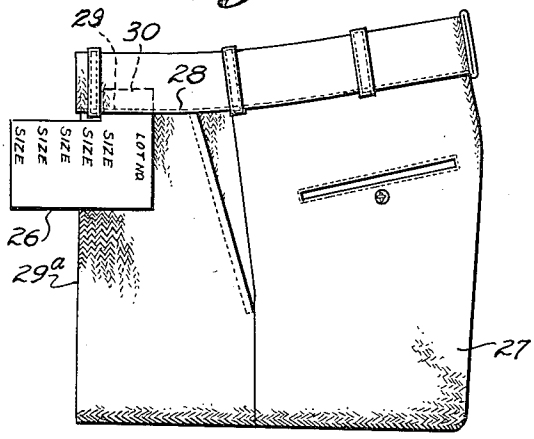


Fig. 5.

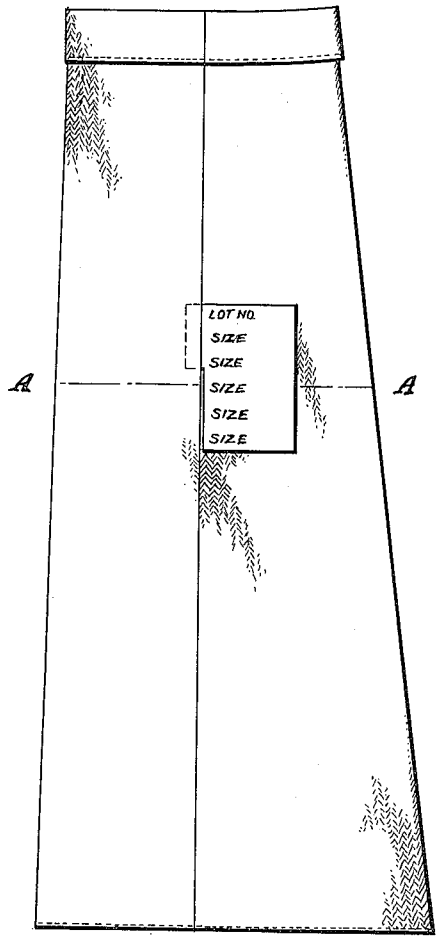
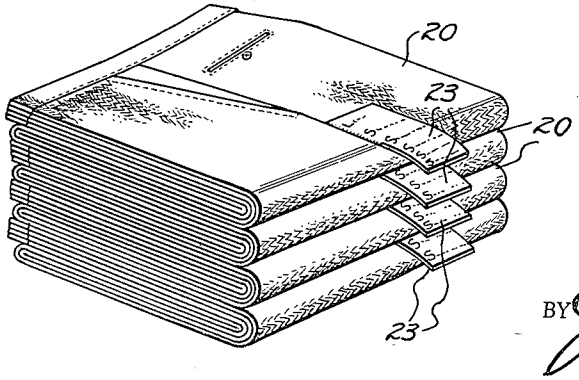


Fig. 4.



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Fig. 6.

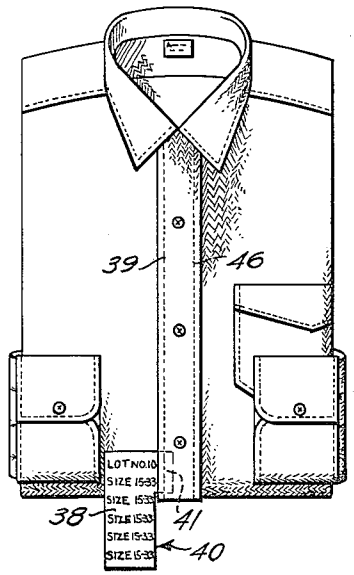


Fig. 7.

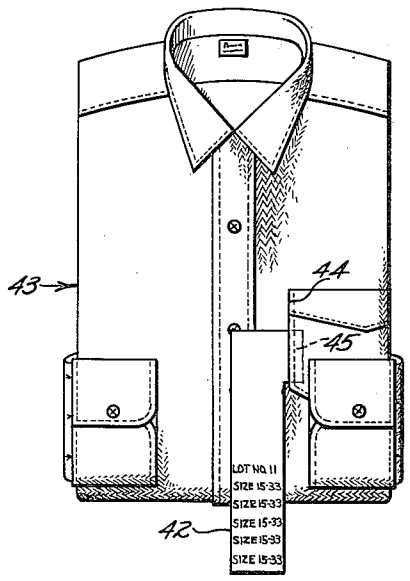


Fig. 8.

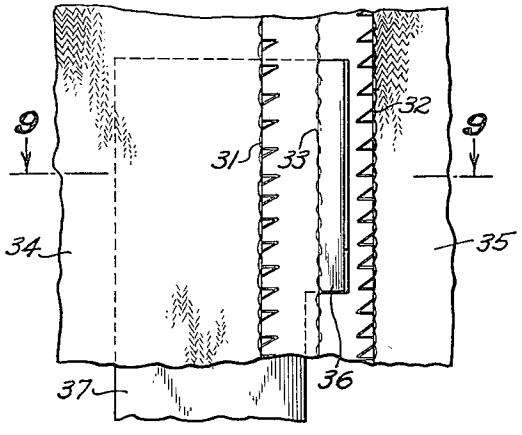


Fig. 10.

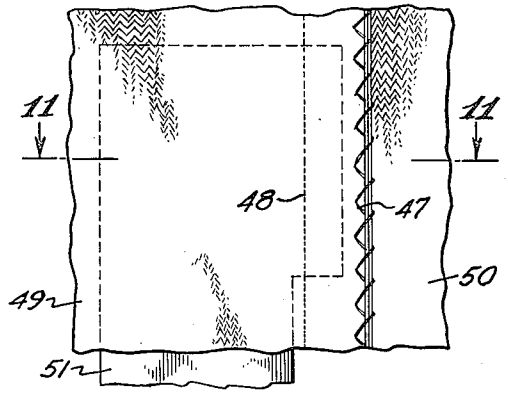


Fig. 9.

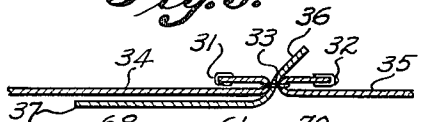


Fig. 11.

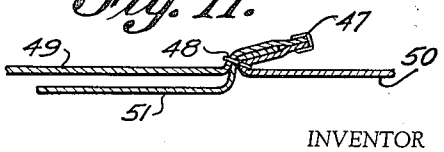
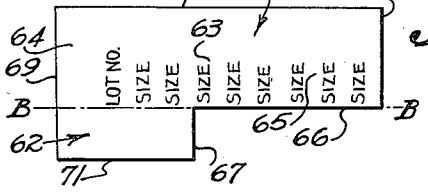


Fig. 12



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United States Patent Office

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MARKING DEVICES

Thomas V. Henson, Winder, Ga.

Application January 24, 1952, Serial No. 267,992

1 Claim. (Cl. 40—2)

This invention relates to marking devices in the nature of tags, labels or the like for article identification. More particularly, the invention relates to a marking device such as a tag or label bearing identifying information, in combination with an article to be identified such as an article of apparel.

There are many well known labels or tags useful for the general purpose of identifying articles, however, ordinarily the markers are of such construction and are affixed to the article in such a manner and location that the identifying indicia appearing thereon and even the marker itself is usually hidden when the articles are stacked in storage or on display.

It has now been found that identifying attachments which facilitate article identification according to size, color, and quality, render selection of the desired article by the salesperson or consumer more simple and speedy and thereby enhance salability of the article and promote more favorable acceptance of the goods by retailers and consumers as well.

In the specific case of marking devices for garments such as trousers and skirts, for example, labels or tags indicating size, color, style, etc., are normally attached at the waistband. When garments of this kind are stacked for storage or display the indicia on such conventional tags often becomes obscured by overlying garments or folds of material and the individual garments must be lifted, one by one, for an inspection of the labels to ascertain the markings appearing thereon.

Labels for indicating the size, color and style of shirts, blouses and the like, are usually attached to the garment at the neck band or the tail and it is similarly difficult to read the indicia appearing on the identification devices of garments of this kind when they are stacked in the usual fashion.

Another disadvantage of the labels commonly employed in connection with garments to indicate size, style, color, and quality, is that the removal of such labels oftentimes damages the garment itself due to the method of attaching the label to the garment. The stitching which is usually employed often leaves holes or snags in the portion of the garment to which the label or tag is attached. Such objectionable features are overcome by the teachings of the present invention.

In overcoming these and other objections, the present invention includes, as one of its major features, the concept of providing tags having a stub portion which may be fastened to a seam of the article and a tab integral with and extending substantially perpendicular to the stub portion so as to extend beyond an edge or a fold of the article to which it is attached, in proximity to the securing seam. Another feature of the tag of the present invention is a repetitive arrangement of identifying indicia on the portion of the tab extending beyond the edge of the article. Thus the present invention provides a tag having one portion attached to a seam of the garment and another portion extending beyond a fold which is substantially perpendicular to the seam, the latter portion bearing identifying indicia in repetitive arrangement substantially parallel to said fold.

An important object of this invention is to provide marking devices in the nature of tags, labels or the like adapted to be affixed to articles, which devices bear indicia which are exposed and can be read easily and without separating or touching the garments when the articles are folded and placed upon a stack or pile.

It is a further object to provide an improved marking device adaptable for use in marking for identification both bifurcated and other garments.

It is a further object to provide a combination of a marking device in combination with a folded garment, wherein the marking device is affixed to the seam of the garment and yet overlies a fold in the garment.

For the purpose of illustrating the invention but without intending to limit the scope thereto, an embodiment thereof is shown in the accompanying drawings wherein:

Fig. 1 is a side view of a pair of folded trousers provided with a marking device constructed in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a side view of the garment illustrated in Fig. 1 as seen from line 2—2 thereof, revealing the manner of folding the garment;

Fig. 3 is a side view of a pair of folded trousers provided with a marking device fastened in an alternative fashion to that disclosed in Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 represents a stack of trouser garments provided with a marking attachment fastened in the manner shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is a side view of a lady's skirt in unfolded form but adapted to be folded along line A—A;

Fig. 6 represents a view of a man's shirt provided with a marking device constituted and fastened in accordance with the teachings of the present invention;

Fig. 7 is a view of a shirt garment provided with a marking device constituted in accordance with the present invention and fastened in an alternative manner to that disclosed in Fig 6;

Fig. 8 is a view of the "rough" or "seam" side of a garment showing stitching passing through the stub of a marking device constituted in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 9 is a sectional view of the seam taken along lines 9—9 of Fig. 8;

Fig. 10 is a view of the "rough" or "seam" side of a garment having a different type of seam from that disclosed in Fig. 8 with stitching passing through the stub of a marking device constructed in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 11 represents a sectional view of the seam taken along lines 11—11 of Fig. 10, and

Fig. 12 is a plan view of a tag made in accordance with the teachings of the present invention.

In the form of the present invention illustrated in Fig. 1, trousers 20 of a construction well known in the art are provided with a double bursted side seam 21. A marking device or tag 22 comprising an elongated tab portion 23 bearing indicia repetitively arranged thereon and a stub portion 24 extending laterally from the tab portion adjacent one end thereof, is fastened to the garment 20 along seam 21. The row of stitching in the seam 21 passes through the stub portion on a line which is substantially a prolongation of side 21c thereby correlating the marking device and the garment so the tab portion extends along the seam 21 and beyond the fold line 25. In Fig. 4 a stack of trousers provided with marking tags fastened in the side seam and folded in the manner shown in Fig. 2, is illustrated to reveal that the indicia borne on the tab portions which extend beyond the edge of the folded article remain discernible and clearly visible.

By repetitively arranging identical indicia on the tabs

of the present invention, although some portions of the indicia-bearing surface may be obscured by disaligned folded garments or by adjacent garment tags, at least one section of identification indicia will remain in view.

As illustrated in Fig. 3 a tag **26** may be fastened to a trouser garment **27** along seam **28** with the row of stitching **29** passing through the stub portion **30** of the tag. When fastened in this manner the elongated tab extends along the seam **28** and beyond the fold line **29** of the garment. The embodiment of the invention disclosed in Fig. 3 is similar to that shown in Figs. 1 and 2 with regard to the correlation between the marking device and the trouser garment, however, it is not intended that the invention should be limited to the particular garment disclosed in the embodiments of the invention disclosed in these figures.

A side seam commonly employed in trouser construction is shown more in detail in Fig. 8, with rows of whip stitching **31**, **32** to prevent fraying of the fabric edges. Stitching **33** serves to join the trouser or other garment pieces **34**, **35**, and also fastens the stub portion **36** of tab **37** to the fabric material. When fastened in the manner shown the stub portion **36** projects through the material so as to be accessible for removal from the reverse or seam side of the fabric.

In accordance with the present invention a garment such as the shirt disclosed in Fig. 6 may have a marking device **40** fastened thereto and properly located thereon along the vertical front seam **39**. The marking device **40** includes a laterally extending stub portion **41** through which passes the row of stitching **39**, and a tab portion **38** on which the identifying indicia are properly arranged in repetitive fashion.

Another method of attaching a marking device constituted in accordance with the present invention is shown in Fig. 7, wherein an elongated tab **42** is shown fastened to the body of a shirt **43** through the agency of pocket stitching **44** passing through the stub portion **45**.

The method of attaching the tag of the present invention to a garment may be varied from that disclosed in Figs. 1 and 7 in accordance with the requirements to be met. In Fig. 6, for example, the stub portion of the tag is inserted between folds of fabric which are then sewn by rows of stitching **39**, **46**. The stub portion is permanently retained in the body of the shirt material whereas in Fig. 7 the stub portion **45** extends into and is accessible from inside the pocket of the shirt. As shown in detail in Fig. 10 this invention contemplates that the stub portion of a tag may be permanently secured and retained between layers of fabric stitched together. Referring to Fig. 11, rows of stitching **47**, **48** join the pieces of fabric **49**, **50**, the row of stitching **48** alone serving to retain the tab **51** fastened to the garment fabric.

After sale of the article the tag constituted in accordance with the present invention and fastened in the manner disclosed may be torn along the perforation caused by the stitching, thereby separating the tab portion from the stub portion stitched in the seam of the garment. In the embodiment of the invention shown in Figs. 1 and 7 after the tab has been removed the stub portion is accessible from the reverse side of the fabric and may be plucked therefrom. However, in the embodiment of the invention shown in Figs. 6 and 10 the stub portion is not accessible and is permanently retained in the body of the material. No serious disadvantage is presented from permanent retention of the stub portion in the body of the garment material inasmuch as it is contemplated that the marking device will be constructed from paper or similar material which during washing will ultimately disintegrate.

Stacking the folded shirts with the tags attached shown singly in Figs. 6 and 7, as is specifically illustrated in Fig. 4 with regard to trouser garments, provides a pile having an outward appearance similar to the stack shown in Fig. 4. The repetitive arrangement of identifying indicia on the tabs which extend beyond the fold lines of each shirt, facilitates selection of individual garments according to size, color, type or quality, according to the character of the indicia provided on the tabs.

In addition to the repetitive arrangement of the indicia, further means of identification of the garments may be employed, for example, by utilizing tags of different colors, sizes and shapes. The tags, therefore, may be made of paper, cloth, plastic or other suitable materials.

In Fig. 12 a tag **60** constructed in accordance with the present invention includes a tab **61** having a laterally extending stub **62** for fastening in a seam of the article. Tab **61**, elongated in the direction of its length, is provided with sections **63** of identical identifying indicia both on the portion **64** connecting the tab and the stub and also on the body portion **65** of the tab. Normally the row of article seam stitching fastening the tag to the article passes through the stub along line B—B which is substantially a prolongation of side **66** of the tab body portion **65**. When secured in this fashion the row of perforations from the stitching needle provide a weakened line and the tab portion may be easily torn from the stub. Tearing is also facilitated by the provision of a weakened line which intersects the sides **66**, **67** of the tab and the stub, respectively, at the point of joinder.

Side **68** of the tab body portion **64**, in the embodiment of this invention shown in Fig. 12, is parallel to line B—B and the ends **69**, **70**, of the tag are cut off square providing a substantially rectangular tab and connecting portion.

Stub **62**, as shown, juts from the tab at right angles and also is cut off square at end **71**. However, obvious changes in the layout of the tag blank, such as arranging the stub to project from the tab at an angle other than 90°, may be performed.

Further modifications of the embodiments illustrated herein may be effected without departing from the spirit of the invention, it being intended that the patent shall cover by suitable expressions in the appended claim, all of the features of patentable novelty shown and/or described herein.

I claim:

In combination with a garment adapted to be displayed in stacked relation to like garments, said garment having a stitched seam and adapted to be folded along a line substantially perpendicular to said seam, an L-shaped destructible identification tag comprising a substantially rectangular stub portion and a substantially rectangular tab portion integral with and extending laterally from said stub portion and bearing marking indicia, said tag being secured to said garment by means of a portion of the stitching of said seam at the juncture of said stub portion and said tab portion to provide a weakened, perforated line at said juncture and so located that at least part of said tab portion extends outwardly beyond the fold of the garment whereby the tab portion may be readily observed when displayed in stacked relation to like garments and may be easily separated from said stub portion after sale by tearing along said perforated line.

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