July 10, 1962 N. M. SHENKER 3,043,423

GARMENT PACKAGE

Filed March 18, 1960

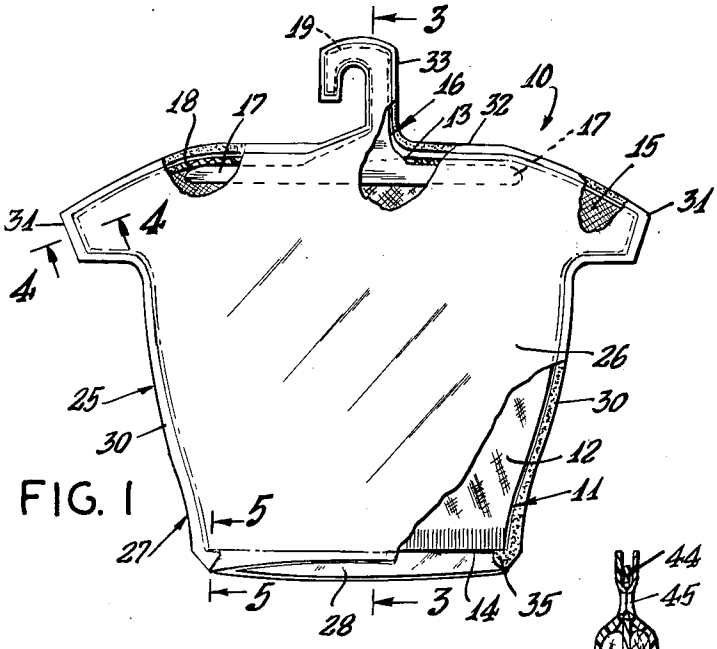


FIG. 1

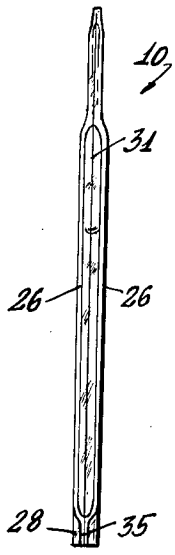


FIG. 2

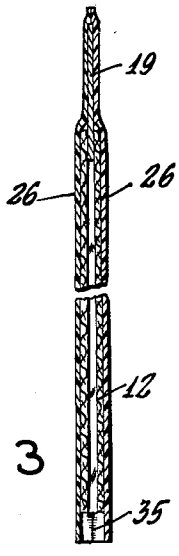


FIG. 3

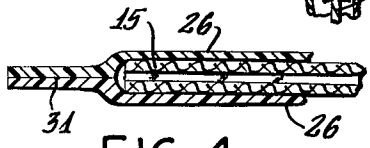


FIG. 4

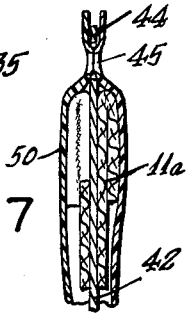


FIG. 7

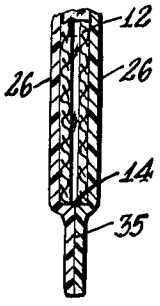


FIG. 5

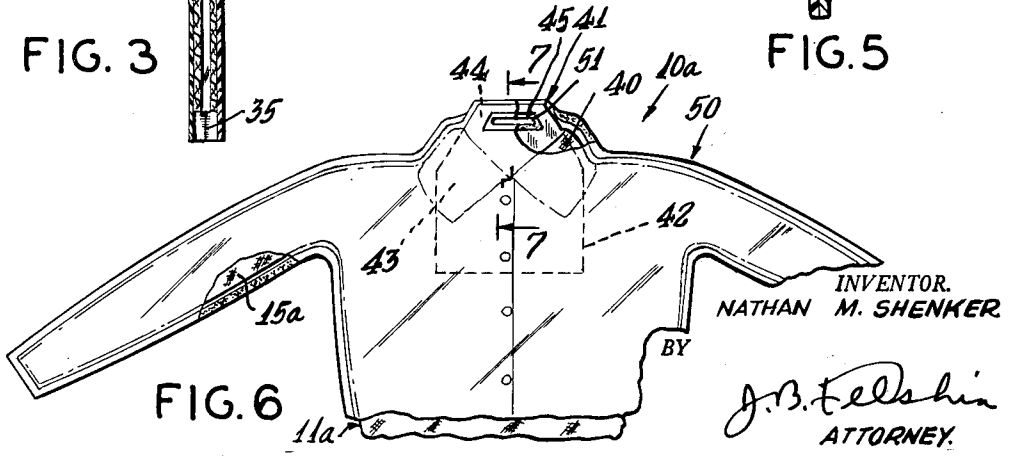


FIG. 6

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3,043,423

Patented July 10, 1962

3,043,423

GARMENT PACKAGE

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Filed Mar. 18, 1960, Ser. No. 16,029
1 Claim. (Cl. 206—46)

This invention relates to packages.

An object of this invention is to provide a package comprising a garment or other cloth article in a bag of transparent, flexible plastic sheeting shaped to conform to the outline of the garment or article, and having a restricted opening at one end.

Another object of this invention is to provide a package of the character described comprising a stiffener lying on the cloth article or inserted into the garment and engaging shoulder portions thereof and having a portion projecting from the garment providing a hook or handle, with the bag having portions engaging around the hook or handle to prevent the stiffener from falling out of place into the bag or garment, and serving to hang up the garment or for carrying the package, and also preventing the garment from falling down in the bag.

Other advantages and features of my improved package may be summarized as follows:

The bag protects the fuzz or knap on the material, highly important when packaging sweaters. In former packages using rectangular plastic bags, the garments would drop or bunch up in the bag and would not lie flat. In the improved package, if the garment has sleeves, the bag has extending portions closely receiving the sleeves, so that the garment does not shift around in the bag.

One can see the garment through the transparent bag, and feel the fabric through the open end without removing the garment from the shielding or protective bag.

The restricted portions at the ends of the open end of the bag help keep the bag from hiking up on the garment.

The bag, in accordance with the invention, is preferably snug on the garment to help keep the garment from shifting.

The bag avoids marring of the garment by permanent folds. When the present package is folded, the plastic bag folds with the garment and prevents sharp folds, as the garment folds over the plastic, and when the package is then flattened by unfolding, there is no crease or sharp fold in the garment itself. In former packages with rectangular bags that did not follow the irregular shape of the garment, the garment would often fold on itself because the bag was not held flat on the garment, anl also because of the tendency of garments to bunch and shift in the bag. With my improved package the garment lays flat and the bag conforms thereto, and will fold therewith and the garment will not fold without the bag.

In prior packages using rectangular bags or envelopes, the garments often had to be folded before inserting into the bag, thereby causing creases which do not come out when the garment is unfolded.

The garment can be seen without damage to the garment by handling, fingering or dust.

By sealing the bag to a projecting portion of a stiffener or hanger inserted into the garment at the neck, and having means to engage the shoulder of the garment, the garment cannot fall in the bag. This stiffener may be in the form of a hanger to hang up the garment with the bag thereon.

The lower end of the bag extends beyond the lower end of the garment and can be left open for aerating the garment and to prevent air from being trapped in the bag, as well as to permit inspection by feeling the fabric of the garment.

The bag or envelope, in accordance with the invention, is preferably close to the garment all around except at the bottom opening, and also close to the stiffener or hanger or in the hand hole of the handle. The bag or envelope may comprise two thermoplastic sheets between which the garment is placed and said sheets may be cut to shape and heat or electronically sealed or fused together all around the garment and stiffener except at the opening.

Another object of this invention is to provide a strong, rugged and durable package of the character described, which shall be relatively inexpensive to manufacture, attractive in appearance and yet practical and efficient to a high degree in use.

Other objects of this invention will in part be obvious and in part hereinafter pointed out.

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combinations of elements, and arrangement of parts, which will be exemplified in the construction hereinafter described, and of which the scope of invention will be indicated in the following claim.

FIG. 1 is a top plan view of a garment package embodying the invention, with parts broken away;

FIG. 2 is a side edge view thereof;

FIG. 3 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 3—3 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 4 is a partial, enlarged cross-sectional view taken on line 4—4 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 5 is a partial, enlarged cross-sectional view taken on line 5—5 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 6 is a partial top plan view of a garment package embodying the invention and showing a modification; and

FIG. 7 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 7—7 of FIG. 6.

Referring now in detail to the drawing, 10 designates a garment package embodying the invention. The same comprises a garment 11, here shown for the purpose of illustration in the form of a sweater, it being understood that the invention may be applied to any garment, such as a shirt, waist, jacket, necktie or any other garment having an irregular shape, or to any article of merchandise made of cloth or other fabric. The garment 11 is preferably unfolded and lays flat. The article may have one fold or a minimum of folds. Said garment 11, as shown, has a body 12 formed with a neck opening 13, is open at its lower end 14, and is provided with sleeves 15. Inserted into the upper end of the garment is a stiffener 16 of cardboard or any other suitable rigid or semi-rigid material.

The stiffener 16, as shown in FIG. 1, has wings 17 engaging beneath the shoulder portions 18 of the garment. Said stiffener also comprises a hooked portion 19 projecting up through the neck opening 13 of the garment.

Said garment and stiffener are eneveloped or contained in a bag, envelope or shield 25 which may be made of transparent or translucent flexible thin sheet thermoplastic material such as polyethylene. Preferably, the bag 25 comprises top and bottom superposed sheets 26 fused at their outer edges 27 by heat or electronically all around the garment 11 and hook 19, except for an opening 28 at the bottom. The lower open end of the bag preferably extends beyond the garment.

Thus, the sheets 26 are fused at the sides of the body 12, as at 30; around the sleeves 15, as at 31; over the shoulders 18, as at 32; and around the hook 19, as at 33. The sheets are also sealed or fused as at 35 at opposite ends of the opening 28, beneath the outer ends of the lower edge of the garment.

Thus the stiffener cannot fall down in the bag and also keeps the garment against the upper end of the bag.

The package can be laid flat on a counter or table or hung up on a rack, or carried (the hook serving as a handle). Portions **17** help to keep the package flat and stiffen the package.

The opening **28** allows air to get into the package and allows feeling the fabric.

The garment may be seen through the bag which keeps the dust out and protects the knap or fuzz on the garment.

In FIGS. 6 and 7 there is shown a package **10***a* embodying a modified form of the invention.

In FIGS. 6 and 7, the garment **11***a* has sleeves **15***a* and a collar **40**.

Inserted into the neck of the garment is a cardboard stiffener **41** having a portion **42** in the garment, portions **43** engaging beneath the collar, and a poriton **44** projecting up through the neck of the garment.

Portion **44** has a hand hole **45**.

The garment and stiffener are enveloped in a bag **50**, also of transparent synthetic, thermoplastic sheet material, comprising preferably flat top and bottom sheets fused all around the edges of the garment and stiffener except at the bottom, where it has an opening like opening **28** of FIG. 1, and sealed portions at the ends of said openings like portions **35** of FIG. 1.

The top and bottom sheets are also fused together as at **51** all around within the hand hole **45** of the stiffener, so that the stiffener cannot fall down in the garment.

It will thus be seen that there is provided an apparatus in which the several objects of this invention are achieved, and which is well adapted to meet the conditions of practical use.

As possible embodiments might be made of the above invention, and as various changes might be made in the embodiment above set forth, it is to be understood that all matter herein set forth or shown in the accompanying drawings, is to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

I claim:

As an article or manufacture, a garment having a body with shoulders and sleeves and a neck, said sleeves extending outwardly, a bag of synthetic plastic sheeting enveloping the garment and having portions following closely the outer outline of the neck and shoulders and around and beneath the underside of the outwardly extending sleeves of the garment and the sides of the garment below said sleeves, whereby the garment is prevented from readily falling within the bag, a garment hanger within the bag having portions engaging beneath the shoulders of the garment, said hanger having suspending means extending through said neck of the garment, and an opening at the lower end of said bag to permit manual inspection of the garment.

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