

G. W. KENNEY.
PROCESS OF MAKING DRESS FORMS.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 21, 1911.

1,044,662.

Patented Nov. 19, 1912.

Fig. 1.

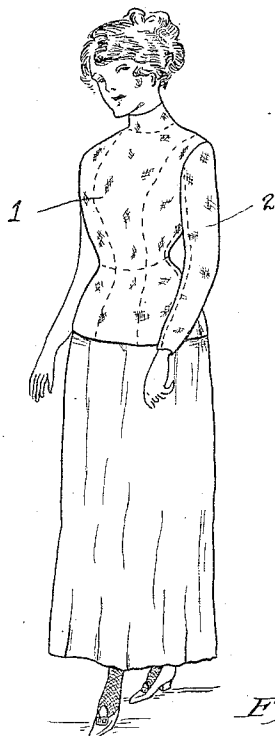


Fig. 2.

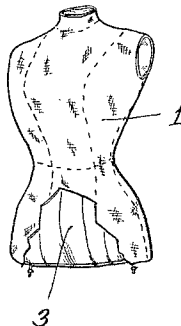


Fig. 7.



Fig. 3.

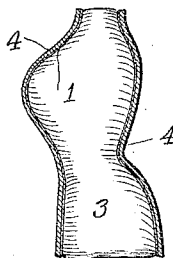


Fig. 4.

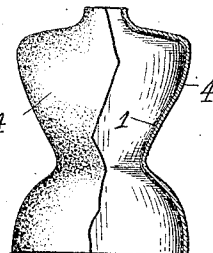


Fig. 6.

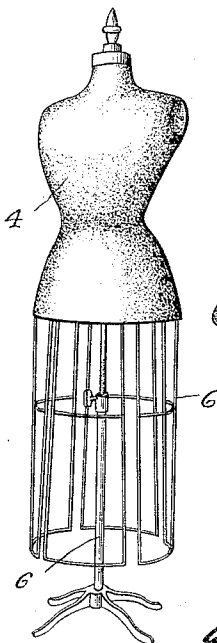


Fig. 5.

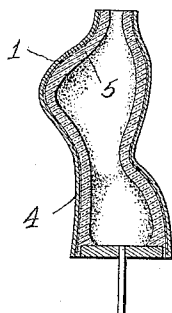


Fig. 9.

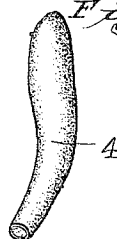
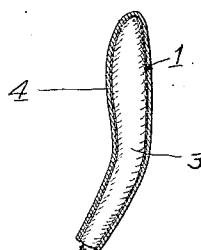


Fig. 8.



Witnesses:

J. W. Thornburgh.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GRANT W. KENNEY, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

PROCESS OF MAKING DRESS-FORMS.

1,044,662.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 19, 1912.

Application filed August 21, 1911. Serial No. 645,311.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GRANT W. KENNEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented a new and useful Process of Making Dress-Forms, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a process of making dress forms, the completed form being an exact reproduction of the figure of the person. Heretofore in making forms of this character a plaster cast has been made over the person.

One of the main objects of the present invention is to eliminate the disagreeable feature of the hardening of the cast on the person.

Another important object is to do away with the necessity of the presence of the person at the place where the form is being made, thereby making it possible for persons living at a distance to send their orders to the factory for forms without requiring their personal presence, and a further object of the invention is to provide a process of this character which is economical.

In order that the process may be the more readily understood, the various steps have been illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and referring thereto:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a person being fitted with the lining. Fig. 2 is a front elevation showing the lining having been removed from the person and distended to the shape of the person by the pneumatic device. Fig. 3 is a vertical section through the center of the form showing the pneumatic device in elevation, and the lining with shell thereon in section. Fig. 4 is a front view part in section showing the hardened shell and lining with pneumatic device removed and ready for the reinforcing operation. Fig. 5 is a vertical section showing the shell with internal reinforcement having been applied. Fig. 6 is a front elevation showing the completed form mounted on a suitable standard. Fig. 7 is a side view of a sleeve lining with the pneumatic device within and holding it distended. Fig. 8 is a longitudinal section through the sleeve showing the shell applied to the lining. Fig. 9 is a side view of the sleeve with the pneumatic device removed.

Briefly, the process consists of fitting a

lining over the person, then removing the lining and distending the lining by pneumatic means so that the exterior of the lining will present the same shape and size as when on the person, then applying a relatively thin coating of a material which will become sufficiently stiff to be self-supporting after the pneumatic pressure has been removed from within the lining, and then after the lining has been removed, reinforcing the interior of the shell thus formed by the addition of a strengthening material.

Thus in Fig. 1, a person is shown being fitted with a waist lining 1, and sleeve 2. The method is applicable to sleeves as well as to waists. After the lining is perfectly fitted to the person, the lining is removed from the person and if the person resides at a distance from the factory the lining may be sent by mail to the factory. The lining is then distended by the insertion and inflation of a rubber bag 3 as shown in Fig. 2. This causes the lining 1 to present externally the same form and dimensions as it did when it was on the person. While the lining is thus distended, a coating 4, for example, of plaster of Paris, is applied in a thin layer over the lining 1. This permeates the mesh of the fabric of which the lining is composed and quickly hardens forming a shell which is stiff and self-supporting. In the drawing, this outer coating is shown thicker than in actual practice for illustrative purposes. After the shell 4 has hardened, the pneumatic bag 3 is deflated and withdrawn from the form and the shell which remains is hard, rigid, and self-supporting, and in order to give it necessary strength for severe use, another layer of plaster of Paris 5 is applied to the lining 1 on the inside as shown in Fig. 5, and after this is hardened the walls are thick and the form is strong enough to be handled and used without danger of breakage. The form is then mounted on a suitable support 6, as shown in Fig. 6.

The construction of sleeve forms is carried out in the same manner. Fig. 7 shows the sleeve lining removed from the person and distended by the pneumatic bag. Fig. 8 shows the outer coating 4 applied before the bag is removed, and Fig. 9 shows the completed form with the bag removed.

As the coating 4 which is applied to the lining forms a slight increase in the dimen-

sions in order to offset this I take in the seams of the lining a trifle after it has been fitted so that after the coating 4 is applied the external dimensions will be the same as
5 when on the person.

The lining may be fitted to the person by a dressmaker and then transmitted to the factory for the further steps of the operation, so that the attendance of the person
10 is not required other than for the fitting of the lining. It is often desirable to return the linings to the customer. I may make another lining from the first one and this second lining which I make will preferably
15 be of a material having rather a coarse weave which will permit the plaster of Paris, papier-mâché, or other material to more readily penetrate and combine therewith.

20 The materials of which the shell and re-

inforcement are formed may be varied as desired. Plaster of Paris or papier-mâché are excellent for the purpose.

What I claim is:

The process of making dress forms which
25 consists of fitting a lining over the person, then removing the lining, then applying air pressure to distend the lining, and while maintaining the air pressure, applying a coat of form material to the lining and al-
30 lowing the same to harden, and removing the air pressure after the material has hardened.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand at Los Angeles, California, this
35 10th day of August, 1911.

GRANT W. KENNEY.

In presence of—

G. T. HACKLEY,
GLADYS RUSSELL.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."