United States Patent

Nicholson

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[54] **DOLL CUTOUTS AND PROCESS OF MAKING SAME**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **46/157**

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A63h 9/00**

[58] **Field of Search** 46/157

[56] **References Cited**

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Assistant Examiner—J. Q. Lever
Attorney—B. Deon Criddle

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A process of making a low-cost doll cutout having a realistic appearing undergarment to which fabric outer garments can be attached and from which they can be removed; and the doll cutout so produced.

2 Claims, 4 Drawing Figures

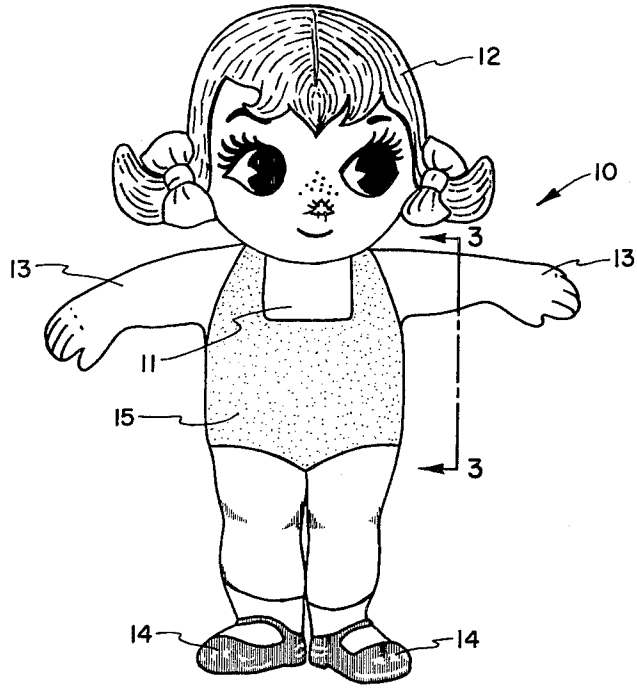


FIG 1

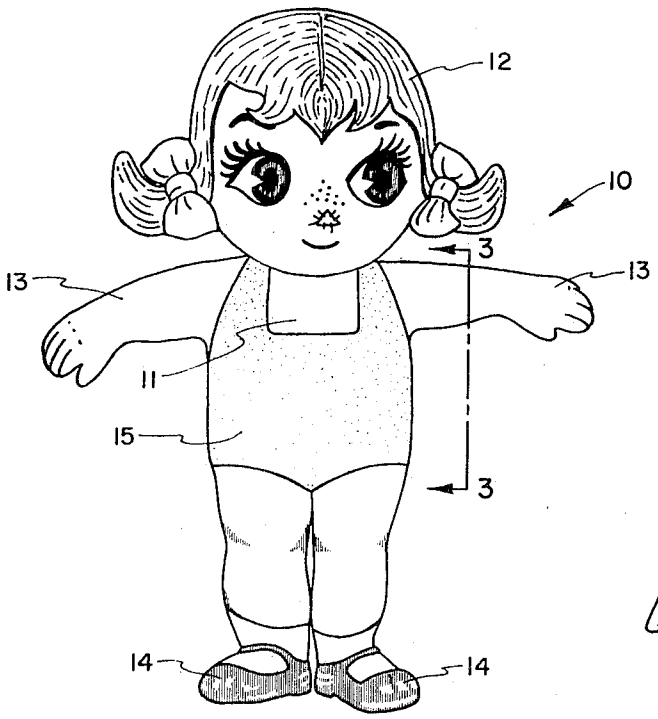


FIG 2

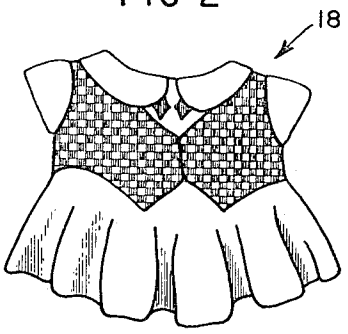


FIG 3

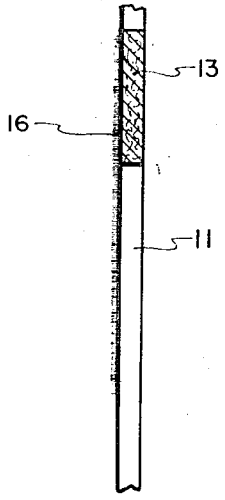
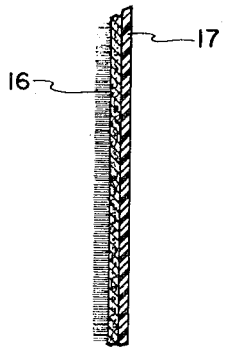


FIG 4



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DOLL CUTOUTS AND PROCESS OF MAKING SAME

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Cutout paper dolls have long been a favorite plaything of children who have dressed and undressed them with paper garments. One major problem with such dolls is that it has been very difficult to hold the garments in place as they handle them during play. Then as the garment is put on and removed, the tabs or other holding means become worn and the life of the garment is greatly reduced. Because of the difficulty of holding such garments in place and the lack of wearability, there has heretofore been produced a cutout doll wherein the doll body has cotton fabric undergarments adhesively placed thereon with one of the napped facings of the undergarment then forming an outer face. Outer garments are then cut in a clothing design from a similar fabric and when a napped surface of the outer garment is placed against the napped outer surface of the undergarment the outer garment is frictionally attached to the undergarment and is securely but removably held on the cutout doll.

This known process of manufacturing by cutting out doll bodies and adhesively applying a napped fabric to them has many drawbacks. For example, the adhesive used may fail; the napped inner facing may separate from the material to which it is attached; the cotton nap outer surface easily pulls away from the rest of the material; the fabric does not wear well; and the process of adhesively coating the doll body and the napped fabric is too costly.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The process of the present invention overcomes the above drawbacks in the prior art and provides a means whereby a napped undergarment can be economically applied to a doll cutout, the nap is securely attached to be long wearing and to provide effective gripping means, and the doll body is reinforced to provide a longer lasting cutout doll.

Principal features of the present invention include the application of an undergarment pattern to the body of a doll cutout by blowing a layer of cotton fiber or other suitable fibrous napped material directly onto the doll body or preferably onto adhesively backed paper that can be die cut to give a suitable undergarment pattern that is then secured to a doll body. The adhesively backed paper securely holds the fibers of the napped material in place and serves to reinforce the doll body at critical points of stress. The adhesively backed paper is also produced in large quantity and the labor involved in positioning a die cut undergarment pattern on a doll body is minimal.

Another feature of the invention is that the fibrous napped material provides a maximum adhering effect since the fibers are applied to the doll body or to the adhesively backed paper electrostatically such that the fibers stand on end and have a maximum projection from the face of the Velour paper or other suitable, adhesively backed paper.

Further objects and features of the invention will become apparent from the following detailed description, taken together with the accompanying drawings.

THE DRAWINGS

In the drawings:

FIG. 1 is a front elevation view of a doll cutout provided with an undergarment in accordance with the method of the invention;

FIG. 2, a front elevation view of an outer garment clothing item for use on the doll cutout;

FIG. 3 is a side elevation view of the body portion of the doll of FIG. 1; and

FIG. 4, is a side elevation view of an adhesively backed Velour paper undergarment flocked according to the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Referring now to the drawing:

In the illustrated preferred embodiment a cutout-type doll having an undergarment pattern thereon and formed according to the process of the invention is shown generally at **10** and may be of any desired size. The doll **10** includes a body, having a torso **11**, a head **12**, arms **13**, and legs and feet **14**. The body is formed from cardboard, or stiff paper so that its shape will be retained. Doll **10** is provided with an undergarment pattern **15** covering a portion of the torso **11**. The undergarment pattern may be applied directly to the doll by using conventionally known techniques to electrically charge the portion of the torso to be the undergarment pattern such that when fibers of nap material are blown against the body they stick to the undergarment pattern. Preferably, however, the undergarment pattern is formed by first flocking a sheet of Velour paper **16**. A pressure sensitive adhesive **17** is provided on one side of sheet **16** and a peeloff backing, not shown, may be used to protect the adhesive.

After the sheet **16** is flocked by blowing fibers of a nap material onto one face of the sheet, it is die cut to form undergarment patterns, the peeloff backing is removed and the patterns are then applied to doll torsos.

The Velour paper serves as a stiffener for the doll body and is a reinforcement for the central body area and at the connections of the doll arms to the body. The flocking process is well known but consists essentially of charging the area of the doll body to be covered or the adhesively backed Velour paper with an electrostatic charge and then applying a layer of cotton fibers having an opposite electrical charge to the electrically charged area. In addition to providing a reinforced area, a cutout and adhesively applied flocked undergarment is more economical to produce since it is not necessary to mask any portion of the doll body as it is applied.

Once the doll body has been prepared with a flocked undergarment thereon, it is ready to receive an interchangeable outer garment such as is shown at **18**, FIG. **2**. These can be of any desired pattern, and generally will be two dimensional representations of actual clothing. While these garments can also be made of paper that has a printed surface representing a garment and a flocked backing, it is preferred to use a cotton fabric that is smooth on one side and napped on the other. The smooth side can then be roller printed to have a desired garment appearance and the nap surface will readily engage the fibers of the flocked undergarment surface to be held in place. The interaction of the projecting fibers of the undergarment section and of the napped surface prevents inadvertant separation of the outer garment from the inner garment and hence from the doll. Yet, a child playing with the doll can readily separate the outer garment from the inner garment, without damage to either garment.

According to my invention, there is provided a low-cost doll that can be readily handled by children, that will be relatively durable, especially as compared with conventional paper dolls, and that can be made and sold at a very low cost as compared with other more conventional three-dimensional dolls.

Although preferred embodiments of my invention have been herein disclosed, it is to be understood that the present disclosure is by way of example and that variations are possible without departing from the scope of the hereinafter claimed subject matter, which subject matter I regard as my invention.

I claim:

1. The process of making a doll cutout comprising
   - forming a body with head and limbs projecting therefrom from a substantially rigid, flat, paper material;
   - electrostatically covering one face of sheet of Velour paper with cotton fibers to form nubs thereon;
   - coating the other face of said Velour paper with an adhesive and placing a protective material over said adhesive;
   - cutting an undergarment pattern from said sheet to fit over a portion of the body;

removing the protective material from the undergarment pattern;

adhesively applying the undergarment pattern to the body;

roller printing a design on the smooth surface of a fabric having one smooth surface and one nubbed fabric;

forming an outer garment from the fabric having a smooth surface and a nubbed surface; and

applying said outer garment to said body by pressing the nubbed surface of the fabric to the nubbed surface of the undergarment pattern.

2. A doll cutout comprising

a cutout body of substantially rigid, flat, paper material and

having a head and limbs secured thereto;

an undergarment pattern on said cutout body, said pattern being cut from Velour paper having nub material blown thereon and electrostatically secured to an outer face thereof and the other face being adhesively secured to the cutout body; and

an outer garment having a smooth face with a roller printed design thereon and a nub side, whereby the nubs on the outer garment and the nubs on the undergarment can be pressed together such that the outer garment is frictionally but releasably held to the body.

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