HOSIERY PROTECTING INSERT FOR SHOES

FIG. 1.

FIG. 2.

FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.

FIG. 5.

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The present invention relates to hosiery protecting inserts for shoes and is concerned more particularly with the provision of inserts for installation in a shoe between the shoe and the foot and the hosiery thereon at the toe and/or at the heel where wear normally occurs.

In accordance with the instant invention, a hosiery protecting insert is shaped to conform to the inner interior configuration of the shoe, and the interior configuration of the heel of a shoe so that with these inserts installed in a shoe a substantially frictionless smooth surface is presented to the toe and/or the heel of the hosiery to substantially reduce wear.

The above and other objects of the invention are attained as illustrated in certain preferred embodiments of the invention as shown in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a shoe showing the toe and heel inserts installed in relation thereto, the shoe being indicated in phantom lines.

Figure 2 is a rear elevational view of the toe insert.

Figure 3 is a sectional view showing the insert in place in a shoe in relation to the toes and hosiery of the wearer.

Figure 4 is a plan view of the heel insert.

Figure 5 is a sectional view showing the heel insert in place within the shoe in its relation to the heel and the hosiery of the wearer.

Referring to Figure 1, there is shown in schematic relation to a shoe 11 the insert 10 comprising a sheet of suitable plastic material which is formed to the interior configuration of the toe of a shoe and is provided with a smooth interior surface. Preferably the material is of a flexible nature so that it can be made of a general toe shape and will conform to different toe configurations without undue distortion. Preferably the toe insert 10 is provided along its rearward arcuate edge with a strip of adhesive 12 which is permanently adhered to the insert 10, and is provided with a protective fabric strip or tape 13. The strip 13 is peeled from the adhesive 12 when the insert is to be placed within the shoe so that the insert is secured in place.

As seen in Figure 3, the recessed shape of the toe insert 18 is such that it completely shields the toe 15 and the toe portion 14 of the hosiery from direct contact with the toe 16 of the shoe. Because of the smooth substantially frictionless surface of the interior of the insert, hosiery wear is reduced substantially.

Referring to Figures 1, 4 and 5, the heel insert 21 is also formed of suitable sheet plastic material, and is shaped to the interior configuration of the shoe at the heel. The insert 21 has its lower edge 22 extending substantially down to the sole insert of the shoe and has its rear upper edge 23 positioned substantially in alignment with the upper edge 24 of the shoe upper at this point. The upper edge tapers gradually downwardly as it extends forwardly to meet the lower edge 22. The insert 21 is also provided with a strip of adhesive 26, permanently secured thereto, which is covered with a fabric strip or tape 27 which can be peeled therefrom for installation of the insert 21 in the shoe.

It will be seen that with the heel insert 21 in place, as shown in Figure 5, for example, the friction of the hosiery 14 is with the smooth interior surface of the insert rather than with the conventional lining of the shoe.

In Figures 1, 2 and 4, the strips 13 and 27 are shown partially peeled away from the cooperating adhesive although when sold as an article of commerce the strips cover the adhesive with a small end portion projecting beyond the adhesive for easy removal, as seen at the left of Figure 2, for example, and at the bottom portion of Figure 4.

While I have shown and described certain preferred embodiments of the invention, it will be apparent that the invention is capable of both variation and modification from the form shown so that the scope thereof should be limited only by the scope of the claim appended hereto.

I claim:

A hosiery protecting insert for a shoe comprising a member formed of sheet plastic material generally arched to fit the interior toe end configuration of an upper portion of a shoe with which the foot and hosiery thereon may have frictional engagement, said member having a convex outer surface for contacting the interior surface of the upper of the shoe and a smooth concave inner surface presented to the foot and hosiery thereon, a relatively narrow transverse adhesive strip on the convex surface of the member adjacent only the rear edge of said member for securing the member in position inside of a shoe, and a peelable covering strip for said adhesive strip.

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