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BUTTONS

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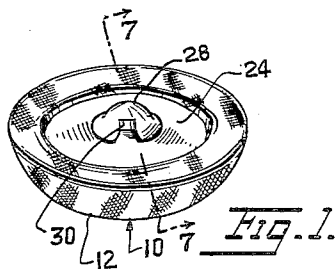
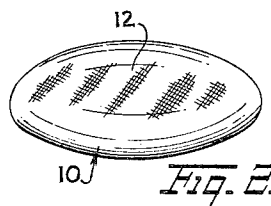
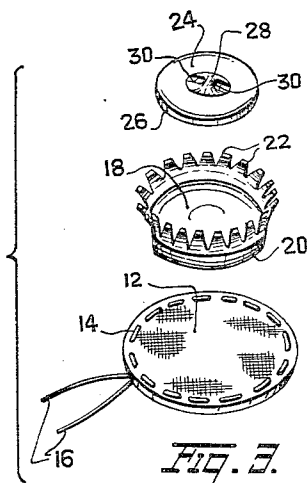
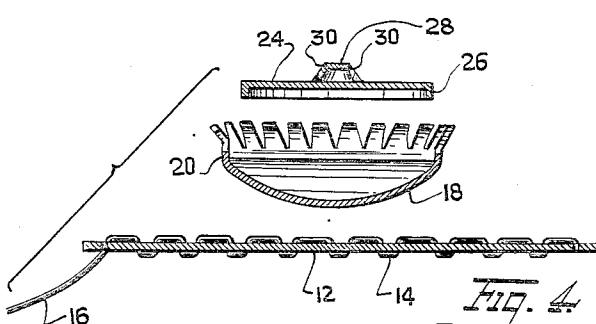
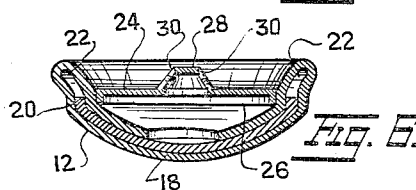
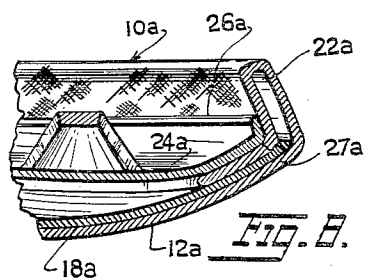
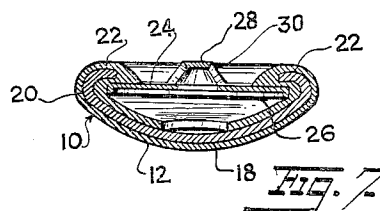
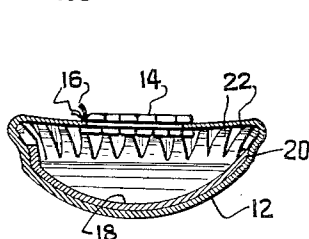
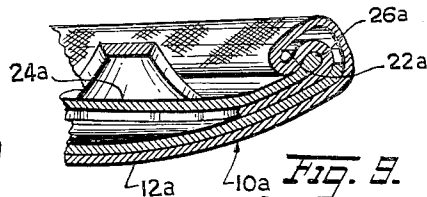


Fig. 5.

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BUTTONS

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2 Claims. (Cl. 24—113)

This invention relates to buttons for garments, and more particularly has reference to a button construction so designed as to permit one to make a cloth-covered button without the necessity of having the buttons specially made at a store or button shop.

In many instances, one desires cloth-covered buttons, as for example for the purpose of matching a particular coat fabric, etc. In such cases, the general practice is to have the buttons specially made at a button shop. In such instances, the cost of the buttons is rather high.

It has heretofore been suggested that buttons of the cloth-covered type be so designed as to permit one to make her own buttons, from a kit. However, the kits which have heretofore been supplied have been, in every instance so far as is known, characterized by a requirement for special dies which must be hammered or otherwise subjected to pressure for the purpose of connecting the component parts of the button. This, of course, is an inconvenient arrangement, and has the undesirable characteristic that if excessive pressure is directed against a die when the fabric is thin or comparatively weak, the fabric may rip at the periphery of the button.

In view of the above, it is one important object of the present invention to provide a button construction which will permit assembly of the button by the housewife swiftly, easily, and without the requirement of shaping dies of the type that must be subjected to a hammering or equivalent pressure.

Another object is to provide a button construction as described that will be so formed as to permit the button to be made swiftly and easily, while still providing a professionally made button that will give no indication, when completed, of the fact that it was made by someone other than a professional button maker or seamstress.

Still another object is to provide a button construction of the character stated that will be attractive, will permit selective employment of various types of fabrics, and can be readily made in different sizes.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawings forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a button made according to the invention showing the button in inverted position.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the button showing the display side thereof.

Fig. 3 is an exploded perspective view, on a scale smaller than that of Figs. 1 and 2, of the button before assembly of the component parts thereof.

Fig. 4 is an exploded view in which the button components are illustrated in section, the scale being sub-

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stantially the same as that of Figs. 1 and 2, with the components illustrated before assembly with one another.

Fig. 5 is a sectional view on the same cutting plane as Fig. 4 showing the button at an intermediate stage of assembly.

Fig. 6 is a view like Fig. 5 illustrating the button at a third stage of the assembly.

Fig. 7 is a view like Fig. 5 showing the button at the final or fourth stage of the assembly, in its completed form.

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary, sectional view on the same cutting plane as Fig. 5, showing a modified construction on an enlarged scale.

Fig. 9 is a view like Fig. 8 in which the modified button has been completely assembled.

Referring to the drawings in detail, in the form of the invention shown in Figs. 1-7 the button has been generally designated 10. The button includes a flexible, circular cover 12 of any desired fabric, such as cotton, wool, etc. The cover could, of course, be of other flexible material such as plastic or thin leather. In any event, the cover 12 may be cut from a selected piece of material, and is cut to a circular shape. The size to which the cover 12 would be cut may be readily determined, and would ordinarily be easily known through the provision of a disc-shaped paper pattern, not shown, that would be supplied with the other components of the button-making kit.

In any event, the cover piece 12 is prepared for assembly with the other components of the button by threading a drawstring 14 therethrough, through the full periphery of the cover piece, with the ends 16 of the drawstring projecting outwardly from the cover piece.

The button also includes a dished cap 18, which in the illustrated example has a concavo-convex body, but could have a body that is flat or otherwise shaped. In this event, the body of the cap is integral at its periphery with a flange 20, formed with outwardly directed teeth 22 of a readily bendable material.

A clamping element 24 of disc shape has a planiform body integral with a circumferential lip 26. Centrally of the clamping member there is provided an outwardly struck lug 28 having diametrically opposite openings 30 adapted to receive a thread or the like, not shown, whereby the button can be attached to the garment.

To make the button, the flexible cover piece 12 is first cut out in the manner previously described, and the drawstring threaded therethrough as shown in Figs. 3 and 4. Then, the cover is tensioned over the cap 18 as shown in Fig. 5, and the drawstring is pulled tight. The cover, as will be noted from Fig. 5, overlies the teeth 22, and after the drawstring has been pulled tight, the loose ends of the drawstring can be cut off if desired.

After the button has been assembled to the stage shown in Fig. 5, the clamping element 24 is pressed into the cap as shown in Fig. 6, and will further tension the cover about the cap, with the clamping element tightly engaging the covered inner surface of the flange 20 of the cap.

The final step, shown in Fig. 7, is now carried out, and comprises merely bending the teeth 22 inwardly from their Fig. 6 to their Fig. 7 positions, so as to cause the same to overlie the marginal portion of the clamping element 24. This completes the construction of the button, and the finished button will appear as in Figs. 1 and 2, ready for attachment to the garment.

In Figs. 8 and 9 there is shown a modification, designed to provide for a still tighter connection of the clamp element to the covered body. In this form of the invention, the button 10^a includes a cover piece 12^a which

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is identical in all basic essentials to the cover piece 12, that is, it has the drawstring extending peripherally thereof. The cover piece 12^a may, however, be slightly larger in the modified construction.

The cover piece 12^a is tensioned over a concavo-convex cap 18^a having at its periphery a series of teeth 22^a which in this form of the invention are inclined inwardly of the cap rather than outwardly.

The clamp element 24^a is also concavo-convex, in the same direction as the cap 18^a, and has a circumferential lip 26^a which is inclined inwardly correspondingly to the teeth 22^a. The lip 26^a merges into the marginal portion of the body part of the clamp element 24^a along rounded lines as at 27^a providing a cam surface which is adapted to bear against the outer, covered ends of the teeth 22^a.

In other words, in this form of the invention the cap 18^a is first covered with the piece 12^a in the same manner as in the first form. Then, the clamp element 24^a is pressed inwardly, also in the same manner as in the first form. However, in this form of the invention the maximum diameter of the clamp element is slightly greater than the diameter of the opening defined at the outer ends of the teeth 22^a. Therefore, the periphery of the clamp element will exert a camming pressure against the outer ends of the teeth 22^a, tending to bias the same outwardly to a slight extent to permit the cap to be inserted. As soon as the cap has cleared the teeth, the teeth spring back to their Fig. 8 positions.

This locks the cap 18^a in place as shown in Fig. 8. There now remains the requirement, as shown in Fig. 9, of bending the teeth 22^a inwardly over the periphery of the clamping element to complete the button construction. It will be readily apparent that a double locking action is achieved, first by the snapping of the clamp element into place as shown in Fig. 8, and second, by the inwardly bent teeth shown in Fig. 9.

In both forms of the invention, the device is characterized by the ease of assembly, and by the complete absence of special shaping dies, hammering means, or specially formed tools. One can assemble the button entirely by hand, with maximum speed and ease.

Still further, the button has a desirable characteristic of being capable of manufacture at very low cost. The individual components, that is, the cap and the clamp element, can be stamped in quantity, and sold in various sizes. The fabric cover piece, while constituting a part of the completed button, can be supplied by the individual user and would ordinarily be supplied in this

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manner, since it would generally be selected to match or harmonize with the fabric of the garment on which the button is to be used.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise constructions herein disclosed and that various changes and modifications may be made within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

1. A button comprising a dished cap including a peripheral series of teeth, a flexible cover piece for the cap extending over the teeth, and a clamping disc seated in the cap and including means to attach the same to a garment, said teeth projecting radially inwardly of the cap in overlying relation to the periphery of the disc, the cover piece being formed with means to contract the same tightly about the cap, said contracting means of the cover piece extending marginally of the cover piece, said contracting means of the cover piece comprising a drawstring threaded in the material of the cover piece.

2. A button comprising a dished cap including a peripheral series of teeth, a flexible cover piece for the cap extending over the teeth, and a clamping disc seated in the cap and including means to attach the same to a garment, said teeth projecting radially inwardly of the cap in overlying relation to the periphery of the disc, the cap having a body of concavo-convex formation to impart the dished shape to the cap, said cap being formed, at the periphery of the body, with a continuous flange on which said teeth are formed, the clamping disc having a circumferential lip adapted to engage against the inner surface of the flange, the clamping disc being so formed as to snap into the cap, and including a peripherally extending cam surface disposed to temporarily bias the teeth outwardly for snapping of the clamping disc into the cap, said teeth being bent about the lip of the disc to lock the disc within the cap after snapping of the disc into the cap.

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