Jan. 22, 1957

E. F. NORMAN

2,778,113

DRESSMAKER'S TAPE

Filed Dec. 3, 1953

Fig. 1

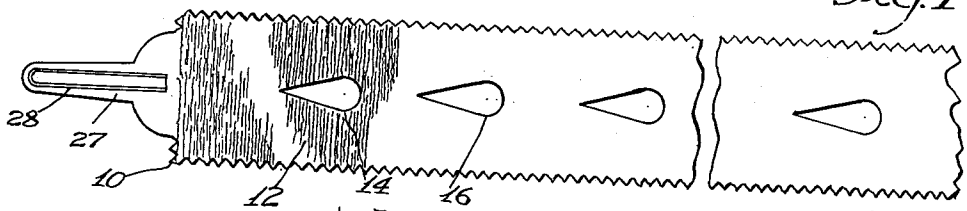


Fig. 2

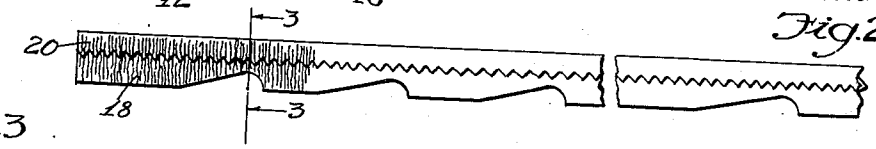
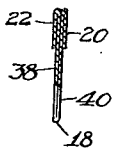


Fig. 3



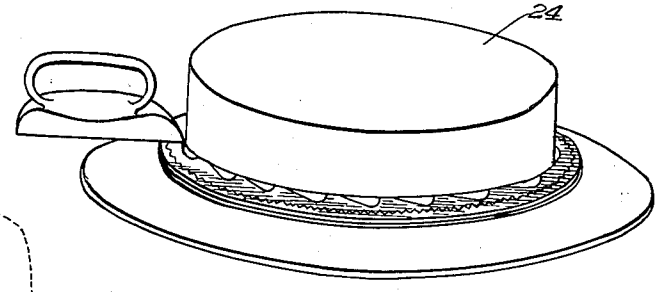
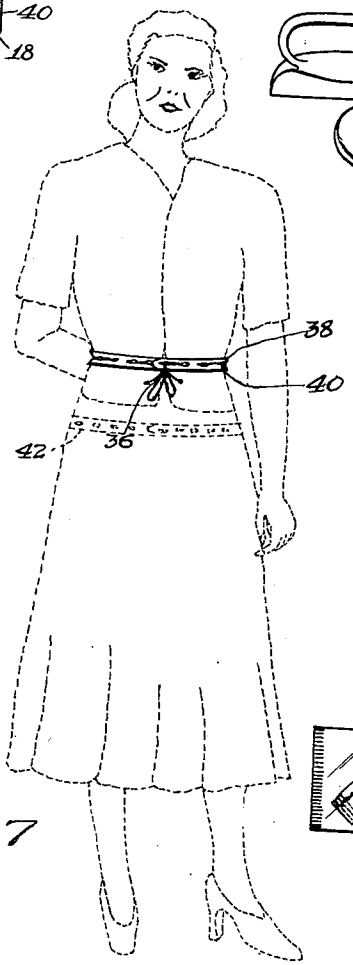


Fig. 4



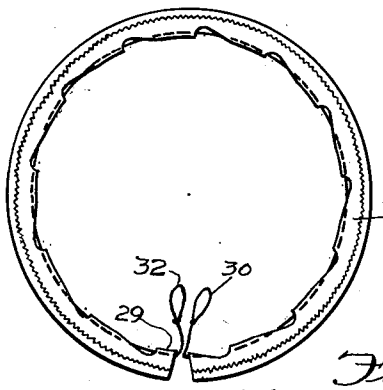


Fig. 5

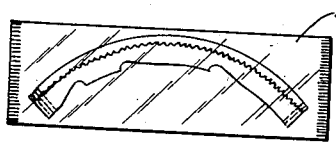


Fig. 6

Fig. 7

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DRESSMAKER'S TAPE

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Application December 3, 1953, Serial No. 395,990

5 Claims. (Cl. 33—13)

This invention relates to a dressmaker's tape and more particularly to a paper tape for use by a woman in establishing a waistline for a garment while using herself as the model. This application is a continuation-in-part of applicant's copending application Serial No. 340,605, filed March 5, 1953, for a Tape.

In applicant's copending application, there is disclosed a tape having along its longitudinal median line a crease and spaced openings. This tape is drawn around the woman over the garment which is to be marked to show the correct position of the waist, or any part of the torso above or below the waist, with a crease outward, and either a string is run through the holes or the user draws a chalk along the crease and marks the garment at the openings.

The present invention seeks to overcome two practical difficulties in this marking tape. As its first object, it seeks to eliminate the hook on the end of the tape which holds the tape by being inserted through one of the openings. It is the equivalent of a buckle. The difficulty arises from the fact that the openings are on at least one-inch centers, which means that in order to fasten the tape, one must do so by at least one-inch steps. This may not be sufficient to hold the tape tightly, or if the next opening is used, the opening may be torn. A feature of this invention is the provision of a cord woven through the openings with a loop on each end so that the cord may be drawn around the waist and tied for any selected degree of tightness without damaging the tape.

The second object of this invention is to improve the character of the tape after it has been drawn around the waist for use in connection with a chalk. In the copending application, when the tape is drawn around the waist, it is substantially flat and the outwardly directed groove is so shallow that it does not help very much in guiding the chalk. Unless the line is drawn reasonably rapidly, the waistline may slip. A feature of this invention is the use of paper crinkled at right angles to the length of the tape and then pressed into an arcuate shape. When this tape is applied to the body, the cross section which when flat was U-shaped with two surfaces flat against each other, spreads to a V-shape so that the chalk will accurately follow the median line of the tape and intercept the holes.

These and such other objects of the invention as may hereinafter appear are shown in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a plan view partly cut away of the punched strip of crinkled paper;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the strip after folding thereby forming applicant's tape but without the end hook;

Fig. 3 is a cross section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 illustrates a mandrel around which the tape is drawn and then pressed;

Fig. 5 is a plan view of the tape in finished form;

Fig. 6 shows the tape folded and in a transparent bag for sale; and,

Fig. 7 is a perspective view illustrating the tape on the user.

Continuing to refer to the drawings, the numeral 10 identifies a strip of crinkled kraft paper. The crinkles 12 are at right angles to the length of the strip. The openings 14 and 16 are positioned along the median line of the strip and spaced at convenient intervals. The teardrop shape is satisfactory, but a lozenge or even circular hole may be used.

Three longitudinal folds are next placed in the tape. The major fold 18 is along the median line of the tape and intercepts the openings 14 and 16 to form two longitudinal portions 38 and 40, see also Fig. 3, whose surfaces are flat against each other to give a U-shaped cross section. The edge folds 20 and 22 have their edges serrated and provide additional strength.

In some forms of the invention, one end of the tape may be provided with a hook which can be inserted in any one of the openings 14 or 16 so as to hold the tape around the waistline. In Fig. 1, formed integrally with the tape 10 is a tongue 27, the paper of which has been flattened out, and upon which has been secured by an adhesive an annealed wire 28, see copending application Serial No. 340,605. The user may bend this end over to form a tongue. Another way of fastening the tape around the waist is to pass a drawstring 29 through the holes such as 14 and 16. See Fig. 5. The ends of the drawstring 29 may be formed into loops 30 and 32. The string may be chalked.

The tape is then stretched around a mandrel 24, see Fig. 4, and as the stretching proceeds, it is pressed concurrently with heat, as with a flat iron. The crinkles are flattened out in proportion to their various positions in the curved tape that is being formed. The result is a substantially circular tape 26 illustrated in Fig. 5. The tape is a substantially rigid arc and it may be folded into 60° arcs and packaged in a bag 34 as illustrated in Fig. 6.

Referring to Fig. 7, applicant's belt is shown in dotted-line position 42 around the upper part of the hips. Frequently in making dress, it may be desired to place a yoke around the mid section. It is necessary to indicate exactly where the yoke is to be joined around the upper edge to the waist portion and around the lower edge to the skirt. Or the upper line of joinder may be well above the waistline, and the lower line of joinder may be at the waistline. Applicant's tape can be used to exactly relate an intermediate portion to a waist or a skirt.

In using the tape with a chalked string through it, the woman draws up the two ends and ties them in a knot or bow at 36. She then holds the tape against lateral movement while moving the string from the bow back and forth by an inch or so. A small diameter unchalked string may be used and it will not interfere with the use of a piece of chalk.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. The method of making a curved paper dressmaker's tape which comprises the steps of folding an elongated strip of transversely crinkled paper along its median line to form a two-layer strip, of stretching the strip around a mandrel with the folded edge inward while maintaining the paper surfaces in planes substantially at right angles to the axis of the mandrel, and of pressing the crinkled paper together in said planes while applying heat.

2. A dressmaker's tape comprising an elongated strip of paper, said paper being transversely crinkled, and a fold extending longitudinally of said strip of paper to provide a U cross section when the tape is flat, there being a row of spaced openings through the paper along the fold for substantially the entire length of the strip.

3. A dressmaker's tape comprising an elongated strip of transversely crinkled paper, and a fold extending lengthwise of said strip to provide a U cross section, said strip being arcuate in plan view when lying flat with the fold on the inner periphery of the arc, there being a row of holes through the paper along the fold for substantially the entire length of the strip.

4. A dressmaker's tape comprising an elongated strip of paper, said paper being transversely crinkled, a fold extending longitudinally of said strip of paper to provide a U cross section when the tape is flat, there being a row of spaced openings through the paper along the fold for substantially the entire length of the strip, a drawstring having a length greater than that of the strip laced through the openings, and a marking compound removable by friction on said string.

5. A dressmaker's tape comprising an elongated strip of transversely crinkled paper, and a fold extending lengthwise of said strip to provide a U cross section, said strip being arcuate in plan view when lying flat with the fold on the inner periphery of the arc, there being a row of holes through the paper along the fold for substantially the entire length of the strip, and a drawstring coated with a marking material removable by friction laced through said openings.

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