

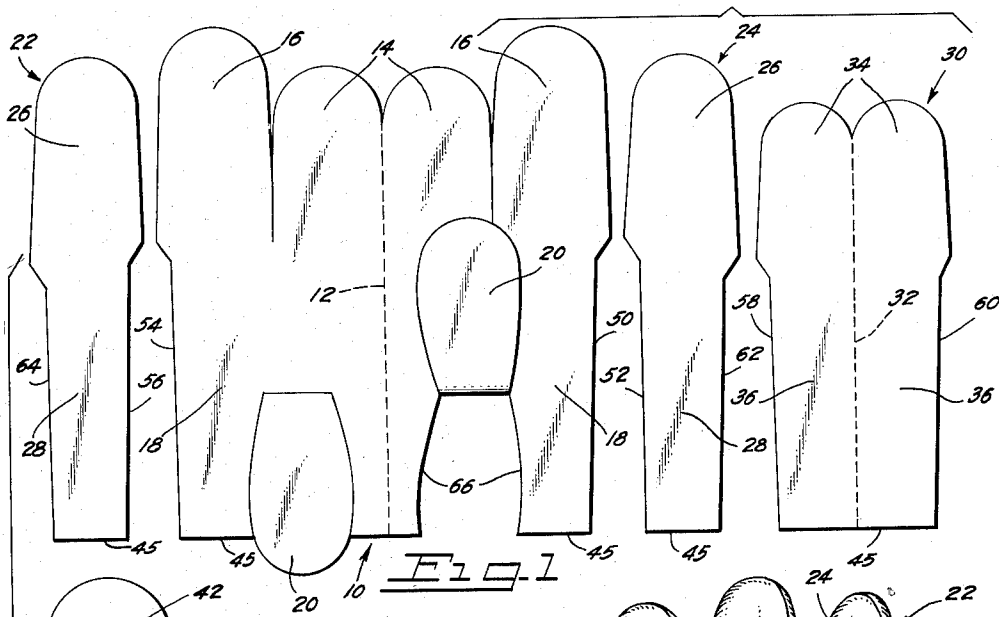
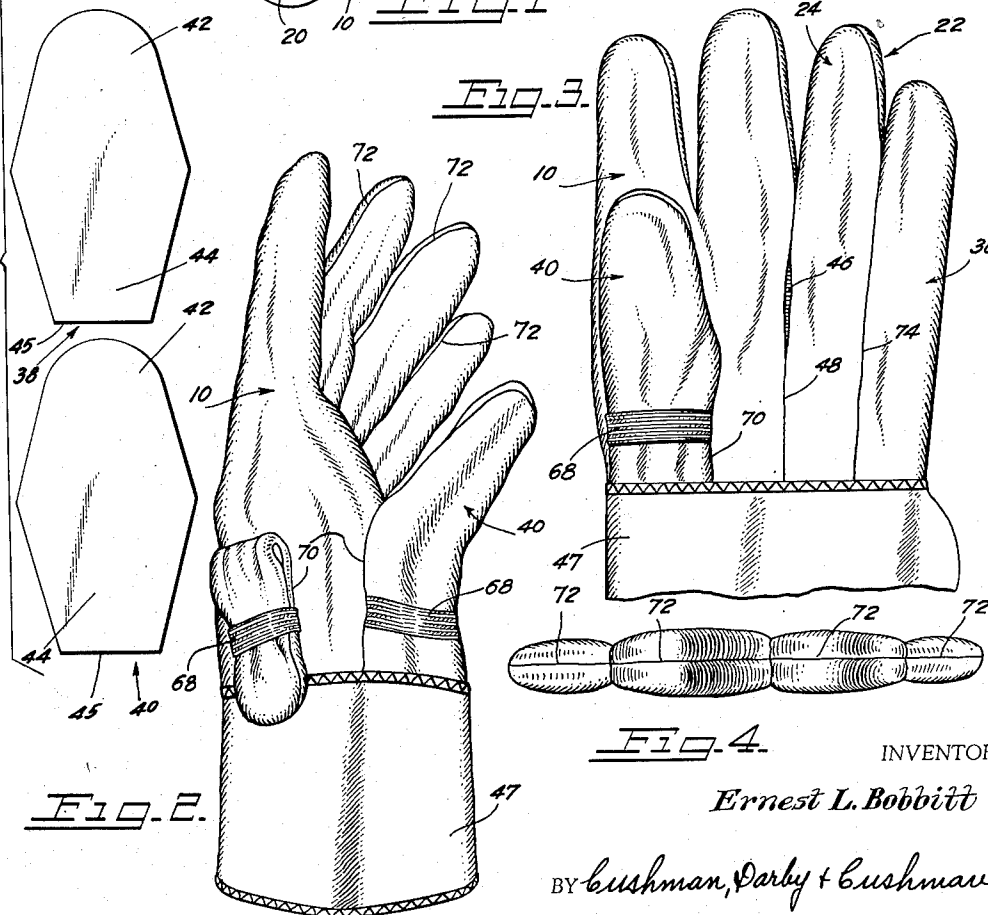
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GLOVE

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GLOVE

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1

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This invention relates to gloves, and more particularly to reversible two-thumb work gloves.

One of the principal problems in the manufacture of gloves is to shape the blanks so that with a minimum number of such blanks sufficient fullness will be obtained in the fingers without unduly increasing the width of the glove through the palm and wrist. In dress gloves wherein cost is not a controlling factor this result is attained through the use of extra blanks, termed fourchettes, which are tapered inserts set into adjacent side edges of the fingers. Since the principal item of cost in glove manufacture is that of the hand labor required to sew together the various blanks and since the use of fourchettes increases such labor, fourchettes generally are not used in work gloves.

Various constructions are used in work gloves for obtaining, with a minimum number of blanks to reduce labor costs, the aforementioned necessary fullness in the fingers without undue increase in the width of the palm and wrist. About 90% of all single-thumb work gloves employ a construction using five separate blanks which are suitably stitched together to form the complete glove. One, or the first, of these blanks forms the front of all four fingers, the inner side of the thumb, the palm, and the back of the forefinger. Three other blanks form the backs of the little, ring, and middle fingers, respectively, and corresponding lengthwise sections of the back of the glove. The fifth blank forms the outer side and base of the thumb. In this construction, the finger portions of the three blanks forming the backs of the middle, ring, and little fingers of the glove are wider than the corresponding finger portions of the first mentioned blank. Hence, when the finger portions of these three blanks are stitched to the corresponding finger portions of the aforementioned first blank, the necessary fullness is obtained in the fingers without undue widening of the palm. For the same reason, that portion of the first blank forming the back of the forefinger is wider than the corresponding front portion. As a result of this construction, however, the seams which run longitudinally along the side edges and around the ends of the fingers are not disposed centrally of such edges, i. e. midway of the finger thickness, but instead are disposed nearer the palm side of the fingers. Hence, such seams are exposed on the wearing surface of the fingers with consequent rapid shortening of the life of the glove when in use.

In order to greatly lengthen the life of work gloves, reversible gloves have been developed

which have two thumbs, one for each face of the glove, so that the glove may be worn interchangeably on either hand. Hence, when the gloves have become worn on one face, they may be shifted from one hand to the other and the other, unworn face exposed to wear until the entire glove is worn out. Gloves of this type present the same problem of suitably shaping and of minimizing the number of blanks to obtain sufficient fullness in the fingers without undue width in the palm and wrist, and to maintain both labor and material wastage at a minimum.

At the present time the reversible two-thumb work glove most commonly manufactured is made from a first blank that is folded to form both palms, both sides of the forefinger, both sides of the little finger, and one side of the middle and ring fingers. Additionally, this first blank has cut-out, out-turned tabs forming the inside of both thumbs. The other sides of the middle and ring fingers are formed by a second blank which is stitched to the first. Two identical thumb blanks are stitched to the thumb tabs and to the edges of the cut-out portion of the first blank to form the outer sides and bases of the two thumbs. In this construction the middle and ring finger portions of the first blank are narrower than the corresponding portions of the second blank used to form the opposite sides of these two fingers, in order to obtain the necessary fullness in these fingers without undue increase in the width of the glove through the palm and wrist. The result is that the seams running along the side edges and around the ends of the middle and ring fingers are again offset toward one face of the glove with consequent exposure to wear. The same offset exposed seams appear on the forefinger and little finger on the same face of the glove because the fullness in these fingers is obtained by making their opposite side portions of the first blank of different width in order to obtain the necessary fullness in these fingers. Additionally, the other face of the glove has an exposed seam running transversely across the base of the middle and ring fingers, an area of greatest wear.

It will thus be seen that in conventional two-thumb work gloves there are exposed seams at the areas of greatest wear of the glove. Furthermore, because of the fact that the finger portions of the blanks forming one side of the fingers are narrower than the finger portions of the blank forming the other side of the fingers, it is very difficult for a seamstress to sew the finger blanks together around their peripheries because such blanks cannot be disposed in contiguous overlying

position during such seaming operation. In fact, it takes from six to twelve months to train a seamstress to sew up work gloves, either single-thumb or two-thumb, of the type described wherein the seams running along the longitudinal side edges and around the ends of the fingers are offset toward one face of the glove with consequent exposure to wear.

Accordingly, it is an object of this invention to provide a reversible two-thumb work glove that is properly shaped to the hand and in which the finger seams are not exposed on either face of the glove.

It is another object of this invention to provide a reversible two-thumb work glove which is devoid of transverse seams in the fingers or palms.

It is still another object of this invention to provide a reversible two-thumb work glove having a minimum number of symmetrical or identical corresponding blanks for forming both sides of the glove, whereby the finger portions of such blanks may be stitched together along their edges while such blanks are disposed in overlying contiguous relationship.

It is still another object of this invention to provide a reversible two-thumb work glove having a minimum number of blanks that can be cut out with a minimum of material wastage.

It is still another object of this invention to provide an improved reversible two-thumb work glove which does not employ fourchettes, in which the finger seams are disposed intermediate the working faces of the fingers, and in which only two seams appear on the working faces of the gloves, such seams running lengthwise of the palm of the glove.

It is still another object of this invention to provide a reversible two-thumb work glove for which the training time for a fabricating seamstress is about three months, and which can be sewed up by a trained seamstress in less time than that required to sew up conventional type reversible two-thumb work gloves.

It is a further object of this invention to provide an improved reversible two-thumb work glove that will provide one hundred percent more wear than a conventional single-thumb work glove at 25 to 30% more cost, such increase in cost resulting largely from the fact that both faces of the glove are of double ply as contrasted to single ply for the backs of single thumb work gloves.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will be apparent from the following specification and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 illustrates a set of blanks for constructing a glove embodying this invention.

Figure 2 is a side perspective view of a glove embodying this invention, taken from the thumb side thereof.

Figure 3 is a palm view of a glove embodying this invention.

Figure 4 is an end view of the fingers of a glove embodying this invention.

Referring now to the drawings, there is shown in Figure 1 a set of blanks of appropriate material, such as canvas or other suitable work fabric, for constructing a glove in accordance with this invention. A first blank 10, which is symmetrical about a lengthwise median line 12, embodies end portions 14 for forming both sides of the forefinger, end portions 16 for forming both sides of the middle finger, and portions 18 for forming lengthwise sections of both palms and an edge of the glove adjacent the thumbs. Each of these latter portions 18 has a cut-out tab 20, which tabs

are adapted to be turned outwardly (as is shown by the tab on the right in Figure 1) to form the inner sides of the thumb. Two identical blanks 22 and 24 have end portions 26 for forming both sides of the ring finger, and somewhat tapered portions 28 for forming lengthwise sections of both palms adjacent the base of the ring finger. A fourth blank 30 is symmetrical about a median line 32 and has end portions 34 for forming both sides of the little finger. This blank 34 also has tapering portions 36 for forming lengthwise sections of both palms and an edge of the glove, adjacent the base of the little finger. Two identical blanks, which may be termed fifth and sixth blanks, 38 and 40 respectively, have portions 42 for forming the outer sides of the two thumbs and portions 44 for forming the bases of the thumbs.

It will be noted that the first blank 10 is transversely wider through its finger-forming portions 14 and 16 than through its palm-forming portions 18. In other words, the side edges of the blank 10 are inwardly offset along the palm-forming portions 18. The same is true of the second, third, and fourth blanks. Hence, when these blanks are stitched together, as later described, the fingers of the resulting glove have the necessary fullness while the palm and wrist portion of the glove are sufficiently narrow to fit the hand properly without bunching of excess material in the palm. Likewise, it will be noted that the central portions of the thumb blanks are transversely wider than their end portions 42 and 44 in order to provide fullness about the thumb knuckle or base joint of the thumb without undesirable fullness about the base of the thumb, i. e. adjacent the wrist.

It also will be noted that all of the blanks have straight end edges 45, opposite their respective finger-forming portions, which straight edges are aligned, when the blanks are stitched together as later described, so that a wrist-forming cuff 47 may be attached thereto.

In accordance with the usual practice for sewing up work gloves, the glove blanks 10, 22, 24, 30, 38, and 40 are stitched together with concealed seams, the stitches 46 of which may be seen by the pulled-apart portion of the seam 48 shown in Figure 3. Hence, to assemble and stitch the blanks together to form a glove, the first blank 10 is folded upon its median line 12, for example, rearward of the plane of the drawing of Figure 1, so that each half thereof overlies the other and identical half. Each half of the thus folded blank 10 is thereupon stitched together around the edges of the finger-forming portions 14 and 16. The second and third blanks 22 and 24 are then superimposed, for example with the blank 24 on top, and stitched together around the edges of their finger forming portions 26. The fourth blank 30 is folded upon its median line 32 and the identical halves of the thus-folded blank stitched together around the edges of the finger forming portions 34. The lengthwise straight edge 50 of one of the palm forming portions 18 of the first blank 10 is thereupon turned up and stitched to the likewise turned up straight edge 52 of the palm forming portion 28 of the third blank 24. In similar fashion the edge 54 of the other palm forming portion 18 of the first blank 10 is stitched to the edge 56 of the second blank 22. Likewise, the lengthwise straight edges 58 and 60 of the palm forming portions 36 of the fourth blank 30 are stitched to the corresponding edges 62 and 64 of the third and second blanks 24 and 22. The thumb tabs

5

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20 are thereupon turned out, as shown by the right-hand tab in Figure 1, and the corresponding thumb blanks 38 and 40 superimposed thereon and stitched around the edges of their portions 42 to the tabs. The edges of the tab portions 44 are turned up and stitched to the correspond- 5 ingly turned up edges 66 of the cut-out portions of the first blank 10.

Upon completion of the several stitching operations, all of the stitched and the thus secured 10 edges of the blanks will be exposed. Hence, the glove must be turned inside out to provide concealed seams and result in the finished product shown in Figures 2 and 3. Thereafter, or before the turning operation, one edge of the wrist cuff 15 47 may be stitched in any appropriate fashion to the aligned straight edges 45 of the blanks.

In order to prevent the unused thumb from dangling or flapping about when the glove is in use, there is provided about the base of each 20 thumb an elastic strip 68, the opposite ends of which are preferably stitched within the seams 70 at the opposite sides of the base of the thumb, i. e. the seams joining the edges of the portions 44 of the thumb blanks to the edges 66 of the 25 cut-out portions of the first blank. Hence, the unused thumb may be folded outwardly and tucked between the elastic strip and the base of the thumb to securely confine such thumb while the glove is in use.

It will be particularly noted that, because both faces of the glove are formed from essentially identical blanks, the seams 72 joining the blank 30 portions forming the opposite sides of the fingers extend midway along the side edges and around the ends of the fingers, as shown best in Figure 4, so that such seams are not exposed on either wearing face of the glove when the latter is in use. Additionally, it will be noted that the only 35 seams exposed on the palms of the glove are the two lengthwise seams 48 and 74 joining the side edges of the palm-forming portions of the blanks 10, 22, 24, and 30 and extending from each side of the base of the ring finger to the wrist of the glove.

It will thus be seen that the objects of this invention have been fully and effectively accomplished. It will be realized, however, that various changes may be made in the specific example 40 of the glove illustrated and described for the purpose of disclosing the principles of this invention, without departing from such principles. Therefore, this invention includes all modifications which are encompassed within the spirit and scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. A reversible two-thumb glove comprising: a first blank forming the forefinger, middle finger, the inner sides of both thumbs, and portions of both palms; second and third identical blanks 45 each secured to opposite edges of said first blank and forming the ring finger and portions of both palms; a fourth blank having opposite edges thereof secured to said third and fourth blanks and forming the little finger and the balance of both palms; and fifth and sixth identical blanks 50 secured to said first blank and forming the outer sides and bases of the two thumbs.

2. The structure defined in claim 1 including a seventh blank secured to all the six other blanks 55 and forming the wrist.

3. The structure defined in claim 1 in which the lines of securement of the blanks run lengthwise of the glove.

4. A reversible two-thumb glove comprising: a 75

forefinger, middle finger, the inner sides of both thumbs, and portions of both palms formed from a single folded blank; a ring finger and portions of both palms formed from two identical blanks; a little finger and the balance of both palms formed from a single folded blank; and the outer sides and bases of both thumbs formed from two identical blanks.

5. As an article of manufacture for making a reversible two-thumb glove, a set of blanks comprising: a first blank symmetrical about a lengthwise median line and adapted to be folded thereon and have its edges stitched together around one end and partly along one side to form the forefinger, the middle finger, the inner sides of both thumbs, and portions of both palms; second and third identical blanks adapted to be disposed in overlying relation, have their edges stitched together around one end and partly 15 along both sides, and each to be stitched to a separate side edge of said first blank to form the ring finger and portions of both palms; a fourth blank symmetrical about a median line and adapted to be folded thereon, to have its edges stitched together around one end and partly 20 along one side, and to have its separate side edges stitched to said second and third blanks, respectively, to form the little finger and the balance of both palms; and two additional identical 30 blanks, each adapted to be stitched along its edges to said first blank to form a separate thumb.

6. A reversible two-thumb glove comprising: a first blank symmetrical about a lengthwise median line and folded thereon with its edges 35 stitched together around one end and partly along one side to form the forefinger, middle finger, and lengthwise sections of both palms, and each half of the folded blank having an outfolded cut-out tab to form the inner side of one thumb; second and third overlying identical blanks with their edges stitched together around one end and partly along both sides to form the ring finger and lengthwise sections of both 40 palms; a fourth blank symmetrical about a lengthwise median line and folded thereon with its edges stitched together around one end and partly along one side to form the little finger and the balance of both palms, all of said blanks being stitched together along the side edges of their 45 said palm sections; and fifth and sixth identical blanks having their edges stitched to the edges of the respective tabs of said first blank and to the edges of the corresponding cutout portions thereof to form the outer sides and bases of the thumbs.

7. The structure defined in claim 6 in which all of the blanks have end edges in alignment at the wrist and including a cuff blank stitched 50 along one edge to said end edges to form the wrist.

8. The structure defined in claim 6 in which the palm sections of the first, second, third, and fourth blanks are of less width than the finger sections thereof.

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