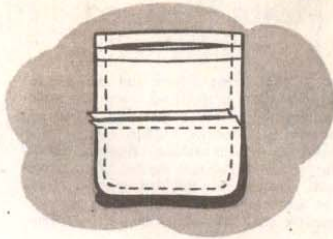


Replacing Pockets



Usually it is the base of the pocket that is worn. To repair, make a new half-pocket from strong bits from the piece bag. Join it to the old pocket half-way up, instead of unpicking the neat tailor's finish at the top opening.

To give new life to a Pullover



When the sleeves of a jumper begin to show signs of wear at the elbows, take them out and change them over—left to right, right to left. They'll then last much longer. Also reinforce by darning over a piece of net.

The SHAPE of your dress

The appearance of a frock or suit is often spoiled by an ill-fitting corset. Great care should be taken to keep these trim and well repaired.

TO TAKE IN A BELT. A belt that has become too big for you because the rubber has perished, can be reshaped by making a strong seam down either side and down the centre of the back, or at the damaged point. Make the seam as flat as possible and cover with a piece of tape.

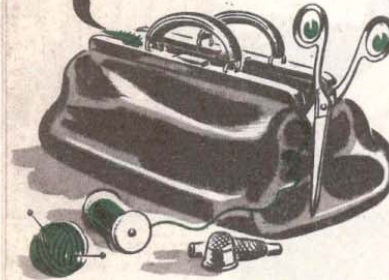
TO LET OUT A BELT. Unpick two side seams and insert a piece of strong material in each, machining and neatening as for the rest of the belt, or if more convenient, open



centre back and insert a strip of strong material. **TO REPLACE CORSET ACCESSORIES.** If the elastic on the suspenders of a new pair of corsets is too short, lengthen it before you wear the belt by adding a short piece of tape, otherwise you may tear your stockings. If you lose the back portion of a suspender remember that a small fabric-covered button padded on a length of tape can be used to take its place. **MENDING A CORSET.** Corsets should be mended directly they need it. Never use a safety pin in a corset or suspender belt—it will pierce and break the rubber threads. If you need a patch, take this from the good parts of a discarded girdle; but if the damage is not too serious, use a darn over a piece of net.



Every woman her own CLOTHES DOCTOR



NO NEED TO BE A SPECIALIST TO DEAL WITH THESE SIMPLE RENOVATIONS

Here are a few treatments for common clothes complaints—all quite easy to carry out and all well worth doing. Step-by-step instructions are given for some renovations—for others only the general idea is suggested which you can improve or adapt to your own needs.

TO LENGTHEN A DRESS

Let in a band of contrasting colour material (about the same weight) from the waist to 6 in. below and bind the neckline, add a pocket to match, or a contrasting band at the hem.

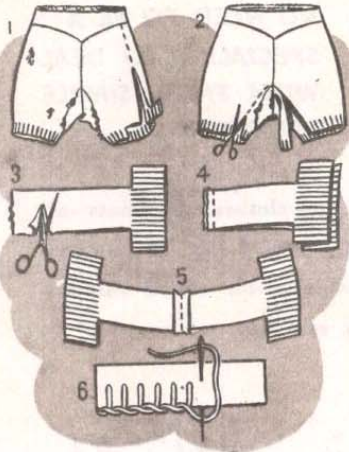


TO PREVENT A BAGGY SKIRT

Let out side seams if turnings allow. Half-line skirt to take strain—never lounge about in tailored skirt—ease slightly at hips before sitting down. Press often—hang when not in use.

Knickers Renewed

One good pair from two old pairs—here's how to manage it. Usually it is the gusset that's worn—so cut a new gusset from the good side of one pair (1) and take the old gusset out of the second pair (2). Diagrams 3, 4 and 5 show how to shape and join the new gusset, which should then be stitched into place. The raw edges should be cut down and blanket stitched (6) closely on the wrong side to make this as strong as possible.



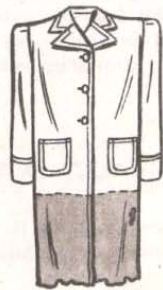
To keep a blouse within bounds

The blouse that won't stay put, inside a skirt, needs extra length—add a straight band of near-matching material, 3 in. wide, fixed

1 in. below waistline (A). Or crochet on a matching or contrasting band and wear it outside (B).



To give an old coat a fresh start



and cuffs (if necessary) and a big patch pocket to hide a worn spot.

A shabby full-length coat can be smartened up simply by cutting it to the new hip length and using the extra material to make new collar



WHEN mending or re-making is not called for, a great deal can be done towards improving a garment by removing stains and sponging and pressing with care.

Grease spots are the most common cause of trouble—they can usually be got out by spreading a little zinc powder over the mark, leaving it for a few minutes and then shaking it off.

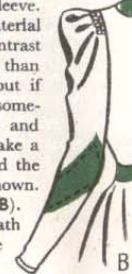
To make a success of pressing, tack all pleats first; press on the wrong side except for tailored garments; and if there is shine to remove, use a very damp cloth and hot iron, held close but not actually on the material. Shake or beat gently so that the steam will penetrate well. Pressed clothes should hang at least a day before being worn—in order that they may "set."

Decorative Elbow Patch



To make a really good job of patching a frock that's worn through at the elbow, you will need enough material for two V-shaped strips—one for each sleeve. This material can contrast rather than match, but if

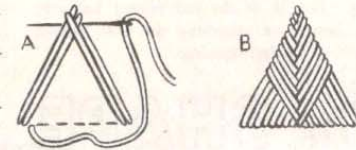
so, try to introduce it somewhere else to bind collar and pockets, say, or even to make a bow for the neckline. Fold the material as (A) and cut as shown. Then stitch the strips on as (B). The actual hole underneath should be darned before the patch is put on.



Pleats Repaired

When a skirt tears where the pleats are set in, work an arrowhead over the tear. First strengthen with a piece of lining or wide tape underneath. Then outline the required shape with tacking. Begin working at the bottom left-hand corner (A); take a small stitch across the top, then a large one at the bottom. Work top and bottom alternately until the arrowhead is complete (B).

Should the skirt already have an arrowhead or the tear be too big for one, apply a cut out motif in contrasting material to cover the rent.



To renew worn gloves

Gloves are apt to "go" first at the underside of the fingertips or in the palms. If small darns can no longer repair the damage, unpick the good leather backs and cut new undersides from thin felt or a firm woollen fabric. Stitch together as before.

To keep pace with a growing girl

Last year's yoked frock can be enlarged by unpicking the skirt from the yoke, dropping it to waist level and inserting a contrasting band to make the lower part of the bodice. Use bands of the same colour to enlarge the sleeves. The frock will still be too tight across the chest so insert a contrasting band from the waistline to the neck line.

