

Thrift clothing. [1918]

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Thrift Clothing

Mrs. Anna Hedges Talbot New York State Specialist in Vocational Training for Girls



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Thrift Clothing

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MADISON Thrift Clothing

LIDHAH COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

URIVERSITY OF WISCO

A contribution can be made by every girl and woman who knows how to sew if they will make the effort to conserve the supply of textiles and other clothing materials by seeing the possibilities in the outgrown or partly worn garments now hanging in closets or stored away. The following suggestions about made-over garments are given with the idea of thrift and economy, whereby the supply of new clothing material may be released for the service of those who necessarily must have strong, warm and new material.

Sewing classes in schools now have the chance, while the enthusiasm for thrift is in the air, to learn to cut by pattern with the added interest of shaping the result into a new article from that which otherwise would be discarded. Cleansing, repairing, remodelling may have the interest of becoming almost a game, the goal of which is to attain new garments from old ones by plotting, planning, twisting and turning until the old yields the new in form and purpose. Hats, cloaks, dresses, men's coats, trousers, overcoats, knit underwear, with accessories such as tape, linings, buttons, hooks and eyes, ribbons, pieces of silk, velvet, cotton goods, buckles, may all contribute to new shapes and designs under the manipulation of fingers in training, directed by the ingenuity of teachers who are stimulated to their best efforts by the present emergency.

Clothing to be made over by school pupils should be sterilized, fumigated, or otherwise thoroughly cleansed before being handled. Health departments or dyeing establishments treat effectively large collections of clothing, and render them clean and safe for the hands of the pupils. The disposal of the remodelled garments, when the collection is made for war relief purposes, may best be decided by each school or locality.

Suggestions for the Conservation of Clothing

Partly worn clothing may be remodeled and made into practical, attractive garments for children. All material to be remodeled, should be carefully ripped, brushed, sponged and pressed, or washed and ironed.

NOTE:- Use white soap for flannels or flannelette, and soap bark for colored and wool materials. All suggestions are for partly worn clothing.

I. Skirts on Waist

Make loose waist with low neck and large armholes. Use drilling, sateen, flannelette or coarse cotton. Button down back. Finish neck and armholes with bias facings. Use one and one half widths of flannelette for small skirts, two widths for larger garments. Fell seams. Turn two inch hems.

2. Rompers

May be made of partly worn summer dresses of firm materials, mens' flannel shirts or pieces of flannellette. Use French seams.

3. One-piece Dress

Use any simple design. May be made of wool dresses, wool skirts or dark flannelette pieces.

4. Work Apron

May be made of wash dresses or mens' shirts. Use kimona pattern, slant shoulders to fit, cut neck low and armholes large.

Finish with finishing braid or bias bands of material.

5. Coats

Use a good pattern. Press material thoroughly. Tailors will make button holes for a small sum. Collars and muffs of same material or pieces of velvet.

6. Bonnets

Boys' caps, girls' hats, baby socks, bed shoes, invalid's slippers make over into baby bonnets.

7. Crib Quilts

The lower part of bathrobes may be cut 27" x 36" or larger and bound with bias strips of sateen, satin, old ribbon or farmers satin. Crepe cloth or other light weight bathrobes may be utilized for the same purpose by interlining with sheet wadding and tufting with odd bits of wool or baby ribbon.

8. Baby Gowns

May be cut from the lower part of bathrobes. Fell the seams of heavy material, use French seams on thin cloth. Use kimona or set in sleeve.

Child's Apron

Age 4 Years

(Fig. 1)

Material

May be cut from a man's shirt which is badly worn at the neck and sleeves.

Directions

Fold back of shirt in middle, place pattern for front of apron well down on shirt, so as to use best part of shirt.

Cut back of apron from shirt fronts, saving buttons and buttonholes.

Use flat fell for seams.

Finish pockets, arm holes and neck with white bias tape.



Thrift Clothing

Child's Underskirt

Age 4 to 5 Years (Fig. 2)

Material

Made from woolen stockings.

Directions

Cut off worn feet of six stockings.

Slit each up the back seam, sew the six flattened out stockings together making the top of the hose the bottom of the skirt.

This is already hemmed.

Hem placket.

Put on a band or finish for drawstring.

May be made from four stockings if a large size.

Wool Drawers

(Fig. 4)

Cut from the firmest part of the old garment. Use fell seams—half back stitch, lay flat and hem. Do not sew on machine as it cuts the material.

Make continuous placket of muslin.

Finish legs with hem or with blanket stitch or crocheted edge.

Face top with muslin strip or with a muslin band.



Baby Nightdress

(Fig. 3)

Make a kimona slip of flannelette or flannel from men's shirts.

Open half way down front. Face one side and use extension piece for button side.

French seam. Finish neck with bias facing of same. Finish sleeve and bottom with one inch hem.

Run tape in bottom of hem that it may be drawn up for warmth.

Sewing Aprons

(Fig. 5a)

These aprons may be made from the good portions of muslin sheets, men's shirts, women's cotton dress skirts.

Infant's Boots

Size 4 to 8 months. (Fig. 5)

Material

Made from tops of long kid gloves.

Bootees similar to these sell for 75 cents in the stores.



Directions

Cut off fingers of gloves.

Cut gloves open along line of seams.

Place pattern on glove as shown in diagram.

Cut leather according to pattern.

Place leather pieces on silk, sateen or other material suitable for lining; either pink or blue is good.

Stitch outside and lining together near edge.

Cut lining same as outside.

Ball stitch edges together.

Buttonhole top and side.

Place 3 eyelets on each side.

Twist cord of colored thread same as used in buttonholing.

Pieces of felt or other heavy material may be used instead of kid.

Girl's Cloth Hat

(Fig. 6)

This hat may be made of any partly worn heavy suiting such as,— men's clothing, women's suitings, cloaks, etc., or odd pieces of same. Interline brim with tailor's canvas. Stitch in $\frac{1}{4}$ inch rows to stiffen. Line hat with any lining material or light weight woolen cloth. Trim with bias stitched bands of same, braid or ribbon. Do not use wire.



Child's Crocheted Scarf and Toque

Size 4 to 5 years (Fig. 7)

Material

Knitting yarn 2 hanks. One celluloid crochet hook No. 3.

Directions

Toque- Make a chain of 51 stitches.

Row 1— In 2nd stitch of chain work 1 single crochet (Sg. C.), chain 2, 1 double crochet (D. C.) in same stitch*, skip 2 stitches 1 Sg. C. in next stitch, chain 2, 1 D. C. in same stitch; repeat from* to end of row; chain 1, turn.

Row 2— *1 Sg. C. in hole made by two chain below, chain 2, 1 D. C. in same stitch, repeat from* to end of row, chain. 1 turn. Repeat row 2 for all the work. Work 12 inches. Sew up sides.

Band — With right side of work toward you, work 1 Sg. C. in each stitch, work round always taking up the whole stitch of preceeding row until band measures $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches; turn band back and sew corners down with two buttons or pompons.

Scarf — Make a chain of 40 stitches, using same stitch as in toque, work up remainder of yarn unless fringe is desired, if so save enough for 2 inch fringe composed of 2 strands of yarn.

Sleeveless Jacket

Open Front (Fig. 8)

Conservation of time, money and wool.

May be easily slipped from a wounded man without cutting the garment; cleansed and returned to him when convalescing or it may be passed on to another.

Material

Two and one-half hanks of yarn 5/8lb.

One pair Red Cross Needles No. 3 or Standard Gauge No. 5

Directions

Cast on 80 stitches, Knit 2, purl 2 stitches for 4 inches.

Knit plain until sweater measures 23 inches.

Knit 28 stitches, and take off on safty pin; bind off 24 stitches for neck, loose.

Knit 28 stitches for other shoulder.

*Knit 2, purl 2 for the 28 stitches, continue until purling on shoulder measures 3 inches.

Knit plain, increasing at neck by adding one stitch on inside end of needle on each row until you have 40 stitches on needle.

Knit plain for 21 inches.

Purl 2, knit 2 stitches for 4 inches.

Take up stitches on remaining shoulder and repeat from*.

Finish inside edge with 8 rows of slip stitch [crochet]

Five buttonholes should be left on the left side of sweater.

Use smooth buttons of neutral color.



Infant's Knitted Bonnet

Size 6 months to 1 year

(Fig. 9)

Material

Soft gray yarn.

Light blue Zephyr or Shetland Floss. Amber knitting needles standard gauge No. 3.

Directions

Cast on 60 stitches

Knit plain for 50 rows or 25 ribs

Bind off 20 stitches, knit 20 stitches, bind off remaining 20 stitches.

Knit down center piece 25 rows, bind off.

Shape bonnet by sewing sides to center piece.

Turn back 7 rows to form cuff around front.

Finish edge of cuff and neck with crocheted scallop of color.

Crochet one thread of gray and one of blue to form string for tying, finish ends with tassel.

Knitted Cap

(Fig. 10)

Material

Required 1 skein, 4 ply. Four needles number 10 steel.

Directions

Cast on 48 stitches on each of 3 needles, join. Knit 1, purl 1 etc. continue for 5 inches. Knit plain for 11/2 inches. Knit 7 stitches, knit 8 and 9 together etc. Knit plain 7 rows. Knit 6 stitches, knit 7 and 8 together etc. Knit plain 6 rows. Knit 5 stitches, knit 6 and 7 together etc. Knit plain 5 rows. Knit 4 stitches, knit 5 and 6 together etc. Knit plain 4 rows. Knit 3 stitches, knit 4 and 5 together etc. Knit plain 3 rows. Knit 2 stitches, knit 3 and 4 together etc. Knit plain 2 rows. Knit 1 stitch, knit 2 and 3 together etc. Knit plain 1 row. Knit 1 and 2 together etc. Bind off by slipping end of yarn through remaining stitches, fasten.

Wristlets

(Fig. 11)

Double Wearing, Easy to Slip On. Conservation of Time Money and Wool.

Materials

One half hank of yarn $\frac{1}{8}$ lb.

Four Red Cross needles No. 1 or four needles Standard Gauge No. 3

Directions

Cast on 52 stiches on 3 needles; 16—16—20. Knit 2 purl 2 for 2 inches.

*To make opening for thumb, knit 2, purl 2 to end of 3rd needle, turn; knit and purl back to end of 1st needle, always slipping first stitch; turn.

Continue knitting back and forth for 2 inches.

From this point continue as at first for 4 inches.

To make second opening for thumb repeat from* for 2 inches.

From this point continue as at first for 2 icnhes. Bind off loosely and buttonhole openings.

Child's Rompers

Age 2 years (Fig. 12)

Material

Made from a man's shirt.

Directions

Baste seams with notches and perforation matching.

Place seam of sleeve and under-arm seam of body together.

Gather rompers back between notches.

Fold belt with long edges together and join rompers back to long edges of belt as notched.

Button and buttonholes in shirt will serve in body back of rompers.

Collar may be cut double, stitched around outside edge and turned or it may be cut single and bound with bias. Leave collar free at left side and finish free edge with a binding; place snap on free edge.





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Miscellaneous Suggestions

A sleeveless jacket of any cotton material may be lined with kid gloves from which the fingers have been cut. These kid gloves should first have been cleaned, then cut so as to make a flat surface. Sew these pieces together on the machine in the form of the old-time crazy quilt. Press open the seams to make a flat surface of kid. Line the cotton sleeveless jacket with this kid cut to fit the outside covering Bind the edges with tape or narrow ribbon and the result will be a warm vest for man, woman or child. A paper vest may be used as a pattern for making this kid-lined vest.

Re-making Stockings May Be Done In Several Ways

• 1. Cut off the stocking at the ankle and sew to the stocking leg the stocking foot purchased at the stores for that purpose.

2. The McCall Pattern Co. has made a conservation pattern "BB" in six sizes from child's stocking to women's stocking. This pattern arranges for the worn part of the stocking to be removed and an insert made to renew the stocking. The seams are so placed as not to interfere with the pressure of the foot against the shoe.

Woolen Yarn

The present scarcity of woolen yarn may be met in some measure by ravelling out the yarn in discarded knitted or crocheted garments, such as sweaters, socks mufflers, shawls, hoods, afghaus, couch covers, lap robes. These odd colors may be dyed to make a large amount of the same color. Washing, dyeing and winding will remove the krinkle.

Patchwork Crib Quilt

Pieces of flannelette from the piece bag or remnants from the cutting of garments should be cut into squares or oblongs of uniform size. Join these with running stitches. Make the finished size 36 inches by 36 inches. A border of flannelette 2 inches wide adds strength and attractiveness to the quilt. Machine stitch the border to the patchwork center.

An interlining of sheet wadding, blanketing, quilt, or white spread is tacked to patchwork square. The layers are lined with flannelette and the thicknesses are tied together at four inch intervals.

Fifth grade pupils may do the hand sewing and tying; the machine work on the border is work for the upper grades.

Quilts for full sized beds may be made similarly of pieces of woolen suiting collected from tailors shops. These pieces of dark colors make durable and warm covers for couches and beds.

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