

Sewing Notes

Tacking

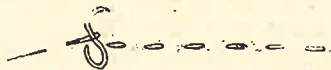
A temporary stitch, used to hold a seam in position. Start with a knot, follow with a long, then a short stitch. Finish with three back stitches. After machining, remove all tacking before pressing. Work from right to left.



Tacking

Running

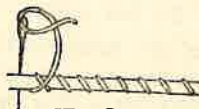
Used for seams—use small, even-sized stitches. Start and end with a back stitch and work from right to left.



Running

Over sewing or Top sewing

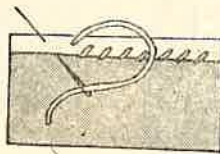
Used to hold two edges together. It is worked on the right side of material, from right to left, and is a method for attaching lace.



Top Sewing

Hemming

Used to hold down a folded edge of material. It is worked with even slanting stitches—the slant being in the opposite direction to the slant of the needle taking the stitch. Work from right to left on the wrong side of the garment.



Hemming

Gathering

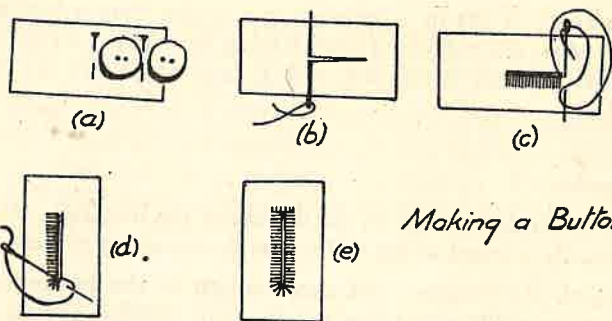
Used to absorb fullness. It is worked with small running stitches. Start with a back stitch and leave thread hanging at the end of the gathering. Pull this thread so that the gathered material will now fit into a band or measurement required. Secure the loose thread by wrapping it around a pin. Best results are obtained when two rows of gathering are used, one row a quarter of an inch above the fitting line and one on the fitting line. It is worked from right to left on the right side of material.



Gathering

Blanket Stitch

A simple loop stitch. Used to finish off a raw edge and prevent fraying. It may also be used for decoration. It is worked from left to right on right or wrong side of material.

*Making a Buttonhole*

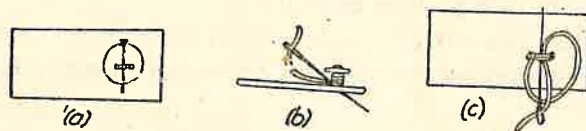
3. When the first corner is reached work five or seven plain oversewn stitches with no knot. These should radiate like the spokes of a wheel. (See diag. d)
4. Continue buttonhole stitch again until the last corner is reached. This is called the square end and the stitches are at right angles to the other stitches. (See diag. e)
5. *To work the square or barred end—*
 - (a) Bring the needle from the cut edge between the two folds of material to the base of the last stitch.
 - (b) Then insert the needle again in the same spot and make buttonhole stitches across the end, keeping them the same depth as the ones at the side.
 - (c) Finish off by bringing the needle and thread from the base of the first stitch in between the two folds of material and out on the right side of the material.
 - (d) Clip off the hanging thread at the beginning and end.

NOTE: Plenty of practice is needed to make perfect buttonholes.

Buttons

To Sew On Buttons

1. Mark the position of the button with two crossed pins, sew on double material.
2. Run the threaded needle through the holes in the button and the material four or five times leaving a pin still in position. (See diag. a)
3. Remove the pins and wrap the thread around between the button and the material to form a stem to the button. (See diag. b)
4. Finish off the thread on the wrong side of the garment by working three buttonhole stitches on the stitches holding the button. (See diag. c)

*Sewing on a Button*

Question: Give detailed instruction for the making of (a) a buttonhole and (b) the sewing on of a bone button on light woollen material. Illustrate your answer with adequate diagrams. (1955 Leaving Certificate.)

Question: Give a full description of how you would

- (a) gauge and work the position of 3 buttonholes on the front opening of a cotton frock,
- (b) Cut and work one buttonhole,
- (c) Sew on a button. Illustrate your answer with clear diagrams. (1954 Intermediate Certificate.)

Tapes

Tapes are sewn on towels to form a loop from which they may be hung, also tapes may be attached to the bands of aprons, pinafores, etc., to form a string for tying. A tape is always sewn on the square of itself. It is hemmed on three sides and oversewn or back stitched on the fourth side.