

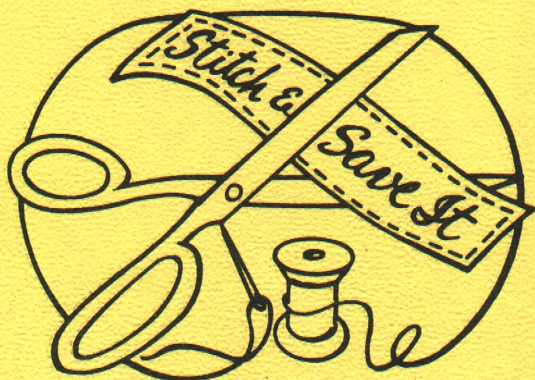
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How to Fix, Mend, Replace – Clothing Mending, 10 Topics
Michigan State University Extension Service
Textile and Clothing Specialists, North Central Region
Issued November 1978
40 pages

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HOW TO FIX

Torn Buttonholes

(by hand or machine)



Do you have clothes with buttonholes that are torn or missing some stitches?

If The Buttonhole Is Torn At The End —Fix The Tear

Take out the buttonhole stitches around the tear.

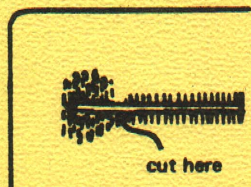
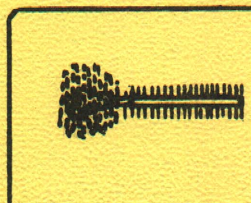
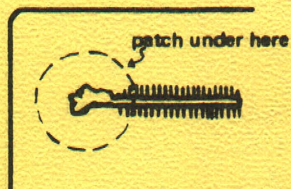
Cut a piece of material a little bigger than the tear to use as a patch. Use the same color if you can.

Put patch between the facing and outer material.

Mend the tear by stitching back and forth through all three layers of material.

Machine stitching holds better than hand stitching.

Cut through the patch to make the buttonhole the length it was.

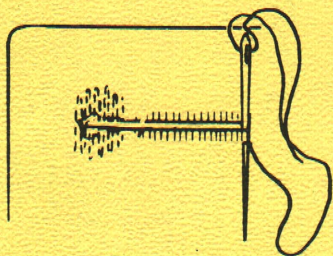


To Resew The Buttonhole By Hand

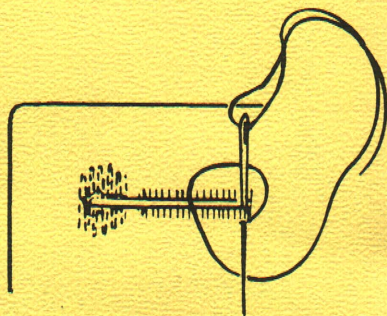
Start at the good end of the buttonhole. You will be sewing over stitches that are still there.

Knot the thread and push the needle from the wrong side of the buttonhole through the stitches.

Push the needle down through the buttonhole and up through the material near the end of the buttonhole.



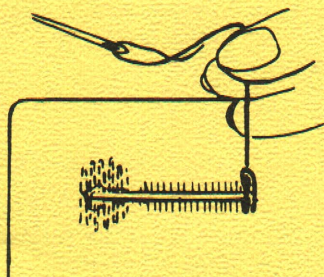
Bring the thread under the point of the needle from left to right.



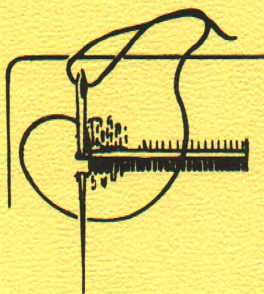
Pull the needle and thread through the material.

Pull toward the cut edge of the buttonhole.

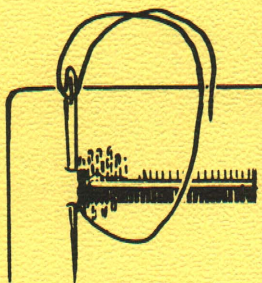
Pull enough to make a firm loop at the edge of the buttonhole.



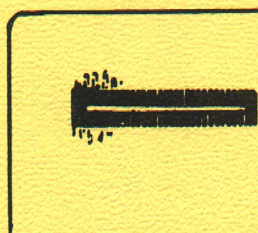
Continue making buttonhole stitches along the side of the buttonhole.
Keep the stitches close together.



To make it stronger at the end, take four stitches as wide as the buttonhole.



Buttonhole stitch along the other side of the buttonhole.
Finish by making four stitches as wide as the buttonhole at the other end.



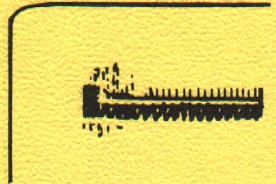
To Resew The Buttonhole By Machine

Set the sewing machine to make a zigzag stitch as wide as the original buttonhole stitches.

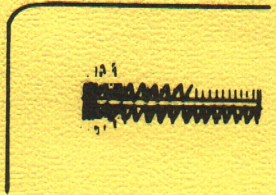
Stitch on one side of the buttonhole.



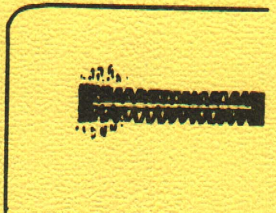
At the end, make the stitches wider to reach across the whole buttonhole. Stitch 3 or 4 times.



Make the stitch narrow again. Stitch along the second side of the buttonhole.



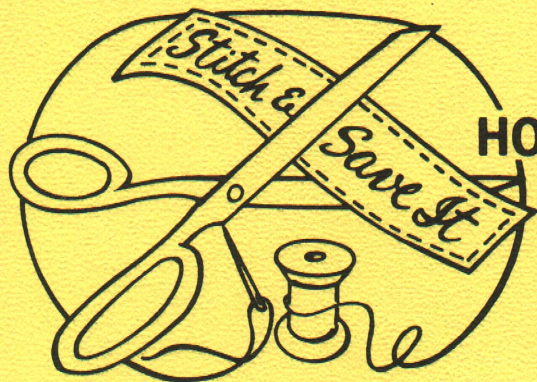
At the end, use the wider stitch again to reach across the buttonhole.



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HOW TO REPLACE Torn Off Buttons



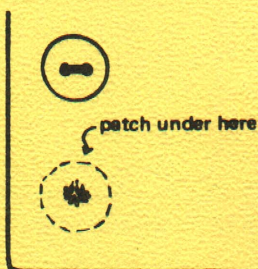
Do you have any clothes with torn off buttons? And maybe a hole?

If There Is A Hole, Mend It

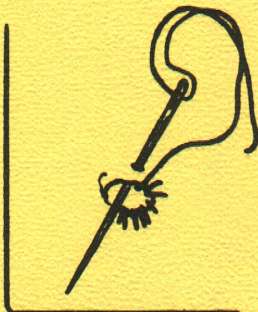
Cut off any loose threads around the hole.

Cut a piece of material a little bigger than the hole to use as a patch. Use the same color if you can.

Put the patch between the facing and the outer material.

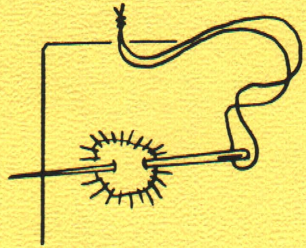


Sew the edge of the hole to the patch.

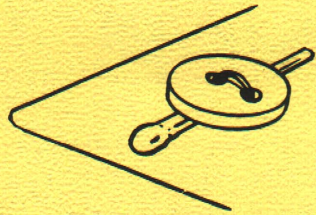


Sew On The Button

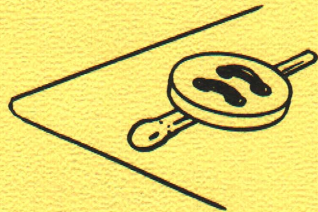
Knot a double thread.
Make a small stitch through the material
where the button goes.



Bring the needle up through one hole of
the button and down the other.
Put a prop such as a bobby pin, match-
stick, or round toothpick between the
threads and the button. This keeps you
from sewing on the button too tight.



Make 6 or 8 more stitches through the
button and material.
If the button has 4 holes, take the same
number of stitches through the other
two holes.



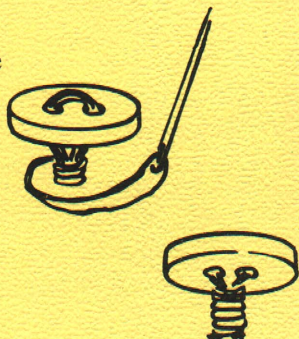
Bring the needle up through the material,
but not through the button.

Take out the prop.



Wind the thread 4 or 5 times around the
threads holding the button.

Pull it tight.

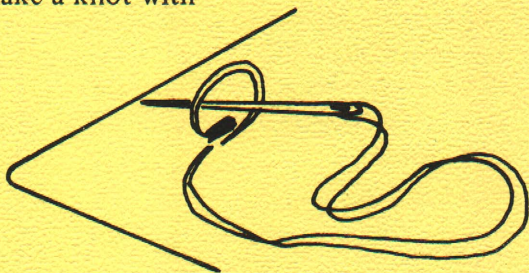


Push needle to the wrong side of material.

Take 2 or 3 small stitches under the
button. With each stitch pull the needle
through the thread loop.

Pull the thread tight to make a knot with
each stitch.

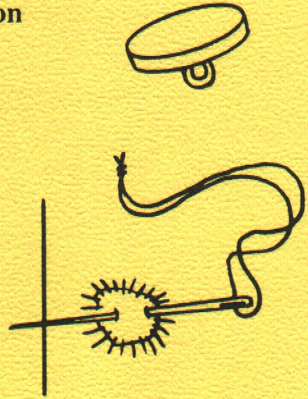
Cut off the extra thread.



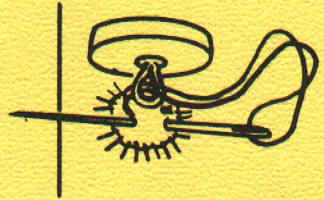
Sew On A Shank Button

If it is a shank button, there is a loop under the button instead of holes.

Knot a double thread, make a small stitch through the material where the button goes.



Bring the needle through the button shank and down through the material.



Make 6 or 8 stitches through the button shank and the material.



Push the needle to the wrong side of material. Take 2 or 3 small stitches under the button. With each stitch pull the needle through the thread loop.

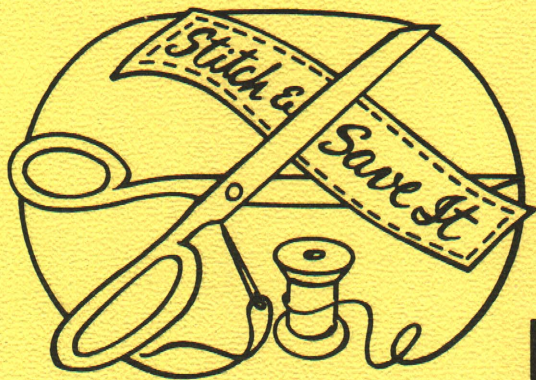
Pull the thread tight to make a knot with each stitch.

Cut off extra thread.



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HOW TO
PATCH

Knees In Pants

SEW-ON OR IRON-ON



Do you have pants with
a hole in the knee?

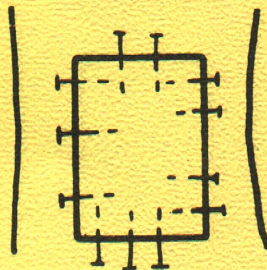
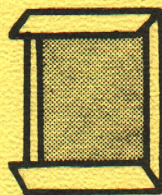
If You Are Going to Sew On a Patch

Cut off the ragged edges of the hole.

Cut a piece of sturdy material about 2
inches longer and wider than the hole.
If possible, use the same kind of material
as the pants.

Fold under all the edges of the patch $\frac{1}{2}$
inch. Press the edges to crease them.

Now you can pin the patch over the hole.
Be sure the patch is smooth and flat and
straight on the pant leg.



By Machine

A machine stitched patch stays on better, but it's hard to do on small pant legs.

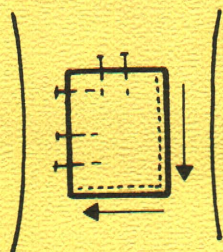
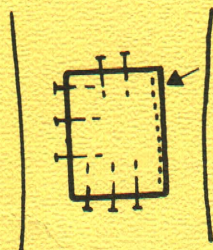
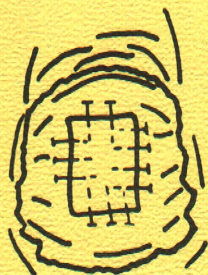
Be careful when you sew. It's easy to sew the pant leg together. Start at the bottom of the pant leg and gather it up in your hands to make a nest. The patch will be in the middle of the nest. When you sew, keep pulling the back of the pant leg away from the needle.

Start sewing at the upper corner of the patch. Use a medium length stitch.

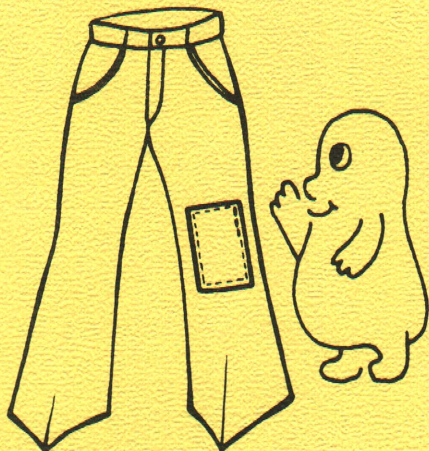
Stitch around the patch close to the edge.

To make a nice corner, stop the machine with the needle down at the corner. Lift the presser foot and turn the pant leg. Lower the presser foot and sew another side.

Overlap stitches at the end to keep them from coming out.

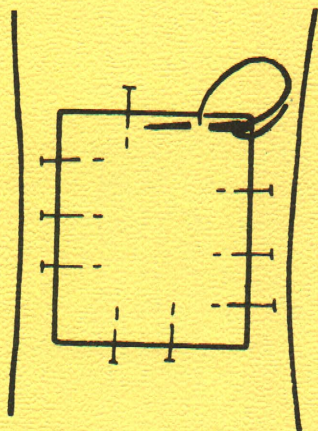


This is how the patched knee will look.

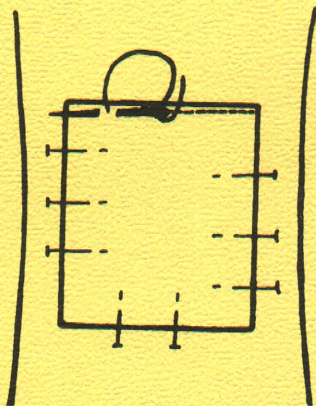


By Hand

Use the backstitch for a strong patch. It looks like machine stitches.



To backstitch, push the needle from inside the pants through the pant leg and the patch. Push the needle down through the material about 1/8" back of where you started. Bring the needle out one stitch in front of that stitch.



Keep backstitching around the patch.

Patches can also be different shapes.

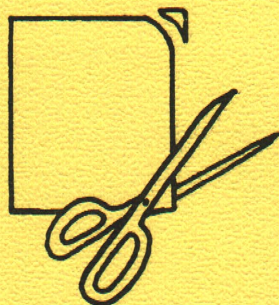


Use pictures in coloring books for patterns.



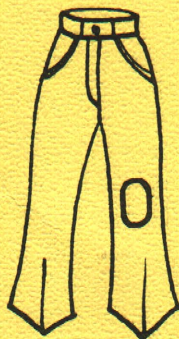
If You Are Going to Iron-On a Patch —This is Easy and Fast

Use an iron-on mending patch. Follow directions on the package. Cut the patch a little bigger than the hole. Round off the corners.



Put a folded grocery sack or newspaper inside the pant leg so the patch won't stick to the back of the pant leg.

Press the pant leg around the hole to get it smooth and warm.

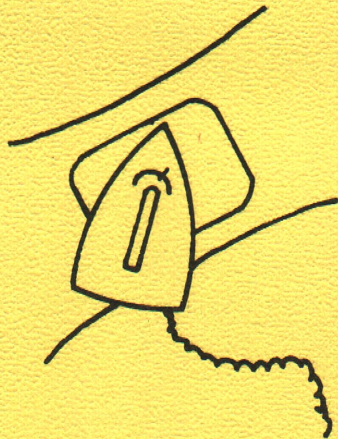


Put the patch over the hole with the shiny side down. Make sure the patch is placed straight on the leg.

Hold the iron firmly on the patch and press according to the package directions. Lift the iron to move to the next section. Do not slide the iron. Press all edges of the patch.

Let it cool. Then, check to see if patch has stuck. If not, press it again and cool.

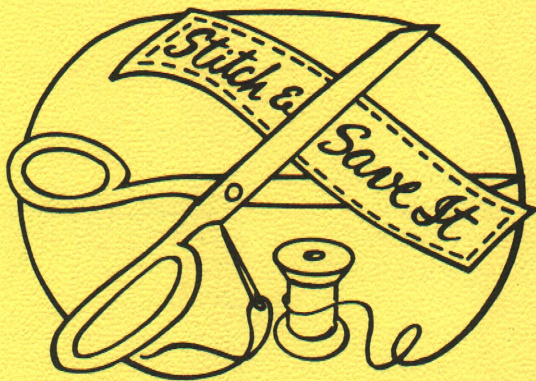
Pull the sack out of pant leg. Any paper that sticks will wash off.



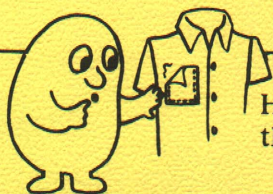
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HOW TO FIX A Torn Loose Pocket



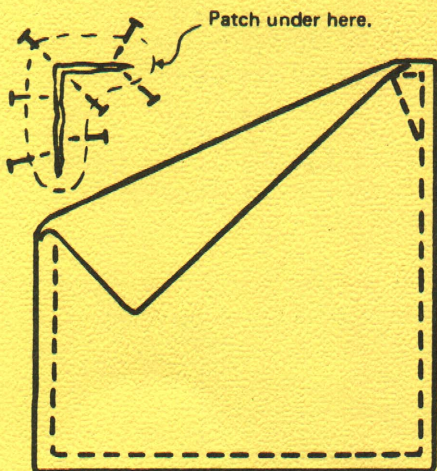
Has your pocket torn loose and ripped the material?

Mend the Tear

Take out the pocket stitches close to the tear so you can mend it.

Cut a piece of material a little bigger than the tear. Use matching material from a facing, belt, or hem if you can.

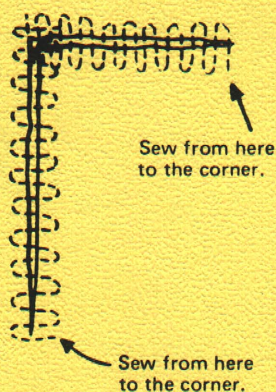
Put the patch under the tear.
Pin in place.



Stitch It

Stitch back and forth over the tear. You can use a wide zigzag stitch, a straight stitch, or a hand running stitch. Machine stitching is stronger than hand stitching.

If your tear is a corner tear, stitch from both ends to the corner overlapping a few stitches.



Or Fuse It

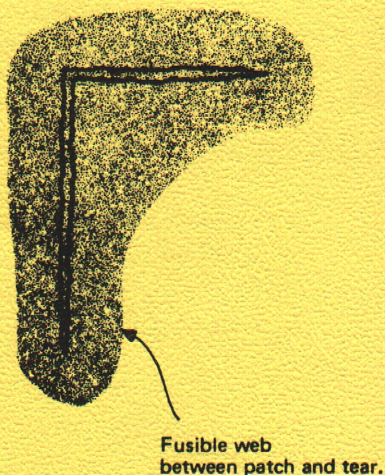
Put fusible web between the patch and the tear.

Put a wet cloth or paper towel over the tear.

Press, leaving the iron on the tear while you slowly count to 15.

Let the patch cool. The patch can come loose unless it is cool.

If the patch isn't sticking, press again and let it cool before moving.



Sew the Pocket On

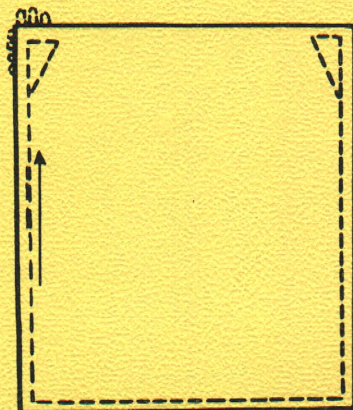
Use thread the same color as the other stitching if you can.

By Machine

Set the sewing machine so the stitches are the same length as the ones that are holding the pocket on.

Start so you sew over 3 of the stitches already there.

Sew to the top of the pocket. At the top edge of the pocket, stitch a triangle to help keep the pocket from tearing loose again.

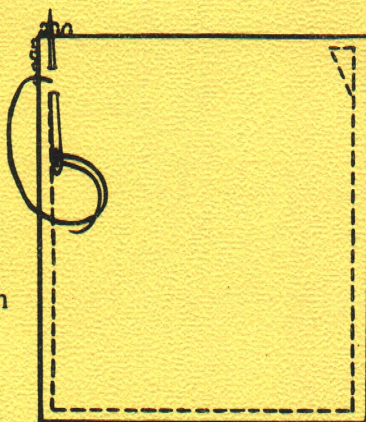


By Hand

Use a backstitch to sew the pocket on by hand. It will look like machine stitching. Start so you sew over 3 of the stitches already there.

To backstitch, bring the needle through the pocket from the wrong side. Push the needle down through the material about 1/8" back of where you started. Bring the needle out one stitch in front of that stitch.

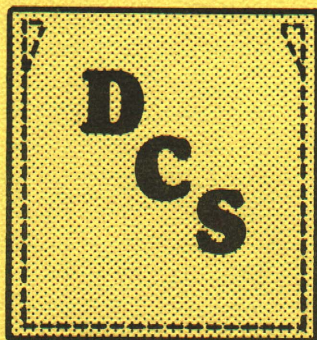
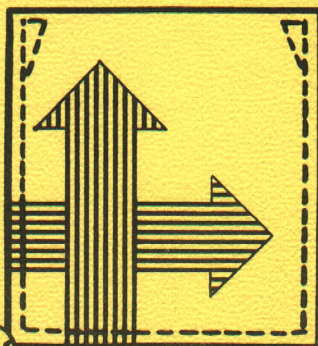
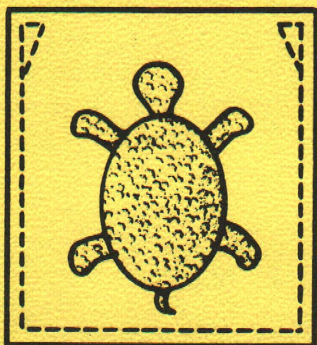
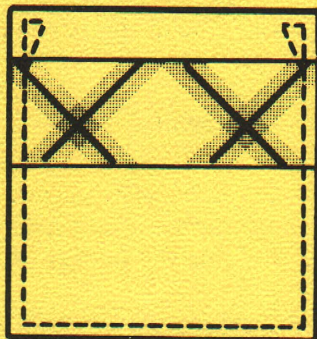
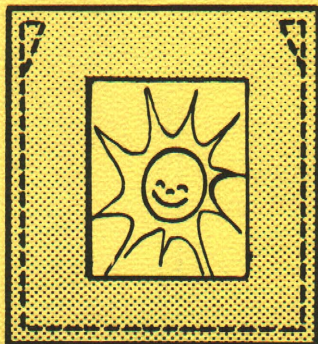
Continue stitching to the top of the pocket. At the top edge of the pocket, stitch a triangle to keep the pocket from tearing loose.



Or You Could Make a Bigger Pocket

A bigger pocket will cover the mended tear.

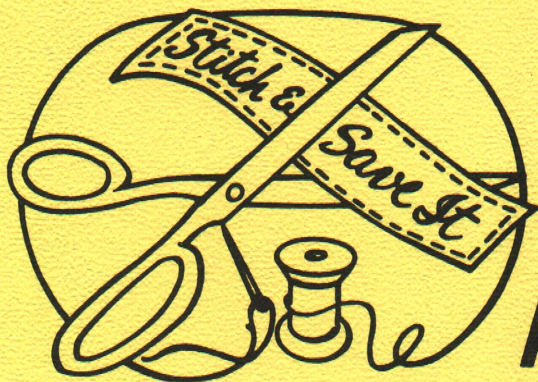
Use material that goes with the garment.
Trim the new pocket with pieces of the old one.



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HOW TO REPLACE A Jacket Zipper



Do you have a jacket with a broken zipper?

Take Out Zipper

Look at how the zipper was put in. Pull out the stitches to take out the broken zipper.

Get a new or used zipper the same length or a little shorter than the old one. Be sure to get a separating zipper.



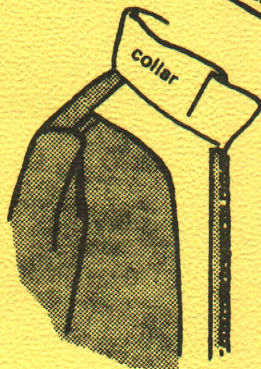
Fix the Left Side First

Put the Zipper in Place

First lay the jacket flat and work on the inside.

Separate the new zipper. Use the half of the zipper without a pull tab.

Put the zipper right side down on the inside of the jacket on top of the facing. The top of the zipper should be as close to the top of the jacket as it will go.

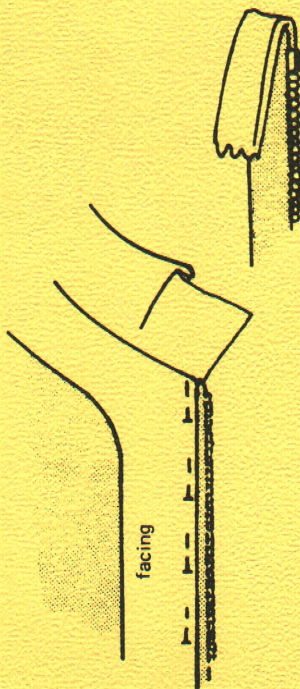


Pin in the Zipper

Fold the zipper tape back over the zipper at the neckline edge.

Slip the zipper under the facing or lining. The folded edge of the facing should be about 1/4" from the zipper teeth.

Pin the zipper to the facing.



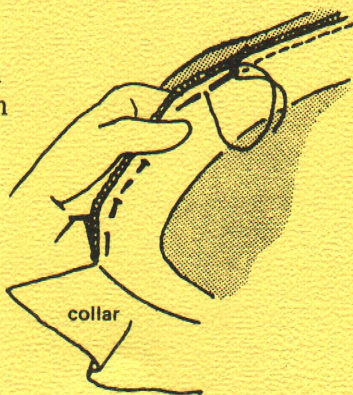
Sew in the Zipper

Keeping the jacket out of the way, begin at the collar and stitch the edge of the facing to the zipper tape only. Machine stitching holds best. A zipper foot makes it easier.

To sew by hand, use a backstitch. It looks like machine stitches and is strong.

Knot the thread and bring the needle up through the zipper tape and the facing.

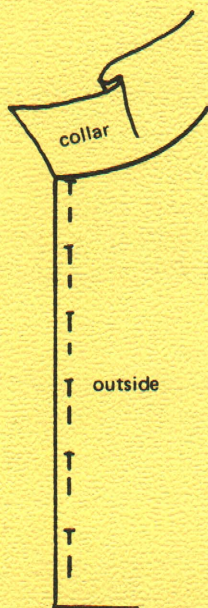
Push the needle down through the material about 1/8" back of where you started. Bring the needle out one stitch in front of that stitch. Keep stitching the length of the zipper.



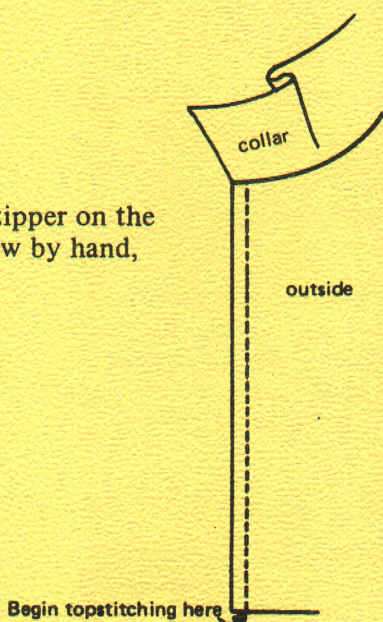
***Now the Outside**

Turn the jacket over so you are working on the outside.

Pin the folded edge of the jacket to the zipper. The zipper teeth should come just to the folded edge of the jacket. The zipper shouldn't show on the outside unless it is part of the trim.



Topstitch the jacket to the zipper on the original stitching line. To sew by hand, use a backstitch.

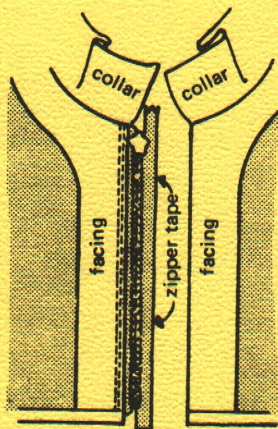


Fix the Other Side

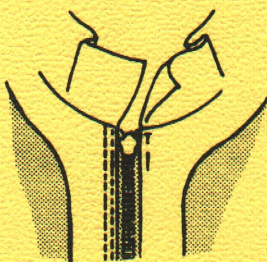
Close the zipper.

Turn the jacket inside out.

Fold the top of the zipper tape back on itself. Put the loose part of the zipper between the facing and the jacket.



Line up collar seams so they match. Pin the zipper to the facing.

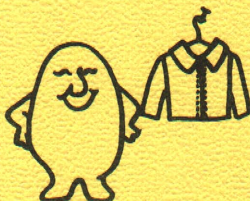


Separate zipper and continue pinning zipper to the facing. Be sure the two sides of the jacket are matched up.

Beginning at the bottom, stitch the facing to the zipper tape.

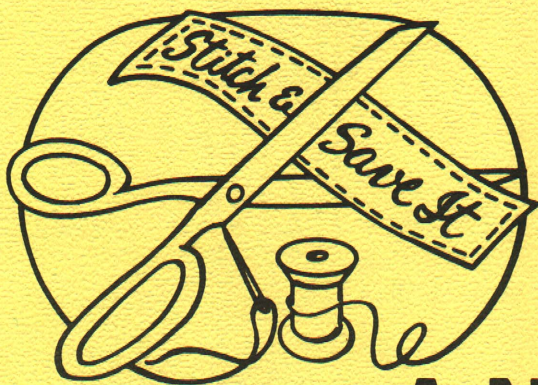


To finish stitching in the zipper, go back to the * on the top of page 3 and follow the directions.



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HOW TO MAKE A New Hem

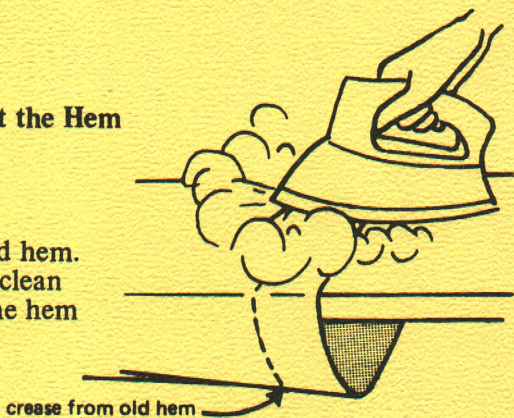


Do you have clothes that are too long or too short—or hems that are ripped out?

Take Out the Hem

Pull out the old hem stitches.

Press out the crease from the old hem. Use a steam iron or use a damp clean cloth or paper towel between the hem and the iron.

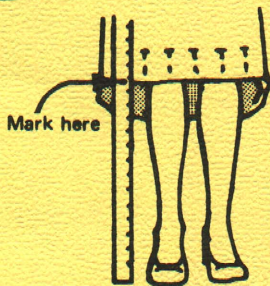


Mark the New Hem

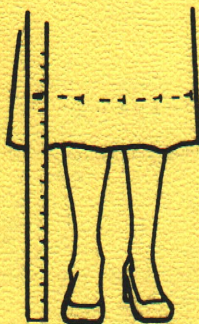
Pin up the hem to see where it looks best.

Mark a yardstick or broom handle that far off the floor.

Take out the pins.



Have someone mark the hem with pins.
Use the guide on the yardstick.

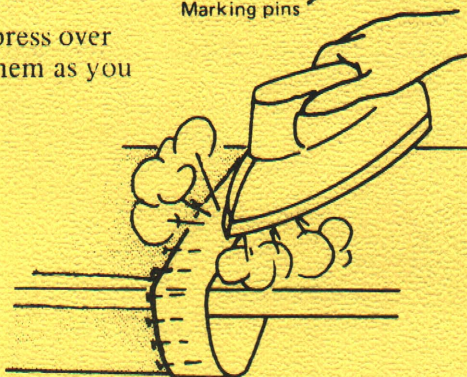
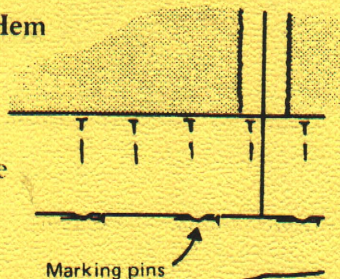


Turn Up the Hem

Fold up the hem so the marking pins are on the fold and pin.

Try it on to see if the hem is even.

Press the hem fold. Do not press over the marking pins. Remove them as you press.



Trim the Hem to an Even Width

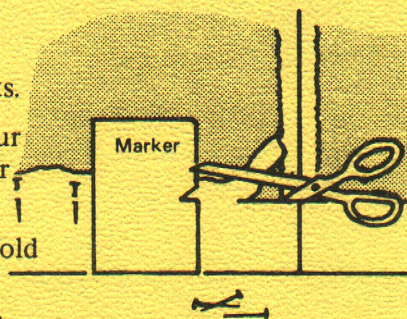
Decide how wide to make the hem.

2" for most clothes.

1-1½" for pants and flared skirts.

Make a marker the size you want your hem. Use a ruler OR a piece of paper with a notch in the side.

Place one end of the marker on the fold of the hem.



Trim the hem by cutting to the notch. Be careful to cut through only the turned up hem. Move the marker along the hem and continue cutting.

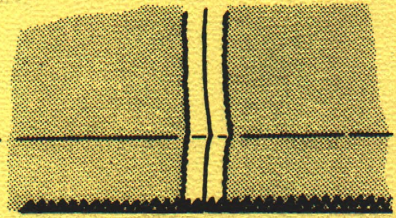
Finish the Edge

If the fabric ravels, finish the edge.

By Machine

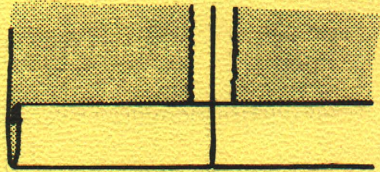
Stitch near the edge. A zigzag stitch works better than a straight stitch.

Hemline



By Hand

Turn under the edge 1/4" and press it flat.



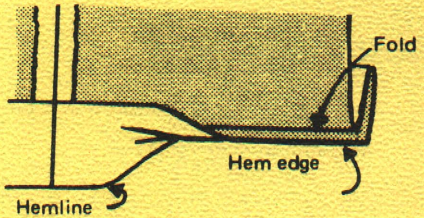
Make the New Hem

Try one of these ways:

Hand Hem

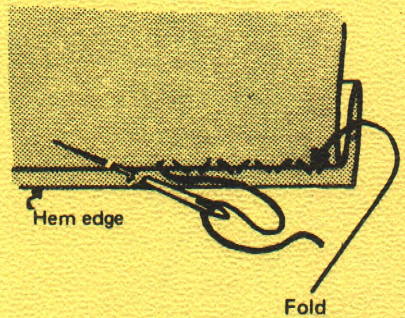
You can use this for most clothes.

Turn it inside out. Fold the hem back so only 1/8" of the hem shows past this fold.



Take a small stitch in the hem about 1/8" from the edge. If you turned under the hem edge, make this stitch thru both layers of fabric.

Then 1/2" away, pick up 1 or 2 threads from the fold. Don't pull the thread too tight—the hem will show less if the stitches are loose.

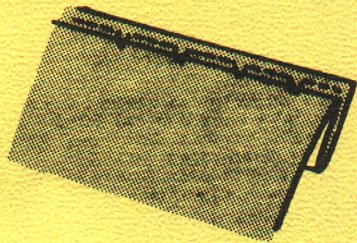


Machine Blind Hem

Try this for things like pants, children's clothes, sweaters and draperies.

Check the instructions with your sewing machine. This may be an attachment.

Practice so stitches hardly show on the outside.



Fusible Web

Try this for pants and skirts that are quite straight.

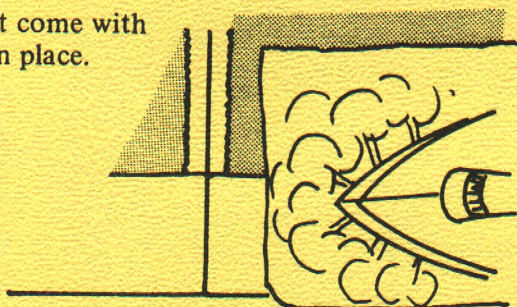
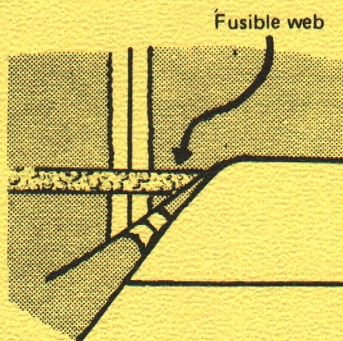
You can use fusible web instead of stitching to hold the hem in place. You can buy fusible web in strips or in a large piece.

Using a piece of web, test to see if it holds and looks right on your fabric.

Cut the fusible web into strips 1/4" to 1/2" wide.

Put the web inside the hem, just below the top. That keeps the web from sticking to the iron.

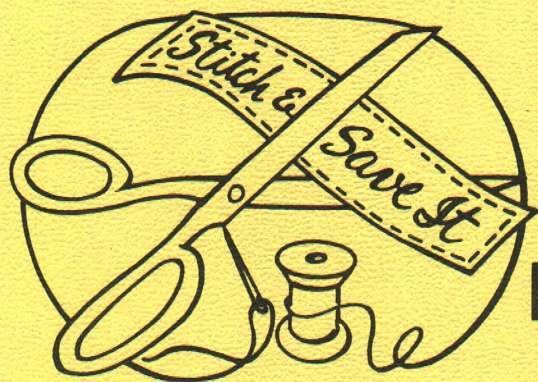
Follow the instructions that come with the fusible web to press it in place.



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Price 5 cents. 1P-2M-11:78-HE



HOW TO
REPLACE

Knit Collar And Cuffs On A Jacket



Do you have a jacket with worn out knit collar and cuffs?

Take Off the Worn Out Collar and Cuffs

Carefully rip out the stitches. Use pointed scissors or a seam ripper.

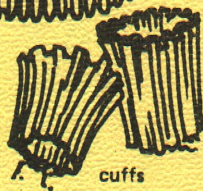
Save the collar and cuffs to use as patterns for the new ones.



collar

Decide on New Collar and Cuffs

You can use old ribbed socks, sweaters and caps, or scraps of ribbed knit material. Or you can buy new collar and cuffs.



cuffs

Make a New Collar

If You are Using 2 Socks

Cut off the tops of the socks as wide as the old collar.

Cut the sock tops open from top to bottom.



Stitch the 2 pieces together making a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam.

To sew it by machine use a regular stitch or a small zigzag stitch.

To sew it by hand, use a hand backstitch. It looks like machine stitching on the front. Stitches overlap on the back.



Press the seam open.

Pin the old collar on top of this piece. Do not stretch the material. Cut out the new collar.



If You are Using a Flat Piece of Ribbed Knit Material

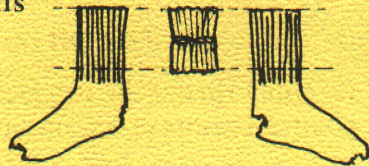
Pin the old collar on top of the material. Do not stretch the material. Cut out the new collar.



Make New Cuffs

If You are Using 2 Socks

Cut off the tops of the socks as long as the worn cuffs.



If You are Using a Flat Piece of Ribbed Knit Material

Cut the old cuff open from top to bottom. Open the cuff and put it on the knit material.

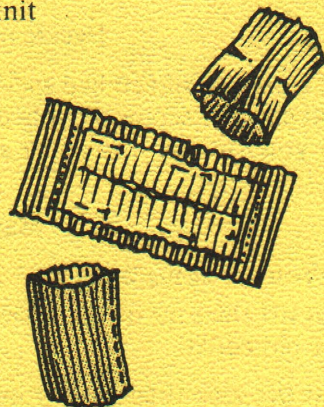
Cut the 2 new cuffs $\frac{1}{2}$ " wider than the old one.

Stitch the 2 short sides together making a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam.

To sew by machine use a regular stitch or a small zigzag stitch.

To sew by hand use the backstitch shown at the top of this page.

Press the seam open.



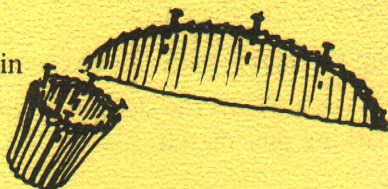
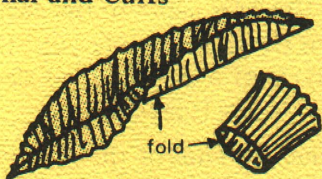
Fold and Mark the Collar and Cuffs

Fold the collar and cuffs in half so the right sides are on the outside.

Divide the cut edges of the collar and cuffs into 4 parts.

Fold each piece in half. Pin at the folds.

Fold each piece in half again and pin at the folds.



Sew the New Collar to the Jacket

Pin the New Collar to the Jacket

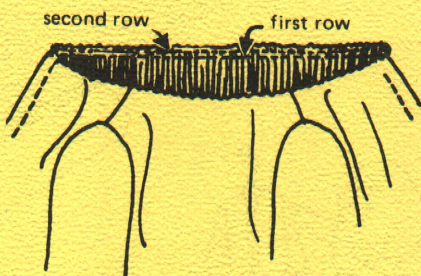
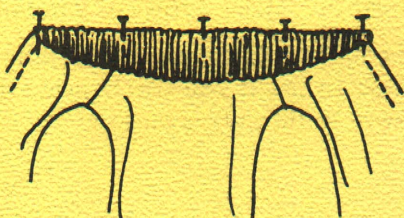
If there are 2 layers of material at the neck of the jacket pin them together.

Divide the neck into 4 parts and mark with pins the same way you did the collar.

Pin the collar to the outside of the jacket so the marking pins and front edges match.

The cut edges of the collar and neck should be together.

(The collar is a little smaller than the neck of the jacket.)



Stitch the New Collar to the Jacket

Stitch a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam. As you sew stretch the collar to fit the jacket neck.

Sew a second row of stitches close to the cut edge. Or overcast the edge making slanted stitches. Make stitches close together.



Put On the New Cuffs

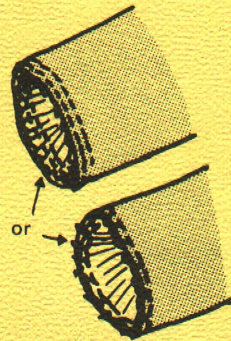
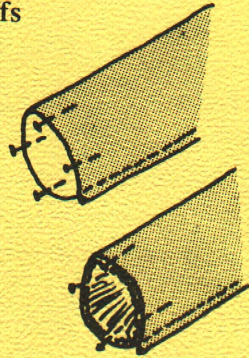
Pin the New Cuffs to the Jacket Sleeves

Turn the jacket inside out. If there are 2 layers of material in the sleeves, pin the 2 layers together.

Divide the ends of the sleeves into 4 parts and mark with pins the same way you did the cuffs.

Slip the cuffs inside the sleeves.

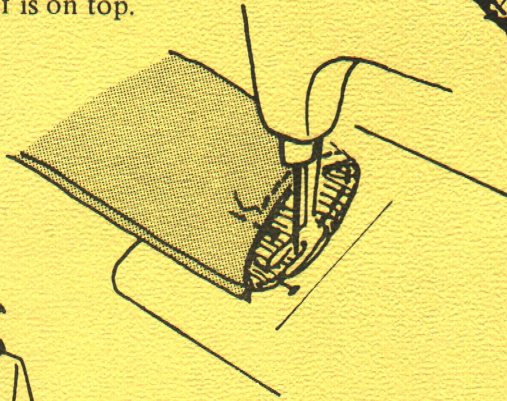
Pin the cuffs to the sleeves so the marking pins match.



Stitch the Cuffs to the Sleeves

Do it the same way you stitched the collar on. Make 2 rows of stitching.

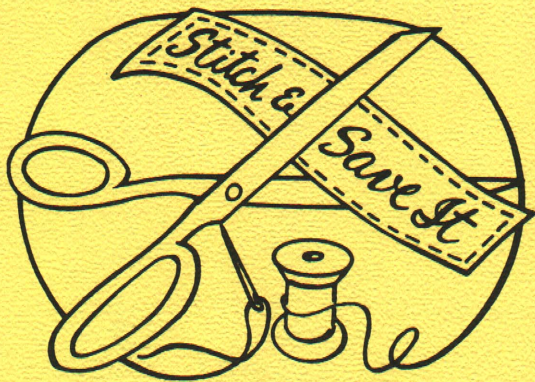
If you are using a sewing machine it's easier to sew if you stitch inside the sleeve so the cuff is on top.



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HOW TO REPLACE Elastic In Skirts Or Pants



Do you have pants or a skirt with worn out elastic?

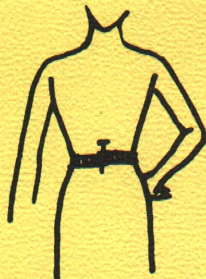
Measure the New Elastic

Use elastic about the same width as the worn elastic.

Pin the elastic around your waist so it's comfortable, but snug.

Cut off the extra elastic.

You may be able to use the elastic from the top of worn out panty hose.



See How the Waistline Was Made Originally

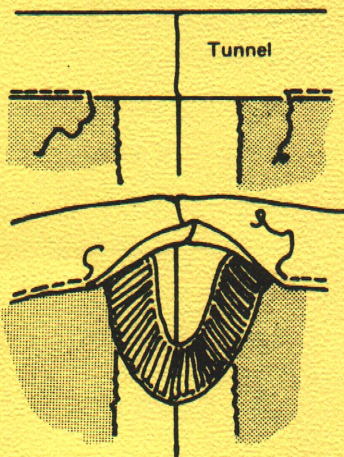
Turn the skirt or pants inside out.

Take the stitching out along the edge of the tunnel for about 2 inches.

Try to pull out a loop of the old elastic.

If you can do this, replace the elastic using the instructions called "Elastic Pulled Through a Tunnel" on page 2.

If you can't do this, use the instructions for "Sewn-In Elastic" on page 3.



Elastic Pulled Through a Tunnel

Fix the Tunnel

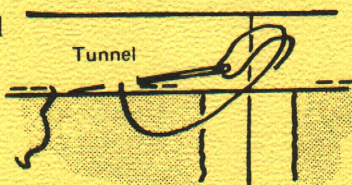
Resew any missing stitches to make the tunnel strong. Do not stitch through the elastic. (Remember to leave the opening to replace the elastic.)

To do this by hand, use a backstitch. (It looks like machine stitching.):

Bring the needle through the material from the wrong side.

Push the needle down through the material about 1/8" back of where you started.

Bring the needle out one stitch in front of that stitch.



Replace the Elastic

Cut the old elastic.

Use a safety pin to pin one end of the new elastic to one end of the old elastic.

Pin the other end of the new elastic to the clothes.

Pull out the old elastic. At the same time you will be pulling the new elastic through the tunnel. Be careful not to twist the elastic.

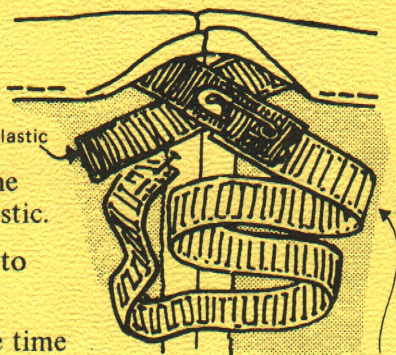
Lap one end of the new elastic 1/2" over the other end. Pin.

Sew the ends of the elastic together.

Pull the elastic inside the casing.

Sew the opening shut.

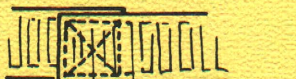
Pull out old elastic



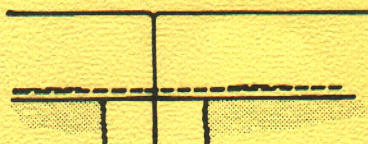
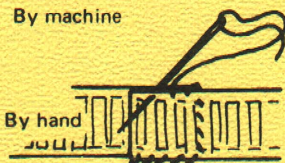
Pull in new elastic



By machine



By hand



Sewn-In Elastic

(This works best with a sewing machine.)

Remove the Worn Out Elastic

Be careful not to cut the material as you remove the stitching.



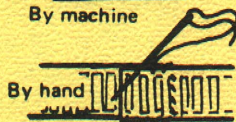
Prepare the New Elastic

Lap one end of the elastic over the other 1/2". Pin.

Sew the ends together.



By machine



By hand

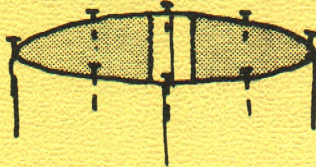
Divide the Elastic and Waist into 8 Sections

Fold each piece in half. Pin at the folds.

Fold each piece in half again and pin.

Then fold once more and pin.

You have 8 sections.

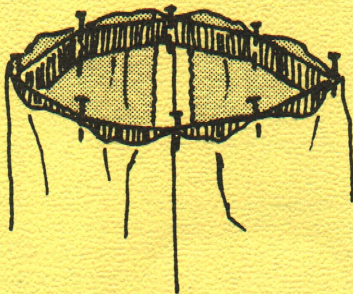


Pin the Elastic to the Waist

Place the elastic on the inside of the waist.

Place the top edge of the elastic and top edge of the waist together.

Match the pins.



Stitch the Elastic

Work with one section at a time.

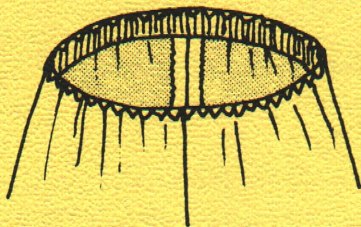
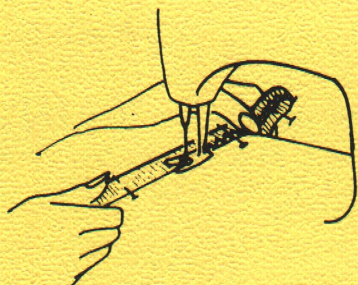
Stretch the elastic until it is the same size as the waist.

While it is stretched, stitch it to the waist close to the top edge.

To sew by machine, use a zigzag stitch if you can.

To sew by hand, use a backstitch following the instructions on page 2.

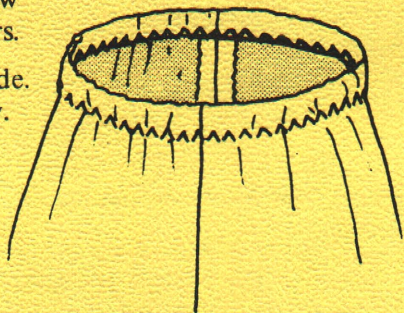
To help you stretch the material and sew at the same time, pin one end of the clothing to the arm of a chair or pillow. Then stretch with one hand and sew with the other.



Stitch Once More

Turn the elastic and material down to the inside. (The top of the elastic is now the bottom edge.) Pin through all layers.

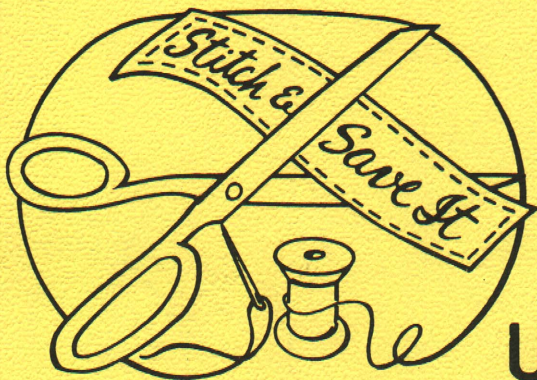
Sew over the same stitches you just made. Be sure to stretch the elastic as you sew.



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Price 5 cents. 1P-2M-11:78-HE



HOW TO REPLACE Elastic In Underpants Half Slips, And Pajama Bottoms



Do you have underwear or pajamas with worn out elastic?

(If the elastic is still good, and only the stitching has come undone, skip to "Stitch the Elastic" on the bottom of page 3.)

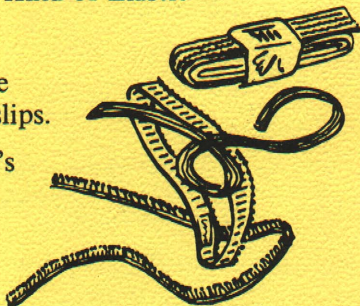
Decide on the Width and Kind of Elastic

Widths of Elastic

3/8" to 1/2" wide elastic is good for the waists of women's underpants and half slips.

3/4" to 1" wide elastic is good for men's underpants and pajamas.

Use 1/4" elastic for legs of pants.



Kinds of Elastic

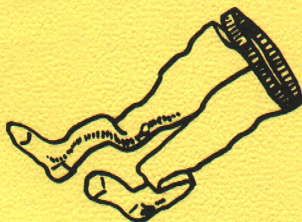
Use the elastic from the top of torn panty hose.

or

Use regular elastic.

or

Use underwear elastic (it's soft and snappy).

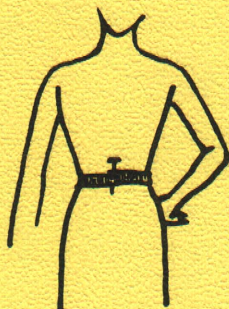


Decide How Long the Elastic Should Be

Pin the elastic around your waist so it is comfortable, but snug.

Cut off the extra elastic.

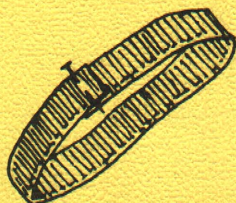
If you use the top of torn panty hose, the size should be good.



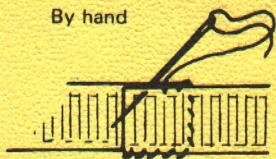
Join the Ends of the Elastic

Lap one end of the elastic 1/2" over the other end. Pin.

Sew the ends together.



By hand



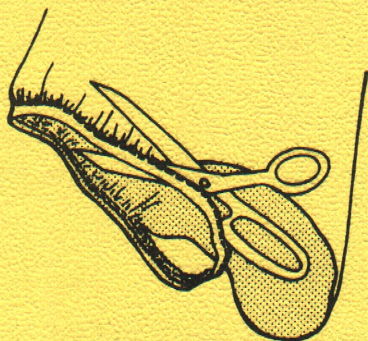
By machine



Remove the Worn Out Elastic

Cut off the worn out elastic.

(To save time, cut off the elastic where the bottom of the elastic ends—this makes the underwear a little shorter.)



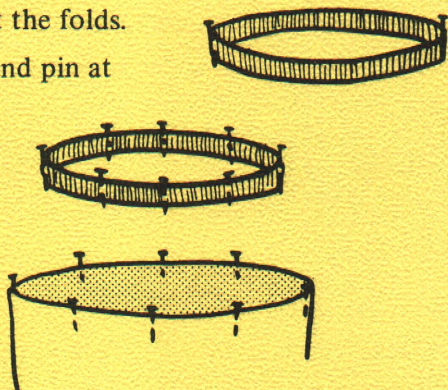
Divide the Elastic and Waist Into 8 Sections

Fold each piece in half. Pin at the folds.

Fold each piece in half again and pin at the folds.

Then fold once more and pin.

You have 8 sections.

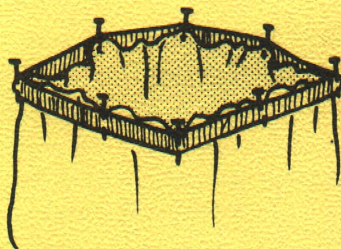


Pin the Elastic to the Waist

Place the elastic on the outside of the underwear.

The bottom of the elastic should be 1/4" below the cut edge.

Match the pins.



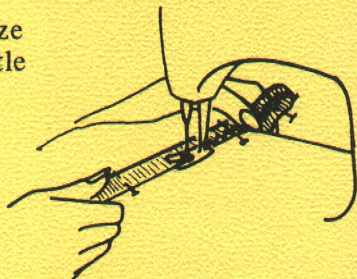
Stitch the Elastic

Work with one section at a time.

Stretch the elastic until it's the same size as the underwear and then stretch a little more.

While it is stretched, stitch it to the underwear.

Stitch near the bottom edge of the elastic.



To Sew by Machine

Use a regular stitch or a wide zigzag stitch.

When you stop the machine to stretch a new section, leave the needle down in the elastic.

Check to make sure the knit doesn't roll as you stitch.



To Sew by Hand

Use a backstitch. It looks like machine stitching.

Bring the needle through the elastic from the wrong side.

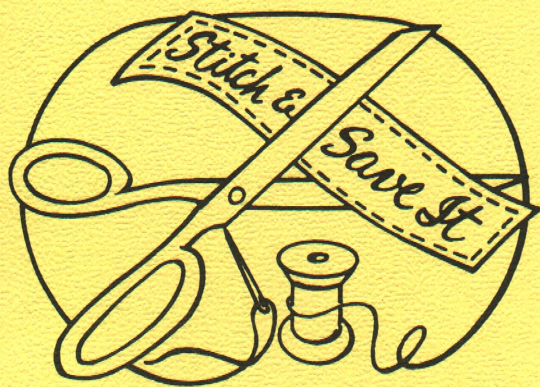
Push the needle down through the material about 1/8" back of where you started. Bring the needle out one stitch in front of that stitch.

To help you stretch the material and sew at the same time, pin one end of the underwear to the arm of a chair or pillow. Then stretch with one hand and sew with the other.



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HOW TO
REPLACE

A Broken Fly Front Zipper



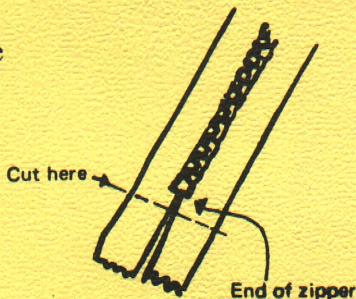
Do you have pants with a broken fly front zipper?

Get Another Zipper

Buy a new zipper or use one from a pair of worn out pants. The zipper should be at least 1/2" longer than the opening.

A zipper that is too long can be cut off at the top. But—don't cut it until the directions say so (or the zipper pull tab may fall off)!

At the bottom, cut off the zipper tape 1/4" below the end of the zipper.

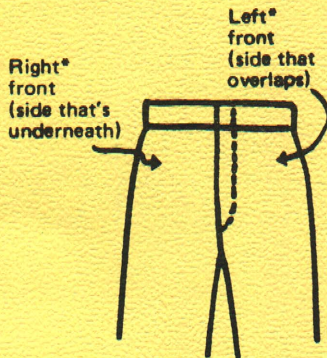


Look at How the Old Zipper Was Sewn In

Try to use the old folds and stitching lines when you put the new zipper in.

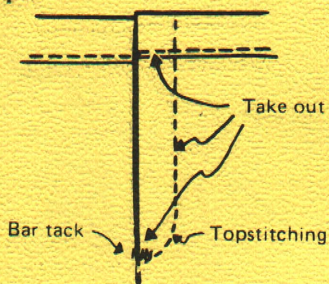
Use this leaflet as a guide. Not all pants are made the same way. So you may need to do these steps in a different order.

These instructions are for pants that look like these. If yours zip in the other direction, change "right" to "left" and "left" to "right" where you see the *.



Take Out the Broken Zipper

Remove the stitching that holds the zipper, the topstitching, and bar tacks. Take out a little of the waistband seam on both sides of the opening so the zipper will come out.



Start With the Left* Front (that's the side that overlaps)

Turn the pants inside out. Put the pants in front of you so the right* front is on top.

Turn the right* front down out of the way so you can work with the left* front.

Unfold the facing so the facing and the rest of the front are flat.

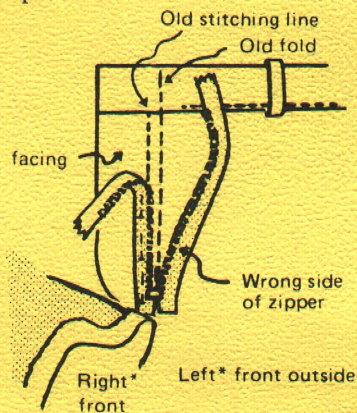
Open the new zipper.

Pin the left* half of the zipper to the facing like this:

Keep the zipper right side down.

The bottom of the zipper tapes should be at the bottom of the opening.

Place the teeth just past the old stitching line (the teeth are between the old stitching line and the fold.)

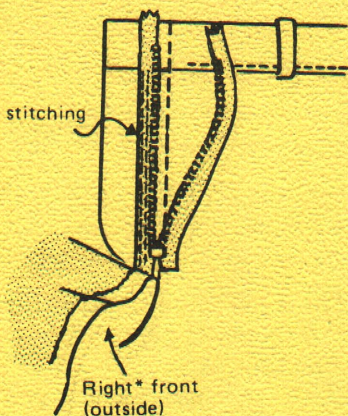


Stitch the Zipper to Just the Facing

Make 2 rows of stitches on the zipper tape—one row near each edge of the tape.

By machine

It's easier to use a zipper foot or cording foot.

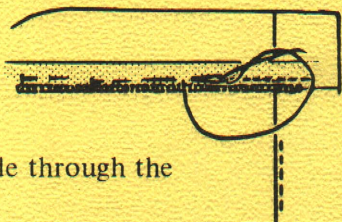


By hand

Use a backstitch. It looks like machine stitching.

Bring the needle up from the wrong side through the facing and zipper tape.

Push the needle down through the material about 1/8" back of where you started. Bring the needle out one stitch in front of that stitch.



Finish the Left* Waistband

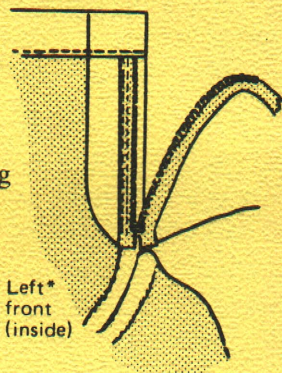
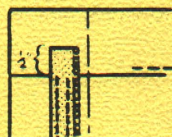
LEAVE THE ZIPPER OPEN.

Cut off the zipper 1/2" above the waistline seam.

Tuck the end of the zipper under the waistband.

Restitch the waistband seam. Sew slowly. Be careful not to hit the teeth with the sewing machine needle.

Fold the facing to the inside of the pants on the old fold line. Pin.



Attach the Other Half of the Zipper

Turn the pants to the outside. Close the zipper.

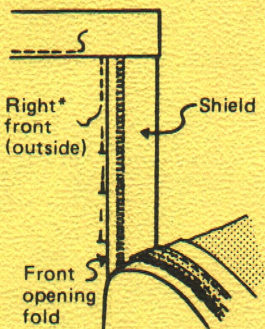
Place the zipper tape under the front opening of the pants so the fold is close to the teeth.

Pin the zipper at the top and bottom so the opening is flat. Open the zipper to finish pinning the zipper in place.

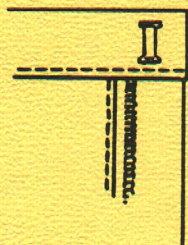
Cut the zipper off 1/2" above the waistline seam. Tuck the zipper under the waistband.

Pin the shield, if there is one, behind the zipper. (That's the extra piece of material that goes between the zipper and you.)

Stitch through the pants, zipper and shield. Start at the top.



Restitch the waistband seam.



Finish the Left* Side of the Zipper

You can use the regular sewing machine foot for this.

Stitch the facing to the pants.

Sew from the outside of the pants.

Keep the other half of the opening out of the way.

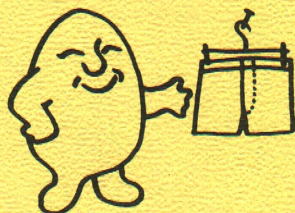
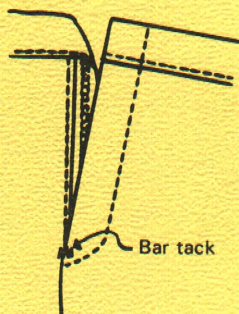
Sew where the old stitches were.

Put back any bar tacks that you took out in the beginning.

To sew by machine, use zigzag stitches that are wide and close together.

Or stitch back and forth 2 or 3 times.

To sew by hand, make several stitches very close together.



Prepared by Textiles and Clothing Extension Specialists as part of a North Central Region Project.

Cooperative Extension Service Programs are open to all without regard to race, color, or national origin. Issued in furtherance of cooperative extension work in agriculture and home economics, acts of May 8, and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Gordon E. Guyer, Director, Cooperative Extension Service, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824.

Price 5 cents. 1P-2M-11:78-HE