

CLOTHING

Replacing knit collar and cuffs

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Quick Facts...

If you have a jacket with worn-out collar or cuffs, you can replace them by using ribbed socks, sweaters or caps or new ribbed knit material.

Save the old collar and cuffs to make patterns for the new collar and cuffs.

Pin the new collar and cuffs to the neckline and armhole openings evenly before final stitching.

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

Instructions

Do you have a jacket with worn-out knit collar and cuffs? To take off the worn collar and cuffs, carefully rip out the stitches. Use a pointed scissors or a seam ripper. Save the collar and cuffs to use as patterns for the new ones. (Figure 1A.)

New collar and cuffs.

To make the new collar and cuffs, use old ribbed socks, sweaters and caps, or scraps of ribbed knit material, or purchase new collar and cuffs.

Collar

- To make a new collar (if you are using two socks), cut off the tops of the socks as wide as the old collar.
- Cut the sock tops open from top to bottom. (Figure 1B.)
- Stitch the two pieces together making a 1/4-inch seam. To sew it by machine use a regular stitch or a small zigzag stitch. (Figure 1C.) To sew it by hand, use a hand backstitch. It looks like machine stitching on the front and stitches overlap on the back. (Figure 1D.)
- Press the seam open.
- Pin the old collar on top of this piece. Do not stretch the material. Cut out the new collar. (Figure 1E.)
- If you use 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. (Figure 1F.)

Cuffs

- To make new cuffs (if you are using two socks), cut off the tops of the socks the same length as the worn cuffs. (Figure 2A.)
- If you are using a flat piece of ribbed knit material, cut the old cuff open from top to bottom. Open the cuff and pin it on top of the knit material.
- Cut the two new cuffs 1/2-inch wider than the old ones. (Figure 2B.)
- Stitch the two short sides together making a 1/4-inch seam. To sew by machine use a regular stitch or a small zigzag stitch. To sew by hand use the backstitch shown in Figure 1D.
- Press the seam open.

Fold and mark collar and cuffs

- To fold and mark the collar and cuffs, fold each of them in half so the right sides are on the outside. (Figure 2C.)
- Divide the cut edges of the collar and cuffs into four parts. Fold each piece in half. Pin at the folds. (Figure 2D.)
- Fold each piece in half again and pin at the folds. (Figure 2E.)

Sew collar and cuffs to jacket

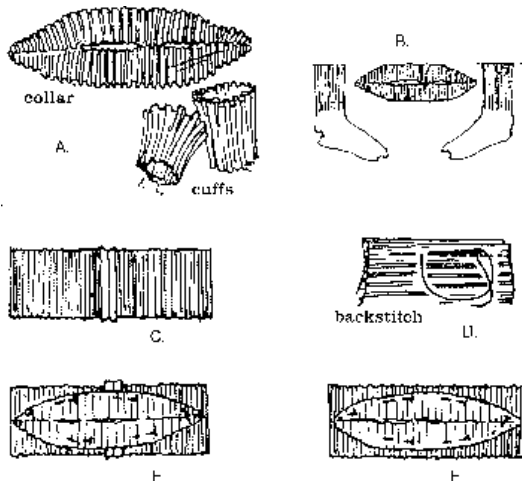


Figure 1.

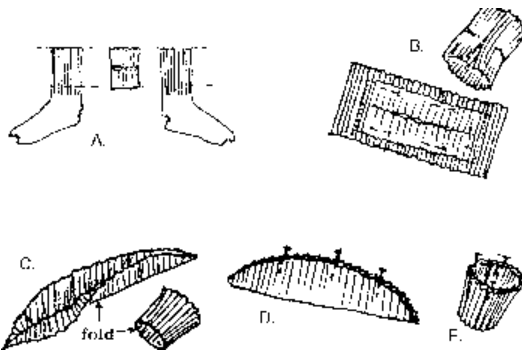


Figure 2.

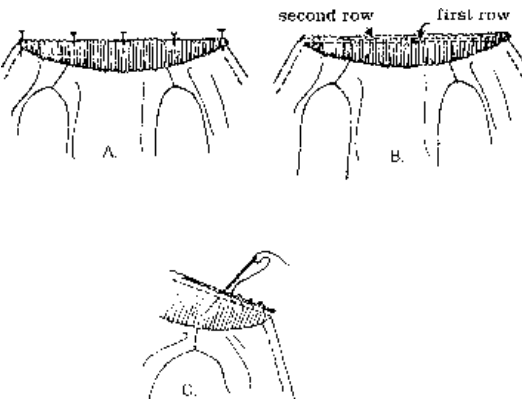


Figure 3.

Collar

- To sew the new collar to the jacket, pin the new collar to the jacket at the neckline.
- If there are two layers of material at the neck of the jacket, pin them together.
- Divide the neck into four parts and mark with pins the same way you did to the collar. (Figure 3A.)
- Pin the collar to the outside of the jacket so the marking pins and front edges match. The cut edges of the collar and jacket neckline should be together. (The collar is a little smaller than the neck of the jacket.)
- Next, stitch the new collar to the jacket with a 1/4-inch seam. As you sew, stretch the collar to fit the jacket neck. Sew a second row of stitches close to the cut edge. (Figure 3B.) Or overcast the edge making slanted stitches. Make stitches close together. (Figure 3C.)

Cuffs

- To put on the new cuffs, pin them to the jacket sleeves. Turn the jacket inside out. If there are two layers of material in the sleeves, pin the two layers together.
- Divide the ends of the sleeves into four parts and mark with pins the same way you did the cuffs. (Figure 4A.)
- Slip the cuffs inside the sleeves.
- Pin the cuffs to the sleeves so the marking pins match. (Figure 4B.)
- Stitch the cuffs to the sleeves in the same way you stitched the collar on. Make two rows of stitching. (Figure 4C.)
- If you are using a sewing machine, it is easier to sew if you stitch inside the sleeve so the cuff is on top. (Figure 4D.)

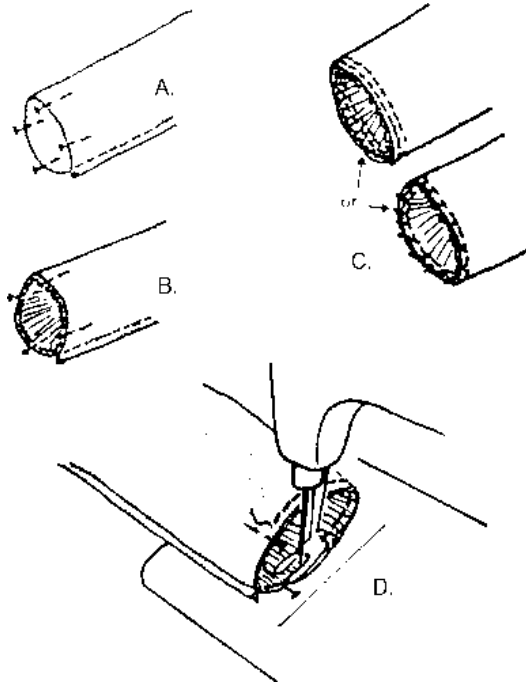


Figure 4.

¹Reviewed by K. Williams, Colorado State University Cooperative Extension apparel and textiles specialist, design merchandising and consumer sciences. Information from University of Minnesota Bulletin HS-58, How to Replace Knit Collar and Cuffs on a Jacket. Adapted with permission.