GIRLS' SEWING CLUB
(THIRD YEAR)

—BY—

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AND

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FORT COLLINS, COLORADO
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Third Year Sewing Club

By CHARLOTTE E. CARPENTER
Assistant Professor in Home Economics
and
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It is the ambition of most girls, and should be the ambition of every normal girl, to be well dressed. Many people, although they spend much money for their clothes, are not well dressed because they have wrong standards. The first and greatest essential is to be well groomed. By this is meant, to have the body clean, the hair free from oil and dust, well-brushed and carefully arranged; the nails clean and neatly trimmed, the teeth well brushed and cared for; the shoes blackened and neatly laced or buttoned; the clothing clean, neatly mended, well brushed and pressed.

“A stitch in time saves nine.” Not only is this stitch a time-saver but also a money-saver. Daily care, such as replacing a hook, fastening a button, darning a rent, sewing a rip, or removing a spot, does much to lengthen the life and improve the appearance of a garment. No amount of finery can make up for a lack of care and cleanliness.

Large bows, and bands of ribbon across the forehead are hard to keep clean and too often look soiled and untidy. Black or tan shoes are best for general wear but white and colored shoes are attractive for special occasions, when properly cared for. The white shoes should be worn with a white or light-colored dress and the colored shoes should match or harmonize with the dress. Both white and colored shoes should be kept in perfect condition. The stockings should match either the shoes or the dress, preferably the former.

The well-dressed girl has her clothes simple, clean and of becoming color and design. They are suited to the occasion for which they are worn. Her hair is always neatly and becomingly combed, without any unnecessary ornamentations, and in a style suited to her age. Her shoes are comfortable, inconspicuous and well polished. Her hat and wrap are of neutral colors which harmonize with each other and with her dress.

Girls who have completed the second year’s sewing work with an average of 75% or above are qualified to do the third year’s work.

The work of the third year is: (1) the making of a simple cotton dress, (2) the remodeling of a woolen skirt, (3) embroidered dresser cover.
The members are required: (1) to complete all of the garments, (2) keep records on blanks furnished for that purpose, (3) exhibit the garments made at some fair designated by the local leader and the county agriculturalist, and (4) write a story of the year's work.

**Basis of Award**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Garments</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evenness of stitches and accuracy</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neatness of the work</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pattern of garments made</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suitability of materials and trimmings</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Score</strong></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Story**........................................... 100%

**Records**........................................ 100%

**3) 300%**

Score based on _______________________________ 100%

All club members, to complete the work, must make a grade of 75% or above.

**Suggestive Constitution**

Name: This club shall be known as the ________________________ sewing Club.

**Purposes**: The purposes of the club shall be: (1) to acquire a better understanding of the principles of sewing; (2) to help in caring for the clothing of the family; (3) to make simple and appropriate garments.

**Membership**: Any girl betwixt the ages of 10 and 18, inclusive, may become a member by signing the membership roll.

**Dues**: Members shall pay no dues except such as may be mutually agreed upon.

**Duties**: Each member shall study all lessons received from the State Agricultural College and do the required work in sewing, attend club meetings regularly and furnish reports of work done.

**Officers**: The officers of the club shall be a president, a vice-president and a secretary-treasurer.

**Exhibits**: At a time to be determined by the leaders, members will be expected to make an exhibit of sewing at a local or a county fair; proper instructions will be given each member and prizes may be offered by the local community or fair association.

**By-Laws**

1. The president shall preside at all meetings.
2. The secretary shall keep a record of the names of all members, a record of the proceedings at meetings, and shall attend to all
correspondence of the members with the county and state leaders.

3. A local leader, the teacher or other interested person, shall be appointed by the county leader to aid the president and secretary in their official duties.

4. This club shall hold meetings on ____________ of each month. The officers may call such extra meetings as shall be deemed necessary.

5. In connection with the meetings, the club shall entertain their parents and friends with a special program consisting of readings, music, discussion of club matters, lectures by the county leader or others.

**Articles To Be Made in Third Year Work**

1. A simple cotton dress
2. A remodeled woolen skirt
3. An embroidered dresser cover.

![Articles to be made](image-url)
A SIMPLE COTTON DRESS

Materials.—

1. Pattern
2. Dress goods
3. Needles No. 8, thread No. 70, buttons and snaps or hooks and eyes, shears, pins, tape measure, thimble, tracing wheel.

Planning the Dress

Selection of Design.—It is well to select the design for the dress and to buy the pattern before purchasing the material. In choosing the design, one must consider the type of dress desired, whether it is for summer or winter and whether for every day or special wear.

One must also study the style in relation to the figure. If the person is tall and thin, the design should be selected to make her look less tall and broader; or if she is short and fat, the garment should increase her apparent height and make her look more slender. As a rule the dress with several cross lines is better for the slender girl while the up and down lines are better for the short girl. With some, the longer waist gives the better effect, while with others, the shorter waist is more desirable. In making the selection, each one must think of the design in relation to herself.

Selection of Color.—When deciding on the color for a dress, the person should hold the cloth near her face and notice carefully to see if it makes her skin look clearer, and brings out the color of her hair and eyes to the best advantage.

Most blues strengthen the blue in blue-gray eyes and make the skin appear whiter, while most greens will cause the same eyes to assume a greenish cast and make the skin more yellow. Rose tints are usually good for one with little color. Browns and dull yellows are good for the girl with red hair and blue eyes. The girl with red hair and brown eyes has a much wider range, the reds being the color which is most objectionable. At present, when the colors are so varied, it is hard to say whether a certain shade can or cannot be worn until that particular shade has been tried. When one has high colorings, the dress should tend to tone down the color; when one lacks color, the dress should reflect or bring out the rose tints. If the skin is inclined to sallowness, the color should be one that will clear the skin. Often white or a second color may be used near the face, making possible the use of a color less becoming for the body of the dress.

Selection of Material.—Having the design, the next step is the selection of the material. If the dress is for general wear, one should select a material that launders well, holds its shape and does not fade.

Some cotton fabric, such as calico, percale, gingham, chambray or material of similar weight, should be chosen for the dress. It is suggested that a plain, or small-figured material be used, as it is the most easily handled. Wide stripes and large plaids are bad for the
short girl. If a figured design is selected, the figures should be small and well spaced. When buying plaids, stripes or figures, one must notice the design carefully to see if there is an up-and-down or a right-and-left. This usually means that the stripes or plaids are made of several colors or widths of stripes, and that one color or width is always to be found on the same side of the group instead of on both sides. Stripes and plaids of this kind are very hard to handle and usually cause considerable waste.

When buying the material, one should select buttons and other fastenings, trimmings and thread. The white thread is suitable for all but very dark materials. Number 70 thread is suited to the material of average weight.

**Pattern Selecting**

Having decided upon the design and material, the pattern may now be purchased so the amount of material can be determined. The pattern should be of the right size and not extra large to allow for growth, for much of the charm of a garment lies in having it of the proper size and length. After the material has been shrunk (Bulletin No. III, "Girls' Sewing Club" (First Year) Page 26) any extra length may be cared for in tucks. Patterns for girls are graded according to age. If one is small for her age, it is well to take a pattern for a younger girl.

Before unfastening the pattern one should read all directions. Then consult the chart which accompanies the pattern and see that each piece can be placed. The measurements of the person to be fitted are then compared with the corresponding measurements of the pattern.

**Altering**

*Waist or Body of the Dress.*—If the waist is too narrow across the front or back, it is altered by cutting lengthwise through the pattern from the center of the shoulder to the bottom. When the pattern is placed on the cloth, these pieces must be separated the necessary amount. If too wide, a plait is taken on the same line. If the waist portion is too short, the pattern is cut across the front and the back halfway between the bottom of the arms-eye and the waist line. The parts are then placed on the cloth with the needed allowance between them. In case the pattern is too long, a plait should be taken.

*Sleeve.*—A fitted sleeve pattern is lengthened by making two cuts, one halfway between the elbow and shoulder and the other halfway between the elbow and wrist and then separating the desired amount. If the pattern is too long, it is altered by laying plaits in these places. Often the arm is not properly proportioned, in which case, it may be found necessary to make all of the alterations either above or below the elbow.
The loose sleeve may have all the alteration for length made at one point, about halfway down. If extra width is needed, the pattern should be cut lengthwise, starting at the center of the full part at the top and cutting straight down. The pattern is then separated to make the desired width. If more width is needed at the top than at the hand, the space between the pieces may be made larger at the top. When the sleeve is too wide, a plait is made lengthwise of the pattern, the plait also coming through the fullest part.

Skirt.—Alteration for the length may be made at the bottom of the skirt unless the skirt is gored, in which case, the increase or decrease should be made about halfway between the hip and the bottom in the manner indicated for the waist alteration.

Placing

Most patterns have a diagram showing how the different pieces should be placed for the most economical cutting. Before the pattern is placed one should determine whether the material has a right and wrong side, an up-and-down, or a right-and-left.

When there is a right and wrong side, the material is folded so the two right sides come together. One should cut the large pieces first. When cutting the large pieces, it is well to place the broad end of the pattern toward the cut end of the material. If there are many large pieces it may be an advantage to open out the material and place the two cut ends together, providing there is no up-and-down. When the material has an up-and-down or a right-and-left this cannot be done. Under these circumstances all pieces must be laid with the tops of the patterns in the same direction.

In material having a stripe, plaid or check, it is necessary to match the stripes and checks when placing the pattern. If the pattern does not allow for seams, one must plan for seam allowance when placing and cutting.

Pinning.—One should have slender pins and use as few as possible in pinning the pattern to the material. The pin should be put in near the edge of the pattern. The pin should be slanted as it is pushed in so it will catch less of the material than of the paper. This keeps the pattern smooth.

Cutting

The shears should be sharp and the cutting done with long clean strokes following the outline of the pattern.

Marking.—The notches MUST NOT BE CUT but may be marked with the tracing wheel or with needle and thread. When all pieces are cut they should be marked with colored thread and the tracing wheel. The colored thread is used for the center of the front, center of the back, plaits and the position of the pockets or trimming. The tracing wheel is used for seams and notches.
Waist.—When the waist is to be fastened down the back, the hem should be turned and basted in each side before the parts of the waist are put together. If there are to be plaits, these should also be basted.

The right-hand side of the back is pinned to the right-hand side of the front with the wrong side of the material out. The lines of tracing for seams and notches must come together. The seams are then basted, following the lines of tracing and using one-eighth-inch basting stitches. The left-hand side of the back is pinned and basted to the left-hand side of the front. Next the two shoulders are pinned and basted, the back being held toward one while basting. The sleeves are basted together, and a gathering string put in at the top and bottom, unless the sleeve is plain.

Skirt.—The parts of the skirt should also be pinned and basted together. One-fourth-inch basting stitch may be used for the skirt. The dress is now ready to be fitted.

Fitting

Altering.—The body of the dress should be put on, adjusted carefully and the backs pinned together. It should be looked over to see if there is any need of alteration. Diagonal wrinkles extending from the shoulder near the neck toward the arm, indicate that the shoulder should be taken up more, at the lower or arms-eye end. When there is a cross wrinkle from the outer or arms-eye edge toward the neck, the shoulder seam slants too much and should be taken up more near the neck.

If the waist is too large, the under-arm seam should be taken in. If the neck and arms-eye are too large, the alteration may be made at the shoulder seam.

Pinning.—One should make as few changes as possible. When pinning the seams for alterations, the pins should all point outward on the shoulders and downward under the arms. The line of pins should be straight so it may be used as a guide for basting.

Rebasting.—If much alteration is made, the waist should be taken off, a tracing made along the line of pins, the pins removed and the garment rebasted before fitting the rest of the dress.

After the necessary changes have been made, one should look over the waist and see if it needs trimming in the neck and arms-eye. Care must be taken to keep the shape good and not to cut out too much. The right-hand side only should be trimmed while the waist is on. After the waist is removed the two sides can be pinned together and the left-hand side trimmed even with the right.
Blind Fastening.

The sleeve may now be put on and pinned in place. One should note the size, the length and the amount of fullness at the top of the sleeve. If there is to be a cuff, this should be pinned on to see that the entire sleeve is of the proper length.

The skirt is pinned in position to see about the length, the size of the hem, and the line at the bottom of the waist.

Sewing and Finishing

Seams.—The plain stitched and overcast seam is most practicable. When the French seam or double seam is to be used, the dress should be basted together on the right side, rather than on the wrong side. For French seams, the line of stitching comes one-fourth inch outside the line of basting. (See "Stitching" Bulletin No. 112, "Girls' Sewing Club (Second Year)" Page 9).

Finish For Back of Waist

Hem.—The hem on each side of the back is stitched, keeping as near the edge as possible.

Blind Fastening.—It is often desirable to make a blind fastening down the back. In this case, a fold for the button-holes should be made and basted into place before the hem on the right-hand side is stitched. To make the fold, a lengthwise strip of material the length of the back and twice the width of the hem plus one-fourth inch is used. A one-eighth-inch turn toward the wrong side is made along each edge and the two turned edges are brought together and basted. The strip is then pinned in position on the under side of the hem of the right-hand side of the back. The folded edges should come even with the first fold of the hem, the other edge coming just inside the folded edge of the back. The hem is now stitched in the right-hand side of the back, the stitching going through the edges of the blind. The buttonholes in this strip may be cut through the middle of the strip, lengthwise as there is little strain on the buttonhole. It
is easier to work the buttonholes before the strip is fastened in position. The buttonholes may be cut 3 inches apart, the first one being 3 inches from the end.

Plackets

Bound Placket.—If the placket opening is cut or comes in a plain seam, the bound placket should be used. The placket opening is made from 8 to 10 inches long. A lengthwise strip of material, twice the length of the opening and 2 inches wide, is used for binding the placket. The right side of the strip is placed against the wrong side of the skirt and pinned down one side of the opening. The placket is then opened so the two sides form a continuous line, then the second half of the strip is innerd to the second side of the placket. The strip is basted and stitched in position, a one-eighth-inch seam being taken. If the opening is cut, the seam on the dress side tapers to almost nothing at the lower end. If the opening comes in a seam, the edge of the seam must be clipped to allow the stitching to pass over the seam in the skirt without puckering it. The second edge of the strip is then turned in one-eighth of an inch, folded over the seam and basted even with the line of stitching. The second edge is sewed down with the hemming stitch. The strip is turned back under the right-hand side of the placket, and extends beyond the left-hand side.

Placket in a Plait or Tuck Opening.—Before the tuck is stitched the edge on which the tuck turns is marked with a colored thread; then the tuck is opened and a three-fourths-inch strip of material or firm tape, the length of the placket opening is placed on the wrong side of the goods, one-half inch to the left of the colored thread. This is basted and stitched on both edges. The plait or tuck is again folded and basted into place. If a tuck, it should also be stitched. A colored thread marks where the edge of the plait or tuck comes on the left-hand side. A second strip three-fourths of an inch wide
is placed on the wrong side one-half inch to the right of this mark. This is also basted and stitched on both edges. The stay on the extension comes directly under the stay in the tuck. The snaps are now sewed to these strips.

_Sewing on Snaps._—The snap is used when the parts are to be held securely, but the strain is not great. The thinner portion of the snap should be sewed to the upper or tuck side, as it shows less when the garment is pressed. The snaps are placed 3 inches apart and are sewed with a buttonhole stitch. Four or five stitches are taken in each hole and the thread is fastened by taking three or four back stitches. The snaps must be matched exactly or the placket will not lie smooth.

For younger children the skirt of the dress is often left open and hemmed down each side.

_Fastening the Skirt to the Waist_

_With Seam._—The skirt may be fastened to the waist by means of a seam or by means of a belt.

_With Belt._—Where there is fullness in both the waist and the skirt, the belt is more desirable. Two lengthwise strips are cut 1 3/4 inches wide and 3 inches longer than the length desired; this allows 1 inch for lapping and 1 inch for turning in at each end. 1/4 inch is turned in on each side of the two strips. One strip is placed under the lower edge of the waist, the waist extending one-fourth inch beyond the upper edge of the belt. The gathers or plaits are adjusted as the pattern indicates, or so the seams and lines seem to fall straight. The right and left-hand sides of the back of the waist must be the same length, so one end of the belt comes exactly above the other. The gathers or plaits are then adjusted in the top of the skirt and the skirt is pinned to the lower edge of the belt. The skirt should hang evenly around the bottom. If it has been cut even, any sagging is probably due to an unevenness in the waist. This makes it necessary to readjust the waste on the belt until the belt is parallel to the floor. The upper part of the belt is then placed over the under part, covering all raw edges. The edges of the upper portion should come directly over the edges of the under portion, and should be pinned, basted and stitched in place. The stitching should come as near the upper and lower edges as possible and should pass through both portions of the belt. The two ends are overhanded. The belt may be fastened with hooks and eyes or with buttons and buttonholes.
Hem

A hem is turned, basted and stitched in the bottom of the skirt. Three inches is a good width for the hem. (See Bulletin No. 112, "Girls' Sewing Club (Second Year)" page 12.)

Sleeve

Seams—A shaped or fitted sleeve may have the seams neatly trimmed and pressed open and the edges carefully overcast. If it is a one-piece sleeve with rather a straight seam, it may be finished with the French seam.

Cuff.—If the sleeve is full, the lower edge should be gathered and set into a cuff. The right side of the cuff is placed against the right side of the sleeve, the fullness adjusted and a plain seam made. After the seam is stitched, the bastings are taken out, the seam creased back against the cuff and the under edge of the cuff turned in and brought up over the seam until it just covers the line of stitching. It is then basted and sewed with the hemming stitch. If the cuff is to be put on the plain sleeve, the wrong side of the cuff is placed against the right side of the sleeve, with the two lower edges even and the sleeve finished with a bias facing.

Setting In.—If there is to be fullness in the top of the sleeve, two rows of gathers one-fourth and one-half inches from the edge are put in between the marks.

Most patterns are marked showing just how the sleeve should be placed. As a rule, the front seam comes to the most biasing point of the arms-eye. (See Bulletin No. 112, "Girls' Sewing Club (Second Year)" page 11).

After the sleeve is basted and stitched, the seam may be trimmed and finished by overcasting the two edges together, or it may be bound with a bias strip.

Collar

Making the Collar.—If the collar is made double, the two right sides are placed together and pinned and basted. The pinning and basting should begin at the center of the back and the upper portion held a little tighter than the under portion. A one-fourth-inch seam is stitched and then the bastings removed and the collar turned. After the seam is well worked out, the collar is basted around the edge. The upper portion of the collar should extend beyond the edge of the under portion.

Where the material is too heavy for a double collar, the collar should be finished with a bias facing, cut 1½ inches wide. This makes a 1-inch facing. The facing may be turned to the right side, stitched and used as trimming or it may be turned to the under side.
and sewed with a hemming stitch. The corners must be carefully mitered. (See Bulletin No. 112, "Girls Sewing Club (Second Year)" page 26.)

**Fastening the Collar to the Dress.**—The collar may be pinned in position on the waist and both the collar and the neck of the waist finished with a bias facing, or the neck of the waist and the collar may be finished separately. The latter is a good plan when a white collar is worn with a dark dress.

When the collar does not fasten in the same place as the dress, part of the collar is faced back with the dress and the rest is bound. The remainder of the neck is faced by itself. Snaps are placed to match on the under side of the dress facing and the under side of the collar binding. The bastings may now be removed and the dress carefully pressed.
REMODELING A WOOLEN SKIRT

Preparation of Material

While more time is required for making over a garment, much expense can be saved and often the remodeled garment is more attractive than the new.

When ripping a dress or skirt, the lining is first removed, then the stitching which holds the hem or facing is taken out, the belt taken off and the pieces ripped apart. If the tension is not too tight, it is safer to pull out the threads than to cut them with a sharp knife or scissors. After the parts have been separated, the threads should be picked out and the pieces well shaken and brushed to remove the loose dirt and threads.

Washing.—The next step is the cleaning and pressing of the material. Washing is generally the most satisfactory way of cleaning wool.

White or Light-Colored Wools.—The milder soaps should be used, since a soap containing an excess of alkali will injure the material. The soap should be shaved and dissolved in boiling water. About one-eighth of a large cake is used for each gallon of water. A tablespoonful of household ammonia or alcohol added to each gallon of water will help to loosen the dirt. A good suds of about body temperature should be prepared before the material is put into the water. The washing is then done with a squeezing motion. After the material has been well washed it should be thoroughly rinsed in three relays of water of the same temperature. The water should be removed from the material by squeezing instead of by twisting.

Dark Colored Wools.—For black and the darker colors, soap tree bark gives much better results than soap. This bark can be obtained at the drug store and costs about 10 cents per ounce. An ounce of soap tree bark is put into 1 quart of water. This is boiled down to 1 pint and strained. One cup of the solution is used in each gallon of water.

After the material has been rinsed, the pieces are hung out smooth and allowed to dry slowly. They should be pressed before they are quite dry.

Pressing.—The material is placed on the ironing board with the wrong side up, covered with a cloth and pressed until dry. The iron should not be too hot and considerable pressure should be used. The iron is lifted slightly when moving it from place to place. This keeps the material from being shoved and stretched.
Darning.—The darning should be on a torn garment of wool, silk or cotton if possible. If no garment is available, the work may be done on a 6-inch square of material. In the latter case, it will be necessary to cut the three types of tears.

If the tear is very ragged, it is better to insert a patch instead of darning. When there is considerable strain, a piece of material should be placed under the tear. The piece should have the warp thread parallel to the warp threads of the garment and the darning stitches should be caught through to this piece.

Whenever the ravelings are long and strong enough, it is best to do the darning with the threads of the material. When working with silk or cotton thread, the thread should be untwisted and the single strands used. If an exact match is not to be had, the thread should be a trifle darker than the material.

For all tears, an oblong is basted around the opening with white or colored thread. The sides should be one-fourth inch above the tear, one-fourth inch below the tear and one-fourth inch from each side. If the material is much strained, the edges of the tear should be drawn together with basting stitches. The ends of the thread should not be knotted or fastened. One should start at the upper end of the outline and work back and forth at right angles to the tear, taking small running stitches. A very small loop is left at the end of each row. In the second row the stitches go over the threads which were gone under in the first row and under the threads which were gone over, the edges of the tear being picked up and dropped alternately. The darning should continue until the outline is filled.

Straight Tears.—If the woof threads are broken, the stitches should run parallel to the woof threads. When the warp threads are broken the stitches should be parallel to the warp threads.

Bias Tear.—In the bias tear, the line of darning should run parallel to the woof threads.
The Angular or L-Shaped Tear.—The darning begins at the inner angle of the inside basting. Small running stitches are taken across the corner of the tear to the opposite corner of the outline. The next row of stitches begins one-sixteenth of an inch from the outer corner and returns to the starting point. The rows of stitching radiate from this inner corner until the square is filled. The rows of stitches then run parallel to the warp threads on one side of the square and to the woof threads on the other side. The darn is then completed as woof and warp darns.

The bastings are taken out and each darn pressed.

Dyeing.—It may be desirable in some cases to dye the material. The material should be washed but not pressed before it is dyed. The directions for dyeing wool are found on every package of dye. These directions should be followed closely.

Pattern

Selecting.—When the material is ready for use, one can decide on the pattern which can be used to the best advantage. Often a yoke, plaits, tucks, a facing on the right side or some applied trimming may help to cover up the necessary piecing.

Testing the Pattern.—First, one should carefully read the directions on the outside of the pattern. The pieces should be checked over and measured to see that the size is right at the hips, the waist and in length.

Altering.—To decrease the width at the hip, lengthwise plaits may be made in one or more of the gores. To increase the width at the hip, the gores may be cut lengthwise and the parts separated. It is often necessary to change only the front gore and this may be done by placing the center of the front a little beyond or a little inside the fold of the cloth. An increase or a decrease of the back gore, may be made in the same way.

If the hip is the right size and alteration is needed only at the waist, the change should be made on the cut edges by making the gores a little wider at the waist. This will decrease the slant from the hip to the waist. If the waist is to be made smaller, no change need be made in the cutting but the alteration may be made when bast ing by slanting the seam a little more from the hip to the waist. Most of the changes should be made at the back of the front and side gores unless the two-gore skirt is used. In this case a little should also be taken from the front of the back gore.

Placing the Pattern.—Care must be taken to place the pattern so the threads of the material extend in the right direction. If the pieces are not quite wide enough at the bottom, small pieces may
be added at the back of the gore. The seam for this addition must be with the thread of the goods and in case of stripes, plaid or checks, the material should be carefully matched. These seams should be stitched and pressed before the gore is cut.

When all pieces of the pattern are in position the parts are cut.

**Marking.**—The seams, the plaits, the position of pockets and trimming should be carefully marked. Wool will not retain the marks made by the tracing wheel, so the tailors' tack is the most satisfactory method of marking.

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**Tailors' tack**

*Tailors' Tack.*—A long double thread is used and a small stitch taken through the perforation in the pattern, taking up the two thicknesses of material. A second stitch is taken through the next perforation and so on until stitches have been taken through all the perforations marking a given line. The thread must be left very loose between the stitches, an inch or two more than is needed to cover the space, should be allowed. When the markings are all made, the pins should be taken out and the threads cut between the stitches. The pattern is then removed, care being taken that the threads are not pulled out. The edges of the two pieces of cloth
are then separated about an inch and the thread cut between the two pieces, leaving part of the thread in each piece.

**Notches.**—Notches are marked by taking small running stitches at right angles to the cut edges. NOTCHES SHOULD NEVER BE CUT IN THE MATERIAL. A line of basting is put in at the center of the front and at the center of the back.

**Making the Skirt**

**Basting.**—The parts are now carefully assembled and pinned together according to the notch marks. The pinning should begin at the hips and continue down and up. Pins should be placed at right angles to the edge. The material should be held smooth while basting.

If the bias side stretches a little, the two pieces need not come together at the top and bottom. When the material is inclined to stretch, it is better to hold the gore up and let the bias edge sag from its own weight before the seam is basted.

When two bias edges come together, it is best not to stay the seam; but before the skirt is straightened around the bottom one should hang it up and let it stretch all it will from its own weight. When basting, one-eighth-inch stitches are used above the hip line and one-fourth-inch stitches below. A 10- to 12-inch opening should be left at the top of one seam for the placket.

If there are plaits, one seam should be left open until the plaits have been pinned and basted. When the skirt is to be gathered, two rows of gatherings should be placed around the top, one-fourth and one-half inches from the edge. The seams should not be caught when putting in the gathering threads and the threads should be longer than are needed to go around the waist.

**Belt.**—Most skirts are now attached to belting 2 or 2½ inches wide, unless the skirt is fastened to the waist. If belting is used, an inch should be allowed at each end for turning in and the ends of the belting should just come together. The turned ends are fastened down with the catch stitch.

**Catch Stitch.**—The end of the belt is held toward one and the work begun at the left-hand side, working toward the right. The thread is knotted and the needle brought up from between the two thicknesses of belting, one-fourth inch from the cut end and one-eighth inch from the left-hand side. The needle is then put down just beyond the cut edge and about three-sixteenths of an inch to the right. It is brought up one-eighth inch to the left, just escaping the cut edge. The needle is then put down one-fourth inch from the cut edge and three-eighths inch to the right of the first stitch. It is then brought up one-eighth inch to the left on the same line.
The needle is put down just beyond the cut edge and three-eighths inch to the right of the last stitch in that line and brought up one-eighth inch to the left. This is repeated, going through first two and then one thickness of the belt. The stitches on the other side will be two rows of running stitches with the space twice as long as the stitch. The catch stitch, being carried over the cut end, holds it flat and prevents raveling. The belt is placed with catch stitch on the side next to the skirt.

Hooks and Eyes.—The belt is fastened with three hooks and eyes. The loop eye should be used. The top hook and eye should not be sewed on until the skirt has been adjusted. The eye should be placed on the under side of the left end of the belt, with the ring at the lower edge and the center of the loop extending just beyond the end of the belt, so the hook may slip in easily. The eye is sewed on, using the buttonhole stitch, beginning at the right and working around one ring and then around the other. The needle is put down from the inside of the ring and brought up at the outside and the thread is thrown around the needle from right to left. The purl will be on the outside of the ring. Several over-and-over stitches should be taken around the wire at each side where it crosses the end of the belt. The thread is fastened with several back stitches. The second eye is placed in the middle of the left-hand end of the belt.

The hooks are also sewed on with the buttonhole stitch. The two ends of the belt are placed together and pins are placed in the
second end to show where the centers of the eyes come. The hooks are placed on the under side of this end with the ends of the bills in line with the pins but one-eighth inch in from the end of the belt. After sewing around the two rings, the hook is fastened down at the end by taking several stitches over the wire and under the bill near the end. The thread is fastened with several back stitches at the side.

Waist.—If the skirt is to be fastened to a waist, a plain, straight waist may be made from muslin or lining. This lining may be cut from the pattern used for the slip, cut off at waist length. The felled seam (Bulletin No. 112, “Girls’ Sewing Club (Second Year)” page 9) should be used on the shoulder and under the arm seams. A three-fourths-inch hem should be placed on either side of the back. The neck should be cut low and the arms-eye large. Each should be faced with a three-eighths-inch bias facing.

Fitting the Skirt

The waist or belt is put on and fastened. The skirt is slipped on right side out and pinned to the belt or waist at the center of the front, the center of the back and at the sides. The pins are placed at right angles to the top of the skirt. When the belt is used, the skirt should be pinned at the top of the braling; when using the waist, the skirt is pinned one-half inch from the bottom of the waist. The gathers or plaits should be adjusted to fit the space allotted and enough pins put in to hold the skirt in position.

It is best to fit the right-hand side only, and then change the left-hand side to correspond with the right after the skirt has been taken off. After corrections are made, the skirt is rebasted.

One should look the skirt over very carefully and see that the lines are good. The lengthwise seams should appear to fall at right angles to the waist line and not slant toward the back or front. The skirt should set easily about the figure. Even when skirts are narrow, they should not show the outline of the figure or be tight in any part.

The hip seam on the gored skirt should be carefully noticed. If correction is needed it should be made on the bias edge of the gore rather than on the straight edge. If the skirt pushes out in front, it probably needs lifting on the belt at the back. If the cross threads of the gore seem to drop toward the back, it may be necessary to rip the seam and to raise the bias edge of the gore until the cross threads are brought into good position. If the general shape of the skirt is good but it seems a little too tight or too loose, the necessary alteration may be made in the stitching. When pinning, care should be taken to place the pins in straight lines, with the points all extending in the same direction.
Sewing and Finishing

Stitching

Silk thread should be used for both the upper and under threads. The threads should be a little darker than the material, as it looks lighter in the stitching than on the spool.

The tension should be even and the stitches adjusted so there will be about twelve stitches to the inch. The line should be kept true and the stitching put in just outside the basting, so the basting thread will not be caught by the needle. If it is desirable to make the skirt a little tighter, the stitching may come just inside the basting line.

Seams.—The seams for the skirt may be plain or stitched.

Plain Seam.—For the plain seam the stitching follows the line of basting. After stitching, the seam is pressed open.

Stitched Seam.—The seam is stitched as for a plain seam but instead of pressing it open, the two edges are folded toward the back and basted down with close, firm basting. Care should be taken that the material lies smooth and that the line of basting is straight. The stitching should be done on the right side, having the line of stitching from one-eighth to one-fourth inch in from the seam line. Sometimes, as in the case of a panel front, it is desirable to have the seam resemble a lengthwise tuck or plait. In this case, the first stitching is omitted and the second stitching is moved a little farther from the seam.

Where a plait one inch or more in width is used, it is first laid in the side of the gore and this gore is placed in position on the top of the adjoining gore, pinned and basted. The basting is in from the edge the width of the tuck and forms the guide line for the stitching.

Plackets

After the skirt has been stitched, the placket should be made. The kind of placket depends upon its position and the finish of the seams.

Placket for the Plain Seam.—(See Bound Placket p. 12).

Tuck or Plait Placket.—(See p. 12).
Placket for Stitched Seam.— This placket should be made before the second stitching is put in. A line of uneven basting on each gore indicates where the stitching would have come had the seam been stitched. Two strips of cotton or silk, matching the color of the skirt are cut 13 inches long and 2½ inches wide. One strip is placed under the seam portion of the right-hand gore, on the wrong side of the material, having the straight edge come to the line of basting. The lap should always be from right to left. The wrong side of the strip comes against the wrong side of the seam allowance and extends beyond the gore. The lower end is turned in one-fourth of an inch. The strip is then pinned, basted in position and stitched, having the line of stitching one-fourth inch to the left of the basting, which marks the line of the seam. A second row of stitching is made one-half inch to the left of the first row. Next the seam and facing should be folded back against the gore, the line of folding being the line of basting which indicates the seam line.

If snaps are to be used, the edge of the lining is turned in and the turned edge brought up over the raw edge of the seam, basted and hemmed down. If hooks and eyes are used, the facing may be left until the hooks are sewed on and then the edge turned, slipped under the bill of the hook and hemmed down.

The edge of the second strip of lining or silk is turned in one-eighth of an inch, and is placed on the wrong side of the left-hand gore so the folded edge comes under the seam portion, one-eighth of an inch to the right-hand side of the basting indicating the seam line. The wrong side of the strip is against the wrong side of the seam portion and one edge extends beyond the cut edge of the seam. The second edge of the lining is turned in one-eighth inch and brought up over the seam so it just covers the raw edge. The two edges are now stitched, one from the right side and one from the wrong side. This forms a stay for the fasteners as well as a finish for the edge of the placket extension. When stitching the skirt, the stitching is put in along the edge of the placket first. At the lower end of the
placket the threads are pulled through and tied. After the upper part of the placket is stitched, the extension is laid under the top portion and the remainder of the seam stitched, being careful to begin at the end of the placket stitching and to match the stitching so the joining will not show.

After the skirt is stitched and before the fasteners are put on the placket, the seams should be carefully trimmed and pressed. When pressing, one should not have too hot an iron and care should be taken not to stretch the seam by shoving the iron. The iron should be lifted and pressed down. If the seam is laid along the edges of the board it may be pressed without showing where the edge of the seam comes.

**Finishing the Seams**

The seams may be overcast, bound or notched. Overcasting is very satisfactory unless the material ravels badly. If the seam is to be bound, the binding should first be folded through the center lengthwise, the seam carefully trimmed and the edge of the seam placed between the folds of the binding. The binding should be held smooth and sewed with small running stitches. Care should be taken to catch both edges of the binding and not to pull it too tight or to leave it too loose. There is less danger of the binding being too loose, if the seam instead of the garment, is held toward one.

If the material is firm and does not ravel easily, the seam may be clipped. This is done by making diagonal cuts one-fourth inch deep and one-fourth inch apart the entire length of the seam. The seam is then turned and similar cuts are made in the opposite direction, cutting out a V-shaped piece.

**Fastenings**

The fastenings are now sewed on the placket. These may be either snaps or hooks and eyes. (Snaps see p. 13). If hooks and eyes are used on the placket, the straight eyes are better. These should be placed on the placket extension with the opening of the rings toward the outer edge of the seam. Care must be taken to have the hooks and eyes or the two parts of the snap exactly opposite, so the upper part of the placket will lie smooth and the edge will come in the right position. (Sewing on hooks and eyes p. 21).

**Finish For the Top of the Skirt**

*Webbing Belt.*—If the raised waist line is to be used, the belting has already been prepared. If the skirt is to be gathered, the two rows of gathering threads have already been put in around the top of the skirt. The belt is put on, fastened around the waist and the
When the skirt is taken off it is basted to the belt, the basting coming as near the top as possible. The portion of the skirt that was left above the belt is now brought down on the wrong side and bast ed into position. A bias strip of lining with both edges turned in is basted on the under side of the belt to cover the edge of the skirt that was turned over. This bias extends beyond the end of the belt to the end of the placket opening. If there are no bones in the belt, the belt may be turned up and both sides of the bias stitched to the belt on the machine. If there are bones, it will be necessary to do the sewing by hand. At the end of the belt the bias may be cut in one-half its width and turned up under the top of the placket to form a binding.

The portion of the skirt extending beyond the belt is turned over the top of the placket extension and snapped to the under side of the belt. Care should be taken that the two sides of the placket are the same length. The top hook and eye are now sewed permanently to the top of the belt.

Waist.—When the skirt is sewed to the waist, the bottom of the waist is trimmed evenly and turned up one-fourth of an inch. The skirt is then pinned and basted in position and a facing put on the right side to cover the raw edges.

Belt of Material.—If a loose belt is to be worn and the skirt comes to the normal waist line, a soft belt may be made of strong lining material and covered with material like the skirt. Both pieces should be cut lengthwise. Each piece should be 1 ¼ inches wide and 1½ inches longer than the waist measure plus the placket extension. Three-fourths of an inch is turned in at each end and one-fourth inch at each side. The lining strip is then fastened around the waist, lapping the width of the placket extension. The skirt is pinned to the lower edge of the belt and extends one-fourth inch above the lower edge. The strip of material like the skirt is turned the same as the lining. This strip is then placed over the lining, with the turned edges down, and basted in position. The folded edges of the material must come exactly over the folded edges of the lining. The belt is stitched on the two sides and the ends are over-handed together. In stitching, care should be taken to catch both the upper and the under sides of the belt. Two hooks are sewed to the under side of the right end of the
THIRD YEAR SEWING

belt, one-eighth inch from the end. The two eyes are placed on the upper side of the belt near the left-hand end but far enough in so the right-hand edge of the placket comes to the basting indicating the seam line on the left-hand side. A third eye is put at the left-hand end of the belt and a hook sewed to meet it on the under side near the right-hand end.

Finishing the Bottom of the Skirt

Marking Length.—When the skirt has been securely fastened in place, the length may be marked and the hem turned. The length of the skirt should be decided upon and the distance from the floor marked with a ruler or yard-stick. The person wearing the skirt should stand squarely on both feet and look straight ahead. If one looks down it makes the skirt drop in front. The ruler should be kept square, care being taken not to tip it to or from the figure. Pins should be placed the desired distance from the floor at intervals of five or six inches, keeping the pins parallel to the floor.

Hem.—If the skirt is to be hemmed, the hem is turned at the line of pins and basted one-fourth inch above this line. If it is to be faced, the skirt is trimmed off one-half inch below the line of pins. One should decide on the desired width of the hem and add one-fourth inch for finishing. The skirt is laid, with the hemmed side up, on a table or smooth surface. A marker or gauge (Bulletin No. III, "Girls' Sewing Club (First Year)" page 9), is cut the width of the hem plus one-fourth inch. One should measure from the bottom of the skirt at close intervals, marking carefully with chalk or pins, and then cut the skirt on this line.
If the material is not very heavy, the hem is turned in one-fourth inch at the top but if it makes a clumsy finish, a bias strip may be used to cover the raw edge. In either case the fullness at the top of the hem is adjusted by means of gathers. If the hem is to be turned in at the top, the gathering thread is run in as near the turn as possible. If the bias is to be used, the gathers are run in one-fourth inch from the cut edge. The stitches should be fine. It is better to use cotton thread, as the material does not slide so readily and it is easier to keep the fullness where it has been placed. The gathering thread is then pulled up until the top of the hem lies smooth against the skirt, and the gathers are adjusted so the lines fall straight.

When the hem has been fitted, it may be pulled down and some of the fullness steamed out. A damp cloth should be placed over the gathers and pressed with a hot iron. If there are many gathers, part of the gathers should be slipped to one side and after part of the fullness has been removed, the remainder of the gathers may be pushed into place and the operation repeated. Material that has been washed will shrink very little, so some of the gathers will still remain. After shrinking, the hem is again put in position, pinned and basted in place. It is then hemmed down by hand, care being taken to have the stitches small and not to catch through to the right side.

When the bias is to be used at the top of the hem, the hem is put in position and the bias pinned on to the top, following the line of gathering. The bias must be smooth and fit the skirt at the top of the hem. The hem may now be turned back and the bias stitched to the top of the hem. The bias should be joined with the thread and not straight across. The hem is again placed in position and the bias basted to the skirt and sewed with the hemming stitch.

The bastings may now be removed and the skirt carefully pressed on the wrong side. The bastings marking the center of the front and center of the back should never be removed until the skirt is entirely finished.

Bias Facing.—Facing is used instead of the hem when there is not enough material for the hem or when it is decided to use the facing on the right side for ornament. The facing may be cut on the bias or it may be a fitted facing. In either case, care must be taken so there will be no seam coming directly in front.
Bias facing

**Fitted Facing.**—If the facing is to be fitted, it should be laid on the skirt so the threads of the facing run in the same direction as those of the front gore. The facing at the bottom is cut to follow the bottom line of the skirt and then marked and cut the desired width.

**Facing on Right Side.**—If the facing is to come on the right side, the piecing should come in line with the seams, otherwise they may come where most convenient. If the bias is used, it is joined on the thread. The pieces should be joined and the seams carefully pressed before the facing is basted on. The bias facing is stretched some at the lower edge so it will fit smoothly.
If the facing is to be on the right side, the right side of the facing is placed against the wrong side of the skirt, pinned and basted, making a one-fourth-inch seam. The stitching should be kept in a straight line and a loose tension used. The basting is then removed, the facing turned to the right side, and the seam worked out. The facing should drop one-eighth inch below the bottom of the skirt. It is placed in position and basted along the lower edge. The width of the facing is then measured, the top turned in one-fourth inch, pinned and basted. Fullness in the bias facing may be removed by stretching a little from the bottom toward the top. This, however, must be done before the width of the hem is measured. The facing is now stitched along the top edge one-sixteenth of an inch from the fold. If the facing is to be on the wrong side, the same directions should be followed except that the right side of the facing is laid against the right side of the skirt and when it is turned to the wrong side, the facing is pulled up one-eighth inch above the bottom of the skirt, so the skirt comes a little below the facing. The facing is hemmed down by hand at the top.

All bastings should be removed, the ends of the stitching threads tied and the skirt carefully pressed.

**EMBROIDERED DRESSER COVER**

**Materials**

1. Forty-four-inch Indian Head.
2. No. 18 embroidery cotton.
3. Crewel needle No. 8.
4. No. 70 white cotton thread, thimble, shears, pins, embroidery hoop, stiletto, if pattern having eyelets is used.
5. Embroidery pattern and transfer paper.

The length and width of the top of the dresser should be measured and 3 inches extra allowed for length, and 1 ½ inch for width. The selvage forms the back edge. Two and three-fourths inches from each end and from the front, four threads are drawn out. A one-fourth-inch turn is made and a 1 ¼ inch hem basted on each of the three sides. The hem is hemstitched in, taking three or four threads for each group. (Bulletin No. 112, "Girls’ Sewing Club (Second Year)" page 29). All of the embroidery should be worked with white embroidery cotton.

**Designs**

One of the three following designs may be chosen for the embroidery, or any simple design not containing stitches other than those given below.
Stamping

The design should be placed near the front, one-half to an inch from the hemstitching and midway between the two ends. The exact position for the design is marked, the transfer paper placed face down on the right side of the cloth and the design to be stamped, placed on top. The pattern must be pinned to the cloth so it will not slip out of place. The lines of the design are then traced with a sharp pencil. After every line has been traced, the pattern and transfer paper are removed.

Stitches

Satin Stitch.—(Bulletin No. 112, "Girls' Sewing Club (Second year)" page 23).

Stem or Outline Stitch.—The directions are the same as found in First Year Sewing Bulletin, page 16, except that the stitches are made much smaller.
Eyelet.—The line of stamping for the eyelet is first followed with tiny running stitches. The thread is not knotted but enough is left on the wrong side so it will not easily pull through. When the eyelet is completed this end is cut off. The stiletto is placed in the center and pushed through the cloth until an opening is made. The stiletto is then taken out and put in from the underside and pushed up until the opening reaches the line of stitches. When the stiletto is taken out, a little ridge stands up on the right side. This ridge is overcast with shallow stitches, half a dozen stitches will usually be enough for a small eyelet. Again the stiletto is pushed through from the wrong side to keep the eyelet round. The edge is worked over and over with very close, shallow stitches, until all the edge has been covered. The tension should be kept tight and uniform and the stiletto frequently pushed through from the wrong side so there will always be a well-defined ridge to work over. The thread is fastened on the wrong side by taking two or three tiny back stitches in the material at the outer edge of the eyelet.

French Knot.—The needle is brought up from the wrong side and a couple of tiny back stitches are taken at the point where the knot is desired. The thread is then held near the material and wound two or more times around the point of the needle. The point of the needle is then stuck back into the cloth very near the place where it came out, and the coil of thread pushed close to the cloth and held with the left thumb while the needle and thread are pulled through to the wrong side. The coil of thread remains on the surface, forming the knot.

Seed Stitch.—The seed stitch is made by taking two or three tiny back stitches on top of each other. The seed stitch is often used in place of the French knot for filling in parts of petals and leaves.

If the chrysanthemum design is used, half of each leaf may be worked with the satin stitch and half outlined and filled in with the seed stitch making the division lengthwise.
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<td>Darning</td>
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<td>White material</td>
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<td>Sewing and Finishing</td>
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<td>Fastenings</td>
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<td>Hooks and eyes</td>
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<td>Snaps</td>
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<td>Finishing the bottom of skirt</td>
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<td>Bias facing</td>
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<td>Facing on right side</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fitted facing</td>
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<td>Hem</td>
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<td>Finishing top of skirt</td>
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<td>Waist</td>
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<td>Finishing the seams</td>
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<td>Placket for stitched seam</td>
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<td>Tuck or plait placket</td>
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