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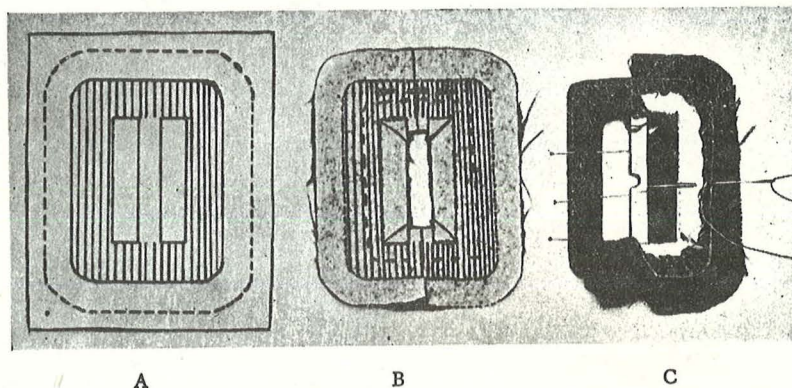
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COVERING A BUCKLE

by
Helen Rocke

Many times belts made of fabric matching the dress are fastened with contrasting buckles. Too often this draws the eye to the buckle as the dominant point in the costume. Covered buckles, ties, buttons, and various other means of fastening belts may be worked out to give more interesting effects. Directions for covering buckles with material like the dress or from which the belt is made are listed below. If the buckle to be covered is not padded, it may be wound with soft yarn. This makes the covering wear better and helps in sewing it in place.



(Figure 1 - Covering a buckle)

1. Trace the size of buckle on paper. Make seam allowance one-fourth of an inch. (Figure 1-A)
2. Baste the paper pattern to two thicknesses of material, having right sides together. (Figure 1-B)
3. Stitch from bar to bar along the line marking center of buckle. Fasten threads securely at ends. (Figure 1-B)
4. Trim out the center of the material, leaving a one-fourth inch seam. Snip seam diagonally at corners. (If edges are circular, snip seam at one-fourth-inch intervals to permit turning.) Slash through one thickness from outer edge to center line with bar. (Figure 1-B)
5. Remove bastings and paper pattern. Turn material right side out. Fit it on the buckle, turning edge of right side to wrong side of buckle. Overcast edge of material in order to make it cup over edge. Stretch material tightly over right side of buckle and sew securely to wrong side. Turn edge of wrong side under and pin so that it will conceal any rough edges. Slip-stitch this edge securely. (Figure 1-C)