UNIT V: CLOTHING CARE AND MAINTENANCE

TOPIC B: DRY CLEANING, PRESSING, REPAIRS

OBJECTIVE: Students will be able to use dry cleaning services in a responsible manner, use proper pressing techniques, and make necessary repairs on articles of clothing.

CONCEPT: Having the skills to extend the life of a garment through proper care and repair can save many dollars over the course of a lifetime. It is important for the students to know how to make simple repairs and understand the savings that can be derived therefrom.

COMPETENCIES:

1. Explain the necessity and benefits of dry cleaning for some fabrics.

2. Demonstrate the use of proper pressing techniques and commonly used pressing equipment.

3. Itemize common types of clothing repairs (e.g., replace zippers, repair pockets, replace buttons, stitch broken seams, resew hem, etc.).

4. Apply a variety of clothing repair techniques.
### ACTIVITIES/OPTIONS

1. Dry Cleaning Data
2. More Pressing Matters
3. Rips, Zips, and Repairs

### SUPPLIES NEEDED

- None
- Copies of student activity guide (I-V-82)
- Ironing/pressing equipment
- Demonstration articles
- Garments with some common types of clothing repairs needed
- Creative examples of extending the life of a garment
ACTIVITIES/OPTIONS

Option 1: **Dry Cleaning Data**
Using the teacher background information provided, discuss the importance of using professional dry cleaning services to maintain the crisp, sharp look of new clothing. Point out some reasons for using dry cleaning services, and some of the services provided by dry cleaners, such as mending, alterations, zipper replacement, spot removal, etc. Expensive, professional clothing generally needs to be maintained with dry cleaning. Some fabrics, such as wools, silks, linens, and rayons, require dry cleaning. Discuss the expense of dry cleaning and the necessity of taking that into consideration when purchasing new items for the wardrobe.

Option 2: **More Pressing Matters**
Refer to the resources for Pressing Matters, Unit IV Topic A, Option 13. Some of those resources can also be used and/or reviewed in this option.

Using the teacher background information provided, MORE PRESSING MATTERS, and the corresponding student activity guide, demonstrate some practical ironing and pressing techniques and the use of various types of pressing equipment. In this option, the focus should be on ironing and pressing in the home as well as in the clothing construction lab.

Option 3: **Rips, Zips, and Repairs**
Identify some of the most common types of repairs that are necessary for clothing, such as:
- Restitch ripped seams
- Fix pockets
- Replace pockets
- Replace or resew buttons
- Restitch hem
- Repair tears
- Patch knees
- Replace or repair zippers
- Reinforce front facings for buttons

Discuss some things one can do to lengthen the life of a garment with minor alterations and creative additions.

Assign the students to complete three (3) different types of clothing repairs for members of their family. Have them list the repairs made, the techniques used, and the results of their work.
ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION QUESTIONS.

1. Explain the necessity and benefits of dry cleaning for some fabrics.

   1. One advantage of dry cleaning is that it eliminates the possibility of shrinkage.
      A.* True
      B. False

   2. Some fabrics can be damaged by water and look better when dry cleaned. Some of them are:
      A. Wool, silk, polyester, and cotton
      B.* Wool, silk, linen, and rayon
      C. Polyester, cotton, linen, and rayon

   3. Some services provided by dry cleaners are:
      • Stain removal
      • Minor repairs
      • Button replacement
      • Steam pressing
      • Protective packaging
      • Restoring finishes

   4. Dry cleaners can generally remove any kind of stain on any fabric.
      A. True
      B.* False

2. Demonstrate the use of proper pressing techniques and commonly used pressing equipment.

   1. Ironing is:
      A. An up-and-down motion with the iron on the fabric
      B.* A back-and-forth sliding motion with the iron across the fabric

   2. Pressing is:
      A.* An up-and-down motion with the iron on the fabric
      B. A back-and-forth sliding motion with the iron across the fabric

   3. When pressing wool, one should always:
      A. Press on the right side of the fabric
      B. Place iron directly on the fabric
      C.* Use a wet press cloth between the iron and the fabric
ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION QUESTIONS

4. Adding moisture when pressing using steam, spray, or a wet press cloth protects the fibers from heat damage.
   A.* True
   B. False

5. How will you know when the iron temperature is hot enough?
   * wrinkles will be removed or fabric stays in place

6. If you are not sure of the fabric content when pressing:
   A. Start with the iron on a high temperature setting
   B. Start with the iron on a low temperature setting
   C. Use a press cloth to protect the fibers
   D.* Both B and C answers are correct

7. Starch should be used on:
   A.* Natural fibers
   B. Synthetic fibers
   C. Either of the above

8. Fabric finish should be used on:
   A. Natural fibers
   B. Synthetic fibers
   C.* Either of the above

9. Some basic principles of ironing or pressing are: (check all that are correct)
   A.* Iron with the grain of the fabric
   B.* Press or iron the small areas first, the large areas last
   C.* Move the already ironed surfaces away from you as you continue pressing or ironing
   D.* Press dark clothes on the wrong side or with a press cloth
   E. Do your pressing first, ironing last

10. Needleboards are used to press:
    A. Wool, polyester, and denim
    B. Nylon tricot, taffeta, and velvet
    C.* Velvet, velveteen, and terrycloth

11. If a person didn’t have a needleboard at home and needed to press something with a deep pile, what else could he/she use?
    * a thick terrycloth towel
    * a piece of the same fabric that is leftover
ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION QUESTIONS:

12. A pressing ham is used to:
   A.* Provide curvature in the garment like the body
   B. Provide a hard surface to press on
   C. Give the iron something to eat

13. A press cloth should be:
   A. 100% cotton with a rough, soft surface
   B.* 100% cotton with a smooth, soft surface
   C. A cotton/polyester blend with a soft surface

14. Pressing and ironing can generally be eliminated by:
   (Mark as many answers as are correct.)
   A. Going to the laundry frequently
   B.* Hanging or folding clothes while warm from the dryer
   C.* Using fabric softener or conditioner
   D.* Using correct laundry methods

3. Itemize common types of clothing repairs (e.g., replace zippers, repair pockets, replace buttons, stitch broken seams, resew hem, etc.).

1. List five (5) of the most common types of clothing repairs.
   • Restitch ripped seams
   • Fix pockets
   • Replace pockets
   • Replace or resew buttons
   • Restitch hem
   • Repair tears
   • Patch knees
   • Replace or repair zippers
   • Reinforce front facings for buttons