Unit VIII Topic B: Alterations and Repairs

Option 4 Teacher Background Information

A STITCH IN TIME

What do you do with your clothes when they need to be repaired?

- Ignore them and toss them in the laundry basket?
- Hide them in the back of your closet?
- Get rid of them?

A better solution is to repair the garments right away. Why?

- Makes repairs easier and more possible to accomplish
- Keeps rips or tears from getting larger
- Keeps the garment in a wearable state

Some common types of repairs needed and solutions are:

REPAIR	SOLUTION
Hole in garment	Patching - functional or decorative Applying appliqué over it
Worn spots	Darning Reinforcing with iron-on fabric
Seam or stitching rips	Restitching by machine or hand
Seam edges fraying	Overlocking or overcasting
Loose buttons	Resewing
Lost buttons	Replace with similar button On shirts/blouses, use bottom button for replacement and sew similar button on bottom
Buttons too tight	Resew with shanks
Buttonholes too tight	Extend opening slightly
Fasteners (snaps, etc.) loose	Restitch
Zipper broken	Replace zipper

- Condensed from Clothes and Your Appearance, Goodheart-Willcox, pp. 174-181.