

Field Manual
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GENERAL FABRIC REPAIR

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PREFACE

SCOPE

This field manual is a guide for fabric repair specialists, personnel qualified in MOS 43M, grades E1 through E7. It can be used by personnel in both mobile and fixed repair units. This manual consists of general instructions for the inspection and repair of military clothing, textiles, canvas, and webbing. It covers methods for sewing by hand and by machine. It includes directions for different kinds of stitches, seams, darns, and patches. It explains how to replace fasteners (zippers), and hardware items. Publications which pertain to fabric repair are listed at the back of the manual.

USER INFORMATION

The proponent of this publication is HQ TRADOC. Send comments and recommendations on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) directly to :

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Unless this publication states otherwise, masculine nouns and pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.

CHAPTER 1

INSPECTING AND MARKING CLOTHING AND TEXTILE ITEMS

1-1. INITIAL INSPECTIONS

When damaged clothing and textile items are received in a fabric repair shop, they are inspected. These inspections determine if the pieces of clothing and equipment can be economically repaired in the shop and then reissued. The individual items are classified by condition. Faded clothing, noticeably stained items, and defective items which cannot be repaired or are not worth repairing are set aside. These items are used for scrap or for duties that damage clothing, such as painting. Items to be mended are marked with white or yellow tailors chalk. See Figure 1-1 for the symbol and meaning of each mark used during the inspection of clothing and textile items. Table 1-1 lists the areas marked by the initial inspector.

MARK	MEANING
R	Replace this section or this piece of hardware.
P	Darn this tear or hole. Patch this worn area, tear, or hole.
X	Repair this defect, such as an open seam.
→	Repair this hidden defect. The defect is inside or under the marked area.
→	Attach a button here.
AAAA	Repair this small hole.
▽	Make a buttonhole here the same length as this mark.
E	Lengthen this section the same length as this mark.
	Shorten this section to this mark.
	Let out this seam the width of this mark.
	Take in this seam the width of these two lines.
	Add a piece of material here to extend this section.

Figure 1-1. Chalk marks used on clothing and textile items.