

CHAPTER 6
THE RUFFLER

The Parts of the Ruffler and Their Uses

It is necessary to become familiar with the Ruffler before it can be used successfully. Select the Ruffler from the set of attachments and compare it with Fig. 122. Note the names and uses of the principal parts, as follows:

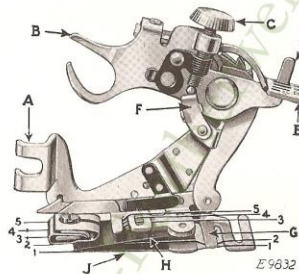


FIG. 122. THE RUFFLER AND ITS PARTS

NOTE: If the Rufflers with your machines are not exactly like Fig. 122 you will find the working parts quite similar. Any difference in the adjustments will be found explained in the instruction book.

- A—**Foot**—the part by which the Ruffler is attached to the presser bar.
- B—**Fork Arm**—the section that must be placed astride the needle clamp.
- C—**Adjusting Screw**—the screw that regulates the fullness of the gather.
- D—**Projection**—the part that projects through the slots in the adjusting lever.
- E—**Adjusting Lever**—the lever that sets the Ruffler for gathering or for making a plait once at every six stitches or once at every twelve stitches, as desired; also for disengaging the Ruffler, when either plaiting or gathering is not desired.

F—**Adjusting Finger**—the part which regulates the width or size of the plaits.

G—**Separator Guide**—the guide on the underside of the Ruffler, containing slots into which the edge of the material is placed to keep the heading of the ruffle even; also for separating the material to be ruffled from the material to which the ruffle is to be attached.

H—**Ruffling Blade**—the upper blue steel blade with the teeth at the end to push the material in plaits up to the needle.

J—**Separator Blade**—the lower blue steel blade without teeth, which prevents the teeth of the ruffling blade coming into contact with the feed of the machine, or the material to which ruffle or plaiting is to be applied.

Lines 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 (Fig. 122) indicate where the material is to be placed for various operations, as follows:

Line 1—the proper position for the material to which the ruffle is applied.

Line 2—the material to be gathered.

Line 3—the facing for the ruffle.

Line 4—the strip of piping material.

Line 5—the edge to be piped.

Refer to this illustration when inserting the material in the Ruffler.

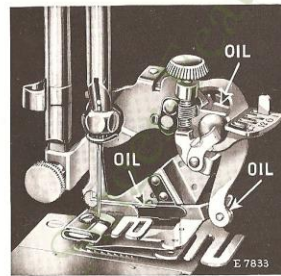


FIG. 123. OILING POINTS ON RUFFLER

Oiling the Ruffler

The Ruffler requires an occasional oiling of all working parts to prevent them from sticking. A drop of oil at each point indicated in Fig. 123 is sufficient. If possible, sew on a waste piece of material after oiling to prevent your garment from becoming soiled. If the Ruffler does not plait evenly a drop of oil may remedy the trouble.

Attaching the Ruffler to the Machine

Raise the needle bar to its highest point and remove the presser foot. Attach the ruffler foot to the bar, at the same time placing the fork arm astride the needle clamp. Turn the balance wheel slowly by hand to see that the needle comes down in the center of the needle hole.

To Adjust the Ruffler for Gathering

The adjusting finger (F, Fig. 124) is not intended for gathering and should be moved toward the operator or away from the needle, as shown in Fig. 124.

Raise the adjusting lever (E, Fig. 124) and move it to the left so that the projection (D, Fig. 124) will enter the slot marked "1" in the adjusting lever (E) when the lever is released. The ruffling blade will then move forward and back once at every stitch. Insert the material to be ruffled between the two blue blades, following the line 2 in Fig. 122. Draw the material slightly back of the needle, lower the presser bar and commence to sew.

To make fine gathering, shorten the stroke of the ruffling blade by turning the adjusting screw (C, Fig. 124) upward, also shorten the stitch. To make full gathering, lengthen the stroke of the ruffling blade by turning the adjusting screw (C) downward; also lengthen the stitch. By varying these adjustments, many pleasing varieties of work can be accomplished.

Inserting the Material in the Ruffler and Making a Plain Gather

For ruffling or gathering, the adjusting finger should be released or turned toward the operator.

Insert the material in the Ruffler between the two blue blades following line 2, Fig. 122. Pull the edge of the material to be gathered forward until it is slightly past the needle, lower the

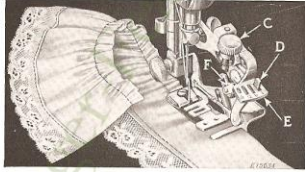


FIG. 124. MAKING A PLAIN GATHER

presser bar and sew. See Fig. 124. The fullness of the ruffle is determined by the position of the adjusting screw. To decrease the fullness turn the screw up. To increase the fullness turn the screw down.

The length of stitch also has its effect on the gathers. A short stitch will make a fine gather, while a coarse stitch will increase the fullness and make the plaits larger.



FIG. 125. A PLAIN HEMMED RUFFLE

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How to Test the Ruffler for Fullness

It is often necessary to adjust the Ruffler for a certain fullness, but because the length of stitch affects the fullness as well as the position of the adjusting screw, it is impossible to have an indicator on the Ruffler to determine the amount of fullness that will be taken up. In addition, some materials take up more fullness than others with the same setting of the stitch and adjusting screw. It is therefore necessary to experiment with a small piece of the material to be ruffled if the correct amount is to be gathered. For example, if the fullness of a ruffle is to be one and a half, take a six-inch piece of material and gather it into a four-inch space.

How to Slide the Gathers on the Thread

Another convenient way to gather to fit a given space is to loosen the upper tension on the machine. This will allow the gathers to slide on the thread to fit the desired space the same as in hand gathering.

When gathering in this way, it is necessary to leave a long thread when taking the material from the machine so that the gathers may be adjusted as desired. It is also well to use a strong upper thread so that there will be no danger of breaking it when sliding the gathers.

Making a Ruffle and Sewing It to the Garment at One Operation

After having tested and adjusted the Ruffler for fullness, place the material for the ruffle in the Ruffler between the two blue blades and insert the garment to which it is to be attached

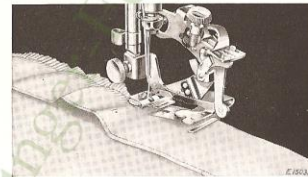


FIG. 126. MAKING A RUFFLE AND SEWING IT TO THE GARMENT

under the separator blade following line 1, Fig. 122. Proceed as for plain gathering, guiding the material lightly so that it will not feed away from the heading guide. See Fig. 126.

FIG. 127. SAMPLE OF RUFFLE MADE AND APPLIED IN ONE OPERATION



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PRACTICAL WAYS TO FINISH THE RUFFLED SEAM

Finishing a Ruffle with a French Seam

Place the garment and the material for the ruffle in the Ruffler as previously explained, with the wrong side of the material to be ruffled facing the wrong side of the garment. After sewing the ruffle to the garment in one operation, trim the seam close to the line of stitching and turn the seam to the wrong side of the garment. Stitch in position with the presser foot. See Fig. 128.



FIG. 128. RUFFLE FINISHED WITH A FRENCH SEAM

A Facing May be Added at the Same Time the Ruffle is Made

First insert the material for the ruffle in the Ruffler between the two blades and the garment under the separator blade, as directed for sewing the ruffle to the garment in one operation. Place the material for the facing in the Ruffler, following line 3, Fig. 122.



FIG. 129. ADDING A FACING AS THE RUFFLE IS MADE

The facing may be straight or bias material. If the facing is to be on the wrong side, place the right sides of the garment and the ruffle together. See Fig. 129.

Finishing a Ruffled Seam with Binding

Make the ruffle and sew it to the garment in one operation, then trim the seam close to the edge. Remove the Ruffler and attach the Binder to the machine. Select a suitable material to use for binding the seam and insert it in the Binder. Place the edge of the ruffled seam in the Binder and bind as shown in Fig. 130.

The seam may be bound on the right side of the garment if desired and then stitched flat as shown in Fig. 131.

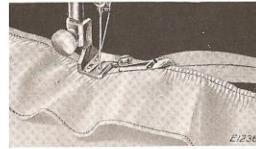


FIG. 130. FINISHING A RUFFLED SEAM WITH BINDING



FIG. 131. BINDING A RUFFLED SEAM FLAT

Applying Rows of Ruffles to a Garment



FIG. 132. APPLYING ROWS OF RUFFLES TO A GARMENT

Rows of ruffles may be stitched to a garment at the same time the material is ruffled by placing the garment under the Ruffler and the material for the ruffle between the blades, as shown in Fig. 132. The position on the garment for the ruffles may be indicated by a basting thread or a chalk mark.

The edges of the ruffles may be hemmed with the foot hemmer or picoted with the SINGER Hemstitcher. The addition of a narrow lace edge is often attractive.

Tuck Shirring

Tuck shirring is made by folding a tuck in the material and inserting the folded edge in the Ruffler as for ordinary gathering. Insert the edge of the fold in the guide to keep the heading of uniform width. See Fig. 133.

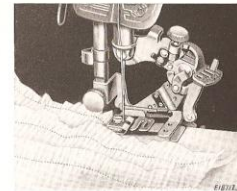


FIG. 133. TUCK SHIRRING

The heading of the ruffle is the width of the material from the guide edge to the stitching. When using the heading guide in the separator blade holder, this amount is approximately one-quarter of an inch. If a narrower or wider heading is desired the material must be care-

fully guided by hand without using the slot in the heading guide. It is well to fold and baste the material before starting to shirr. This trimming is attractive on soft materials such as net or chiffon. A strip of paper under the Ruffler will insure perfect work on soft materials.

Piping a Ruffle

It is only possible to pipe a ruffle one and one-quarter inches in width or narrower without using the shirring plate. The material for the ruffle is placed in the Ruffler between the two

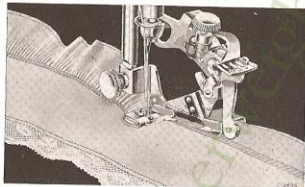


FIG. 134. PIPING A RUFFLE AND APPLYING IT TO A GARMENT

blades and carried through with the finished edge of the ruffle to the right of the attachment. See Fig. 134. The edge to be ruffled is inserted in the guide from the right side to keep the heading even.

The material for piping must measure about one-quarter of an inch wide when folded in the center and is usually cut on the bias. The piping must be placed in the Ruffler following line 4, Fig. 122, with the folded edge of the piping to the right. The material to be piped should be folded on the edge and inserted in the Ruffler following line 5, Fig. 122.

Folded piping may be purchased in a variety of attractive colors.

Puffed Ribbon

Puffed ribbon makes a most attractive trimming and may be of one-inch ribbon or wider. Adjust the ruffler for the desired fullness and insert the edge of the ribbon in the Ruffler as for plain gathering. After gathering one edge, place the other edge in the Ruffler and gather in the same manner. A loose upper tension may be used to allow the pulling up of the ribbon to the desired length. See Fig. 135.

Puffed ribbon makes very attractive trimming for couch pillows.



FIG. 135. MAKING A PUFFED RIBBON

Adjusting the Ruffler for Plaiting

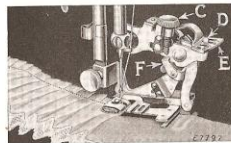


FIG. 136. THE RUFFLER ADJUSTED FOR PLAITING

For plaiting, the adjusting finger F should be set into position under adjusting screw. The projection D should be placed in the slot marked 6 or the slot marked 12 in the adjusting lever E. The adjusting screw C on the Ruffler must be turned down as far as it will go when plaiting. To make the plaits farther apart, **lengthen** the stitch on the sewing machine. To make them closer together, **shorten** the stitch.



FIG. 137. SAMPLE OF PLAITED ORGANDIE WITH LACE EDGE

Materials that May be Plaited with the Ruffler

Any material with dressing, such as lawn, organdie or taffeta, may be successfully plaited with the Ruffler. Softer materials may be plaited but the plaits will not lie flat unless they are very well pressed. In the case of georgette or soft net it is impossible to press the plaits by hand so that they will stay in position. Materials for plaitings should be finished on one edge with a narrow hem or by picotting with the SINGER Hemstitcher.

Plaiting and Sewing to the Garment in One Operation

Plaiting may be made and sewn to the garment in the same manner as ordinary ruffling. The garment is placed under the blades and the material to be plaited between the two blades. See Fig. 138.

Attractive plaited trimmings for organdie dresses may be applied in the same manner as rows of ruffles. See Fig. 132. It is necessary to test out a small strip of the material to be

plaited before applying it to a garment in one operation, to determine how many yards of plaiting material will be required for the garment.

If you find after testing out the material that more is required than you had estimated, the machine may then be set for a longer stitch. This will increase the space between the plaits and fewer plaits will be required for the trimming.

Each plait should be pressed flat with the finger as it is made. It will be necessary to run the machine very slowly when doing this, but with a little practice it is quite easily done. The plaits should be pressed in with a warm iron after taking the work from the machine.

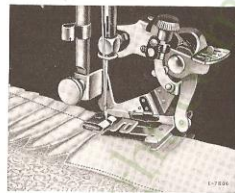


FIG. 138. PLAITING AND SEWING TO THE GARMENT IN ONE OPERATION



FIG. 139. SAMPLE OF PLAITING AND SEWING TO THE GARMENT IN ONE OPERATION

Facing the Plaited Ruffle

A facing may be added at the same time the ruffle is made and attached to the garment by placing the material for the facing in the Ruffler following line 3, Fig. 122. When a facing is applied in this manner the surplus material is trimmed from the heading of the ruffle, the edge of the facing is turned under and stitched flat to the garment. Fig. 140 shows how to sew the facing in position.

FIG. 140. PLAITING, SEWING TO GARMENT AND ADDING FACING IN ONE OPERATION

Plaited Lace or Ribbon

Ribbon and lace that have a little dressing can be plaited successfully with the Ruffler, if one inch or more in width. When plaiting lace, however, it is necessary to place a strip of paper under the Ruffler. See Fig. 141 and note especially the paper under the Ruffler. Ribbon is plaited in the same manner, but paper is not required unless the ribbon is very soft.



FIG. 141. PLAITING LACE WITH PAPER

It is advisable to use lace with a fine mesh for plaiting because coarse lace may catch in the ruffling blade.

Very attractive trimmings for lingerie and fancy articles may be made of plaited lace. Rosettes of lace or ribbon are used for decorations on many garments.

Rosettes of Plaiting

Rosettes of plaited ribbon or silk for trimming dresses or fancy articles for use in the home are very easily and quickly made with the Ruffler. Ribbon of $\frac{3}{4}$ " or more in width, and with sufficient body to hold a plait, may be plaited with the Ruffler. The plaiting is then sewn to a circle of crinoline, using the presser foot. See Fig. 142.

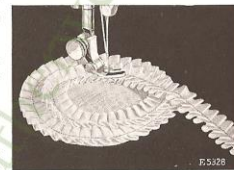


FIG. 142. MAKING ROSETTES

Plaited Bands for Trimming

Bands of plaiting may be made with the Ruffler by first plaiting a strip of material, then pressing the plaits flat with a warm iron and sewing them in position with the presser foot, as shown in Fig. 143.



FIG. 143. SEWING PLAITS FLAT WITH THE PRESSER FOOT

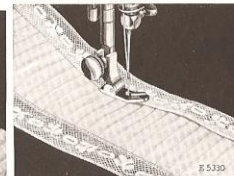


FIG. 144. APPLYING INSERTION TO THE PLAITED BAND

If lace insertion is to be applied to the edge of the plaited band, it should be stitched to the right side, the surplus material turned to the wrong side of the band and a second row of stitching added to keep it in place. See Fig. 144.

To Adjust the Ruffler for Group Plaiting and Gathering

The Ruffler can be adjusted for group plaiting by lifting the adjusting lever, E, Fig. 145 and moving it to the right so that the top of the projection, D, rests on the small slot indicated by

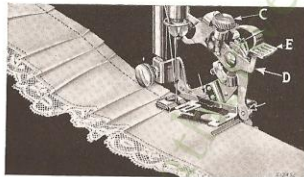


FIG. 145. GROUP PLAITING

the star on the adjusting lever. This should be done at the points where you wish to make the space between the plaits.

The Ruffler will then stop and plain stitching will be made.

When the desired space has been made, adjust the lever, E, so that the projection, D, enters either the slot marked "6" or the slot marked "12." By alternately making groups of plaits and plain spaces, as shown in Fig. 145, very attractive work can be produced.



FIG. 146. SAMPLE OF GROUP PLAITING SEWN TO A BAND

Suggested List for Ruffling or Plaiting Projects

- Lingerie.
- Petticoats and bloomers for children.
- Dresses.
- Puffing for trimming.
- House dresses.
- Blouses.
- Tea aprons.
- Collar and cuff sets.
- Gilets and vestees.
- Plaiting or ruffling for overskirts, underskirts and flounces.
- Plaited ribbon for hats.
- Puffing for baby bonnets.
- Ruffles for pillow tops.
- Puffing for pillow tops.
- Puffing or plaiting for children's hats.
- Curtains.
- Bed spreads.
- Dressing table covers.

CHAPTER 7

SINGER FASHION AIDS

The sewing machine that is equipped with all attachments and Fashion Aids permits the home-sewer to add every new fashion touch or finish demanded by swiftly changing modes, not only widening her scope in the choice of styles but adding, as well, professional finesse to the completed garment.

The time required to apply finishes by hand is greatly shortened by using the Fashion Aids. With an underbraider, an entire garment may be braided in a few hours. Another good example is the buttonhole attachment, with which a buttonhole may be made in a few seconds.

In addition to the time and labor involved in hand finishing, the result is often discouraging when the garment is completed, for unless one is an expert with the needle, the garment will carry the home-made look so undesirable to the average woman. Work done with the Fashion Aids has that tailored finish found on the professionally-made garments.

On the following pages are described the most commonly used special attachments, a complete list being given on pages 120 and 121.

THE SHIRRING PLATE

The Purpose of the Shirring Plate

In Chapter 6 you were shown how tuck shirring could be done with the regular ruffler, but when rows of flat shirring at a distance from the edge of the material are to be made with the Ruffler, the separator blade on the Ruffler is removed and the Shirring Blade must be used.

To Attach the Shirring Plate to the Machine

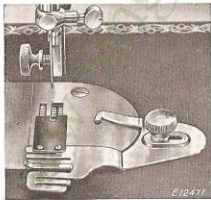


FIG. 147. THE SHIRRING PLATE IN POSITION

Fasten the Shirring Plate to the bed of the machine with the attachment thumb screw as shown in Fig. 147. The prong of the Shirring Plate should fit into the hole in the throat plate, and the blue blade should be in line with the needle and feed dog.

The Shirring Plate is attached to all family machines in this manner with the exception of the Nos. 127 and 128, where the Shirring Plate must be placed around the throat plate and held in position with the slides.

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To Prepare the Ruffler for Shirring

Remove the separator blade from the Ruffler by loosening the screw at the right side of the attachment sufficiently to release the separator blade holder to which the under blade is attached. Do not remove this screw but loosen it only enough to release the separator.

Attach the Ruffler to the machine in the usual manner and you will note that it is now possible to insert a wide piece of material under the Ruffler from either side.

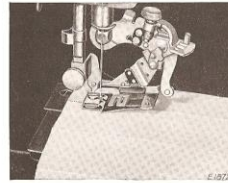


FIG. 148. MATERIAL READY FOR SHIRRING

Preparing the Material for Shirring

Fold the material where the rows of shirring are desired and press with a warm iron. It will then be possible to follow each crease with the needle to keep the rows of shirring straight. See Fig. 148.

The Ruffler and Shirrer in Operation

Insert the material to be shirred between the Ruffler and the Shirring Plate, lower the presser bar and sew. See Fig. 149.



FIG. 149. SHIRRING WITH THE RUFFLER AND SHIRRING PLATE

It is advisable to test the Ruffler on a small piece of the same material that you desire to shirr in order to make the proper adjustment of the Ruffler and the stitch for fullness. Shirring may be done with a loose upper tension if you desire to slide the gathers on the thread to fit a certain space.

Box Plaiting with the Ruffler

For box plaiting, the Shirring Plate is attached to bed of machine as shown in Fig. 147. The separator blade is removed from Ruffler as for shirring. The Ruffler is attached to machine in the usual manner.

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The adjusting finger of the Ruffler is moved forward, into position, under the adjusting screw and the adjusting screw turned down as far as it will go. The adjusting lever is gently placed over projection at slot marked "12" and the stitch regulator is set for a very long stitch.

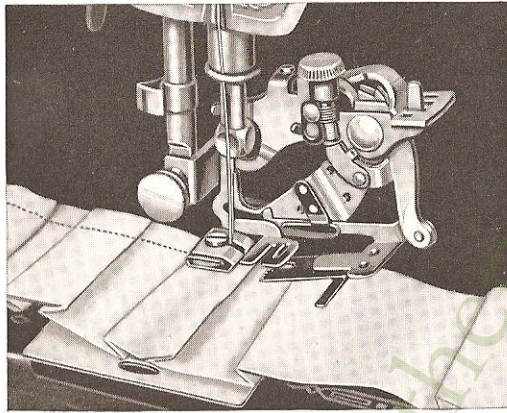


FIG. 150. RUFFLER WITH SAMPLE OF BOX PLAINTING

The material is first inserted into the Ruffler from the right side, (under the arm of machine) with edge in heading guide of Shirring Plate and between the two blue blades. Proceed the same as for regular plaiting. Through this operation, deep, widely separated plaits will be accomplished.

The Shirring Plate is removed from the machine, the separator blade restored to the ruffler and the stitch regulator set for a shorter stitch. The material is now reversed; the edge being inserted at the left side of the ruffler under the first guide of separator blade and between the two blue blades.

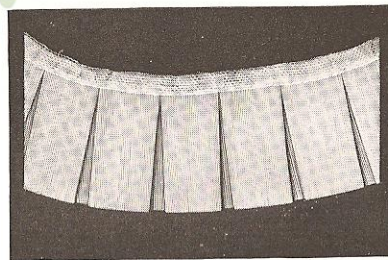


FIG. 151. FINISHED SAMPLE

The first stitch must be taken immediately at the fold of first plait, so that the reversed plait may be formed just alongside the next fold, thus forming a box plait.

When first attempting this operation, it is well to go slowly and count the stitches, testing on a short piece of material until the correct length of stitch adjustment is attained.

Box plaiting is very effective for collars and cuffs, children's clothes, curtains, pillows, etc.

The Shirring Plate is not a part of the regular set of attachments, but is sold as an extra Fashion Aid.

Puffing Adds Charm to the Frock



FIG. 191. PUFFING COMBINED WITH LACE AND INSERTION

The Ruffler works like magic when it comes to making puffings suitable for the frock of silk or cotton. If a tailored effect is desired, the edge of the puffing may be bound and if a dainty, fluffy trimming is in keeping with the garment, lace and insertion may be applied as shown in Fig. 191.

The strips for puffing should be cut crosswise of the material and joined with a neat seam which has been pressed flat before puffing. The Ruffler should be tested for fullness with a strip of the same material to be puffed. Both edges of the strip should be gathered, following instructions on page 91.

Puffing of silk and lace offers most effective trimming for a negligee, boudoir pillow or baby cap and may be made at little or no extra cost from left-over pieces of material.

Plaiting is Quickly Made with the Ruffler

Plaitings have taken an important part in trimming garments for generations past and are still in keeping with the style of the present day. Many garments may be trimmed with plaiting, a few of which are petticoat flounces, frocks of organdie or taffeta, collar and cuff sets, the edge of dress panels, sleeves, etc.

The fashion magazines and ready-made garments show endless ways to use plaiting, but to the woman at home such trimmings are a problem unless she knows how to use her Ruffler. When one considers that plaitings may be made as fast as the machine sews and that they may be attached to the garment as they are made, little time is required to make sufficient trimming for a dress. While plaiting is very effective, its cost is very little, as left-over strips from cutting a garment will often make sufficient plaiting for trimming the same or another garment.



FIG. 192. PLAITED RUFFLES

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Ruffles Made and Applied in One Operation

The finish of the ruffle determines its suitability for various garments. For lingerie or children's clothes, a dainty lace edge makes an effective finish, while ruffles on curtains call for a plain narrow hem which may be made with the Foot Hemmer. Fig. 193 shows a taffeta ruffle finished with binding applied with the Binder.



FIG. 193. RUFFLES MADE AND APPLIED AT ONE OPERATION

Ruffles make suitable decorations for petticoats, cotton or silk dresses, children's clothes, sofa pillows, curtains, etc., and the manner in which they are applied is determined by the prevailing style.

To apply ruffles as illustrated, insert the edge of the material to be gathered in the Ruffler with the right side of the material facing the bed of the machine and adjust the Ruffler for the desired fullness.

Place the garment under the ruffler and apply ruffles. The seam will be concealed under the ruffle as shown in the Fig. 193.

Bound Scallops of Contrasting Material are Attractive



FIG. 194. BOUND SCALLOPS

Bound scallops, which are so effective and so easy to make when using the Binder, may be applied as trimming to any number of garments and also to articles for home decoration.

A most practical and attractive trimming for a gingham dress may be made of organdie, bound with bias strips of the gingham. The skirt of a child's dress may be scalloped and bound and if a touch of hand work is desired, feather stitching or French knots may be applied to the binding. For lingerie, bound scallops are charming when edged with lace. The binding may be turned under at the point of the scallop and caught with a few hand sewing stitches.

Over drapes of cretonne or silk may be bound with suitable binding used in the Binder.

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Plaitings are Attractive on Panels of Organdie

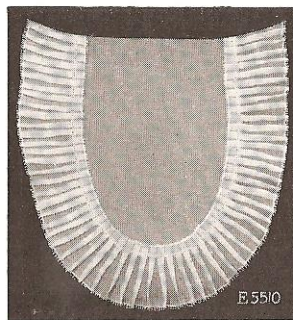


FIG. 195. PANEL TRIMMED WITH PLAETING

Just a touch of daintiness to a panel, a pocket or a collar will often make a garment finished in appearance. Plaiting lends itself well to any curve or corner and when finished on each edge with a dainty picot the effect is perfect.

Material that is cut crosswise of the goods will hold the plait longer and curve more gracefully than if cut lengthwise. If the plaits are creased down with the finger as they are formed by the Ruffler it will be very easy to press them with a warm iron when the plaiting is completed.

The edge of plaiting is also attractive when finished with a narrow hem made with the Foot Hemmer and to which a narrow lace edge has been applied at the same stitching.

If a picot edge is planned, fold the material crosswise the width of the plaiting desired. Baste through the crease and have it hemstitched, then cut through the center of the hemstitching. This will give a picot on each side of the plaiting.