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# And So To Sew

## 4 a. SEWING



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**NDS**

ISSUED BY THE NEEDLEWORK DEVELOPMENT SCHEME, 89 WELLINGTON STREET, GLASGOW, C.2.

# We have chosen TWO SLIPS

## ...enriched with lace for Junior

EVERY girl loves the thrill of pretty lingerie — and what could be more attractive than these dainty slips. Both are easy to make, and will be a joy to wear under gay dresses. This time we introduce another fabric — Rayon. This fabric looks expensive, but in actual fact many rayons are as reasonable in price as good cottons and wear and wash beautifully. Be sure to select fabric with a firm weave, which will not readily fray. For the simple slip we have chosen fine rayon crepe de chine trimmed with lace and for the older girl a slip of rayon satin enriched with shell-edging.

**Rayon** is one of the most versatile of all fabrics. Its appearance changes according to the treatment of the yarns used, their size and the pattern of the weaving. The yarns are produced chemically from cellulose. Here are the names of the most important rayon fabrics :—

**Rayon Crepe de Chine:** A lightweight fabric, smooth and firm in texture. Used for lingerie, linings, blouses, dresses and children's garments.

**Rayon Crepe:** A lightweight fabric, characterised by a crinkled surface. Used for lingerie, blouses, dresses, etc.

**Rayon Marocain:** A fabric which has a dull crinkled effect on the right side and a shiny satin effect on the wrong side. Used for dresses and blouses.

**Rayon Satin:** A fabric with a smooth surface, a lustrous face and dull back. Suitable for lingerie, linings, blouses, dresses and dress trimmings.

**Rayon Velvet:** A fabric with a short, soft, thick pile surface of rayon on a cotton back. Used for dresses, coats, jackets and household articles.

**Rayon Sharkskin:** A lightweight semi-stiff, textured fabric, with a dull lustre. Suitable for blouses, dresses and sports wear.

**Rayon Jersey:** This knitted fabric is used for underwear, dresses, blouses and children's garments.

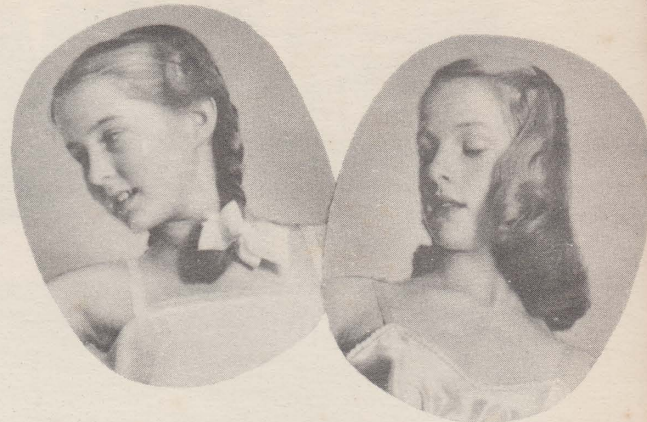
Special care should be taken when stitching fine rayons. Always use a correspondingly fine sewing cotton and needle (refer to the chart of sewing cotton and needle sizes in Bulletin No. 1A). When removing bastings, take care to pick out each stitch separately after snipping the cotton at intervals, to avoid cutting or dragging the threads of the fabric.

**Laundering:** All fast-dyed rayons are easily washed in warm, soapy water. Gently squeeze the soapy lather through the garment and rinse well in clear water. *Do not wring or twist.* Roll in a towel to remove excess moisture, iron on the wrong side with a moderately warm iron, using minimum pressure on all seams, fastenings, and double thicknesses wherever possible, as the continual pressure of the iron tends to split the fabric. Do not damp rayons by sprinkling with water before ironing. If necessary, rinse the whole garment again and partially dry.

**Measuring for a Garment:** As this is your first real garment you will have to know how to take measurements correctly.

**Bust:**—Around the fullest part (not too tight). **Waist:**—Around the natural waistline (fitting). **Hips:**—About 7 in. to 9 in. below natural waistline (not too tight). **Length:**—From nape of neck to waist; then from waist to hem line. **Shoulder Seam:**—Place the tape measure along the shoulder line, from neck to shoulder bone. **Sleeve Length:**—Take the measurement from the armpit to the wrist, on the underside of the arm. **Across Back:**—Width from just above armpits. **Across Chest:**—Width from just above armpits. **Shoulder to Waist (front):**—From pronounced bone at shoulder to natural waistline at centre front. **Shoulder to Waist (back):**—From base of neck (at centre back) to natural waistline.

**Paper Patterns:** In the earlier issues of this bulletin the articles illustrated have been so simple that you made your own patterns by enlarging our block diagrams. Now that we have reached more advanced garments which require greater accuracy of cut and fit, it is important that you



should work from a reliable trade pattern. From the wide choice of styles which you can see in the pattern manufacturers' catalogues, you will always be able to choose one in your own size which is very similar to the garments illustrated by us. We shall always choose basic styles which are easily obtained.

For the simple slip (No. 1986) we have still given you a block diagram as this pattern is easy to construct, but for the shaped slip (No. 1987), you should select an attractive paper pattern of reliable make.

### No. 1986 Lace-Trimmed Slip

Size : Bust — 28 in. Central Front Length — 23 in.

**Materials:** 1½ yds. white rayon crepe de chine, 36 in. wide. 2¼ yds. white lace, ½ in. wide. 1 yd. white ribbon, ½ in. wide. 1 reel mercerised sewing cotton, No. 40, white. 1 Sharp's Needle, No. 6. 1 Machine Needle, No. 16.

**Patterns:** Make these from diagrams 1 square = 1 in. (see sewing Bulletin No. 2A). Check the size of the pattern with your own measurements and then refer to the section of **Pattern Alteration** (see P. 4). Solid spots mark edge to be laid on folded fabric (see cutting layout, P. 3). Arrows mark straight grain.

**Cutting Directions:** Examine cutting layout before placing patterns on fabric ; remember to allow ½ in. for seams round each pattern piece and 3 in. at hem line.

**Pattern A — Front —** Cut one piece. **Pattern B — Back —** Cut one piece.

**Sewing Directions:** 1. Tailor tack round both pattern pieces, this gives the stitching line. 2. Remove patterns, place front and back pieces right sides together, pin and baste side seams. Machine. 3. Press-seams open and finish raw edges by overcasting. 4. Turn up hem at lower edge of slip on line of tailor tacking. 5. Make a narrow hem round top edge of slip ¼ in. wide. 6. <sup>22</sup>Attach lace round top and hem of slip by overcasting. 7. Press lace, so that it lies flat. 8. Halve ribbon for <sup>23</sup>shoulder straps and attach to Xs marked on pattern, adjusting ribbon to the length required. Press garment thoroughly.

### No. 1987 Shell-Edged Slip

This shell-edged slip is shaped and a simple basic design has been chosen for it. You should work from a reliable paper pattern similar in style to our design. The slip is made from four pieces :—

Brassiere Front (A)      Skirt Front (C)  
Brassiere Back (B)      Skirt Back (D)

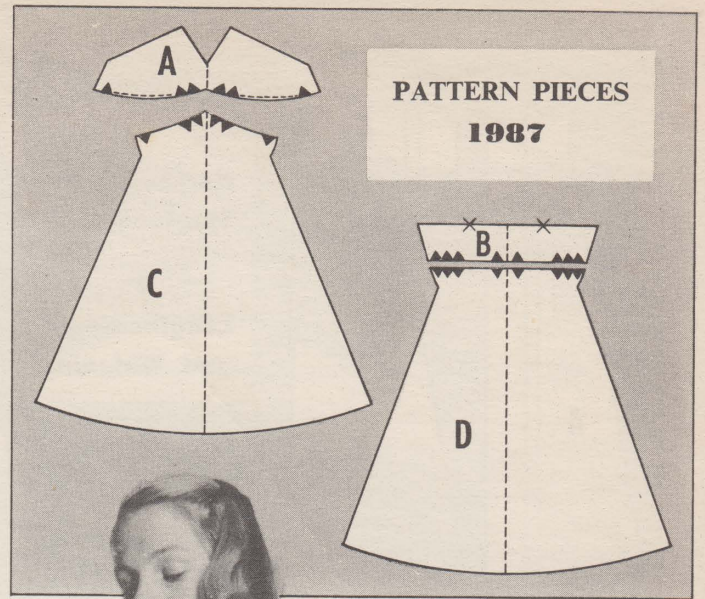
and has a side placket to ensure a good fit. The fulness of the brassiere front is removed by gathering. If a style is chosen with brassiere darts, particular attention must be paid to the instructions on the pattern sheet. Should your selected style have four- or six-skirt panels, join them with French seams or Overcast Flat seams. Buy your pattern by bust measurement and alter the pattern to correspond with your other measurements (see Pattern Alteration). Study all markings and perforations on your pattern, referring to the pattern instruction sheet. Pay particular attention to the cutting layout and note the amount of seam allowance allowed. The following instructions explain the complete making up of any slip of this style.

**Materials:** White or pastel coloured satin, 36 in. wide. (The amount quoted on your pattern). 1 yd. satin ribbon, ½ in. wide, to match. 1 reel mercerised sewing cotton, No. 40, to match. 1 skein of stranded cotton

★ In our next Bulletin we will give you instructions for making two very attractive blouses—a dainty one with drawstring neck and short puff sleeves and a tailored blouse with set-in sleeves and a neat collar.

# for you to SEW

...and shell edging for Senior



PATTERN PIECES  
1987

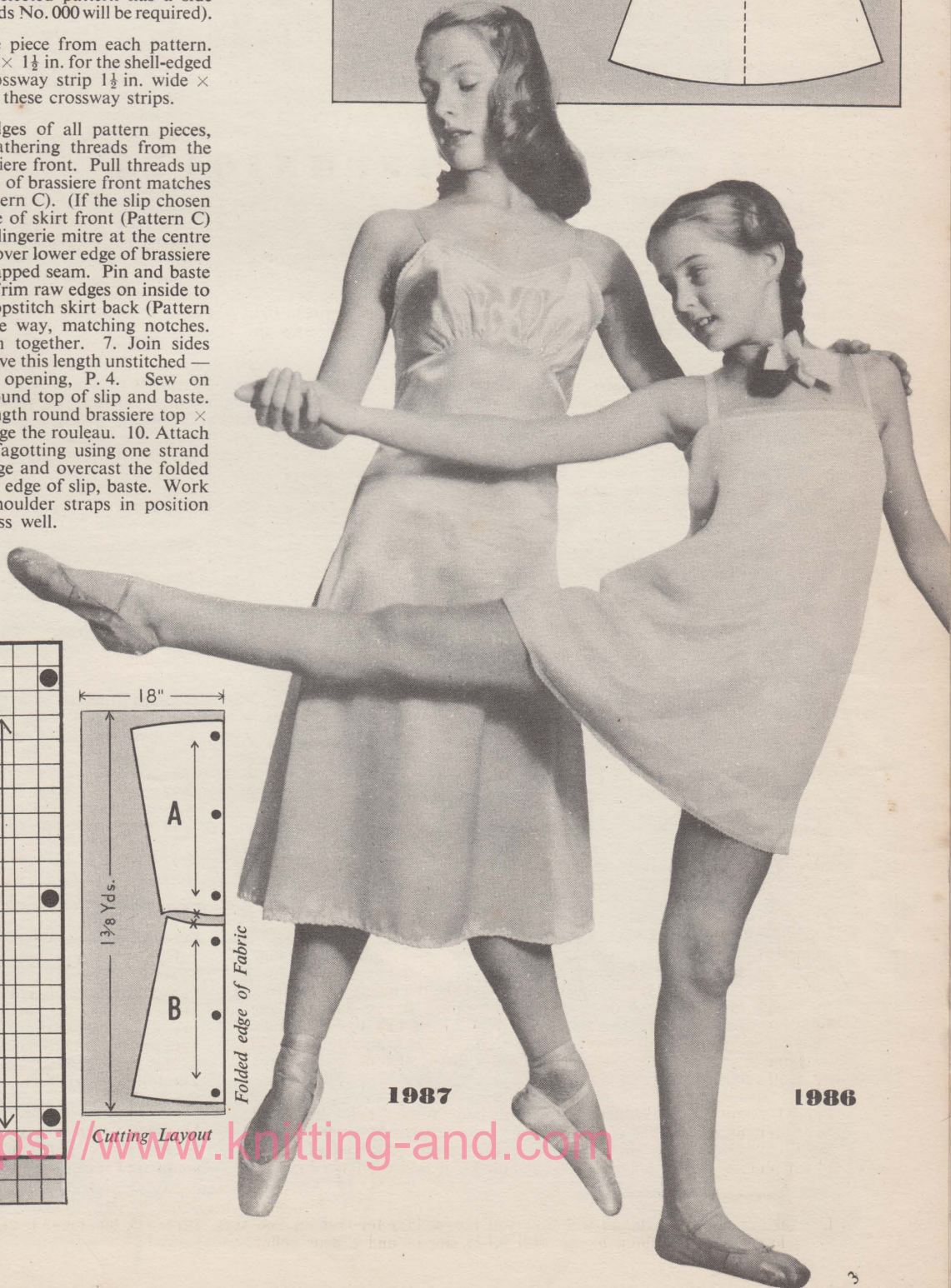
to match or a shade darker. 1 Sharp's Needle, No. 6. 1 Machine Needle, No. 16. 1 Crewel Needle, No. 8. (If the selected pattern has a side opening, Hooks and Eyes No. 00, and Press Studs No. 000 will be required).

**Pattern Pieces: Cutting Directions.** Cut one piece from each pattern. Cut a crossway strip length round brassiere top  $\times$   $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. for the shell-edged rouleau: If there is a side opening cut a crossway strip  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. wide  $\times$  length required. It will be necessary to piece these crossway strips.

**Sewing Directions:** 1. Tailor tack round edges of all pattern pieces, this gives the stitching line. 2. Run two gathering threads from the notches (Pattern A) on the lower edge of brassiere front. Pull threads up and space gathers evenly so that the lower edge of brassiere front matches the notches on the top edge of skirt front (Pattern C). (If the slip chosen has darts, make them now). 3. Fold top edge of skirt front (Pattern C) to wrong side on stitching line, making a <sup>24</sup> lingerie mitre at the centre front. Baste. 4. Lay basted edge of Pattern C over lower edge of brassiere front along line of tailor tacks, forming a <sup>25</sup> lapped seam. Pin and baste in position. Topstitch along basting line. 5. Trim raw edges on inside to  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. and finish by overcasting together. 6. Topstitch skirt back (Pattern D) to brassiere back (Pattern B) in the same way, matching notches. Finish inside raw edges by overcasting them together. 7. Join sides with <sup>26</sup> French seams. (If there is an opening leave this length unstitched — and follow the directions for a <sup>27</sup> continuous opening, P. 4. Sew on fasteners). 8. Turn in  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. seam allowance round top of slip and baste. 9. Make <sup>28</sup> rouleau from the crossway strip length round brassiere top  $\times$   $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. the finished width being  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. <sup>29</sup> Shell-edge the rouleau. 10. Attach the rouleau to the top of the slip with <sup>30</sup> bar fagotting using one strand of stranded cotton. Turn in the raw inside edge and overcast the folded edge. 11. Turn up a  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. hem all round lower edge of slip, baste. Work shell-edging round this hem. 12. Attach <sup>23</sup> shoulder straps in position to brassiere top where marked with Xs. Press well.

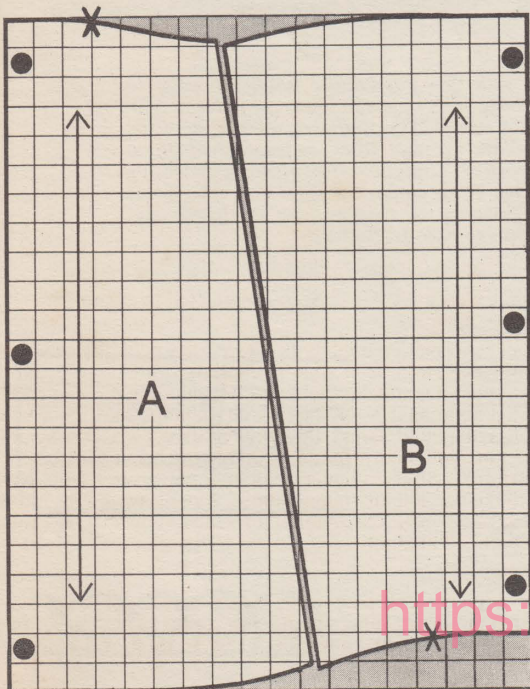
Techniques: see P. 4.

Pattern Alterations: P. 4.

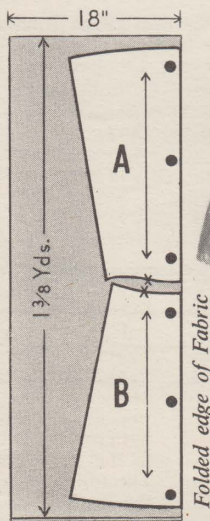


1987

1986

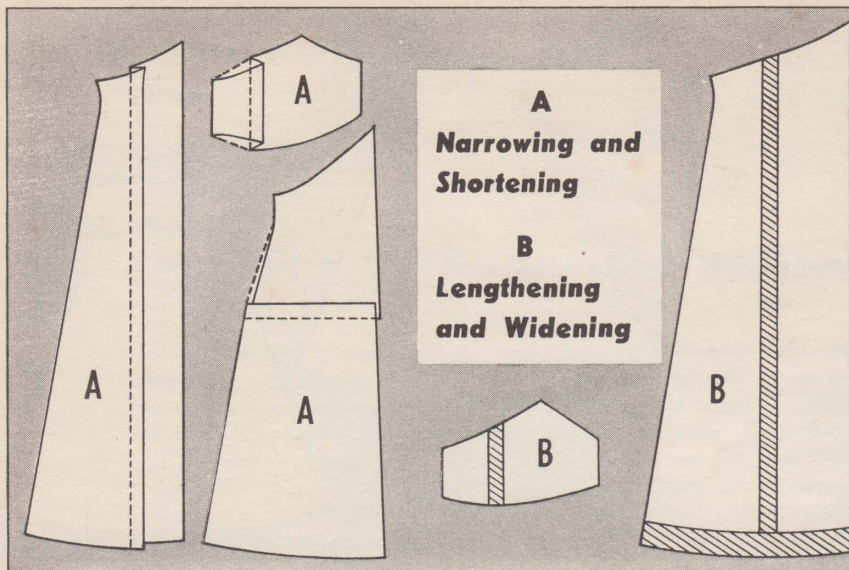


1986 Pattern Diagram



Cutting Layout

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### Pattern Alterations (For a Slip)

Here are brief instructions for altering patterns of slips to your own individual measurements. **Always alter your pattern first.** It is extremely difficult to make any large alterations once the garment is cut. To widen the bodice or skirt of a slip, slash the pattern as shown on sketch (see page 4). It is necessary to add equal quantities at either side to back and front; so the width to be added must be divided by four. Spread the slash out to the required width and a strip of paper can then be pinned or glued to the slash. To make the pattern smaller, divide the amount to be removed by four and fold the pattern into small tucks (see sketch, page 4). To lengthen or shorten the slip add or remove the amount at hip line if the skirt is straight; if it is circular do this alteration at the bottom (see sketch). In our next bulletin we will show how a blouse pattern may be altered.

## TECHNIQUES

**22. Lace Edging:** With right sides together, lay the lace along the folded edge and with tiny close stitches overcast or whip into position. Whipping is another name sometimes given to overcasting. Press flat.

**23. Attaching Shoulder Straps:** Make a small turning on the raw end of ribbon. Place ribbon against wrong side of garment concealing the raw end of ribbon and sew all round with tiny hemming stitches. Repeat with other end of ribbon.

**24. Fabric Mitre in Lingerie:** This is constructed by folding the point across to form a small triangle on the wrong side of fabric (depth of seam allowance). Then fold the seam allowance down on each side, baste (see diagram).

**25. Plain Lapped, Overlaid or Topstitched Seam:** Turn in the raw edge of the fabric to be laid on top, baste. Lay the basted edge over the fabric to which it is to be attached, making sure that it lies on the normal seam line, baste and topstitch (see sketch).

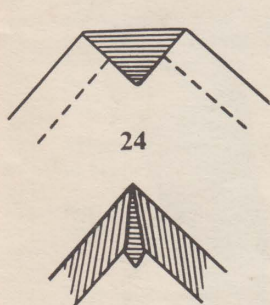
**26. French Seams:** With wrong sides facing, baste and stitch the two raw edges together, trim seam to just under  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. from line of stitching. Open out and press. Turn to wrong side of garment and run a line of basting  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. in from first seam so that the raw edges are enclosed and can be felt between the pieces of fabric. Machine just below the line of basting. Remove bastings and press (see sketch). This seam is suitable for most underwear and children's clothes. If used on a very fine fabric care must be taken when laundering. If the seam is pressed too firmly with an iron the fabric may split along the inside edge of the seam.

**27. Continuous Opening:** Cut a bias strip double the length of the opening plus 1 in.  $\times$  2 in. wide. With right sides together, baste and stitch bias strip to opening edge in a continuous operation. Turn in the raw edge of the bias strip and hem with stitches to the machine stitching line on the wrong side of the opening (see sketch). Fold back the front edge of the continuous opening. Sew fasteners in position.

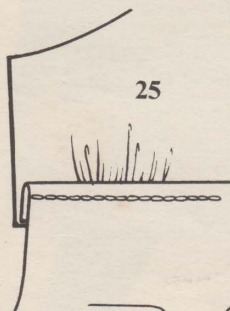
**28. Rouleau:** Cut a crossway strip approximately 1 in.  $- 1\frac{1}{2}$  in. wide by length required. With right sides facing, fold it in half lengthwise, baste and stitch the whole length of strip down the centre. Attach a thread securely to one end and draw the other end through the rouleau with a bodkin. Continue pulling the thread gently until the rouleau is turned to the right side.

**29. Shell-Edging:** Turn down a narrow hem on to wrong side of fabric (which must be lightweight). With matching or a tone darker mercerised sewing cotton, or one strand of embroidery cotton, working on wrong side, insert needle just below lower edge of hem, take three overcast stitches across hem — pull tightly — then slip needle along inside hem for  $\frac{1}{4}$  in.; bring out needle on lower edge of hem and again take three overcast stitches across hem, repeat (see diagram). Shell-edging a rouleau is carried out in the same way as shell-edging a narrow hem.

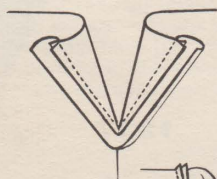
**30. Shell-Edged Rouleau with Bar Fagotting:** Baste the edge to be fagotted to a strip of paper 1 in. wide and baste the rouleau  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. above. Using one thread of stranded cotton work the bar fagotting stitch by bringing the needle through from underneath close to lower edge. Take the first stitch straight across opening and bring needle through upper edge from underneath. Twist the needle under and over thread, replacing the needle in on the lower edge and slide it along  $\frac{1}{4}$  in., repeat (see diagram).



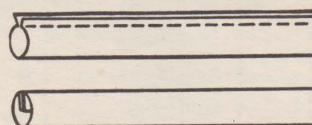
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25



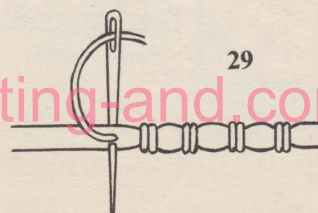
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