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Payne

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(54) **SYSTEM AND METHOD OF MAINTAINING POCKET SQUARE FORM IN A POCKET**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 55 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **15/976,464**

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Related U.S. Application Data

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(51) **Int. Cl.**

A41B 15/02	(2006.01)
A45F 5/04	(2006.01)
A45F 5/02	(2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC ***A41B 15/02*** (2013.01); ***A45F 5/022*** (2013.01); ***A45F 5/04*** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC A41B 15/02; A41B 15/00; A45F 5/04; A41D 2300/24

See application file for complete search history.

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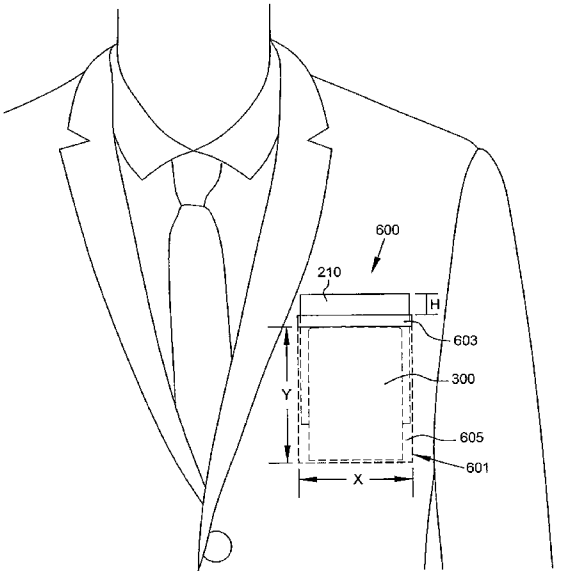
Primary Examiner — Khoa D Huynh
Assistant Examiner — Erick I Lopez
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Duane Morris LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A system of maintaining the form of a pocket square comprises an insert, a pocket square sleeve, and a holder. The insert comprises a semi-rigid or rigid material. The pocket square sleeve comprises fabric sewn along a lengthwise seam to form a sleeve and a second seam substantially perpendicular to the lengthwise seam forming a cavity configured to receive the insert. The holder comprises an elongate member and a fastening element, the elongate member configured to be folded to cause engagement of the fastening element. The insert is disposed in the cavity of the pocket square sleeve and the combined insert and pocket square sleeve is disposed in the holder with the fastening element engaged.

20 Claims, 17 Drawing Sheets



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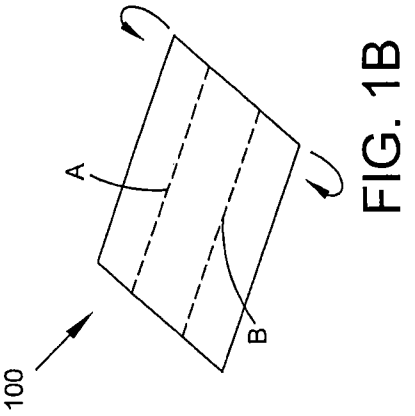

FIG. 1B

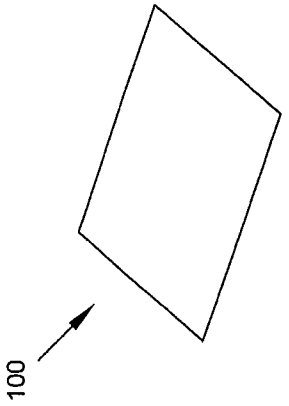

FIG. 1A

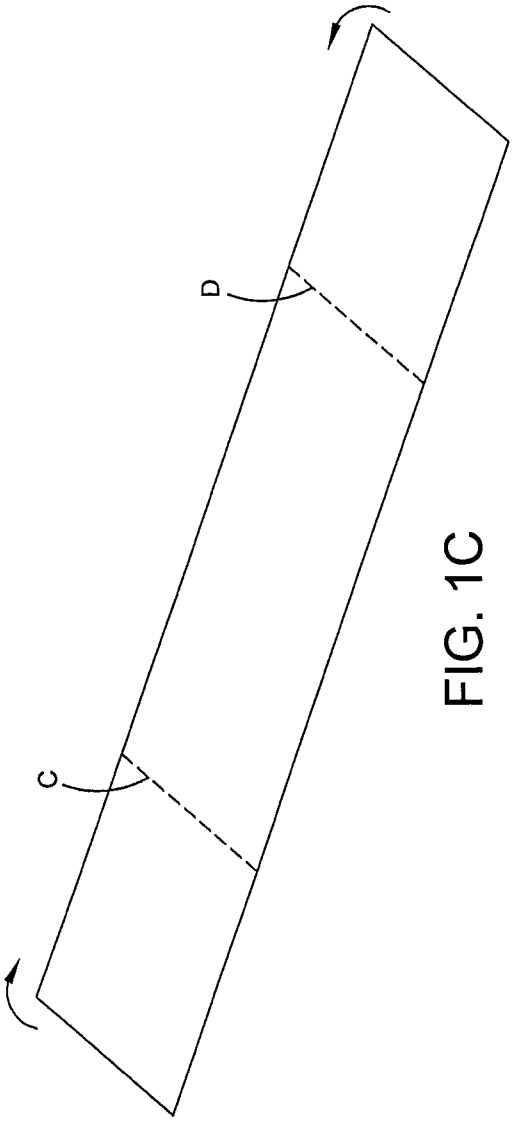

FIG. 1C

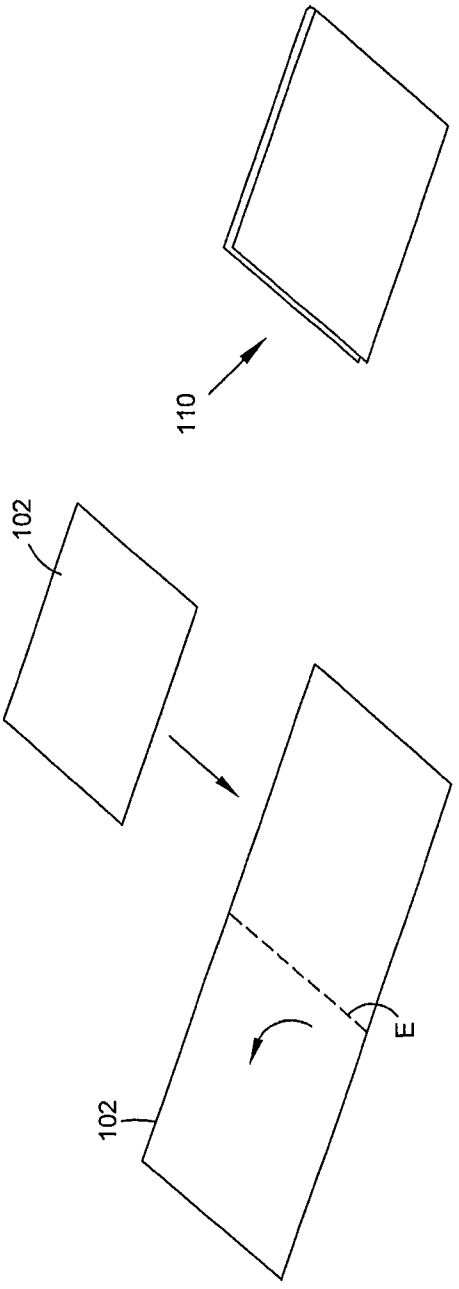

FIG. 1D

FIG. 1E

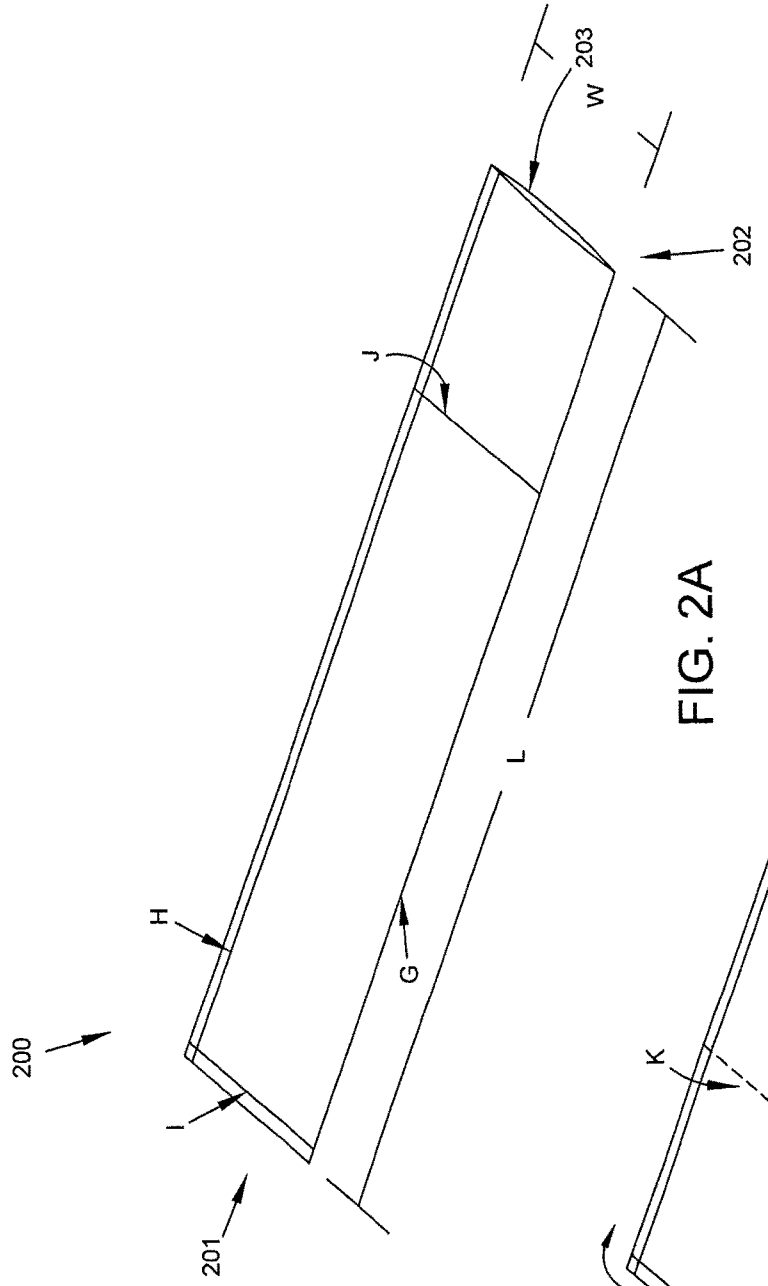

FIG. 2A

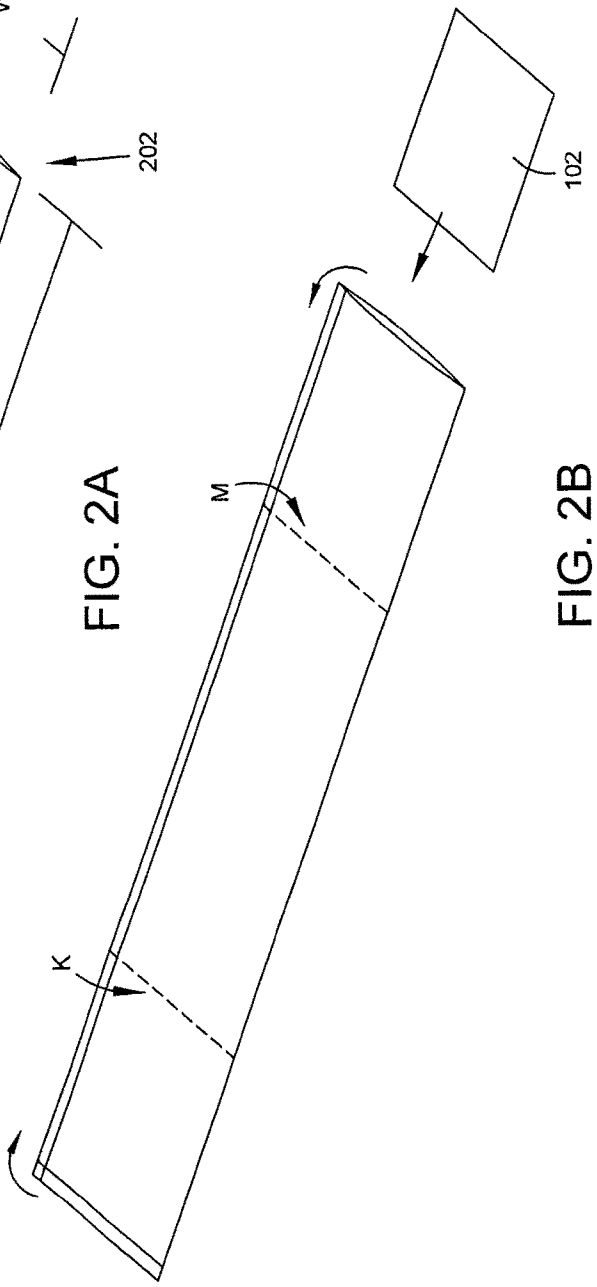

FIG. 2B

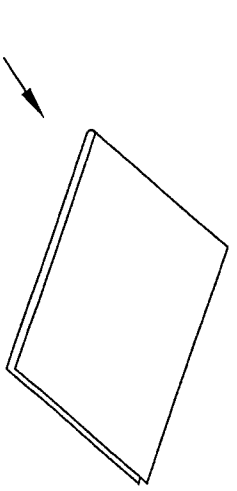

FIG. 2D

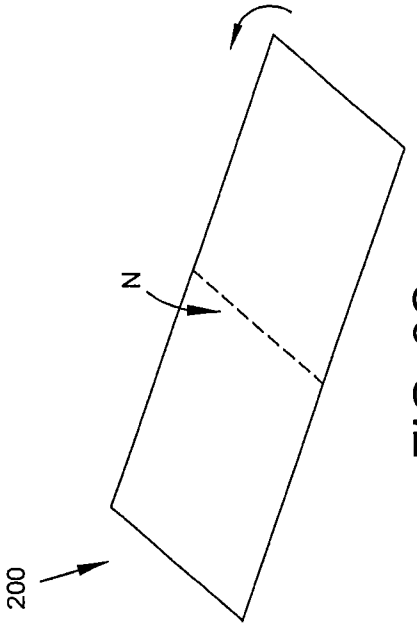

FIG. 2C

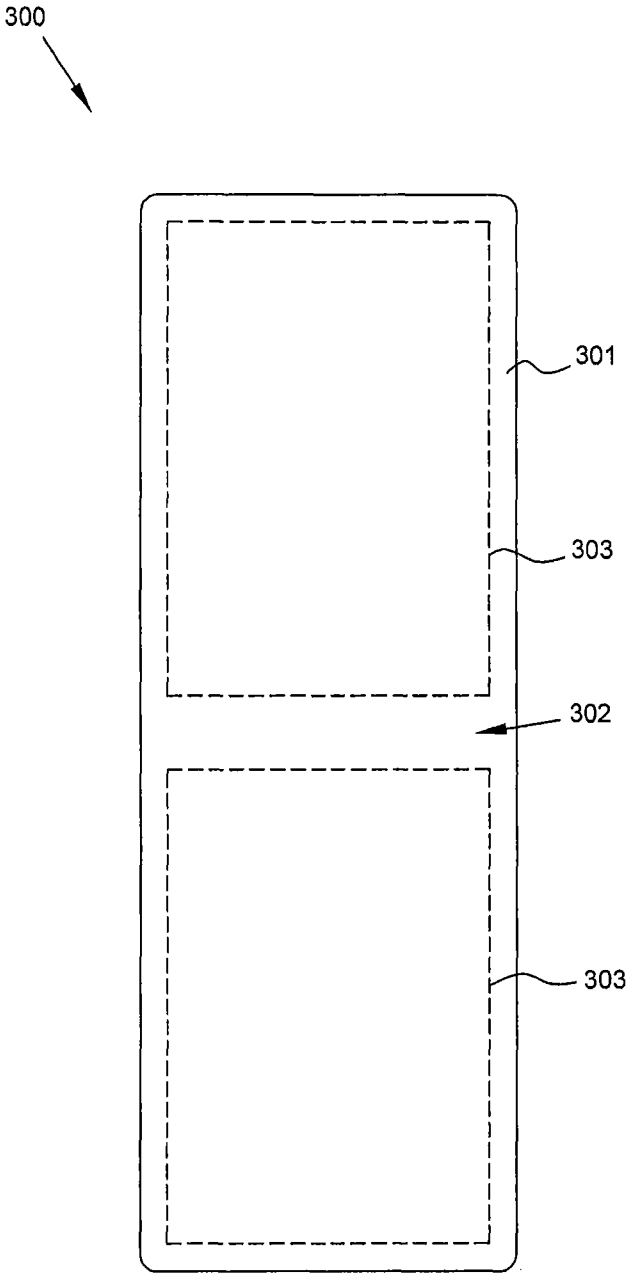

FIG. 3A

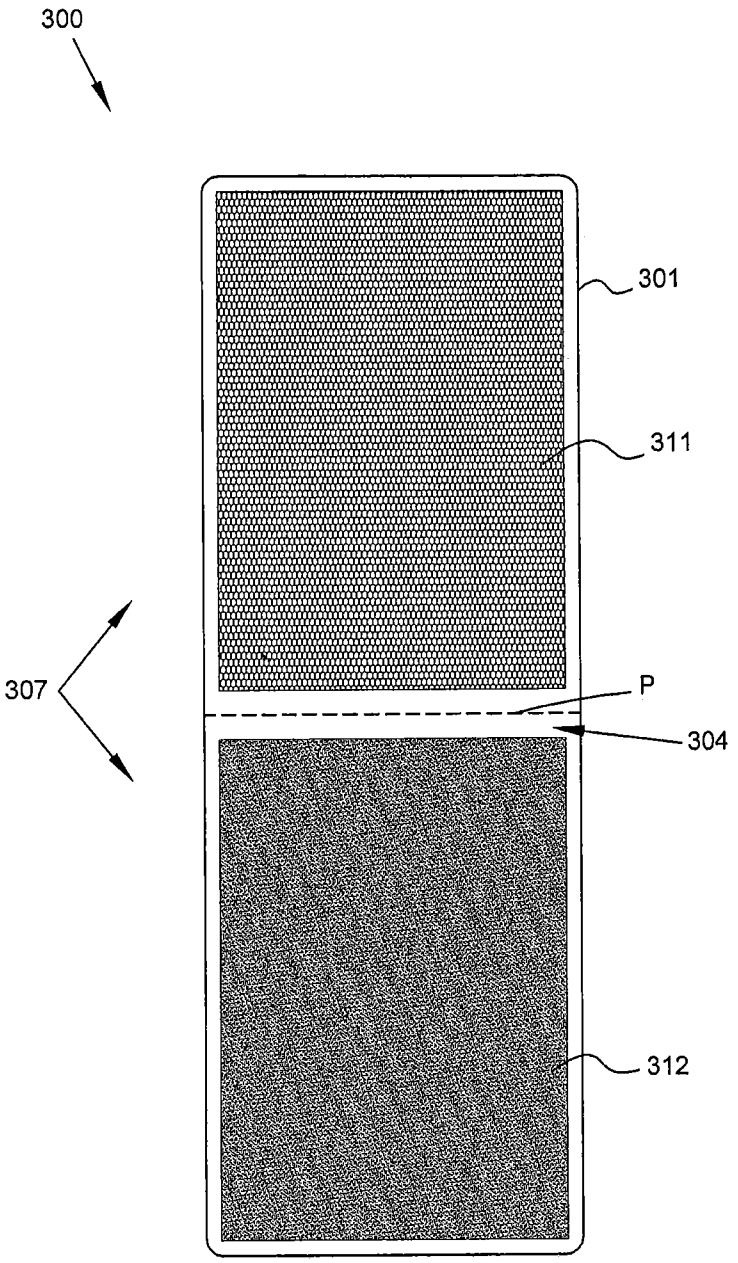

FIG. 3B

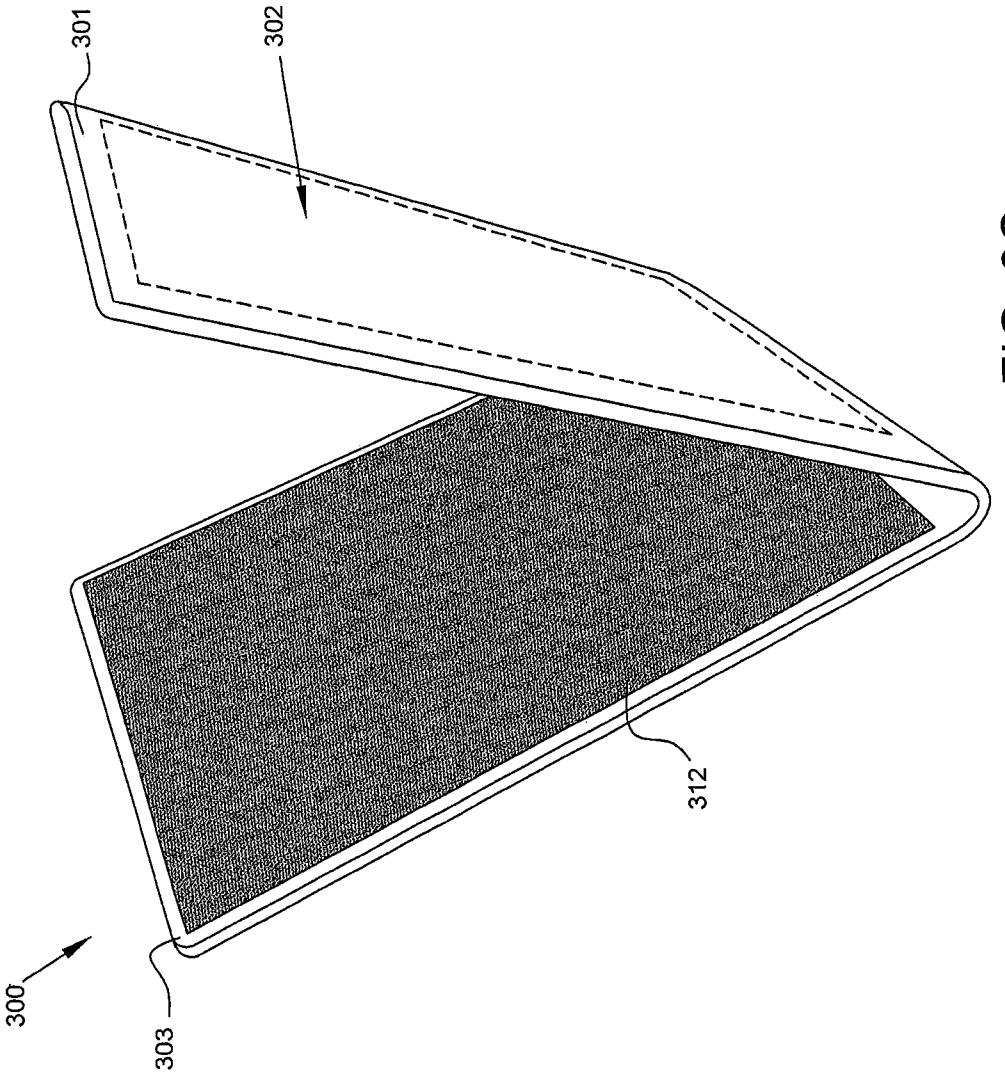

FIG. 3C

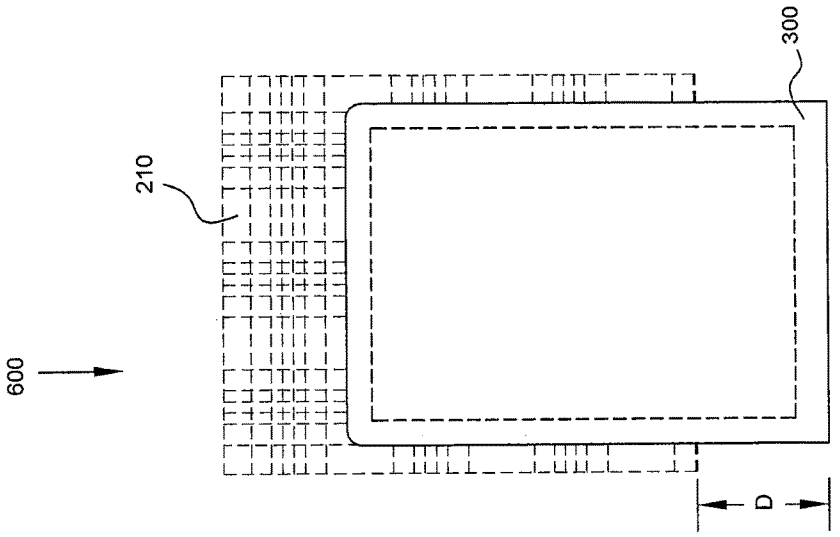

FIG. 5A

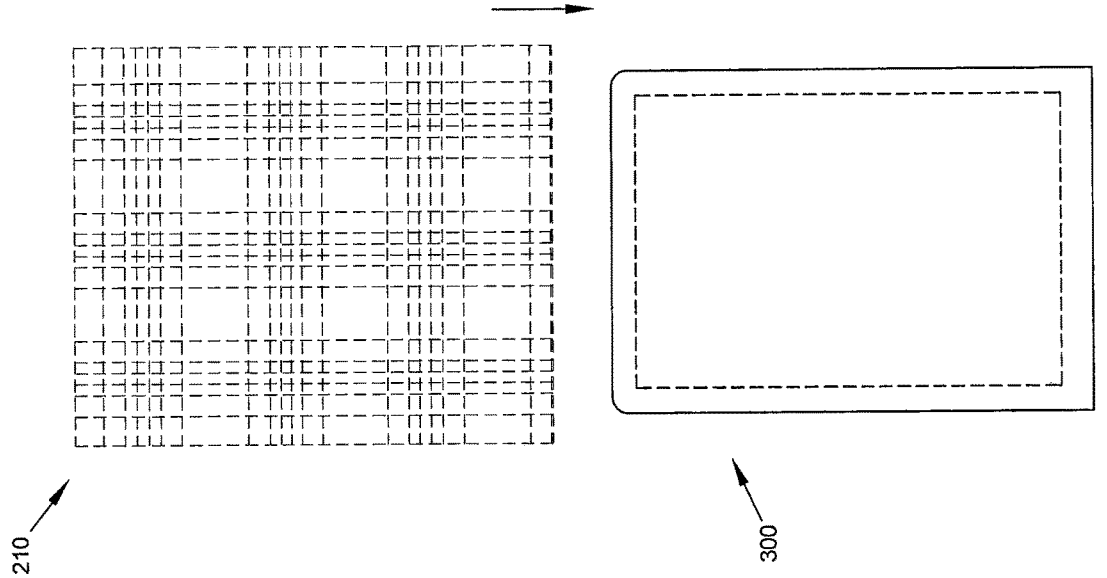

FIG. 4A

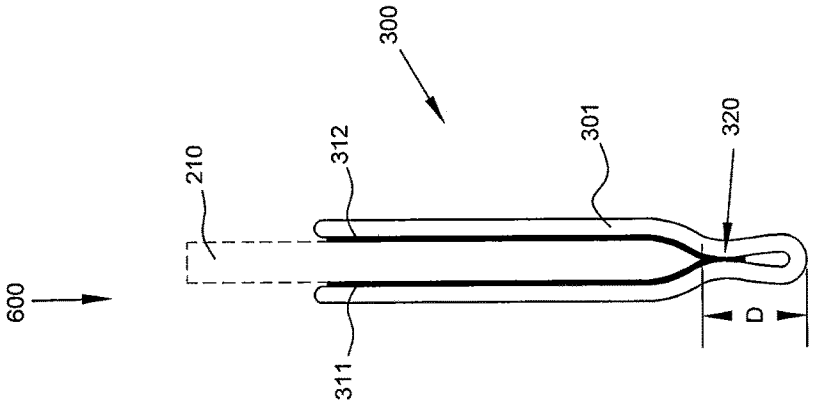

FIG. 5B

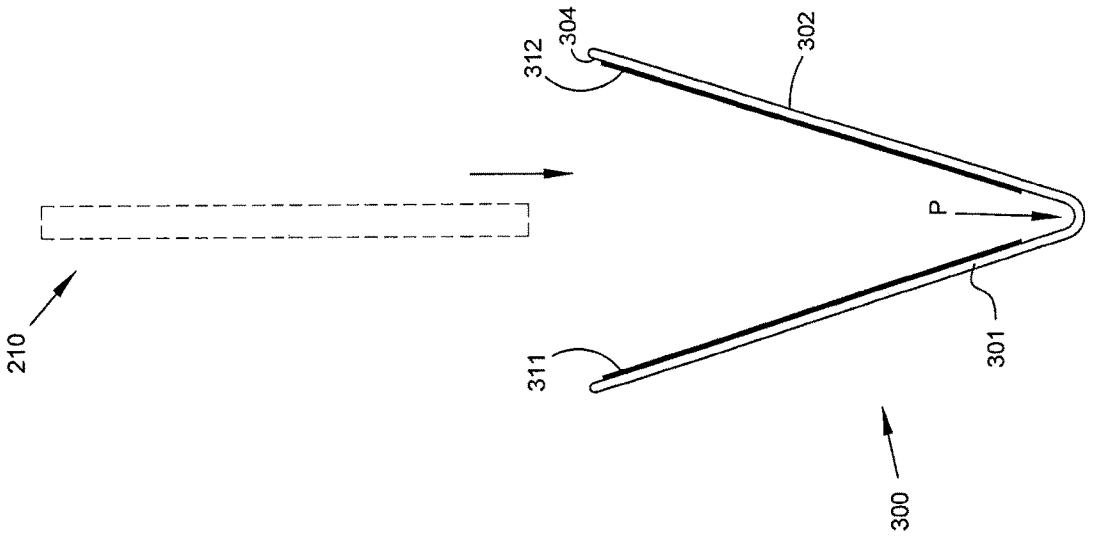

FIG. 4B

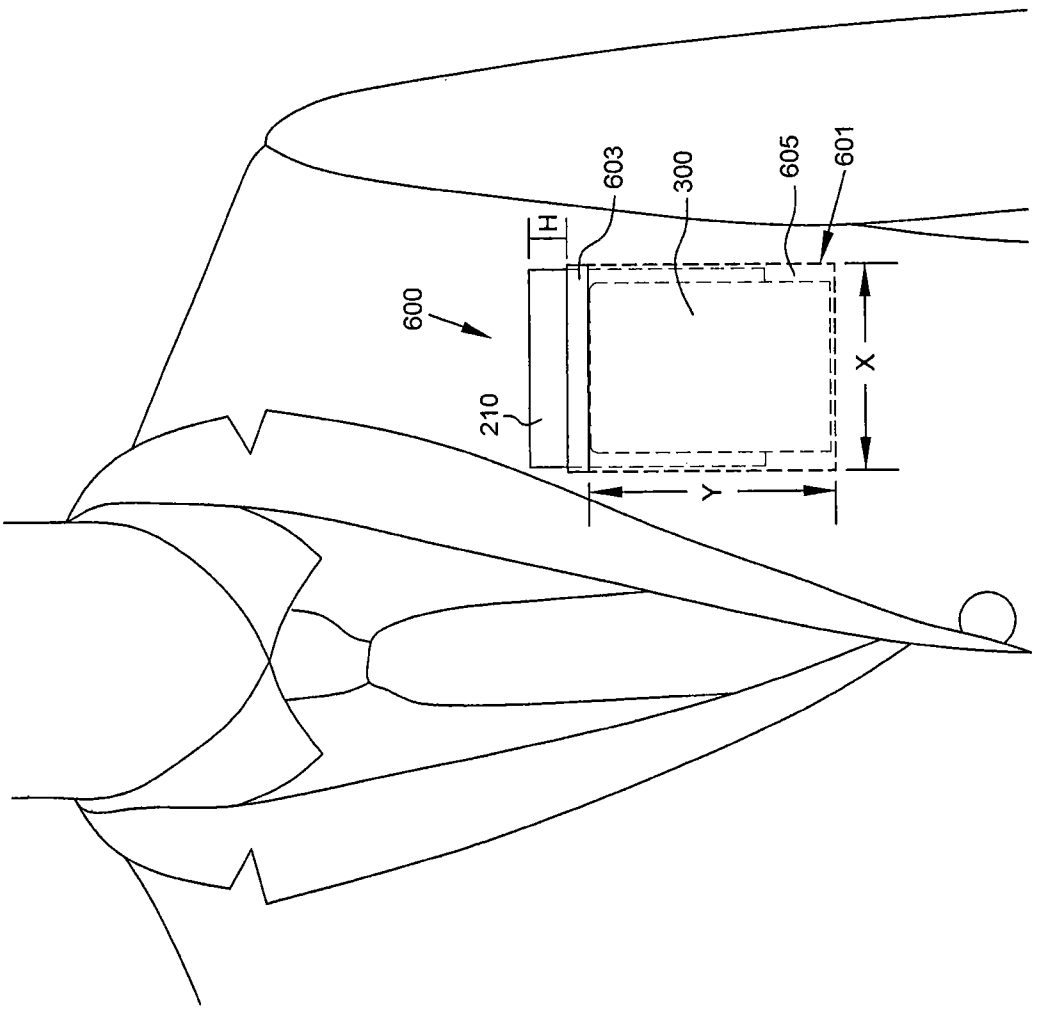

FIG. 6

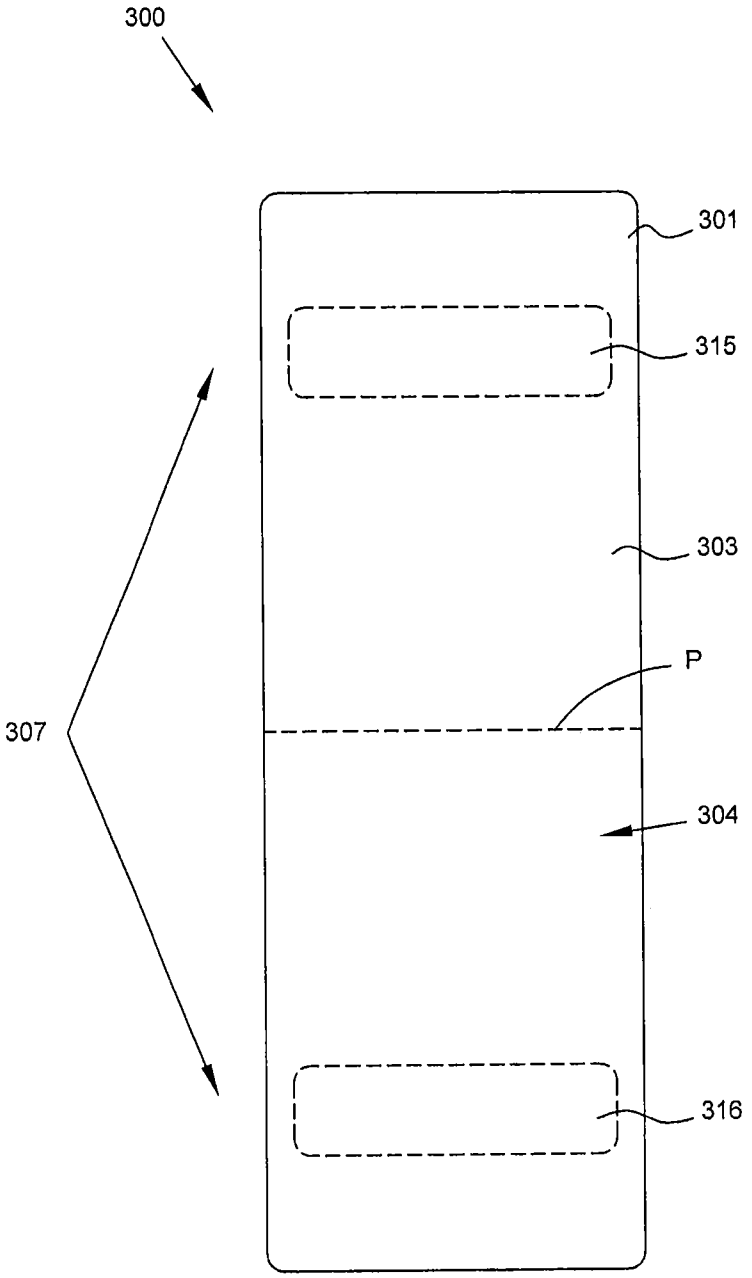

FIG. 7A

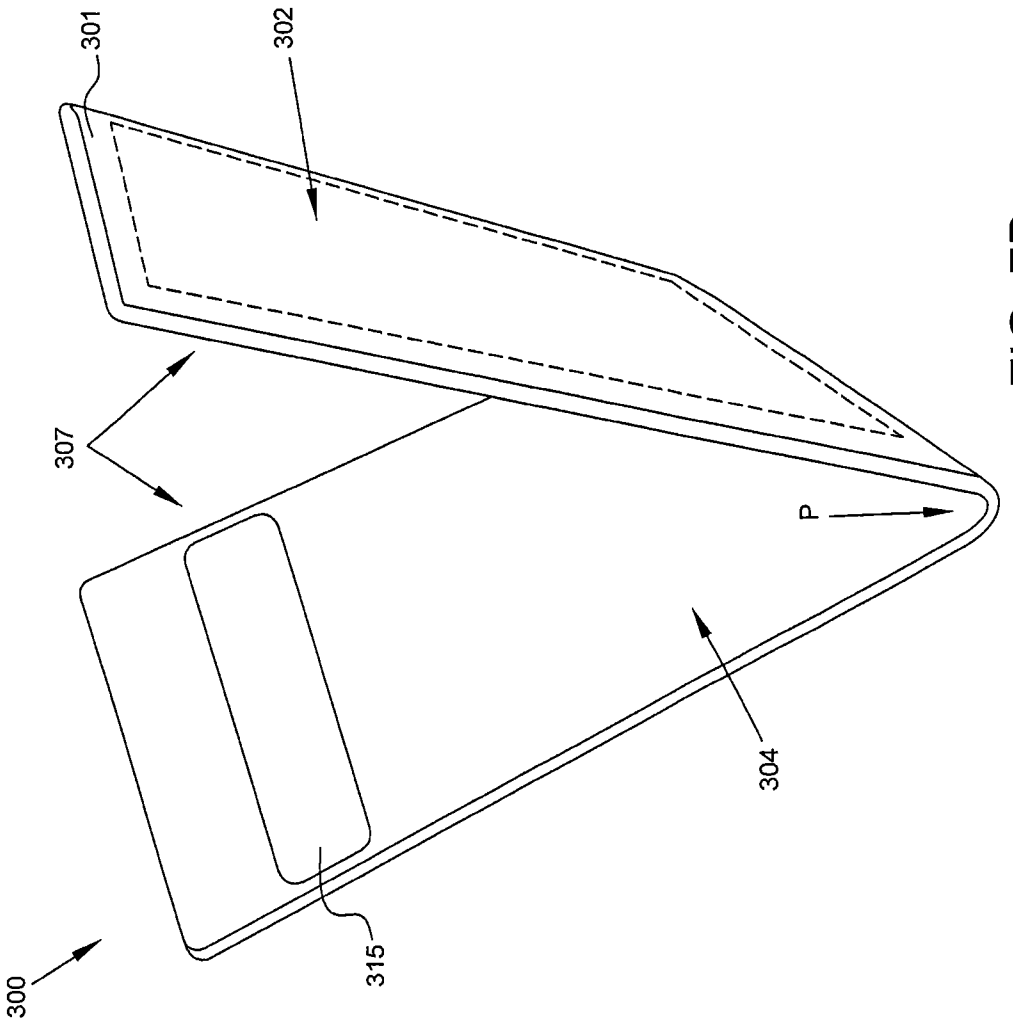

FIG. 7B

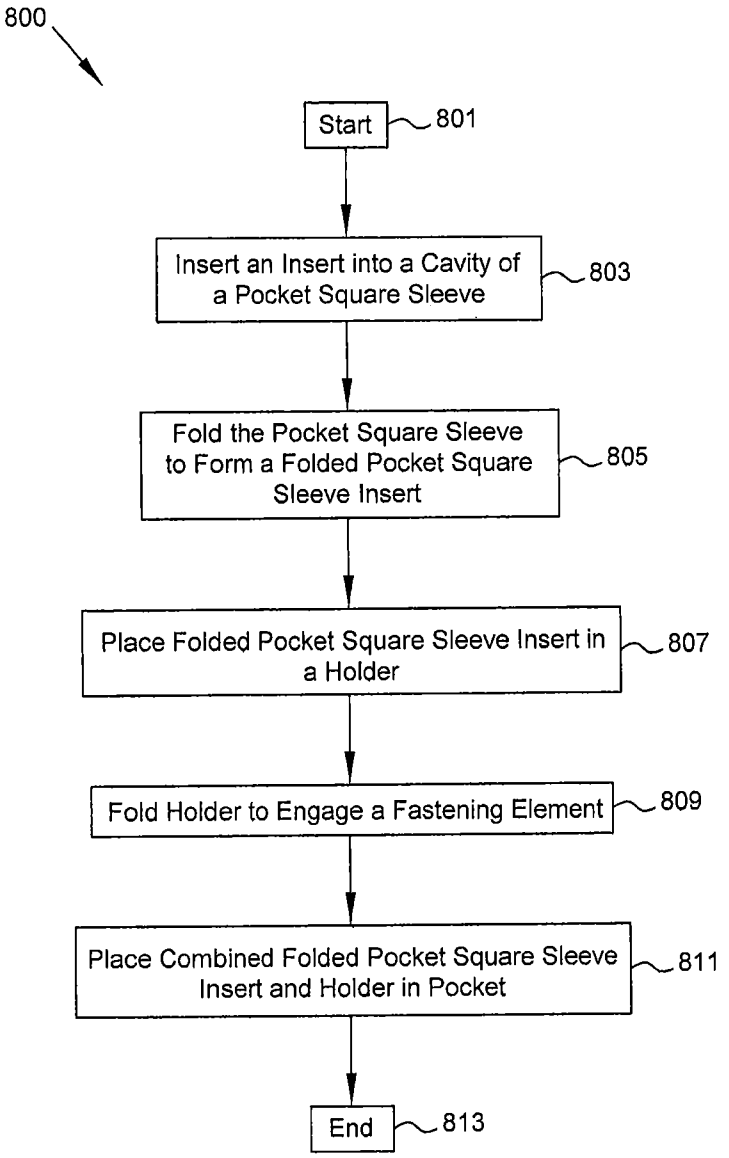
800
Start
801
Insert an Insert into a Cavity of a Pocket Square Sleeve
803
Fold the Pocket Square Sleeve to Form a Folded Pocket Square Sleeve Insert
805
Place Folded Pocket Square Sleeve Insert in a Holder
807
Fold Holder to Engage a Fastening Element
809
Place Combined Folded Pocket Square Sleeve Insert and Holder in Pocket
811
End
813

FIG. 8

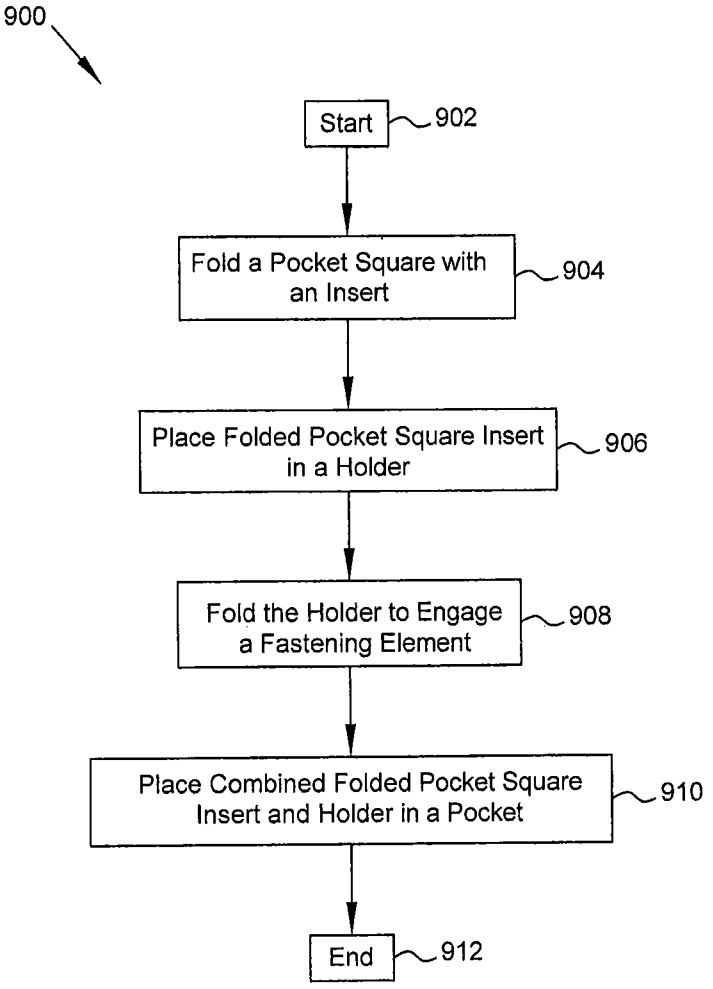
900
Start
902
Fold a Pocket Square with an Insert
904
Place Folded Pocket Square Insert in a Holder
906
Fold the Holder to Engage a Fastening Element
908
Place Combined Folded Pocket Square Insert and Holder in a Pocket
910
End
912

FIG. 9

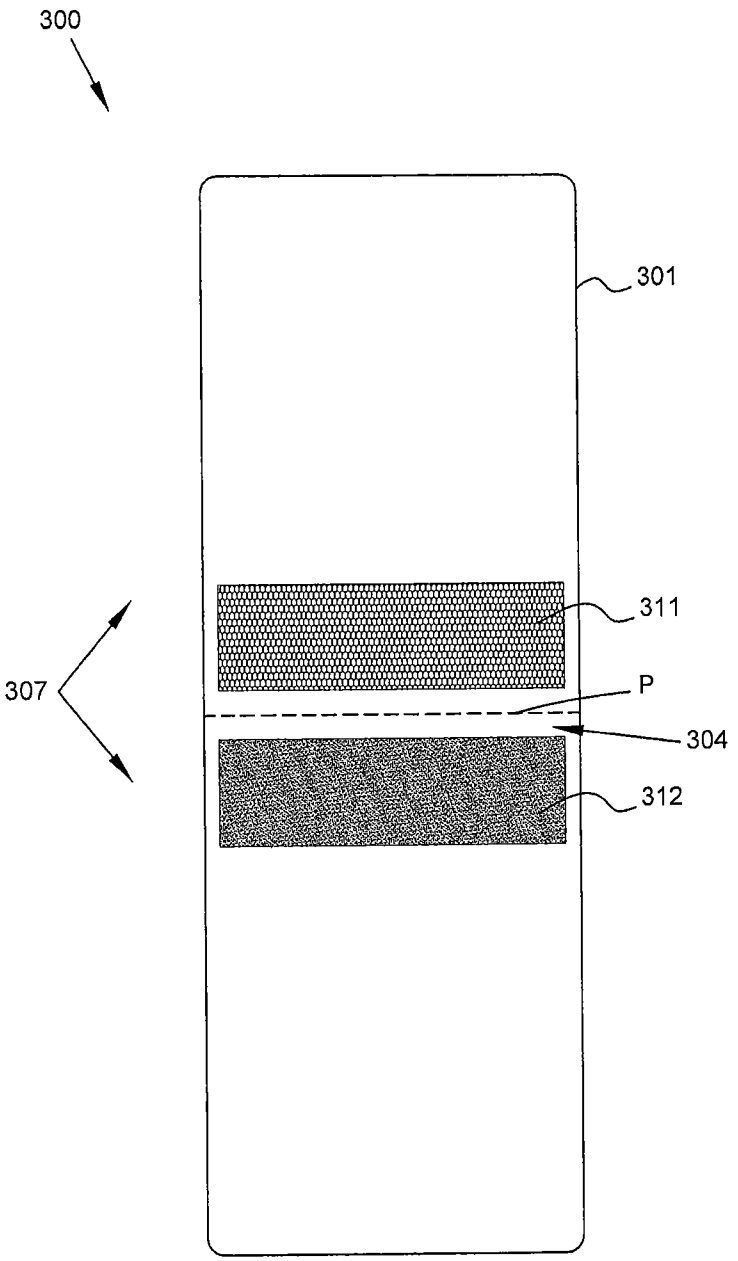

FIG. 10

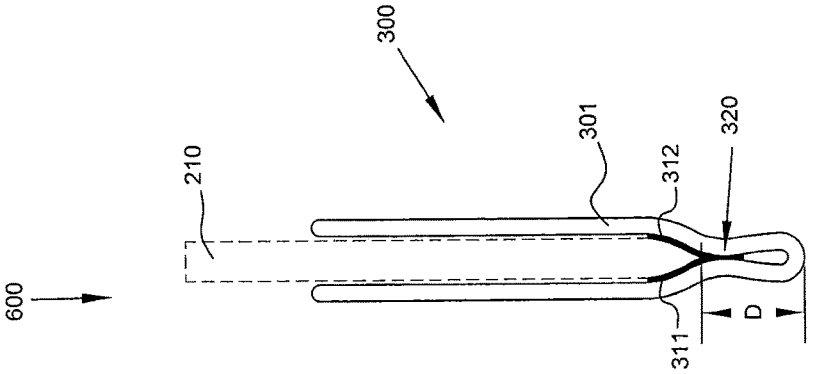

FIG. 11B

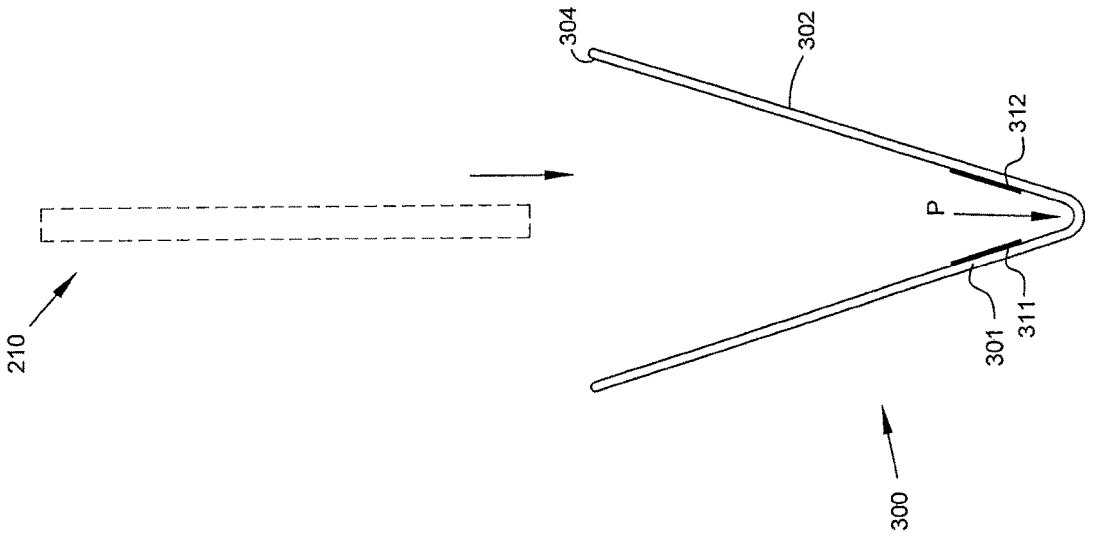

FIG. 11A

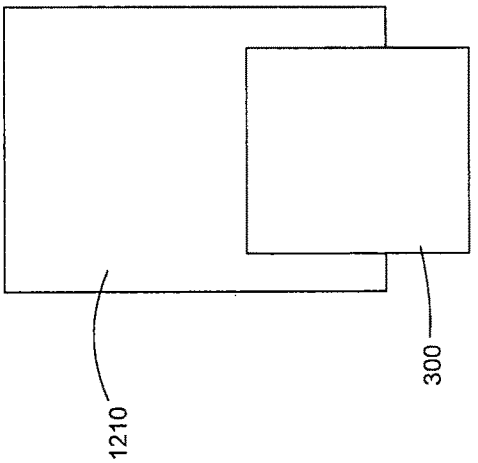

FIG. 12B

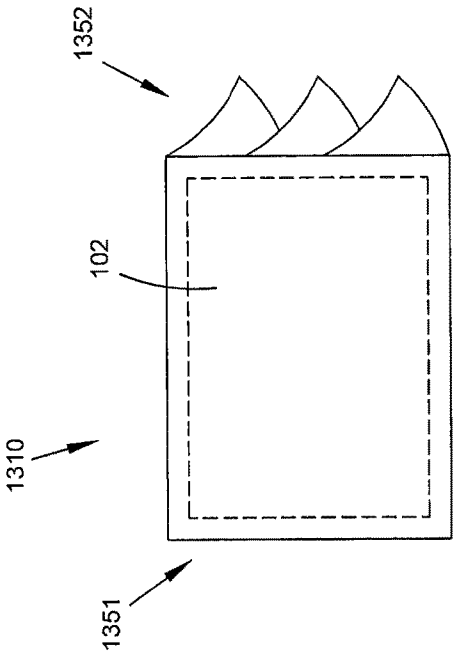

FIG. 13

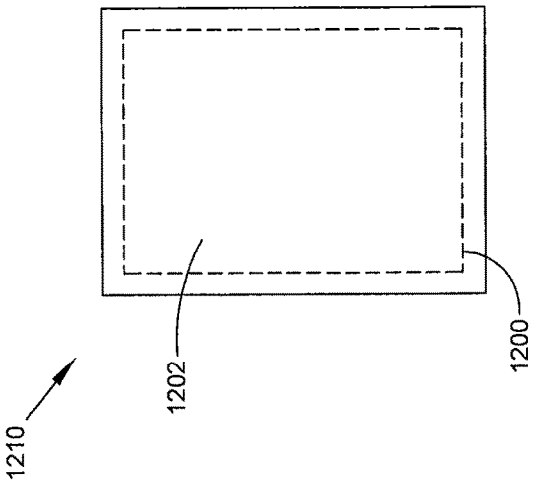

FIG. 12A

SYSTEM AND METHOD OF MAINTAINING POCKET SQUARE FORM IN A POCKET

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/603,262, filed May 22, 2017, the entirety of which is herein incorporated by reference.

BACKGROUND

Pocket squares are a well-known accessory in the fashion industry. A pocket square is typically a square- or rectangular-shaped piece of fabric such as silk, cotton, or linen. The pocket square is folded and placed in a pocket (typically the breast pocket of a suit jacket) such that it protrudes from the pocket, typically on the order of ½ to three centimeters of the pocket square being visible as protruding from the pocket. Through the use of different fabrics (including different colors, patterns, and textures), as well as different folding techniques and degrees of protrusion, the pocket square offers a wide range of ways to accent a suit jacket. This wide range of accents via pocket square can be coupled with an equally wide range of suit jacket, shirt, socks, and tie selections to create a nearly endless variety to a suit.

Despite their versatility, pocket squares suffer from many drawbacks that are also well-known to the fashion industry and consumers in general. Because pocket squares are simply a piece of fabric and are typically made from finer fabrics, they lack the rigidity to hold their form for long periods of time. In addition, the linings of many pockets include fabrics that are not conducive to maintaining the position of a pocket square. As a result, a pocket square placed in the breast pocket of a suit jacket will frequently sag or slide down into the pocket (reducing the amount of the pocket square visibly protruding from the pocket), move side-to-side within the pocket, or become bunched. When a pocket square loses its form in these ways, it destroys the desired style and presentation of the pocket square, such as the crisp presentation of a pocket square line protruding from the breast pocket. Pocket squares are also notoriously difficult to fold and place in the breast pocket.

Many in the fashion industry have made previous attempts to overcome these shortcomings. For example, certain companies now offer the option to have a pocket square sewn into place in the breast pocket of a suit jacket. While this solution may overcome the problem of the pocket square losing its form during wear, it obviously creates a new problem in that the suit jacket and pocket square are now attached to each other, such that the user cannot easily change the styling of the suit jacket. This solution therefore destroys the versatility afforded through the use of pocket squares.

Similarly, some in the fashion industry have taken to sewing a pocket square to a structural member such as a piece of cardboard, and then inserting the sewn-together pocket square and structural member combination into a breast pocket. Sewing the pocket square in a fixed orientation or fold pattern reduces the versatility of the pocket square (which could otherwise be folded in numerous styles) and can be problematic for laundering.

Another solution known in the industry is the use of a plastic sleeve or pouch that envelops a portion of the pocket square. This solution is akin to a common plastic "change purse" design, having a plastic sleeve that is closed on three sides but open on the fourth side. Squeezing the sleeve near the open fourth side causes temporary deformation of the sleeve to create an opening large enough to place a pocket square inside, and cessation of the squeezing pressure allows the sleeve to close and grip the pocket square. The "change purse" sleeve and pocket square are then inserted into the breast pocket. This solution is less than ideal because the pocket square is typically hard to place in the sleeve since the sleeve is closed on three sides. The pocket square—again, typically made of delicate or fine fabric and folded with some degree of precision—is required to be stuffed into a plastic sleeve at one end without disrupting the presentation of the other end that will protrude from the breast pocket. This is difficult to accomplish and often results in a poor presentation of the pocket square in the breast pocket.

As none of these prior solutions have succeeded in maintaining the versatile nature of the pocket square while correcting for the tendency to lose shape, there is thus a long felt need in the fashion industry for improvements to the use of pocket squares.

SUMMARY

According to some aspects of the present disclosure, a system of maintaining the form of a pocket square comprises an insert, a pocket square sleeve, and a holder. The insert comprises a semi-rigid material. The pocket square sleeve comprises fabric sewn along a lengthwise seam to form a sleeve and a second seam substantially perpendicular to the lengthwise seam forming a cavity configured to receive the insert. The holder comprises an elongate member and a fastening element, and the elongate member is configured to be folded to cause engagement of the fastening element.

In some embodiments the insert is disposed in the cavity of the pocket square sleeve and the combined insert and pocket square sleeve is disposed in the holder. In some embodiments the pocket square sleeve is closed with a third seam proximate an end of the sleeve, said third seam substantially perpendicular to the lengthwise seam. In some embodiments the pocket square sleeve is dimensioned such that folding the pocket square sleeve to fit into a pocket requires folding the pocket square sleeve in a single dimension. In some embodiments the pocket is a breast pocket of a suit jacket. In some embodiments folding the pocket square sleeve in quarters along a lateral dimension achieves an appropriate dimension of a folded pocket square sleeve to fit into the pocket.

In some embodiments the fastening element comprises a hook and loop fastener, with a hook panel disposed opposite the loop panel when the elongate member is in a folded position, wherein folding the holder about the combined insert and pocket square sleeve causes engagement of a portion of the hook panel with a portion of the loop panel. In some embodiments the fastening element comprises a pair of magnets, with a first magnet having a first polarity disposed opposite a second magnet having a second polarity when the elongate member is in a folded position, wherein folding the holder about the combined insert and pocket square sleeve causes engagement between the pair of magnets sufficient to hold the holder about the combined insert and pocket square sleeve.

According to further aspects of the present disclosure, a system of maintaining the form of a pocket square comprises a pocket square, a semi-rigid insert, and a holder. The pocket square comprises a polygonal piece of fabric configured to be folded to a polygonal shape dimensioned to fit substantially within the breast pocket of a suit jacket. The semi-rigid insert is dimensioned to fit substantially within the breast

pocket of a suit jacket and configured to be folded within the pocket square. The holder comprises an elongate member and a fastening element, with the elongate member configured to be folded to cause engagement of the fastening element. The insert is folded within the pocket square and the combined insert and pocket square is partially disposed within the holder, with the fastening element of the holder at least partially engaged.

In some embodiments the fastening element comprises a hook and loop fastener, with a hook panel disposed opposite the loop panel when the elongate member is in a folded position, wherein folding the holder about the combined insert and pocket square causes engagement of a portion of the hook panel with a portion of the loop panel. In some embodiments the fastening element comprises a pair of magnets, with a first magnet having a first polarity disposed opposite a second magnet having a second polarity when the elongate member is in a folded position, wherein folding the holder about the combined insert and pocket square causes engagement between the pair of magnets sufficient to hold the holder about the combined insert and pocket square. In some embodiments the fastening element comprises an elastic band configured to extend between and couple opposing sides of the elongate member when the elongate member is in a folded position to hold the holder about the combined insert and pocket square. In some embodiments the elastic band is attached in at least one location to the elongate member. In some embodiments the fastening element comprises a clasp configured to extend between and couple opposing sides of the elongate member when the elongate member is in a folded position to hold the holder about the combined insert and pocket square.

According to yet further aspects of the present disclosure, a method of maintaining the form of a pocket square comprises: inserting an insert into a cavity of a pocket square sleeve, the pocket square sleeve comprising fabric sewn along a lengthwise seam to form a sleeve and a second seam substantially perpendicular to the lengthwise seam forming a cavity configured to receive the insert; folding the pocket square sleeve having the insert disposed in the cavity to form a folded pocket square sleeve insert; placing the folded pocket square sleeve insert in a holder, the holder comprising an elongate member and a fastening element; and folding the elongate member to engage the fastening element such that the folded pocket square sleeve insert is held by the holder.

In some embodiments the step of folding the pocket square sleeve comprises folding in a single dimension to achieve a folded pocket square sleeve insert dimensioned to fit in the breast pocket of a suit jacket. In some embodiments the pocket square sleeve is folded in quarters. In some embodiments the step of folding the elongate member comprises folding the elongate member in a bi-fold manner such that a first portion of an interior surface of the elongate member substantially faces a second portion of the interior surface.

In some embodiments the fastening element comprises a hook and loop fastener, with a hook panel disposed opposite the loop panel when the elongate member is in a folded position, wherein folding the holder about the folded pocket square sleeve insert causes engagement of a portion of the hook panel with a portion of the loop panel. In some embodiments the fastening element comprises a pair of magnets, with a first magnet having a first polarity disposed opposite a second magnet having a second polarity when the elongate member is in a folded position, wherein folding the holder about the folded pocket square sleeve insert causes engagement between the pair of magnets sufficient to hold the holder about the folded pocket square sleeve insert.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The following will be apparent from elements of the figures, which are provided for illustrative purposes.

FIG. **1**A is a simplified isometric view of a typical pocket square.

FIGS. **1**B, **1**C, **1**D, and **1**E provide simplified isometric views of the folding of the pocket square of FIG. **1**A to include an insert, in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **2**A is a simplified isometric view of a pocket square sleeve in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIGS. **2**B, **2**C, and **2**D provide simplified isometric views of the folding of the pocket square sleeve of FIG. **2**A to include an insert, in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **3**A is a simplified profile view of the exterior side of a pocket square holder in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **3**B is a simplified profile view of the interior side of the pocket square holder of FIG. **3**A in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **3**C is a simplified isometric view of the pocket square holder of FIGS. **3**A and **3**B in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **4**A is a simplified front profile view of a folded pocket square sleeve insert and pocket square holder in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **4**B is a simplified side profile view of the folded pocket square sleeve insert and pocket square holder of FIG. **4**A in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **5**A is a simplified front profile view of a folded pocket square sleeve insert disposed in a pocket square holder in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **5**B is a simplified side profile view of a folded pocket square sleeve insert disposed in a pocket square holder in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **6** is a simplified view of a folded pocket square insert and pocket square holder combination disposed in the breast pocket of a suit jacket in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **7**A is a simplified profile view of the interior side of a pocket square holder in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **7**B is a simplified isometric view of the pocket square holder of FIG. **7**A in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **8** is a simplified flow diagram of a method in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **9** is a simplified flow diagram of a method in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **10** is a simplified profile view of the interior side of a pocket square holder in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **11**A is a simplified side profile view of the folded pocket square sleeve insert and pocket square holder in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **11**B is a simplified side profile view of a folded pocket square sleeve insert disposed in a pocket square holder in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **12**A is a profile view of a pocket square sleeve in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **12**B is a profile view of a pocket square sleeve disposed in a pocket square holder in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. **13** is a profile view of a pocket square sleeve and insert combination in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure.

While the present disclosure is susceptible to various modifications and alternative forms, specific embodiments have been shown by way of example in the drawings and will be described in detail herein. It should be understood, however, that the present disclosure is not intended to be limited to the particular forms disclosed. Rather, the present disclosure is to cover all modifications, equivalents, and alternatives falling within the spirit and scope of the disclosure as defined by the appended claims.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

For the purposes of promoting an understanding of the principles of the disclosure, reference will now be made to a number of illustrative embodiments in the drawings and specific language will be used to describe the same.

The present disclosure is directed to systems and methods of maintaining the form of a pocket square when disposed in a pocket. The disclosed systems and methods overcome the aforementioned deficiencies, namely the tendency of a pocket square to lose its shape or form when worn in a pocket, while preserving the versatility of the pocket square as a fashion accessory. The disclosed system of maintaining the form of a pocket square may comprise a pocket square, an insert, and a pocket square holder. The pocket square may be a typical square or rectangular-shaped piece of fabric or a fabric of varying shapes and sizes, or may be a fabric sleeve as disclosed below.

In some embodiments of the present disclosure, a typical pocket square **100** is used. FIG. **1**A is an isometric view of a typical pocket square **100** that is well-known in the fashion industry and to the general public. Pocket square **100** comprises a polygonal piece of fabric, such as a square or rectangle. The fabric may comprise silk, cotton, linen, or similar material, or a blend of materials.

FIGS. **1**B, **1**C, and **1**D provide isometric views of the folding of a pocket square **100** to include an insert **102** in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure. Pocket square **100** is first folded in a lateral dimension (typically lengthwise for rectangular-shaped pieces of fabric) as illustrated in FIG. **1**B. In the illustrated embodiment the pocket square **100** is folded in thirds; however, additional folding divisions, such as by quarters, are contemplated. By folding the pocket square **100** along fold lines A and B and as indicated by the arrows of FIG. **1**B, the pocket square **100** presents a reduced width at a constant length as compared to the pocket square **100** of FIG. **1**A. The reduced width achieved by the folding illustrated in FIG. **1**B allows for placement of the pocket square **100** in a pocket. In other words, the reduced width is less than the width of the pocket in which the folded pocket square is to be placed.

Moving to FIG. **1**C, the pocket square **100** is next folded along fold lines C and D, as indicated by the arrows of FIG. **1**C. Prior to executing these folds, an insert **102** is placed as shown. The insert **102** comprises a rigid or semi-rigid material such as plastic, cardboard, polyurethane, vinyl or similar materials, and is dimensioned to be the approximate desired dimensions of a folded pocket square. In other words, the insert **102** may be dimensioned slightly smaller than the dimensions of a typical breast pocket of a suit jacket. In some embodiments, the insert **102** is 8.5 cm by 8 cm. When folded into the pocket square **100** as illustrated in FIGS. **1**B, **1**C, and **1**D, the insert **102** will provide structural rigidity to the folded pocket square. It is desirable that the rigid or semi-rigid material used for the insert **102** allows the insert **102** to be thin so as not to be bulky and/or noticeable when disposed in a pocket.

At FIG. **1**D, the pocket square **100** is further folded along fold line E as indicated by the arrow of FIG. **1**D. This fold completes the folding of the pocket square **100**. The final combination of a folded pocket square **100** and insert **102**—which this application shall refer to as a folded pocket square insert **110**—is illustrated in the isometric view of FIG. **1**E.

In some embodiments of the present disclosure, a pocket square sleeve **200** is used instead of a standard pocket square **100** such as that described above. FIG. **2**A is an isometric view of a pocket square sleeve **200** in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure. A pocket square sleeve **200** comprises a rectangular piece of fabric that is folded onto itself at edge G and sewn at seam H to create a tube, or sleeve, of fabric.

The tube is closed at a first end **201** by a sewn seam I, and closed at an offset from an opposing end **202** by a sewn seam J. The offset between the end **202** of the tube and seam J creates a fabric cavity **203**.

Pocket square sleeve **200** typically has a width W slightly less than the width of the breast pocket of a suit jacket. Such a width eliminates the need for laterally folding the pocket square sleeve **200** (such as the lateral folding illustrated for a pocket square **100** in FIG. **1**B). In other words, the pocket square sleeve **200** can, in some embodiments, be prepared for insertion into a pocket by only folding the sleeve **200** in a single dimension, rather than in multiple dimensions such as shown in FIGS. **1**A-**1**E with reference to a typical pocket square **100**. The pocket square sleeve **200** can be folded only along the length L of the sleeve (i.e. executing folds perpendicular to the length dimension), and need not be folded along the width W of the sleeve (i.e. no folds executed parallel to the length dimension).

In some embodiments, the length of the pocket square sleeve **200** is dimensioned such that the sleeve **200** is folded lengthwise in quarters, as shown and described below with reference to FIGS. **2**B and **2**C. In some embodiments, the pocket square sleeve **20**Q measures 8.5 cm wide by 40 cm long.

FIGS. **2**B and **2**C provide isometric views of the folding of a pocket square sleeve **200** in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure. First, an insert **102** is inserted into the cavity **203** of the pocket square sleeve **200**. The insert **102** may be as described above with reference to FIGS. **1**A-**1**E. In some embodiments the insert **102** is inserted into the cavity **203** by a user, and in other embodiments the insert **102** may be inserted into the cavity **203** before being shipped to the user. In some embodiments

the cavity **203** may be sewn shut to enclose the insert **102** after the insert **102** is inserted into the cavity **203**.

The pocket square sleeve **200** is folded along fold lines K and M, as indicated by the arrows of FIG. **2**B. The pocket square sleeve is then folded along fold line N, as indicated by the arrow of FIG. **2**C. This fold completes the folding of the pocket square sleeve **200**. The final combination of a folded pocket square sleeve **200** and insert **102**—which this application shall refer to as a folded pocket square sleeve insert **210**—is illustrated in the isometric view of FIG. **2**D.

FIGS. **3**A, **3**B, and **3**C provide illustrations of a pocket square holder **300** in accordance with some embodiments of the present disclosure. Pocket square holder **300** comprises an elongate member **301** and fastening element **307**.

Elongate member **301** has a first or exterior side **302** and a second or interior side **304**. Elongate member **301** may be formed of leather, polyurethane, flexible plastic, vinyl, or similar material. Elongate member **301** has a folding seam P that divides the elongate member **301** substantially in half. The opposing halves of elongate member **301** are configured such that folding elongate member **301** along fold seam P causes the elongate member **301** to fold in a bi-fold fashion.

In the embodiment illustrated in FIGS. **3**A-**3**C, fastening element **307** is a hook and loop fastener comprising a first or loop panel **311** and a second or hook panel **312**. When pressed together, loop panel **311** and hook panel **312** engage to form a non-permanently bonded surface that is detachable by pulling the panels **311**, **312** apart. The engaged loop panel **311** and hook panel **312** hold the elongate member **301** together as a folded bi-fold.

Additional fastening elements **307** are contemplated, such as magnets, clasps, buckles, snaps, elastic bands, temporary adhesive, and similar fasteners. FIGS. **7**A and **7**B provide illustrations of an alternative pocket square holder **300** with a fastening element **307** of a first magnet **315** of a first polarity and a second magnet **316** of a second polarity disposed on opposing sides of fold seam P. The magnets **315**, **316** are coupled to the interior side **304** of elongate member **301**, and positioned in an opposing manner such that folding the elongate member along fold seam P will bring the magnets **315**, **316** into sufficiently close proximity to form a non-permanent magnetic hold between the magnets **315**, **316**. Magnets may also be sewn into or otherwise integrated into the elongate member **301** so that the magnets are not visible, but are still attracted to each other sufficient to maintain the pocket square in place.

The magnets **315**, **316** may be coupled to the elongate member **301** using an adhesive, a pouch configuration, or similar acceptable coupling means. The magnets **315**, **316** may be offset from the fold seam P as well as the lengthwise ends of the elongate member **301**. Although the magnets **315**, **316** are shown as a single, rectangular-shaped magnet on each side of the fold seam P, additional embodiments are contemplated comprising an additional number of magnets, additional magnet shapes, and additional magnet placement within the interior surface **304** of the elongate member **301**. In embodiments having more than one magnet on each side of the fold seam P, the magnets on a single side of the fold seam P may have the same polarity or different polarities.

In some embodiments fastening element **307** comprises one or more elastic bands configured to extend around the holder **300** and pocket square sleeve insert **210**. The one or more elastic bands may extend between and couple opposing sides of the elongate member **301**. The one or more elastic bands may be attached in at least one location to the elongate member **301**. In other embodiments fastening element **307** comprises a clasp configured to extend between and couple opposing sides of the elongate member **301**.

The positioning of a folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** within the pocket square holder **300** determines the height of the pocket square when placed in a pocket, which can also be described as the extent to which the pocket square protrudes from the pocket. FIGS. **4**A, **4**B, **5**A, and **5**B are illustrative. Although these figures are described with reference to the placement of a folded pocket square sleeve insert **210**, it is to be understood that a folded pocket square insert **110** may be substituted for the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** in accordance with some embodiments of the present invention. Similarly, although these figures are described with reference to the pocket square holder **300** described in FIGS. **3**A-**3**C, it is to be understood that similar pocket square holders—for example, the pocket square holder **300** described with reference to FIGS. **7**A and **7**B—may be utilized with equal success.

FIGS. **4**A and **5**A provide front profile views of a folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** and pocket square holder **300**, with FIG. **4**A showing the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** and pocket square holder **300** before coupling and FIG. **5**A showing the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** and pocket square holder **300** after coupling. Similarly, FIGS. **4**B and **5**B provide side profile views of a folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** and pocket square holder **300**, with FIG. **4**B showing the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** and pocket square holder **300** before coupling and FIG. **5**B showing the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** and pocket square holder **300** after coupling.

As shown in these figures, the pocket square holder **300** is placed or held in an open position in which the fastening element **307** is not engaged (in the illustrated embodiment, the loop panel **311** and hook panel **312** are not coupled). In the open position, the pocket square holder **300** may be partially folded along fold seam P, such that respective sides of interior surface **304** are substantially facing each other.

The folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** is positioned within the open pocket square holder **300** (in the illustrated embodiment, between loop panel **311** and hook panel **312**). The pocket square holder **300** is then folded additionally along fold seam P until the fastening element **307** fastens opposing sides of the interior surface **304**. In the illustrated embodiment, the pocket square holder **300** is folded until at least a portion of loop panel **311** is engaged with at least a portion of hook panel **312**. The engagement of the fastening element **307** holds opposing sides of the interior surface **304** together, such that the pocket square holder **300** is holding or gripping the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210**.

By varying the position of the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** within the pocket square holder **300**, and more specifically by varying the depth D to which the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** is inserted into the pocket square holder **300**, the user is able to control and vary the extent to which the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** will protrude from a pocket. Positioning the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** in a manner that increases the depth D shown in FIGS. **5**A and **5**B will cause the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** to protrude to a greater extent, while positioning the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** in a manner that decreases the depth D will cause the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** to protrude to a lesser extent.

The combined folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** and pocket square holder **300**—referred to herein as the combined element **600**—is ready to be placed in a pocket. FIG. **6** provides a view of the combined element **600** disposed in

the breast pocket **601** of a suit jacket. The combined element **600** may be disposed in other types of pockets.

The pocket **601** comprises a pocket pleat **603** coupled to a pocket pouch **605**. The pocket pleat **603** at least partially defines the opening **607** of the pocket **601**. The pocket **601** has a height Y and width X.

The combined element **600** is inserted into the pocket **601** via the opening **607**. When inserted, the combined element **600**, and more particularly the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210**, will protrude from the pocket **601** at a height H. As described above, the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** will typically protrude from the pocket **601** at a height of between ½ and 3 cm.

As shown in FIG. **6**, pocket square holder **300** may be dimensioned to have a height—as defined when the pocket square holder **300** is folded substantially in half to hold the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210**—that is less than the height Y of the pocket **601**. Pocket square holder **300** may also be dimensioned to have a width that is less than the width X of the pocket **601**. In some embodiments the pocket square holder **300** has a height of 11.5 cm (and a total length when unfolded of 23 cm) and a width of 7.5 cm.

Although the illustrated embodiment of FIGS. **3**A-**3**C comprises a loop panel **311** and a hook panel **312** that cover substantially all of the interior side **304**, in some embodiments of the present disclosure the loop panel **311** and hook panel **312** are substantially smaller and limited to the region proximate the fold P. FIGS. **10** and **11**A and **11**B illustrate such an embodiment. In this embodiment with a limited loop panel **311** and hook panel **312**, the fastening element **307** is still configured to hold opposing sides of the pocket square holder **300** together. Further, the pocket square holder **300** is able to perform the important function of allowing a user to set the depth D of a pocket square when disposed in a pocket by forming a holding bond proximate the bottom of the pocket square. The embodiment of FIG. **10** may also aid with preventing damage to the pocket square fabric that may be seen when utilizing the full fastening member **307** shown in FIGS. **3**A-**3**C. Thus in both the embodiments of FIGS. **3**A-**3**C and FIGS. **10** the pocket square holder **300** is configured to provide a selectably variable depth D for the pocket square when disposed in a pocket.

In some embodiments, the sleeve **200** is substantially shorter in the length L dimension than that described above with reference to FIGS. **2**A-**2**D. For example, in the embodiment shown in FIGS. **12**A and **12**B, the sleeve **1200** may be dimensioned to substantially fit into a pocket without folding. The sleeve **1200** may essentially comprise the portions defining cavity **1203**, and cavity **1203** may be configured to receive insert **102**. Cavity **1203** may be sewn shut to contain insert **102**. In such an embodiment, the combined sleeve **1200** and insert **102**, referred to as sleeve insert **1210**, may be disposed in pocket square holder **300** substantially as described above and as indicated in FIG. **12**B.

In some embodiments, a pocket square sleeve and insert combination **1310** may be double-sided, such that either of two sides may be displayed as protruding from a pocket. An example is provided in FIG. **13**. The pocket square sleeve and insert combination **1310** comprises a pocket square sleeve and insert **102** substantially as described above. The combination **1310** may have a first side **1351** having a first display and a second side **1352** having a second display. In the illustrated example, the first side **1351** presents a linear display such that when placed in the pocket with first side **1351** protruding from the pocket the viewer will see a classic line of a pocket square. The illustrated example also has a second side **1352** that presents a folded pattern display such that when placed in the pocket with second side **1352** protruding from the pocket the viewer will see a folded pattern of the pocket square. In such embodiments, either or both of first side **1351** and second side **1352** may include a sewn seam or stitching to hold the presentation in place, or may be folded/patterned by the user prior to disposal in a pocket.

In addition to the systems described above, the present disclosure provides methods of maintaining the form of a folded pocket square or folded pocket square sleeve, particularly when disposed in a pocket. FIG. **8** is a flow diagram of such a method **800**. Method **800** begins at Block **801** and utilizes a pocket square sleeve **20**Q and a pocket square holder **300** such as those described above with reference to FIGS. **2**A-**2**D and **3**A-**3**C. At Block **803** an insert **102** is inserted into the cavity **203** of the pocket square sleeve **200**.

The pocket square sleeve **200** is then folded at Block **805** to form a folded pocket square sleeve insert **210**. The pocket square sleeve **200** maybe folded in a single dimension, such as illustrated at FIGS. **2**B and **2**C, where the pocket square sleeve **200** and insert **102** are together folded in a single lateral dimension in quarters to effect a folded pocket square sleeve insert **210**. The pocket square sleeve **200** maybe folded to achieve a folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** dimension to fit in a pocket, which may be the breast pocket of a suit jacket (such as the pocket **601** illustrated in FIG. **6**).

At block **807** the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** is placed in a pocket square holder **300**, and at Block **809** the holder **300** is folded to engage a fastening element **307**. The folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** maybe partially disposed in the holder **300**, such that a portion of the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** protrudes from the holder **300**. The step of folding the holder **300** may comprise folding an elongate member **301** in a bi-fold manner such that a first portion of an interior surface **304** substantially faces a second portion of the interior surface **304**.

Engagement of the fastening element **307** holds the holder **300** about the folded pocket square sleeve insert **210**. At Block **811**, the combined folded pocket square sleeve insert **210** and holder **300** maybe placed in a pocket, such as the pocket **601** illustrated in FIG. **6**.

Method **800** ends at block **813**.

A method **900** of maintaining the form of a pocket square is provided that utilizes a pocket square such as pocket square **100** illustrated in FIGS. **1**A-**1**E and a pocket square holder such as pocket square holder **300** illustrated and FIGS. **3**A-**3**C. Method **900** beings at Block **902** and proceeds to Block **904**, where a pocket square **100** is folded to include an insert **102**. At Block **906**, the folded pocket square insert **110** is placed in a pocket square holder **300**, and at Block **908** the pocket square holder **300** is folded to engage a fastening element **307**. The combination of the folded pocket square insert **110** and pocket square holder **300** with engaged fastening element may be placed in a pocket at Block **910**. Method **900** ends at Block **912**.

In some embodiments of the present disclosure, systems and method of maintaining the form of a pocket square are presented substantially as described above, but without the use of a pocket square holder **300**. Thus, a system of maintaining the form of a pocket square may comprise a pocket square sleeve **200** and insert **102**. Once combined, the pocket square sleeve **200** and insert **102** may be disposed in a pocket without the use of a pocket square holder **300**.

In some embodiments, the user may be presented with a kit having several inserts **102** of varying lengths. The user may select an insert **102** of an appropriate length to achieve a pocket square depth as desired. In such embodiments the

insert **102** may both functionally provide rigidity to the pocket square and provide a grounding point against the bottom of the pocket to ensure the pocket square maintains a consistent distance of protrusion from the pocket. Thus, the functionality of both the insert **102** and pocket square holder **300** as described in earlier embodiments may be combined such that the insert **102** performs both functions. In some embodiments, the kit may provide three to five inserts **102**, or more or less, with each of the inserts **102** having a length different from the other inserts **102** of the kit.

It should be noted that although the illustrated embodiments present a straight pocket square line (the pocket square protruding from the pocket is straight and usually substantially parallel with the pocket opening), additional shapes, folds, and patterns for the portion of the pocket square protruding from the pocket are contemplated with the disclosed systems and methods. The illustrated straight pocket square line may be referred to in the industry as a flat fold, Presidential fold, or TV fold.

The presently disclosed systems and methods therefore provide substantial advantages over the prior art. A system comprising a pocket square or pocket square sleeve, an insert, and a pocket square holder provides a degree of structure and rigidity to the folded pocket square to overcome the tendency of a pocket square to lose its form when worn in a pocket. The insert thus prevents bunching and sagging of the pocket square when disposed in the pocket. The structure and rigidity provided by the insert is achieved without the need for sewing or the use of difficult mechanisms such as the "change purse" sleeve. The structure and rigidity is also achieved with a combined element structure that is sufficiently thin so as not to be readily noticeable when placed in a pocket such as the breast pocket of a suit jacket.

The combination of a folded pocket square insert or folded pocket square sleeve insert with a pocket square holder allows for the adjustment of the height that the combined element will protrude from a pocket, and thus provides both flexibility to a user to alter the style of the pocket square and safeguards against the pocket square having an undesirable height of protrusion. The combination of a folded pocket square insert or folded pocket square sleeve insert with a pocket square holder also maintains the height of the pocket square protruding from the pocket during wear, and therefore prevents sagging of the pocket square.

The disclosed pocket square sleeve additional eliminates the need for lateral folding, and provides an easy-to-use location for placement of an insert. The reduced folding is particularly advantageous as the pocket square sleeve will more readily hold its form than a more-folded pocket square.

The use of an insert and pocket square holder is additionally advantageous because it will allow a user to utilize any pocket square they may have available, thus providing access to the full range of options that make pocket squares such a versatile accessory. A typical pocket square may be folded with an insert and placed in the pocket square holder to great effect. The disclosed systems and methods are therefore largely indifferent to the size, type of material, and shape of the selected pocket square.

As these advantages illustrate, the disclosed systems and methods improve the ability of a user to maintain the form of a pocket square when worn in a pocket while simultaneously maintaining the versatile nature of the pocket square. The disclosed systems and methods therefore correct a long felt need in the fashion industry for improvements to the use of pocket squares.

Although examples are illustrated and described herein, embodiments are nevertheless not limited to the details shown, since various modifications and structural changes may be made therein by those of ordinary skill within the scope and range of equivalents of the claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A system of maintaining the form of a pocket square comprising:

an insert comprising a semi-rigid material;

a pocket square sleeve comprising fabric sewn along a lengthwise seam to form a sleeve having a first and a second end, the lengthwise seam extending from the first end to the second end and forming a first closed side of the sleeve that is displaced from a second closed side of the sleeve, the lengthwise seam being substantially perpendicular to first end and second end, the second closed side extending from the first end to the second end, and a second seam substantially perpendicular to the lengthwise seam, wherein the lengthwise seam and the second seam partially define the boundaries of an first open-ended cavity configured to receive the insert in a releasably enveloping manner; and

a holder comprising an elongate member and a fastening element, the elongate member configured to be folded to cause engagement of the fastening element;

wherein the insert is disposed in the cavity of the pocket square sleeve and the combined insert and pocket square sleeve is at least partially disposed in the holder.

2. The system of claim **1** wherein the pocket square sleeve is closed with a third seam proximate to the first end of the sleeve, the third seam being substantially perpendicular to the lengthwise seam.

3. The system of claim **2**, wherein the second seam is proximate to the second end.

4. The system of claim **3**, wherein the insert has a height measured in a direction substantially parallel to the lengthwise seam, and the second seam is displaced from the second end along the lengthwise seam by a distance approximately equal to the height of the insert.

5. The system of claim **4**, wherein the lengthwise seam, second seam, third seam, and second closed side form an enclosed cavity.

6. The system of claim **1** wherein the pocket square sleeve is dimensioned such that folding the pocket square sleeve to fit into a pocket requires folding the pocket square sleeve around a direction substantially perpendicular to the lengthwise seam.

7. The system of claim **1** wherein the fastening element comprises a hook and loop fastener, with a hook panel disposed opposite a loop panel when the elongate member is in a folded position, wherein folding the holder about the combined insert and pocket square sleeve causes engagement of a portion of the hook panel with a portion of the loop panel.

8. The system of claim **1** wherein the fastening element comprises a pair of magnets, with a first magnet having a first polarity disposed opposite a second magnet having a second polarity when the elongate member is in a folded position, wherein folding the holder about the combined insert and pocket square sleeve causes engagement between the pair of magnets sufficient to hold the holder about the combined insert and pocket square sleeve.

9. A method of maintaining the form of a pocket square, the method comprising:

forming a pocket square sleeve by

folding fabric along a lengthwise direction,

sewing the folded fabric to form a lengthwise seam, thereby forming a sleeve having a first and a second end, the lengthwise seam extending from the first end to the second end and forming a first side of the sleeve that is displaced from a second side of the sleeve that extends between the first end and the second end, wherein the extending of the lengthwise seam consists of extending in a substantially lengthwise direction, and

sewing the folded fabric to form a second seam that is substantially perpendicular to the lengthwise seam and displaced from the first end to form an open-ended cavity configured to receive an insert in a releasably enveloping manner;

inserting the insert into the cavity of the pocket square sleeve;

folding the pocket square sleeve having the insert disposed in the cavity to form a folded pocket square sleeve insert;

placing the folded pocket square sleeve insert in a holder, the holder comprising an elongate member and a fastening element; and

folding the elongate member to engage the fastening element such that the folded pocket square sleeve insert is held by the holder.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the step of folding the pocket square sleeve comprises folding around a direction substantially perpendicular to the lengthwise seam to achieve a folded pocket square sleeve insert dimensioned to fit in the breast pocket of a suit jacket.

11. The method of claim 9 wherein the step of folding the elongate member comprises folding the elongate member in a bi-fold manner such that a first portion of an interior surface of the elongate member faces a second portion of the interior surface.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the fastening element comprises a hook and loop fastener, with a hook panel disposed opposite a loop panel when the elongate member is in a folded position, wherein folding the holder about the folded pocket square sleeve insert causes engagement of a portion of the hook panel with a portion of the loop panel.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein an exterior perimeter of the insert has a combined length that is unchanged during the step of folding the elongate member.

14. The method of claim 9 wherein the fastening element comprises a pair of magnets, with a first magnet having a first polarity disposed opposite a second magnet having a second polarity when the elongate member is in a folded position, wherein folding the holder about the folded pocket square sleeve insert causes engagement between the pair of magnets sufficient to hold the holder about the folded pocket square sleeve insert.

15. The method of claim 9, wherein forming the pocket square sleeve further comprises

sewing the folded fabric to form a third seam that is substantially perpendicular to the lengthwise seam proximate to the second end of the sleeve.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the second seam, third seam, first side, and second side form an enclosed cavity.

17. The method of claim 9, wherein the insert has a height measured in a direction substantially parallel to the lengthwise seam, and wherein inserting the insert into the cavity of the pocket square sleeve includes moving the insert past the first end by a distance approximately equal to the height of the insert.

18. A system comprising:

a semi-rigid insert dimensioned such that a majority of the insert fits within the breast pocket of a suit jacket;

a pocket square comprising a polygonal piece of folded fabric sewn along a lengthwise seam to form a sleeve having a first and a second end, the lengthwise seam extending from the first end to the second end and forming a first side of the sleeve that is displaced from a second side of the sleeve extending from the first end to the second end, the lengthwise seam being substantially perpendicular to the first and second ends, the fabric further sewn along a second seam substantially perpendicular to the lengthwise seam and displaced from the first end in a direction substantially parallel to the lengthwise seam at a distance approximately equal to a height of the insert measured along the lengthwise seam, wherein the lengthwise seam and the second seam partially define the boundaries of an open-ended cavity configured to releasably receive the insert, wherein the sleeve is closed with a third seam proximate to the second end of the sleeve and substantially perpendicular to the lengthwise seam; and

a holder comprising an elongate member and a fastening element, the elongate member configured to be folded to cause engagement of the fastening element;

wherein the combined insert and pocket square is partially disposed within the holder, with the fastening element of the holder at least partially engaged.

19. The system of claim 18 wherein the fastening element comprises a hook and loop fastener, with a hook panel disposed opposite a loop panel when the elongate member is in a folded position, wherein folding the holder about the combined insert and pocket square causes engagement of a portion of the hook panel with a portion of the loop panel.

20. The system of claim 18, wherein the fastening element comprises a pair of magnets, with a first magnet having a first polarity disposed opposite a second magnet having a second polarity when the elongate member is in a folded position, wherein folding the holder about the combined insert and pocket square causes engagement between the pair of magnets sufficient to hold the holder about the combined insert and pocket square.

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