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EC71-479 Lapped Patch

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lapped patch

University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Agriculture Cooperating with the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the College of Home Economics

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lapped patch

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The lapped patch is suitable for use where sturdiness is more important than appearance. The patch may be used on garments such as children’s playclothes, work pants or on sheets, bath towels and blankets. Steps in applying the patch are the same for both machine and hand stitching. A double thread should be used when sewing by hand.

1. Cut away all ragged edges around the torn or worn area. Cut the patch 3/8 inch to 1/2 inch larger than the hole. If possible, match the patch to any designs in the garment.

2. Keeping the garment right side up, slip the patch underneath and match the grainline or design. Use clear tape on the right side to hold the patch in place.
3. On the right side, stitch just outside the edge of the hole by hand or machine. Fasten stitches. Remove the tape.

4. Stitch back and forth by hand or machine over the edges of the hole. A zig-zag machine stitch would work well with this kind of patch.

5. The patch also works well with 3-cornered tears and squares. Follow the same procedure.