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(22) Application date	October 31, 2005 (10.31.2005)	Keika Yamamoto 2-2-5 1F, Tokiwachō, Suma-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo-ken
		(74) Agent 100107825 Patent attorney Yoshio Hosomi
		(72) Inventor Keika Yamamoto 2-5-1F, Tokiwachō, Suma-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo

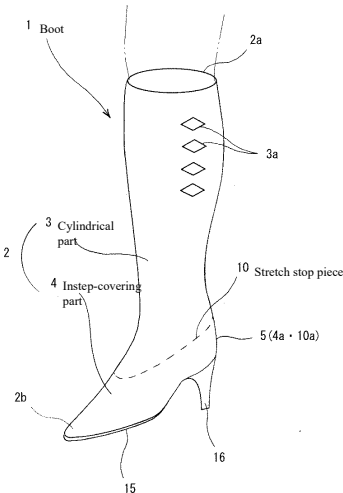
(54) [Title of the Invention] Boot

(57) [Summary]

[Problems] We offer a new boot that has hygienic and health benefits, such as being able to effectively deodorize the inside and retaining heat, and is also desirable from a fashion point-of-view.

[Means for solving] The entire outer surface of boot 1 (excluding the sole) is formed by a single piece of fabric 2 continuously knitted with yarn, and of this fabric 2, the instep-covering part 4 covers at least the tip of the foot and the instep of the foot is formed by knitting a thread containing fibers woven with minute particles that have functions (any one or more of these functions)) of deodorizing or antibacterial, or function of promoting blood circulation.

[Representative Drawing] FIG. 11



[Scope of Utility Model Claims]

[Claim 1]

Boot, characterized in that at least the portion that covers the tip of the foot and the instep of the foot is formed by knitting with yarn containing fibers woven with minute particles that have functions of deodorizing or antibacterial, or function of promoting blood circulation or by cutting and sewing fabric made from the fibers concerned.

[Claim 2]

The boot according to claim 1, characterized in that the entire outer surface is made of a single piece of fabric knitted continuously with yarn, wherein at least the portion that covers the tip of the foot and the instep of the foot is formed by knitting with yarn containing fibers woven with the minute particles described above.

[Claim 3]

The boot according to claim 2, characterized in that the boot is formed to cover the foot by a single fabric comprising a portion knitted with yarn containing fibers woven with the minute particles mentioned above;

and a stretch stop piece that defines the shape of the area from the instep of the foot to the back of the heel is covered with the above fabric and attached to the fabric, and the fabric has a seam sewn together with the stretch stop piece only at the back of the heel.

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[Claim 4]

The boot according to claim 2, characterized in that a cylindrical fabric that is continuously and integrally knitted with parts on both ends that cover the instep of the foot is folded back near the center of its length to form a double cylindrical body;

the fabric located on the inside of both ends overlapped by being folded back is sewn with a stretch stop piece that defines the shape of the portion covering from the instep of the foot to the back of the heel;

and only the portion of the above cylindrical fabric located inward by being folded back is formed by knitting with yarn containing fibers woven with the minute particles described above.

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[Claim 5]

The boot according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, characterized in that used as a fiber woven with the above minute particles, is one or more of Bincho charcoal [high-grade charcoal produced from ubame oak], photocatalyst, sulfur, germanium ore, or zirconium ore.

[Detailed description of the invention]

[Technical field]

[0001]

The invention according to the claim relates to boots having hygienic or health benefits, such as having an effect of controlling an odor.

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[Background Art]

[0002]

Boots cover the area from the toe to the ankles or even the calf; they generally have low breathability, so bad odors from sweating etc. tend to get trapped inside. The taller the boots are, or the closer they are to the calves, the stronger this tendency becomes.

[0003]

In recent years, the so-called stretch boots have been attracting attention because they have stretchable fabric and are effective in making the legs look beautiful by fitting them to the legs when worn. What is shown in FIG. 5 is one example. These leg-fitting stretch boots are particularly sensitive to odor control because it is difficult for air to get in and out of through the gap between the calf and the boot, so special consideration must be taken to prevent odor. In the stretch boots 41, 42, and 43 shown in FIG. 5, the flat fabric is cut using a cutting die, etc., and then sewn with seams (stitches) 41a, 42a, and 43a, forming a part that covers the instep of the foot and a cylindrical part that covers the leg above it.

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[0004]

With regard to odor control measures, for example, in the stretch boot described in Patent Literature 1 below, in order to expel the bad smell (odor) inside, the part of the boot that does not arch is formed with a breathable sheet.

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[Patent Literature 1] Utility model No. 3063508

[Disclosure of the idea]

[Issues to be solved by the idea]

[0005]

The use of a breathable sheet for a part of the boot (such as the arch of the foot) according to the description of Patent Literature 1 often does not have a sufficient odor control effect. This is because a bad odor may be generated from a component of sweat that is widely adhered to the inside of the boot. On the other hand, if the ventilation is too good for the purpose of expelling bad odors, the feet may become cold in the winter.

[0006]

Additionally, there is a disadvantage in appearance that seams is formed when the breathable sheet is attached. Boots need to have the function of covering the legs warmly as well as being fashionable, so it is undesirable for the seams to be visible from the outside. In that regard, the stretch boots 41, 42, and 43 shown in FIG. 5 were also made by sewing the cut fabric, so there is room for improvement with the seams 41a, 42a, and 43a on the front and back center lines and on the part that covers the instep of the foot.

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[0007]

In order to solve the above points, the claimed device: is to offer new boots that have hygienic and health benefits, such as being able to effectively deodorize the inside and retaining heat, and is also desirable from a fashion point of view.

[Means for Solving the Problem]

[0008]

The boot according to the claim is characterized in that at least the portion that covers the tip of the foot and the instep of the foot is formed by knitting (i.e., braiding) yarn containing fibers woven with minute particles (e.g., minute particles having a particle size of about 1 μm) having anti-odor (or deodorization), antimicrobial or circulation promotion functions (any one or more of these functions), or by cutting and sewing a fabric made of said fibers (fibers in which said minute particles are woven).

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[0009]

In such boot, the minute particles woven into the fibers function to provide odor control and other effects, providing hygienic and health benefits. Because the fibers woven with such minute particles are distributed to at least the portion that covers the tip of the foot and the instep of the foot, where sweating occur the most, causing bad odors and bacteria, and prone to foul odors, and bacteria is more likely to occur. In winter, etc., in areas that tend to become cold due to poor blood circulation, the effects of deodorization, antibacterial activity, and blood circulation promotion (any one or more) are effectively exhibited.

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[0010]

Especially when it comes to boots, it is particularly preferable that:

- the entire outer surface (excluding the sole) is made of a single piece of fabric knitted with continuous thread,
- at least the portion that covers the tip of the foot and the instep of the foot (this portion may be included in the

single piece of fabric described above, but it may also be included in an inner fabric different from the single piece of fabric described above) may be formed by knitting with yarns containing fibers woven with the minute particles mentioned above

[0011]

Such boot not only have hygienic and health benefits due to the effect of the fibers woven with the minute particles described above, but also have an excellent fashion sense. This is because the boot has a smooth silhouette and a clean appearance, because the outer surface is made of a single piece of fabric knitted continuously by yarn, and no separate cut fabric is sewn onto the outer surface.

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When knitted from yarn in this way, it is also possible to make stretch boot of knit fabric. Since the yarn is knitted together to form the outer surface, there is no need to make multiple types of sewing patterns for different designs and sizes, there is no fabric scraps, and it is also possible to create knitting patterns on the fabric. It should be noted that it is also possible to knit the cylindrical fabric that forms the outer surface of the boot continuously with yarn by the following methods: a) by hand knitting, b) using a flat knitting machine with a three-dimensional seamless knitting function called WHOLEGARMENT (registered trademark), or c) using a V-bed flat knitting machine with needle beds at the front and rear, where the carriage moves back and forth, the knitting yarn is fed alternately by going

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around the knitting needles on the front needle bed and the knitting needles on the rear needle bed, etc. In the case of c), in order to give the required shape to the cylindrical fabric, it is advisable to increase or decrease the knitting width by changing the number of knitting needles held in working position during knitting. (Refer to Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 194154). In any of the cases a) to c), it is also possible to knit a single piece of fabric continuously while forming part of the fabric with different yarn, such as by joining the yarn in the middle.

[0012]

These boots preferably

- are formed to cover the foot by a single layer of fabric including a part knitted with yarn containing fibers woven with the minute particles; (Excluding the sole of the foot. The part covered by the boot except the sole),

- are provided with the stretch stop piece that defines the shape of the part that covers the area from the instep of the foot to the back of the heel with the fabric above, and attach it to (the inside of) the fabric, and provide the fabric that has only the back part of the heel with seams sewn together with stretch stop piece. The boot 1 shown in FIGS. 1 and 2 is an example thereof.

[0013]

In this way, there is the following benefits: In other words,

- i) since the fabric that covers the foot is made of a single piece of fabric continuously knitted with yarn, the structure of these boots is simple and can be manufactured relatively easily with a small number of parts. Since other cut fabrics is not sewn, [the boot] has smooth silhouette and has a good appearance, making it fashionable. In addition, the minute particles mentioned above have hygienic and health benefits. It has a simple structure made of a single layer of fabric, and the fabric is knitted. Therefore, it is easy to create a cool feeling by adding a lace-like mesh to any location, etc., and it is possible to further enhance fashionability and improve breathability.

- ii) The above fabric has a seam only at the back of the heel. This seam is not noticeable at that position, and there is no seam at other positions, such as the instep of the foot or both sides, so [the boots] have simple silhouette and clean. In addition, to create a seam at the back of the heel, the stretch stop piece can be attached to the area below the ankle in a flat state until the seam is sewn together. Therefore, it is easy to attach the stretch stop piece. (It requires skill to attach the stretch stop piece to the part from the instep of the foot to the back of the heel because it also becomes cylindrical from the beginning, if the boot is configured so that it has no seams anywhere including the back of the heel.)

[0014]

Or these boots preferably

- have a cylindrical fabric continuously and integrally knitted with parts on both ends that cover the instep of the foot that is folded back near the center of its length to form a double cylindrical body;

- have the fabric located on the inside of both ends overlapped by being folded back sewn with a stretch stop piece that defines the shape of the portion covering from the instep of the foot to the back of the heel; and

- have only the part, of the above cylindrical fabric, located inside by folding back (at least the portion that covers the tip of the foot and the instep of the foot) formed by knitting yarn containing fibers interwoven with the minute particles mentioned above. The boot 21 shown in FIGS. 3 and 4 is an example thereof.

[0015]

In this way, there is the following benefits: In other words,

- i) since only continuous, integrally knitted cylindrical fabric is used to cover the feet; there is no need to sew other cut fabrics, so the structure [of the boot] can be made simple, and it can be manufactured relatively easily with few parts. In addition, since there is no seams (stitches) on the outer fabric, [the boots] can provide a smooth silhouette and are fashionable, and the action of the minute particles also has hygienic and health benefits.

- ii) The cylindrical fabric is folded back and double-layered, so it has high heat retention effects and is strong and does not easily lose its shape. In addition, the edge of the annular upper end is folded back so that the edge of the fabric is not exposed, giving it a nice appearance. Furthermore, even though the stretch stop piece is sewn on the part

that covers the instep of the foot, a fabric on the other side that is not sewn covers the fabric to which it is sewn, so there is no visible seams on the outside, which gives it an excellent appearance.

iii) Only the inner part of the cylindrical fabric made double by folding it back is formed by knitting yarn containing fibers woven with the minute particles, so it is not only economical but also advantageous in terms of enhancing fashionability. This is because it is possible to reduce the amount of the special yarn having the minute particles used, and the outer portion can also be formed by knitting another yarn with a nice appearance (for example, one with lamé [fabrication]).

[0016]

It is preferable to use fibers in which at least one of bincho charcoal, photocatalyst (titanium oxide, etc.), sulfur, germanium ore, or zirconium ore is woven into the fibers into which the minute particles are woven.

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[0017]

Particles of charcoal, photocatalyst, sulfur, germanium ore, or zirconium ore have at least one of the following functions: Odor prevention or deodorization effect by adsorbing ammonia etc., antibacterial effect that suppresses the growth of Trichophyton fungus, blood circulation promoting effect by emitting far infrared rays, etc., cleaning effect by decomposing dirt, and comfort effect due to the generation of negative ions. Thus, the use of fibers as described above to form boots provides hygienic or health benefits to the user of the boots.

in particular, the following products can be used: "Kishu-Binchotan Fiber" (trademark) manufactured by Omikenshi Co., Ltd., which has Binchotan woven into rayon fibers, "[ONSEN SEN-I CELUUNA]" (same), which is made of rayon fibers with sulfur woven into it, "Sundia" (same), which has a photocatalyst (titanium oxide) woven into rayon fibers, "CHIOCLEAN" manufactured by Kiyokawa Co., Ltd., which has germanium ore and zirconium ore woven into rayon fibers.

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[Effects of the Invention]

[0018]

According to the boot according to the claim, the action of the minute particles woven into the fibers provides hygienic or health benefits such as odor control (or deodorizing), antimicrobial or promotion of blood circulation.

It is also desirable from a fashion point of view if the entire outer surface is formed of a single piece of fabric knitted continuously with yarn.

[0019]

In addition to covering the foot with a single layer of fabric, lace-like mesh can also be added to any desired area to create a cool feeling. In addition, by doubling the part that covers the foot to increase heat retention and strength, and knitting different yarns on the inside and outside, it is possible to make boot that is both economical and fashionable.

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For example, the boot may be formed using fibers containing particles of Bincho charcoal, photocatalyst, sulfur, germanium ore, zirconium ore, and the like.

[Best form for implementing the design]

[0020]

One embodiment of the invention will be described based on FIGS. 1 and 2. FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a boot 1 (stretch boot), and FIGS. 2(a) to 2(f) are explanatory diagrams regarding a method of manufacturing the boot 1.

[0021]

As shown in FIG. 1, boot 1 has a cylindrical part 3 above the ankle and an instep-covering part 4 that covers from the instep of the foot to the back of the heel formed with one piece of stretchable continuous fabric 2, where a sole 15 and heel 16 are attached under the instep-covering part 4. The fabric 2 is provided so as to cover the entire outer surface of the boot 1 (other than the sole 15) by itself. The entire fabric 2 is formed by knitting yarn made of fibers (for example, "Sundia" (trademark) manufactured by Omikenshi Co., Ltd.) into which minute particles of titanium oxide, which is a photocatalyst, is woven into a continuous, integral piece. Titanium oxide is widely distributed in Fabric 2, which reduces ammonia, etc., sterilizes E. coli, etc., and breaks down dirt caused by dirt, sebum, etc., so every part of Boot 1 has favorable effects such as deodorization, antibacterial, and cleansing.

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[0022]

A lace-like mesh 3a is provided in the cylindrical part 3 of the fabric 2, and the fabric is made of only one layer without overlapping so that the skin color of the foot can be seen through the mesh 3a. A stretch stop piece 10 for determining the shape of the shoe is bonded to the inside of the instep-covering part 4 of the fabric 2. In the fabric 2, a seam 5 (Seam. Sewing part) is provided at the back of the heel of the instep-covering part 4, but no seams is provided at other locations. Therefore, the boot 1 has a simple and beautiful appearance and has a lace-like mesh 3a and is breathable, the inside has the advantage of not getting stuffy and looks cool. Needless to say, the shape and dimensions of the boot 1, the material and thickness of the fabric 2 (including the pantyhose type), the form of the mesh 3a (including the pattern and roughness), etc. are not limited to the examples shown. Instead of using photo catalysts, it is also a good idea to use fibers with deodorizing functions such as bincho charcoal, sulfur, germanium ore, etc. woven into them. Furthermore, it is also possible to use yarn made of such fibers not for the entire fabric 2 but for a portion thereof (for example, only the portion covering from the tip of the foot to the instep of the foot).

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[0023]

The boot 1 shown in FIG. 1 can be manufactured according to the following steps 1) to 6) shown in FIG. 2.

[0024]

Step 1): First, a fabric 2 having a cylindrical part 3 on the side that will become the upper end 2a and an instep-covering part 4 on the side that will become the lower end 2b is knitted so that there is no seams (FIG. 2(a)) using, for example, with a V-bed flat knitting machine (not shown). As the thread, one containing titanium oxide is used as described above. A lace-like mesh 3a is formed in the cylindrical part 3. The instep-covering part 4 is an area below the ankle, but by creating a cut line 4a at the back of the heel and discontinuing between the left and right sides, it is knitted into a planar shape (one piece is folded back at the toe) rather than a cylindrical shape.

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A V-bed flat knitting machine has needle beds at the front and rear, and allows the carriage to travel back and forth. This device knits a cylindrical knit by circulating the knitting yarn around the knitting needles on the front needle bed and the knitting needles on the rear needle bed and feeding the yarn alternately. In order to fit the instep-covering part 4 and the cylindrical part 3 to the leg, knitting is performed while increasing and decreasing the knitting width by changing the number of knitting needles kept at the working position by a program. It is also possible to install a mesh 3a. It should be noted that, for example, a flat knitting machine having a three-dimensional seamless knitting function called WHOLEGARMENT (registered trademark) or the like may be used. Of course, it is also possible to form the cylindrical fabric by hand knitting.

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By doing so, the fabric 2 is formed three-dimensionally without sewing, and there is no need to cut the fabric, so no waste material is generated.

[0025]

Step 2): A stretch stop piece 10 is prepared as a member that covers and defines the shape [of the foot] from the instep of the foot to the back of the heel (FIG. 2(b)). The stretch stop piece 10 is formed, for example, by cutting a slightly thick and rigid synthetic sheet, providing a two-parted end 10a at the back of the heel and a slit 10b at the entry point of the ankle.

[0026]

Step 3): The stretch stop piece 10 prepared in 2) above is overlaid and affixed to the instep-covering part 4 of the fabric 2 formed in 1) above (FIG. 2(c)). The application may be done by thermal pressing, but the adhesive may also be used.

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The instep-covering part 4 can be knitted into a cylindrical shape without a cut line 4a, and the stretch stop piece 10 can be formed into a single curved surface (cylindrical shape) without being divided left or right, and bonded by thermal pressing or the like. However, by dividing the instep-covering part 4 into left and right parts at the cut line 4a and knitting it into a flat shape, and also by using a flat piece for stretch stop piece 10, not only does the thermal pressing work described above become easier, but there is also no need to prepare multiple types of press tables for different designs and sizes, so it can reduce manufacturing costs and save labor.

[0027]

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Step 4): The two-parted end 10a of the stretch stop piece 10 is sewn together as a seam 5 with a fabric 2 near the cut line 4a of the instep-covering part 4 (FIG. 2(d)). As a result, the instep-covering part 4 also has a continuous cylindrical shape from the top.

[0028]

Step 5): The entire cylindrical fabric 2 including the sewn instep-covering part 4 is turned over so that the front and back sides is reversed (FIG. 2(e)). Regarding the upper cylindrical part 3, since it is only a single layer, and there is no change in the lace-like mesh 3a, etc., in the instep-covering part 4 corresponding to the lower part, the stretch stop piece 10 is hidden inside the fabric 2, and the seam 5 becomes less noticeable. Since there is no seams other than the back of the heel, the outer surface of the fabric 2 after being turned over will exhibit a very smooth and beautiful silhouette.

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[0029]

Step 6): A sole 15 and a heel 16 are attached to the opening edge 2c of the fabric 2 on the side of the instep-covering part 4 (FIG. 2(f)).

[0030]

Next, another embodiment of the invention will be described based on FIGS. 3 and 4. FIG. 3 is a perspective view of a boot 21 (stretch boot); FIGS. 4(a)-(e) are illustrations illustrating a method of making the boot 21.

[0031]

Boot 21 is integrally formed with a seamless cylindrical fabric 31 an instep-covering part 22 that covers the instep of the foot and the cylindrical part 23 that covers the leg above it and has a sole 24 attached to the opening edge 32 of the instep part 22. The cylindrical fabric 31 is folded back to form a ring at the upper end edge 21a to make it double. A stretch stop piece 25 is attached to the tip of the foot 21b of the inner fabric (number 31b) by an adhesion from thermal pressing and sewing. The outer fabric (number 31a) has no seams.

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[0032]

The outer fabric 31a of the doubled cylindrical fabric 31 is formed by knitting a glittery thread that has an excellent appearance, while the inner fabric (number 31b) is formed by knitting yarn made of fibers woven with minute particles of Bincho charcoal (for example, "Kishu-Binchotan Fiber" (trademark) manufactured by Omikenshi Co., Ltd.). The outer fabric 31a and the inner fabric 31b are separated by a portion of the boundary line 31c located at a location slightly (a few cm) inward than the folded portion at the upper edge 21a, both of which are knitted as a continuous entity. Minute particles of Bincho charcoal is widely distributed in the inner fabric 31b, which not only adsorbs ammonia, etc., but also emits far infrared rays and generates negative ions. Therefore, the boot 21 provides desirable effects such as deodorization, promotion of blood circulation, and air comfort throughout its interior.

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It goes without saying that the shape and dimensions of the boot 21, the materials and thicknesses of the fabrics 31a and 31b, etc. are not limited to those described above. Instead of Bincho charcoal, it is also a good idea to use fibers that have photo catalysts, sulfur, germanium ore, etc. woven into them as fibers that have deodorizing functions.

[0033]

The method for manufacturing the boot 21 includes the following steps 1) to 5) shown in FIG. 4.

[0034]

Step 1): First, using a V-bed flat knitting machine (not shown), a cylindrical fabric 31 is knitted with the cylindrical part 23 sandwiched there between and having instep-covering parts 22a and 22b at both ends (FIG. 4(a)). The instep-covering part 22a is an outer part and is knitted in a cylindrical shape, while the instep-covering part 22b is knitted into a planar shape with the instep side and heel side separated, and the left and right sides knitted into a flat shape.

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When knitting the cylindrical fabric 31, the outer fabric 31a and the inner fabric 31b are knitted together so as to be continuous as described above, but it is necessary to change the yarn when the knitting progresses to the boundary line 31c. This can be done, for example, by switching between the two types of yarns and continuing to use the V-bed flat knitting machine.

The outline of the V-bed flat knitting machine and the knitting method thereof is as described above. Further, as

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described above, a cylindrical fabric can be formed using a flat knitting machine such as WHOLEGARMENT (registered trademark) or by hand knitting.

By doing so, the cylindrical fabric 31 is formed three-dimensionally without sewing, and there is no need to cut the fabric, so no waste material is generated.

[0035]

Step 2): A pair of stretch stop pieces 25a and 25b, which define the shape of the part that covers the instep of the foot, is respectively adhered to the left and right knitted instep-covering parts 22b by heat press (FIGS. 4(b) and 4(c)).

The instep-covering part 22b may be knitted into a cylindrical shape without being divided into two pieces, and it is also possible to bond the stretch stop pieces 25 into a single curved piece by thermal pressing instead of dividing it into left and right sides. However, by dividing the instep-covering part 22b into left and right sides and knitting it in a planar shape, it is easier to heat press the stretch stop piece 25, and it is possible to reduce manufacturing costs and reduce labor by eliminating the need to prepare various types of press tables for different designs and sizes.

[0036]

Step 3): The left and right stretch stop pieces 25a and 25b is sewn together with the instep-covering part 22b on the instep side and the heel side, respectively (FIG. 4(d)).

The fabric is sewn together with the stretch stop piece 25, so it can be firmly integrated with the fabric.

[0037]

Step 4): With the side of the instep-covering part 22b (fabric 31b) facing inside, the cylindrical fabric 31 is folded back, and the instep-covering parts 22a and 22b is overlapped so that the seamless instep-covering part 22a is on the outside.

The seam of the instep-covering part 22b, which can be made by sewn together the left and right sides of the stretch stop piece 25 with the fabric is not compromised, because the instep-covering part 22a of the outer fabric 31a without the seam is covered and invisible by folding the cylindrical fabric 31 inside and outside. In addition, because the ends of the fabric do not appear at the upper edge 21a of the boot 21, it has a good appearance and does not require the double fabric to be sewn together at the upper edge, so the elasticity of the fabric is not compromised by the seams (thread).

[0038]

Step 5): The sole 24 is attached to the opening edge 32 of the overlapping upper part 22.

[0039]

In addition to the above-described knitting of the boot from the yarn, the boot can also be made by cutting and sewing fabric made of fibers in which the minute particles are woven, or by combining the sewing of such cut pieces with knitting from the yarn.

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[0040]

[FIG. 1] A perspective view of the boot 1 as one embodiment of the invention.

[FIG. 2] FIGS. 2(a) -(f) are explanatory diagrams illustrating a method of making a boot 1 as one embodiment of the invention.

[FIG. 3] A perspective view of the boot 21 as another embodiment of the invention.

[FIG. 4] FIGS. 4(a) -(e) are explanatory diagrams illustrating a method of making a boot 21 as one embodiment of the invention.

[FIG. 5] FIGS. 5(a) -(c) are perspective views showing conventional boots 41, 42, and 43, respectively.

[Explanation of References]

[0041]

- 1 Boot
- 2 Fabric
- 3 Cylindrical part
- 4 Instep-covering part

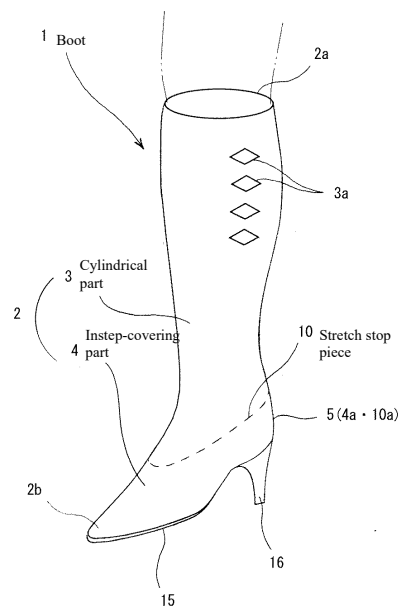
5 Seam

- 10 Stretch stop piece
- 21 Boot
- 22 Instep-covering part
- 23 Cylindrical part
- 25 Stretch stop piece
- 31 Fabric (cylindrical fabric)
- 31a Exterior fabric
- 31b Interior fabric

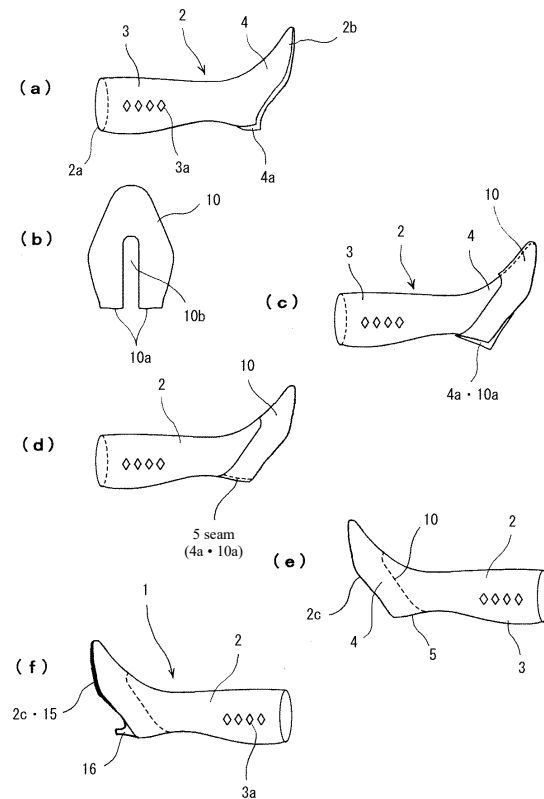
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[FIG. 1]



[FIG. 2]

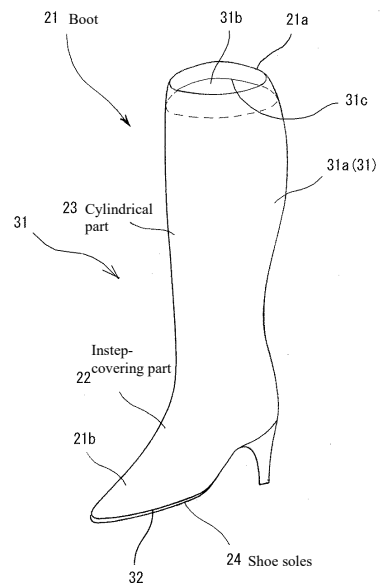


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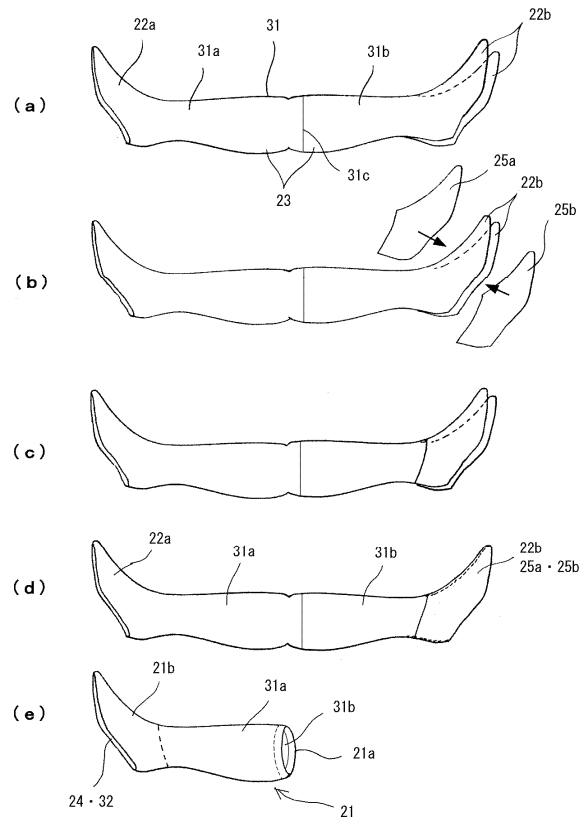
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[FIG. 3]



[FIG. 4]



[FIG. 5]

