

PANTSUIT FOR AN INFANT

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

5 The present invention relates to a pantsuit for an infant, and in particular to a pantsuit for an infant, which is formed by connecting underpants integrally with an upper garment.

Background Art

10 In the past, as a suit for an infant, vertically-integrated coveralls each formed by connecting an upper garment portion for covering the upper half body of an infant with pants for covering its lower half body have been proposed (see Patent Document 1). However, such coveralls of a conventional vertically-integrated type have been often thought to provide
15 poor appearance. Contrary, most parents think that suits of a vertically-separated type can provide more preferred appearance, and thus tend to put such clothes separated into the upper and lower portions on their infants with ages of six months or so.

20 However, such clothes of the vertically-separated type have an issue that the pants tend to slip down so as to cause an infant's belly to be exposed due to movement of the infant. In addition, such vertically-separated clothes make change of diapers troublesome. To address this problem, a pantsuit for
25 an infant has been provided, wherein although it has a vertically integrated form comprising an upper garment and pants as described above, it can facilitate change of diapers as well as provide more preferred appearance due to having a shape capable of covering the pants portion by utilizing front portions
30 of the upper garment. However, since a back portion of the upper garment is formed integrally with the pants, such a pantsuit can not always provide good appearance when viewed, in particular, from behind. Additionally, since the back portion of the upper garment is connected with the pants, it is
35 necessary for an infant of such an age that the increase of height is quite remarkable and therefore its suit must be

purchased frequently for change with a new one of a greater size. This is disadvantageous from the economical viewpoint.

Patent Document 1: JITUKAIHEI No. 1-78112, KOHO

5

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In light of the above, it is an object of the present invention to provide a pantsuit for an infant, which can facilitate change of diapers, prevent an infant's belly from being exposed, provide a better appearance, and address the problem of rapid
10 increase of height of the infant.

The present invention is a pantsuit for an infant, comprising: an upper garment including front portions designed to be separated right and left and opened forward, and a back portion connected with the front portions and having a waist
15 portion; and pants including a back rise portion sewn on the inner face side of the waist portion of the back portion, a crotch portion connected with the back rise portion, and a front rise portion connected with the crotch portion; wherein locking pieces are formed on the left and right sides of the back rise
20 portion, wherein first hooking means are provided at the locking pieces, and wherein second hooking means adapted to be engaged with the first hooking means are provided on the left and right sides of the front rise portion.

The present invention is the pantsuit for an infant
25 described above, wherein the first hooking means are provided vertically in plural numbers at each locking piece.

The present invention is the pantsuit for an infant described above, wherein at portions to be superimposed on each other in the left and right front portions of the upper
30 garment, a plurality of third hooking means are provided in the longitudinal direction for fastening the left and right front portions together of the upper garment.

The present invention is the pantsuit for an infant described above, wherein the third hooking means provided in
35 the left and right front portions include hooks positioned in upper regions, and Hook and Loop fasteners positioned in lower

regions.

The present invention is the pantsuit for an infant described above, wherein the Hook and Loop fasteners which are designed to be positioned inside when the left and right
5 front portions are superimposed together are formed to be laterally long.

The present invention is the pantsuit for an infant described above, wherein hooking means covering pieces, which are designed to respectively cover the first hooking means
10 provided on the inner face side of each locking piece by turning round those hooking means covering pieces inside each locking piece, are provided at the locking pieces which are respectively formed on the left and right sides of the back rise portion.

The present invention is the pantsuit for an infant
15 described above, wherein the crotch portion of the pants is formed from a fabric which is extensible in the longitudinal direction, while the front rise portion is formed from a fabric which is extensible in the lateral direction.

In the present invention, the front portions of the upper
20 garment are designed to be separated left and right and opened forward, the back rise portion of the pants is sewn on the inner face side of the waist portion of the back portion of the upper garment, the crotch portion of the pants is connected with the back rise portion, and the front rise portion is connected with
25 the crotch portion. The locking pieces are formed on both the left and right sides of the back rise portion, such that the back rise portion and the front rise portion can be connected with each other by engaging the first hooking means provided in each locking piece with the second hooking means provided in
30 the front rise portion. In this way, a back region of the pants can be covered with a lower portion of the back portion while a front region of the pants can be covered with lower portions of the front portions. Thus, in appearance, an infant on which the pantsuit of the present invention is put is seen as if it wore
35 vertically separated upper and lower clothes, and as such it has a better appearance.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a front view of a pantsuit for an infant according to the present invention.

5 Fig. 2 is a view illustrating a state in which front portions and a pants portion of the pantsuit for an infant of the present invention are opened, respectively.

Fig. 3(a) is an enlarged view of locking pieces respectively provided on both the left and right sides of a back rise portion, Fig. 3(b) is a cross section taken along line A-A of Fig. 3(a).

Fig. 4 is a view showing a state in which a front rise portion of the pants is folded upward from the state shown in Fig. 2.

15 Fig. 5 is a back view of the pantsuit for an infant according to the present invention.

Fig. 6(a) is a view showing a state in which a hook covering piece is turned round, the hook covering piece being provided at the locking piece, and Fig. 6(b) is a cross section with the hook covering piece being turned round.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

EXAMPLES

Hereinafter, an embodiment of the present invention will be described with reference to the drawings.

Fig. 1 is a front view showing an appearance of a pantsuit for an infant according to the present invention. As shown in Fig. 1, the pantsuit for an infant comprises an upper garment 1, and pants 6 connected with the upper garment 1. The upper garment 1 includes front portions 2, 2 designed to be separated right and left and opened forward, and a back portion 5 connected with the front portions 2, 2 and including a waist portion 5a. The pants 6 include a back rise portion 7 sewn at its upper edge on the waist portion 5a of the back portion 5, a crotch portion 10 connected with a lower edge of the back rise portion 7, and a front rise portion 12 connected with a distal

end of the crotch portion 10 and adapted to cover a belly of an infant.

The front portions 2, 2 of the upper garment 1 can be separated right and left and opened forward, such that the right and left front portions 2, 2 can be superimposed over a greater region on each other. The right and left front portions 2, 2 are configured such that they can be fastened together by using a plurality of hooks 3 and Hook and Loop fasteners 4. These hooks 3 and Hook and Loop fasteners 4 constitute third hooking means.

As shown in Fig. 2, in the inner face of the back portion 5 of the upper garment 1, an upper edge of the back rise portion 7 of the pants 6 is sewn onto the waist portion 5a, which corresponds to a waist portion of an infant, via a stitching portion 8. On a lower edge of the back rise portion 7, the crotch portion 10 of the pants is sewn via a back flat seamer 9. Moreover, the front rise portion 12 adapted to cover a belly of an infant is sewn onto a distal end of the crotch portion 10 via a front flat seamer 11. Front rise portion locking pieces (sometimes merely referred to as locking pieces) 13 project on the right and left sides of the back rise portion 7, respectively. On the inner face side of each front rise portion locking piece 13, a plurality of (three, in the drawing) hooking means (first hooking means) 14, such as hooks, are provided vertically in the longitudinal direction (see Fig. 3). At left and right edges of a distal end on the outer face side of the front rise portion 12, hooking means (second hooking means) 15 are provided, which are designed to selectively engage with the vertically arranged plurality of hooking means 14 respectively provided in the front rise portion locking pieces 13.

The crotch portion 10 is formed from a fabric which has a texture oriented in the lateral direction and is extensible in the longitudinal direction, while the front rise portion 12 for covering an infant's belly is formed from a fabric which has a texture oriented in the longitudinal direction and is extensible in the lateral direction.

Upon putting the suit described above on an infant, as shown in Fig. 2, the front portions 2 are respectively opened left and right, and the hooking means 14 provided at the front rise portion locking pieces 13 are then unhooked from the corresponding hooking means 15 of the front rise portion 12. Thereafter, the crotch portion 10 of pants 6 and the front rise portion 12 are spread to be in the same plane. After laying the infant down on the so-spread suit, the front rise portion 12 for covering the baby's belly is bent upward as shown in Fig. 4, and the hooking means 14 provided at the front rise portion locking pieces 13 are engaged selectively with the hooking means 15 of the front rise portion 12, correspondingly to the height of the infant (see Fig. 3(b)), thus putting the pants 6 on the infant. Thereafter, the plurality of hooks 3 and Hook and Loop fasteners 4 are engaged respectively, thereby completely putting the suit on the infant.

As such, since the front portion 2 of this suit can be opened left and right, the action to put the suit on an infant can be facilitated, and similarly, the change of diapers can be performed quite readily. In the case of putting the pantsuit on an infant, since the pants 6 are connected with the upper garment 1 via the back rise portion 7, the pants do not slip down even when the infant moves, thus preventing exposure of the infant's belly. In addition, since lower portions of the front portions 2 cover the front side of the pants 6 as shown in Fig. 1 as well as a lower portion of the back portion 5 covers the back side of the pants 6 as shown in Fig. 5, the infant on which the pantsuit is put can be seen as if it wore vertically separated upper and lower clothes, and therefore better appearance can be provided. In the case of putting trousers on an infant over the pants 6, since an upper portion of the trousers can be put inside the upper garment 1, thereby to prevent the appearance from being compromised.

By providing the left and right front portions 2 such that they can be superimposed over a greater region on each other, and forming the Hook and Loop fasteners 4 of each front portion,

which are designed to be inside upon superimposing the left and right front portions together, such that they extend laterally long, the front portion 2 do not open even when the infant moves widely, thereby providing better appearance and flexibility to correspond to the size of the infant.

Moreover, since the crotch portion 10 is formed from a fabric which has a texture oriented in the lateral direction and is extensible in the longitudinal direction, while the front rise portion 12 for covering an infant's belly is formed from a fabric which has a texture oriented in the longitudinal direction and is extensible in the lateral direction, the pantsuit including such crotch portion 10 and front rise portion 12 can be used in accordance with the significant increase of height of the infant. Namely, as the infant's height is increased the hooking means 15 of the fronts rise portion 12 can be easily engaged with lower side hooking means 14 provided at the front rise portion locking pieces 13 due to the extensibility in the transverse direction of the crotch portion 10. In addition, the flexibility to the increase of the infant's body size can be achieved by the extensibility in the lateral direction of the front rise portion 12. Moreover, since the left and right front portions 2 can be superimposed over a greater region on each other, the front portion 2 do not open even when an infant wearing the suit is put moves widely, thereby enhancing the appearance.

As described above, the increase of an infant's height can be dealt with by the engagement of the hooking means 15 of the fronts rise portion 12 with the lower side hooking means 14 provided at the front rise portion locking pieces 13. In such a case, however, the uppermost hooking means 14 provided at the front rise portion locking means 13 are not engaged with the hooking means 15 of the front rise portion 12. Thus, such unengaged hooking means 14 may be exposed to and be in direct contact with the infant, causing uncomfortableness thereto.

In the present invention, members are provided for covering the uppermost unengaged hooking means 14 when

only the hooking means 14 on the lower side of the front rise portion locking pieces 13 are engaged with the hooking means 15 of the front rise portion 12 as described above.

5 Namely, as shown in Figs. 3(a) and 3(b), on the outer face side of each front rise portion locking piece 13 formed on both left and right sides of the back rise portion 7, a hook covering piece 16 is provided. Each hook covering piece 16 has a generally rectangular shape, and is sewn onto an upper edge portion of the front rise portion locking piece 13 as well as onto
10 an end portion adjacent to the piece 13. In the case where the uppermost hooking means 15 of the front rise portion 12 are engaged with the hooking means 14 arranged second from the top of the front rise portion locking pieces 13, the hook covering pieces 16 are turned round inside the respective front rise
15 portion locking pieces 13, as shown in Figs. 6(a) and 6(B), such that the uppermost hooking means 14 with which the hooking means 15 of the front rise portion 12 are not engaged can be covered with the hook covering pieces 16, respectively. Thus, the uppermost hooking means 14 of the front rise portion
20 locking pieces 13 with which the hooking means 15 are not engaged are not exposed to or be in direct contact with the skin of an infant, thereby preventing occurrence of uncomfortableness to the infant.

As described above, at the portions to be superimposed
25 on each other in the left and right front portions 2 which are designed to be separated left and right and opened forward, the plurality of hooking means are provided in the vertical direction (longitudinal direction) for fastening the left and right front portions 2 together. Among these hooking means provided in
30 the portions to be superimposed on each other in the left and right front portions 2, the hooking means provided on the upper regions may be those such as hooks 3, while the hooking means provided on the lower regions may be those such as Hook and Loop fasteners 4. With such a design, when changing diapers,
35 for example, only lower portions of the front portions 2 can be opened by disengaging only the hooking means such as Hook

and Loop fasteners 4 provided on the lower regions in the left and right front portions, thus facilitating the change of diapers or the like. In addition, such a design can prevent the remaining upper portions of the front portions 2 from being
5 opened more than required due to the other hooking means such as hooks 3.

CLAIMS

1. A pantsuit for an infant, comprising:
an upper garment including front portions designed to be separated right and left and opened forward, and a back portion connected with the front portions and having a waist portion; and
pants including a back rise portion sewn on the inner face side of the waist portion of the back portion, a crotch portion connected with the back rise portion, and a front rise portion connected with the crotch portion;
wherein locking pieces are formed on the left and right sides of the back rise portion, wherein first hooking means are provided at the locking pieces, and wherein second hooking means adapted to be engaged with the first hooking means are provided on the left and right sides of the front rise portion.
2. The pantsuit for an infant according to claim 1, wherein the first hooking means are provided vertically in plural numbers at each locking piece.
3. The pantsuit for an infant according to claim 1, wherein at portions to be superimposed on each other in the left and right front portions of the upper garment, a plurality of third hooking means are provided in the longitudinal direction for fastening the left and right front portions together of the upper garment.
4. The pantsuit for an infant according to claim 3, wherein the third hooking means provided in the left and right front portions include hooks positioned in upper regions, and Hook and Loop fasteners positioned in lower regions.
5. The pantsuit for an infant according to claim 4, wherein the Hook and Loop fasteners which are designed to be positioned inside when the left and right front portions are

superimposed together are formed to be laterally long.

- 6 The pantsuit for an infant according to claim 1, wherein
hook covering pieces, which are designed to respectively
cover the first hooking means provided on the inner face side of
each locking piece by turning round those hooking means
covering pieces inside each locking piece, are provided at the
locking pieces which are respectively formed on the left and
right sides of the back rise portion.
7. The pantsuit for an infant according to claim 1, wherein
the crotch portion of the pants is formed from a fabric
which is extensible in the longitudinal direction, while the front
rise portion is formed from a fabric which is extensible in the
lateral direction.