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A B S T R A C T

A disposable diaper (1A) includes a liquid absorbent core (2) having upper and lower surfaces and extending over a crotch region (6) and further into front and rear waist regions (5, 7), a liquid-pervious first sheet (3) having an upper section (14) covering the upper surface (11) of the core (2) and a lower section (15) covering the lower surface (12) of the core (2), and a liquid-impervious second sheet (4) lying outside the lower section (15) of the first sheet (3). The core (2) is formed with a slit (13) extending completely through in the thickness direction from the upper surface (11) to the lower surface (12) and extending in the longitudinal direction from the front waist region (5) to the crotch region (6). The upper and lower sections (14, 15) of the first sheet (3) define a tubular liquid passage (16) extending along a longitudinal center line (L) from the front waist region (5) to the crotch region (6).