CLAIM(S):

1. A fibrous porous filter element for a pleated filter, the fibrous porous filter element comprising:

(a) a first fibrous porous section having a top end, a bottom end, a first side end, a second side end, a first planar surface, a second planar surface, and a first fibrous porous section thickness; and

(b) a second fibrous porous section having a top end, a bottom end, a first side end, a second side end, a first surface, a second planar surface, and a second fibrous porous section thickness;

wherein the first planar surface or the second planar surface at the top end of the first porous fibrous section is joined to the first planar surface or the second planar surface at the top end of the second fibrous porous section by a joining member; or

wherein the first planar surface or the second planar surface at the bottom end of the first fibrous porous section is joined to the first planar surface or the second planar surface at the bottom end of the second fibrous porous section by a joining member;

the joining member having a portion forming a protrusion on the first planar surface or the second planar surface of the first fibrous porous section, or on the first planar surface or the second planar surface of the second fibrous porous section, wherein a thickness of the protrusion is less than the thickness of the first fibrous porous section and less than the thickness of the second fibrous porous section.

2. A fibrous porous filter element for a pleated filter, the fibrous porous filter element comprising:

(a) a first fibrous porous section having a top end, a bottom end, a first side end, a second side end, a first planar surface, a second planar surface, and a first fibrous porous section thickness; and

(b) a second fibrous porous section having a top end, a bottom end, a first side end, a second side end, a first planar surface, a second planar surface, and a second fibrous porous section thickness;

wherein the first planar surface or the second planar surface at the top end of the first fibrous porous section is joined to the first planar surface or the second planar surface at the top end of the second fibrous porous section; or

wherein the first planar surface or the second planar surface at the bottom end of the first fibrous porous section is joined to the first planar surface or the second planar surface at the bottom end of the second fibrous porous section;

and an upright joining member having a protrusion is formed, the upright joining member being subsequently folded over such that a surface of the upright joining member contacts the first planar surface or the second planar surface of the first fibrous porous section or the first planar surface or the second planar surface of the second fibrous porous section, wherein a thickness of the protrusion is less than the thickness of the first fibrous porous section and less than the thickness of the second fibrous porous section.

3. The fibrous porous filter element of any one of claims 1-2, comprising a pleated filter element.

4. The fibrous porous filter element of any one of claims 1-3, further comprising a drainage element and/or a support element.

5. A porous filter comprising at least two fibrous porous filter elements of any one of claims 1-4.

6. A porous filter comprising the fibrous porous filter element(s) of any one of claims 1-5, further comprising an outer wrap and/or end caps.

7. A filter basket comprising a housing having a first end and a second end, a side wall with openings therethrough, and a hollow section open at the first end for receiving a fibrous porous filter element of any one of claims 1-4 or the porous filter of claim 5 or 6.

8. The filter basket of claim 7, having at least two sections open at the first end wherein each of the at least two sections is suitable for receiving a fibrous porous filter element of any one of claims 1-4 or the porous filter of claim 5 or 6.

9. A filter device comprising a device housing having an inlet and an outlet and providing a fluid flow path between the inlet and the outlet, and at least one porous filter of claim 5 or 6 arranged in the housing across the fluid flow path.

10. The filter device of claim 9, including a filter basket holding the at least one porous filter, wherein the filter basket is arranged in the filter device housing across the fluid flow path.

11. A method of filtering a fluid, the method comprising passing the fluid through the fibrous porous filter element of any one of claims 1-4, the porous filter of claim 5 or 6, the filter basket of claim 7 or 8, or the filter device of claim 9 or 10.

12. A method of making the filter element of any one of claims 1 to 4, the method comprising placing a first fibrous porous section in contact with a second fibrous porous section such that respective surfaces of the first fibrous porous section and the second fibrous porous section contact each other;

joining the first fibrous porous section to the second fibrous porous section at an end of the first fibrous porous section and an end of the second fibrous porous section, wherein the end of the first fibrous porous section is in contact with the end of the second fibrous porous section, forming a joining member; and,

spreading the first fibrous porous section away from the second fibrous porous section, wherein the first fibrous porous section remains joined to the second fibrous porous section by the joining member.

13. The method of claim 12, further comprising folding over a portion of the joining member.