

[0006] According to an aspect of the invention, a ~~An absorbent article of the present invention~~ which solves the above problems comprises a top sheet, a back sheet and an absorbent laminate disposed between the top sheet and the back sheet, wherein: the absorbent laminate comprises an upper sheet-shaped absorbent layer, a fiber assembly layer and a lower sheet-shaped absorbent layer provided in this order from the top sheet side; the fiber assembly layer contains pulp fibers; and each of the upper sheet-shaped absorbent layer and the lower sheet-shaped absorbent layer contains an absorbent polymer but does not contain a pulp fiber between nonwoven fabric sheets. Each of the upper sheet-shaped absorbent layer and the lower sheet-shaped absorbent layer of the absorbent article preferably has a plurality of absorbent polymer present regions, in each of which the absorbent polymer is provided, and an absorbent polymer absent region adjacent to the absorbent polymer present region between the nonwoven fabric sheets; and the nonwoven fabric sheets are preferably joined together at the absorbent polymer absent region to form a sealing portion. The absorbent article of the present invention can absorb a bodily fluid rapidly even when the bodily fluid are excreted in a large amount at one time. That is, even when the upper sheet-shaped absorbent layer does not fully absorb a bodily fluid, which is excreted in a large amount at one time, the fiber assembly layer can absorb the bodily fluid rapidly. The bodily fluid diffuses in the fiber assembly layer, and therefore, the bodily fluid which has passed through the fiber assembly layer comes to be absorbed by the lower sheet-shaped absorbent layer in a broad area, whereby rapid absorption of the bodily fluid by the lower sheet-shaped absorbent layer is achieved. In addition, according to the absorbent article of the present invention, since both of the upper sheet-shaped absorbent layer and the lower sheet-shaped absorbent layer can absorb and fix a bodily fluid therein, the absorbent article can be formed so as to be thin while having a high absorptive capacity.

[0007] Each of the upper sheet-shaped absorbent layer and the lower sheet-shaped absorbent layer of the absorbent article preferably has a plurality of absorbent polymer present regions, in each of which the absorbent polymer is provided, and an absorbent polymer absent region adjacent to the absorbent polymer present region between the nonwoven fabric sheets; and the nonwoven fabric sheets are preferably joined together at the absorbent polymer absent region to form a sealing portion. When the absorbent polymer absent regions are disposed in the upper sheet-shaped absorbent layer and the lower sheet-shaped absorbent layer, and the nonwoven fabric sheets are joined together at these regions to form the sealing portions, a bodily fluid easily pass through the absorbent polymer absent region. Therefore, in the upper sheet-shaped absorbent layer, when a bodily fluid are excreted in a large amount at one time, the bodily fluid easily transfers to the fiber assembly layer through the absorbent polymer absent region, and thus are rapidly absorbed by the absorbent laminate. In the lower sheet-shaped absorbent layer, a part of the bodily fluid which has transferred to the lower sheet-shaped absorbent layer easily transfers to the lower side (the back sheet side) of the lower sheet-shaped absorbent layer through the absorbent polymer absent region. As a result, the bodily fluid is easily absorbed from both the upper side and the lower side of the lower sheet-shaped absorbent layer, whereby rapid absorption of the bodily fluid by the lower

- [Claim 6] The absorbent article according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the nonwoven fabric sheets of the upper sheet-shaped absorbent layer or the lower sheet-shaped absorbent layer are kept joined together at the sealing portion when the upper sheet-shaped absorbent layer or the lower sheet-shaped absorbent layer absorbs a bodily fluid.
- [Claim 7] The absorbent article according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein:
an adhesive is applied to the nonwoven fabric sheets of the upper sheet-shaped absorbent layer and the lower sheet-shaped absorbent layer respectively to form adhesive layers;
the absorbent polymer disposed at the absorbent polymer present region is fixed to the nonwoven fabric sheet by the adhesive layer; and
the nonwoven fabric sheets are joined together at the absorbent polymer absent region by the adhesive layer.
- [Claim 8] The absorbent article according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the fiber assembly layer has an opening.