

Color Wheel

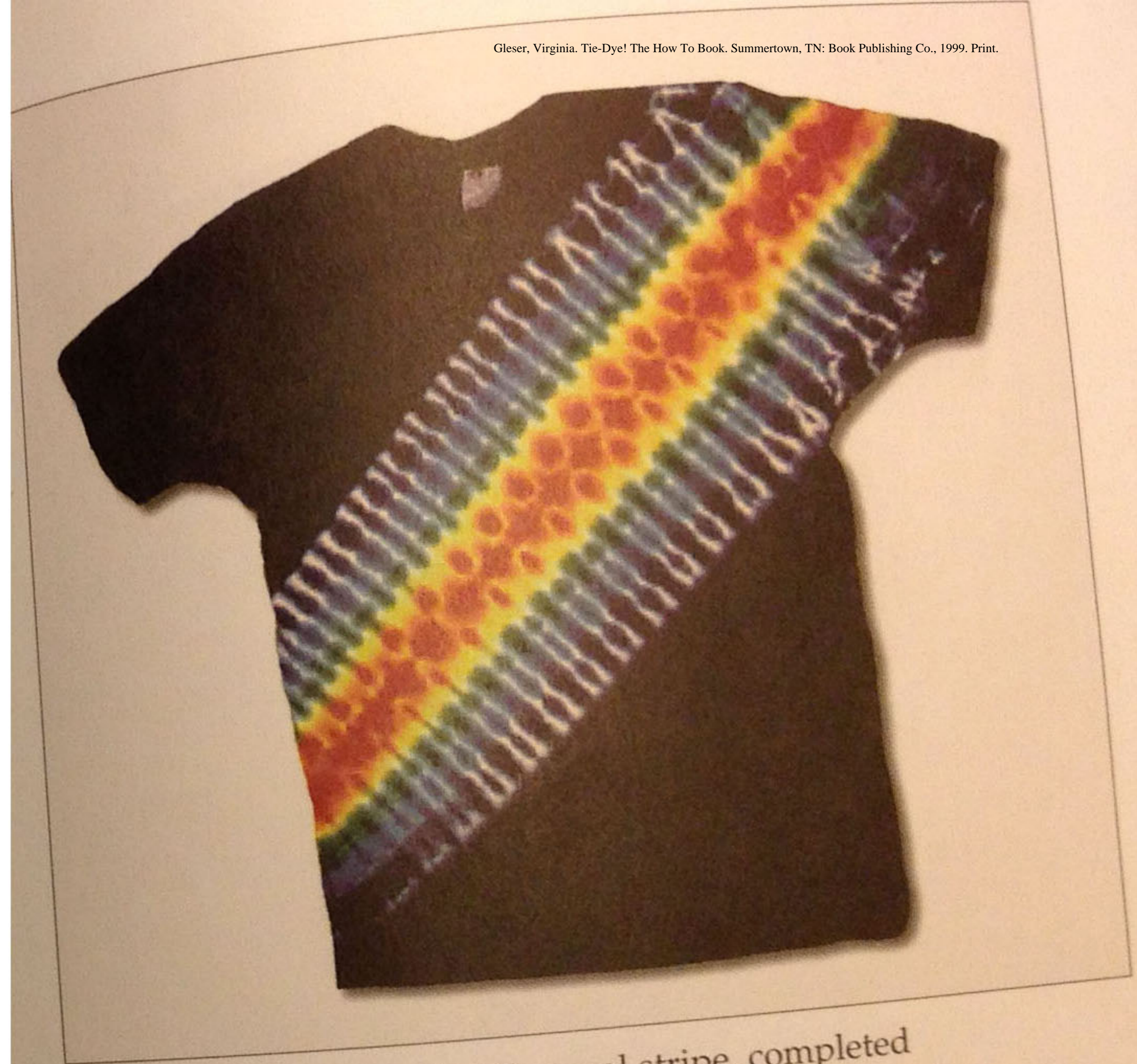
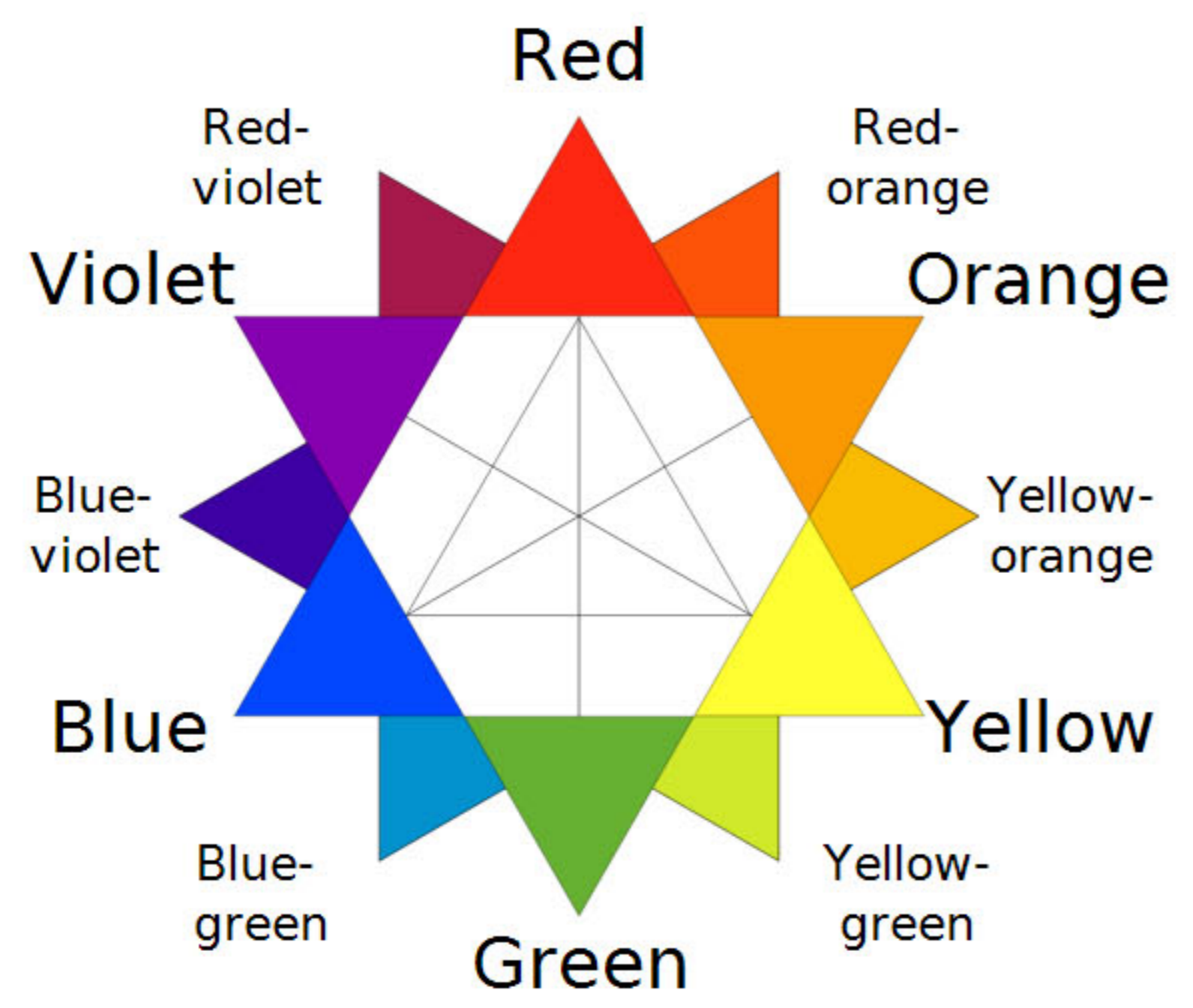


Fig. C-1A - Diagonal stripe, completed

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Fig. C-1B - Diagonal Stripe, partially dyed

design 1

accordion fold

This is one of the easiest folds, but also offers many variations. Different variations can result from how large the pleats are, how even each pleat is, and where the pleats are placed on the item. The folds can be placed diagonally, vertically, horizontally, or in a zig-zag stripe. The design can cover the entire item or it can be partially tied so that a solid colored background sets off the design.

Diagonal Stripe Variation

1. To fold the diagonal stripe, divide the shirt in half along the diagonal from the shoulder to the opposite bottom corner of the shirt. (Fig. 1.) Start folding in accordion pleats from the bottom edge of the shirt to the opposite shoulder. (Figs. 2-4.) Try to keep the pleats small and even.
2. Secure the folds with string. (Fig. 5.) Make as many sections as you wish. We made four sections (three tied on both sides, plus one end section). (Fig. 6.)
3. To dye the diagonal stripe, first dye the background a solid color (the loose, untied material at the right of Fig. 6). Try purple, red, or black. Squeeze out any excess dye. Then dye the end section yellow. To guard the yellow, place a little yellow on the second section (the first one tied on both sides). Apply green to the other part of that section. The third section is turquoise. The fourth section is blue. Over the end of the yellow section, place a little orange and then a little red on the very end of that. (See color Figs.C-1A and C1B.)

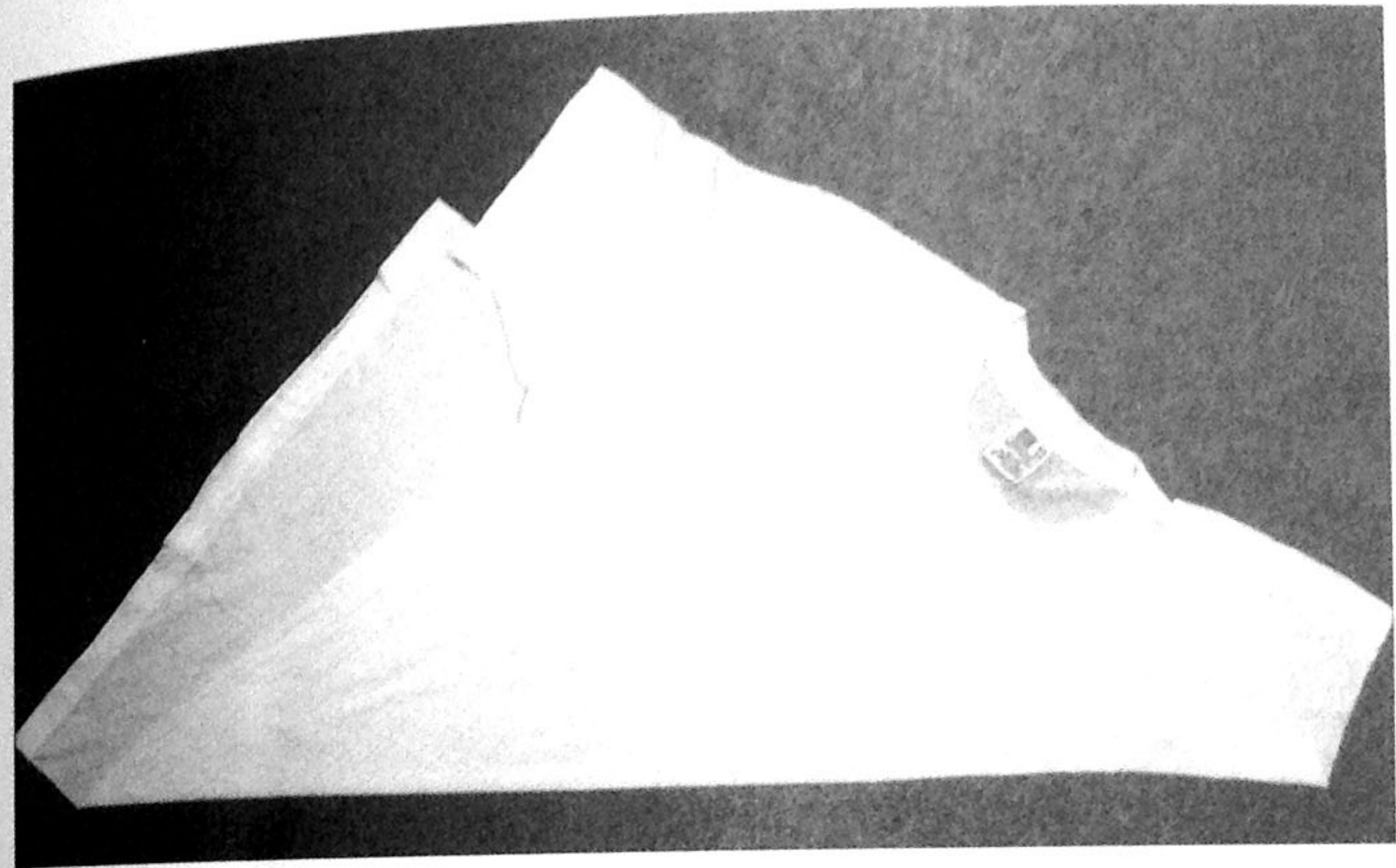


Fig. 1.

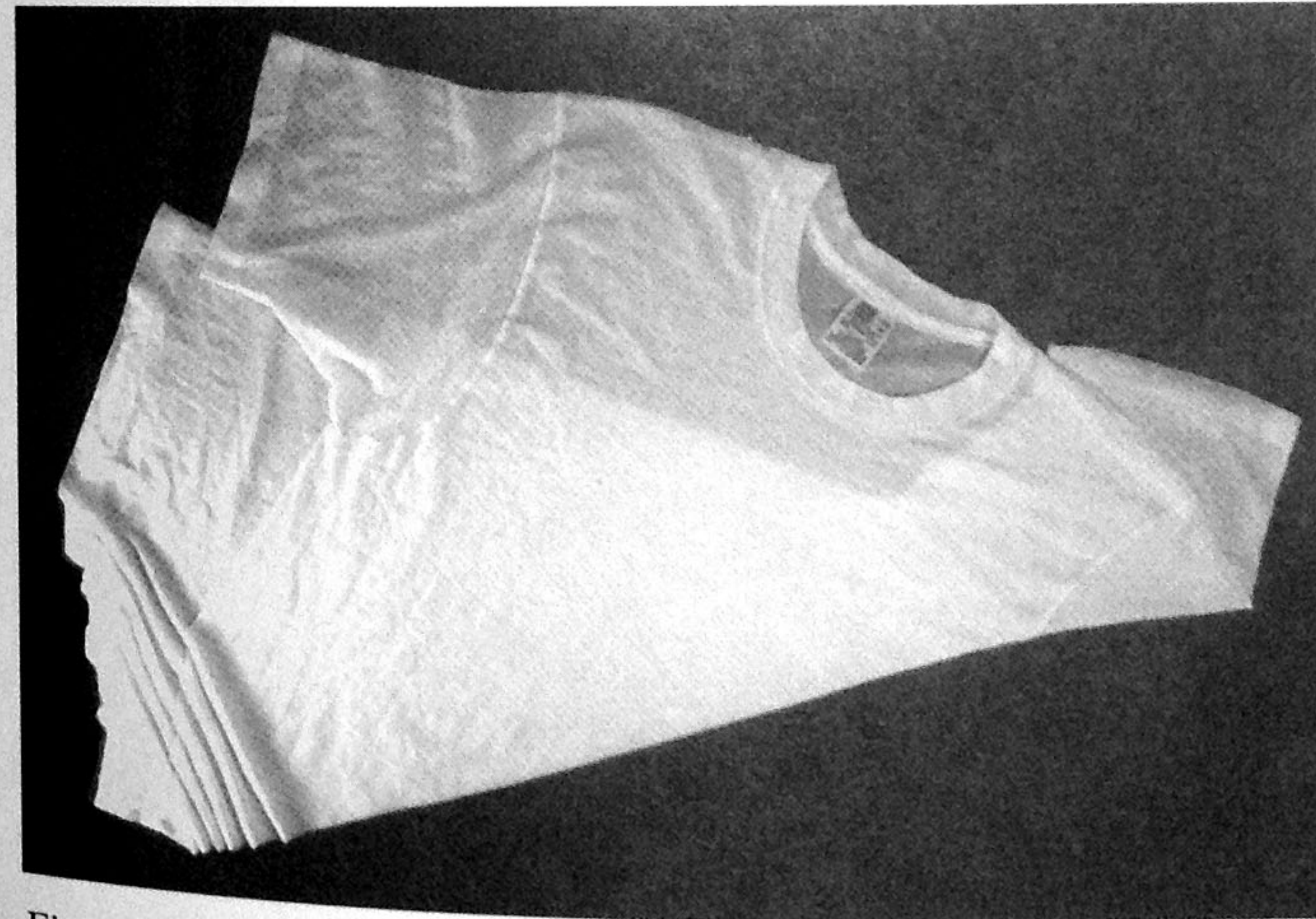


Fig. 2.

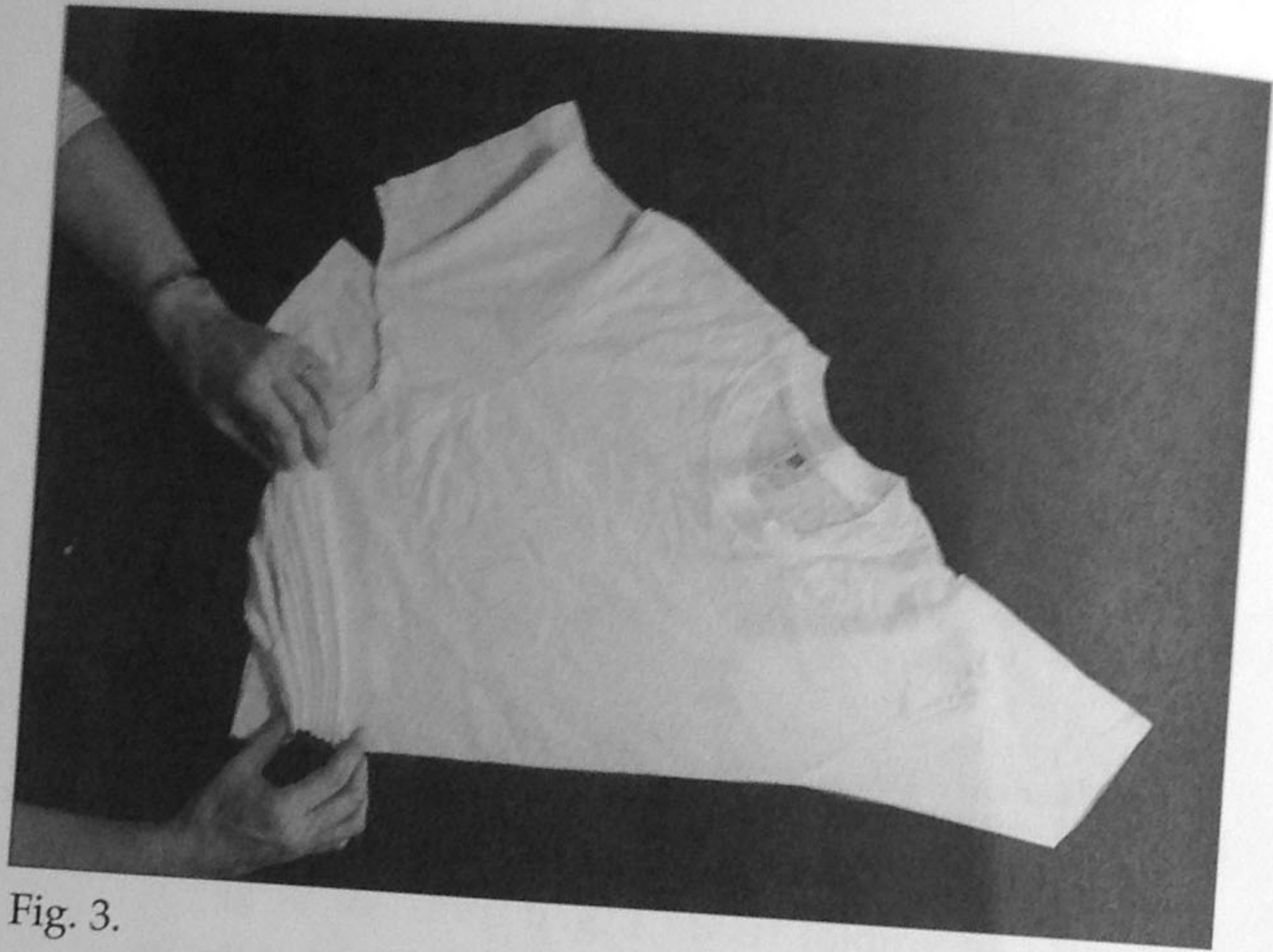


Fig. 3.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 4.

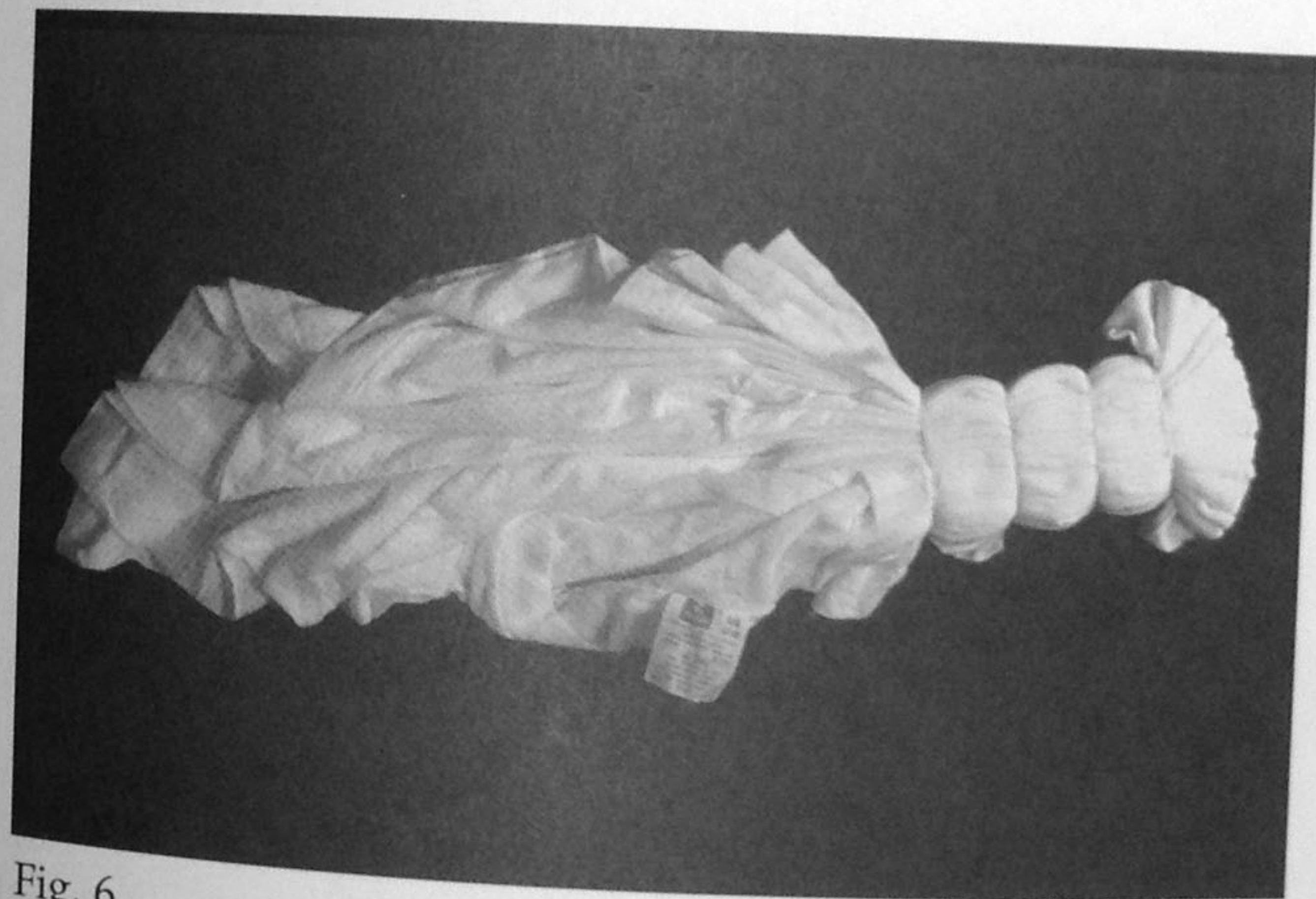


Fig. 6.

Horizontal Stripe Variation

This will give you a horizontal stripe with a background.

1. Fold the shirt in half across the chest. (Fig. 7.) At the fold pleat across the shirt from one side to the other in small, even pleats. (Figs. 8 and 9.)
2. Tie the horizontal stripe in four sections (three tied on both sides, plus one end section—Figs. 10 and 11)
3. To dye the horizontal stripe, first dye the background a solid color (the loose, untied material on the far right of Fig. 11). Try purple, red, or black. Squeeze out any excess dye. Then dye the end section yellow. To guard the yellow, place a little yellow on the second section (the first one tied on both sides) and apply green to the other half. Apply turquoise to the third section. The fourth section is blue. Over the end of the yellow section, place a small amount of orange and then a little red on the end of that.

All-Over Stripe Variation

This will give you several horizontal stripes across the shirt.

1. Fold the shirt in half across the chest. (Fig. 7.) At the fold, pleat across the shirt from one side to the other in small, even pleats. (Figs. 8 and 9.)
2. Tie the horizontal stripe in four sections (three tied on both sides, plus one end section—Figs. 10 and 11), and continue to tie it all the way out to the end of the material for a design that covers the entire shirt. (Fig. 12.)
3. Squirt different colors on each section that is tied. If a rainbow design is desired, place yellow in one of the central sections. Yellow should always be used first in any design, since it is a light color and can easily be taken over by other colors near it. To guard the yellow, place a little yellow on each of the adjacent sections before you apply a darker color. In one direction from the yellow section, dye an orange section, then red, purple, and blue. Many people like blue near the face while some like yellow and red near the face. Decide on the placement of the dye before starting. In the opposite direction from the yellow, apply green, turquoise, blue, and purple on each section in that order, and a beautiful rainbow stripe will appear. If there are more sections, begin the sequence again. (See color Figs. C-1C and C-1D.)

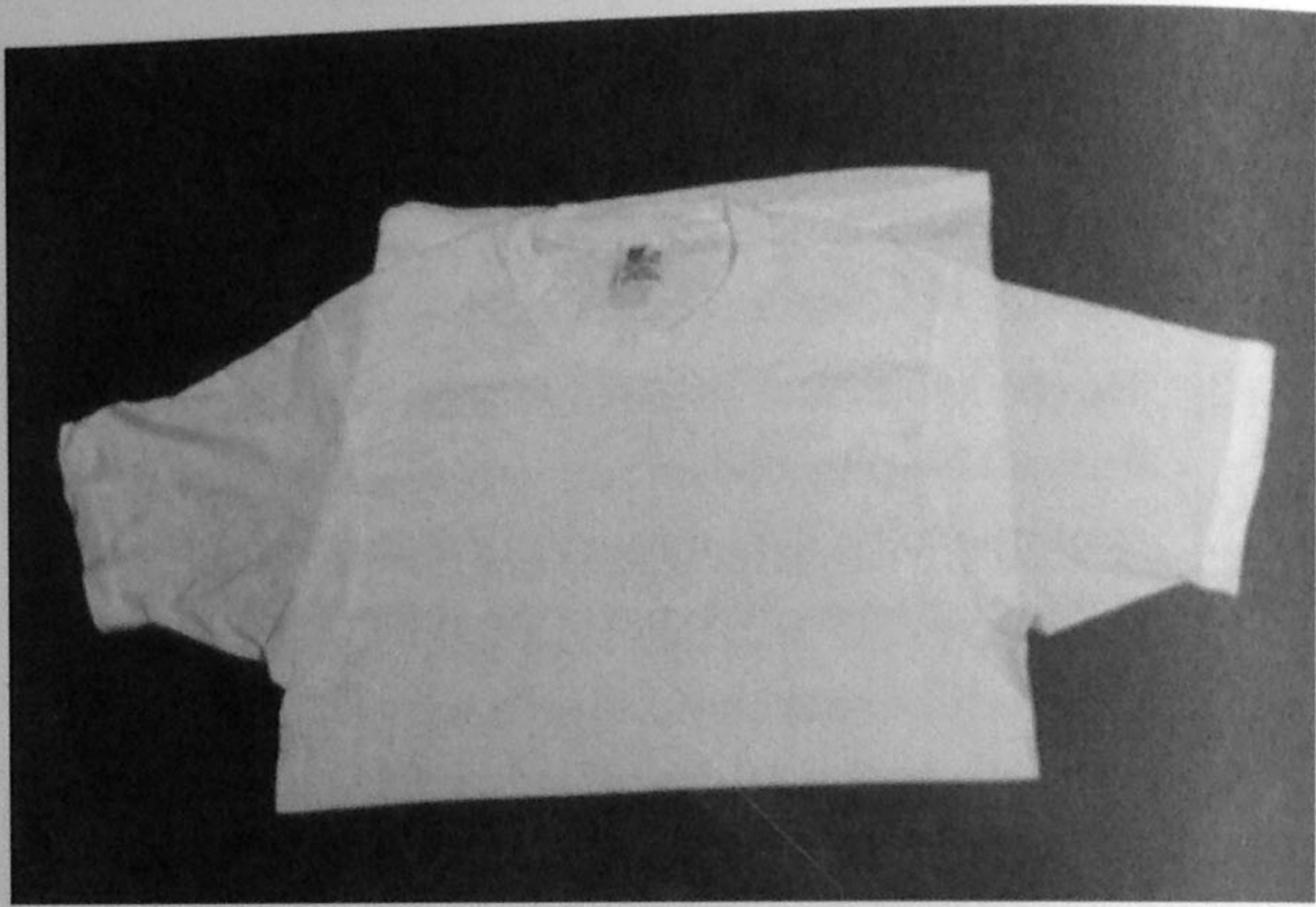


Fig. 7.

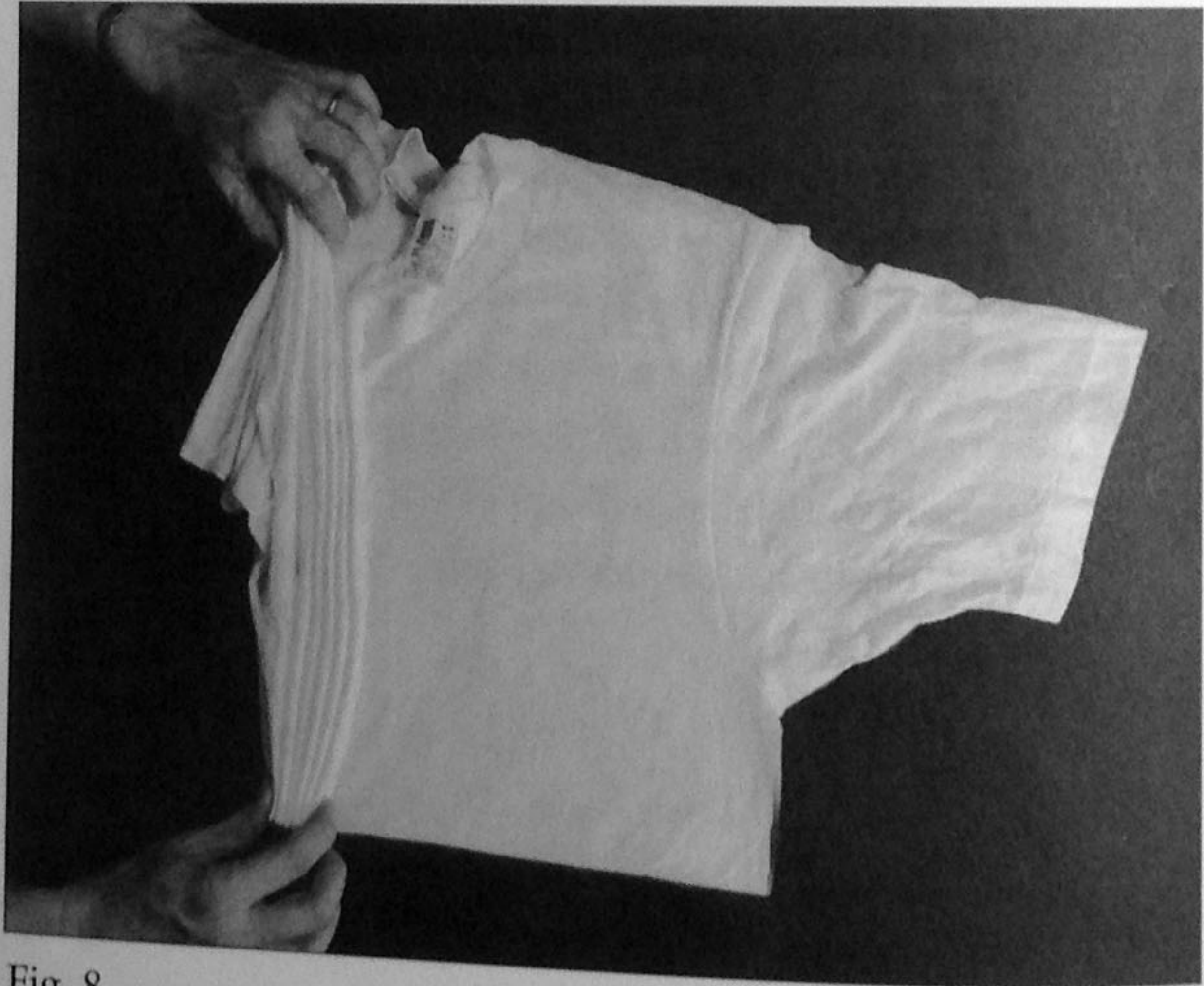


Fig. 8.

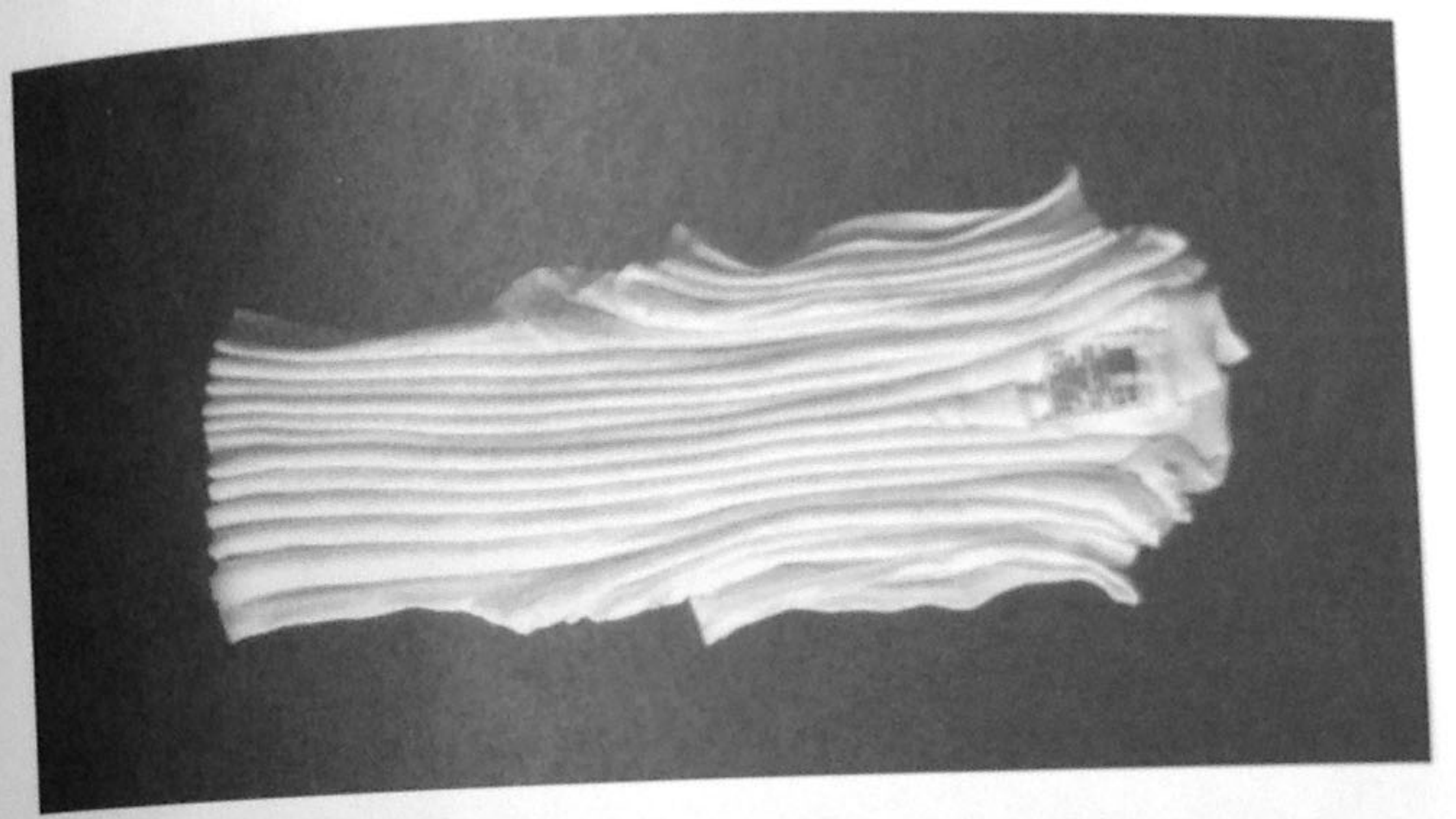


Fig. 9.

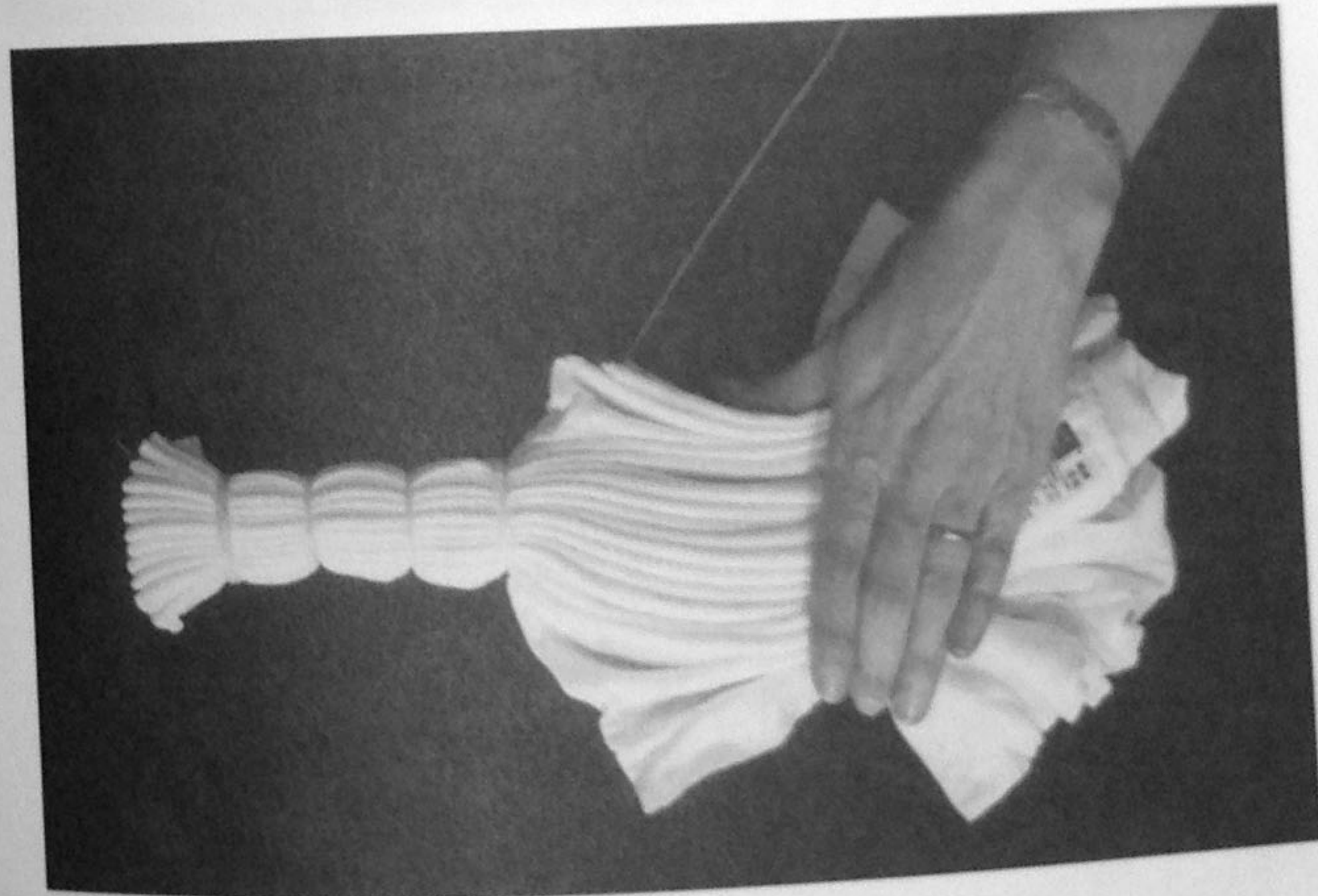


Fig. 10.

design 2

spiral fold

This is one of the most popular designs.

1. To tie the spiral, the middle of the spiral is held down while the rest of the material is swirled around the center. (Figs. 14, 15, and 16.) The middle can be secured with a finger, a stick, or a fork. Again, the accordion fold is being used, but in a circular motion. The care and detail that is given to the folds will result in a more detailed spiral or a more random looking spiral. There is a tendency for the folds to get too big, so each large fold must be divided into two folds as the spiral is being pleated. When the folding is completed, it resembles a mini-pizza, or a party-size pizza if a large item is being tied.
2. Some people tie spirals with rubber bands, but there is more control over the outcome by using string. (Fig. 17.) Tie the spiral securely without losing its circular shape, but not so tightly that it collapses the design. (Fig. 18.)
3. To dye the spiral think of it as a pie. Each color will be a slice of pie. We will describe a rainbow spiral here, but there are an infinite number of color combinations for the spiral that can be substituted. Again, a warning when choosing colors: some will become muddy when placed next to each other. Dye a big slice of the pie yellow, a smaller slice orange, and another larger slice red to make up about half of the pie. The other half, starting next to the red, will be made up of a small purple



Fig. 11.

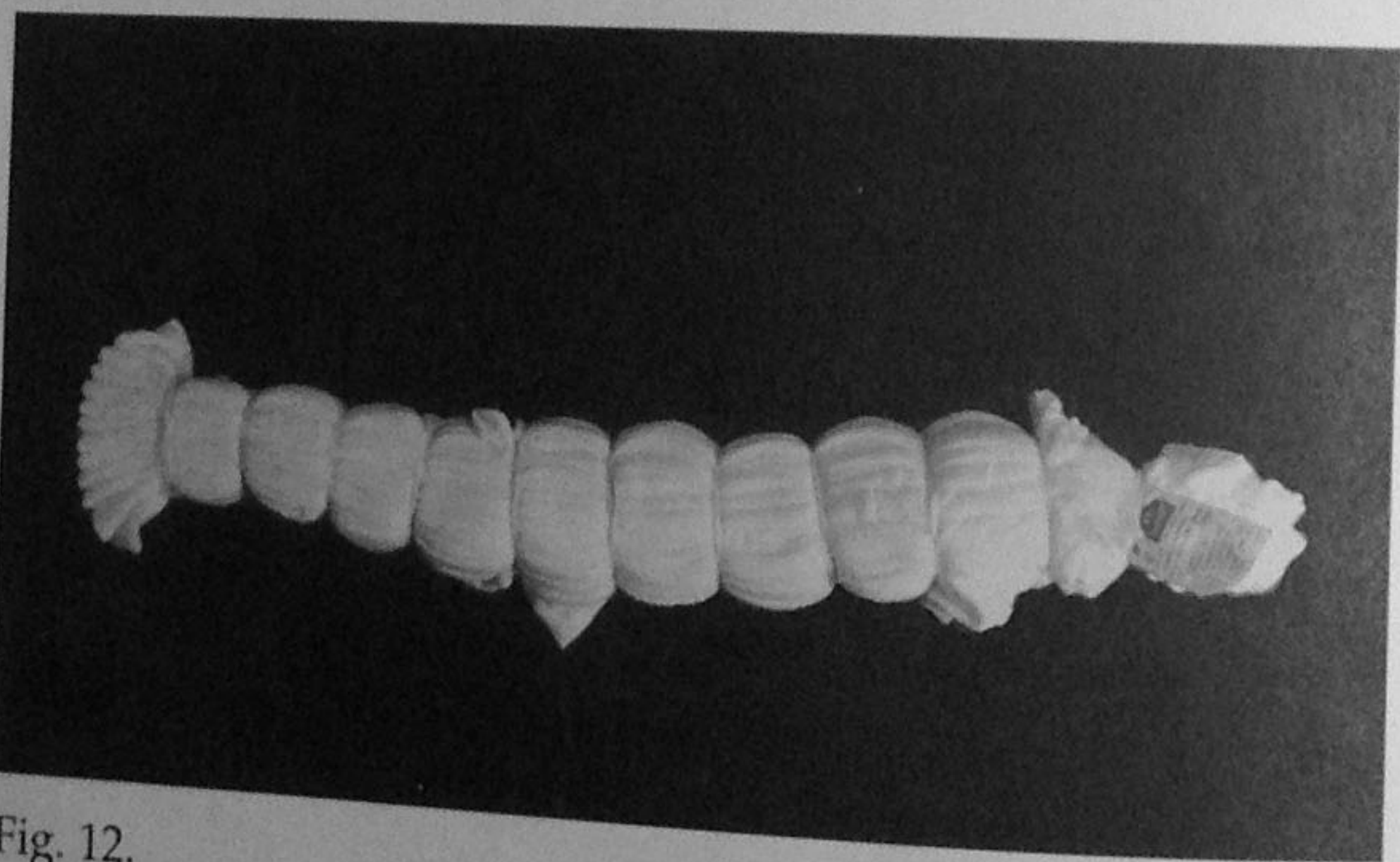


Fig. 12.

section, a large blue one, and a smaller green wedge. We have made the primary colors (yellow, red, and blue) the larger sections and the secondary colors (orange, purple, and green) the smaller sections. An emphasis on primary colors will give a more balanced rainbow effect. Be very careful when applying the dyes close to the middle of the spiral. To be sure that there will be a multi-colored center, don't apply the dyes too closely together. Remember: all the colors, when mixed, become black or brown. (See color Figs. C-2A-2C.)

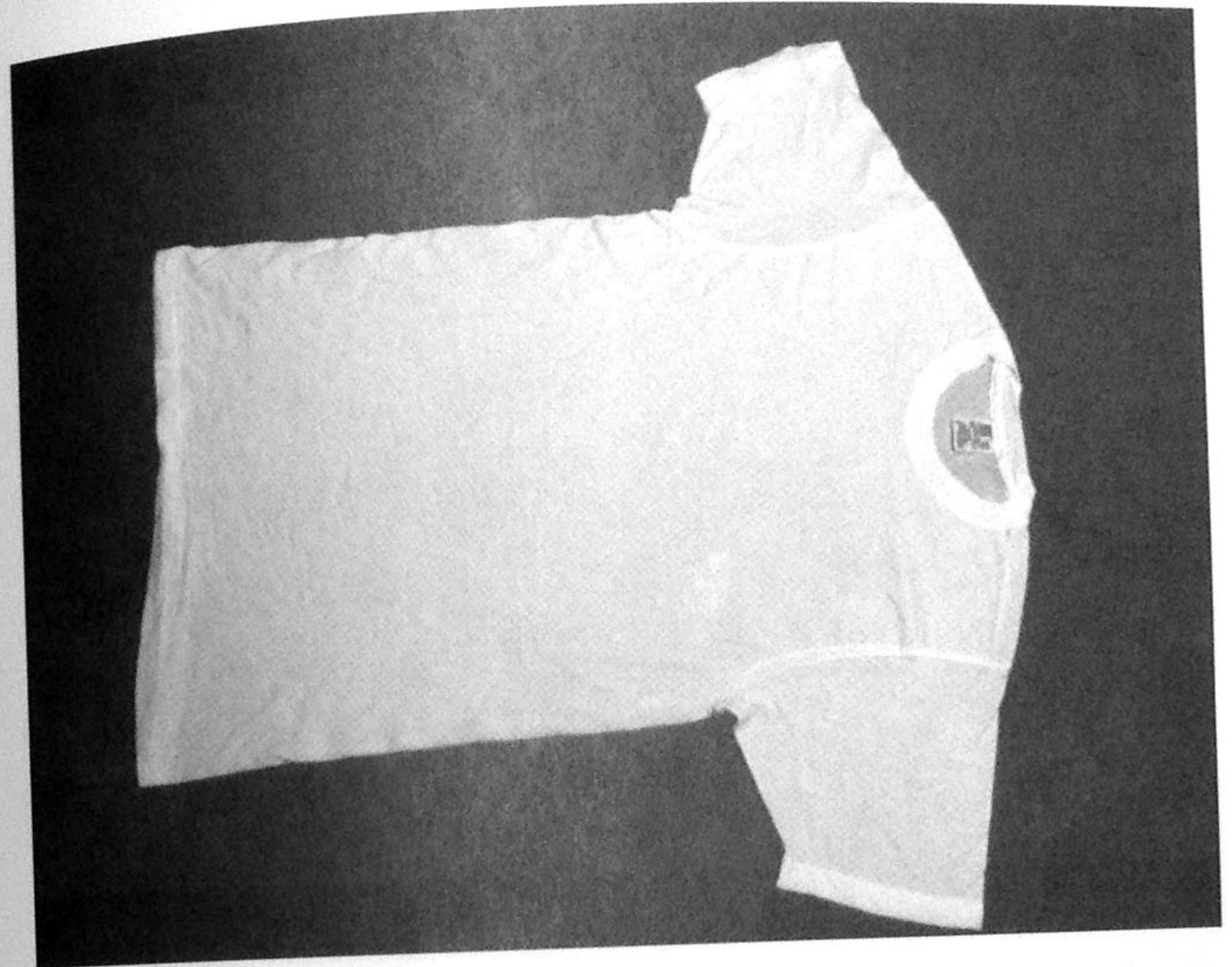


Fig. 13.

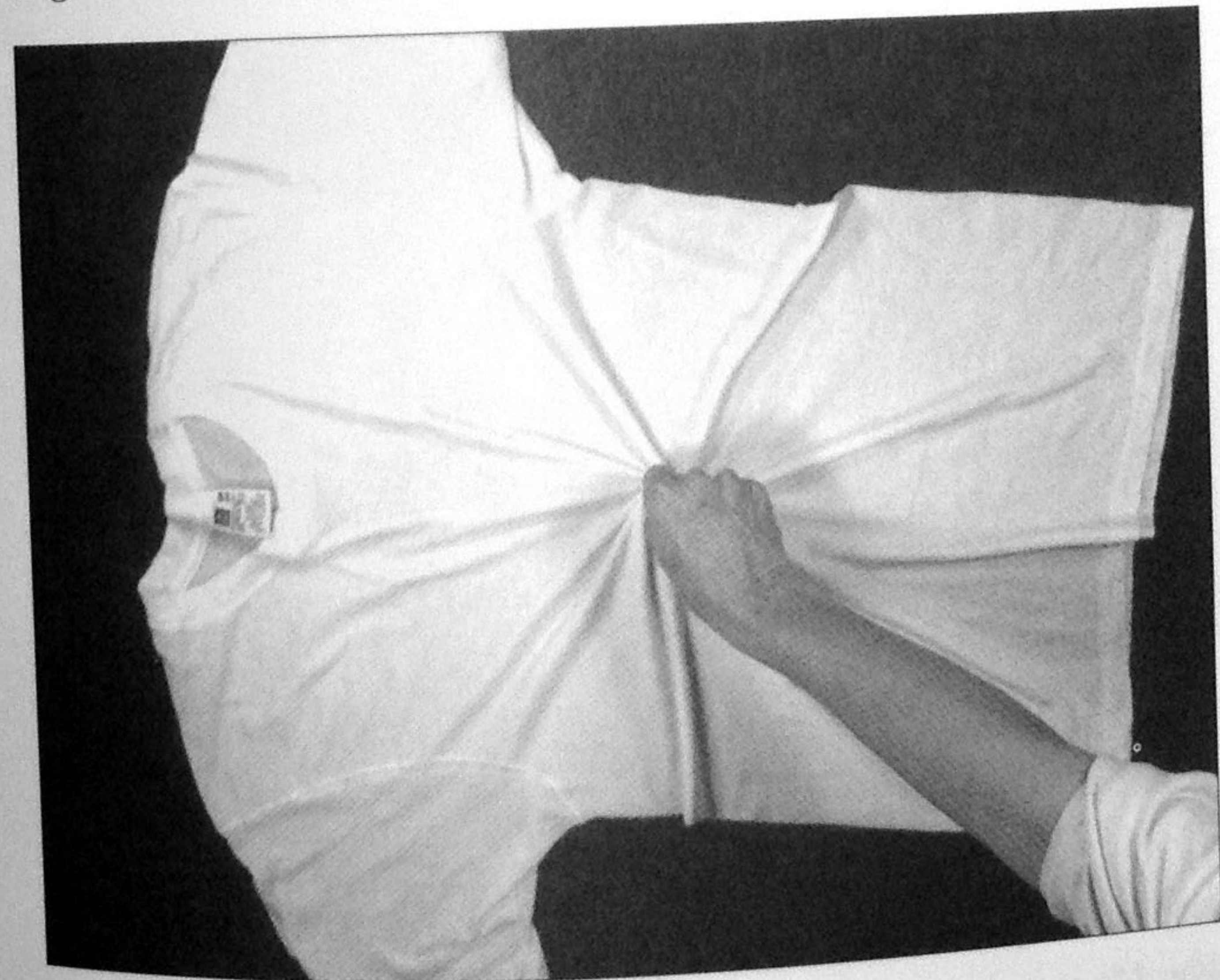


Fig. 14.



Fig. 15.

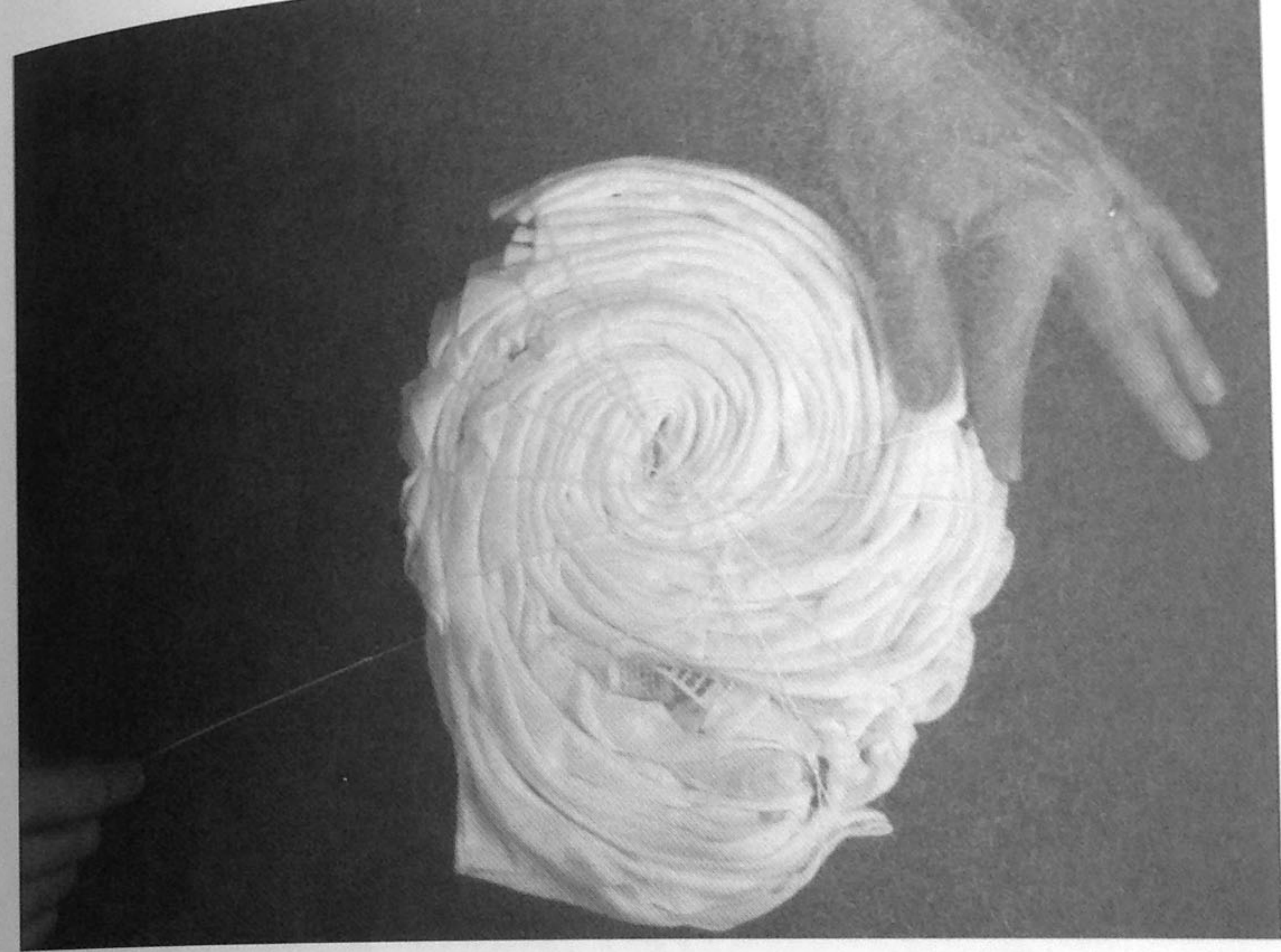


Fig. 17.

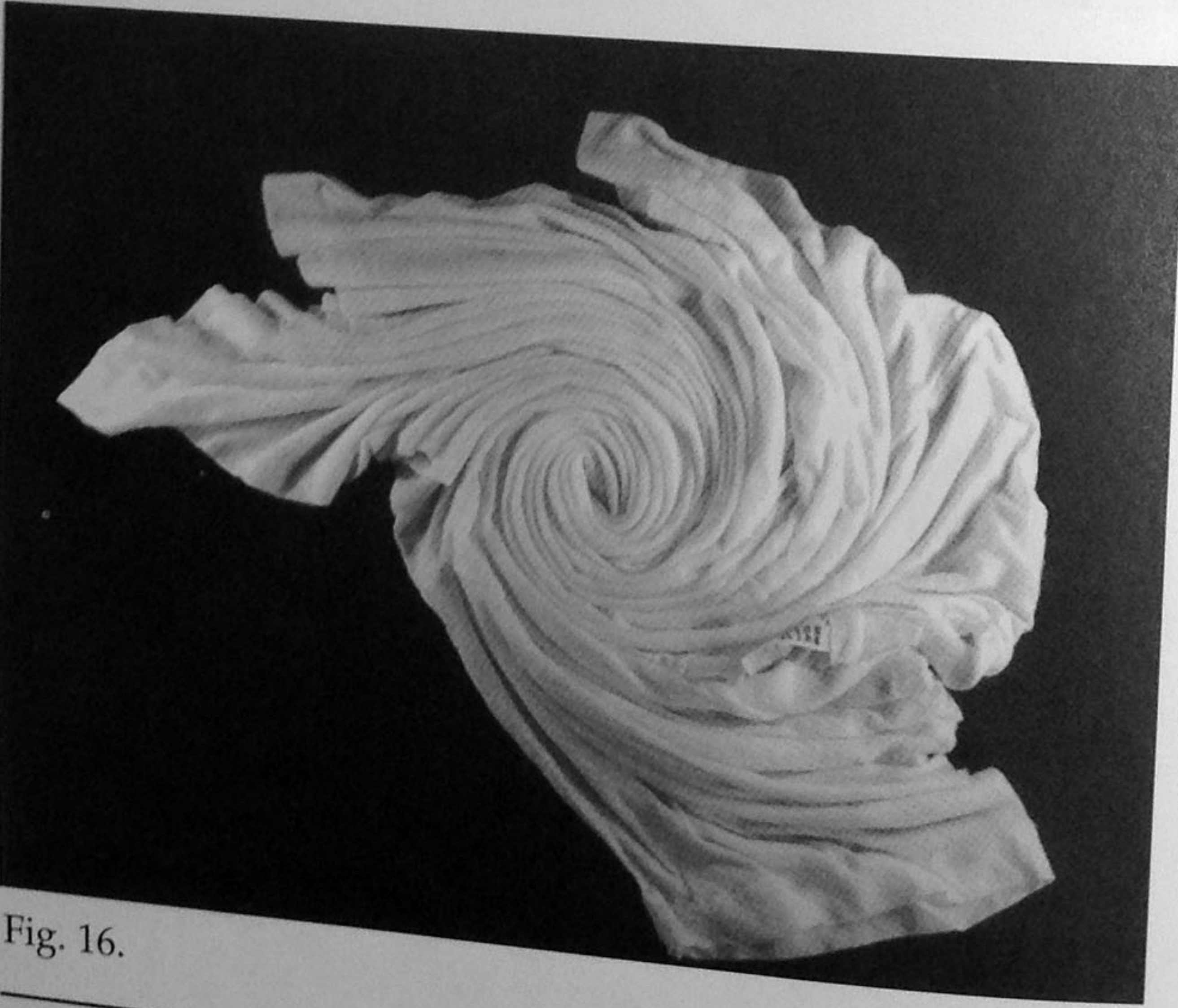


Fig. 16.

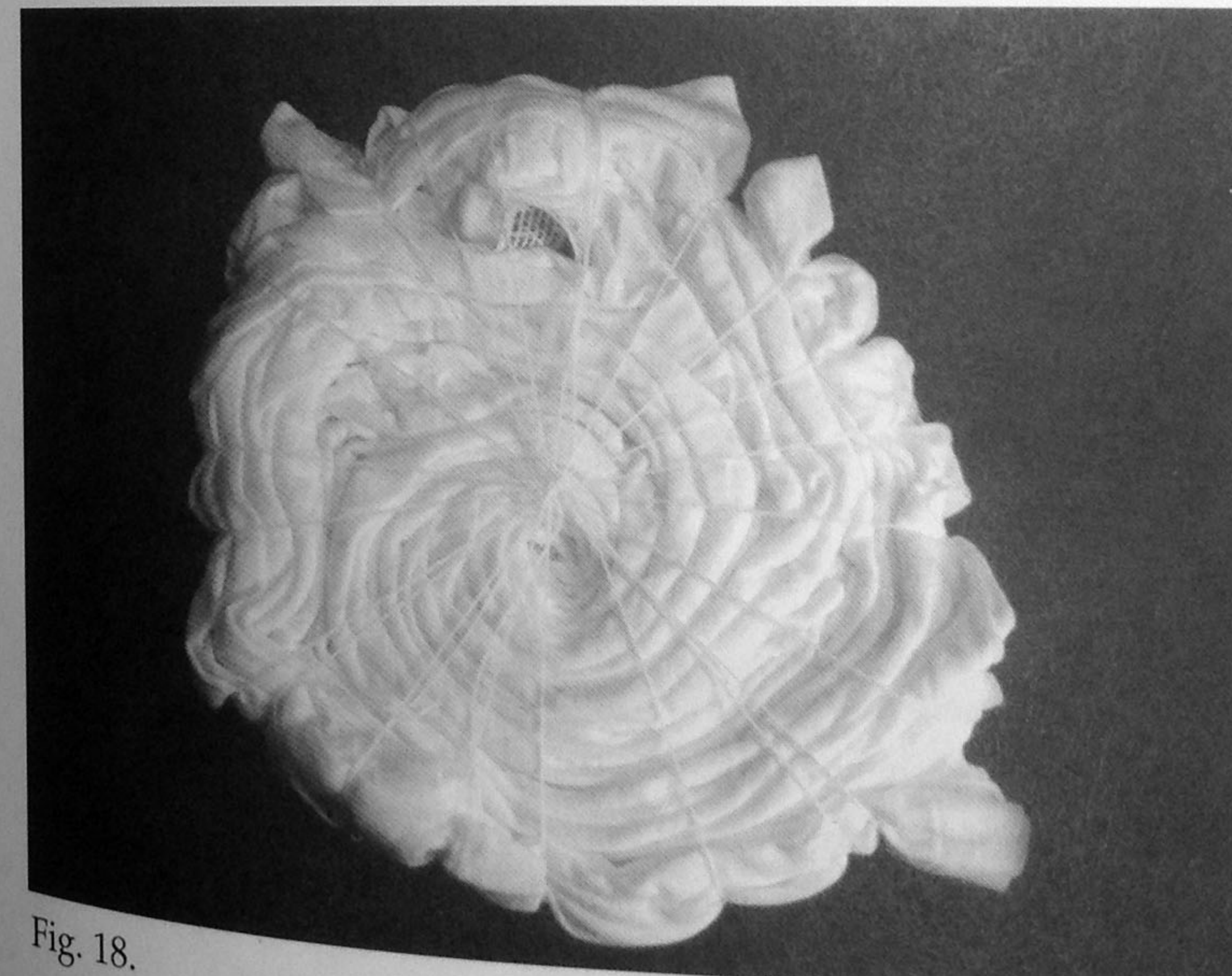


Fig. 18.



Fig. C-1C - All-Over Stripe, completed



Fig. C-1D - All-Over Stripe, partially dyed



Fig. C-2A - Spiral, completed



Fig. C-2B - Spiral, partially dyed



Fig. C-2C - Spiral, completely dyed

design 3

flower fold

1. In this fold, three or four vertical accordion folds are made across the entire item to create one long piece. (Figs. 19, 20, and 21.)
2. The piece is folded in the shape of a triangle and folded back and forth up the entire length of the shirt. (Fig. 22.) Secure this triangle-shaped piece with rubber bands or string to hold it together. (Figs. 23 and 24.) This does not need to be tied too tightly, because of its thickness. The dye must be able to penetrate its many layers.
3. To dye the flower, apply yellow to the sections on each of the left and right corners, as shown in Fig. 24. Make sure the yellow has penetrated the material. Squeeze out excess dye or blot the material with a rag. At the tips of each yellow section, apply an orange section and then a red section on top of the orange, mostly covering the orange. Remember, orange takes over anyway. (See color Fig. C-3B.)
4. Above the yellow section, place a green section and then a turquoise one. The middle section toward the third corner should be blue with purple on the third corner. (See color Fig. C-3C.) In this design, due to the thickness of the fold, the sections need to be checked for too much white and filled in as much as possible. Although an item tie-dyed in this style seems to be filled with dye, the resulting design will still contain a large amount of white. (See color Fig. C-3A.) Blot any dripping dye with a clean rag.

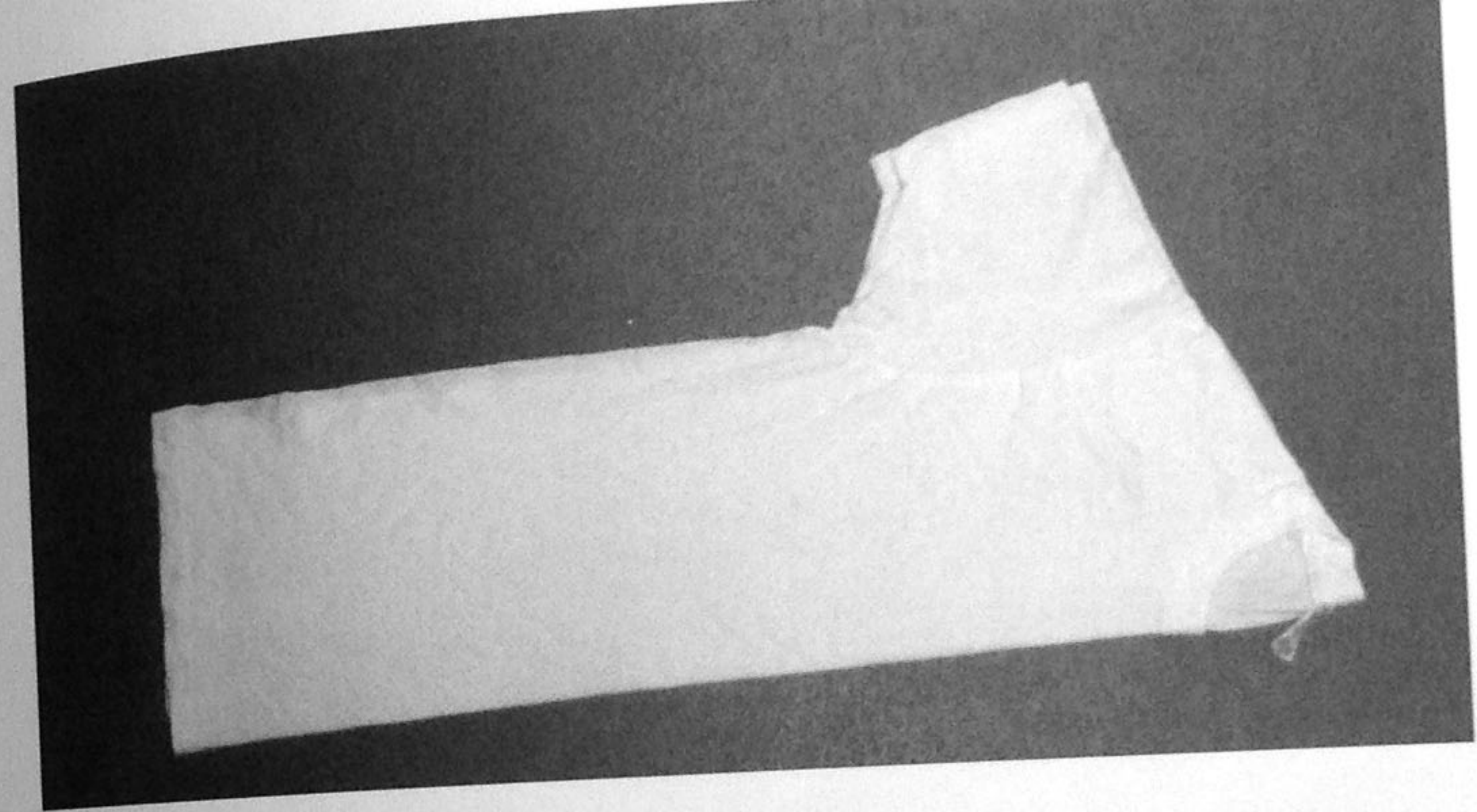


Fig. 19.

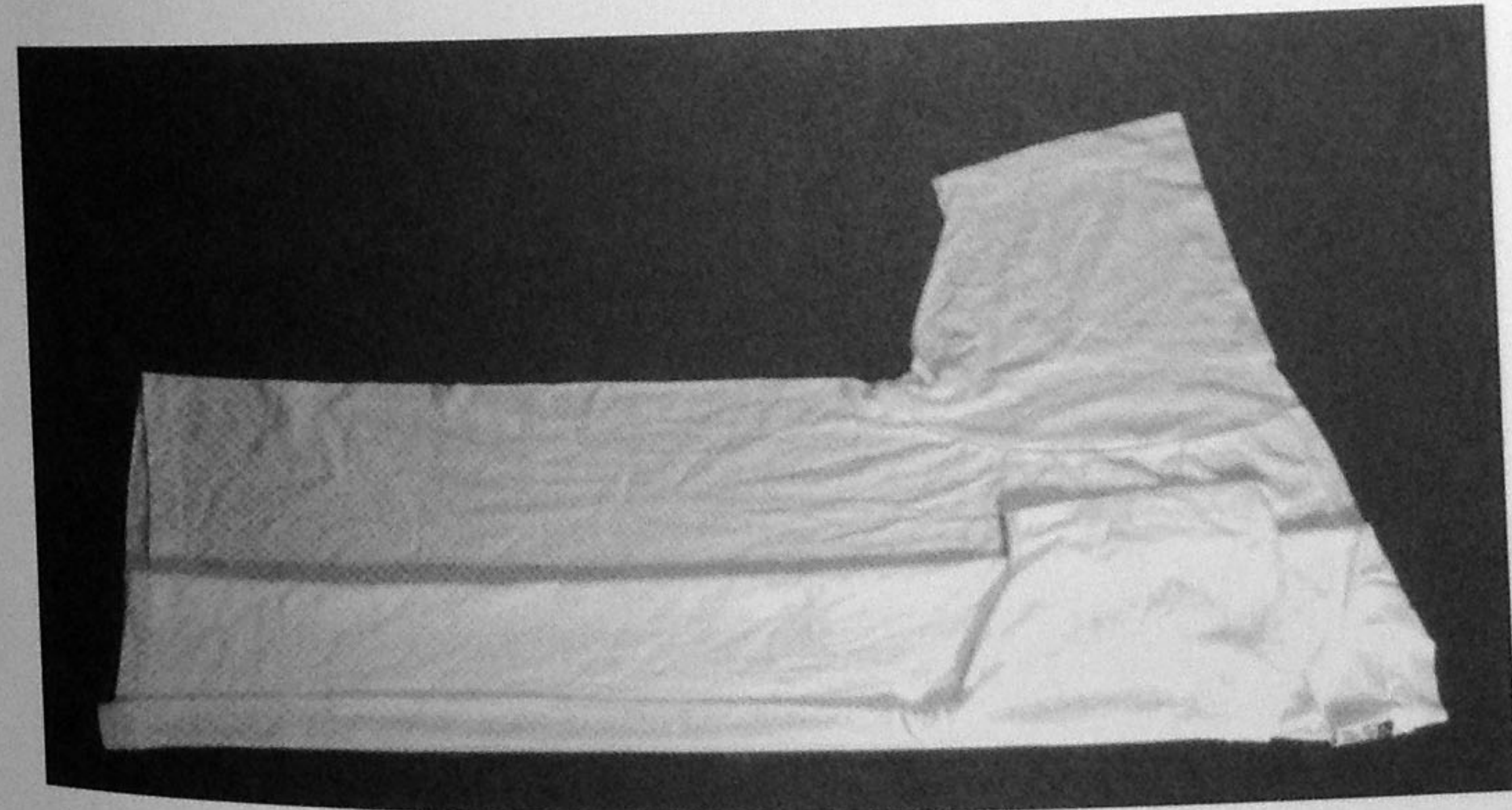


Fig. 20.

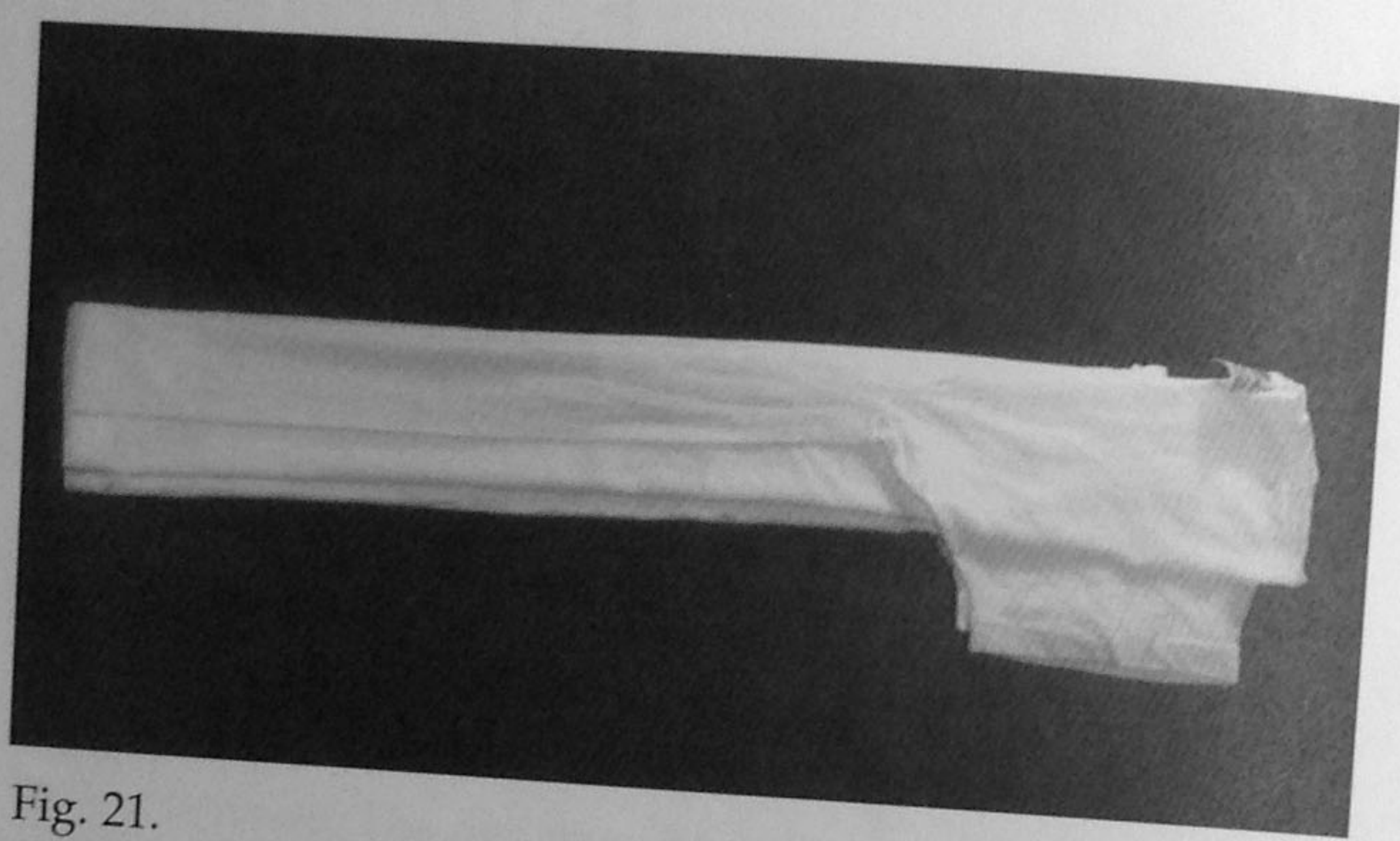


Fig. 21.

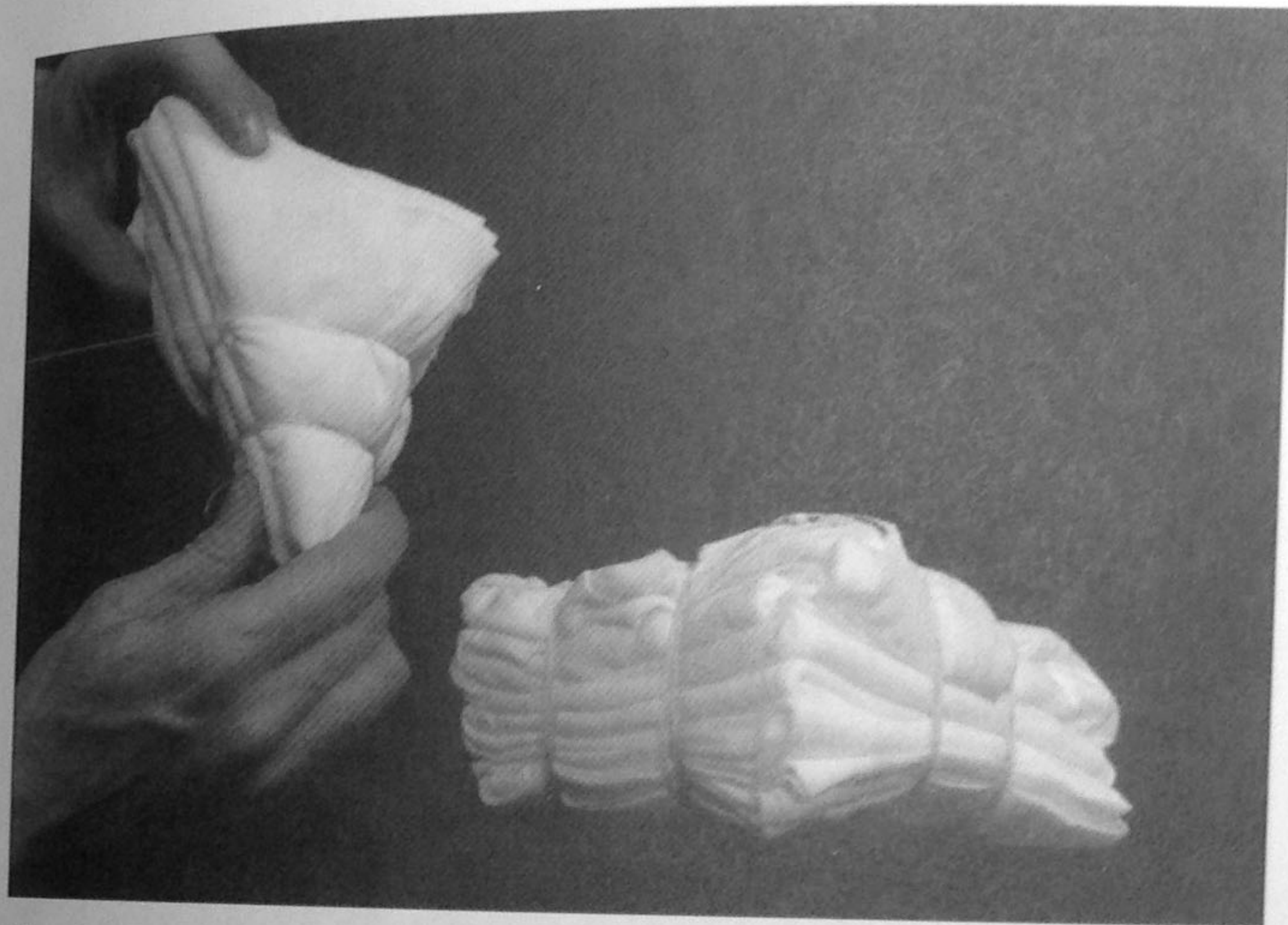


Fig. 23.

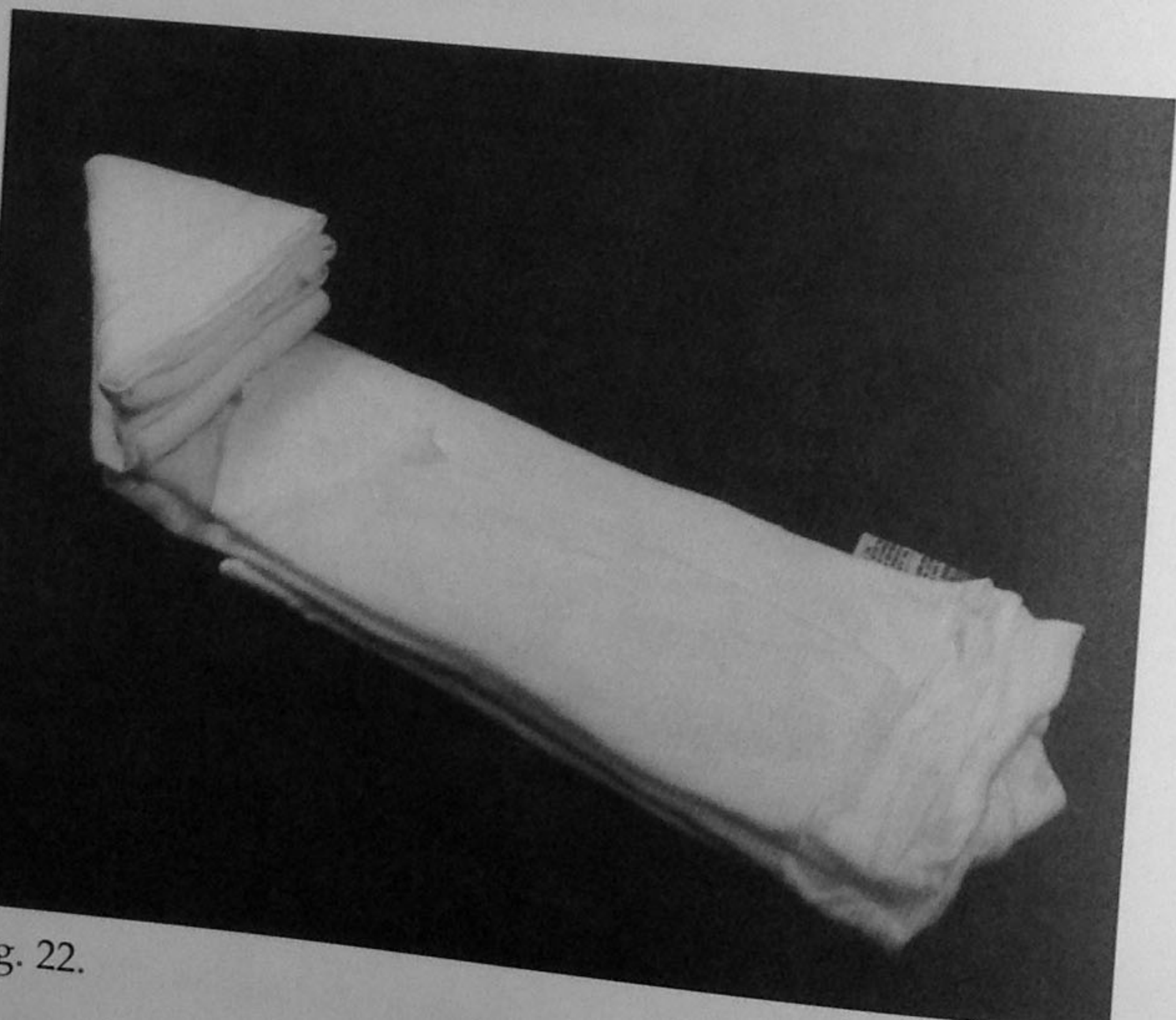


Fig. 22.

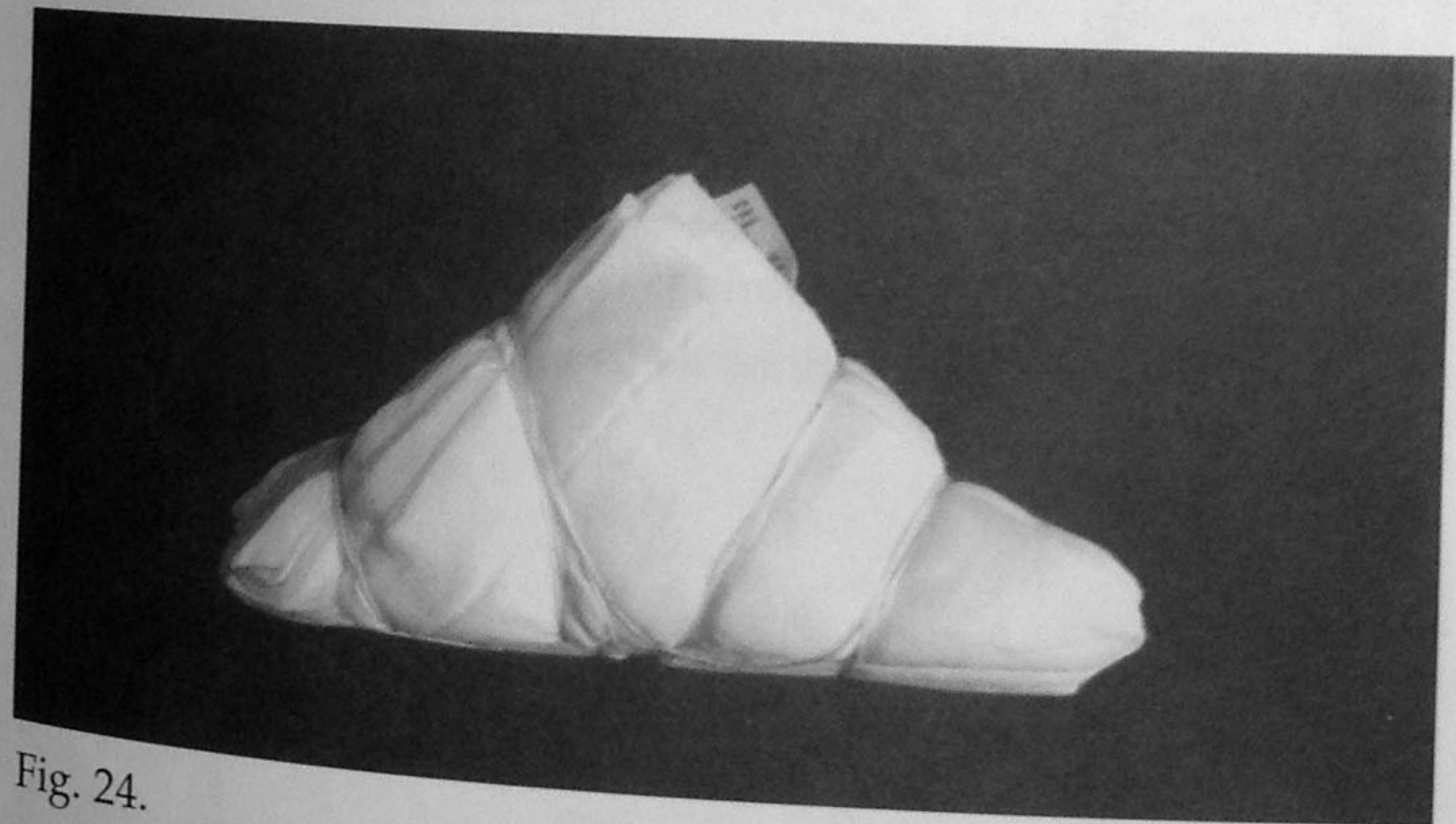


Fig. 24.



Fig. C-3A - Flower, completed



Fig. C-3B - Flower, partially dyed



Fig. C-3C - Flower, completely dyed



Fig. C-4A - Bull's-eye, completed



Fig. C-4B - Bull's-eye, partially dyed



Fig. C-4C - Bull's-eye, completely dyed

design 4

bull's-eye fold

A bull's-eye is a popular design from the '60s. Create one big circle in the middle of your item or lots of little ones all over it. (Figs 25-28)

1. Fold the shirt in half vertically from the middle of the collar to the middle of the bottom hem. Fold in half horizontally by bringing up the bottom of the shirt; one of the corners will now be at the center of the shirt. (Fig. 26.)
2. Fold the shirt like an accordian in an arc from the horizontally folded side to the vertically folded edge. (Fig. 27 and 28.)
3. Grasp the material where the center of the bulls-eye will be and tie it off in sections. (Figs. 29 and 30.) The center can be a large section, if a ring effect is desired. If a target design is wanted, the whole bulls-eye can be tied in smaller sections as in Fig. 30.

4. A loosely tied item will allow more dye to penetrate the cloth. A tightly tied item will leave more white in the design.
5. To dye this design, first pick a color combination. Apply a different color in each section, and squeeze it in well. Try the rainbow color sequence with a yellow center or a blue center, and continue the sequence on the remaining sections: orange, red, purple, blue, and green. If a ring effect is desired, dye the large center section the same color as the background color, with different colors on the tied sections, or leave the tied sections white. (See color Figs. C-4A-C.)

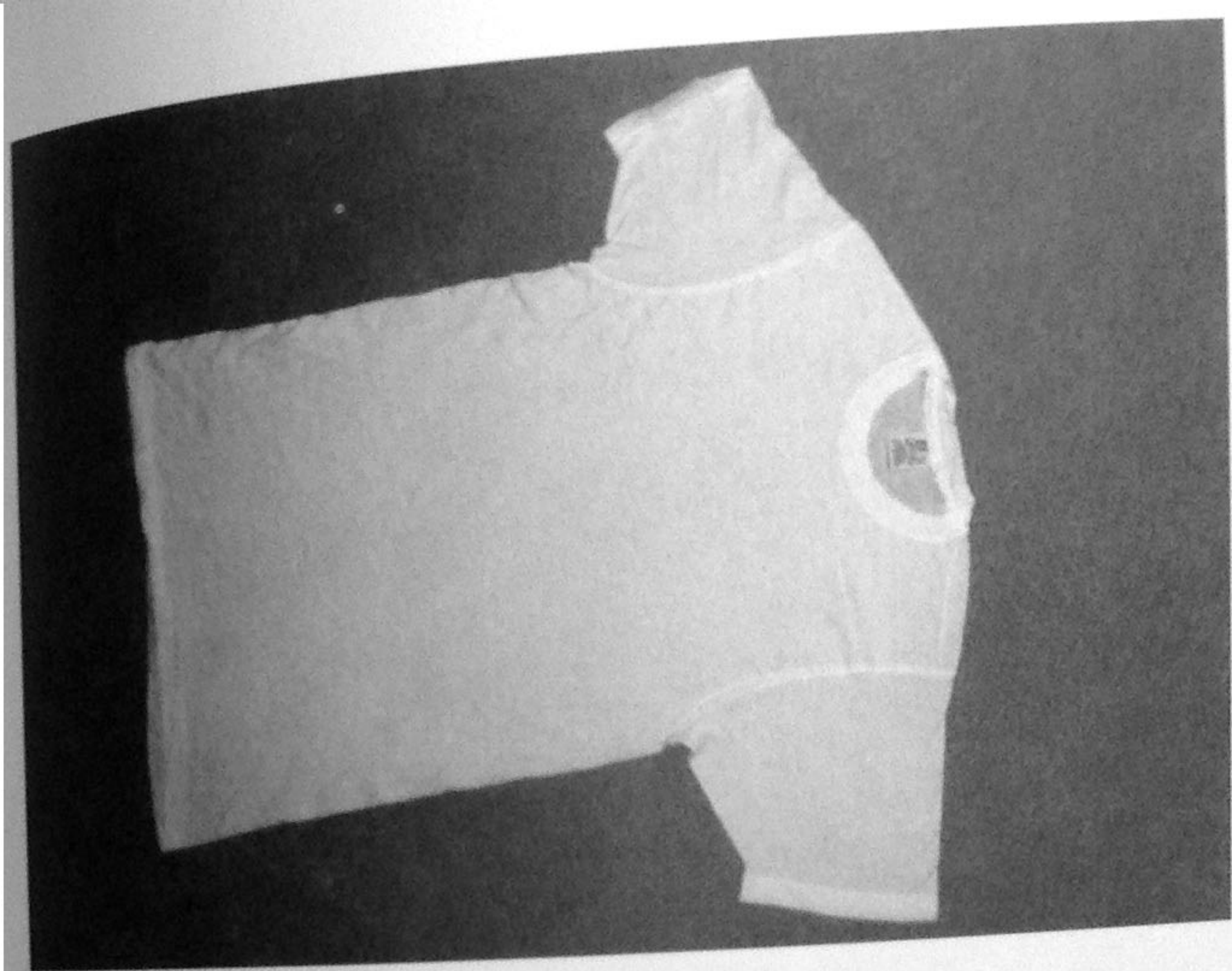


Fig. 25.

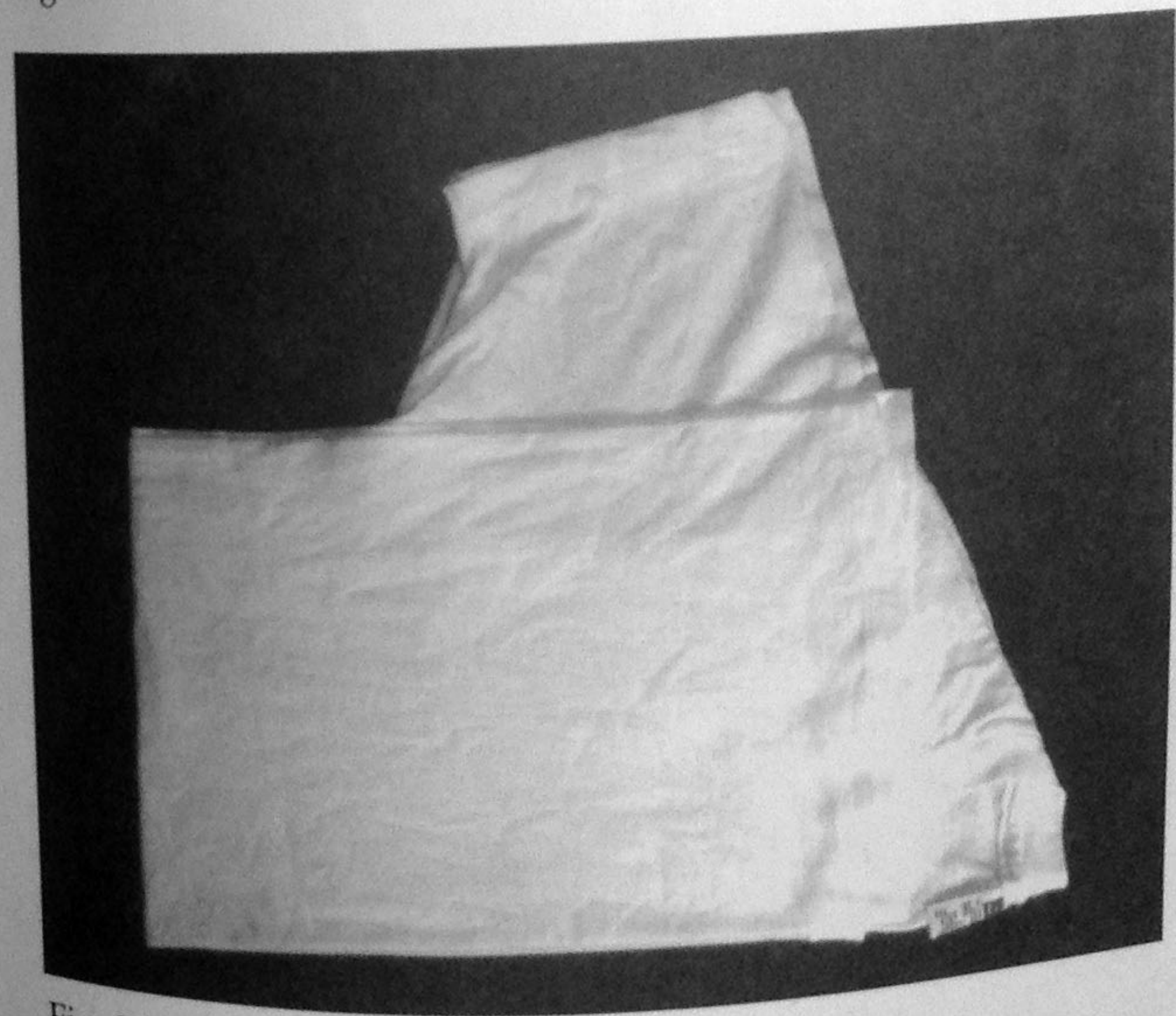


Fig. 26.



Fig. 27.

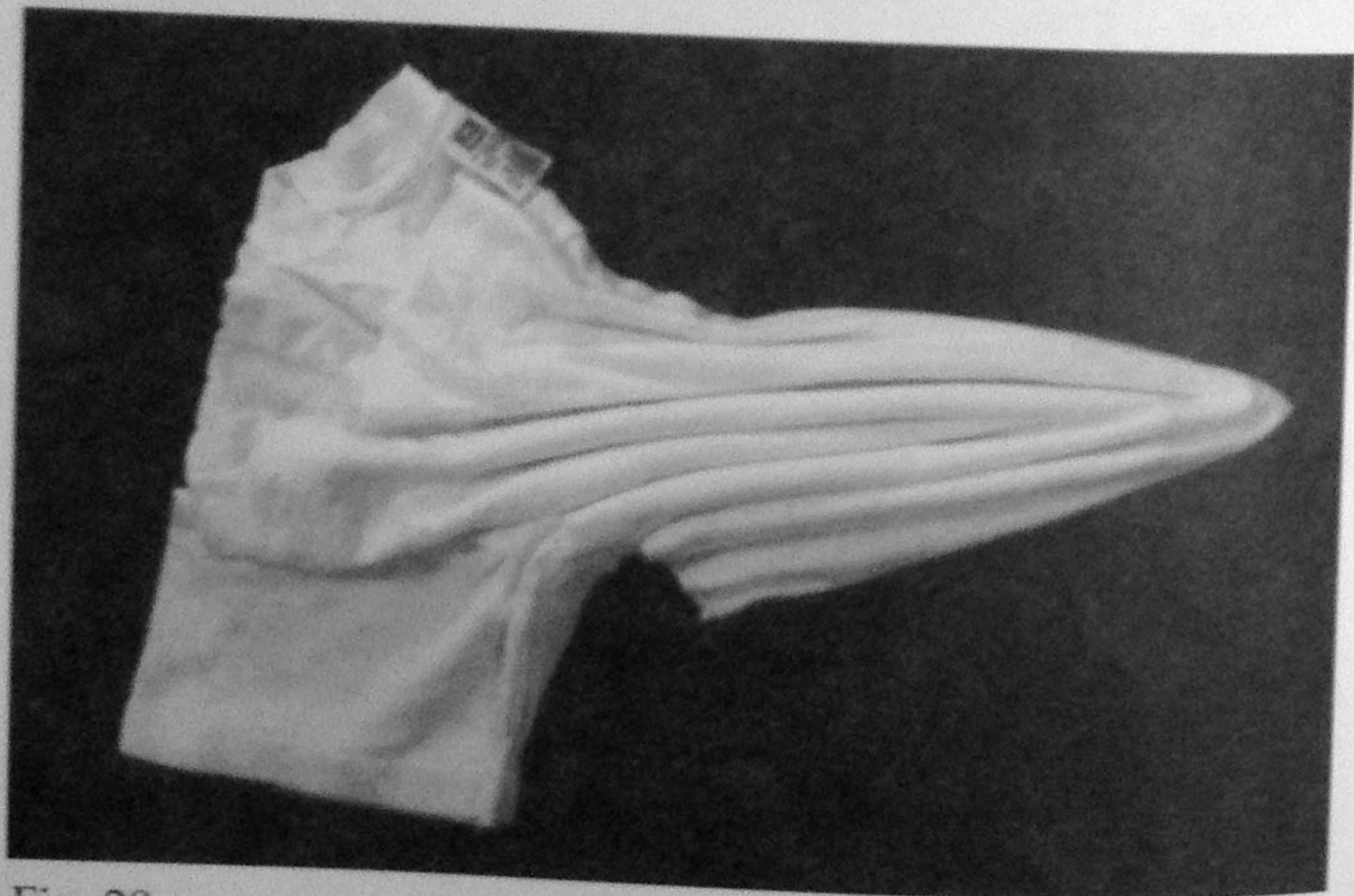


Fig. 28.

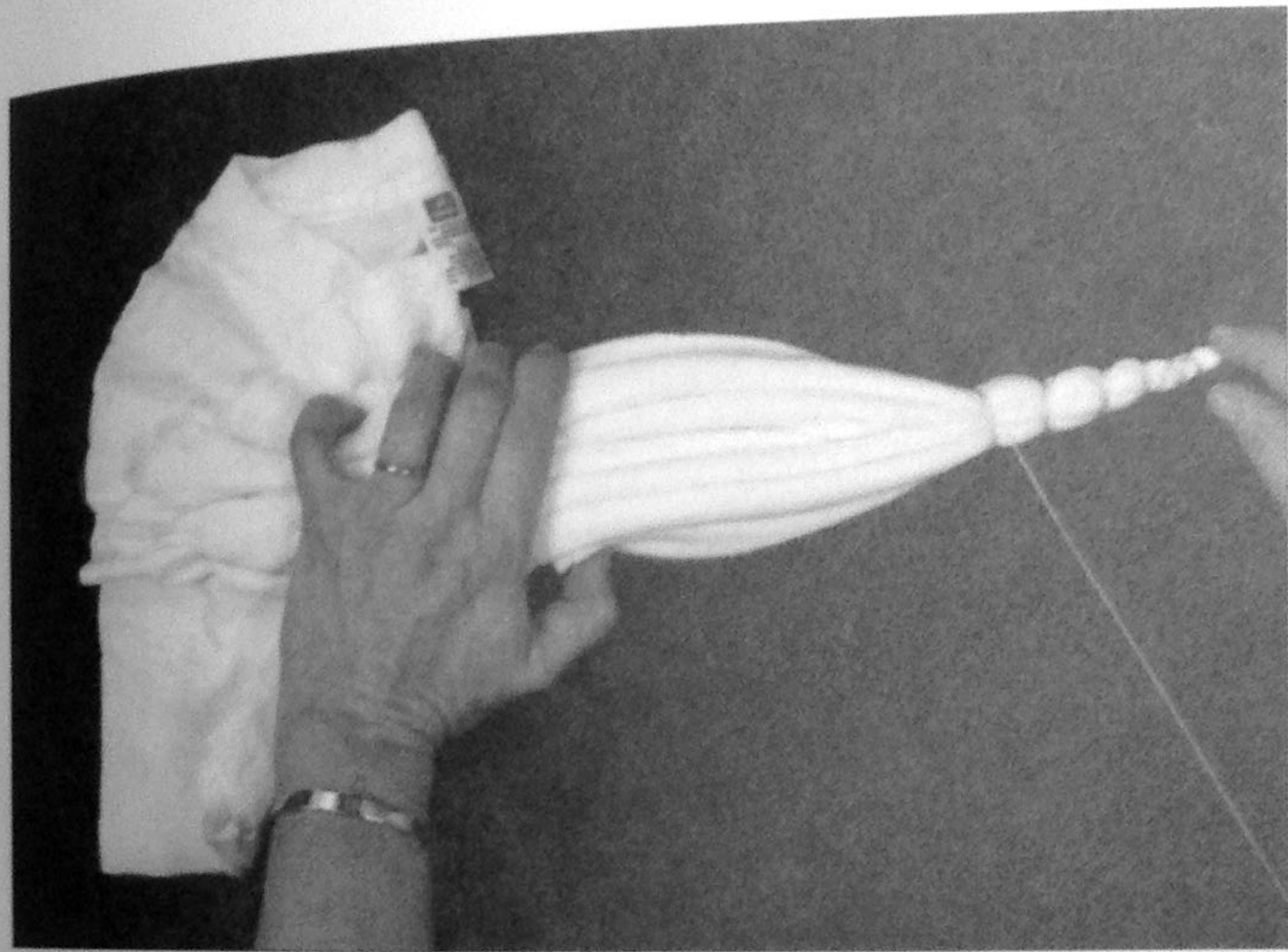


Fig. 29.

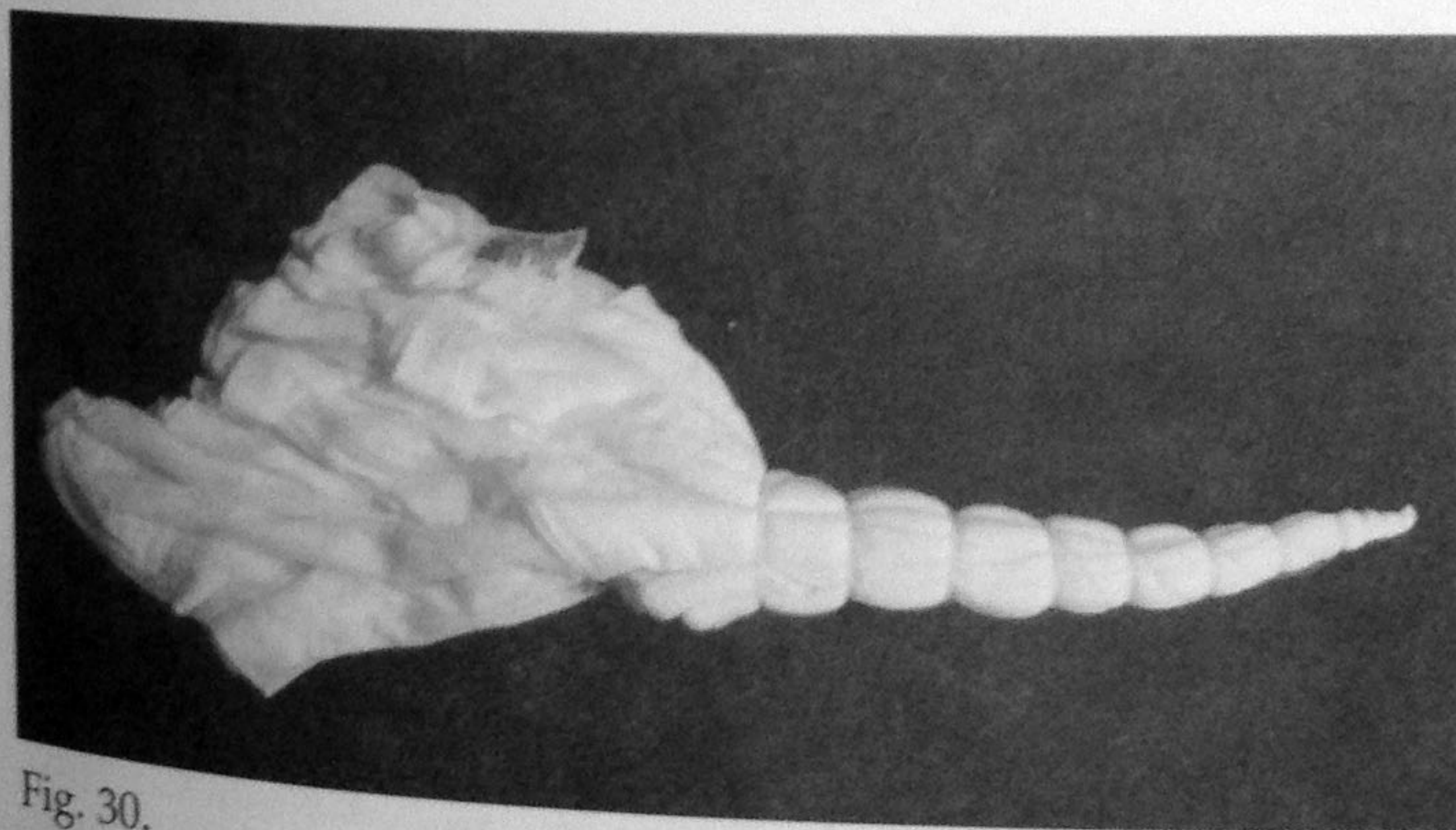


Fig. 30.

design 5

yoke fold

A yoke design is like a necklace. This design can be a shallow necklace or a deep V-shaped design.

1. Fold the shirt in half vertically from the middle of the collar to the middle of the bottom of the shirt. (Fig. 32.)
2. Decide if a deep or shallow yoke is desired. Pick a place on the fold of the shirt, and pleat it from this spot to outside the sleeve seam. (Figs. 33 and 34.)
3. Tie off sections of the yoke in one-inch or two-inch sections. (Figs. 35 and 36.)
4. Dye the background or untied section of this design first. Dip it carefully in a tub of dye, holding the tied design up and away from the dye. It helps to have two people for this step. One can hold the tied design, and one can dunk the background.
5. Squeeze in the dye. Lift the shirt out of the dye and squeeze out the excess dye.
6. The yoke design can be dyed like the stripe or bullseye. If the rainbow sequence is desired, start by putting yellow in the middle section. (See color Figs. C-5A-C.)

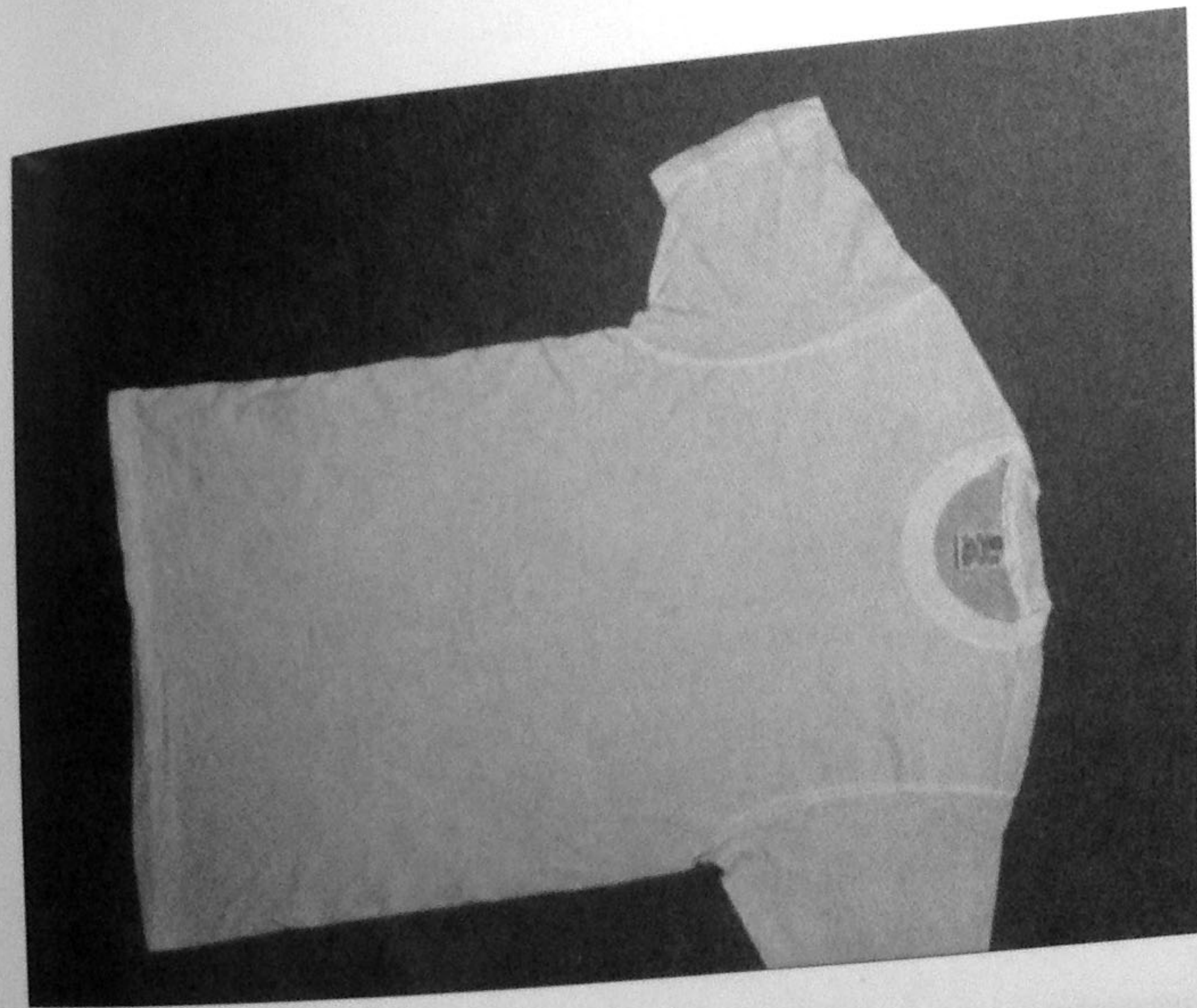


Fig. 31.

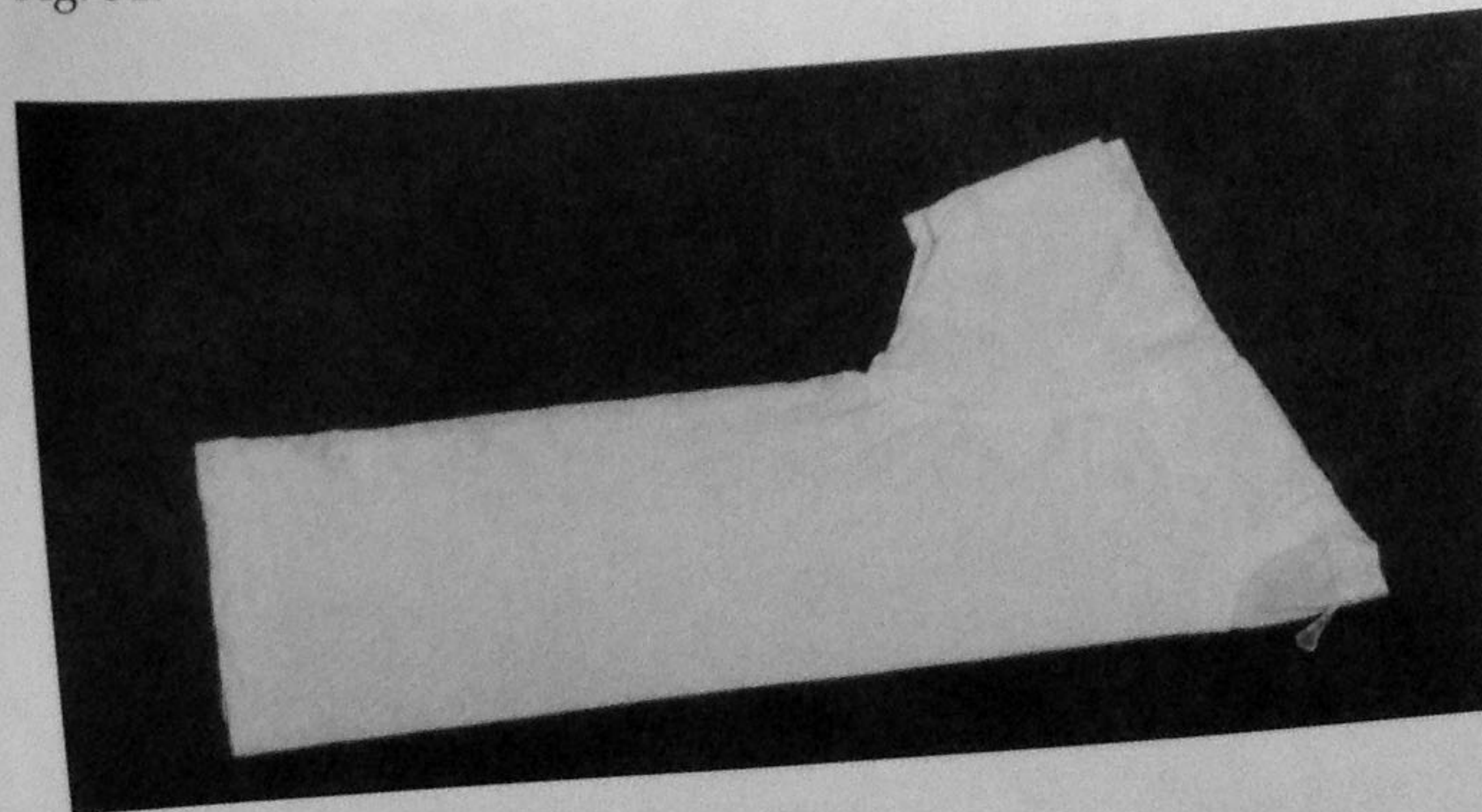


Fig. 32.

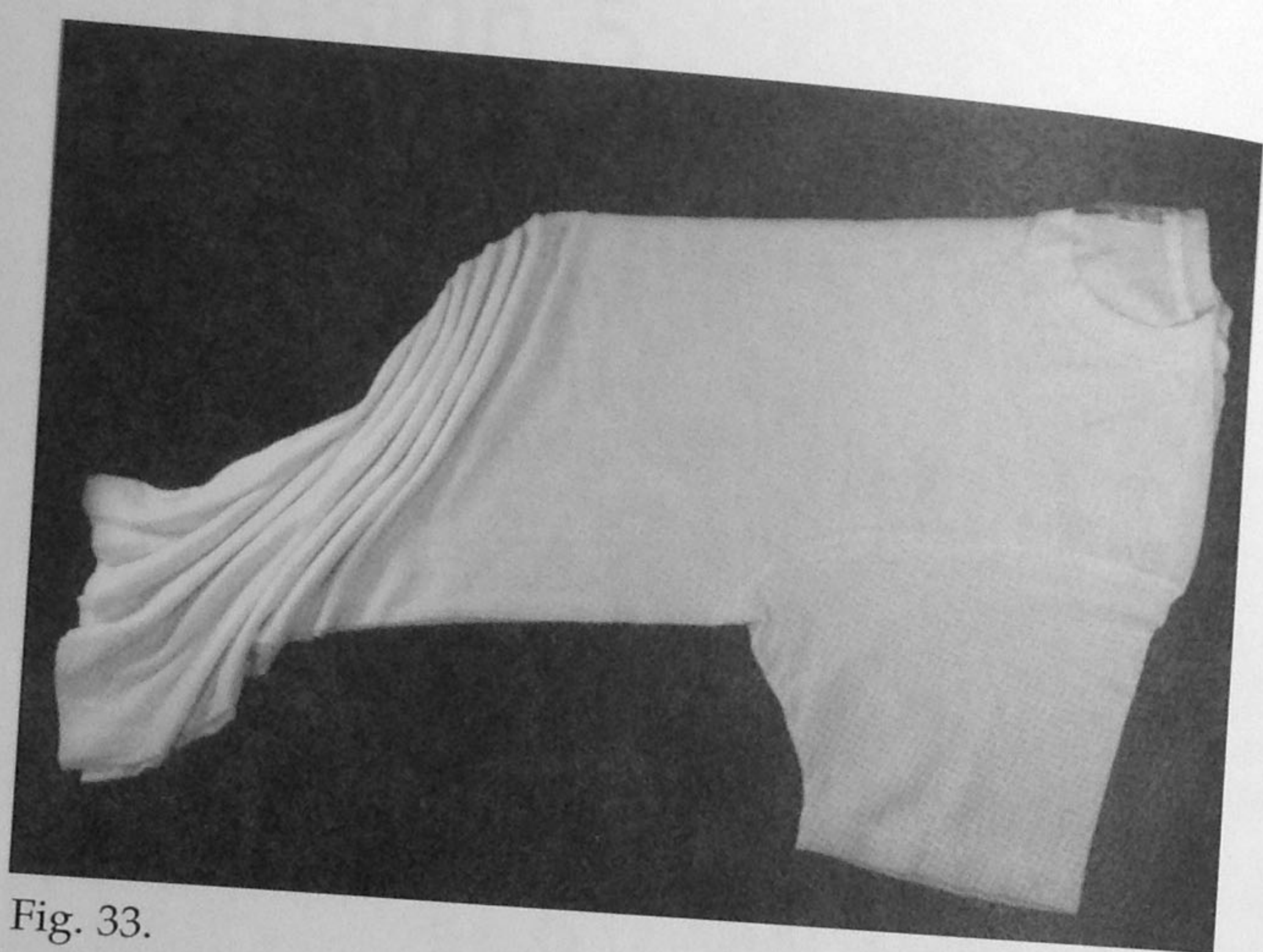


Fig. 33.

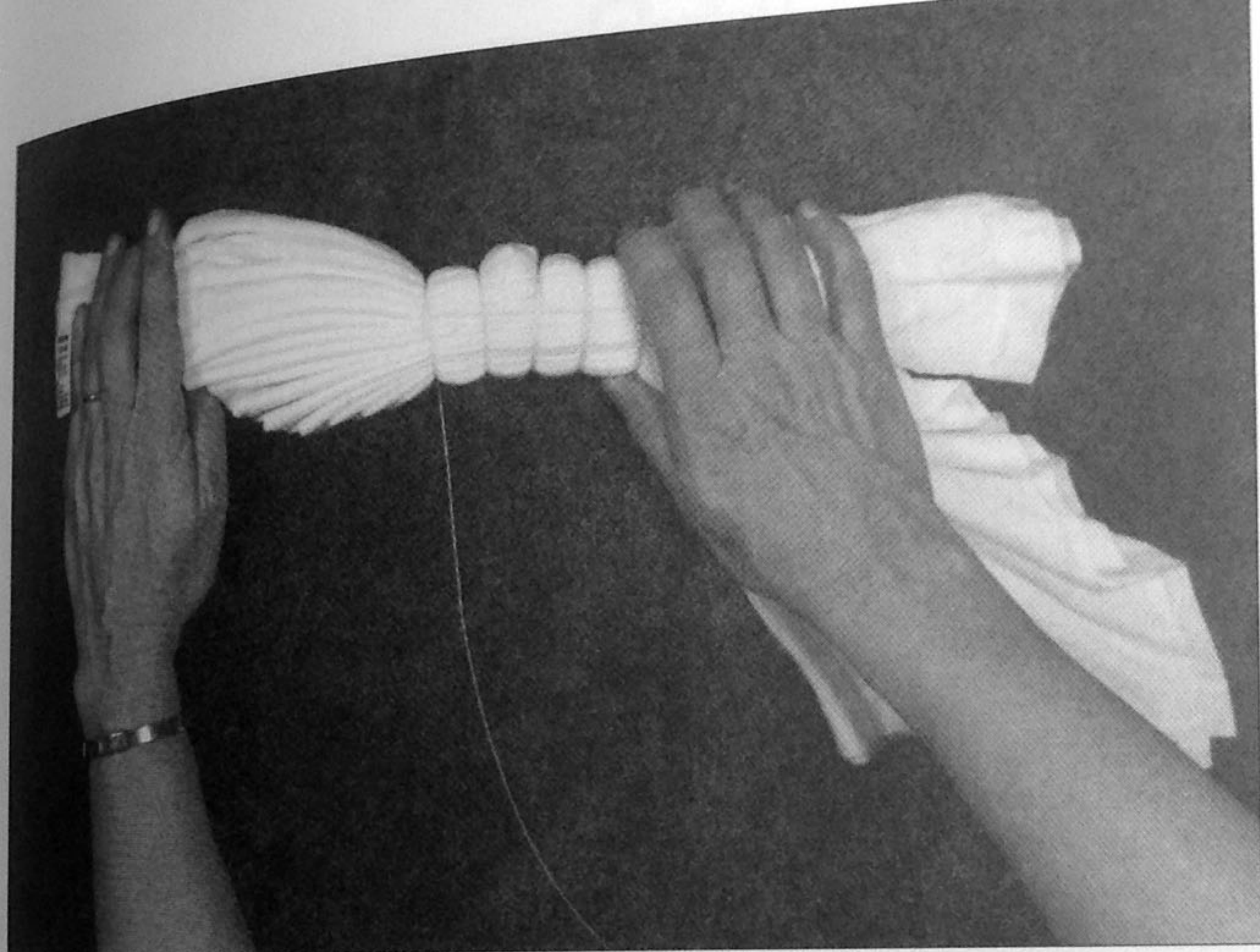


Fig. 35.

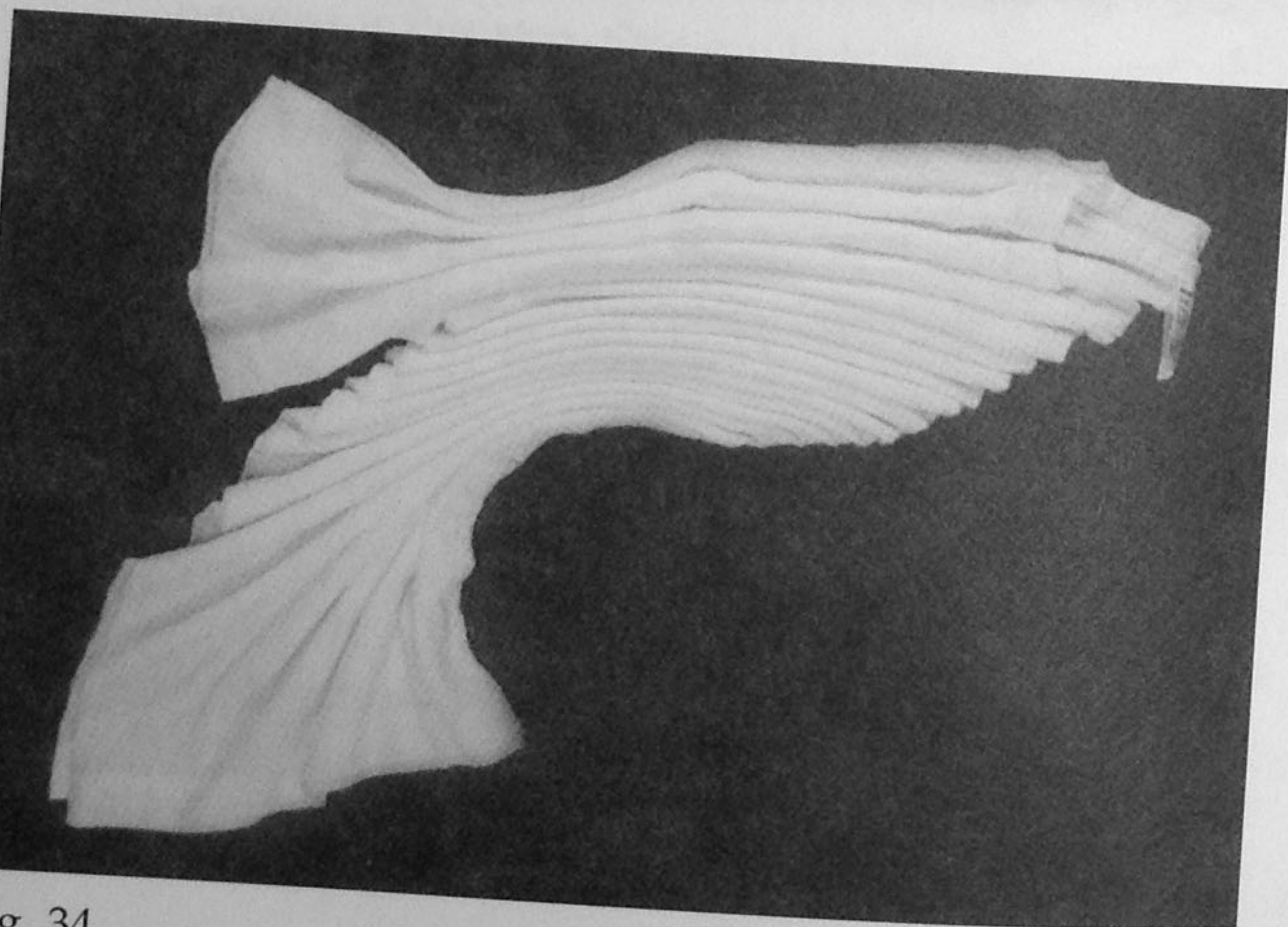


Fig. 34.

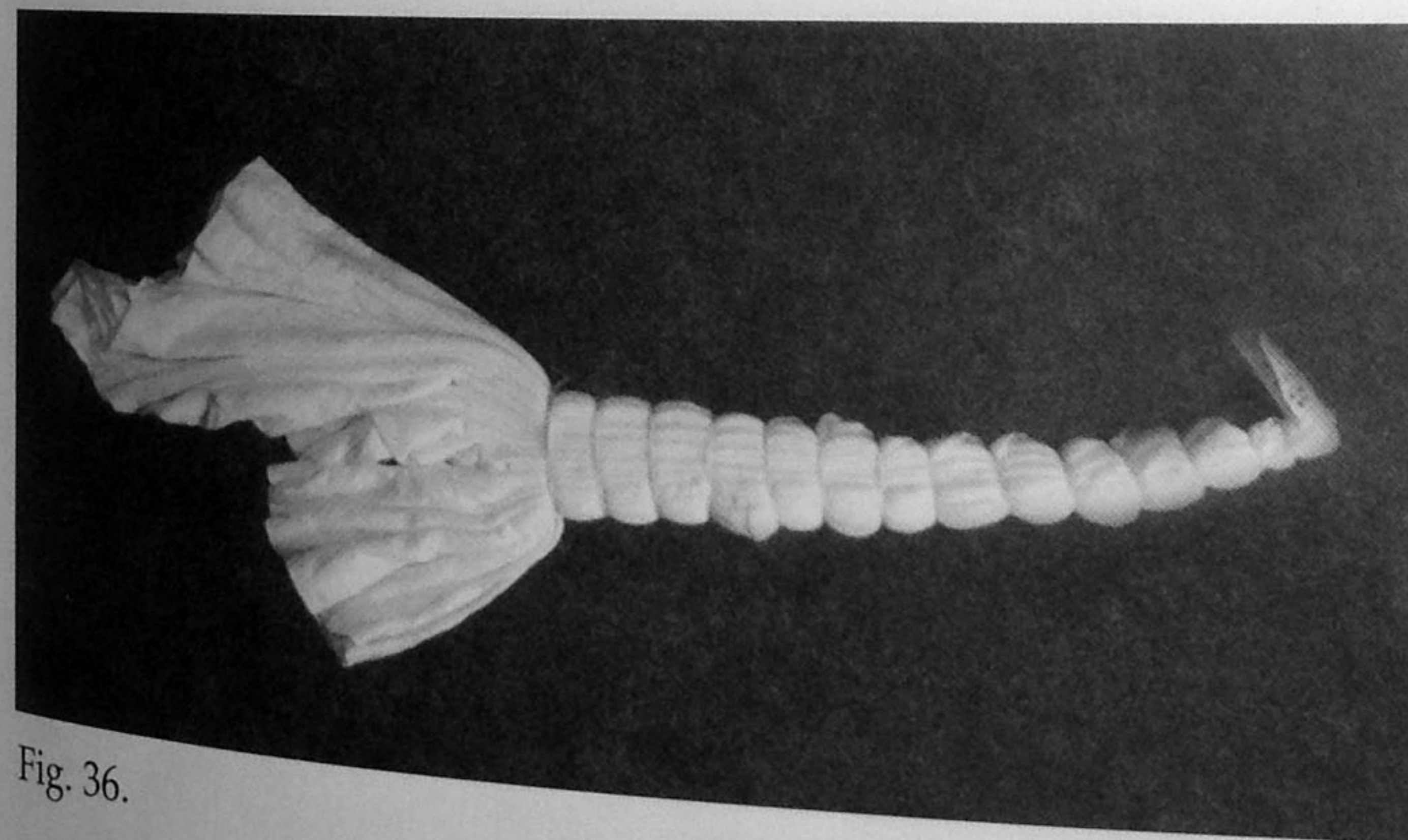


Fig. 36.



Fig. C-5A - Yoke, completed



Fig. C-5B - Yoke, partially dyed



Fig. C-5C - Yoke, completely dyed



Fig. C-6A - Shibori, completed



Fig. C-6B - Shibori, partially dyed



Fig. C-6C - Shibori, completely dyed

design 6

shibori

This is a Japanese method of tie-dyeing that gives a flowing, zebra-striped effect.

1. The Japanese use bamboo. We use wooden dowels or a PVC pipe. Wrap the material around the wood on a diagonal. (Figs. 37, 38, and 39.)
2. Scrunch the material up to one end of the wood. (Fig. 40.)
3. Wrap string around and around the material to secure it there. (Figs. 41 and 42.)
4. Submerge the wood with the material tied on it into a tub of dye, or apply dye to the material with squeeze bottles.
5. After the material has been dunked in the dye and set, untie and rinse. The process can be repeated to add one or more colors. This over-dyeing effect makes for beautiful and unplanned results. The shibori method gives an attractive flair to scarves and pieces of cloth that can later be sewn into clothing. (See color Figs. C-6A-C.)

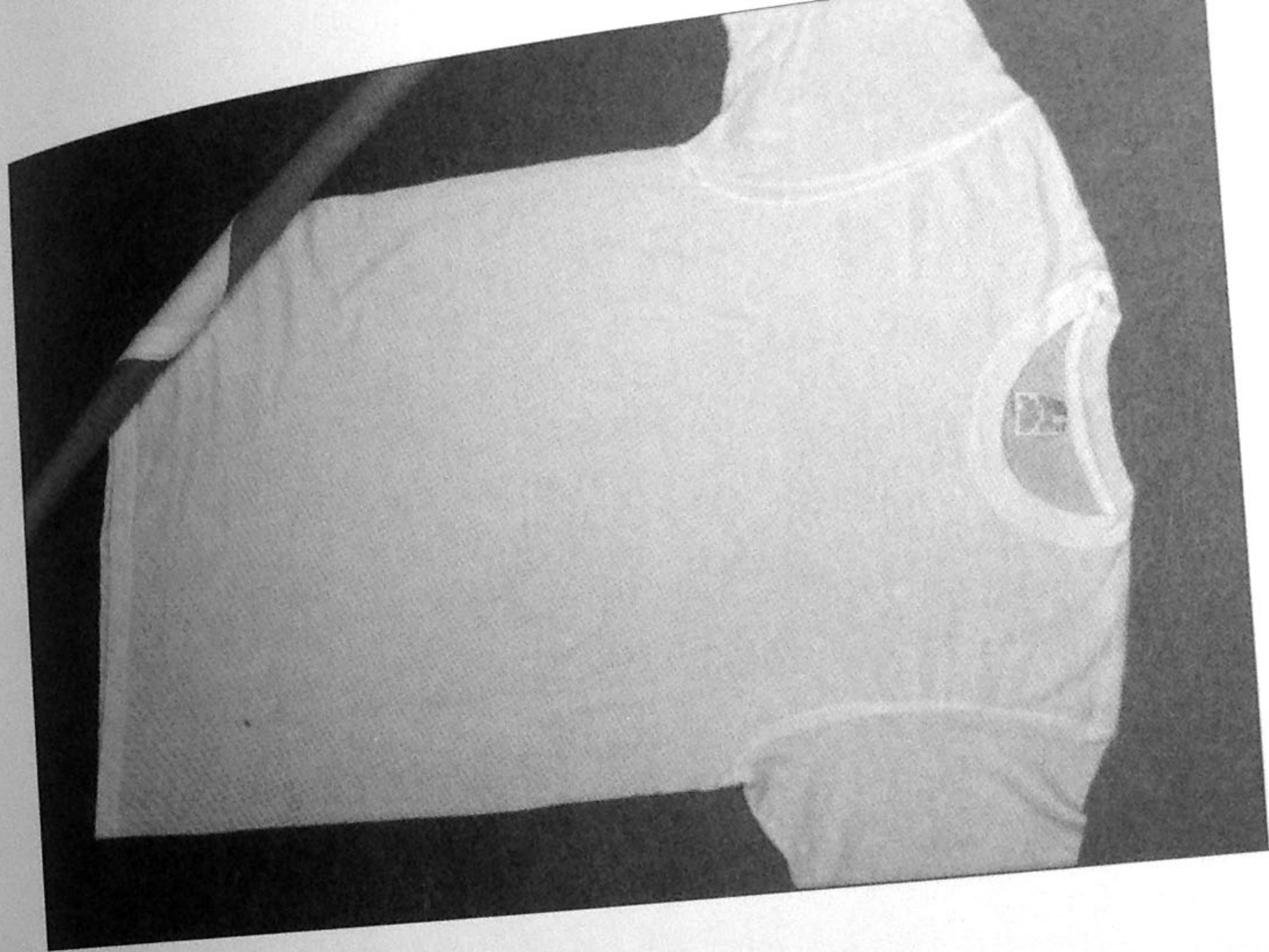


Fig. 37.

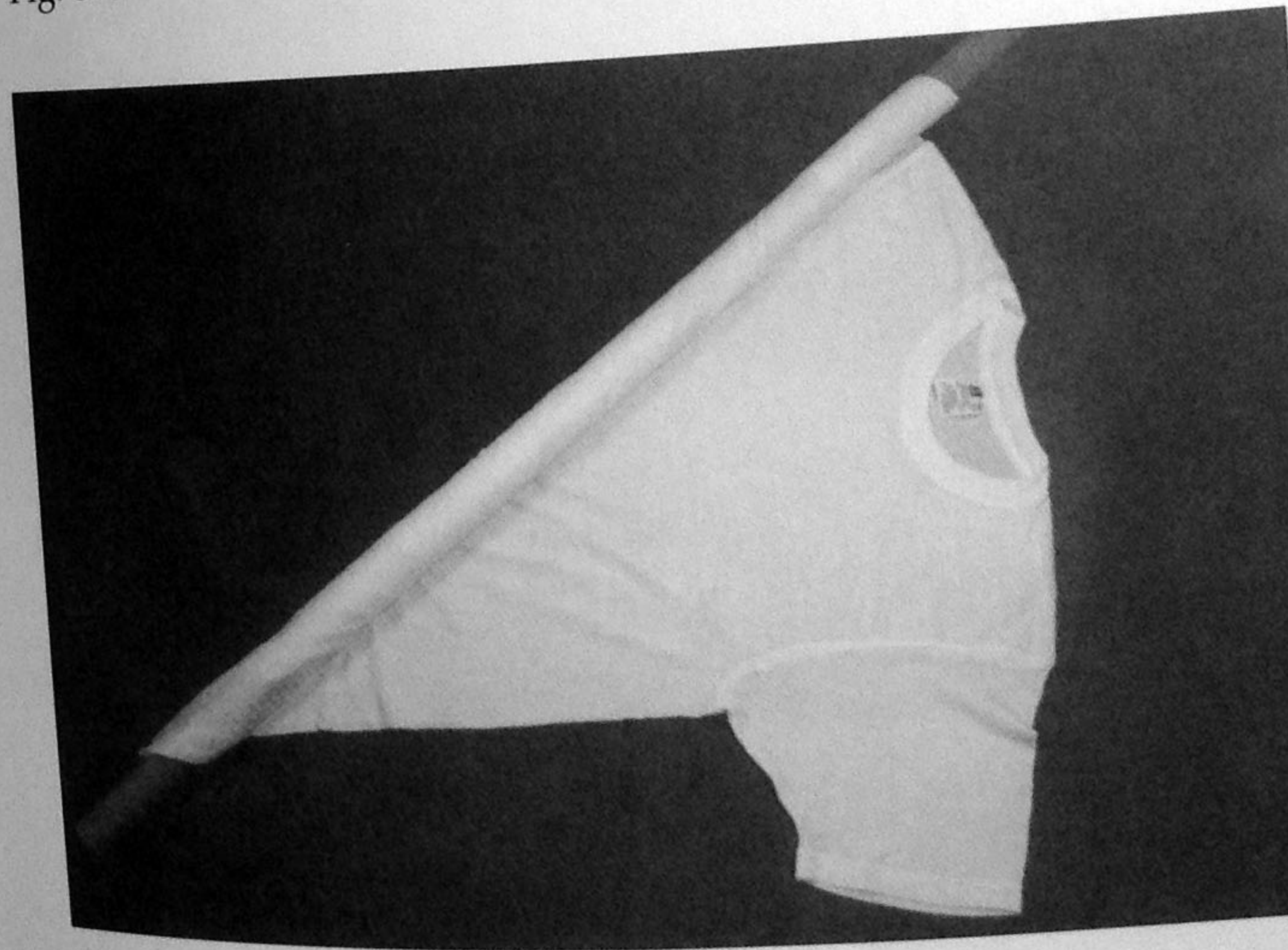


Fig. 38.

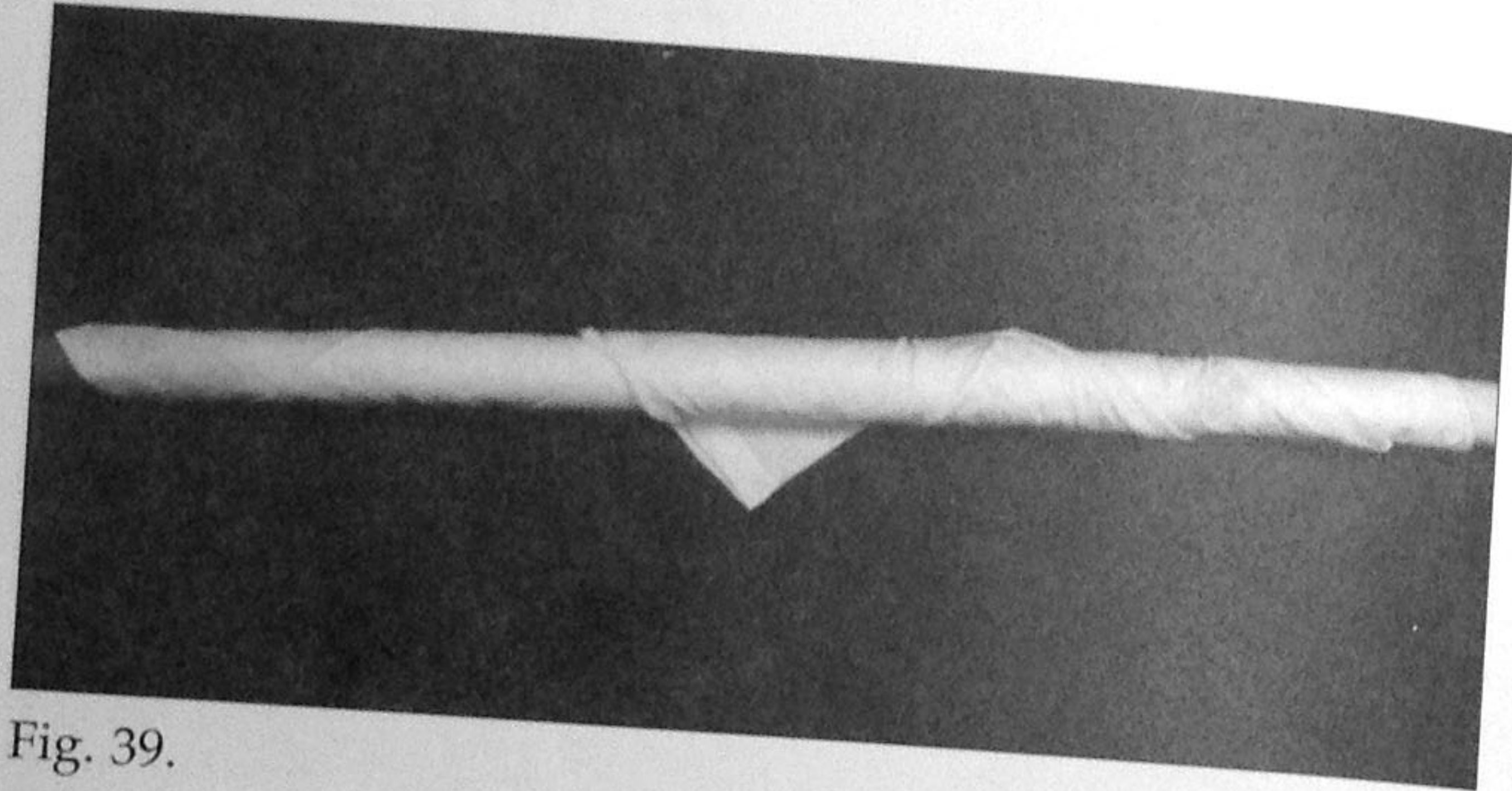


Fig. 39.

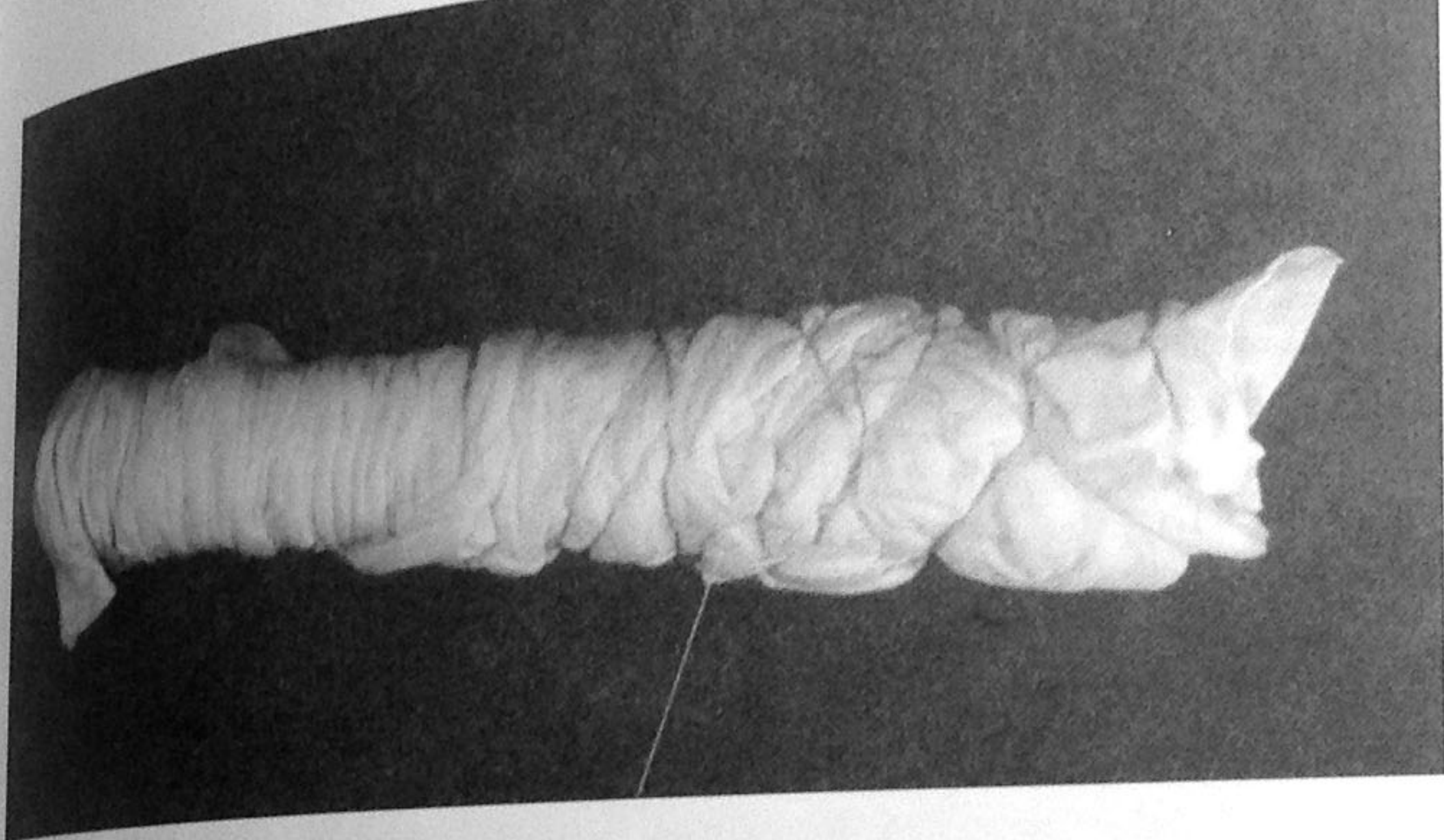


Fig. 41.



Fig. 40.

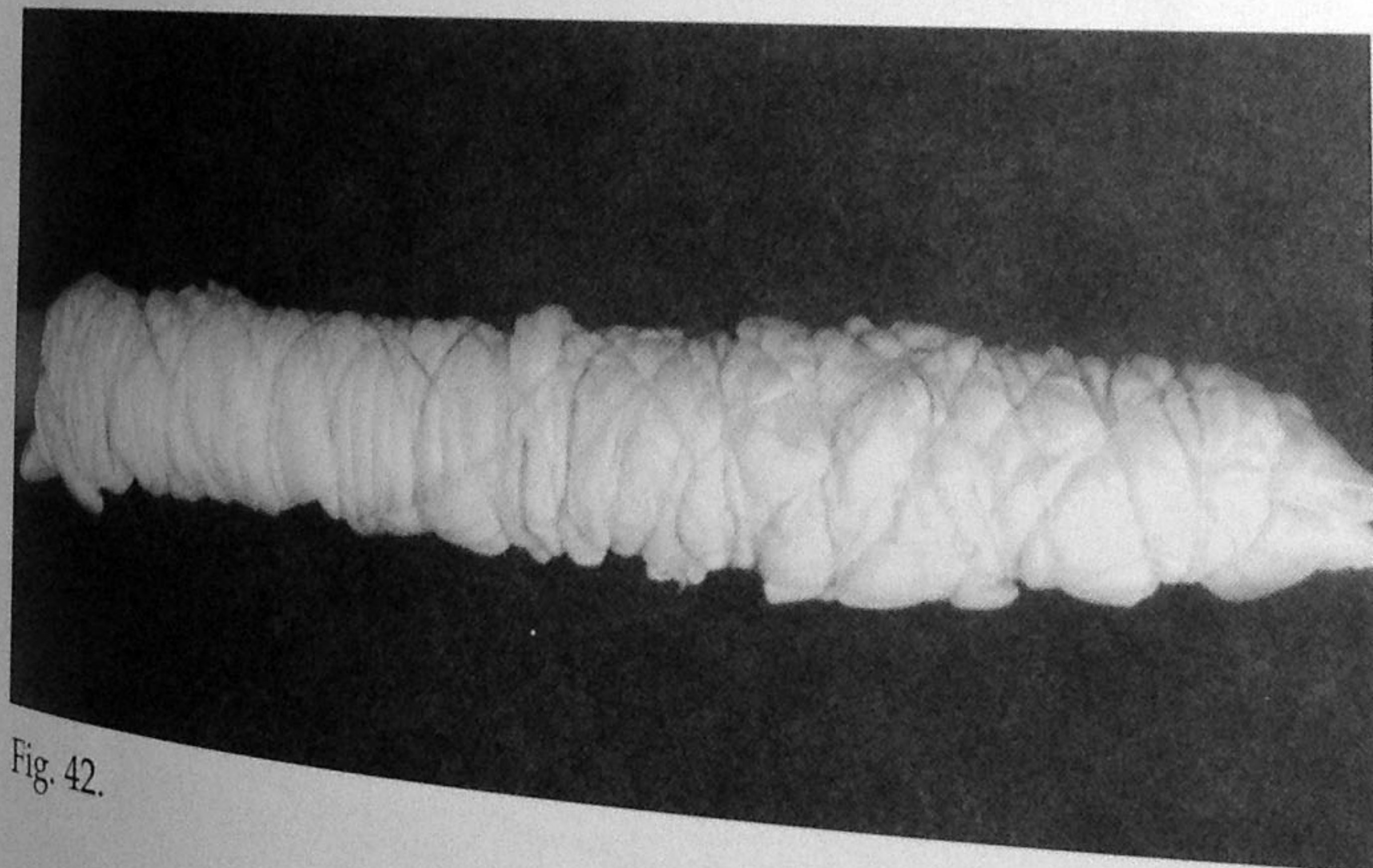


Fig. 42.

1. TIE

Gather a dry T-shirt in one large bundle and tie rubber bands around it. Tie the rubber bands fairly tightly, as in this method they will create a relief effect. Don't worry about whether the design is even; this project is all about the surprise.

2. PREP

Mix a dye bath, following the calculations for immersion dyeing on pages 62-63. Include the soda ash in the dye bath.

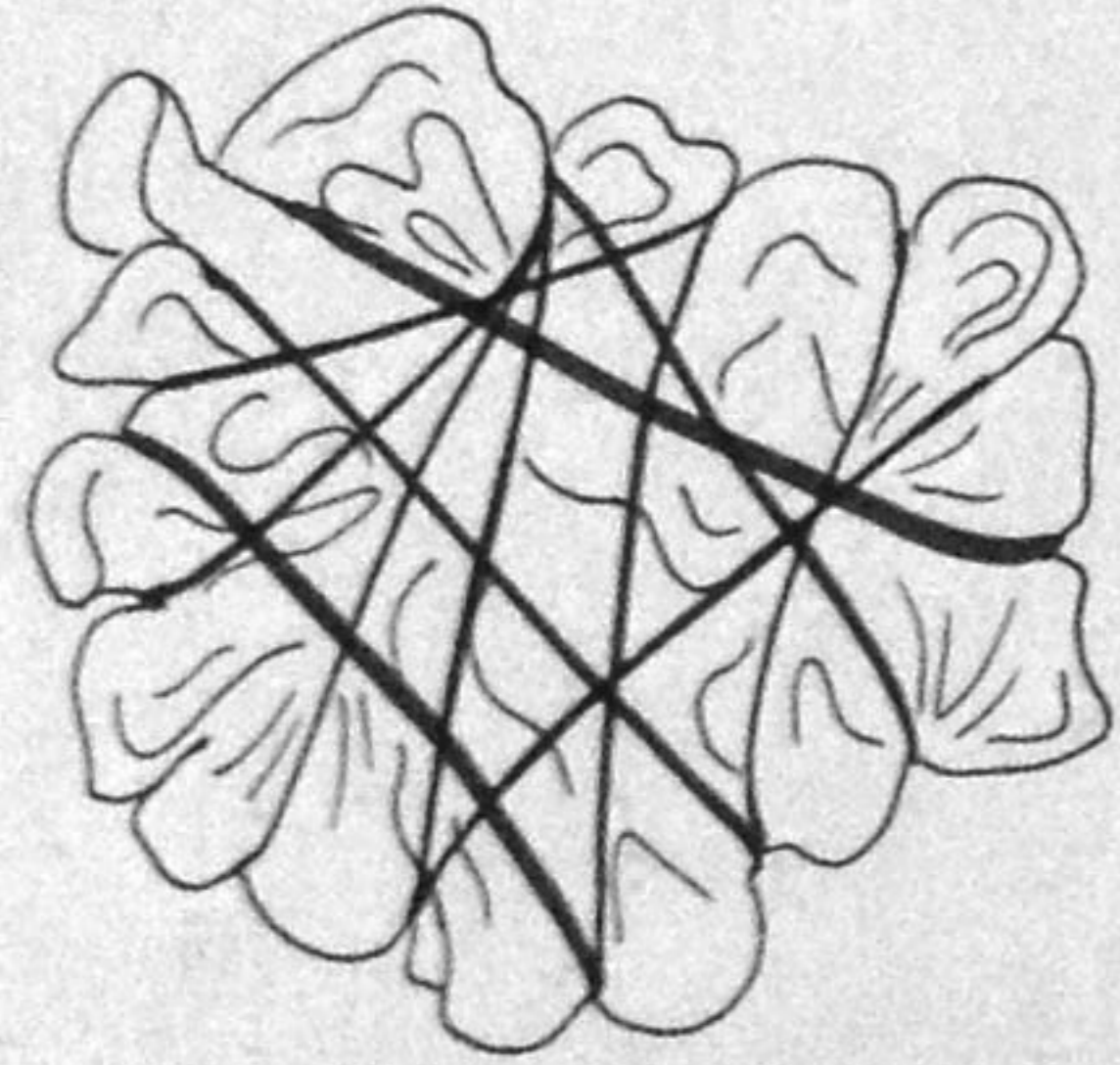
3. DYE + SET

Immerse the T-shirt in the dye bath and let it soak for 1 hour.

4. REVEAL

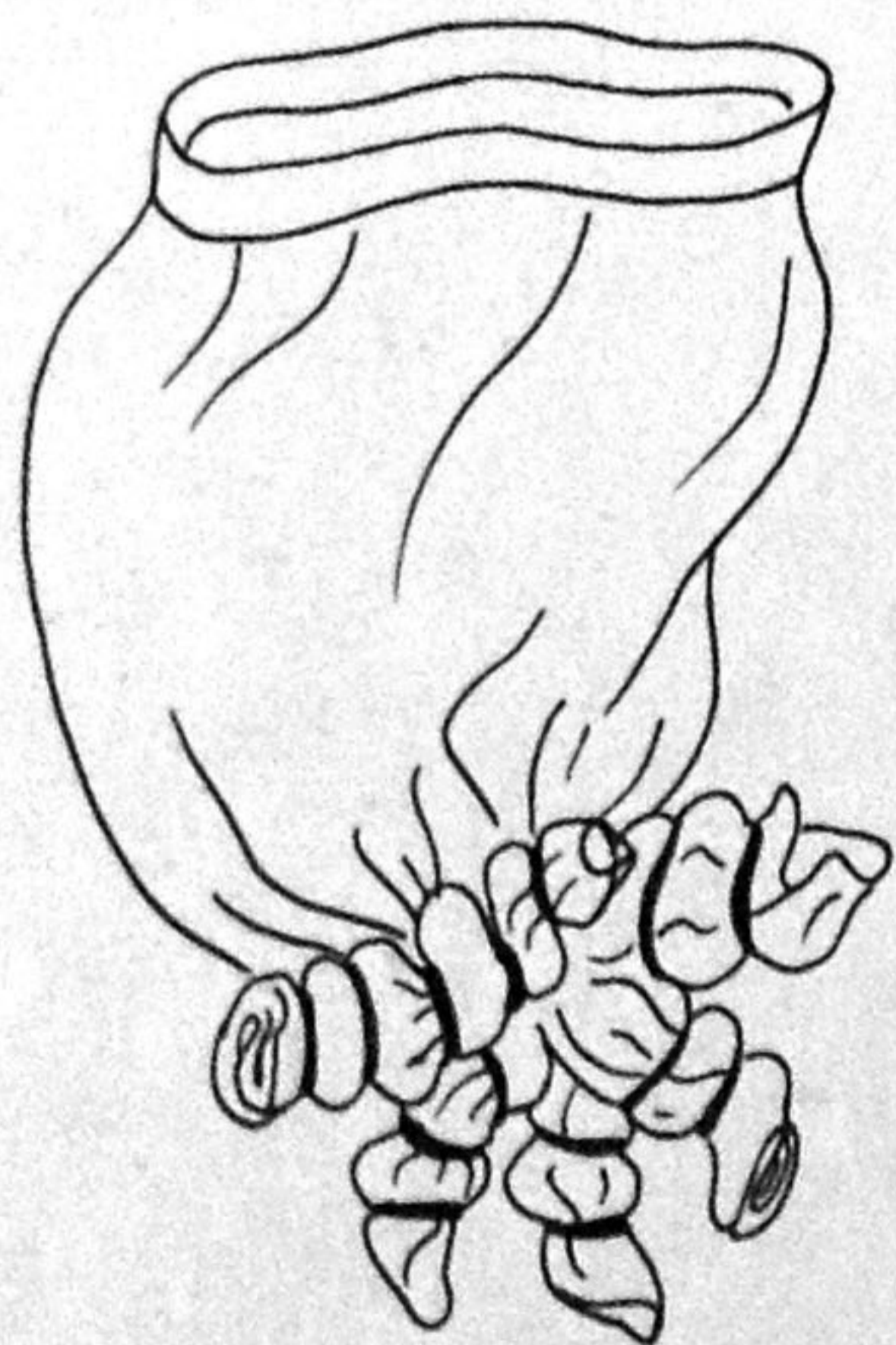
After the hour is up, rinse and wash as usual.

ALTERNATIVE Presoak the T-shirt in soda ash before dyeing it to get more defined white areas (as pictured in the T-shirt below). The hue may change slightly as well depending on whether or not you presoak.



1. TIE Geode Skirt

Beginning at the bottom of the skirt, grasp one area of the fabric and tie it up tightly with rubber bands. This time, instead of gathering the entire garment into one large bundle, grab multiple smaller, more distinct areas, and work with the skirt front and back as two separate layers. Repeat until the bottom half of the skirt is tied up (I had about 6 bundles); leave the top half of the skirt untied. The more random the better, so vary the size, placement, and amount of scrunch. Tie the rubber bands fairly tightly, as they will create a relief effect. Be sure not to make perfect circles; you are going for the organic look of a geode rock crystal that will come from pulling and scrunching randomly.



2. SET

Following the directions on page 54, presoak the skirt in soda ash for 30 minutes and wring out.

3. PREP

Choose 3 dye colors that will overlap nicely. While the skirt is presoaking, mix the first dye bath using your main color (I started with a reddish brown). Use the calculations for immersion dyeing (pages 62-63), skipping the soda ash since you are already presoaking.

4. DYE

Immerse the skirt in the dye bath. Dye for 20 minutes, stirring occasionally to ensure even coverage of the untied areas.

5. REPEAT

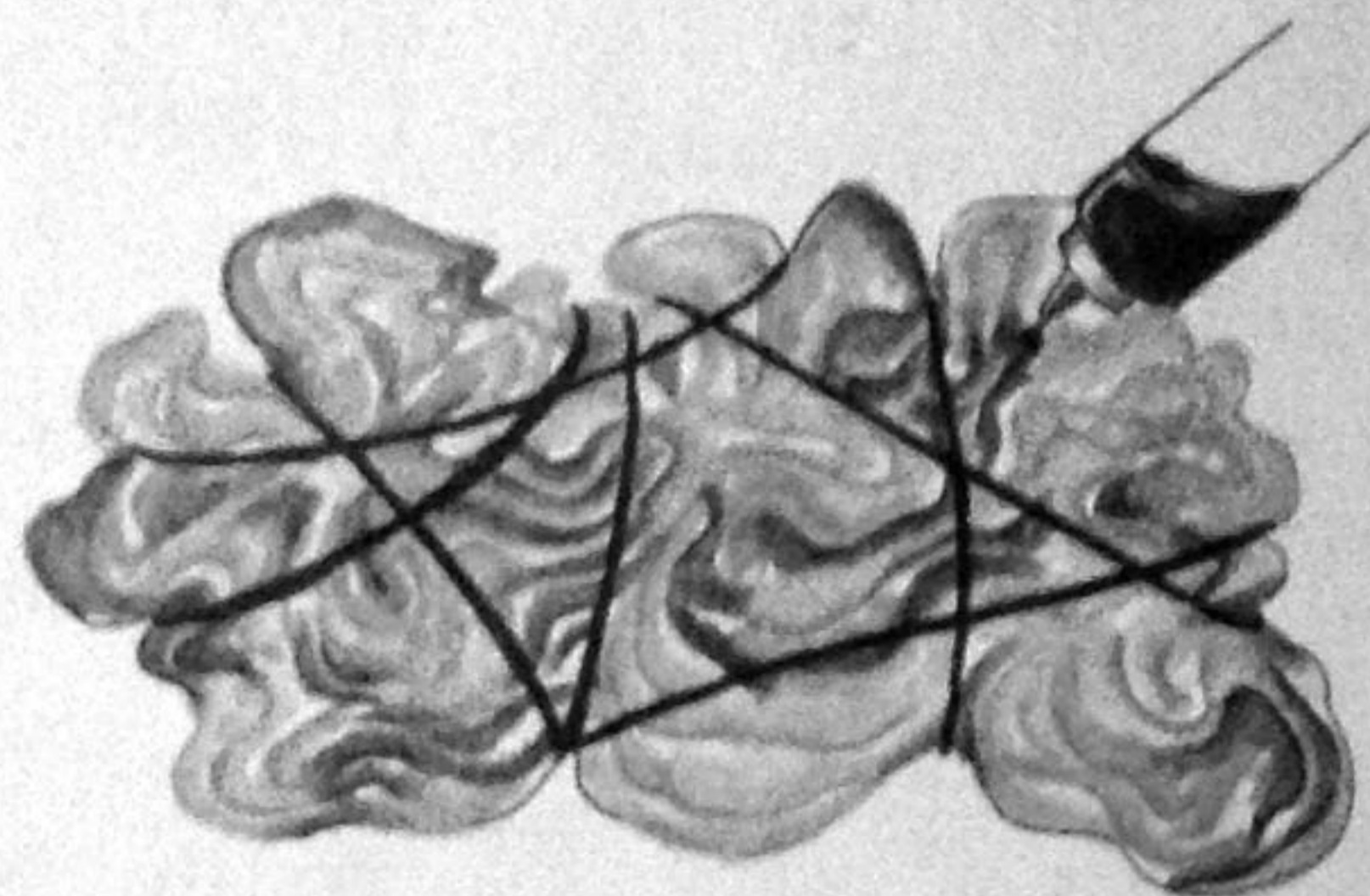
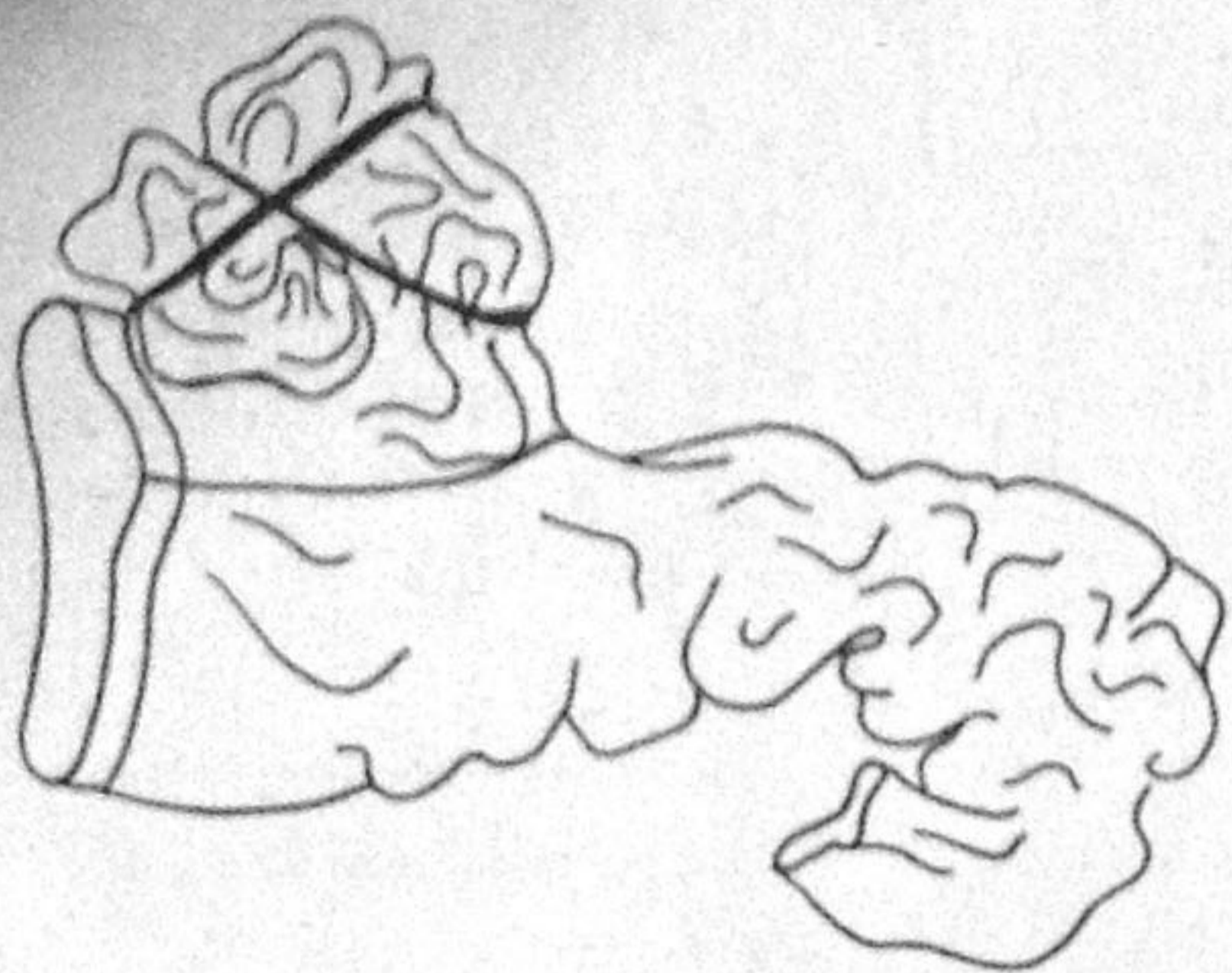
While the skirt is soaking in the first dye bath, mix the second dye bath in a separate bucket. It's often good to go darker on the second color (I used a dark blue). Wring out the skirt and immerse in the second dye bath. Dye for another 20 minutes, stirring often.

Repeat for the final bath (I used a gray to tone down the final results).

6. REVEAL

After the final dye bath, you will have dyed the skirt for a total of 1 hour; and can wring it out, then rinse and wash as usual.





Cosmic Leggings (multi-color)

1. SET

Following the directions on page 54, presoak the leggings in soda ash for 30 minutes and wring out.

2. PREP

While the leggings are soaking, mix each dye color in an individual squeeze bottle (see page 56).

3. TIE

Lay the leggings on a clean work surface. Working with each leg separately, scrunch and gather areas of the fabric together, leaving the crotch visible so you can make sure that it is scrunched evenly and doesn't end up as a big undyed area.

Hold each gathered area together with overlapping rubber bands; 3 or 4 rubber bands placed in pie-shaped wedges work best. The rubber bands can be loose, as they are simply holding the scrunching in place.

TIP While scrunching, try twirling or spiraling the fabric slightly to create movement in the finished design.

4. DYE

Place the leggings on some newspaper to catch excess dye. Beginning with the accent colors, squeeze the dye deep inside the folds. Apply the colors one at a time, randomly over the entire area, until about half is covered in dye.

Apply the main color or colors in larger areas on the surface of the bundle until there is no white remaining. Leave dark colors for last, even if they are accent colors. Remember, there are always more undyed areas hiding between fabric folds than you think, so make sure to really saturate the fabric if you don't want any white on the leggings.

After you have fully saturated the first side, flip the leggings over and repeat on the second side.

5. CURE + REVEAL

Place the leggings in a plastic bag and leave for 24 hours, then rinse and wash as usual.



1. SET Crystalline Scarf

Following the directions on page 54, presoak the scarf in soda ash for 30 minutes and wring out.

2. PREP

While the scarf is soaking, mix each dye color in an individual squeeze bottle, using the calculations for direct application (page 56).

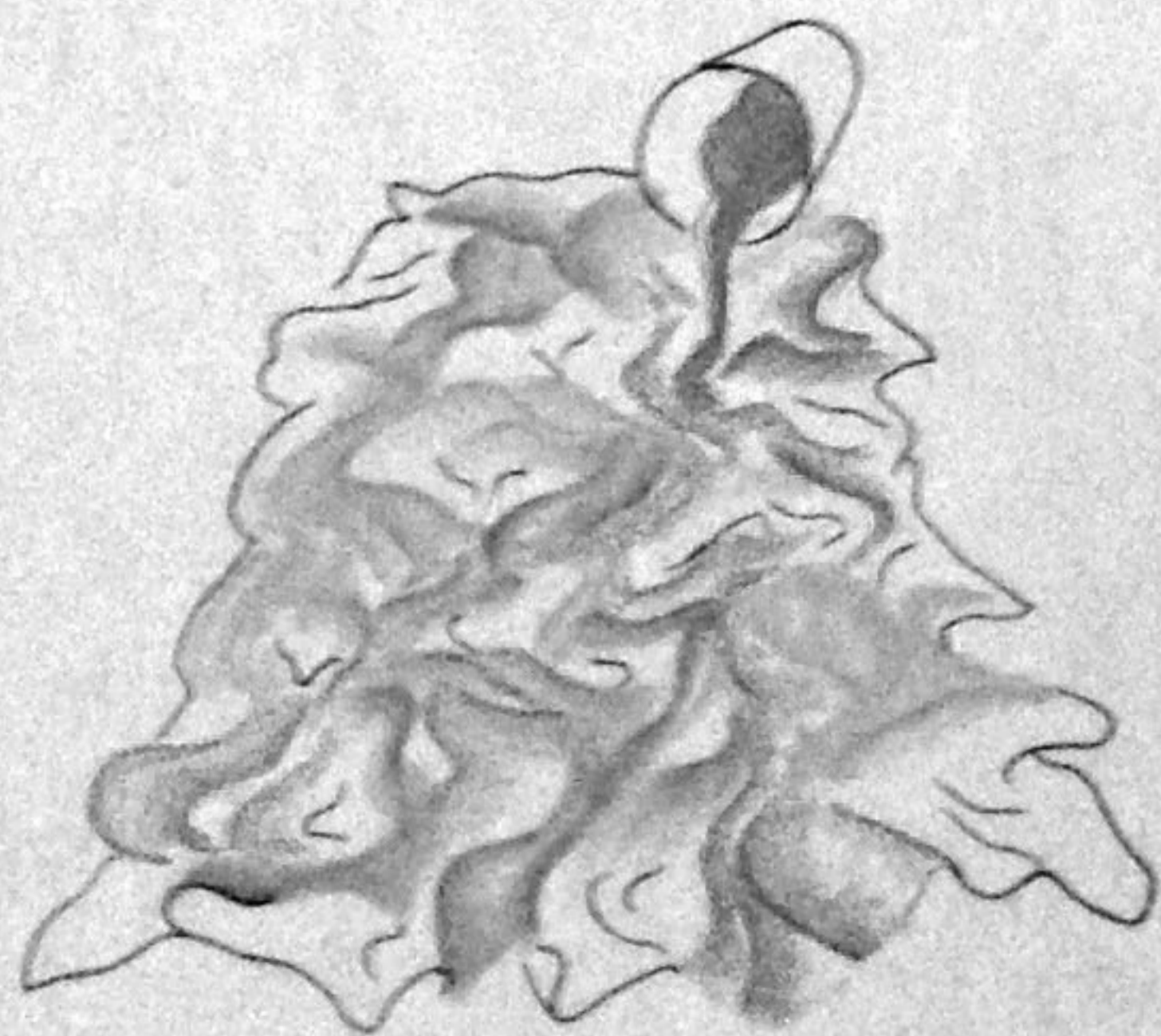
3. TIE

Scrunch the scarf in one loose layer inside a shallow container so that the fabric is crumpled but not folded over entirely.

4. DYE

Remove the nozzles of the squeeze bottles and pour the dye over large swaths of the fabric. Apply the dye one color at a time, overlapping in some areas.

TIP For another effect, try sprinkling rock salt on top of your fabric as you apply the dye. The salt will attract the moisture and create interesting patterns.

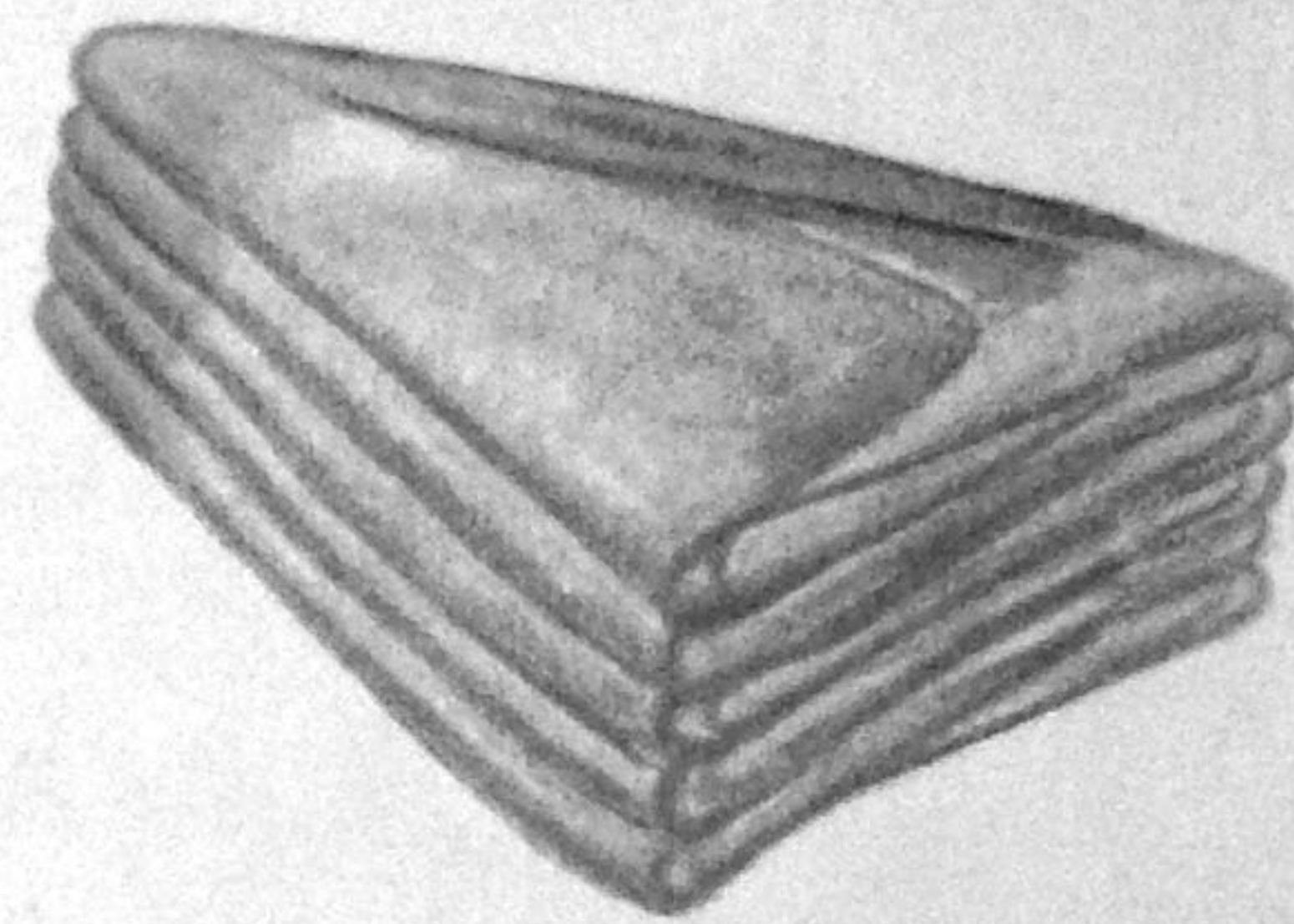
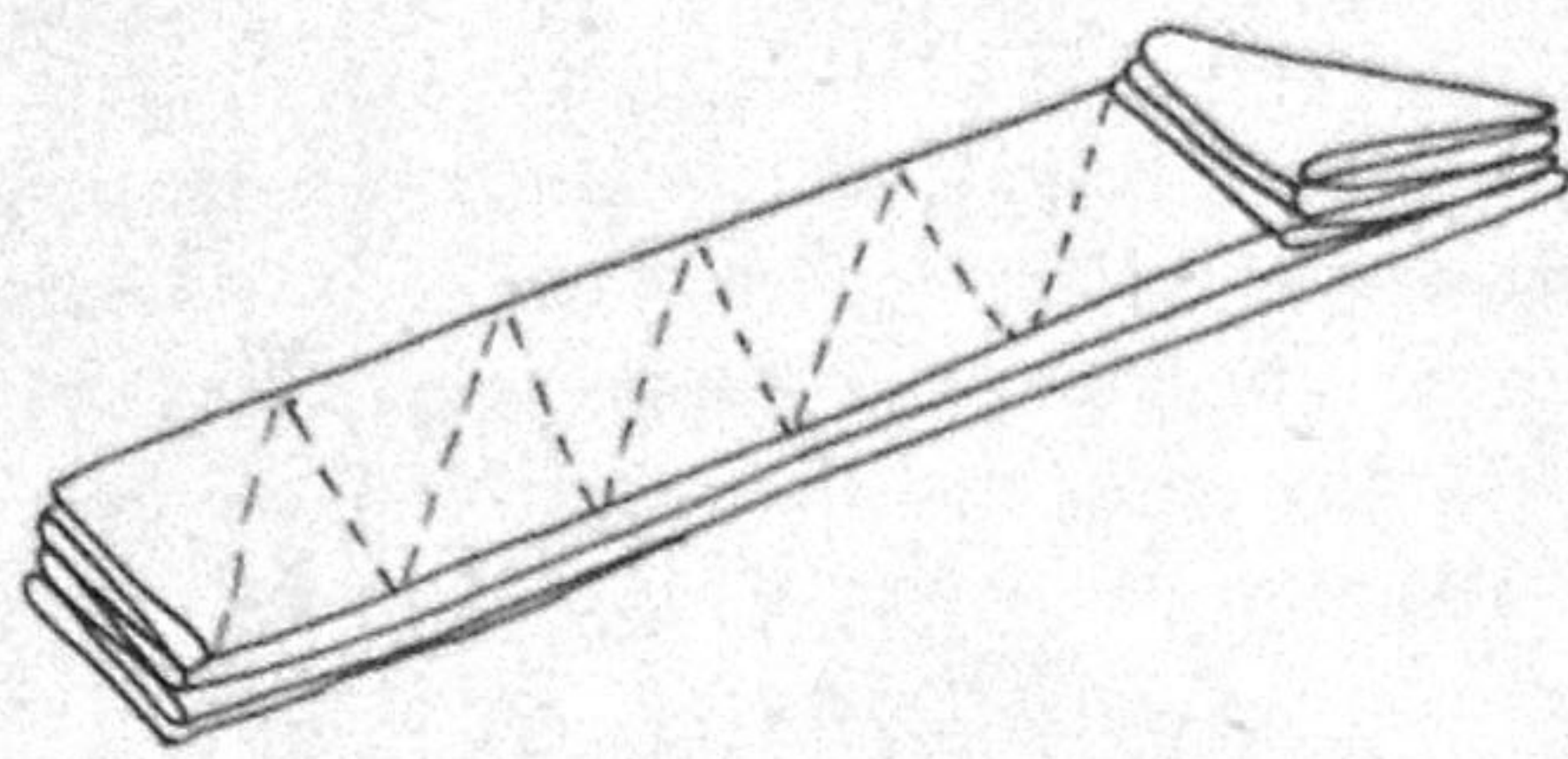
**5. CURE + REVEAL**

Wait 1 hour. If you prefer, you can cover the scarf loosely with plastic and leave it for up to 24 hours; the longer you wait, the more the colors will blend together. Rinse and wash as usual.



ALTERNATIVE Another water immersion dyeing method, jar dyeing, involves scrunching fabric tightly into a container and pouring dye over it. Quilters often use jar dyeing to make monochromatic patterns for their projects.

With both methods, you can experiment with either presoaking the fabric or adding the soda ash with the dye. Each variation produces unique results.



Kaleidoscope Blouse

1. SET

Following the directions on page 54, presoak the blouse in soda ash for 30 minutes and wring out.

2. PREP

While the blouse is soaking, mix each color of dye in an individual squeeze bottle (see page 56).

3. TIE

Lay the blouse on a clean surface and smooth out any wrinkles. Fold in half lengthwise to find the center of the blouse, then accordion-fold the top layer into 3 sections. If the sleeve sticks out farther than the side of the blouse, accordion-fold it in last. Flip the blouse over and repeat with the bottom layer. Fold the bottom corner up at a 45-degree angle so it forms a right triangle. Repeat this process until you are left with a stack of fabric in the shape of a right triangle, making sure to accordion-fold back and forth so that all fabric is dyed evenly.

4. DYE

Place the stack on some newspaper to catch any excess dye during the dye process. Starting with one of the 45-degree corners, squeeze the first dye color onto the surface and in between the folds, just where you want that color to be. Keep in mind that the dye will bleed further out from where you put it. Repeat for the opposite corner with the second color.

Squeeze the third dye color along the diagonal edge, making sure to dye each fold of the fabric. Carefully lift the fabric layers from the opposite corner and check to see if the dye soaked through the fabric to the other side. If it didn't, dye along the inside of the diagonal with the same color.

Use the final dye color to dye the remaining undyed areas of the fabric. Repeat the lifting process and carefully dye the inside of the stack of fabric so the dye is evenly distributed throughout the entire blouse.

5. CURE + REVEAL

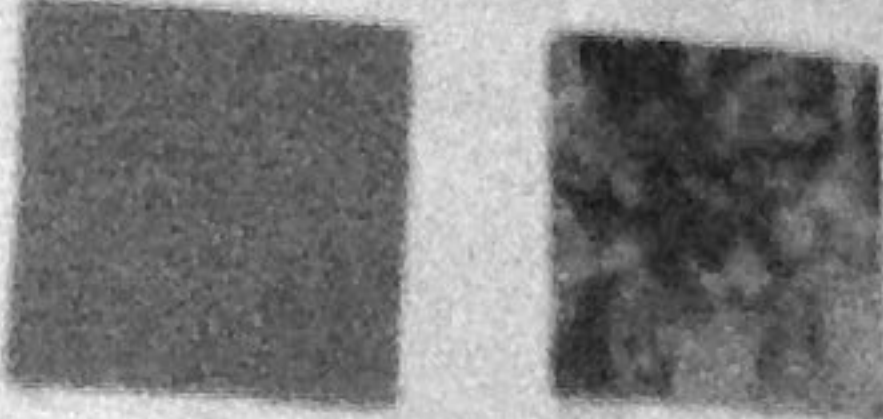
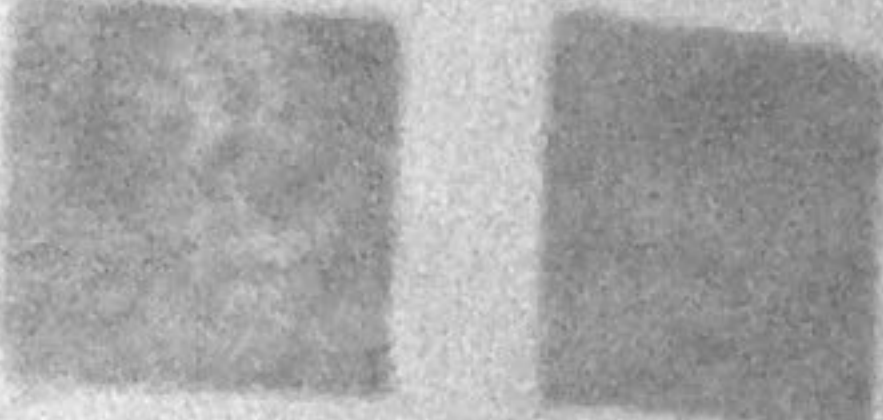
Loosely cover the stack in plastic wrap or carefully place it inside a plastic bag. Make sure the dyes aren't dripping; you don't want the color from one area to muddy up another. Leave for 6 hours and then rinse and wash as usual.



LATTICE TABLECLOTH

Folding Technique

Using the same accordion-fold technique as in the previous project, you can also make a grid, which you can either dye a single color or use to create a multicolored effect as we will do in this project. In all folding projects, the more layers or the thicker the fabric, the less defined the results will be. When working with a particularly large piece of fabric, enlarge the folding pattern for sharper lines, or use a small folding pattern for thicker, hazier lines.

LEVEL	TOOLS + MATERIALS	DYE COLORS
advanced	White cotton tablecloth	
folding	Sodium alginate	
direct application	Soda ash	
24 hours	4 squeeze bottles	
	4 colors of fiber-reactive dye	
	Old newspapers	
	Plastic bag or plastic wrap	
	Measuring cup	
	Measuring spoons	
	Funnels	
	Whisk	

1. PREP + SET

Prepare chemical water using soda ash, sodium alginate, and water (see page 55). You want a thick mixture for this project, so use the high end of the recommended amount of sodium alginate.

After the chemical water has been thickening for about an hour, use it to mix 4 dye colors in individual squeeze bottles (see page 56). Choose colors that will overlap nicely where they meet at the corners.

2. TIE

Meanwhile, accordion-fold the dry tablecloth lengthwise in even pleats, about 8" (20.5 cm) wide. Adjust the width of the pleats based on your tablecloth to make sure the edges of the pleats line up evenly. Repeat in the opposite direction, so that you are left with a square stack of fabric. You can iron the fabric as you fold if you need a little extra help keeping the pleats in place. Your stack of fabric should have two sides opposite each other where each pleat is visible, and the other two sides will have fewer, fatter folds.

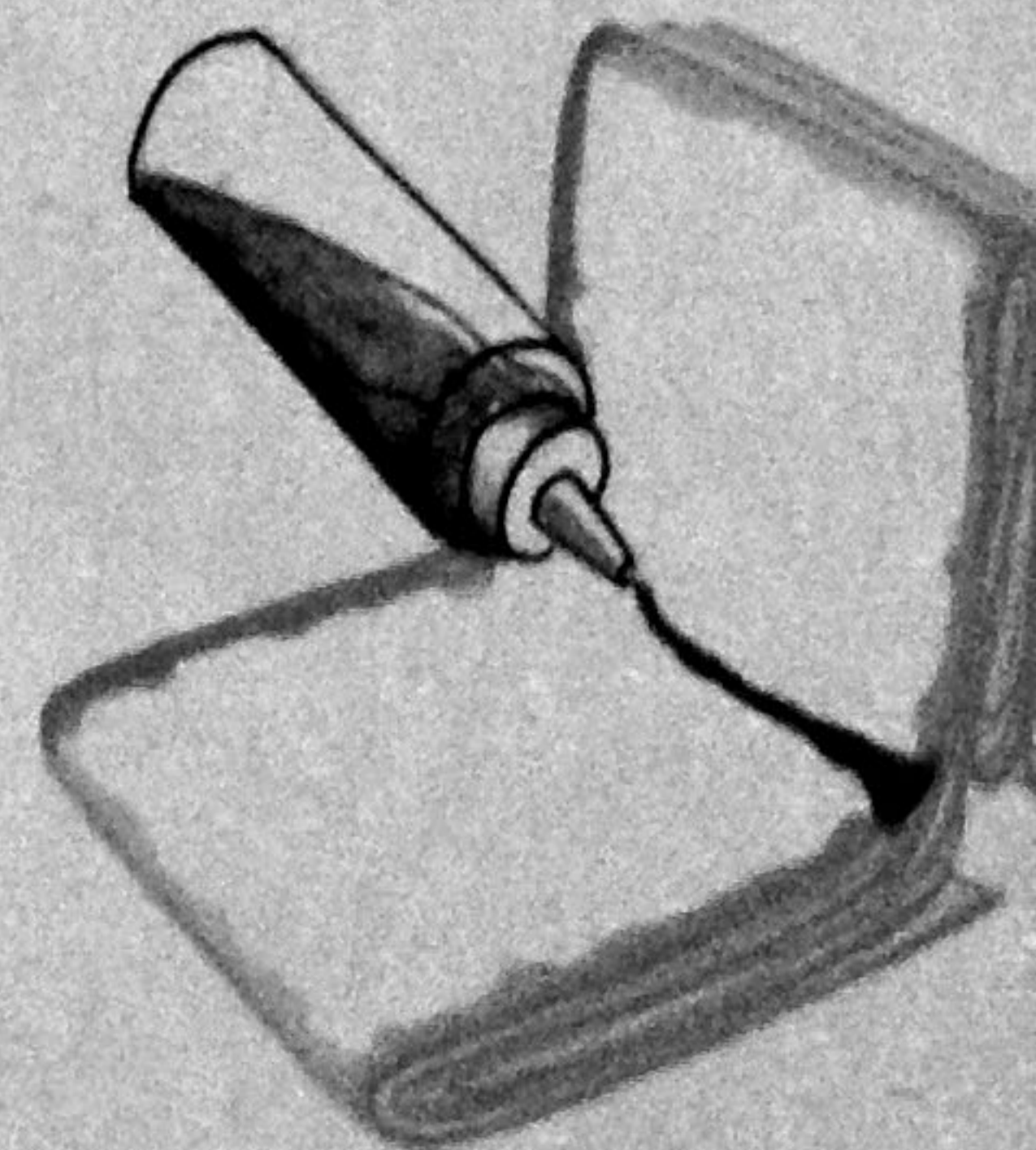
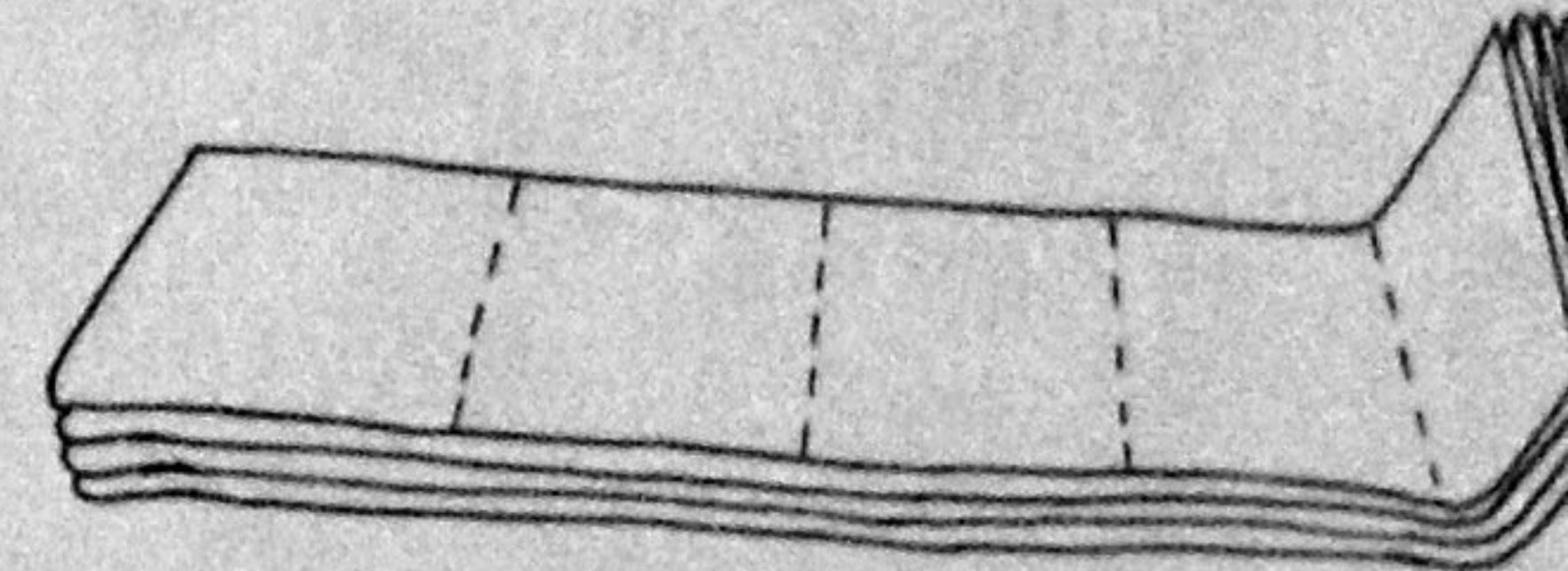
3. DYE

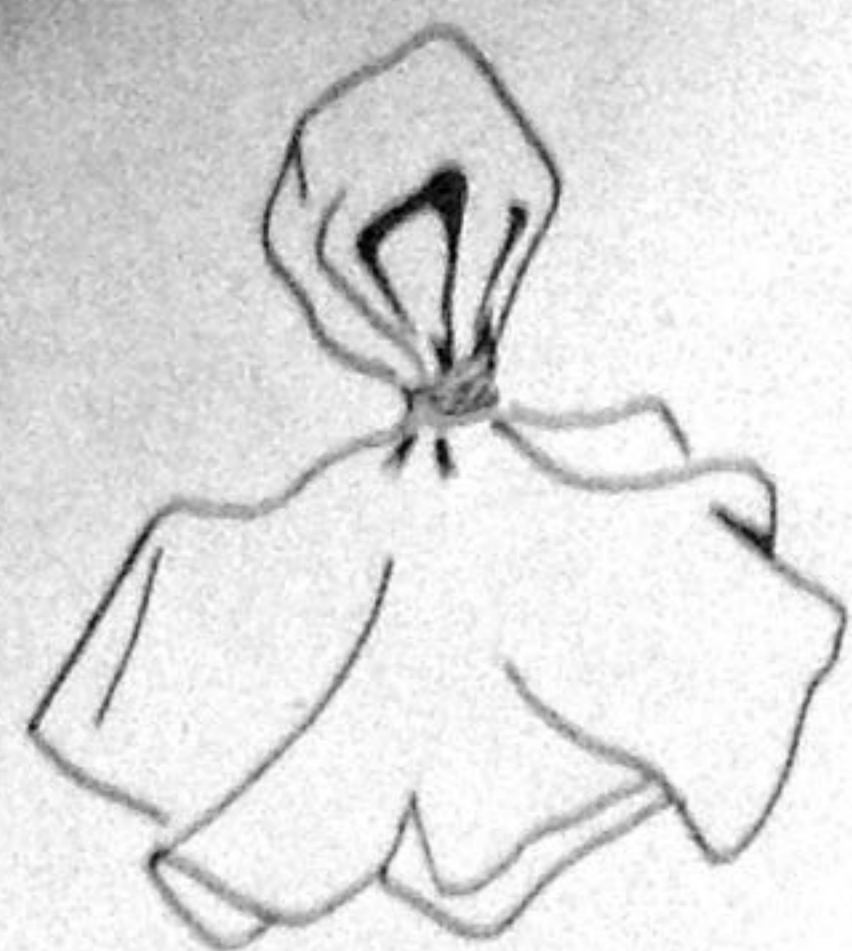
Place the stack on some newspaper to catch excess dye. Using your first color, apply the dye to one of the sides of the stack that has more visible pleats, making sure to dye each pleat of the fabric. Repeat on the opposite side with your second color.

Now, apply your third color to one of the sides that has fewer, fatter folds, squeezing the dye on the edge of each fold. Carefully open the fat folds, one at a time, and check to see if the dye soaked through to the inside. If it didn't, dye along the inside of the fold with the same color. Finally, repeat with your fourth color on the last remaining side.

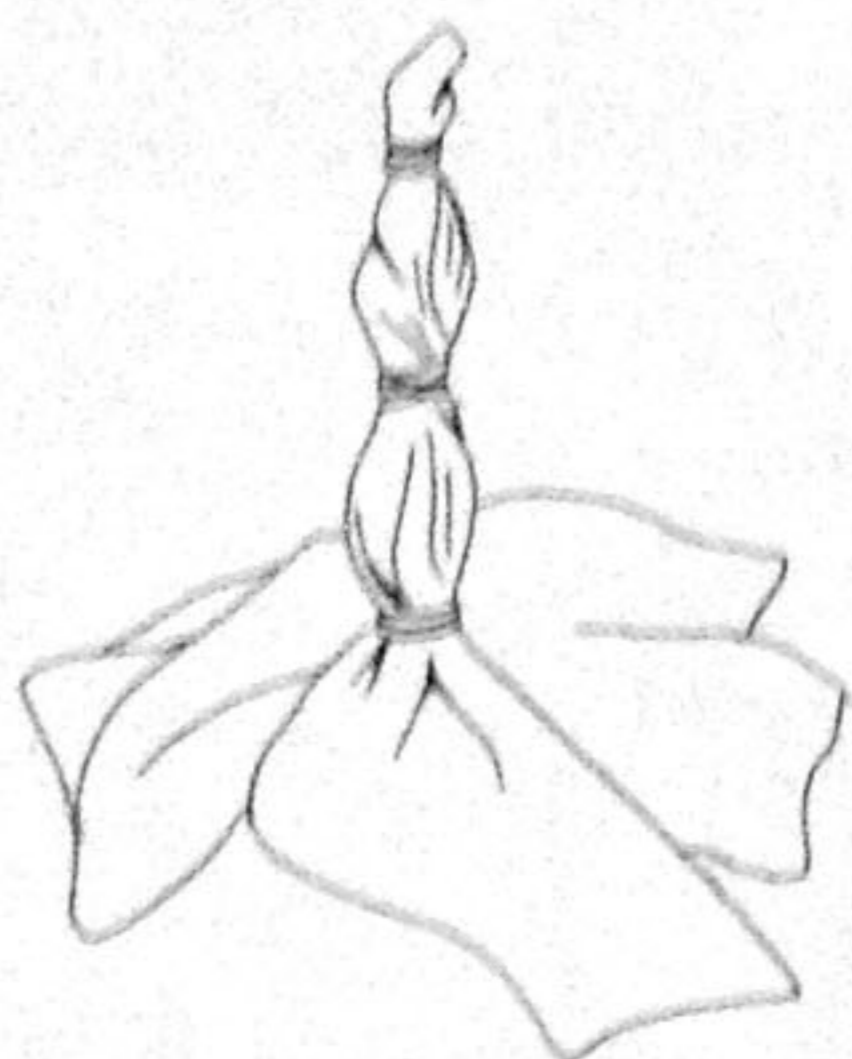
4. CURE + REVEAL

Cover in plastic and leave for 24 hours, then rinse and wash as usual, being very careful not to let the dye redeposit on the white areas of the tablecloth.

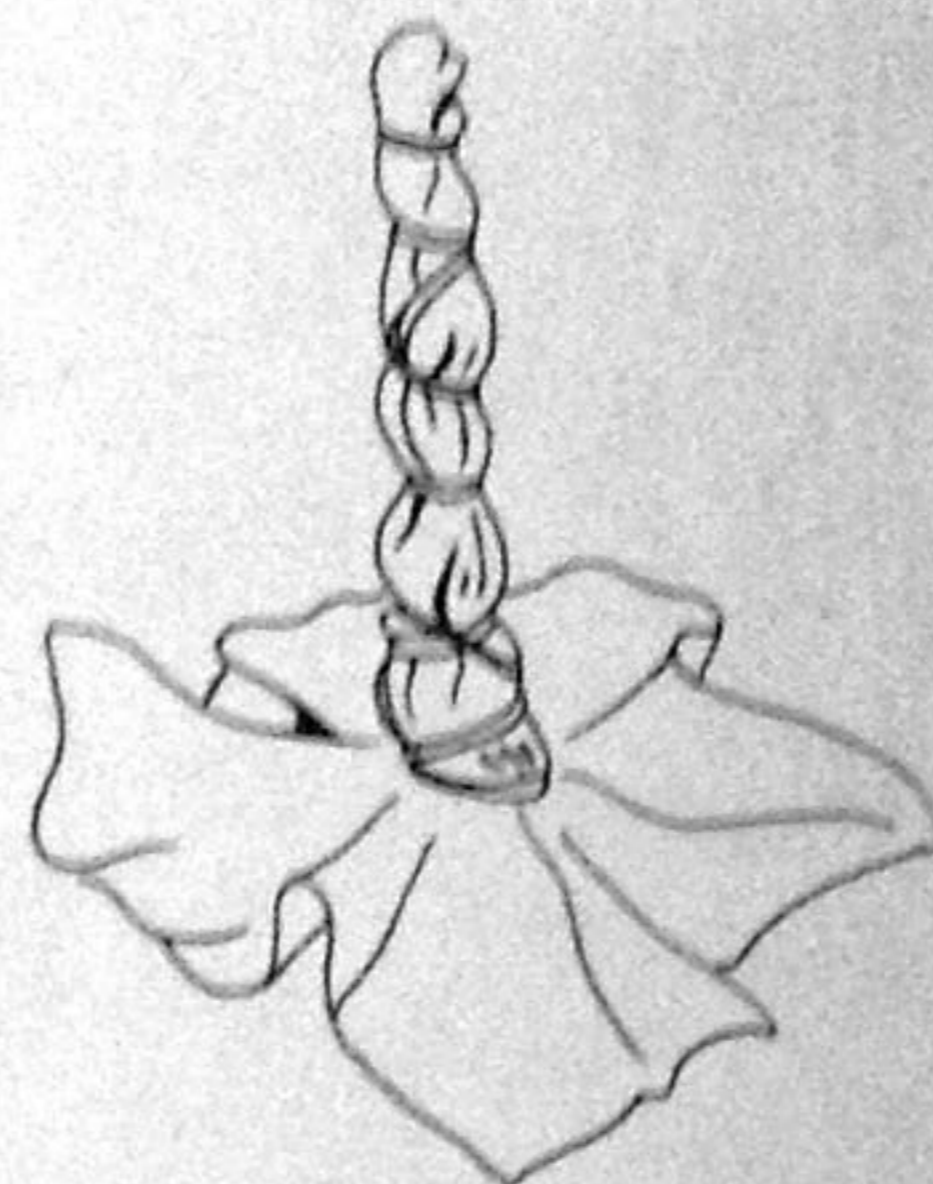




RING



BULL'S-EYE



SPIDERWEB

Circles

3. TIE

FOR THE RING Lay the first pillowcase flat on the table. Working only with the top layer, pinch the center of the fabric and pull away from the bottom layer and up into a long, narrow bundle with the center as the tip. You can even out the folds or leave them random depending on the look you're going for.

Tie a rubber band 2-3" (5-7.5 cm) above the edges of the pillowcase, binding tightly. Loosen the fabric inside the ring, forming a balloon. The corners of the pillowcase will stick out farther than the flat edges. If you want a thicker, more solid circle, add overlapping rubber bands to ensure a decent relief area.

Leave the corners, edges, and back of the pillow unbound so that they will dye solid.

FOR THE BULL'S-EYE Again, working from the center and only using the top layer of fabric, pull the pillowcase up into a narrow bundle. This time starting at the tip, tie a rubber band about an inch (2.5 cm) down, binding tightly.

Continue to tie rubber bands at intervals farther down the length of the fabric. You can tie them in even increments or more randomly, and as close or far away as you'd like your concentric circles to be. The closer they are to each other, the harder it will be for the dye to penetrate and the more white areas you will have. Finish tying the rubber bands about

2" (5 cm) from the edge of the pillow, again leaving the corners, edges, and back of the pillow unbound.

FOR THE SPIDERWEB Pulling the pillowcase up in the same manner, take one rubber band and tie it around the first few inches (approximately 7.5 cm) of the tip tightly but open and spread out, rather than in one place like you did on the ring and bull's-eye. Repeat with more rubber bands, overlapping and creating a continuous wrapping until you reach the base of the bundle, again leaving the corners, edges, and back loose. The closer and tighter you wrap, the more white areas you will have. You can use string instead of rubber bands if you prefer.

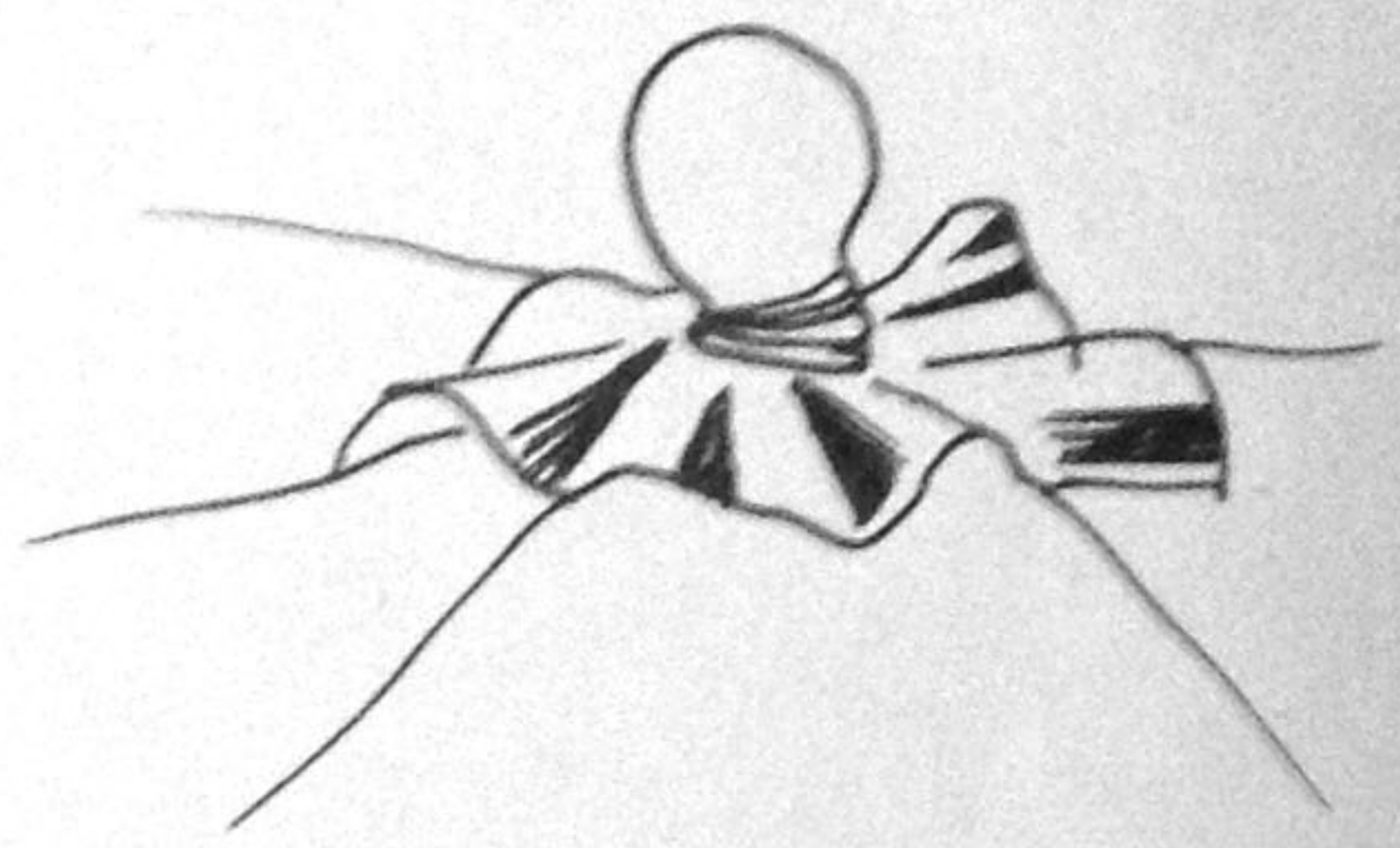
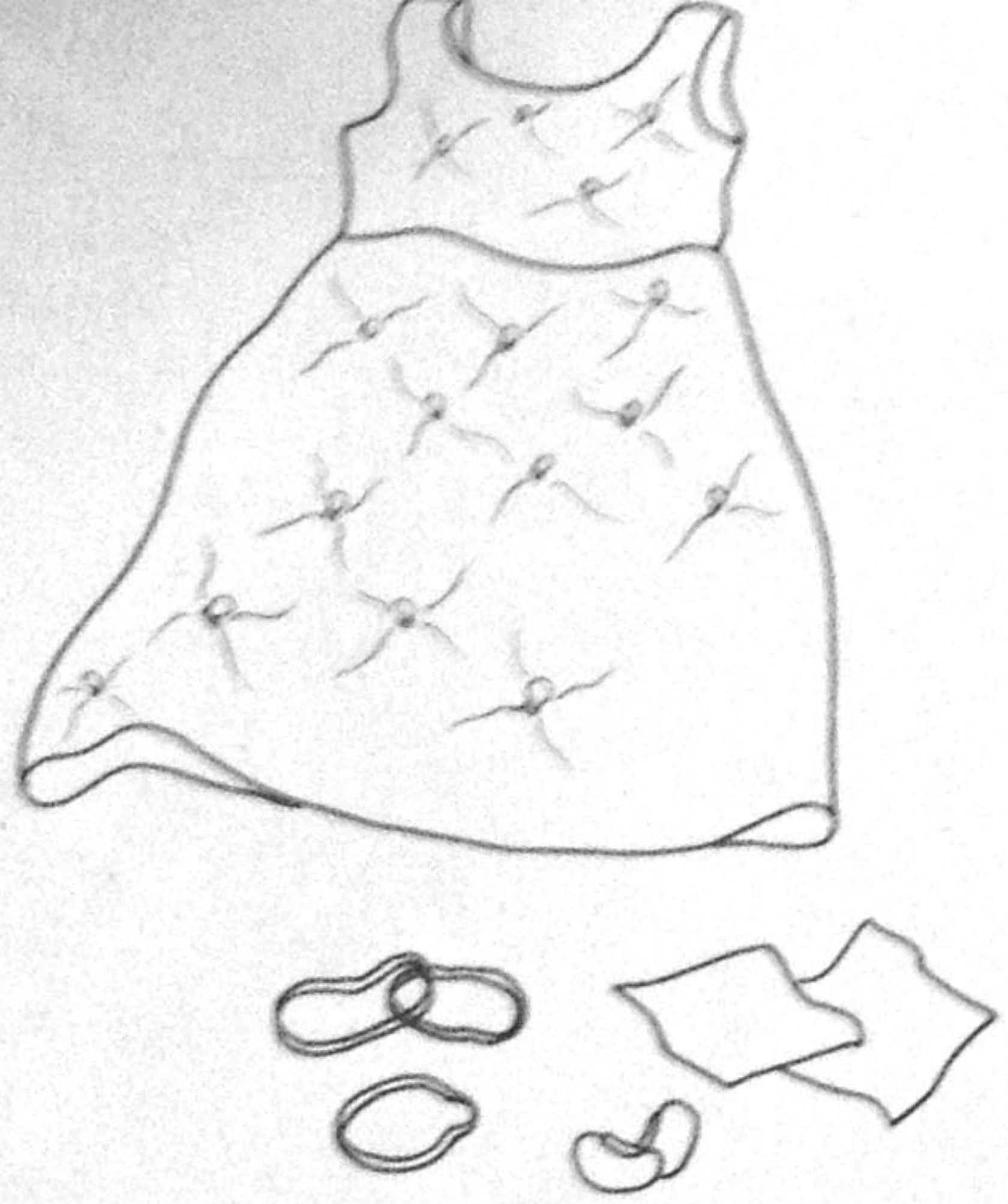
4. DYE

Immerse the pillowcases in the dye bath and let them soak for an hour.

5. REVEAL

After the hour is up, rinse and wash as usual.

ALTERNATIVE If you want the design to show through on both sides, pinch both sides together and wrap them as one.



Polka-dot Dress

1. TIE

Working with a dry dress, lay it flat on your work space and plot out your design, marking areas where you want polka dots with chalk, with each mark indicating the center of a dot.

Beginning with the first mark, place a bean underneath the fabric and grasp it from above. Place a piece of plastic wrap on top of the fabric, then wrap a rubber band around the plastic wrap and fabric, securing the bean inside. Repeat for the remaining polka dots.

2. PREP

Mix a dye bath using the standard immersion dye method (pages 62-63) to achieve even coverage on the untied areas. Dissolve the salt in some hot water and add to the bath before immersing your dress. Mix the soda ash mixture separately, setting it aside to add later. Make sure that all of the water you use in your different mixtures equals the total amount that you need.

3. DYE

Wet the dress in plain water so that it is fully and evenly saturated, then wring out. Immerse it in the dye bath and stir for 15 minutes to ensure even coverage on the untied areas.

4. SET

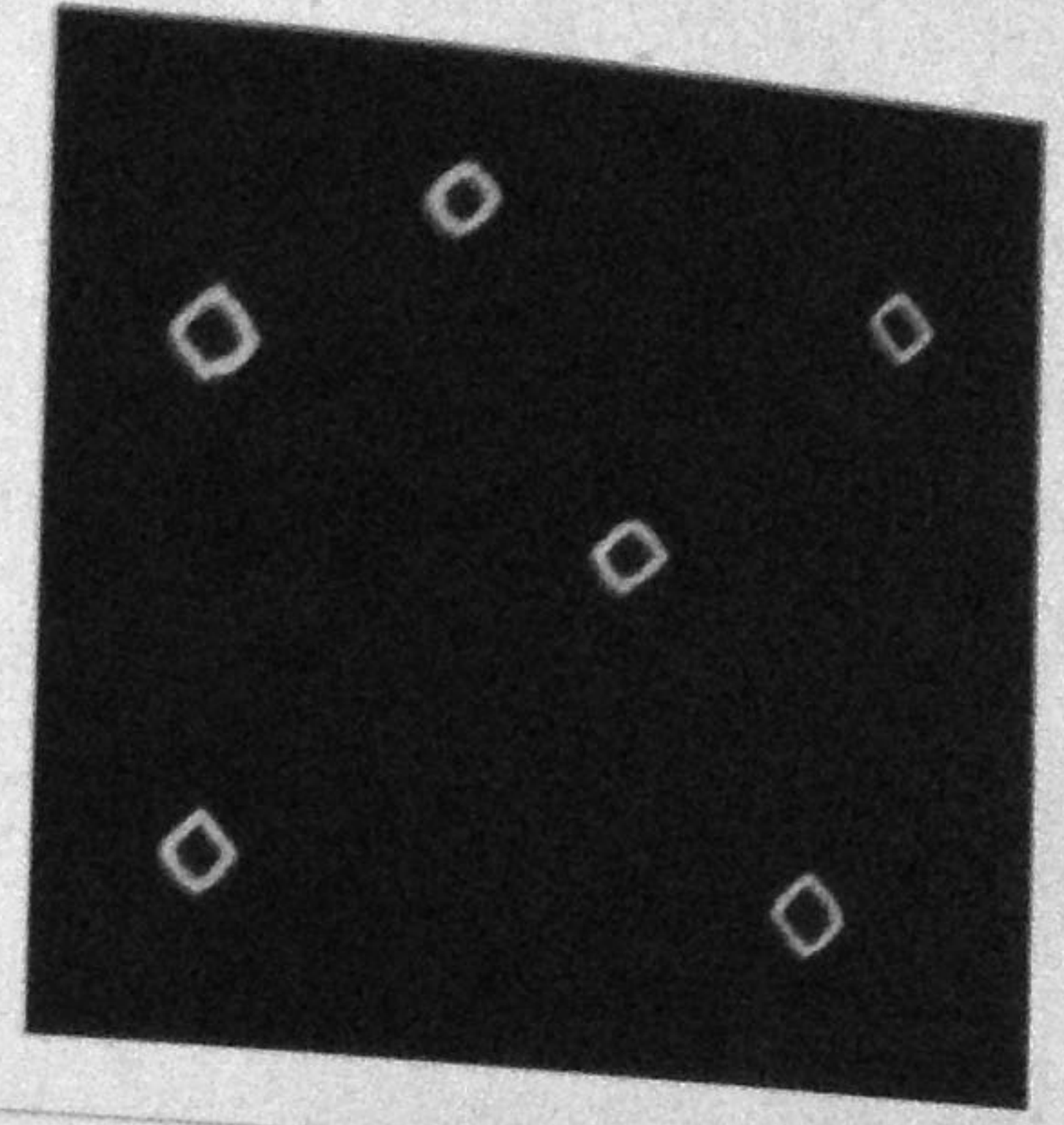
After 15 minutes, lift the dress out of the bucket and add the soda ash mixture to the dye bath. Stir well, then place the dress back in the dye. Let soak for an hour, stirring occasionally.

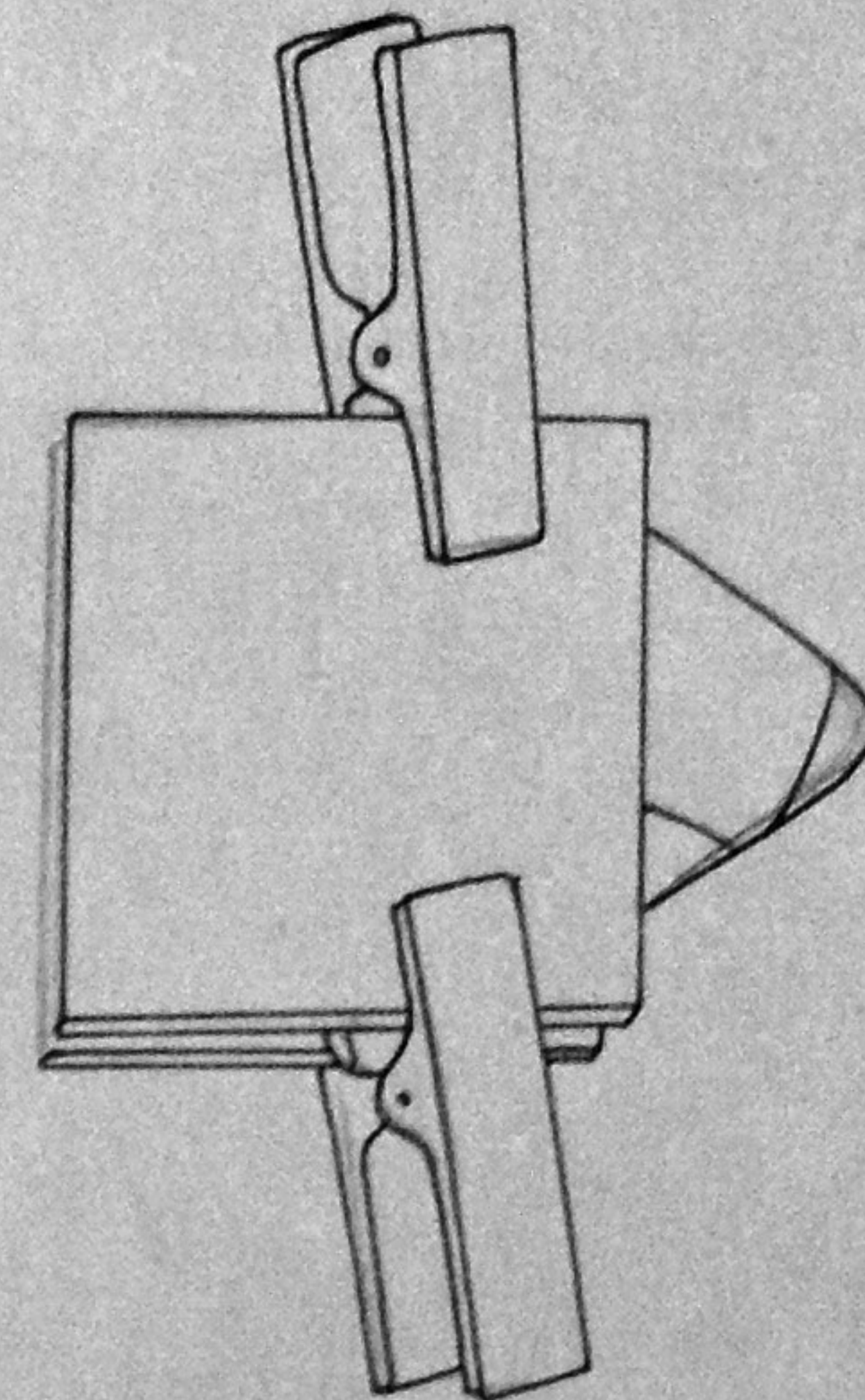
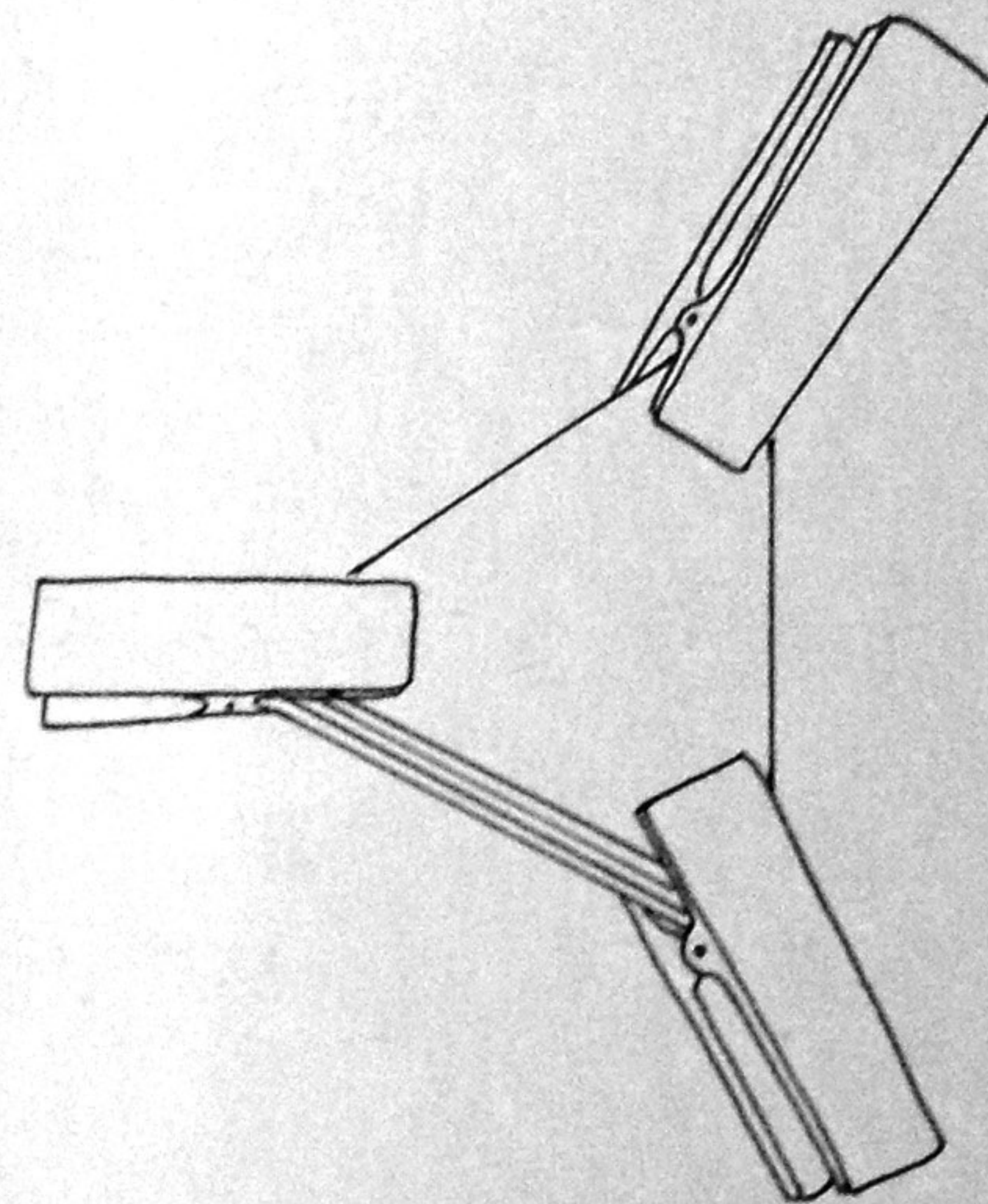
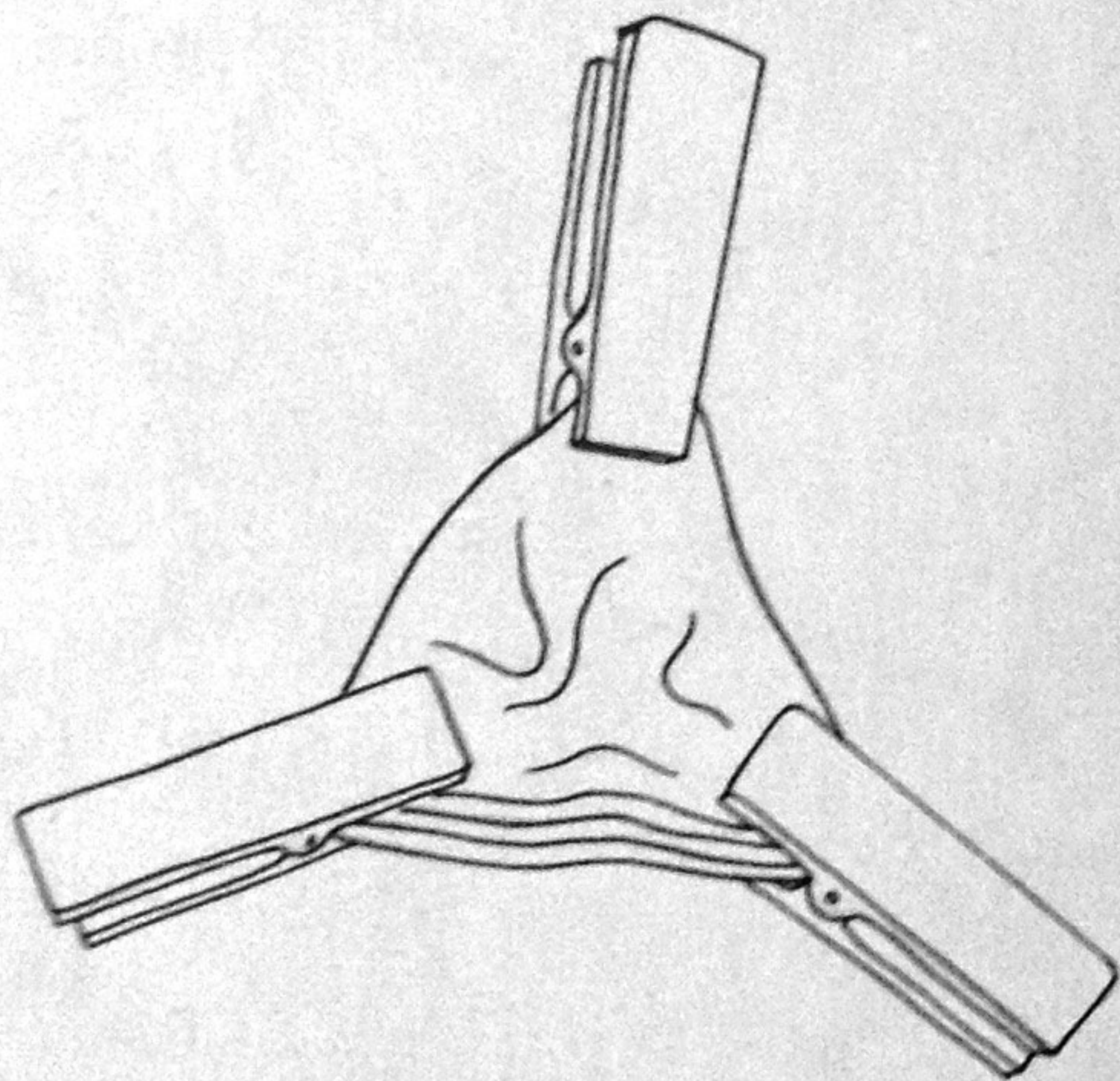
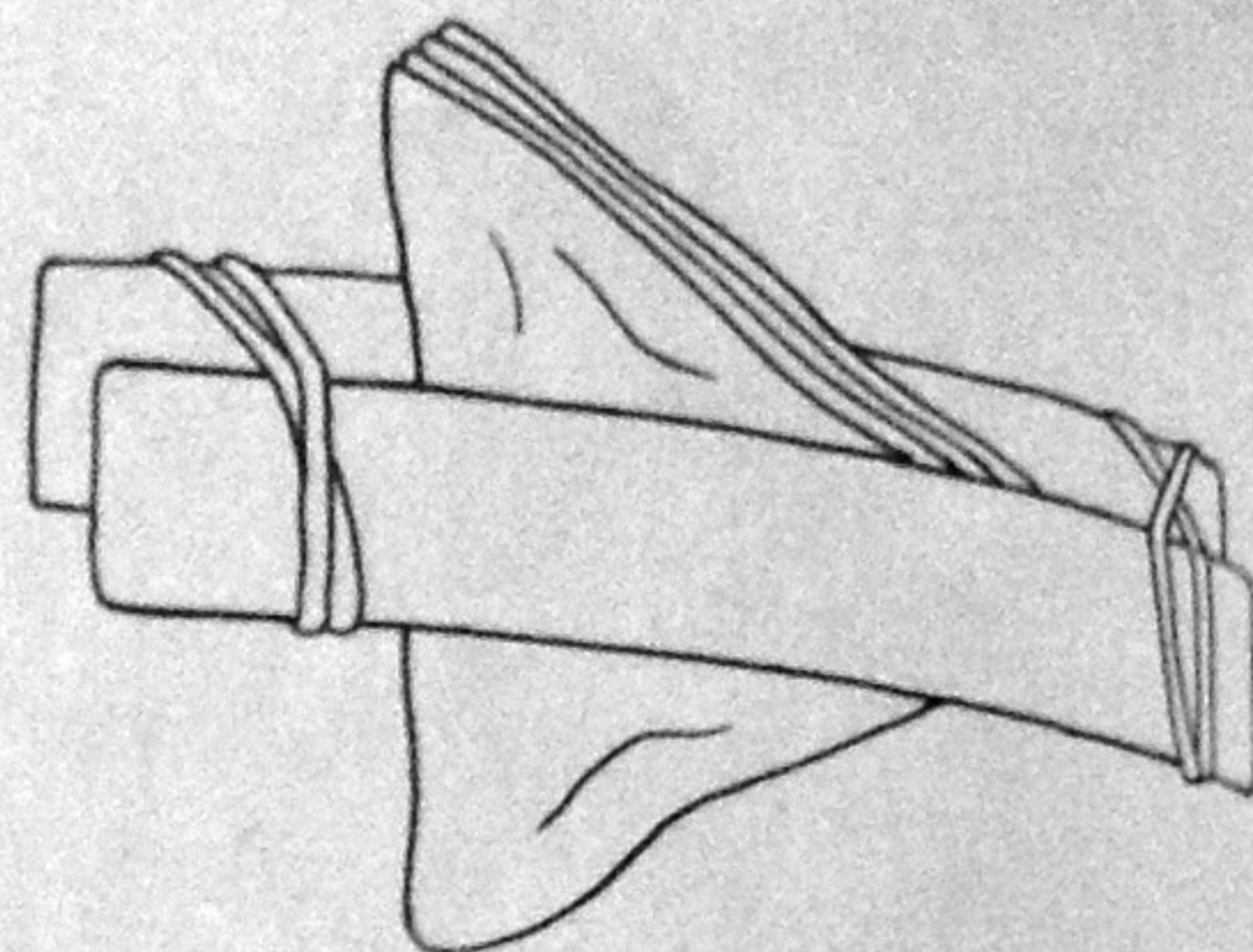
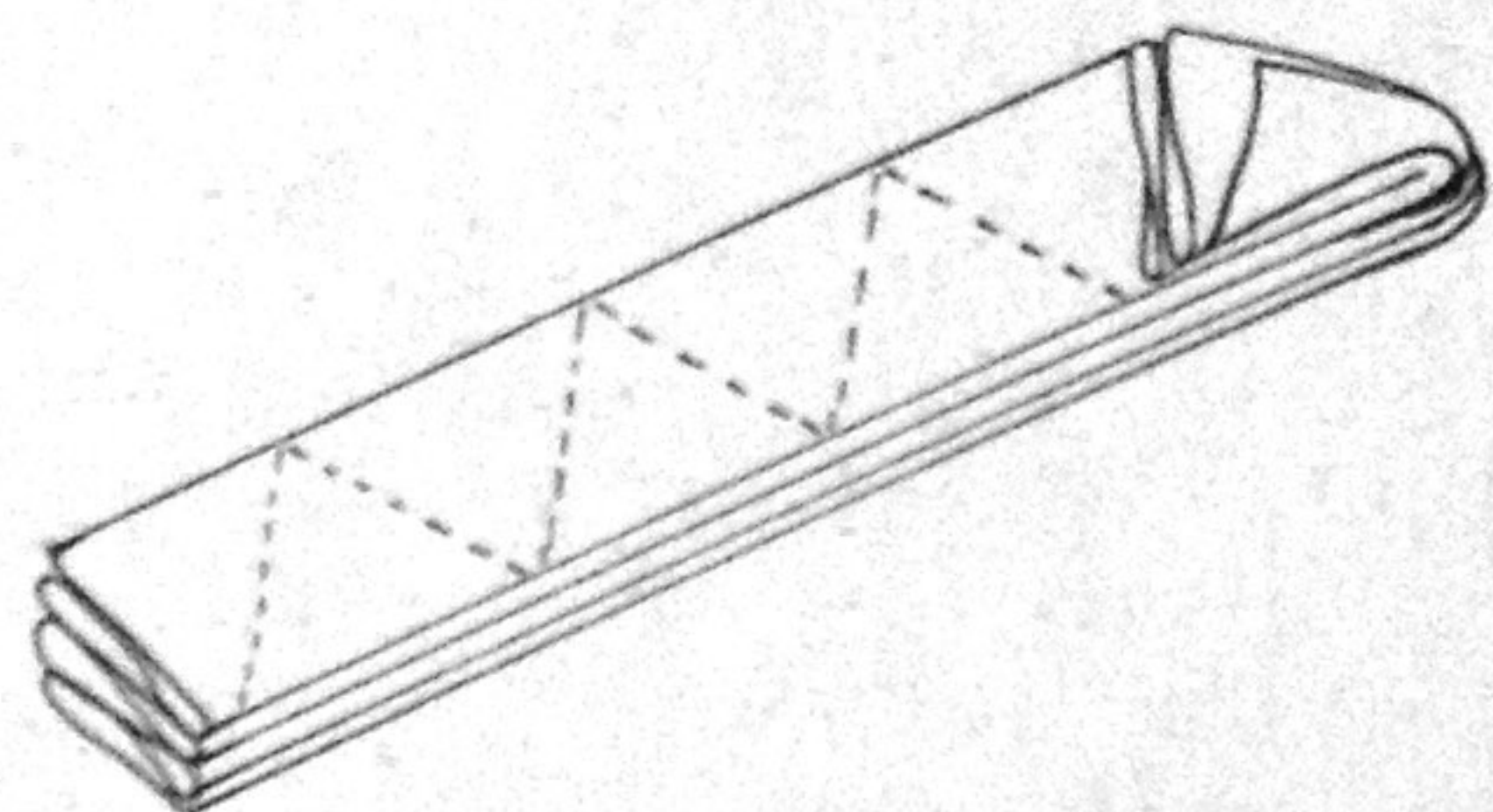
5. REVEAL

After the hour is up, rinse and wash as usual.

ALTERNATIVE For another effect, try dyeing the fabric in the first bath, then removing some of the rubber bands or adding new ones, and dyeing it in a bath of a second color.

ALTERNATIVE If you want just the outline of the circle with a dyed center, skip the plastic wrap and follow the same instructions.





1. SET

Following the directions on page 54, presoak the napkins in soda ash for 30 minutes and wring out.

2. PREP

While the napkins are presoaking, mix a dye bath. Use the calculations for immersion dyeing (pages 62-63), skipping the soda ash since you are already presoaking.

3. TIE

Starting with the first napkin, accordion-fold lengthwise into 6 sections. Fold the bottom corner up at a 30-degree angle. Flip the fabric over and fold the diagonal edge to meet the side of the fabric strip, forming a perfect equilateral triangle. Repeat this process until you are left with a stack of fabric in the shape of an equilateral triangle, making sure to accordion-fold back and forth so that all fabric is dyed evenly. Repeat with each napkin.

Starting with the first napkin, sandwich it between two matching boards. Check that the boards are lined up, and then clamp them

tightly around the napkin. Feel free to improvise with your boards and clamps; you can use any rigid plastic or wooden items as boards, and hold them in place with C-clamps, binder clips, clothespins, spring clamps, or rubber bands. Repeat with various board shapes on each of the napkins. Each shape will create a different pattern. The same shape, placed in a different position on the triangle, can also create surprisingly different designs.

TIP: To achieve a symmetrical design centered on a square napkin, fold the fabric like the paper fortune-teller you used to make in elementary school.

4. DYE

Immerse the napkins in the dye bath and let them soak for an hour.

5. REVEAL

After the hour is up, rinse and wash as usual.

Folds don't have to be rigid. Think about folding more randomly, folding the fabric in on itself instead of like an accordion, or folding individual areas of your fabric differently. In this project, we will create the subtlest, softest folds simply by pulling the fabric up into loose peaks. We will then create a shadow of the folds by spraying the dye mixture lightly onto the fabric so that when it is unfolded later, an echo of the peaks is left behind.

Mountain Peaks Tee

LEVEL quick & easy

TIE METHOD folding

DYE METHOD direct application

CURING TIME 24 hours

1. PREP

Mix the dye in a spray bottle, including soda ash since you aren't presoaking (see page 56). Use 1 teaspoon of soda ash for 1 cup (250 ml) of dye.

2. TIE

Lay a dry T-shirt on a clean work surface with the front facing up. Place plastic or newspaper inside the shirt to protect the back while you dye the front. Pull the fabric of the shirt up into loose, random peaks. Position the main front body of the T-shirt this way and leave the hem, neck, arms, and back flat on the table.

3. DYE

Spray the dye onto the peaks, spraying toward the center of the shirt and avoiding the outer areas. Spray from one general direction, so that the area behind the fabric peaks remains undyed.

TOOLS + MATERIALS DYE COLOR

Gray cotton T-shirt

Fiber-reactive dye in a color slightly darker than the shirt

Soda ash

Spray bottle

Old newspapers

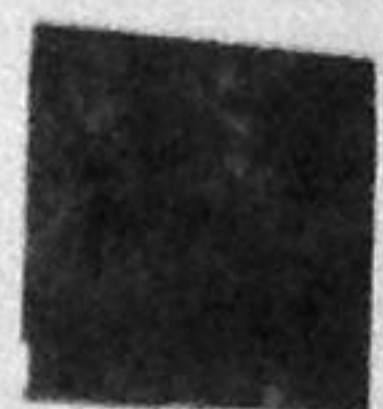
Plastic tarp

Measuring cup

Measuring spoons

Funnel

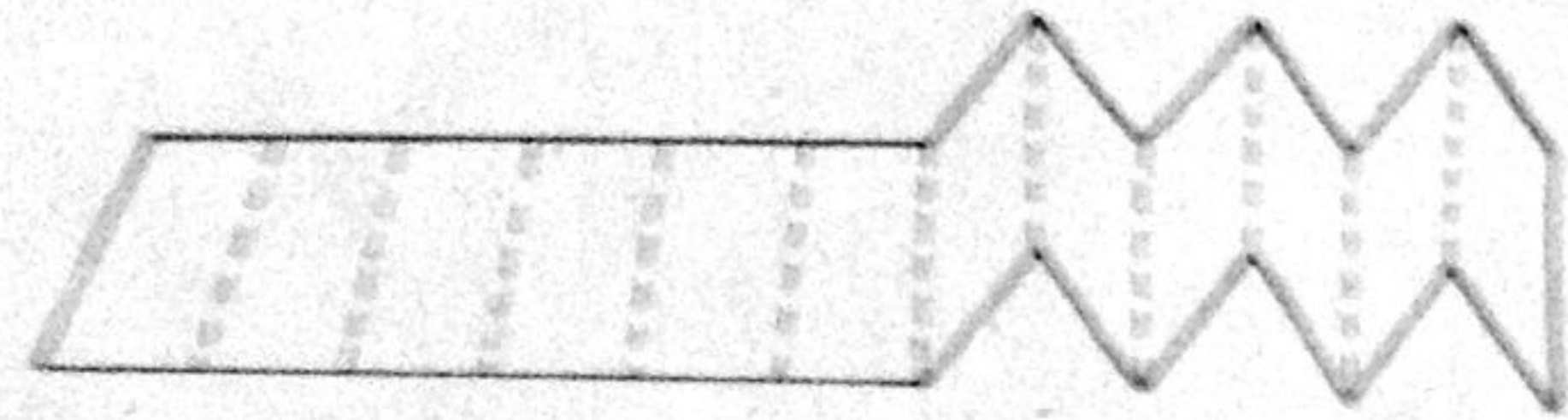
Whisk



4. CURE + REVEAL

Cover loosely in plastic. Leave for 24 hours, then rinse and wash as usual, being careful not to let the dye redeposit on the undyed areas of the shirt.





Stitching Technique

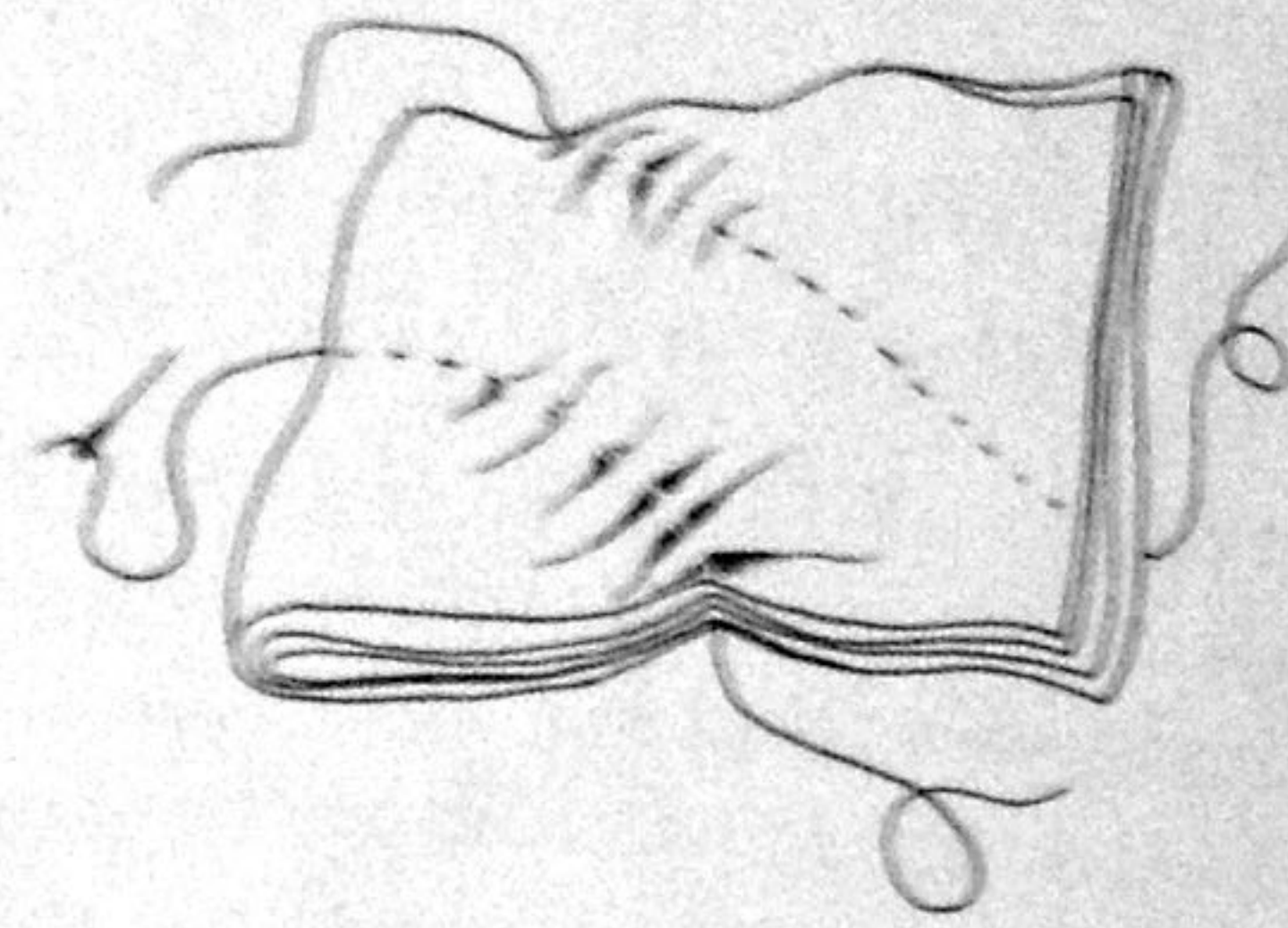
1. TIE

Measure the width of your scarf, divide in half, and make a note of this measurement. Lay the scarf flat on your work space. Starting at the center of the scarf, make a mark at every interval of your number, out to each end. Using these marks as guides, accordion-fold the scarf, making sure the edges of the folds line up evenly. You will be left with a rectangular stack of fabric. Fold this rectangle in half to create a square stack and smooth out any wrinkles.

Mark your design with chalk or a water-soluble marker, imagining the design mirroring at the folds. For my design, I created a quarter circle around the center fold on the corner furthest from the hem, so that when opened it forms a complete circle. About 2" (5 cm) away, I created a diagonal line framing the opposite corner.

Choose a sturdy, thick thread, or double it for strength, as you will be working with an entire stack of fabric. Thread the needle and tie a knot in one end. Sew a running stitch along your design, sewing all the way through the stack of fabric, and leaving enough thread at either end to grab on to. The thicker your fabric is, or the more layers you have, the wider your stitches should be.

Pull the thread from both ends, gathering the fabric tightly around it until it is fully compressed. Wetting the fabric before pulling the thread may make it easier to gather. Tie the thread in a sturdy knot to hold the gathers in place.



2. PREP

Mix the dye bath, using the standard immersion dye method (pages 62-63) to achieve even coverage on untied areas. Dissolve the salt in a bit of hot water to add to the bath before immersing the scarf, and mix the soda ash mixture separately, setting it aside to add later. Make sure that all of the water in your different mixtures equals the total amount that you need.

3. DYE

Wet the scarf in plain water so that it is fully and evenly saturated, then wring out. Immerse it in the dye bath and stir for 15 minutes to ensure even coverage.

4. SET

After 15 minutes, lift the scarf out of the bucket and add the soda ash mixture to the dye bath. Stir well, then place the scarf back in the bath. Let soak for an hour, stirring occasionally.

5. REVEAL

After the hour is up, rinse, then clip the threads and pull them out, revealing your design. Wash as usual.