A frequent problem encountered by stroke victims and others with a nonfunctional upper extremity or hand is managing the cuff button of the sleeve covering the nonimpaired extremity. Compensation techniques include purchasing short-sleeved garments, rolling up long sleeves, or sewing buttons with elastic thread so that the extremity can slip through the sleeve without unbuttoning the cuff. An option similar to the last technique is to attach a small button to a crocheted loop of elastic thread. This option eliminates the need to adapt every garment owned by the individual since the aid is easily transferable from one garment to another.

**Materials and Directions**

Materials needed are: buttons to accommodate the buttonholes on the cuff of the garment, thin elastic thread, and a size 4 crochet hook. To make the crocheted loop, leave 7.5 cm (3 inches) of thread at the beginning, chain 27 stitches (about 4.4 cm long) without stretching the thread, leave 7.5 cm of thread at the end, and cut. Thread one end of the crocheted piece up through one hole of the button (#1) and down through another (#2) (Figure 1). Then thread the other end up through hole #2 and down through hole #1. Knot ends together and cut off extra thread. Slip the button through the buttonhole on the garment so that the elastic loop is on the inside, and then stretch the loop around the original cuff button.

In dressing, the loop stretches to accommodate the width of the hand and wrist (Figure 2). Before laundering, the button aid is removed from the garment so that it will not become disengaged and lost in the wash.

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