

Fredcrow



Fred Astaire was a talented dancer, sure, but did you know he was also a capable inventor? Years before Swiss engineer George de Mestral invented Velcro, Astaire created a similar hook and loop fastener system he called Fredcrow. By affixing the hooks to the soles of his shoes and the loops to a chosen dance venue, he was able to dance on walls and even ceilings – as long as he kept heavy coins out of his trouser pockets. Trouble arose, however, when he as much as brushed against any object whose fabric was naturally loopy. Like drapes. For some reason – and Science has yet to explain the phenomenon – drapery material acted as a natural magnet to Fred’s shoe soles, making a mere stroll anywhere near a window treatment potentially hazardous.