July 5, 1927. 1,635,127

I. KIRSNER

KEYBOARD CLEANER

Filed Aug. 27, 1926

Fig. 1.

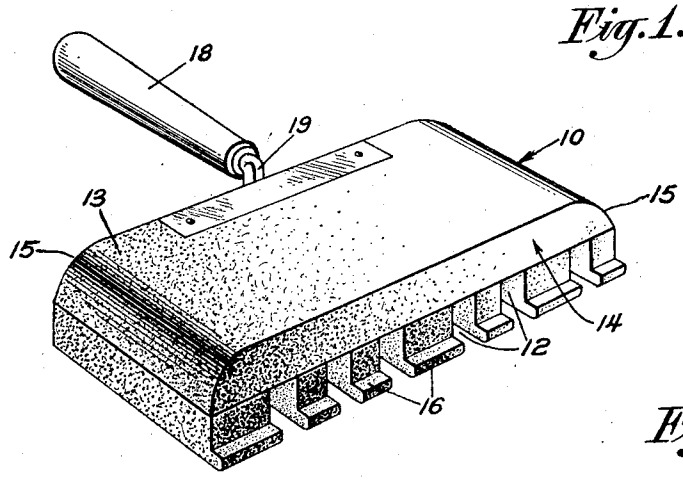


Fig. 3.

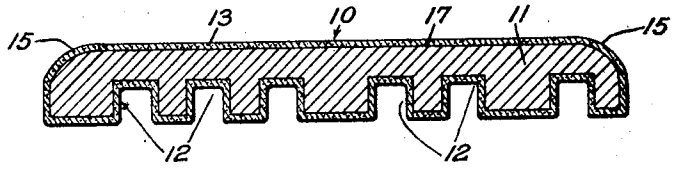


Fig. 2.

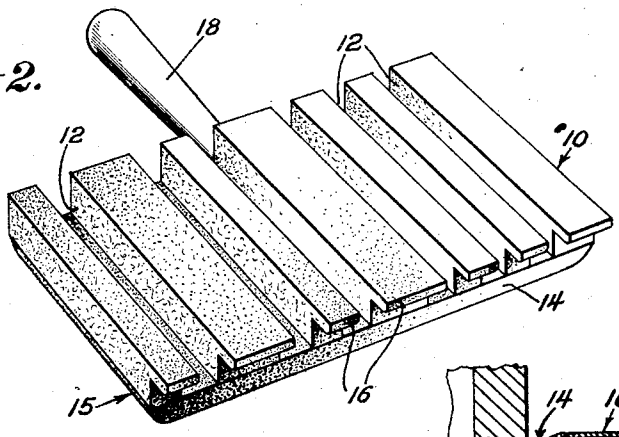


Fig. 4.

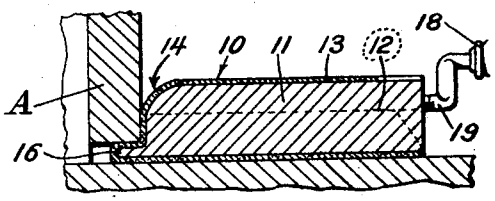
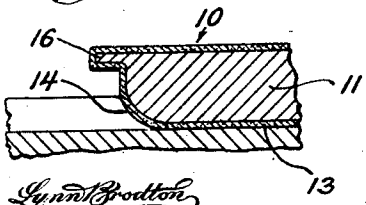


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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KEYBOARD CLEANER.

Application filed August 27, 1926. Serial No. 131,986.

This invention relates to keyboard cleaners for pianos and is an improvement over the type of cleaner shown and described in my patent application, Serial No. 82,590, filed January 20th, 1926, allowed April 3rd, 1926.

The primary object of this invention over that shown in the above application resides in the provision of a means for thoroughly cleaning that portion of the white keys of a piano disposed beneath the fall-board and which cannot ordinarily be reached for cleaning with a dust cloth or the like.

Another object of the invention is to embody all the features of my former cleaner shown in my prior application in this improved cleaner with certain additional features which will provide a saving of time and material and will be more convenient for handling.

With these and other objects in view, the invention resides in certain novel construction and combination and arrangement of parts, the essential features of which are hereinafter fully described, are particularly pointed out in the appended claims, and are illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved keyboard cleaner.

Figure 2 is a similar view but showing the underside of the same.

Figure 3 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view, therethrough.

Figure 4 is a vertical transverse sectional view showing the position of the device when cleaning beneath the fall-board of a piano.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view showing the cleaner in position for cleaning the outer ends of the black keys and the tops of the white keys.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, the reference numeral 10 designates my improved cleaning implement in its entirety and which is constructed of a rectangular body member 11 of any suitable hard or stiff material such as wood, metal, fiber and the like and which has its underside provided with spaced slots or recesses 12 which open on to the longitudinal edges of the body, while the opposite face of the member is perfectly flat as at 13. The recesses 12 are of such shape as to receive the black keys of a piano keyboard and are so spaced that one and one-third octaves may be cleaned in a single operation. The front longitudinal edge of the member is beveled as at 14, the angle of which is approximately the same as the angle of the front end of the black keys, so that the device may be drawn longitudinally over the keyboard with the flat surfaces 13 in contact with the forward ends of the white keys so as to clean the same and simultaneously clean the front inclined faces of the black keys.

The end edges of the flat side of the member are rounded as at 15 so that the device will move smoothly over the white keys without fear of striking the sides of the keys and damaging them.

The front longitudinal edge of the member is provided with flanges 16 disposed intermediate the recesses and ends of the member, so as to provide portions which might be inserted beneath the fall-board A of a piano by slightly depressing the member so as to cause the depression of the keys to permit of the insertion of the flanges. The entire outer surface of the body member is covered with a soft polishing material 17, such as plush, wool, cotton, chamois or other absorbent or non-absorbent material having polishing qualities.

A handle member 18 is provided with an offset threaded stud 19 for threading engagement with the walls of a recess provided in the rear longitudinal edge of body member, so that the hand of an operator is disposed above the keys when moving the same transversely over the keys.

In practice, the black keys of the piano keyboard and that portion of the white keys lying within the range of the cleaner are cleaned first by applying the device to the keyboard at one end thereof and which takes in one and one-third octaves. The device is moved back and forth in a transverse direction with the black keys received in the respective recesses, and after those keys which come within the range of the device have been cleaned, the same is moved to take in the next group of keys until all the keyboard has been cleaned. As previously mentioned, the keys are depressed in order to permit the flanges 16 to be inserted beneath the fall board. At present it is very difficult to reach the dust beneath the fall-board with an ordinary dust cloth, and which dust is unsightly as the same is clearly visible even when the keys are in their normal posi-

tion. After cleaning the keys in this manner, the device is reversed so that the flat surface 13 lies over the outer end of the white keys. The device may now be freely drawn back and forth in a longitudinal direction over the white keys and the same thoroughly cleaned of any dust which may not have been removed during the previous operations. Although I have mentioned that the device shown has been designed to take in one and one-third octaves of a piano keyboard in one operation, it will be appreciated that the device may be enlarged so as to take in a greater or lesser amount of keys to be cleaned in a single operation.

While I have described what I deem to be the most desirable embodiment of my invention, it is obvious that many of the details may be varied without in any way departing from the spirit of my invention, and I therefore do not limit myself to the exact details of construction herein set forth nor to anything less than the whole of my invention limited only by the appended claims.

What is claimed as new is:—

1. A keyboard clearner comprising an elongated member having an exterior surface of polishing material, one side of said member having spaced transverse slots provided therein opening onto the side edges of said member, and flanges extending beyond one of the sides of said member intermediate said recesses adapted to pass under the fall board and a handle member extending from the opposite side edge of said member, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. A keyboard cleaner comprising an elongated back member covered with a soft polishing material, one face of said member being provided with transverse recesses opening onto its longitudinal edges, the recesses being spaced and of a shape to receive and clean the black keys of the keyboard of a musical instrument when the device is applied thereto and for cleaning that portion of the white keys within the range of the device upon transverse movement thereover, and flanges extending from one longitudinal edge of said member intermediate said recesses for cleaning that portion of the white keys beneath the fall-board of the musical instrument upon insertion of the flanges thereunder, the opposite face of said member being flat with the end edges rounded for longitudinal movement over the outer ends of the white keys, and a beveled surface on the front longitudinal edge of said member for wiping engagement with the front ends of the black keys as the cleaner is moved longitudinally over the white keys, and a handle member extending from the rear longitudinal edge of said member.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

ISAAC KIRSNER.