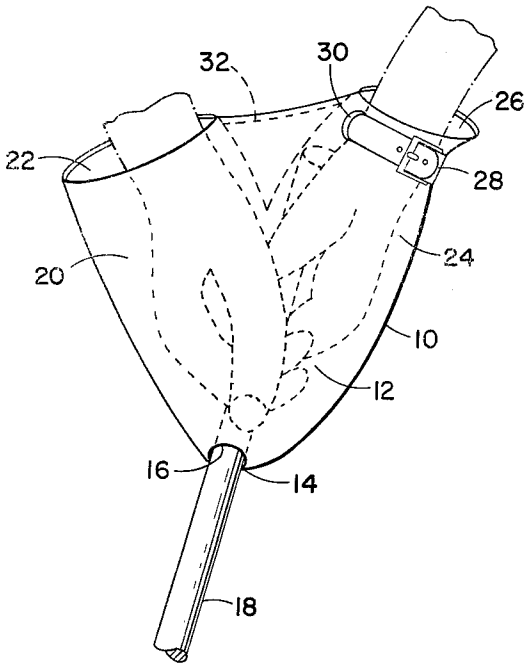
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TWO-HANDED MITTEN

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TWO-HANDED MITTEN

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This invention relates to mittens or fingerless gloves and particularly to a mitten adapted to accommodate both hands of the wearer and permit entry of a handle of an object to be manipulated and be freely grasped within the mitten.

It is generally appreciated that gloves hamper the free and particularly sensitive, manipulation of one's hands. In view of this, their usage has been simply discarded or ignored in a number of instances. In doing this, the alternatives are either discomfort from the cold with some decrease in effectiveness in manipulation or greater losses in such effectiveness due to the use of gloves. As the element of skill of manipulation becomes more important, the effect of cold on bare-handed operation becomes even more pronounced and thus, the alternatives between clumsy gloves and bare hands become increasingly unsatisfactory.

While single-handed gloves have been designed to permit single-handed, protected, bare-hand gripping of certain objects, e.g., a pencil in Patent 1,354,241, a hand tool in Patent 2,941,214, a ski pole in Swiss Patent 178,-741, July 31, 1935, and a pick handle in French Patent 861,480, February 10, 1941, nothing is known to be available for similar protection where both hands must act jointly, in close proximity for manipulation of an implement. An example, and one where the present invention has proven itself well, is a golf mitten, it being of a novel configuration to accommodate both hands and the golf club handle. There are of course, two-handed mittens, as illustrated in Patent 2,611,901, and Design Patent 192,992, however, none of this class are known to provide the features of effective protection for two-handed and bare-handed manipulation of an object as disclosed by the present invention.

In accordance with the invention a two-handed glove or two-handed mitten is constructed to include three basic regions or portions, a central hand portion permitting free and complete inter-hand contact, and a separate wrist portion for each hand and wrist, and through which hand entry is made. An opening for receiving an object such as a golf club is positioned at the end or side of the mitten generally opposite to the hand entry end.

The objects of this invention together with its features and advantages will be readily apparent from the following detailed description of an embodiment of the invention illustrated in the accompanying drawing.

Referring now to the drawing, a mitten **10** is constructed from a soft cloth, leather, plastic or other material normally suitable for regular gloves or mittens. It has a central hand portion **12** of a substantially two-handed or joined hands dimension in which the hands of the wearer are free, and complete contact between fingers may be made. This portion comes generally to a blunt point at one end **14** at which there is an opening **16** of a size to permit free entry of the object to be held, such as a golf club **18**. Joining central hand portion **12** on the left is a first wrist encircling portion **20** which provides a wrist enclosure of substantially wrist cross-section dimension and is terminated by opening **22** through which entry of one hand, either right or left as will be discussed below, is made.

In accordance with one feature of the invention, wrist portion **20** and thus opening **22**, is made somewhat larger than the other wrist portion, wrist encircling portion **24**,

to allow freer entry and exit of the one hand, while the mitten remains on the other hand.

In accordance with another feature of the invention, wrist portion **24**, in addition to being smaller as to cross section of wrist portion permitted, extends somewhat longer from hand portion **12** to opening **26** than wrist portion **20** extends from hand portion **12** to **22**. This longer extension is such as to reach above the wrist knuckle of the wearer sufficiently to permit a holding means such as strap **28** to be employed. Strap **28** encircles wrist portion **24** and is secured to mitten **10** through an opening **30** in web **32**.

In general, the configuration of mitten **10** is such that openings **22** and **26** are at one end or side of the mitten and opening **16** is at an opposite end, with openings **22** and **26** being positioned with respect to opening **16** to approximately constitute points of a triangle. Openings **22** and **26** are positioned to receive hands along lines of direction which approximately cross at opening **16** to form the vertex of an acute angle at opening **16**.

Web **32** may be omitted, in which case strap **28** would pass through two openings in wrist portion **24** to secure it to mitten **10** as discussed above.

In consideration of the application of the invention as a golf mitten, it offers the advantage that one's hands can be kept warm and yet the handle of the golf club can be gripped with the bare hands inside the mitten in a normal fashion and can be swung at the ball while the mitten is on the hands. Keeping the hands warm and gripping the club handle with the bare hands is essential to an accurate golf swing. This cannot be accomplished by separate gloves or mittens worn on each hand. The mitten is so designed as to not interfere with the swing and is prevented from sliding down the hands during the swing by the use of strap **28**, a soft tape, or elastic band that secures one side of the mitten about one of the wrists.

Furthermore, the use of such a mitten does not hamper the additional and combinational use of a thin, abbreviated leather glove normally worn by golfers on one hand to avoid calluses and blisters. The outline of the golf mitten is asymmetrical due to the position of one hand below the other in grasping the club handle. This feature makes it equally useful to both right- and left-handed golfers and is accomplished for one merely by turning the mitten over from that position used by the other.

The normal sequence in using the mitten for golf is to secure it to one hand at the wrist through opening **26** and then, when it is necessary to grip the club, the other hand can take the club to be used and insert the club handle through hole **16**. The handle is then gripped by the hand secured inside the mitten. Next the other hand is inserted through opening **22** in the mitten and the normal two-handed grip is accomplished and the swing is made at the golf ball. When the swing is completed, the free hand is withdrawn and is used to remove the club handle from the mitten.

When the golf club is not being used, the unsecured hand can either be held in the mitten or it can be placed in a pocket in the golfer's attire or left uncovered. The hand, which is secured by the wrist strap **28** and when not in use for holding the club, can be used to grasp the unused part of the mitten in such a way as to close up opening **22** left by the removal of the other hand and hence keep this hand warm. Even though the mitten is secured to one hand, that hand is permitted to be easily exposed and to be placed in a pocket in the golfer's attire or otherwise be used bare by merely threading the hand in mitten outward through the remaining opening and sliding the mitten up on the hand on which the mitten is secured.

Another advantage for the mitten of this invention, is that when the unsecured hand is free of the mitten the remaining pocket can be used to hold a type of hand-warmer normally used by winter golfers and sportsmen.

While the invention has been described in terms of a particular embodiment and largely in terms of a particular usage the invention is not to be so narrowly construed, as changes may be made in the details of construction and various usages made of the invention without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as hereinafter claimed.

I claim:

1. A two-handed mitten comprising:

(A) a central hand portion adapted to accommodate a left and right hand together;

(B) a first wrist portion extending from said central hand portion including an encircling wrist enclosure and a first opening for entry of a first hand and wrist;

(C) a second wrist portion extending from said central hand portion and including an encircling wrist enclosure of larger wrist cross-section than said first wrist portion and a second opening larger than said first opening for entry of a second hand and wrist; and

(D) a third opening positioned at one end of said mitten which is generally opposite to the positions of said first and second openings.

2. The mitten set forth in claim **1** wherein said first wrist portion extends for a greater length than said second wrist portion and further comprising means secured to said first wrist portion for holding said first wrist portion to the wrist of the wearer.

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JORDAN FRANKLIN, *Primary Examiner.*