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GB-A- 1 504 492
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US-A- 2 433 711

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Description

The present invention relates to an ornament according to the features of the preamble of claim 1.

In the prior art there is known, from the Swiss patent publication 508 373 and from the Finnish patent application 1799/69, a combined ornamental structure, which comprises a mounting and a replaceable ornamental element which can be fastened to each other by means of threading. From FR-A-2 038 504 or US-A-2 433 711 it is known an ornament which forms a preamble of claim 1 and which comprises a holder with a socket provided with at least one opening and an ornamental element proper, to which opening the ornamental element is replaceable fastened so that it is visible from outside the opening.

It is an object of the invention to realise an ornament, the appearance and/or basic colours whereof the user can himself change quickly and economically.

This object is solved by the features of the characterising part of claim 1 in that the ornamental element is formed of a folded, bent or rolled piece of material, which element is locked in place in the opening by force of tension produced by folding, bending or rolling.

The most remarkable advantage of the ornament according to the invention is that each user can freely alternate at least the basic colours of the ornament without having to purchase for instance additional ornaments or parts thereof with different colours. Moreover, the ornament is easily and rapidly modified, by pulling the replaceable ornamental element out of the socket and by inserting a new ornamental element, of a different colour, shape or the like, into the said socket.

In the following the invention is explained in more detail with reference to the appended drawings, where

Figure 1 illustrates an ear ornament in an exploded view 1A, as a uniform entity 1B and as a modification 1C;

Figure 2 illustrates a brooch in an exploded view 2A and as a uniform entity 2B;

Figure 3 is an exploded view of a ring seen from the side 3A and from the top 3B;

Figure 4 illustrates an ornament provided with two engageable ornamental members;

Figure 5 illustrates three different preferred embodiments for the ornament of the invention.

The ornament comprises a holder 1 and the ornamental element proper 2, which is replaceably attached to the holder 1. According to the invention, the holder 1 includes a socket 3, which is provided with an aperture 4, slot or the like, whereto the replaceable ornamental element 2 can

be inserted so that it is visible from outside the socket and/or in between the separate parts of the socket. This is apparent, in a general way, from the preferred embodiments illustrated in figures 1-5.

The holder 1 is provided with necessary means 5, 6 for fastening the ornament for instance to the ear lobe (figures 1 and 5) and to clothing (figure 2). On the other hand, the holder 1 can be shaped so that it serves as a fastening means, for example as the band of a ring (figure 3). The shape of the holder 1 as such is not limited in any way.

According to figures 1A and 1B, the socket 3 of the ornament is provided with at least one round or elliptical opening 4, where the ornamental element 2, respectively round or elliptical in shape, can be inserted. In this case the ornamental element is elongate and cylindrical in shape.

The ornamental element 2 can also be formed of a rectangular piece of paper, of a colour which appeals to the user and for example matches her clothing. The piece of paper is rolled up, as is seen in figure 1A, and inserted to the socket 3, so that the final creation is the ornament seen in figure 1B. Instead of paper, some other thin material can also be used, such as plastic film, metal foil etc. Some other tubular or rod-like piece can also be used in the ornamental element.

The socket 3 can be formed of two or several interconnected sockets 3a and for instance of rings or sleeves, as is seen in figures 1C and 2. On the other hand, the socket or the holder or a combination thereof can be a uniform piece of a random shape, provided with one or several openings or slots for the replaceable ornamental elements.

Figure 2 illustrates a brooch according to the invention, wherein the holder 1 is formed of a triangular-shaped plate, the edge whereof is provided with the socket 3. The said socket is formed of two or more rings or sleeves 3a, which are located coaxially in succession, at given intervals from each other. Now a cylindrical ornamental element 2 can easily be inserted to the socket and likewise removed when desired. The safety pin 6 is used for fastening the ornament to clothing.

Figure 3 illustrates a ring according to the invention. A socket 3b is attached to the holder 1, which in this case is a ring to be slipped to the finger. The socket 3b can be provided with at least one elongate opening, whereto the plate-like ornamental element can be fitted. In this case the elongate opening 4a, i.e. a slot, is located at the first edge of the socket 3b. The said opening 4a extends, at least partially, through the socket, in parallel to the second edge 32 thereof. This second, outwardly directed edge 32 is provided with at least one window-like opening 7, which in the transversal direction extends for instance as far as the elongate opening 4a. Through the elongate opening

4a, the plate-like ornamental element 2a can be inserted to the socket 3 in such a fashion that it is outwardly visible through the second opening 7.

The ornamental element 2a to be attached to the above described ring is formed, like in the previous embodiments, of a thin material such as paper, plastic or metal film or sheet or equivalent. If paper is used as the material of the ornamental element 2a, it can be folded into a plate, in the fashion illustrated in figure 3B, in order to fit into the opening 31. The tension caused by the folding keeps the ornamental paper element locked in place in the opening 31, as well as the unrolling force of the rolled-up piece of paper, serving as the ornamental element, locks the roll in place in the socket in the embodiment of figures 1 and 2.

Figure 4 is an illustration of an ornament according to the present invention, such as a brooch, which can be provided with two ornamental elements, i.e. the cylindrical element 2 and the plate-like element 2a. The sockets 3a of the cylindrical ornamental member 2 are fastened at the sides of the socket 3b of the plate-like ornamental element 2a. In this case the outwardly directed edge of the latter socket 3b is provided with three openings 7 or windows, through which the plate-like ornamental element 2a inserted in the slot 31 is seen.

Figure 5A illustrates an earring according to the present invention, wherein the socket 3 is provided with a polygonal opening 4. The ornamental element 2, folded and/or bent of some plate-like blank, is inserted into this opening so that it is supported against the walls of the opening and conforms to them. The ornamental element can be a tubular member, or it can be open at least on one side, in this case for instance triangular in cross-section.

Figure 5B illustrates a third earring according to the invention. The socket 3 is formed of one or several parts 3a, which are interconnected either permanently or for instance so that they can be wound with respect to each other and then locked in place. Each part of the socket is provided with an elongate, wave-like slot 4a, whereto the plate-like ornamental element 2 is inserted. The slot 4a can also be a loose opening, one side whereof has the wave-like shape illustrated in the drawing, and the ornamental element 2 is to be fitted into the opening against this side.

In the above specification, the invention has been explained with reference to a few preferred embodiments only. It is, however, clear that the ornament of the invention can be modified in many ways within the scope of the appended patent claims. The holder of the ornament may possibly contain other auxiliary elements in addition to the socket and the fastening means. The appearance of the socket may deviate from the one introduced in the examples. Similarly the shape of the open-

ing, aperture or slot provided in the socket, to which opening the ornamental element is to be inserted, can be modified in many ways. The ornamental element can be a three-dimensional cylindrical or prismatic element, variable in length and diameter. The ornamental element can also be a plate-like piece which is for instance straight, folded or bent, so that the geometrical shape thereof can be modified in many ways. The ornament of the invention can in principle be any kind of a personal ornament, such as an earring, ring, brooch, cuff link etc.

Claims

1. An ornament comprising a holder (1) with a socket (3) provided with at least one opening (4) and an ornamental element (2) proper, to which opening the ornamental element is replaceable fastened so that it is visible from outside the opening, **characterised in that** the ornamental element (2) is formed of a folded, bent or rolled piece of material, which element is locked in place in the opening by force of tension produced by folding, bending or rolling.
2. The ornament of claim 1, **characterised in that** the ornamental element (2) is formed of a piece of paper sheet.
3. The ornament of claim 1, **characterised in that** the ornamental element (2) is formed of a piece of plastic sheet.

Patentansprüche

1. Ein Schmuckstück, das einen Halter (1) mit einer Fassung (3) umfaßt, die mit mindestens einer Öffnung (4) und einem entsprechenden Zierelement (2) versehen ist, wobei das Zierelement auswechselbar in der Öffnung befestigt ist, so daß es außerhalb der Öffnung sichtbar ist, **dadurch gekennzeichnet**, daß das Zierelement (2) aus einem gefalteten, gebogenen oder gerollten Materialteil geformt ist, wobei das Zierelement an seinem Platz in der Öffnung durch die durch das Falten, Biegen oder Rollen erzeugte Spannkraft festgehalten ist.
2. Das Schmuckstück aus Anspruch 1, **dadurch gekennzeichnet**, daß das Zierelement (2) aus einem Teil aus Blattpapier geformt ist.
3. Das Schmuckstück aus Anspruch 1, **dadurch gekennzeichnet**, daß das Zierelement (2) aus einem Teil aus Kunststoffolie geformt ist.

Revendications

1. Ornement comprenant un support (1), comportant un logement (3) pourvu d'au moins une ouverture (4), et un élément ornemental (2) proprement dit qui est fixé à ladite ouverture, d'une manière remplaçable, de façon à être visible de l'extérieur de cette ouverture, caractérisé en ce que l'élément ornemental (2) est formé d'un morceau de matière plié, incurvé ou enroulé, cet élément étant immobilisé dans l'ouverture sous l'effet de la force de tension produite par le pliage, l'incurvation ou l'enroulement.
2. Ornement suivant la revendication 1, caractérisé en ce que l'élément ornemental (2) est formé d'un morceau de feuille de papier.
3. Ornement suivant la revendication 1, caractérisé en ce que l'élément ornemental (2) est formé d'un morceau de feuille de matière plastique.

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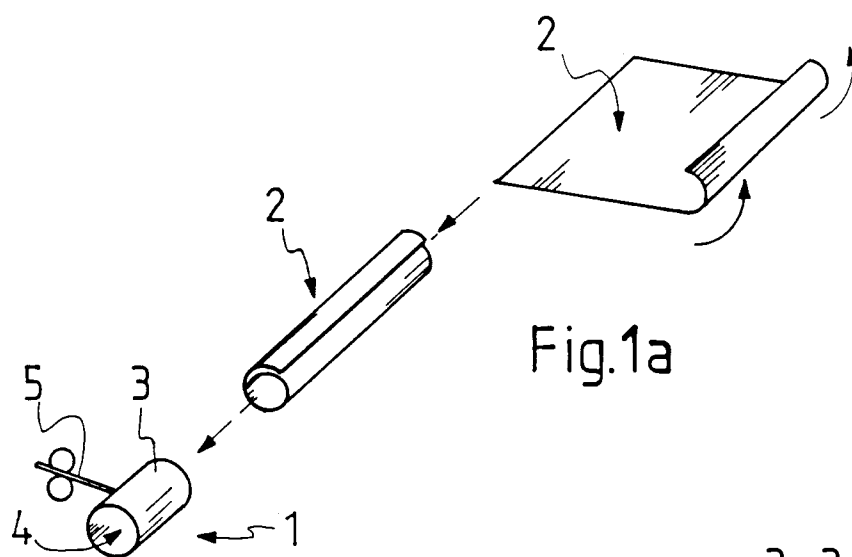


Fig.1a

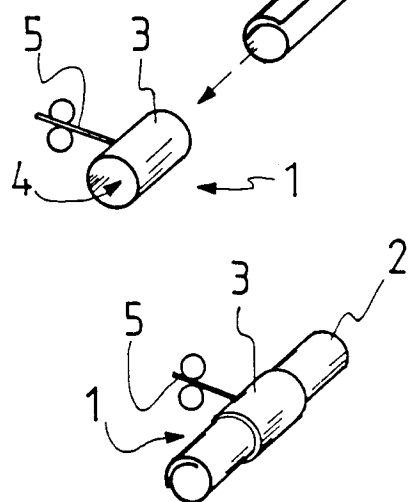


Fig.1b

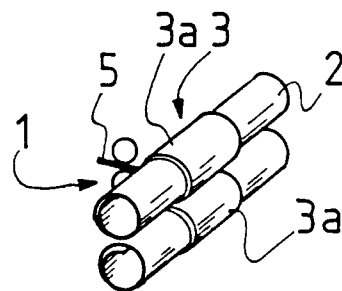


Fig.1c

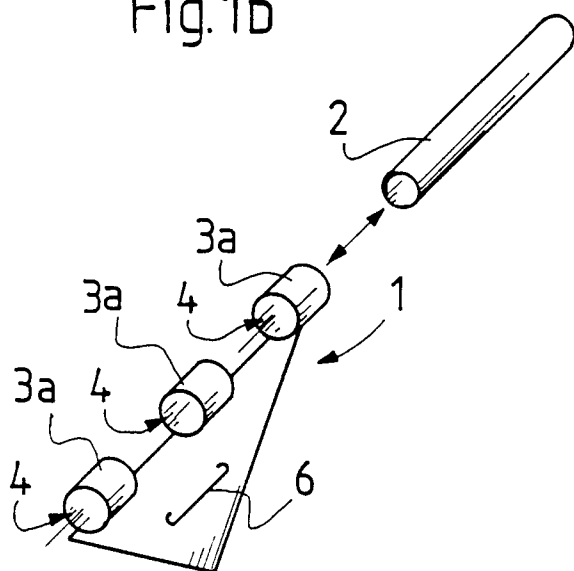


Fig. 2a

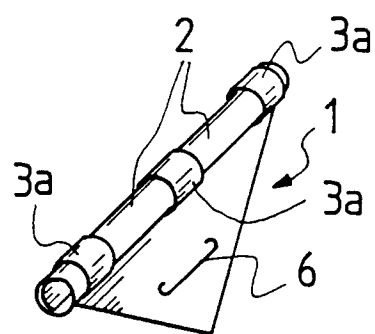


Fig. 2b

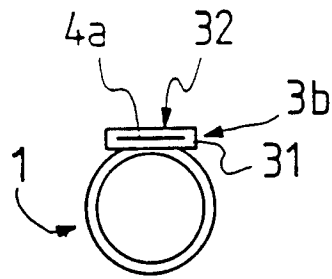


Fig. 3a

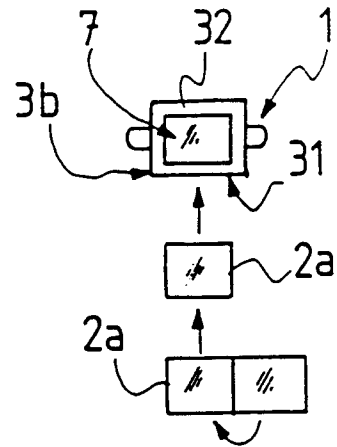


Fig. 3b

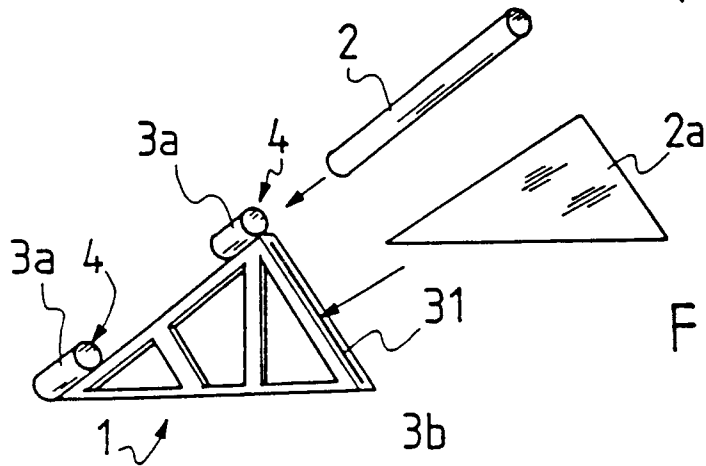


Fig. 4

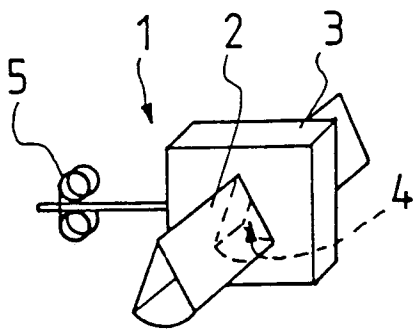


Fig. 5a

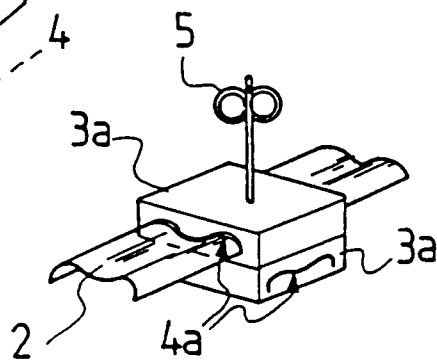


Fig. 5b