Jan. 6, 1970 E. C. PECK 3,487,922

DISPLAY PACKAGE FOR ARTICLE OF CUTLERY

Filed Sept. 30, 1968

FIG. 1

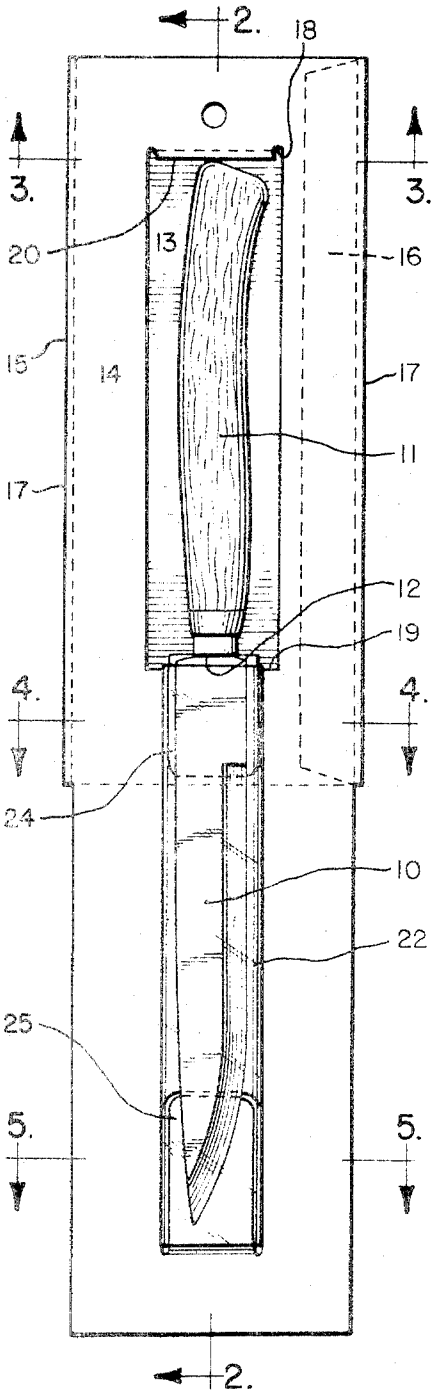


FIG. 2

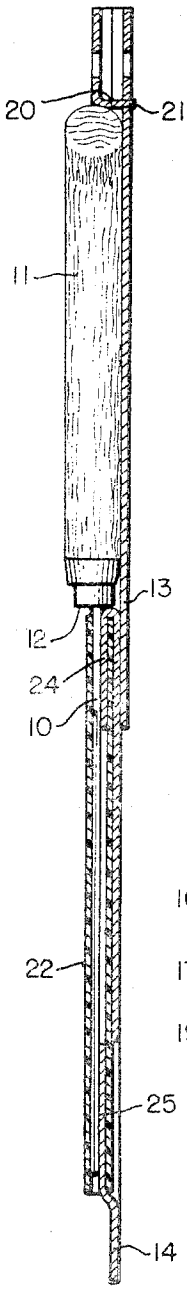


FIG. 3

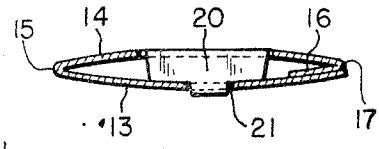


FIG. 4

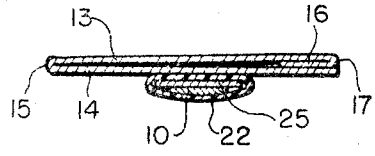


FIG. 5

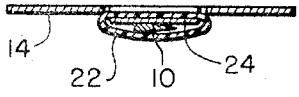
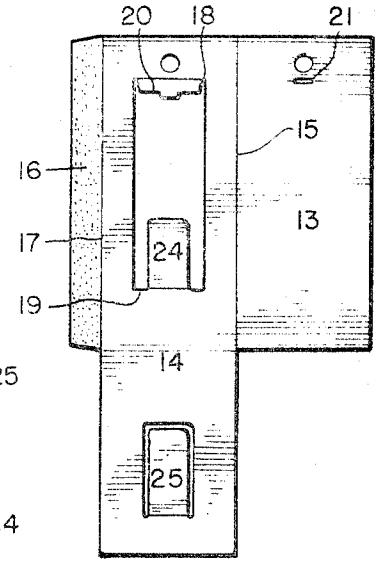


FIG. 6



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DISPLAY PACKAGE FOR ARTICLE OF CUTLERY

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U.S. Cl. 206—80 5 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A display package for an article of cutlery such as a knife wherein a sheath fastened to an area of a display board via integral tabs extending into openings at opposite ends of said sheath accepts the blade of the knife therein and a display opening provided in said display board receives the handle of the knife with which said blade is associated so as to trap the knife against unintentional withdrawal from said sheath.

This invention relates to an improved display package for an article of cutlery such as a knife or the like.

It is an object of this invention to provide a display unit upon which a knife or the like may be firmly retained by unique locking means.

It is also an object of this invention to provide a display unit which is light in weight yet strong and rigid and capable of withstanding necessary service to which it may be subjected in use, either in shipping or in showing the article of cutlery which it is designed to display.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from a consideration of the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings wherein a satisfactory embodiment of the invention is shown. However, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the details disclosed but includes all such variations and modifications as fall within the spirit of the invention.

In the drawing:

FIG. 1 is a front view of a display package in accordance with the present invention, showing the same as it is used in exhibiting a knife.

FIG. 2 is a side view of the same.

FIG .3 is a sectional view taken along line 3—3 of FIG. 1.

FIG. 4 is a sectional view taken along line 4—4 of FIG. 1.

FIG. 5 is a sectional view taken along line 5—5 of FIG. 1.

FIG. 6 is a reduced plan view of an extended blank forming the display package shown in FIGS. 1 to 5 inclusive.

An article of cutlery exemplifying an item of merchandise with which a display unit according to this invention is especially applicable is shown in the form of a knife having a generally flat blade **10** and a handle **11** secured to and forming a longitudinal extension of said blade. A shoulder **12** is defined by the handle **11** at its juncture with the exposed portion of the blade **10**.

A prepared blank of paperboard material of strength and texture suitable for the production of a display unit representing one embodiment of the present invention, as shown in FIG. 6, comprises a rear panel **13**, a front panel **14**, joined along one edge of a hinge line **15**. A flap **16** is joined along the opposite edge of front panel **14** by a hinge line **17** about which the flap **16** is bendable into overlapping relation to an underlying surface of rear panel **13** for attachment thereto by a suitable adhesive or other fastening means to establish a fixed connection between the flap **16** and the surface of rear panel **13** overlapped thereby.

The area of the front panel **14** directly opposite the rear panel **13** is provided with a display opening having opposite edge portions **18** and **19** spaced apart lengthwise of the hinge lines **15** and **17**.

A spacer tab **20** having a hinge line coincident with the edge **18** of said display opening is bendable rearwardly for interlocking engagement with a slot **21** in the rear panel **13** so as to form a seat between the panels **13** and **14** along the edge **18** of the display opening. The distance between the seat thus formed by the spacer tab **20** and the opposite edge **19** of the display opening is established so as to match the longitudinal dimension of the handle **11** of the article of cutlery with which the display unit is operatively associated. Thus as shown in FIGS. 1 and 2, the handle **11** of a cutlery article has its butt end in engagement with the seat **20** while the shoulder **12** defined by the bladeward end of the handle engages the opposite edge **19** of the display opening. Such interengagement of the handle **11** with the opposite edge portions of the display opening is operative to trap the article of cutlery against movement relative to the panel **14** in direction extending lengthwise of the longitudinal axis of the article of cutlery. While the edges of the display opening thus operate to establish the position of the handle relative to the panel **14**, the blade **10** of the knife is received in a sheath **22** secured to the area of the panel **14** facing the blade **10** of the cutlery article. The sheath **22** is open at the end facing the shoulder **12** as well as at the opposite end and is of such length that the blade **10** is totally confined between said open ends of the sheath. A tab **24** hingedly articulated to the panel **14** along a line coincident with the edge **19** of the display opening is back folded for insertion into the open end of the sheath **22** facing toward the display opening. A second tab **25** sheared from the front panel **14** and extending into the other open end of the sheath **22**, in cooperation with the tab **24**, is operative to securely fasten the sheath **22** in position against the panel **14** while permitting the sheath **22** to accept the blade **10** of the cutlery article.

The sheath **22** may be formed as an extruded tube of transparent thermoplastic material such as cellulose acetate or butyrate so as to provide desired visibility of the blade contained therein. However, a sheath of other material such as paper, or paper laminated foil, or opaque thermoplastic material may be substituted when such visibility of the blade is not required. The cross-sectional contour of the sheath **22**, as shown in the drawing, is also preferably so correlated to the dimension of the blade contained therein as to establish a snug fit between the inner surface of the front wall of the sheath **22** and the front surface of the tabs **24** and **25**, and the faces of the blade opposite thereto.

What is claimed is:

1. A display package for an article of cutlery such as a knife or the like having a generally flat blade and a handle attached to and forming a longitudinal extension of said blade as well as a shoulder at the junction of said handle and blade, said package including a blade receiving sheath having an opening at opposite ends thereof, a panel of cardboard or the like having a handle display opening and a sheath supporting area outside the confines of said handle display opening, said latter area and said handle display opening having a common boundary line, fastening means for removably securing said sheath against said sheath supporting area while permitting said sheath to accept the blade of a knife therein while the handle thereof occupies said handle display opening, said fastening means including a first tab hingedly articulated to said panel along said common boundary line between the sheath supporting area and said handle display opening and back folded for inser-

tion into one open end of said sheath, and a second tab sheared from said sheath supporting area of the panel and extending into the other open end of said sheath, said common boundary line between said sheath supporting area and said handle display opening providing an abutment with which the bladeward end of the handle has engagement while said handle occupies said handle display opening and said blade associated therewith is confined in said sheath.

2. A display package according to claim 1 wherein a second panel is secured in rearward relation to said first named panel so as to occupy a position opposite said handle display opening.

3. A display package according to claim 1 wherein said sheath is of transparent thermoplastic material.

4. A display package according to claim 1, wherein a seat along the edge of the handle display opening opposite the edge of said opening defining said abutment engaged by the bladeward end of the handle provides a surface with which the butt end of the handle within said display opening has engagement to prevent unintentional withdrawal of said handle from an installed position within said handle display opening.

5. A display package according to claim 4 wherein a second panel is secured in rearward relation to said first named panel and said seat having engagement with the butt end of a handle occupying said display opening is defined by a spacer tab having a hinge line coincident with the edge of the handle display opening facing the butt end of said handle and said spacer tab is bendable rearwardly for interlocking engagement with a slot in the second panel.

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U.S. Cl. X.R.

206—45.14