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E. C. WOOD

LETTERING GUIDE STENCIL

Filed August 30, 1922




Fig. 1




Fig. 3




Fig. 4




Fig. 5 Fig. 6 Fig. 7 Fig. 8

Witnesses:

H. D. Penny

Inventor:
Edwin C. Wood

By F. H. Richards
his Att'y

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN C. WOOD, OF BOISE, IDAHO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH TO WILLIAM VALLENTINE REGAN, OF BOISE, IDAHO.

## LETTERING-GUIDE STENCIL.

Application filed August 30, 1922. Serial No. 585,261.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWIN C. WOOD, a citizen of the United States, residing in Boise, in the county of Ada and State of Idaho, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lettering-Guide Stencils, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to stencils, or similar devices for facilitating the making of letters or other characters on drawings or the like by means of pens, pencils or the like, though it is noted that the invention is not limited to letters, or the use of pens or pencils, nor even in some respects to stencils.

One object of the invention is to provide a device of this kind which may be used with a pen without danger of blotting the ink.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this kind in which the correct positioning of the stencil for making complementary parts of characters is done automatically.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this kind in which the automatic shifting of the stencil may be adjusted for different distances.

Other objects of the invention are to improve generally the simplicity and efficiency of such devices and to provide a device of this kind which is durable, economical to manufacture and operate and which will not get out of order.

The inventive features for the accomplishment of these and other objects are embodied in an improved stencil device which, briefly stated, comprises a strip having a straight edge and an intra-marginally recessed lower face provided with cuts or openings furnishing guiding edges some for complete characters and others for complementary parts of complete characters; and a limiting opening for receiving a limiting piece for limiting the movement of the strip for successively positioning complementary parts for making a complete character.

Other objects of the invention will appear as the description proceeds; and while herein details of the invention are described, the invention is not limited to these, since many and various changes may be made without departing from the scope of the invention as claimed.

In the accompanying drawing, showing by way of example one of many possible embodiments of the invention,

Figs. 1 and 2 are respectively plan and end elevation of the stencil;

Figs. 3 and 4 are respectively diagrammatic plans of the limiting opening showing different positions and styles of limiting pieces; and

Figs. 5 to 8 are respectively diagrammatic plans showing letters and steps in the process of making them.

My improved stencil is made of a strip of transparent celluloid 10 having upper and lower straight parallel edges 11 and 12 and intra-marginal inset faces forming thick marginal portions 14 (Fig. 2) and a thin intra-marginal panel portion 15 held spaced from a sheet of paper or other support on which said marginal portions 14 rest, when the strip is lying flat in use, to prevent blotting by the ink of a suitable lettering pen such for instance as that shown in my copending application, Serial No. 585,262, filed Aug. 30, 1922, for lettering pen.

Said panel portion 15 is provided with holes of various shapes herein shown as designed for drawing capital letters, though the invention is not so limited, and herein designated by the letter or letters which they are designed to make. These cuts or openings furnish guiding edges for guiding a lettering pen, some for making complete letters 17 as shown in Figs. 5, 6 and 8. Some of the cuts, for instance, A, *a* and PR *prt* (Fig. 7) are associated in complementary pairs for respectively making complementary parts 18 and 19 (Fig. 7) of complete letters, in this instance, the letters A and R.

Thus in making the letter "A" the stencil is positioned with the opening *a* where the "A" is to be drawn, and the legs of the "A" are drawn while guiding the pen against the inclined edges of the opening *a*. Then the stencil is shifted rightward, and the crossbar of the "A" drawn by guiding the pen against the lower edge of the cut A, thus completing the "A".

Other letters for instance "Y" require the strip to be shifted a slightly less distance than for making the "A", and means are provided for limiting endwise movement of the strip these two different distances for positioning the strip for guiding the pen for making said complementary parts in proper

relation to each other for making a complete letter. Said means comprises a substantially inverted T-shaped opening 20 in said panel adapted to receive the flat knurled end of a round spacing block 21 (Fig. 3) or square spacing block 21′ (Fig. 4). The opening 20 provides spaced parallel vertical side edges 23, 24, 25 and 26. Said edges 23, 24 at the upper part being spaced apart a distance exceeding the diameter of said spacing block 21 or 21′ by an amount equal to the amount of movement of the strip necessary for positioning the successive complementary parts of the openings for delineating "M", "N", "W" and "Y", the edges 25, 26 at the lower part being spaced apart a distance exceeding the diameter of said spacing block by an amount equal to the amount of movement of the strip necessary for positioning the complementary parts of the openings for delineating the remainder of the letters formed of successive complementary parts.

Some of the cuts, for instance the cuts *cg*, EF and *ef* are used for making more than one letter, the cut *cg* being used for making "C" as indicated in Fig. 5 and also for making "G" by guiding the pen along the guide edges 27 and 28 (Fig. 5). In all cases where the cuts are designated by more than one letter, that cut is used for the construction of the whole or parts of more than one letter. Thus the cut *hil* may be used for constructing "L" as in Fig. 8, or "I", or for both uprights of "H". In the latter case the H is completed by ruling in the cross bar of the "H" by guiding the pen against the lower edge of the cut H.

If the user desires to use the limiting means 20 and thus make the shift mechanically he places the spacing piece 21 or 21′ on the end of the handle of the pen in the position of the middle Fig. 3 or 4 (except for "M", "N", "W" and "Y"), and pressing it firmly against the writing surface shifts the strip until the opening occupies the position relative to the limiting piece shown at the right of Fig. 3 or 4.

If the shift be made for "M", "N", "W" and "Y", the spacing block will successively contact the edges 23 and 24 instead of the edges 25 and 26 as above described. Obviously, if the draftsman is skilled or extreme accuracy not required, use of the spacing block may be omitted.

Sometimes, as when making unusual characters other than letters, it may be desirable to reverse the strip and let the edge 11 become the lower edge of the strip, in which case, the panel 15 being off-set from both faces of the marginal portions 14 will still be spaced from the drawing paper, to prevent blotting. If this reversal be never desired, only the recessed normal lower face is necessary.

I claim;

1. A stencil having cuts therethrough for forming letters or characters upon an underlying surface by marking means cooperating with the cuts, some of the cuts being designed for forming complete letters or characters and others of the cuts being designed as complemental parts for forming complete letters or characters, the stencil being provided with a spacing opening adapted to receive a spacing block for controlling the shifting of the stencil on the underlying surface for positioning the complemental cuts relative to each other for forming complete letters or characters.

2. A stencil having cuts therethrough for forming letters or characters upon an underlying surface by marking means cooperating with the cuts, some of the cuts being designed for forming complete letters or characters and others of the cuts being designed as complemental parts for forming complete letters or characters, the stencil being provided with a spacing opening of substantially inverted T-shape adapted to receive a spacing block for controlling the shifting of the stencil on the underlying surface for positioning the complemental cuts relative to each other for forming complete letters or characters.

3. A stencil of strip form having a series of cuts therethrough extending longitudinally of the strip and spaced away from the edges of the strip for forming letters or characters upon an underlying surface by marking means cooperating with the cuts, some of the cuts being designed for forming complete letters or characters and others of the cuts being designed as complemental parts for forming complete letters or characters, the stencil being provided with a spacing opening appurtenant to the series of cuts and consisting of two rectangular openings one of which is arranged transversely of the other and extends slightly beyond the sides of the other, the openings communicating along a common side and being adapted to receive a spacing block for controlling the shifting of the stencil on the underlying surface for positioning the complemental cuts relative to each other for forming complete letters or characters.

4. In a stencil provided with cuts therethrough designed as complemental parts for forming complete letters or characters upon an underlying surface by marking means cooperating with the cuts, a spacing opening adapted to receive a spacing block and having side and end surfaces for guiding the spacing block for controlling the shifting of the stencil on the underlying surface for positioning the complemental cuts relative to each other for forming complete letters or characters.

EDWIN C. WOOD.