United States Patent

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[73] Assignee **CPS Industries, Inc.**
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Continuation of application Ser. No. 607,708, Jan. 6, 1967, now abandoned. This application Mar. 26, 1970, Ser. No. 20,477

[54] **DECORATIVE BOW**
4 Claims, 6 Drawing Figs.

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **161/9,** 161/149
[51] **Int. Cl.** **D04d 7/10,** B32b 3/02
[50] **Field of Search** 2/244, 300; 28/2; 93/1.5; 112/410, 411; 132/47; 156/91, 204, 209, 226, 227, 469; 223/46; 161/9, 10, 21, 28, 50, 110, 149; 289/1.2

[56] **References Cited**
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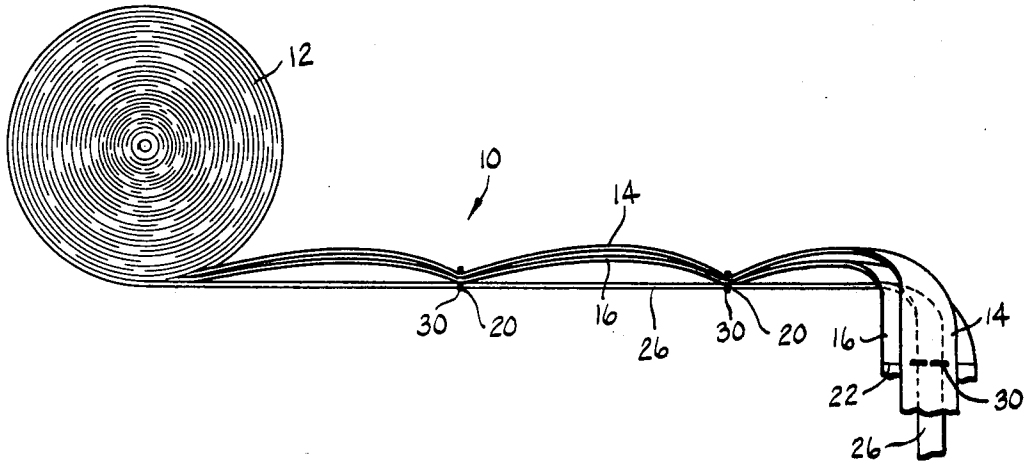
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Primary Examiner—John T. Goolkasian
Assistant Examiner—Henry F. Epstein
Attorney—Louis Bernat

ABSTRACT: The disclosure describes three embodiments of a ribbon bow suitable for mass production use in decorating packages and other articles.

In the illustrated embodiments, the bow comprises one or more ribbons containing structural deformations such as transverse scored lines at spaced-apart intervals, a lace, and means for securing the lace to the ribbons so that the ribbons can be pulled up along the lace to form the bights of ribbon bows.

A number of alternative lacing structures, structural deformations and means for securing the lace to the ribbons are described.



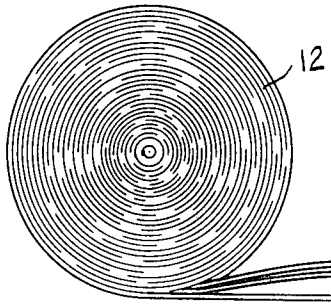


FIG. 1

FIG. 2

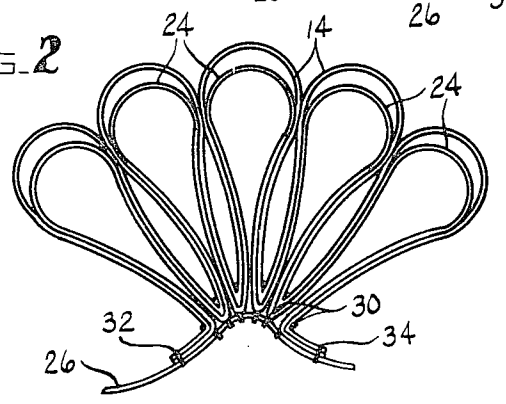
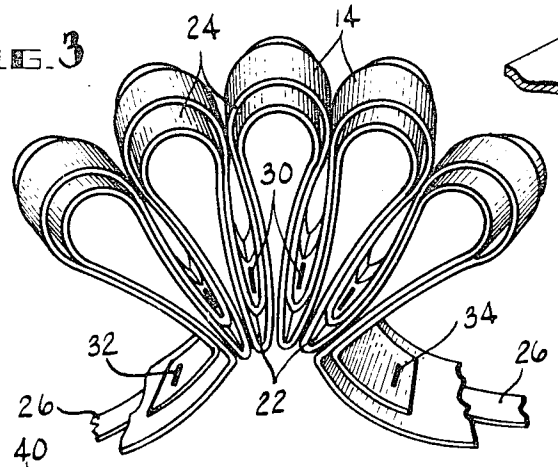


FIG. 3



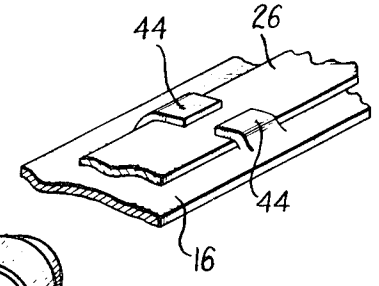


FIG. 6

FIG. 4

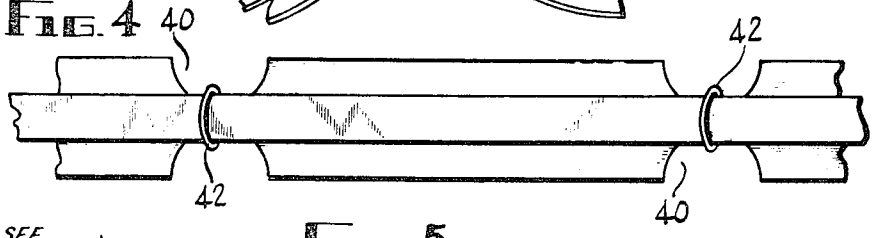
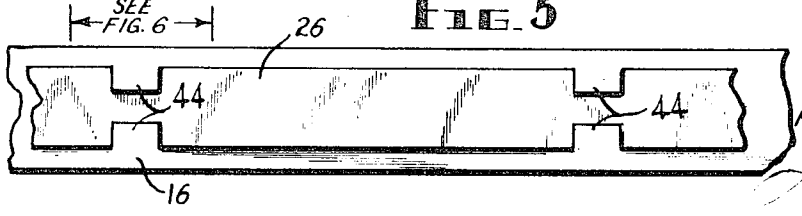


FIG. 5



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DECORATIVE BOW

This is a continuation of Ser. No. 607,708 filed Jan. 6, 1967 and now abandoned.

This invention relates to a decorative bow for gift wrapping or other decorative purposes.

High-volume users of decorative bows, such as department stores and packaging manufacturers, previously have been supplied with decorative bows which have been completed in their final form. Completed bows are, in general, unsatisfactory because they cannot be densely packaged, they are difficult to handle, and they are easily damaged.

An ideal bow for a high-volume user should be one which can be conveniently stored in a compact container without damage and which can be attached to the article to be decorated either by hand or machine with a minimum expenditure of time and additional materials. Preferably, such bows should be prefabricated; that is, they should be assembled but not completed in their final form.

In the past, it was not practical to manufacture prefabricated bows for high-volume users as no convenient and economical means for completing the bows in their final form have been found.

Accordingly, it is a principal object of this invention to provide a prefabricated decorative ribbon which can be stored conveniently in small, densely packaged containers, which can be completed at the point of use, either manually or with simple automated devices, and which requires no additional components for securing it to the article to be decorated.

This and other objects, features and advantages of the invention will become more readily apparent in the following description of of several preferred embodiments in which:

FIG. 1 is a view of a prefabricated ribbon being unspooled from a storage reel prior to its completion;

FIG. 2 is a side view of a completed ribbon fabricated from the materials shown in FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a perspective illustration of the ribbon shown in FIG. 2;

FIG. 4 is a view of a second embodiment of the invention having cutout portions forming the structural deformations;

FIG. 5 is a view of a third embodiment of the invention having integral tabs for securing the lace to the ribbon; and

FIG. 6 is a perspective view of a portion of the ribbons shown in FIG. 5 and identified by the legend "See FIG. 6."

A view of a length of a prefabricated ribbon bow **10** being unspooled from a reel **12** prior to completion as a finished bow is shown in FIG. 1. Views of the completed bow are shown in FIGS. 2 and 3. In this first embodiment, chosen because its simple structure facilitates the disclosure of the invention, the bow comprises two ribbons **14** and **16** having different colors so that an attractive visual effect is produced. The ribbons **14** and **16** are structural deformed at regular intervals **20** by lines **22** scored across the surface of the ribbon in a direction transverse or perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the ribbons. In the embodiment illustrated in FIGS. 1–3, perpendicular scored lines are used to obtain a bow having bights **24** which are aligned in a linear array. When transverse score lines are used, the bights **24** will fan out on either side of the longitudinal axis or form a curve or other decorative arrangement.

Secured to the ribbons **14** and **16**, is a lace **26** which, preferably, is another length of ribbon, generally narrower than the ribbons **14** and **16**, having a decorative color or pattern. The lace **26** is not structurally deformed. It is secured to the ribbons **14** and **16** by a series of staples **30** crimped to the ribbons **14** and **16**. The lace **26** passes between the ribbon **16** and the crown of the staple **30**. The staple is chosen and affixed to the ribbons **14** and **16** so that the lace may freely slide between them.

In order to obtain a completed bow, a length of prefabricated ribbon bow **10** is cut from the reel **12**, a staple **32** or other securing means is secured to one end of the ribbons **14** and **16** and the lace **26** to prevent relative movement between the ribbons and the lace, the free ends of the ribbons **14** and **16** are pushed forward on the lace **26** toward the ends secured by the staple **32** until a bow of the desired appearance is obtained, and then a staple **34** is crimped to the ribbons **14** and **16** and the lace **26** to complete the assembly as shown in FIG. 2 and 3.

In this embodiment, the lace has been described as an ordinary decorative ribbon. It can, however, serve additional functions. Because the lace is longer than the completed bow it can be used to secure the bow to the article being decorated. Thus the completed ribbon can be tied to a package with the lace or the lace can be coated with a suitable adhesive for holding it to a package. Notice that the additional reinforcing members such as cardboard or paper strips which form a necessary part of the prior art bows are eliminated by the bows of this invention. A thin planer strip of cardboard or paper may be substituted for the lace when it is necessary to make the bow of this invention compatible with machines designed to handle prior art bows.

In addition to an adhesive coating on its outer surface for securing the bow to another article, the lace may have an adhesive coating on its inner surface for securing the free ends of the ribbons **14** and **16** to the lace **26**. This adhesive may take the form of a water-activated adhesive such as polyvinyl alcohol which is used as the binder in weftless ribbon. In this case either the ribbons of the lace may be moistened, as by licking, to secure the free ends of the ribbons **14** and **16**. The lace may also be made of elastic or creped material to aid in the process of securing the bow to another article by stretching the lace so that it becomes substantially longer than the completed bow.

A large number of variations of the illustrated structures of this invention are possible. Although illustrated with two ribbons **14** and **16**, appealing bows can be made with only one ribbon or with several ribbons. The bows can be made to take random shapes by changing the structural deformations which appear at the intervals **20**, which need not be regularly spaced. Thus, as shown in FIG. 4, deformations in the form of cutout portions **40** of the ribbon may be used instead of or in addition to scored lines and rings **42** may be used instead of staples to achieve flowerlike bows.

Where staples and rings are not desired, integral tabs **44** may be cut into the ribbon **16** to secure the lace as shown in FIGS. 5 and 6. Tabs can also be secured to the lace with suitable adhesives.

What is claimed is:

1. A decorative bow comprising:

a. a stacked plurality of decorative ribbons in face-to-face relationship, all but one of said ribbons being deformed at spaced-apart intervals by scored lines transverse to the longitudinal axes of the ribbons;

said one of said ribbons forming a lace comprising another length of decorative ribbon which is narrower in width than any of the other ribbons in said stack of ribbons, said lace being located on one side of said stack of ribbons, said lace including adhesive binder which may be wetted to secure the lace to an article to be decorated;

c. securing means for slidingly securing the stack of ribbons to the lace, said securing means being attached to said scored ribbons at the score lines, said securing means being affixed to the scored ribbons in a manner which enables the lace to pass between the securing means and the adjacent of one of the scored ribbons; and

d. attaching means located at one end of the bow to secure the ribbons and the lace together and prevent relative movement between the ribbons and the lace, said scored ribbons coming together to form bights of ribbons which fan out when said lace is pulled relative to said scored ribbons.

2. The decorative bow of claim **1** wherein said securing means comprises a plurality of wire staples passing through each of said scored ribbons, said lace passing under the crown of said staple, and said staple being crimped on the side of said stack of ribbons which is opposite to the side having said lace.

3. The decorative bow of claim **1** wherein said securing means comprises a ring attached to said scored ribbons at said deformed intervals, said lace passing through said rings.

4. The decorative bow of claim 1 wherein said securing means comprises a plurality of tabs formed in said scored ribbons with said lace passing under said tabs.

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