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PAINT WASHER ROLLER

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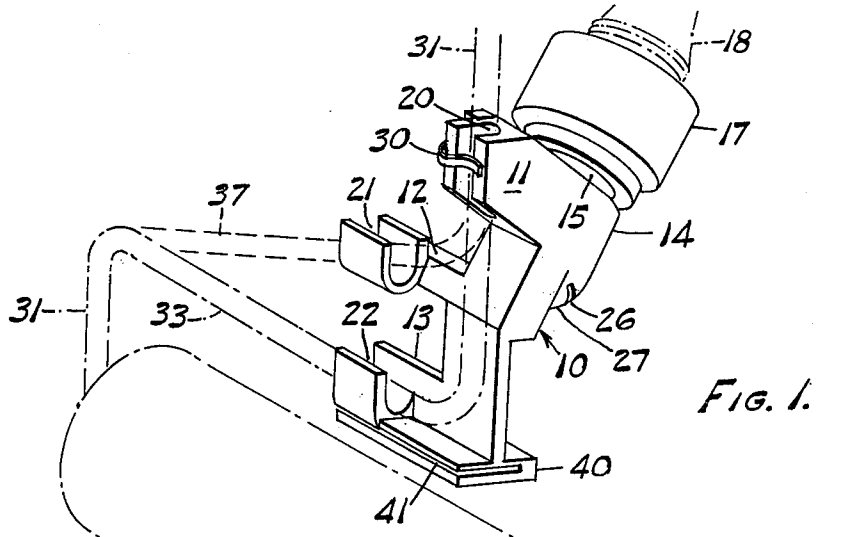


FIG. 1.

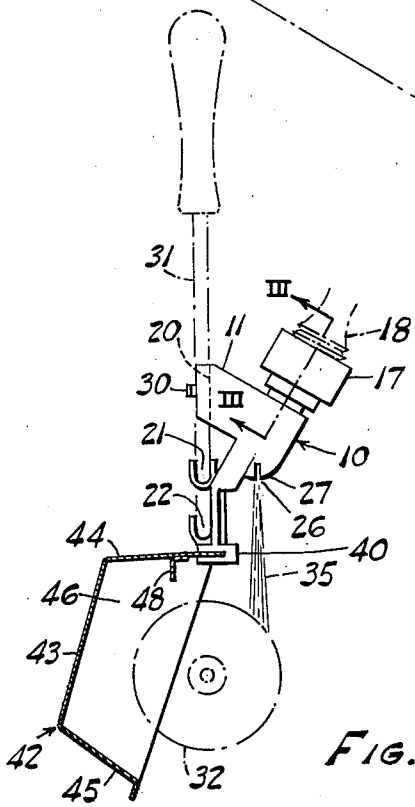


FIG. 2.

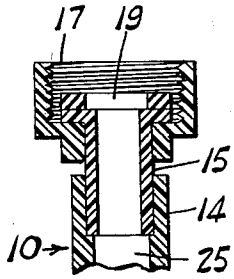


FIG. 3.

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PAINT WASHER ROLLER

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This invention relates to devices for cleaning paint rollers and more particularly to a device which is attachable to a water faucet and which incorporates means for supporting a paint roller in accurately predetermined position with respect to the device and means for spraying cleansing water on the roller surface.

The application of paint and other decorating materials to wall surfaces by means of paint rollers has become widespread, both in professional and amateur use. Nevertheless, the problem of cleaning paint rollers after use or when a different color or material is to be applied presents a considerable problem due to the messy procedure which is usually entailed and due to the difficulty of effecting thorough cleansing.

In the case of water soluble paints which are widely used in interior decoration, it is merely necessary to thoroughly flush the roller surfaces with water but considerable difficulty and inconvenience is usually encountered. If a roller is not thoroughly cleaned shortly after use, it hardens upon drying or contaminates the subsequent color if it is put to further use shortly after a given period of use.

In the prior art various attempts have been made to provide supporting enclosures in which the roller portion of a paint roller is mounted and housed and wherein the enclosure includes means for directing water against the roller surface to clean the same.

The present invention presents a substantial departure from prior art proposals and provides a substantially new paint roller washing device wherein the washing device is securely attached to a faucet where it may remain during a given painting job, although the device is readily removable from the faucet since it merely attaches to the usual screw threaded faucet end in the same manner as a hose coupling and requires no other mounting or securement. The washing device thus attached to a faucet incorporates means for readily receiving and positioning a paint roller therein and for directing a spray of cleansing water against the surface of the roller in such a way that the roller surface is thoroughly cleansed without any further attention by the operator.

It is merely necessary to place the roller in supported engagement with the cleansing device, turn on the water faucet, and allow the same to run until the roller is thoroughly cleaned.

In addition to the foregoing, the roller washer device of the present invention is arranged to receive and support a simple shield member which more or less overlies the roller when it is in proper position with respect to the washing device so as to prevent splashing of water away from the roller and the washing device.

The roller supporting and washing device of the present invention comprises basically a body member which as indicated above is removably attached to the discharge end of a faucet to be supported thereby and reecive water from the faucet. The body member includes an internal passage from the faucet connection to a spray outlet portion which directs a fan spray of cleansing water along a predetermined plane. The body member includes means for receiving portions of the frame of a conventional paint roller in a readily insertable and detachable manner and in such a way that the roller portion of the paint roller is automatically positioned to extend parallel to the plane of the fan spray of water and so that the fan spray of water strikes the paint roller surface eccentrically, thereby producing rotation of the roller from the impact of the water spray thereagainst, whereby all portions of the roller surface are equally and thoroughly cleansed.

In one form of the present invention the aforesaid body member is provided with a slot and a box-like shield member is readily positioned with respect to the support by inserting an edge of a side wall of the box member in such slot so that the box member overlies the roller and prevents splashing during the cleansing operation.

Other objects and advantages attendant upon the employment of the teachings of the present invention will occur to those skilled in the present art from a consideration of the specific embodiment illustrated in the accompanying drawings and described in detail in the following specification. However, it is to be understood that such embodiments are by way of example only and that the scope of the invention is not limited otherwise than as defined in the appended claims.

In the drawing:

FIG. 1 is a general perspective view of one form of the paint roller washer of the present invention shown in a position of use;

FIG. 2 is a side elevational view thereof on a reduced scale; and

FIG. 3 is a fragmentary cross sectional view taken approximately on the line III—III of FIG. 2.

In the drawing like characters of reference denote like parts and the numeral **10** designates generally a holder body member comprising a forward extension **11** at its upper end and lateral extensions **12** and **13**. As shown in FIG. 3 the upper end of body member **10** comprises a conduit portion **14** having a flanged plastic bushing **15** pressed therein to rotatably retain an internally threaded attaching nut **17** which serves to attach the body member to a threaded faucet outlet such as is indicated at **18** in FIGS. 1 and 2. In FIG. 3 the numeral **19** designates a conventional washer.

As shown in FIG. 1 the forward face of extension **11** has a vertical groove **20** formed therein and the extensions **12** and **13** terminate in upwardly opening seats or recesses designated **21** and **22**, respectively. The groove **20** and recesses **21** and **22** lie in a common plane which, in the position which body member **10** occupies in FIGS. 1 and 2, extends vertically.

A passage **25** molded in conduit portion **14** of body member **10** terminates at its lower end in a slot **26** in a spherical wall portion **27** of body member **10**. Slot **26** lies in a plane substantially parallel to the plane of the groove **20** and recesses **21** and **22** and emits a flat fan spray of cleansing water when the device is connected to faucet **18** and the water is turned on.

A flat spring member **30** is fixed at one end to extension **11** of body member **10** and extends across groove **20** as shown in FIG. 1. One common type of paint roller includes a frame rod shown at **31** in FIGS. 1 and 2 and a roller member **32**. In this type a rod portion **33** extends generally parallel to the roller member **32**. The roller is placed in the holder by disposing the rod portion **33** in recess **22** and slipping the vertical rod portion beneath spring **30** and into groove **20**.

The roller is thus securely supported with the roller member **32** disposed as shown in FIG. 2 whereby the flat fan spray of cleansing water indicated at **35** in FIG. 2 strikes the surface eccentrically so that the force of the water spins the roller during the washing operation.

Certain types of paint rollers which are in common use include frames in which the rod portion **33** extends obliquely as indicated fragmentarily by dash lines at **37** in FIG. 1. In such cases the assembly of the roller in the holder is the same as described above excepting that upper recess **21** is employed in place of lower recess **22**.

From the foregoing it will be seen that a spray fixture

and paint roller support is provided which may readily be attached to a faucet and left in place if desired and in which a paint roller may be inserted and held in accurately predetermined position for effective spray washing of the roller surface thereof.

The lower portion of body member **10** which includes lateral extension **13** also is provided with an enlargement **40** which is slotted along its front edge as at **41**. A splash shield in the form of a thin-walled box is designated generally in FIG. 2 by the numeral **42**. Shield **42** includes a bottom wall **43**, side walls **44** and **45**, and end walls **46**. One of the side walls **44** is adapted to be inserted in slot **41** to position the shield as illustrated in FIG. 2.

Box **42** may be of plastic sheet material or of light sheet metal. An angle member **48** fixed to the inside of wall **44** extends between the end walls **46** and serves to deflect water which might otherwise splash outwardly of the shield (to the right as viewed in FIG. 2) after striking the interior of wall **44**.

I claim:

1. In a paint roller washing device, a body member having a threaded coupling member at an upper end portion thereof for connection to a water supply faucet, spray opening means at a lower surface portion thereof adapted to project a fan spray of water along a generally downward plane, passage means in said body member between said coupling member and said spray opening means, a pair of recesses at the front of said body member for receiving vertical and non-vertical portions of the wire frame of a paint roller to support and position the latter with the roller thereof parallel to said plane of the spray water and with the roller surface intersecting said spray eccentrically whereby the spray rotates the roller as the latter is washed by the spray.

2. In a paint roller washing device, a unitary body member having a coupling member for connection to a water supply faucet and spray opening means below said coupling member adapted to project a fan spray of water along a generally downward plane, passage means in said body member between said coupling member and said spray opening means, a pair of recesses at the front of said body member for receiving vertical and non-vertical portions of the wire frame of a paint roller to support and position the latter with the roller thereof parallel to said plane of the spray water and with the roller surface intersecting said spray eccentrically whereby the spray rotates the roller as the latter is washed by the spray.

3. In a device for washing paint rollers which comprise a roller member and a frame member including a handle portion extending perpendicular to the roller member and a return bent portion providing a roller support portion, said device comprising a body member having a coupling member for connection to a water supply outlet and spray opening means adapted to project a fan spray of water along a generally downward plane, passage means in said body member between said coupling member and said spray opening means, a generally upright recess at the front of said body member for receiving said frame member handle portion and a lateral recess below said upright recess for receiving said return bent portion of said frame members to position said roller member with its axis parallel to said plane of the spray water whereby said spray strikes the roller surface eccentrically and rotates the roller during washing thereof.

4. In a device for washing paint rollers which comprise a roller member and a frame member including a handle portion extending perpendicular to the roller member and a return bent portion providing a roller support portion, said device comprising a body member having a coupling member for connection to a water supply outlet and spray opening means adapted to project a fan spray of water along a generally downward plane, passage means in said body member between said coupling member and said spray opening means, a generally upright channel at the front of said body member for receiving said frame member handle portion and a lateral channel below said upright channel for receiving said return bent portion of said frame member and a lateral channel below said upright channel for receiving said return bent portion of said frame member to position said roller member with its axis parallel to said plane of the spray water whereby said spray strikes the roller surface eccentrically and rotates the roller during washing thereof, and means for detachably retaining said frame member in assembled position in said channels.

5. In a paint roller washing device, a body member having means for connection to a water supply faucet and spray opening means at a lower surface portion thereof adapted to project a fan spray of water along a generally downward plane, passage means in said body member between said connection means and said spray opening means, a pair of recesses at the front of said body member for portions of the wire frame of a paint roller to position the latter with the roller thereof parallel to said plane of the spray water and with the roller surface intersecting said spray eccentrically whereby the spray rotates the roller as the latter is washed by the spray, a slot at the front of said body member extending parallel to said roller, and a box-like shield member having an upper edge thereof disposable in said slot to position the shield member in enclosing relation with respect to said roller.

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