ABSTRACT

An egg coloring device with means to hold and rotate an egg. The coloring takes place when a coloring means is held against a rotating egg. An indexing drive allows drawing lines parallel to the axis of the egg, spaced equally apart. Templates placed next to the egg allow drawing of uniform patterns.

4 Claims, 3 Drawing Figures
ROTATING EGG COLORING DEVICE

This invention belongs to a class of creative entertainment devices or toys if used by children.

The invention provides holding and rotating means for a boiled egg for the purpose of coloring it, which has been an Eastern custom among many religious and national groups. The coloring of an egg could be enjoyable to some people but it may also be a tiresome or difficult task, especially when more than a single color is desired.

With the help of a holding and rotating device the operator is required to hold a coloring means such as a pencil, marking pen, paint brush etc. against the shell of an egg and while the egg is rotating, perfect stripes, spirals and numerous other colored patterns can be effortlessly painted on the egg. The device further can be provided with an indexing drive which allows drawing of lines equally spaced and parallel to the axis of an egg. The painting process is easy and offer creative enjoyment to anybody from small children to the grown-ups.

Thus the object of the invention is to provide a device which can hold and rotate an egg for the purpose of coloring it.

A further object is to provide an indexing drive for incremental rotation of an egg.

A still further object is to provide and hold template means next to an egg for drawing uniform patterns on the egg.

Other objects and features will become apparent to those skilled in the art from the detailed description and illustrations in which:

FIG. 1 is a sectional view of the device taken along the line 1 — 1 of FIG. 2.

FIG. 2 is a partly fragmentary top view of the device and

FIG. 3 is a detail of the indexing drive.

The illustrations show a base 10 supporting bearing and clamping means to hold and rotate an egg in a vertical position. The base 10 has a rectangular box section to provide a housing for the rotating drive means. It further has a vertically extending support post 11 with guide holes 12 and 13 for a rod 14 which is bent to a U-shape. Base 10 could be most conveniently molded from a plastic material in one or more pieces but any other suitable material or manufacturing method could be employed here.

The purpose of the rod 14 is to support a holding cup 15 which will act like a "live center" in lathes. Cup 15 could be molded from an elastomer such as rubber with a concave end to match the end contour of an egg. It is pressed into a bearing and supporting bushing 16, molded from a plastic or any other suitable material. Bushing 16 is rotatably mounted to the end of rod 14 and axially positioned by a pair of retaining rings 17 and 18. The "U"-shape rod 14 has a longer leg 19 inserted through guide holes 13 and 20 so its end can extend to the bottom section of base 10. A compression spring 21, acting between the base 10 and a retaining ring 22, is giving a downward bias to the rod 14 and cup 15.

On the same center with the short end of rod 14 is another concave cup 23 made also from an elastomer such as rubber. It is resting on a thrust washer 24 which is supported by base 10. A shoulder 25 of a drive gear 26 is guided in a bearing hole 27 in base 10 and an ex-
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3. An egg coloring device having a base, a holding means and a rotating means to hold and rotate an egg, said base supporting rotatably said holding and said rotating means, said holding means being spring loaded toward said rotating means with a stop position keeping them apart a distance slightly less than the length of a small egg, said holding and rotating means rotating on a common axis, said rotating means being rotatable by a power source, said rotating and said holding means providing a frictional hold for an egg when said egg is placed between them with the long axis of said egg lined up with said common axis, said power source being capable of rotating said rotating means together with said egg, said base including a post next to said egg with an equal clearance between said egg and said post, said post having means for attaching templates with various template holes next to said egg, said templates being slidable on and frictionally retained on said post, whereby said templates may be adjusted relative to said egg with said template holes serving as guiding means for drawing various shapes and lines to the shell of said egg.

2. An egg coloring device according to claim 1 wherein said rotating means consisting of a drive gear driven by said power source and a rotatable cup having a concave surface to match the end contour of an egg, said rotatable cup being made from an elastomer, said drive gear and said rotatable cup being secured together and rotatably mounted to said base member, said rotatable cup being on the outside of said base member.

3. An egg coloring device according to claim 1 wherein said spring loaded holding means being rotatably mounted to a U-shape rod having a long and a short leg, said holding means being made from an elastomer with a concave surface to match the end contour of an egg, said holding means having a bearing bushing in its center rotatably mounted and axially secured to the short leg of said U-shape rod, said short leg having a common center with said driving means, said long leg being guided in bearing holes of said base member and said U-shape member together with said holding means being spring loaded toward said driving means.

4. An egg coloring device according to claim 1 wherein said rotating means having a drive gear and an indexing wheel for incremental advancement of said rotating means, said indexing wheel having ratchet teeth operable by a ratchet pawl, said pawl being pivotally secured to an operating lever, said operating lever being pivotally secured to said base, a spring acting to control the return of said operating lever and said pawl, said spring being hooked to an arm of said pawl between said pivot of said operating lever and said pivot of said pawl, said spring keeping said arm of said pawl against said pivot of said operating lever while said operating lever is in a stop position, said stop position holding said pawl in a position to clear said ratchet wheel, a motion of said operating lever swinging said pawl in contact with said indexing wheel and advancing said indexing wheel one increment, said arm of said pawl contacting said indexing wheel after said indexing takes place, said contact preventing any overshooting to said indexing wheel, said indexing drive advancing said rotating means together with said egg incrementally permitting drawing of equally spaced shapes and lines to said egg. * * * * *