This invention relates to new and useful improvements and structural refinements in guards for bath tubs and shower stalls, and the principal object of the invention is to afford secure footing for the bather on the bottom of a tub or floor of a shower and, in addition, to afford hand rails which the bather may grasp while moving around or getting in and out of the tub or shower.

Some of the advantages of the invention reside in its simplicity of construction, in its dependable and safe operation, and in its adaptability for use in bath tubs or showers of different sizes and types.

With the above more important objects and features in view and such other objects and features as may become apparent as this specification proceeds, the invention consists essentially of the arrangement and construction of parts as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the invention in situ in a bath tub, the latter being shown by dotted lines;

Figure 2 is a fragmentary sectional detail, taken substantially in the plane of the line 2—2 in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of a modified embodiment of the invention, intended for use in a shower, and

Figure 4 is a sectional detail, taken substantially in the plane of the line 4—4 in Figure 3.

Like characters of reference are employed to designate like parts in the specification and throughout the several views.

Referred to now in the accompanying drawings in detail, more particularly to Figures 1 and 2, the invention consists of a guard for bath tubs which is designated generally by the reference character 10 and embodies in this construction an elongated frame 12 including a pair of substantially U-shaped, longitudinally spaced end members 14, each consisting of a transversely extending bight portion 16 and a pair of transversely spaced uprights 18 which have laterally offset upper ends, as indicated at 20.

The frame 12 also includes a pair of longitudinally extending hand rails 22 which constitute continuations of the offset portions 20 of the uprights 18, as shown.

The entire frame 12 is intended to be positioned in a bath tub 24 with the right portions 16 of the end members 14 resting on the bottom of the tub, while the hand rails 22 are disposed above the upper longitudinal edges of the tub so that they may be conveniently grasped by a bather.

It is to be noted that by virtue of the offset portions 20 of the uprights 18, the hand bars or rails 22 are located directly below the side walls of the tub, and thereby do not interfere with the bather's movements.

Suitable sleeves 28 of rubber, or the like, may be provided on the hand rails 22 to prevent the bather's fingers from slipping, and if desired, an upwardly extending brace 26 may be secured to one of the end members 14 and may be provided at its upper end with an apertured ear 30 for fastening to a wall, or the like, whereby to prevent the entire frame 12 from shifting in the tub.

A rubber mat 32, or the like, of an elongated configuration extends between and is secured to the right portions 16 of the end members 14 of the frame 12, this being achieved by providing the right portions 16 with a plurality of upstanding studs 34 which protrude upwardly through suitable apertures 38 provided in the mat. Convenient nuts 38 and washers 40 are positioned on the studs 34 whereby to removably secure the mat 32 in place but, at the same time, to facilitate expeditious removal of the mat when cleaning or replacement thereof is desired.

Finally, it is to be noted that the mat 32 is provided at one end thereof with an opening 42 whereby access may be had to the drain plug 44 of the tub.

Referring now to the modified embodiment of the invention shown in Figures 3 and 4 and designated generally by the reference character 50, the same is intended to be used in a shower stall and comprises a frame 52 including U-shaped end members 54, each consisting of a transverse bight portion 56 and a pair of uprights 58 which have inwardly arcuate upper portions 60. The right portions 56 are intended to rest on the floor of a shower stall, and the frame 52 also includes a pair of longitudinal hand rails 62, constituting continuations of the arcuate portions 60 of the uprights 58.

Needless to say, the uprights 58 are sufficiently long so that the rails 62 are disposed at proper height for grasping when the user is in a standing position, and suitable gripping sleeves 64 are provided on the hand rails, as shown.

Moreover, a rubber mat 66 is secured to the right portions 56 by the studs 68 which are similar to the aforementioned studs 34, and the mat is provided with an opening 70 in register with the drain 72 of the shower.

It is believed that the advantages and use of...
the invention will be clearly understood from the foregoing disclosure and accordingly, further description thereof at this point is deemed unnecessary.

While in the foregoing there has been shown and described the preferred embodiment of this invention, it is to be understood that minor changes in the details and construction of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A bath or shower guard, comprising a frame including a pair of substantially U-shaped end members affording bight portions adapted to be positioned on the bottom of a bath tub or the floor of a shower stall and pairs of uprights extending therefrom, a pair of horizontal handrails extending longitudinally between said end members and connected to upper ends of said uprights, and a mat extending between and secured to the bight portions of said members.

2. The device as defined in claim 1 together with means for separably attaching said mat to said bight portions.

3. The device as defined in claim 1 together with a pair of cushioning sleeves provided on the respective hand rails.

4. The device as defined in claim 1 wherein upper end portions of said uprights are inwardly arcuate.

5. The device as defined in claim 1 together with a brace provided on said frame for securing to a support.

6. The device as defined in claim 1 wherein upper end portions of said uprights are outwardly offset, whereby said hand rails are disposed laterally from said end members.

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