

Oct. 9, 1951

J. C. KASMAN

2,570,954

COASTER

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Fig. 2

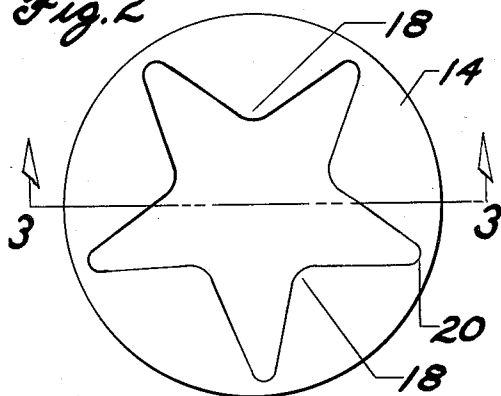


Fig. 5

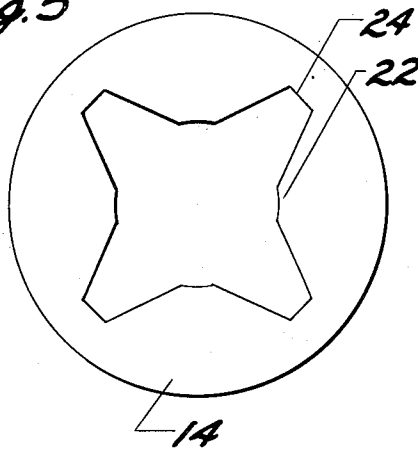


Fig. 1

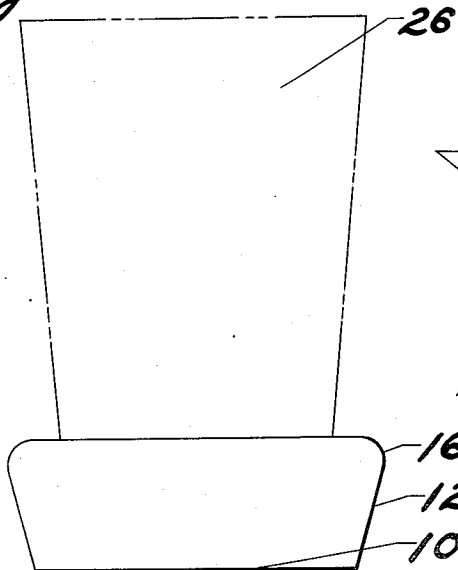


Fig. 3

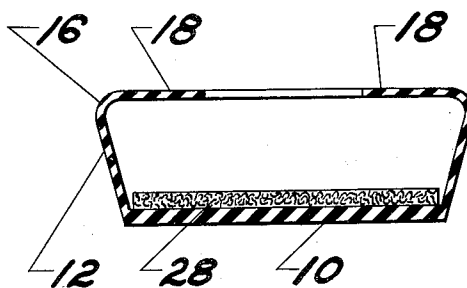
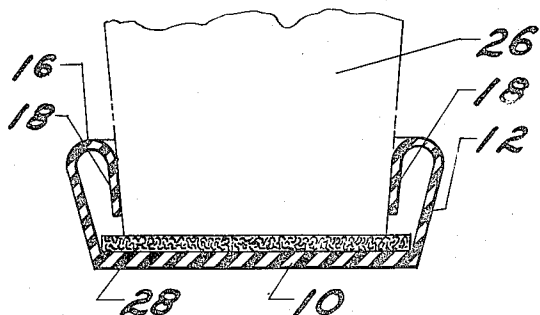


Fig. 4



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COASTER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 65—53)

1

The invention relates to coasters and has reference more particularly to a coaster of resilient material and which will automatically effect a grip with the tumbler requiring a positive act to release or remove the coaster.

The coaster of the invention may be formed of soft resilient rubber although flexible plastics and similar materials may be used. An object is to provide such a coaster with inwardly directed lips or protuberances which will be deflected downwardly upon insertion of a tumbler to form gripping means holding the coaster to the tumbler.

Another object is to provide a coaster that is approximately cup-shaped in cross section, having a partial top wall providing inwardly directed lips for effecting a grip with a glass or plastic tumbler inserted into the coaster.

Another object of the invention is to provide a coaster such as described which will have an absorbent base member on which the tumbler is adapted to rest and which will absorb the water or moisture draining into the coaster from the tumbler.

Another object is to provide a coaster such as described which will automatically grip a tumbler inserted into the coaster and which tumbler can be lifted with the coaster adhering thereto and also the tumbler can be tilted without spilling any water from the coaster.

With these and various other objects in view, the invention may consist of certain novel features of construction and operation, as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the specification, drawings and claims appended hereto.

In the drawings which illustrate an embodiment of the invention and wherein like reference characters are used to designate like parts—

Figure 1 is an elevational view of a tumbler with the coaster of the invention in associated relation therewith;

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the coaster showing one form of lip projecting inwardly from the top wall;

Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view of the coaster taken on line 3—3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a sectional view showing the gripping action of the lips on a tumbler inserted in the coaster; and

Figure 5 is a top plan view of a modified form of coaster having inwardly directed lips of different shape.

The coaster of the invention as disclosed in the embodiment selected for the drawings is ap-

2

proximately bowl or cup-shaped, consisting of a circular base 10, annular side walls 12 and an open top wall 14. The coaster is preferably formed of soft resilient rubber although flexible and resilient plastics and other materials of this nature may be employed. In order to strengthen the base the thickness of the same is slightly greater than the annular side walls 12 and to improve the gripping action of the top wall the said side walls diverge outwardly from the base. This locates the rounded edge 16 at some distance from the tumbler when inserted in the coaster. At least the rolled edge 16 is spaced from the tumbler a distance slightly greater than the peripheral edge of the base 10.

In accordance with the invention the top wall 14 is formed with an opening of any shape such as will provide inwardly directed lips or protuberances designated 18, Figure 2. The lips 18 are separated by channel openings 20 and this alternate arrangement of lips and openings accentuates the flexibility of the lips whereby to increase their gripping action with respect to a tumbler inserted in the coaster.

In Figure 5 the top wall 14 of the coaster is provided with an opening of somewhat different shape than Figure 2, which, however, provides inwardly directed lips or protuberances 22. Also the lips are separated by channel openings 24 which extend close to the rolled edge 16 so as to give to the lips maximum flexibility in order to improve their gripping action.

Figures 1 and 4 disclose a tumbler 26 in associated relation with the coaster. Upon insertion of the tumbler in the coaster the lips 18 or 22 are deflected downwardly and the lips automatically effect a grip with the side wall of the coaster. The gripping action of the lips on the side walls of the coaster is such as to hold the coaster to the tumbler and the tumbler can be lifted and the coaster will still adhere thereto. As a matter of fact, it takes a positive act to separate the coaster from the tumbler and when this takes place the lips 18 or 22 will assume their normal horizontal position. Also if the tumbler is again inserted another gripping action of the lips with the tumbler will automatically take place. In order to soak up or absorb moisture condensing on the side wall of the tumbler and draining into the coaster the latter is provided with an absorbent pad 28 of any suitable material and which is located on the base 10 within the coaster so as to be removable therefrom. When the pad 28 has absorbed considerable moisture it is removed and the liquid squeezed

3

therefrom and then the pad is reinserted. In addition to acting as an absorbent pad, element 28 also helps to cushion the base 10 for receiving the tumbler.

In lifting the tumbler for drinking, the coaster can be gripped by the user or if the tumbler is gripped, the coaster will nevertheless adhere thereto by reason of the gripping action of the lips as previously explained. Also it is possible for the coaster to contain considerable liquid notwithstanding the absorbent pad 28 and this liquid will not spill out when the tumbler is tilted. This is due to the fact that the openings 20 or 24, although extending close to the rounded edge 16, do not extend into the edge and accordingly any liquid which may collect in the coaster is prevented from overflowing when the coaster is tilted.

The invention is not to be limited to or by details of construction of the particular embodiment thereof illustrated by the drawings as various other forms of the device will of course be apparent to those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the claims.

What is claimed is:

1. In a coaster of soft flexible rubber, a base having an upstanding side wall around the periphery thereof and which diverges outwardly in an upward direction, a top wall connecting with the side wall by means of a rolled edge around the periphery of said walls, said top wall having a thickness to promote flexibility and having a center opening of a shape to form lips, and said lips being bent downwardly upon the insertion of a tumbler through the open top wall and as a result having a gripping action on the tumbler to hold the coaster to the same.

2. In a coaster of flexible and resilient material, a base of substantial thickness to impart rigidity to the same and having an upstanding side wall around the periphery thereof, said side wall diverging outwardly in an upward direction and terminating in a rolled edge, a top wall connected

4

to the side wall around the periphery of the top wall by said rolled edge, said top wall having a center opening of a shape to form lips and which have a thickness to promote flexibility of the lips, whereby said lips are bent downwardly upon the insertion of a tumbler through the open top wall and as a result have a gripping action on the tumbler to hold the coaster to the same.

3. In a coaster of flexible and resilient material, a base having an upstanding side wall around the periphery thereof, a top wall joined to said side wall by means of a rounded edge located between the two walls and extending around the periphery of said top wall, said top wall having a thickness to promote flexibility and having a center opening of approximately star shape to form flexible lips that extend inwardly, and said lips being bent downwardly upon insertion of a tumbler through the open top wall and as a result having a gripping action on the tumbler to hold the coaster to the same.

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