Jan. 11, 1949. B. PLHAK 2,458,728

MOLDING TOY

Filed June 13, 1947

Fig. 2

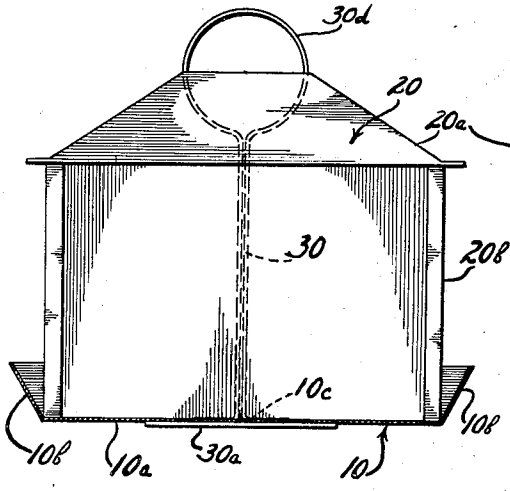


Fig. 1

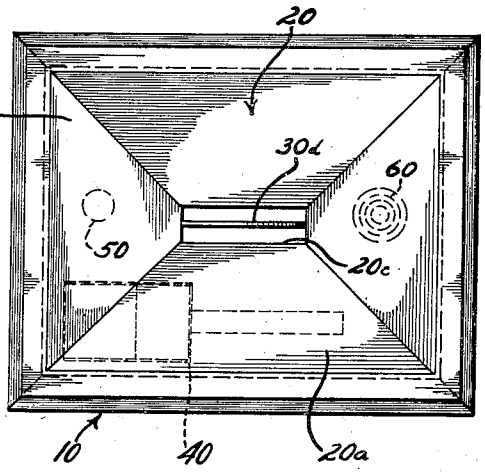


Fig. 4

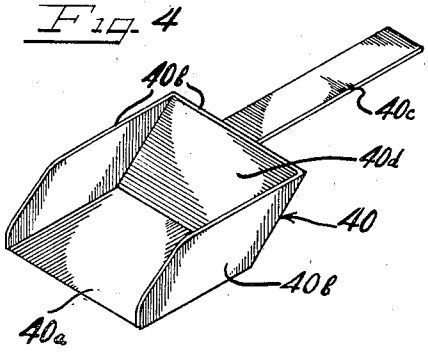


Fig. 3

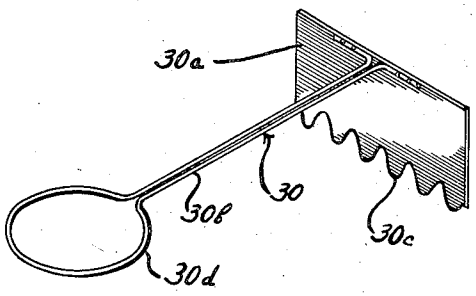


Fig. 5

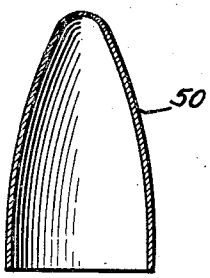
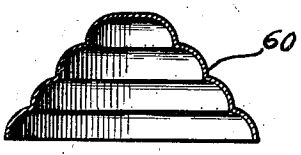


Fig. 6



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MOLDING TOY

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6 Claims. (Cl. 46—46)

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This invention relates to a molding toy set particularly adapted for the construction of a building structure by molding of sand. While not limited thereto, this invention finds particular application in the molding of sand houses of attractive appearance and accurate dimensional proportions.

The utilization of molds for the construction of various articles by sand molding has, of course, been heretofore known. However, the molds required for fabrication of a building structure such as a house, together with additional external devices to complete the appearance of the house, such as porches, trees and shrubs, necessarily results in a large number of individual molds which are difficult to package for merchandising purposes or to carry about by the eventual user. This is particularly true in the case of molding toys for children, inasmuch as the various unit molds are quite apt to be lost by the child in moving from one play location to another. Furthermore, it is deemed obvious that supplying a child with a set of molds is of little value unless he is also furnished with certain tools such as a shovel or a rake by which he may conveniently fill the mold with the sand or other material. Such tools provide additional bulk and inconvenience in packaging or transporting.

Accordingly, it is an object of this invention to provide an improved molding toy set, characterized particularly by the ease of packaging of such for merchandising purposes or for transporting all of the units of a set from one molding location to another.

A further object of this invention is to provide an improved molding toy set for the molding of a building structure, such as a house, wherein the major mold elements may be unitarily assembled into a box-like hollow structure and secured in such assembly by one of the molding tools. In such arrangement, the hollow portions of the assembly may be employed to carry additional tools and various subsidiary molds, such as those employed for porches, trees, and shrubs.

A further object of this invention is to provide an improved molding toy set wherein a raking tool is employed to effect the convenient assemblage of the major elements of the mold into a unitary package suitable for merchandising or transport.

A particular object of this invention is to provide a novel molding tool which may be employed not only as a shovel for filling molds with moldable material but may be also utilized as a mold

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for constructing an element of a building structure, such as a porch.

The specific nature of this invention, as well as other objects and advantages thereof, will become apparent to those skilled in the art from the following detailed description of the annexed sheet of drawings, which, by way of preferred example only, illustrate one specific embodiment of the invention.

On the drawings:

Figure 1 is a top elevational view of a molding toy set embodying this invention, showing the various molding elements and tools in assembled relation for merchandising or transportation purposes;

Figure 2 is a side elevational view, partly in section of the molding toy assemblage of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is an isometric view of the rake member constituting a part of a molding set embodying this invention;

Figure 4 is an isometric view of a combination shovel and mold member embodying this invention; and

Figures 5 and 6 are sectional views of exemplary auxiliary molds.

As shown on the drawings:

In the specific example of my invention illustrated in the drawings, the various molding units of the mold set have been constructed so as to permit the molding of a house of generally rectangular wall configuration and having a sloping roof portion. Those skilled in the art will recognize that the principles of this invention may be applied to produce a building structure of any desired shape.

Referring to the drawings, a shallow tray mold **10** is provided having a flat base portion **10***a* and upstanding marginal wall portions **10***b*. The interior cavity defined by such tray mold is constructed so as to mold a suitable base on which the finished molded house may be rested.

There is also provided a main mold **20**, which constitutes a hollow, thin walled, box-like member, open at the bottom, and defining an interior cavity which will correspond to the external shape of a building structure such as a house. Thus, for example, the main mold **20** may include generally rectangularly arranged, vertical wall portions **20***b* and sloping roof portions **20***a*.

At a central location in the base of tray mold **10**, there is provided a slot-like aperture **10***c*. Likewise, in the top of the roof portion **20***a* of the main mold **20** an aperture **20***c* is provided. The bottom wall portions of main mold **20** are receivable in nested relationship within the tray

10, and, when so received, the apertures 10c and 20c are in substantial alignment.

In accordance with this invention, a molding tool 30 is provided, having a working portion 30a and an elongated handle portion 30b. The working portion 30a may conveniently comprise a rake and thus constitute a metal plate having a serrated edge 30c. The handle portion 30b may be conveniently formed by bending of a wire and securing the ends thereof to the working portion 30b in any suitable manner as by welding. The other end of the handle portion may be conveniently formed into a loop 30d.

The dimensions of handle portion 30b of the tool 30, are such as to permit such handle portion to be readily inserted upwardly through the aligned apertures 10c and 20c, as illustrated in Figures 1 and 2. The working portion 30a of the tool 30 is, however, of greater dimensions than the aperture 10c in tray 10 and hence will not pass through such aperture. When thus inserted, the tool 30 effects a unitary assemblage of the main mold 20 and the tray mold 10 by which such molding unit may be conveniently packaged for merchandising purposes or transported by the child using the toys. Obviously the loop portion 30d provides a convenient handle for carrying the assemblage.

Furthermore, the interior cavity of main mold 20 is sufficiently large to permit the various auxiliary molds and tools to be carried therein. Thus a shovel 40 may be carried within the assemblage as well as a tree mold 50 and a shrub mold 60.

With such an arrangement, it is deemed obvious that with all of the various mold units of the set and the necessary working tools may be contained within the unitary package defined by the main mold 20, the tray mold 10 and the rake 30. Hence the packaging of such unit for merchandising purposes has been extremely simplified and, furthermore, the user may readily transport the entire molding set and the possibility of various units of the set being lost in such transport is greatly diminished.

A further feature of this invention is embodied in the construction of the shovel 40. It will be noted that such shovel comprises a base portion 40a having upstanding marginal wall portions 40b provided around three of the edges of such base. A handle 40c is secured to the central upstanding wall portion. The recess or cavity 40d defined by the base portion 40a and wall portions 40b is so shaped as to conform to the external appearance of a supplementary element of a building structure, for example, a porch. Hence, the shovel 40 may not only be utilized as a shovel to fill the various molds with sand, but in itself, may be filled with sand and employed to mold an additional element of the building structure. Hence the overall expense of the molding toy set is further reduced.

It will, of course, be understood that various details of construction may be modified through a wide range without departing from the principles of this invention, and it is, therefore, not the purpose to limit the patent granted hereon otherwise than necessitated by the scope of the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A molding toy set comprising a shallow tray mold defining an interior cavity corresponding to a building structure base, an open bottom, box-like, thin walled main mold defining an interior cavity corresponding to a building structure

mountable on said molded base, the bottom portions of said base mold being receivable in said tray in nested relation, said tray mold and said main mold having apertures through the base and top portions thereof respectively, said apertures being aligned in the nested position of said molds, and a molding tool having a handle and an enlarged working portion, said handle being insertable through said aligned apertures to bring said enlarged working portion of said tool into engagement with said tray, whereby said tool secures said molds together in unitary assemblage.

2. A molding toy set comprising a shallow tray mold constructed and arranged to mold a building structure base, a thin walled, hollow house mold having an interior cavity corresponding to the external shape of a house for seating on said molded base, said house mold being open at the bottom, the bottom portions of said house mold being receivable in said tray in nested relation, said tray and said house molds having apertures through the base and top portions thereof respectively, said apertures being aligned in the nested position of said molds, and a molding tool having a handle and an enlarged working portion, said handle being insertable upwardly through said aligned apertures to bring said enlarged working portion of said tool into engagement with said tray, whereby said tool secures said molds together in a unitary assembly.

3. A molding toy set comprising a shallow tray mold having a flat base and upstanding marginal walls, said tray mold being constructed and arranged to mold a building structure base, a thin walled, box-like, open bottom house mold defining an interior cavity corresponding to the external shape of a house, the bottom portions of said house mold being receivable within the upstanding marginal walls of said tray mold in nested relation, said tray mold and said house mold having apertures through the base and roof portions thereof respectively, said apertures being aligned in the nested position of said mold, and a molding tool having an elongated handle insertable through said apertures and an enlarged working portion larger than said aperture in said tray mold, whereby when said handle is inserted upwardly through said aligned apertures said molds are secured together in a unitary assembly.

4. A molding toy set comprising a shallow tray mold constructed and arranged to mold a building structure base, an open bottom, box-like mold constructed and arranged to mold a building structure mountable on said molded base, the bottom portion of said box-like mold being receivable in said tray in nested relation, said tray mold and said box-like mold having apertures through the base and top portions thereof respectively, said apertures being aligned in the nested position of said molds, and a tool for filling said mold with moldable material, said tool having an elongated handle portion insertable upwardly through said apertures and an enlarged working portion engageable with the aperture defining walls of said tray mold, whereby said molds may be carried by said tool as a unitary package.

5. A molding toy set comprising a shallow tray mold having a base portion and upstanding marginal walls, a hollow house mold having an interior cavity corresponding to the external shape of a house, said cavity being open at the bottom, the bottom portions of said house mold being insertable within the said marginal wall portions of said tray mold in nested relation, said

tray mold and said house mold having apertures through the base and roof portions thereof respectively, said apertures being aligned in the nested position of said molds, and a tool for filling said molds with moldable material, said tool having an elongated handle portion insertable upwardly through said apertures and an enlarged working portion engageable with the aperture defining walls of said tray mold, whereby said molds may be carried by said tool as a unitary package.

6. A molding toy set comprising a shallow tray mold having a base portion and upstanding marginal walls, a hollow house mold having an interior cavity corresponding to the external shape of a house, said cavity being open at the bottom, the bottom portions of said house mold being insertable within the said marginal wall portions of said tray mold in nested relation, said tray mold and said house mold having apertures

through the base and roof portions thereof respectively, said apertures being aligned in the nested position of said molds, and a sand rake for filling said molds with sand, said rake having an elongated handle portion insertable upwardly through said apertures and a toothed rake head engageable with the aperture defining walls of said tray mold, whereby said molds may be carried by said sand rake as a unitary package.

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