July 30, 1957 C. S. GREER, JR 2,801,107

THREE-DIMENSION TIC-TAC-TOE APPARATUS

Filed Jan. 14, 1954

Fig. 1.

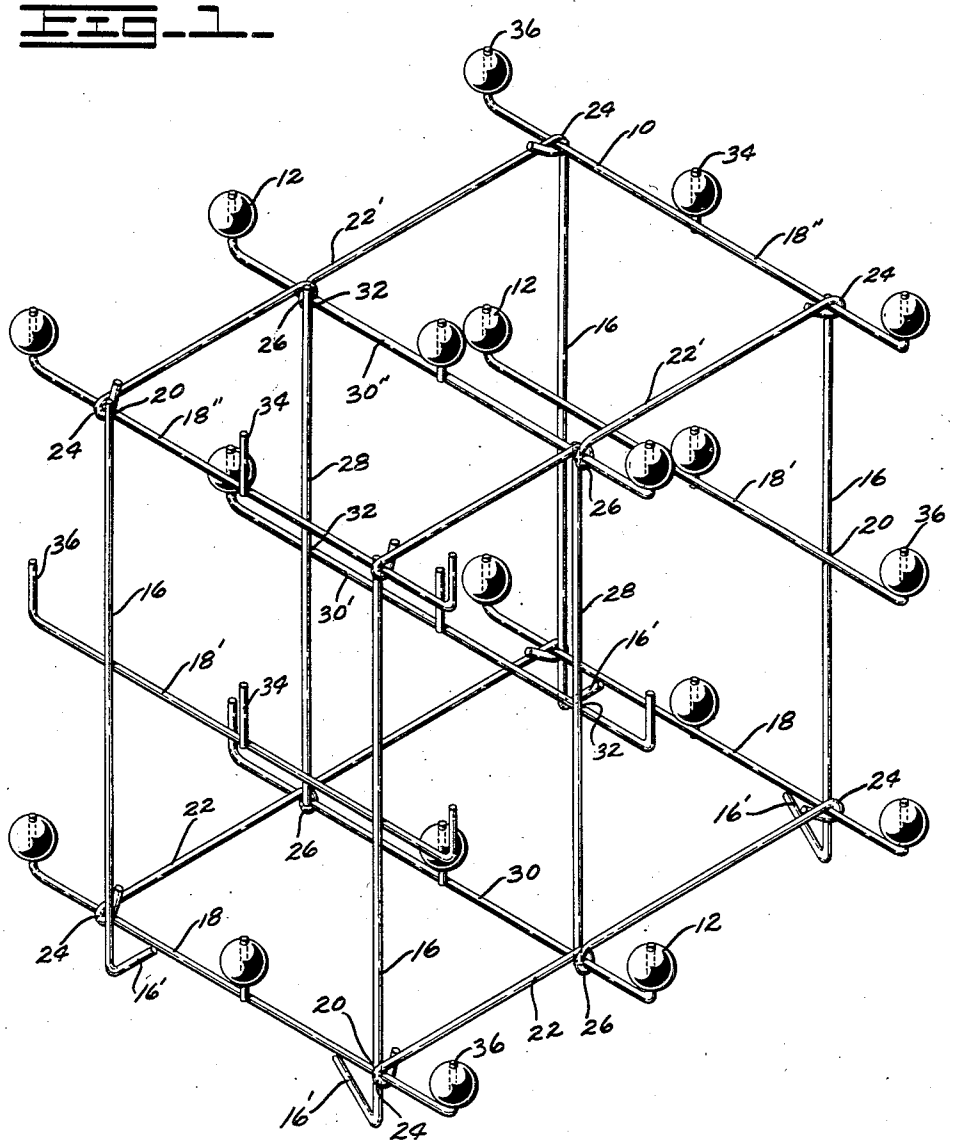
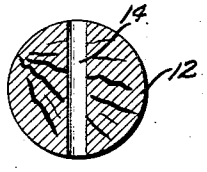



Fig. 2.




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# THREE-DIMENSION TIC-TAC-TOE APPARATUS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 273—131)

This invention relates to apparatus for playing the game known as tic-tac-toe.

Hitherto the aforesaid game has been generally played with the use of paper and pencil, the paper being lined to define squares which are filled by 0 and X markings.

The present invention has for its object to provide apparatus by which the game tic-tac-toe can be played without the use of paper and pencil and which forms a permanent piece of apparatus usable over and over again for playing the game in question.

A further and important object of the invention is to provide apparatus by which the said game can be played in a number of different planes and, in particular, in three different planes, whereby to form, in effect, three-dimension tic-tac-toe apparatus.

The above and further objects and advantages of the invention, residing in the construction, arrangement and combination of parts will appear clear from the following detail description, with reference to the accompanying drawings, and from the appended claim.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of apparatus according to the invention shown in erected condition and showing beads, with which the game is played, assembled upon the framework, the beads and the framework constituting the apparatus by which the said game is capable of being played, and

Figure 2 is a section of one of the beads.

Referring to the drawings, apparatus by which the game tic-tac-toe can be played in three-dimensions comprises a framework **10** and a multiplicity of beads **12** having central bores **14** and constituting playing pieces equivalent to the usual 0 and X markings.

The framework may, conveniently, be made of round section wire and is of rectangular outline, as shown.

In the particular form illustrated, the frame is built-up from vertical wire rods **16** located at the four corners of a rectangle and formed at their lower ends with angularly bent up portions **16'** to define feet, by which the frame can be supported upon a suitable support surface, such as a table. Secured to the rods **16** on opposite sides of the rectangle are three vertically spaced horizontal and parallel wire rods **18, 18', 18''** which may be welded to their respective vertical rods **16**, as indicated at **20**.

The vertical rods **16** on opposite sides of the frame are inter-connected by transverse wire connections **22, 22'** which may be of smaller gage than the previously described rods and, at their ends, are bent as indicated at **24**, into loop formation around the rods **18** and **18''**. In their central portions, these wire connections **22, 22'** are bent into loop formation, as indicated at **26**, and are secured by these loop portions to a central frame composed of the two vertical wire rods **28** and three vertically spaced and parallel wire rods **30, 30', 30''**, to which the rods **28** may be secured by welding, as indicated at **32**.



The aforesaid loop connections **24** and **26** permit the frame to be collapsed, as a whole, into a flattened position to facilitate packaging the frame or storage thereof, when not in use.

When erected, as shown in Figure 1, the vertical rods **16** and **28** extend in parallel spaced relation, with the rods **16** and **18** on opposite sides (the left and right-hand sides, as seen in Figure 1) in alignment and with the horizontal rods **18, 30, 18—18', 30', 18'** and **18'' 30'', 18''** also in spaced and parallel alignment.

Each of the horizontal rods, aforesaid, is provided with a central upstanding peg **34** and, at its opposite ends, with further upstanding pegs **36**, whereby each said rod has three spaced apart pegs.

The pegs **34** may be formed by separate wire rod sections secured, as by welding, to their respective horizontal rods, while the pags **36** may be formed by integral bent-up end portions of their respective rods, which portions extend beyond the vertical rods **16** and **28** such, as it is believed, will be clear from examination of Figure 1.

The said pegs serve to receive the beads **12** by the engagement of the pegs in the bead bores **14**. Beads are provided in number corresponding to the number of pegs, which is **27**, and will be constituted by three sets of 9 beads each of different colors, such as red, blue and yellow.

The pegs take the place of the usual squares while the beads take the place of the usual 0 and X markings. Otherwise the game is played in accordance with the well known tic-tac-toe game but because of the three-dimension arrangement of the playing surfaces containing the pegs the game is made far more intriguing and provides many possible winning combinations.

Having thus disclosed my invention, what I claim as novel, and wish to secure by Letters Patent, is as follows:

A game apparatus for playing tic-tac-toe comprising a frame having upstanding peg portions in number and arrangement corresponding to the usual squares of a three-dimensional tic-tac-toe game apparatus and a plurality of bead elements removably engageable with said peg portions, said frame being of rectangular wire construction portions with said upstanding peg portions being defined on the different wire components of said frame, said wire components extending in different planes in which there are nine of said peg portions, said beads having openings for receiving the same upon said peg portions, said wire components of said frame being swingably connected with each other to permit said frame to be collapsed.

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