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SADDLE SEAT OR THE LIKE

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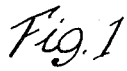
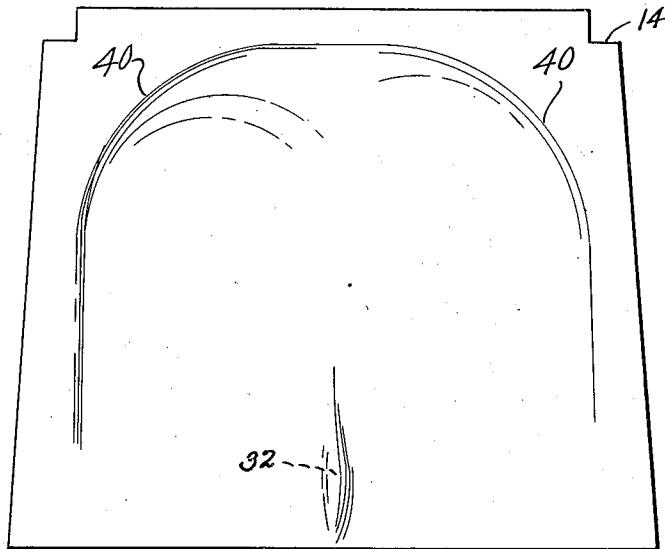
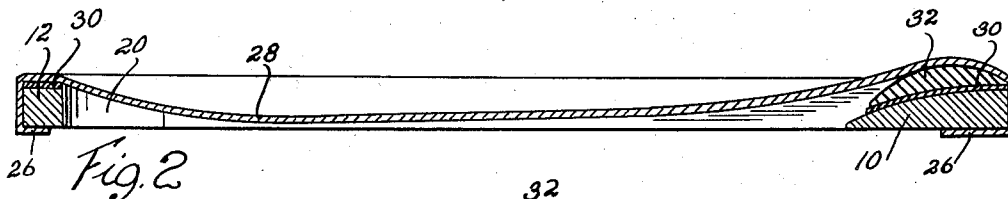
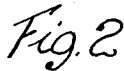
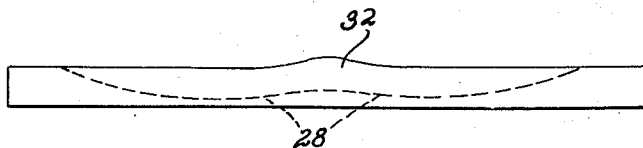
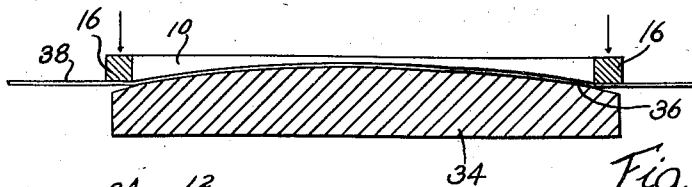
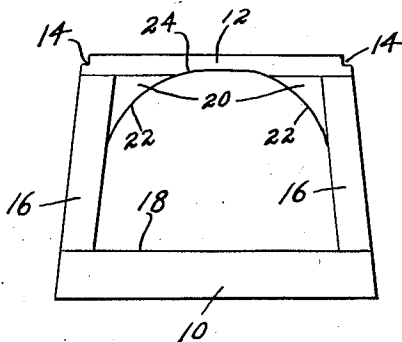


Fig. 5

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SADDLE SEAT OR THE LIKE

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Application January 15, 1944, Serial No. 518,314

3 Claims. (Cl. 155-187)

This invention relates to saddle seats for chairs, or similar articles, in which the seat or other article is formed to conform to the body of the occupant.

Objects of the invention include the provision of a frame which is open and formed by front and rear members connected together by side members, there being a sheet of material of any nature such as leather, imitation leather, fabric, plastic, reed, cane web, etc., secured to the frame to overlie and cover one side only thereof, said sheet of material being preformed during manufacture of the article to conform to the shape desired. In the present case the shape is that of a saddle seat or the like but it may assume other forms.

Further objects of the invention include the provision of a method of manufacturing saddle seats or the like including the steps of providing a form made of wood or other suitable material in the shape desired, placing a sheet of material over the curved contour of the form, applying an open frame to the sheet in such a manner that the sheet underlies the frame completely, applying pressure to the frame to clamp the material to the form to shape it thereto, and while the frame and material are clamped, securing the material to the frame as for instance by gluing or overlapping the edges of the frame and tacking the material thereto or by using clips, etc., so that the sheet receives and retains the shape of the form.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear hereinafter.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a saddle seat according to the invention;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the saddle seat illustrating the construction thereof;

Fig. 3 is a front view of the seat;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view illustrating the manufacture thereof; and

Fig. 5 is a plan view of the seat frame.

Turning first to Fig. 5 there is provided an open frame comprising a front member 10, a rear member 12 which may be notched at its ends at 14 to receive the rear legs of a chair, and side members 16. This construction provides an open frame, the opening being indicated at 18. At the inside aspect of the rear member 12 there are provided corner blocks 20 having concave surfaces 22 for a purpose to be described. Also if desired the rear member 12 may be cut out at 24 to form a continuation of the curved surfaces 22.

The corner blocks 20 may be made separate as illustrated or may form integral parts of the frame.

A sheet of flexible material is secured to the frame in any desired manner such as by gluing, tacking, etc. and in some cases it may be desirable to overlap the edges of the frame by the material as shown at 26 in Fig. 2 to give a smooth finished appearance to the seat. The sheet of material covers the open frame at one surface only thereof and is shaped as shown at 28 to conform to the body of the occupant of the seat, the deepest portion of the seat being at the rear thereof generally in the region of the corner blocks 20.

Layers of felt 30 or the like may be used between the frame and the sheet of material to prevent creasing at the edges of the frame and to provide additional life and comfort to the seat. A built up pad 32 may be employed centrally of front member 10 to enhance the saddle shape of the seat, but this feature is not necessary to the invention, although it is desirable.

The corner blocks 20 will outline the seat to the shape of the body of the occupant and in combination with pad 32 will tend to maintain the saddle shape of the seat.

The sheet of material used may be in the form of a continuous single sheet or a plurality of pieces may be employed to form a design or to divide the seat centrally from front to back to further enhance the saddle seat shape.

In the manufacture of the seat, a form 34 is provided which has an upper surface curved to present the form of the seat desired as shown at 36. The sheet 38 is laid on the form and then the frame is placed on the sheet as illustrated. Pressure is then applied to the frame in a direction toward the form as indicated by the arrows in Fig. 4 and this insures that the material 38 will conform to the form 34 and thus obtain the shape desired. While the pressure is maintained, the sheet 38 is secured to the frame in any manner desired, whereupon the frame is removed and the seat is complete. Subsequently, however, additional fastening means may be employed as for instance a row of ornamental tacks may be used to additionally secure the sheet to the frame about the curvature thereof as at 40 in Fig. 1. This will tend to prevent stretching during use. Sizing may be employed to stiffen the sheet of material so as to aid in maintaining the shape but this is not necessary because of the fact that the form provides for sufficient material, and just sufficient material, for the desired shape.

It is preferred that the sheet material, while depending in the manner shown in Fig. 2, from only one surface of the frame, it should not depend below the opposite surface, although this does not affect or modify the inventive concept herein disclosed.

The article of manufacture as above described is inexpensive and yet strong and sturdy, it being pointed out that the securing of the material to the frame is easily accomplished by reason of the fact that the frame is clamped to the form 34 during this operation; and more important, the degree of material depression of the seat is automatically determined by the form and not by the operator.

Having thus described my invention and the advantages thereof, I do not wish to be limited to the details herein disclosed, otherwise than as set forth in the claims, but what I claim is:

1. An article of manufacture comprising an open frame having front and rear members and side members connecting the same, corner pieces within said frame at the juncture of said side members with the rear member, said corner pieces each having a rounded front portion and an upper dish surface inclined forwardly and downwardly, a flexible single-ply sheet covering the frame and being downwardly bulged and depending below the upper surface thereof into contact

with said corner pieces and secured marginally to said frame members, the depth of the sheet being greatest in an area in the region of the rear member and said corner pieces.

2. A saddle seat or the like comprising an open frame having front and rear members and side members connecting the same, corner pieces within said frame at the juncture of said side members with the rear member, said corner pieces each having a rounded front portion and an upper dish surface inclined forwardly and downwardly, a flexible sheet covering the frame and depending below the upper surface thereof into contact with said corner pieces and secured marginally to said frame members.

3. A saddle seat or the like comprising an open frame having front and rear members and side members connecting the same, corner pieces within said frame at the juncture of said side members with the rear member, said corner pieces each having a rounded front portion and an upper dish surface inclined forwardly and downwardly, a flexible sheet covering the frame and depending below the upper surface thereof into contact with said corner pieces and secured marginally to said frame members, the depth of the sheet being greatest in an area in the region of the rear member and said corner pieces.

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