Aug. 9, 1932. W. H. ADAMS 1,870,275

SEAT PAD OR CUSHION

Filed Jan. 30, 1931

Fig.5.

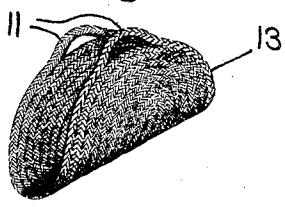


Fig.1.

Fig.3.

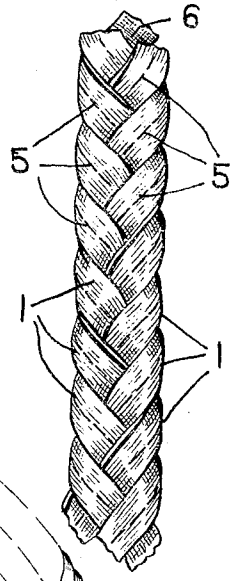


Fig.2.

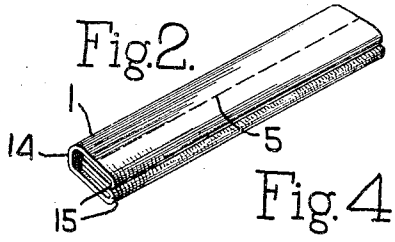
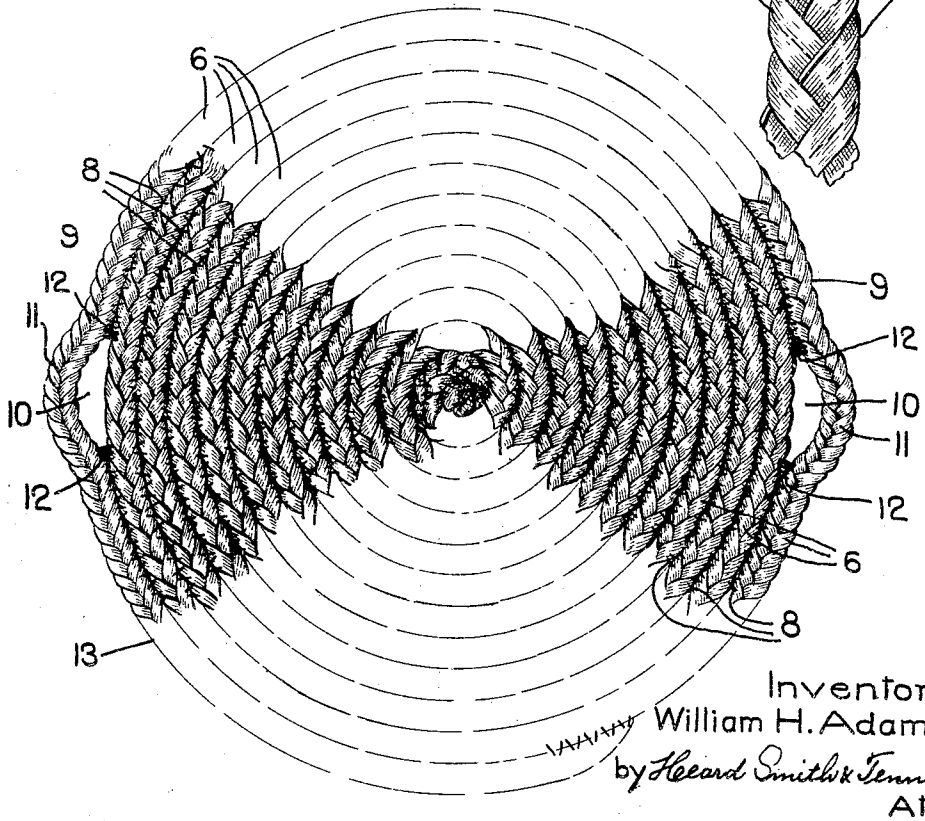


Fig.4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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SEAT PAD OR CUSHION

Application filed January 30, 1931. Serial No. 512,272.

This invention relates to a portable seat pad or cushion and particularly to seat pads or cushions which are intended for outdoor use. Seat pads embodying my invention can be advantageously used by persons who attend outdoor games or contests of different types and who in attending such games or contests are obliged to sit for long periods on bleachers, stadium seats, settees, chairs, etc., or even on the ground.

A seat pad embodying my invention is also useful for service at camps and beaches and for canoeing, yachting and under other conditions where it is desirable to increase the comfort of the user and to protect clothing from dirt or moisture.

My improved seat pad has the general characteristics of a braided rug. In making my improved seat pad, however, I take a strip of fabric and fold each edge over against the body of the fabric so that the two edges will meet at the center of the strip. This strip is then again folded in the direction of its length and along the center line thereby to provide a four-ply tape approximately one-fourth the width of the original strip and with the raw edges folded in out of sight and thus protected against ravelling or tearing during subsequent manufacture or use.

This four-ply tape may, if desired, be stitched longitudinally thereby sewing the four plies together. A plurality of four-ply tapes thus made are then braided to make a braided strand and this braided strand is formed into a seat pad in a manner somewhat similar to that in which a braided rug is made. In thus forming the seat pad, however, the peripheral turn or layer of the braided strand is left detached from the adjacent strand for a limited distance and the detached portion is bent outwardly to form a loop or handle. The completed seat pad may be provided with one or more of such loops or handles.

In order to give an understanding of the invention I have illustrated in the drawing a selected embodiment thereof which will now be described after which the novel features will be pointed out in the appended claims.

Fig. 1 illustrates the operation of folding a strip to form the four-ply tape;

Fig. 2 shows a four-ply tape provided with the line of stitching extending longitudinally thereof;

Fig. 3 is a view of a braided strand from which my seat pad is made;

Fig. 4 is a view illustrating pad embodying my invention;

Fig. 5 illustrates the way in which the seat pad may be used as a receptacle for carrying articles.

In making my improved seat pad I first prepare a plurality of four-ply tape elements 1 as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. Each tape element is made by taking a strip 2 of any suitable fabric, which strip is approximately four times the width of the finished tape 1. The edges 3 of this strip are folded inwardly against the body thereof so that they meet along approximately the longitudinal median line of the strip as shown at 4. The strip thus folded is then folded a second time along this median line thereby to produce the four-ply tape 1. In this tape the raw edges of the strip are enclosed within the body of the tape and are thus entirely protected against ravelling or tearing. This makes a folded tape which has a single fold 14 along one edge and the double folds 15 along the opposite edge.

If desired, the four-ply tape 1 when thus completed by double folding the strip 2, may be provided with a line of stitching 5 which extends longitudinally thereof and which serves to hold the four plies firmly together. The thread which is used in this stitching may be of a color which contrasts with that of the fabric from which the tape is made or may be of the same color, as desired.

After a plurality of such tapes 1 have been made they are then braided together to form a braided strand 6 and if the tape is made with the stitching 5 of thread of a contrasting color the tape will present a more or less ornamental appearance as shown in Fig. 3.

After the braided strand has been completed then it will be formed into a braided seat pad 13 in a manner somewhat similar to that employed in the manufacture of braided rugs. This braided strand will be arranged in a continuous spiral with the turns of the spiral having an edge to edge contact and the adjacent turns may be sewed together by suitable stitching 8 in a manner similar to that employed in making braided rugs.

The seat pad may be made circular or oblong or more or less rectangular in shape.

In sewing the outer or peripheral turn 9 of the braided strand to the adjacent turns I propose to omit the sewing at one or more places as shown at 10 thus leaving the outer turn detached from the next adjacent turn at these places. In omitting the stitching at the point 10 the portion 11 of the outer turn may be bellied out somewhat to make a loop which constitutes a handle. This handle may be on one side only of the seat pad or may be made on opposite sides as shown in the drawing.

The stitching 8 will be reinforced at the ends of each detached portion 11 of the outer turn as shown at 12.

A seat pad made in this way may be given an extremely attractive appearance by using appropriately colored materials in making the braided strands. The different four-ply tapes going to make up each braided strand may be of the same or of different colors depending upon the design desired for the seat pad.

By using the four-ply tape and braiding the strands firmly together a seat pad will be provided which will effectively exclude the chill of a damp seat or the moisture of damp grass, sand, soil, etc. as well as providing a comfortable cushion on which to sit.

Where the seat pad is made with the two handle portions 11 then it is possible to use this as a receptacle for carrying articles by folding the seat pad so as to bring the handles together, as shown in Fig. 5.

I claim:

1. A seat pad formed of a flat braid made by braiding fabric tapes together, said braid having a spiral formation with the adjacent turns secured together, and with the outer turn disconnected from the other turns for a limited distance thereby to provide a handle.

2. The method of making a seat pad which consists in folding the edges of a strip inwardly so that they meet along the median line of the strip, then folding the strip a second time along said median line to enclose the edges, braiding a plurality of such strips together to form a braided strand and forming said braided strand into a seat pad by arranging the strand in spiral formation with the adjacent turns in contact and secured together, and in so doing leaving the outer turn of the braided strand disconnected from the adjacent turn for a limited distance thereby to provide a handle portion.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

WILLIAM H. ADAMS.