March 14, 1950 C. T. WATKINS ET AL 2,500,591

ARCH SUPPORT HOLDER

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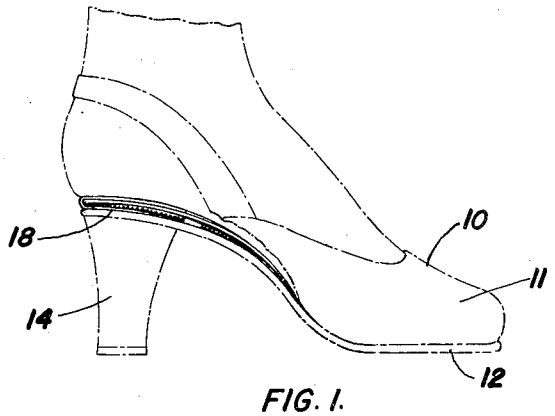


FIG. 1.

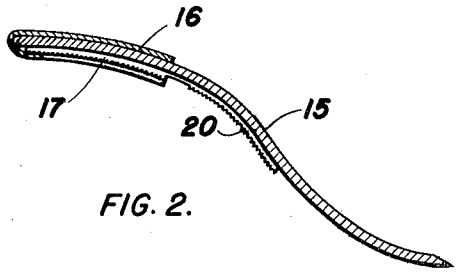


FIG. 2.

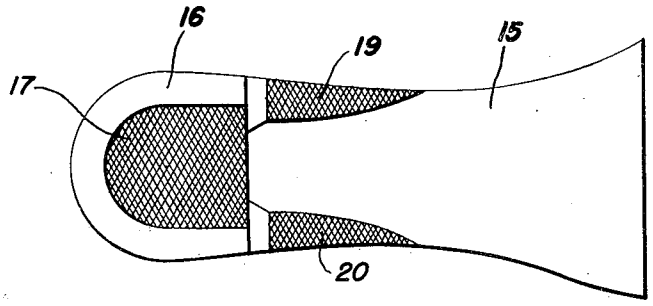


FIG. 3.

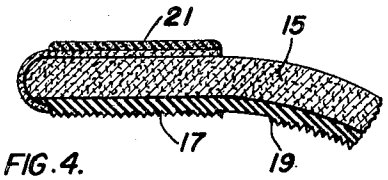


FIG. 4.

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2,500,591

ARCH SUPPORT HOLDER

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2 Claims. (Cl. 36—71)

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This invention relates to footwear and arch supports and more particularly to the adaption of an arch support to a shoe of the backless type so that they will retain the arch supports within the shoe structure when in use on the foot of a person.

The invention has among its objects to provide a new and improved arrangement that will cause the retention of an arch support within a backless shoe and avoid one or more of the disadvantages and limitations of the prior art.

Another object of this invention is to provide a new and improved arrangement for backless shoes and arch supports that will be simple in structure but effective in use without affecting the convenience and comfort desirable in this connection.

A further object of the invention is to provide a new and improved arrangement for backless shoes and arch supports that will avoid the use of nails and similar fasteners and the trouble involved in their employment for the purpose in question.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a new and improved method of interchangeably attaching arch supports to backless slippers.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a new and improved method of encasing the heel end of an arch support so its exposed portion may be changed in color to suit the color of the slippers they are used in.

Other objects will become apparent as the invention is more fully set forth.

For a better understanding of the invention, its objects and the principles thereof, reference is made to the accompanying drawings wherein a particular form is indicated by way of example. The drawings in connection with the following description outline the particular form in detail while the claims emphasize the scope of the invention.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a side view of a shoe with arch support embodying this invention, with parts broken away to show its construction;

Figure 2 is a typical section view taken along the longitudinal center line of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a view looking at the under portion of the arch support, and

Figure 4 is a modified form of envelope for holding the arch support.

Similar reference numerals relate to the same parts throughout the drawings.

In the drawings, a shoe 10 of the backless type

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is provided with a toe or upper 11 fastened to the sole 12 of the backless shoe above the heel 14. This upper 11 is open at the rear end to permit an arch support 15 to be slipped in the shoe. To mechanically hold the arch support 15 from moving, an envelope 16 is slid over the rear end of the arch support and may be made in different colors to suit the color of the shoes to be worn with the arch. The envelope is preferably provided with a resilient checkered cushion 17 to frictionally engage the surface of the arch support 15 when it is slipped in. The outer surface of cushion 17 frictionally holds to heel section 18 of sole 12 to prevent the arch support from slipping out of the shoe. The pads 19 and 20 are extended along the sides of the support 15 to increase this frictional resistance. They are preferably fastened to the support by cement.

In Figure 4 another form of the invention is shown, and is intended to render the device more suitable for other or variable conditions. The addition of a soft pad 21 on the top of the envelope 16 makes it and the arch support which ends in it, more convenient and comfortable to use. It also holds the foot on it in a non-slipping manner and thereby less liable to make the arch support underneath creep. In the use of the envelope 16 the resilient checkered cushion is hollowed out in the middle portion to give a suction effect. Sponge rubber or other frictional producing materials may be used in place of the checkered cushion means.

The arrangement used in this invention serves as a positive means of keeping an arch support properly positioned in a backless shoe. This is important, as an erratic movement of the support can prove very inconvenient and injurious to the user's foot, which the invention avoids.

It also prevents the arch support from projecting out of shoes that have no backs. Incidentally it affords the arch support with a cushion that is ordinarily not provided. Since its structure is comparatively small and inexpensive, it affords a very suitable adjunct to the supports and shoes it is employed with, especially as this quality also enables it to be applied easily. Another feature of the arrangement lies in the fact that it induces less wear than the usual form of support because it lessens the frictional abrasion ordinarily incurred between the sole, stocking, and support, and allows the same arch support to be used in different colored shoes by merely selecting an envelope of a color to suit the shoes worn at the time.

While but two general forms of the invention

are shown in the drawings and described in the specifications, it is not desired to limit this application for patent to these particular forms or in any other way otherwise than limited by the scope of the claims, as it is appreciated that other forms could be made that would use the same principles and come within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:

1. An adjunct for use with a shoe and arch support installed therein, comprising an envelope mountable on the arch support over the heel portion thereof, said envelope having one end closed and the opposite end open, the open end being used for the insertion of the heel end of the arch support and the closed end for limiting its movement therein, means for holding said envelope and arch support to the sole of said shoe, a flexible cushion secured to said envelope and having a surface for providing frictional resistance to the movement of the foot thereon and the support therein, and extension pads on said envelope attachable to the sides of the arch support for further holding same in place in the shoe.

2. An adjunct for use with a backless shoe and arch support installed therein, comprising an envelope mountable on the arch support over the heel portion thereof, said envelope having one end closed and the opposite end open, the open end being used for the insertion of the heel end of the arch support and the closed end for limiting its movement therein, means for holding said envelope and arch support to the sole of said shoe, a flexible cushion secured to said envelope and having a surface for providing frictional resistance to the movement of the foot thereon, and the support therein, extension pads on said envelope attachable to the sides of the arch support for further holding same in place in the shoe, said extension pads being of rubberlike material having a checkered face.

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The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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