May 15, 1962 M. SCHWARTZ 3,034,231

RAIN BOOT

Filed April 14, 1961

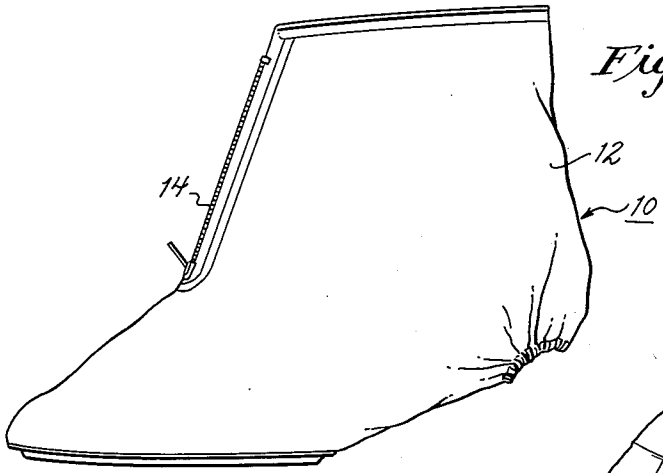


Fig. 1.

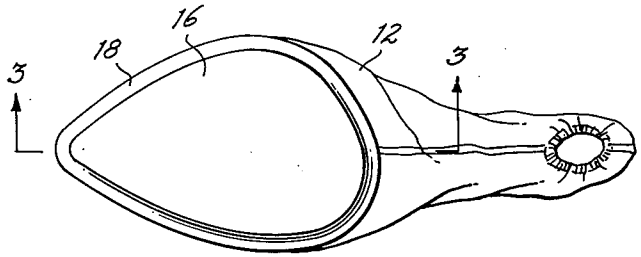
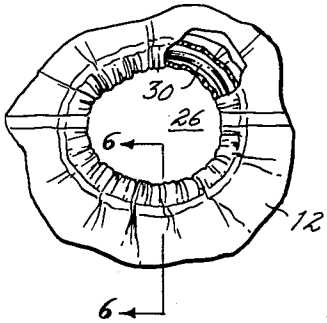


Fig. 2.

Fig. 5.



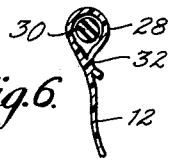


Fig. 6.

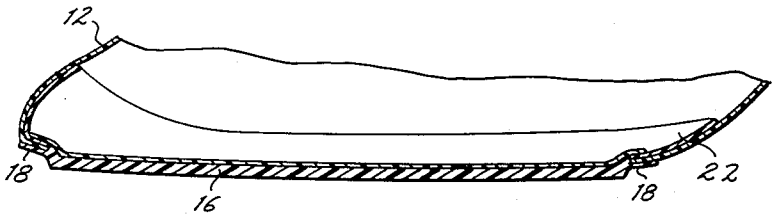


Fig. 3.

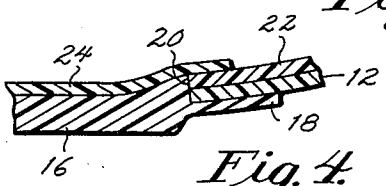


Fig. 4.

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RAIN BOOT

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5 Claims. (Cl. 36—7.2)

This invention relates to a rain boot, and more particularly, to a plastic rain boot adapted to be worn by women over high heel shoes.

The present invention is directed to a rain boot made from flexible impervious light weight plastic material. A pair of rain boots made in accordance with the present invention are capable of being folded for disposition into a small carrying case adapted to be disposed within the purse of a woman. Accordingly, the rain boots of the present invention are capable of being readily carried about by a woman for use during rainy weather.

The rain boot of the present invention is provided with a hole in a heel portion through which a heel on a high heel shoe extends. The periphery of the hole in the heel portion of the boot is elastic in nature so that the boot will accommodate various sized heels on women's shoes.

The outsole of the boot is provided with a peripheral flange to which the lower edge of the upper is secured. A reinforcement layer is provided over the upper adjacent to the peripheral flange and an insole overlies a portion of the reinforcement layer. The reinforcement layer assures that the boot will be water-tight and provides additional support in the area of greatest wear.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a novel rain boot.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a novel rain boot having a reinforced joint between the upper and the outsole.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a novel rain boot having an expandable aperture adjacent a heel portion which does not interfere with the insertion of a heel through said aperture.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

For the purpose of illustrating the invention there is shown in the drawing a form which is presently preferred; it being understood, however, that this invention is not limited to the precise arrangements and instrumentalities shown.

FIGURE 1 is a side elevational view of the boot of the present invention.

FIGURE 2 is a bottom plan view of the boot of the present invention.

FIGURE 3 is an enlarged sectional view taken along the lines 3—3 in FIGURE 2, with the illustration being reversed 180°.

FIGURE 4 is a greatly enlarged fragment of FIGURE 3.

FIGURE 5 is an enlarged bottom plan view of the heel opening adjacent the heel portion of the boot shown in FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 6 is an enlarged sectional view taken along the lines 6—6 in FIGURE 5.

Referring to the drawing in detail, wherein like numerals indicate like elements, there is shown in FIGURE 1 a rain boot designated generally as **10**.

The rain boot **10** comprises an upper **12** made from a plastic material. The plastic material is preferably opaque and flexible in nature so that the rain boot **10** may be readily folded into a compact disposition for disposition within a woman's purse.

The upper **12** is provided with opposed mating edges to which tapes of a zipper **14** are secured by means of a heat sealed joint.

The boot **10** is provided with an outsole **16** made from a plastic material. The exterior surface of the outsole **16**

may be provided with knurling if desired. As shown more clearly in FIGURE 4, the peripheral edge of the outsole **16** has a thickness greater than the remainder of the outsole **16**. The outsole **16** is provided with a peripheral flange **18** extending therefrom at a point substantially equidistant from the upper and lower surfaces of the peripheral edge of the outsole **16**. The flange **18** cooperates with the outsole **16** to define a locating shoulder **20** as shown more clearly in FIGURE 4.

The lowermost edge of the upper **12** is in abutting contact with the shoulder **20** and overlies the flange **18**. The flange **18** is secured to the lowermost edge of the upper **12** by a heat sealed joint. A reinforcement layer **22** overlies the lowermost edge of the upper **12** and is in abutting contact with the shoulder **20**. As shown more clearly in FIGURE 3, the reinforcement layer **22** has a width substantially greater than the width of the flange **18**. The reinforcement layer **22** is secured to the upper **12** by a heat sealed joint. Preferably, the heat sealed joint between the upper **12**, flange **18** and the reinforcement layer **22** is provided at the same time.

It will be noted that the height of the shoulder **20** corresponds with the combined thickness of the upper **12** and and the reinforcement layer **22**. An insole **24** overlies the uppermost surface of the outsole **16**. The periphery of the insole **24** is secured to the reinforcement layer **22** by a heat sealed joint at a point intermediate the shoulder **20** and the outer periphery of the flange **18**.

The location of the reinforcement layer **22** provides additional support at the area of greatest wear and aids in providing a waterproof seal between the upper **12** and the outsole **16**.

The heel portion of the upper **12** is provided with a heel receiving hole **26**. The edges of the upper **12** defining the hole **26** are gathered as shown more clearly in FIGURE 5 and folded inwardly so as to form a loop **28**. An elastic thread **30** is disposed within the loop **28**. It will be obvious that a plurality of such threads may be provided within the loop **28** if desired. As shown more clearly in FIGURE 6, the edges of the upper **12** defining the hole **26** are secured to the inner surface of the upper **12** by means of a heat sealed joint **32**.

When the boot **10** of the present invention is being worn, the heel of the shoe extends through the hole **26**. Since the elastic thread **30** is disposed within a closed loop, the thread **30** does not come in contact with the heel of the shoe. Also, the elastic thread **30** cannot interfere with the facile insertion of the heel through the hole **26**. The heat sealed joint **32** eliminates the use of threads and thereby increases the aesthetic appearance of the boot **10** of the present invention. As a heel is inserted through the hole **26**, the elastic thread **30** permits expansion of the hole so as to accommodate various sized heels.

When a heel is extending through the hole **26**, the elastic thread **30** causes the heel portion of the upper **12** to snugly grip the heel. In this manner, entry of water between the heel and the heel portion of the upper **12** is prevented.

The use of heat sealed joints throughout the construction of the boot **10** enables the same to be manufactured more rapidly while at the same time assuring water-tight seals. In addition, the absence of threads adds to the aesthetic appearance of the boot while it is being worn.

As used hereinafter, the term "plastic" is to be interpreted as embracing synthetic resins as well as rubber. While the insole **24** is heat sealed to the outsole **16** and the reinforcement layer **22**, it will be appreciated that the insole **24** may be adhesively secured thereto.

The present invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential attributes thereof and, accordingly, reference should be made to the appended claims, rather than to the foregoing specification as indicating the scope of the invention.

I claim:

1. A rain boot comprising a flexible plastic upper, an outsole having a peripheral flange, the lowermost edge of said upper overlying and being secured to said flange, a reinforcement layer secured to said lowermost edge of said upper, and an insole secured to said outsole, the peripheral edge of said insole overlying a portion of and being secured to said reinforcement layer.

2. A rain boot in accordance with claim 1 wherein said upper is provided with inturned edges in a heel portion thereof, said inturned edges defining a heel receiving hole, said inturned edges being secured to said upper so as to define a loop, and an elastic thread within said loop.

3. A rain boot comprising a flexible plastic upper, said upper having inturned edges in a heel portion thereof, said inturned edges being secured to said upper by a heat sealed joint so as to form a closed loop, an elastic thread within said loop, said loop defining a heel receiving hole in the heel portion of said upper.

4. A rain boot comprising a flexible plastic upper, a zipper along a front portion of said upper and extending from an upper edge thereof, a heel portion of said upper having a heel receiving hole therein, an outsole, the lowermost edge of said upper being disposed over a flange on said outsole in abutting contact with a shoulder on said outsole, a reinforcement layer disposed over said lowermost edge of said upper, said reinforcement layer being in abutting contact with said shoulder, the height of said shoulder corresponding to the combined thickness of said upper and said reinforcement layer, said upper being secured to said flange and said reinforcement layer with a water-tight seal, and an insole overlying the uppermost surface of said outsole, said insole being secured to said uppermost surface of said outsole.

5. A rain boot in accordance with claim 4 wherein the water-tight seal between said upper, flange and reinforcement layer is a heat sealed joint, and the peripheral edge of said insole overlying and being secured to a portion of said reinforcement layer.

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