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HATCHET SCABBARD

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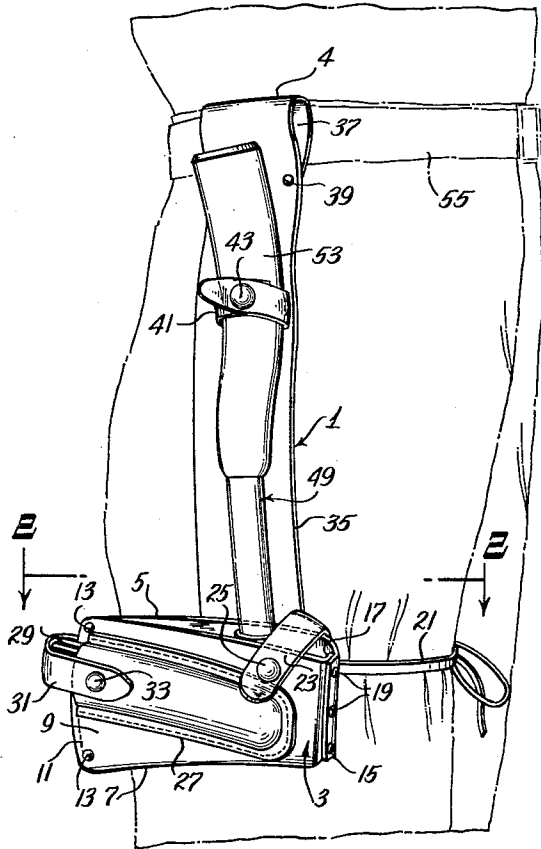


Fig. 1.

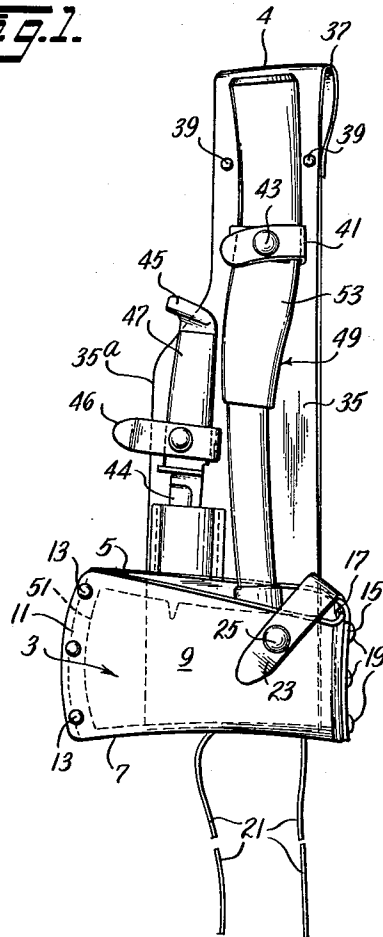


Fig. 3.

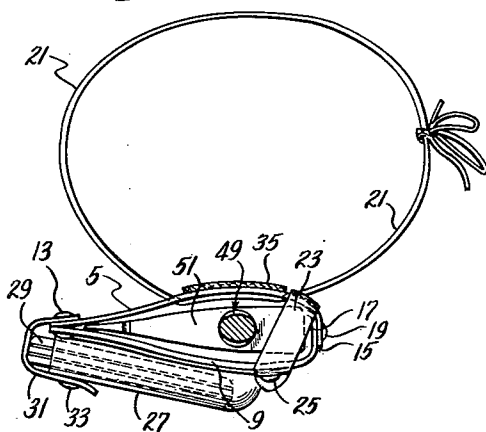


Fig. 2.

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HATCHET SCABBARD

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This invention relates generally to a hatchet scabbard adapted to be worn on the user's person and to contain a conventional hatchet of the type commonly used by woodsmen, outdoors men and the like. More particularly, the invention relates to a novel belt-mounted hatchet scabbard wherein the hatchet is secured in inverted position with its handle readily accessible to the user and wherein means are provided for receiving at least one other tool.

Belt-mounted hatchet scabbards are well known in the art, but in the conventional models the sheath per se is directly affixed to the belt so that the blade portion of the hatchet is uppermost, being disposed at waist level. To release the hatchet for use a variety of flaps must be un-snapped and folded away, the hatchet must be grasped at the blade end and drawn upwardly toward the user's shoulder until the bottom of the handle emerges through an opening in the bottom of the scabbard. Furthermore, no means are provided to prevent the lowermost portion of the hatchet from moving about freely when the hatchet is housed in the scabbard, and no means are provided for receiving supplementary tools.

Accordingly, it is a primary object of the present invention to provide a hatchet scabbard adapted to retain the hatchet firmly in position on the user's person and one in which the hatchet is readily accessible and releasable for use.

Another object is to provide a hatchet scabbard including means for receiving supplementary tools.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a hatchet scabbard of the type described which may be conveniently and quickly mounted or removed from the user's person.

Another object is to provide a hatchet scabbard which is attractive in appearance, durable in use and economical to manufacture.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent in the following description when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a front elevation of the hatchet scabbard illustrating a hatchet and a second tool received therein and illustrating the scabbard itself as being installed on a user's person, the latter being partially shown in phantom lines.

FIG. 2 is a sectional view taken on the line 2-2 of FIG. 1, and

FIG. 3 is a front elevation illustrating a modified form of the scabbard shown in FIG. 1.

Referring now more specifically to the drawings, the hatchet scabbard of the present invention is indicated generally by numeral 1 and includes an upwardly open socket portion or sheath 3 at the lower end thereof and a belt-attaching loop 4 at the upper end thereof.

The sheath 3 may be formed of a single sheet of leather or the like, including an inner wall portion 5 terminating at its lower end in an outwardly extending bottom wall portion 7, which is in turn folded upwardly to form an outer wall 9. The rear edges of the inner and outer walls 5 and 9, respectively, are secured together as by stitching 11 and/or rivets 13 to close the socket at the rear. Overlapping flaps 15 and 17, extending from the walls 5 and 7 at the front edges thereof, are secured together by rivets 19 or the like to close the socket at the front thereof. It will be understood that the various wall portions of the sheath 3 will be dimensioned so as to snugly receive a

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hatchet head of conventional design or any particular hatchet of different design as might be intended.

A leather thong 21 or the like is attached to the back well 5 as by passing into and out of the socket through adjacent horizontally aligned openings in the back wall. A safety strap 23 may be secured, as by stitching, to the inner surface of inner wall 5 and is positioned to extend over the open upper end of socket 3, adjacently forward the extremity thereof, and be secured by a snap means 25 or the like to the outer face of outer wall 9. A leather sheet portion 27 may be stitched along its upper, forward and lower edges to the outside face of outer wall 9 to provide a rearwardly open tool-receiving pocket. As illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 2, the sheet 27 is elongated in configuration and may be pre-shaped with a bulge to snugly receive a jackknife 29 or the like. A second safety strap 31 is secured at one end thereof on the rearward portion of the inside face of wall 5 and extends across the rearwardly disposed opening of the pocket to be removably secured on the outside face of sheet 27, as by snap means 33.

A leather strap 35 is secured at its lower end by stitching or the like to the inside face of inner wall 5 and extends upwardly for a distance approximately equal to the hatchet handle which is intended to be carried. At its upper end strap 35 includes a return portion 37 attached at its lower extremity to the back of strap 35 by means of rivets 39 or the like, to form the belt-encircling loop 4. Strap 35 should be of greater width than the hatchet handle to provide a buffer between the handle and the user's thigh. A securing strap 41 is attached intermediate its ends to the outer face of strap 35 and is adapted to encircle the hatchet blade handle, with the ends of strap 41 being releasably interconnected by snap means 43 or the like.

The alternative embodiment illustrated in FIG. 3 incorporates the same basic components as that of FIGS. 1 and 2 with the exception that the pocket defined by sheet portion 27 is not employed, nor is the associated safety strap 31. Otherwise similar elements have been given the identical numerals as those associated with FIGS. 1 and 2 and will not be described again in detail here. The embodiment of FIG. 3 incorporates a strap portion 35a which is integral with, and disposed rearwardly of, strap 35. A vertically directed, upwardly open pocket is provided on the front face of strap portion 35a to accommodate the blade 44 of a conventional hunting knife 45 or the like. As will be seen from the drawings, the lower portion of this pocket is disposed between the sheet portion 35a and the inner wall 5 of sheath 3. A safety strap 46, similar in construction and mounting to the strap 41, is provided to encircle the handle 47 of knife 45 and secure the knife in sheathed position.

In either embodiment it will be readily understood that the hatchet 49 can be conveniently positioned in the scabbard 1 by inserting its head 51 into the open upper end of the sheath or socket 3, the head being secured by strap 23 passing across its forward extremity and secured by snap means 25. The handle 53 of the hatchet is firmly retained along the length of strap 35 by means of safety strap 41. The scabbard 1, with or without the hatchet 49, is secured on the person of the user by passing the user's belt 55 through loop 4 and securing the thong 21 about his thigh. Removal of the scabbard 1 and removal of the hatchet 49 from the scabbard can be quickly and conveniently accomplished by the reverse procedure, and it should be particularly noted that when the hatchet is installed in the scabbard on the user's hip, the handle 53 thereof is directly accessible and may be grasped and removed in a single motion.

Numerous changes may be made in the material, the details of construction and the arrangement of elements

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without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the annexed claims.

I claim:

1. A hatchet scabbard, comprising: a sheath having inner and outer sheathing walls secured together along at least one side edge thereof defining an elongated opening at the upper end thereof of sufficient size to receive the head of an inverted hatchet, and further defining a substantially horizontal bottom adapted to underlie and support said head; a strap extending upwardly from said sheath and adapted to be disposed vertically along a user's hip; belt attaching means at the upper end of said strap; and means for removably retaining the hatchet handle against the outer surface of said strap; means attached to said sheath for securing said sheath to the thigh of the user; and means secured to said scabbard for removably retaining a slender implement.

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2. A hatchet scabbard defined in claim 1 wherein said implement retaining means is secured to said sheath.

3. A hatchet scabbard defined in claim 1 wherein said implement retaining means is secured to said strap.

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