Aug. 14, 1928. 1,680,442

M. E. ANDERSON

FOOT MAT

Filed March 9, 1927

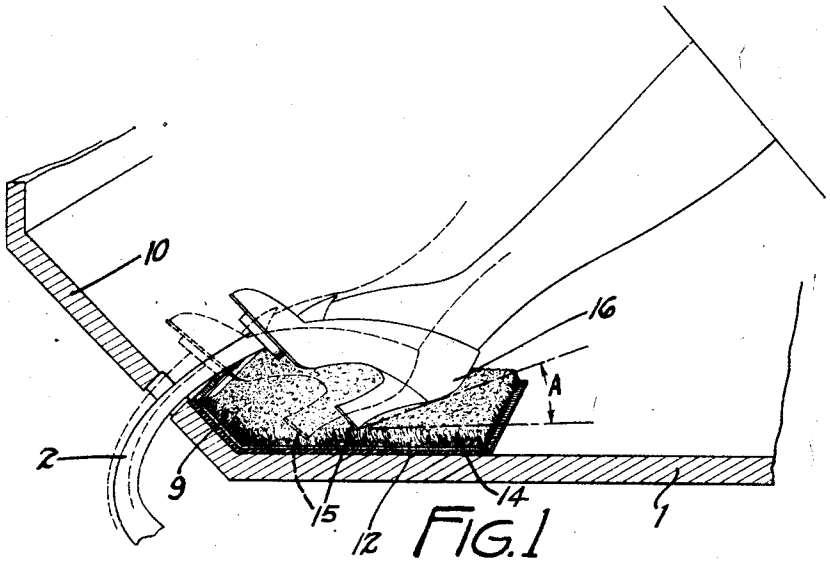


FIG. 1

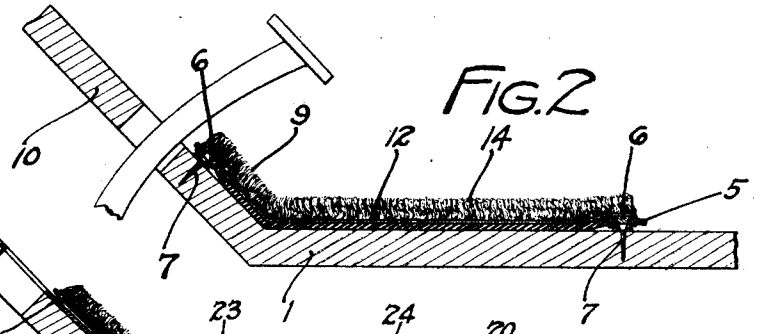


FIG. 2

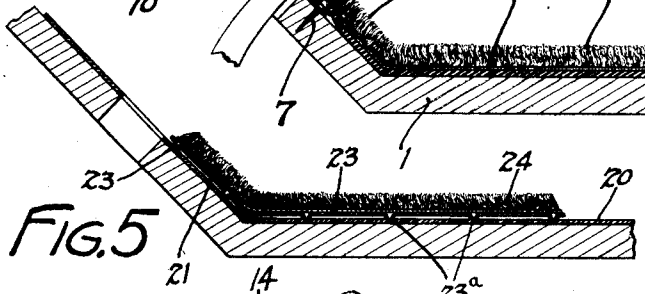


FIG. 5

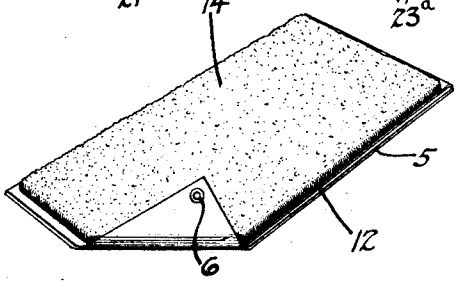


FIG. 3

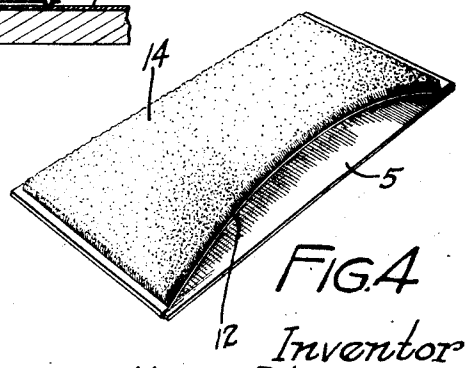


FIG. 4

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MILDRED E. ANDERSON, OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

FOOT MAT.

Application filed March 9, 1927. Serial No. 173,902.

This invention relates to improvements in mats for use in automobiles, as a rest for the foot during actuation of the pedals, where, during pedal operation the heel and counter of the shoe are submitted to friction against the mat.

Another advantage in the use of natural sheep-skin is that it retains the natural oil and dries quickly. In drying, the wool curls and fluffs up to its initial condition instead of matting, which matting takes place in all other long nap fabrics which I have used. The natural sheep-skin moreover wears very little itself, and thus a saving in the life of the floor covering results. This is an important feature. Features of the invention include the specific manner of using the sheep-skin as a mat and a specific means for constructing a mat from sheep-skin and a suitable base.

Other advantages of the invention will be set forth in the description of the drawings which form a part of this application and in said drawings

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the mat in use;

Figure 2 is a sectional view illustrating the manner of attaching the mat;

Figure 3 is a general perspective view with one edge turned up to show the snap-fastener device;

Figure 4 is a perspective view showing how the skin may be raised from its base to permit removal of such dirt as may pass through; and

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 2 showing a modification.

Numeral 1 designates the floor of an automobile, 2 the pedal. The mat is provided with a base 5 of rubber to the under side of which base are secured a plurality of snap-fastener sections 6, preferably four in number. The opposite section 7 of the fastener is suitably secured in the floor 1. Figures 1 and 2 represent the manner in which the device is ordinarily attached and positioned in relation to the pedal so that some portion 9 of the mat will rest upon the inclined portion 10 of the floor.

Secured to the mat 5 in any preferred manner, for example as by stitching, is a section 12 of natural sheep-skin having the wool side 14 arranged to receive or be engaged by the foot.

As shown in Figure 1, the heel 15 of the shoe forms a fulcrum about which the foot oscillates when operating the pedal. Particularly in the case of woman drivers an acute angle A is formed between the fulcrum point of the shoe that is the heel and the floor, the result is that an undue amount of friction between the mat and the heel and counter portion 16 of the shoe is had. This acute angular relation is, of course, obtained in most instances because of the relation of the seat to the pedal, the seat generally being low. Sometimes the seat is at too great a distance from the pedals and the driver has to sit well forwardly in order to operate the pedals. For this reason, also, this acute angular relation of the heel and counter portion of the shoe to the mat is had. It will be clear that the constant friction of this portion of the shoe against a mat of ordinary texture quickly scars and wears the shoe.

A particular value of this invention is that the delicate counter leather of the very expensive women's shoes is protected.

In Figure 5 a modification has been shown in which the ordinary mat or carpet is shown at 20. In this form of the invention the sheep-skin 24 is secured by means of suitable cement positionally indicated by the numeral 23, to a metal base 21. This sheet metal base is punched as shown at 23^a to provide roughened portions which frictionally engage the mat 20 to hold the device in operative position. This is a very simple construction, and has been found to remain in its proper position under all conditions of use.

I claim as my invention:

1. A pedal mat comprising a base section of flexible rubber material, and a section of natural sheep skin secured to one face side of the base section with its wool side facing outwardly.

2. A mat as a heel rest comprising a flexible base and a section of sheep's wool secured to the base, with its wool side facing upwardly.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 1st day of March, 1927.

MILDRED E. ANDERSON.