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KEYHOLDING ACCESSORY FOR A LADIES' HANDBAG

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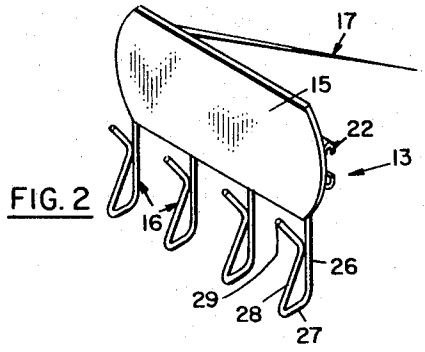


FIG. 2

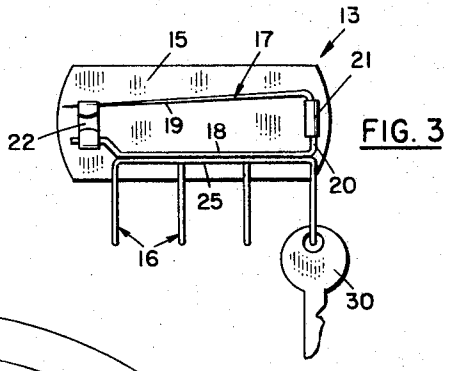


FIG. 3

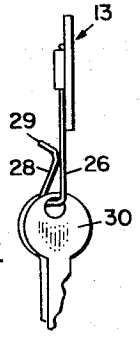


FIG. 4

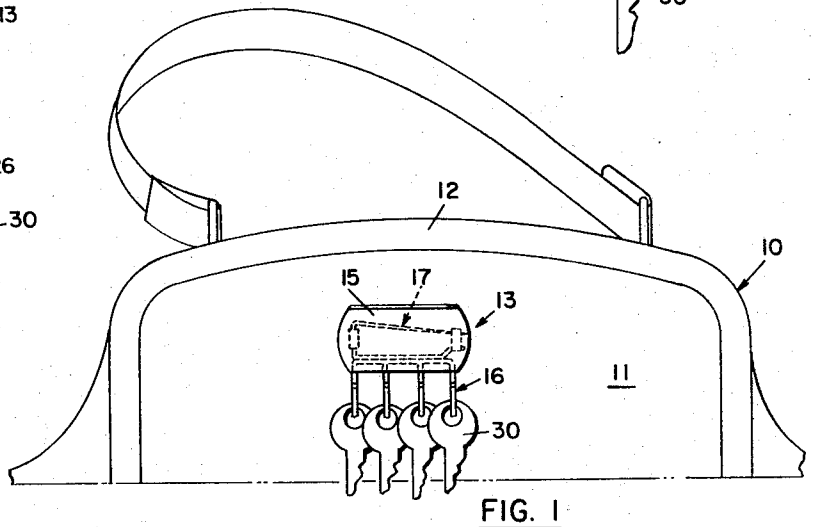


FIG. 1

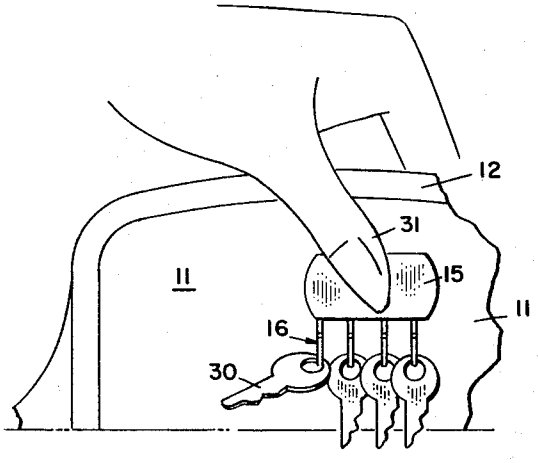


FIG. 5

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KEYHOLDING ACCESSORY FOR A LADIES' HANDBAG

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1 Claim. (Cl. 150—34)

This invention relates generally to a keyholding accessory for a ladies' handbag or the like.

As is well known, various types of keyholders are employed by ladies, usually being received loosely in the ladies' handbag. This often presents difficulties in retrieving the keyholder from the handbag, both in locating the keyholder in the handbag and in separating the keyholder from the other contents of the handbag. Further, conventional keyholders do not usually afford convenient selection of a desired key, without clear observation of the various keys, which presents still further difficulties, especially under conditions of inadequate illumination.

Accordingly, it is an important object of the present invention to provide a unique and highly advantageous keyholding accessory for use in a ladies' handbag, which overcomes the above-mentioned difficulties, being always conveniently located in an elevated, or other desired predetermined location within the handbag, and which presents the user's keys in a known order or arrangement for ease and convenience in accurate selection of a desired key.

It is still a further object of the present invention to provide a keyholding accessory of the type described which is extremely simple in construction, durable and reliable throughout a long useful life, and which can be economically manufactured for mass production and sale at a reasonable price.

Other objects of the present invention will become apparent upon reading the following specification and referring to the accompanying drawings, which form a material part of this disclosure.

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combinations of elements, and arrangements of parts, which will be exemplified in the construction hereinafter described, and of which the scope will be indicated by the appended claims.

In the drawings:

FIGURE 1 is an elevation view showing a keyholding accessory of the present invention in combination with a ladies' handbag, illustrating an operative condition of use;

FIGURE 2 is a front perspective view showing the keyholding accessory of FIGURE 1 apart from the ladies' handbag, with fasterner means of the accessory in an open condition;

FIGURE 3 is a rear elevational view showing the keyholding accessory apart from the handbag, with the fastener in closed condition and illustrating a key in position on the keyholder;

FIGURE 4 is a side elevational view taken from the right-hand side of FIGURE 3; and

FIGURE 5 is an elevational view showing the combined keyholder and handbag in operative condition, with a key about to be removed for use.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, and specifically to FIGURE 1 thereof, a handbag is there generally designated **10**, having one side wall **11**, the interior of which is exposed upon opening of the handbag, the illustrated condition in FIGURES 1 and 5. The side wall **11** is bounded on its upper edge by a frame **12**, or other suitable means, and the keyholding accessory is generally designated **13** and illustrated in position fixed to the internal side of handbag wall **11** adjacent to and spaced below the upper wall edge **12**.

The keyholder **13** is best seen in FIGURES 2, 3 and 4 as including an elongate finger-press member or plate **15**, which may be generally flat or of other suitable contour, as desired. In practice, the finger-press member or plate **15** may be of an elongate configuration, as illustrated, for carrying a plurality of keyhooks **16**, as will appear more fully hereinafter.

On one side or face of the finger-press member **15**, the rear face thereof, there is secured, as by welding or other suitable means, a fastener **17**. The fastener **17** may be of the safety-pin type, or other suitable construction, being shown in the illustrated embodiment as including a generally U-shaped wire or rod having a fixed leg **18**, a movable leg **19**, and a bight portion **20** connecting together the legs **18** and **19**. The legs **18** and **19** may extend generally longitudinally of the finger-press plate **15**, a loop or ferrule **21** extending about the bight portion **20** and being fixed to the rear side of the plate **15**, as by welding, or other suitable securing means. The leg **18** extends from the bight portion **20** longitudinally along and spaced above the lower edge of the plate **15**, having its free end anchored to a clip **22**, which is also fixed, by any suitable means, to the rear side of the plate. The leg **17**, advantageously pointed for engagement through the handbag wall **11**, is releasably retained by the clip **22**, being illustrated in its closed or retained condition in FIGURES 3 and 4, and in its open condition in FIGURE 2.

Secured to the leg **18**, extending longitudinally along the underside thereof, may be a wire or rod **25**. At longitudinally spaced locations along the rod **25**, there depend therefrom the several key-receiving hooks **16**. More specifically, each hook **16** includes a shank **26** depending from the rod **25** beyond the lower edge of the finger-press plate **15**. From the lower end of each shank **26** extends a bight portion **27** generally forwardly beyond the forward face of the finger-press plate, and a free end portion **28** extends generally upwardly from the bight portion **27** terminating in a terminal portion **29** extending forwardly away from the front of plate **15**. Thus, the several hooks **16** depend in side-by-side spaced relation from the finger-press plate **15**, being rigidly connected thereto, for removably receiving respective keys, as at **30**, upon resilient deflection of the respective hook and engagement of the key downward over the terminal portion **29** and free leg **28**. Obviously, several keys may thus be arranged in a predetermined order.

In combination with the handbag **10**, the finger-press plate **15** is arranged with its rear side in facing relation with the inner side of handbag wall **11**, extending generally longitudinally along and spaced below the upper edge or frame **12** of the handbag wall, see FIGURES 1 and 5. In this condition, the fastener **17** may be detachably secured to the handbag wall **11**, in the manner of a conventional safety pin, to retain the keyholder **13** in position on the handbag wall. Upon opening of the handbag, the keyholder and its retained keys are thus in an elevated, known position for quick and easy access thereto.

When it is desired to remove or replace a key **30** relative to its respective hook **16**, the user's hand, see FIGURE 5, may advantageously be arranged over the upper handbag wall edge **12**, with a thumb **31** or other finger in bearing engagement with the plate **15** to hold the latter firmly against the handbag wall **11**. This serves to steady the plate **15** as well as the several hooks **16**, which are relatively rigidly secured to the plate. It is then an easy matter for the user to grasp a selected key **30**, with the other hand, for removal of the key from its retaining hook and replacement thereon, as desired.

From the foregoing, it is seen that the present invention provides a keyholding accessory for a ladies' hand-

bag which fully accomplishes its intended objects and is well adapted to meet practical conditions of manufacture and use.

Although the present invention has been described in some detail by way of illustration and example for purposes of clarity of understanding, it is understood that certain changes and modifications may be made within the spirit of the invention and scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

In combination, a ladies' handbag having an internal wall adapted to be exposed upon opening of the handbag, an elongate finger-press plate in facing relation with said internal wall, a fastener pin secured longitudinally along the facing side of said plate and detachably securing said finger-press member to said wall in said facing relation, and a plurality of key-receiving hooks each including a shank rigidly fixed to the facing side of said finger-press plate projecting transversely from and beyond said plate, a bight portion at the distal end of each shank, and a free-end portion extending from each bight portion along the adjacent shank toward and terminating in a terminal portion short of said plate and projecting away from said wall, said finger-press member being manually engageable to steady said hooks for removal and replacement of keys with respect to said hooks.

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