

[54] ADHESIVE SHEET MATERIAL

[76] Inventor: **Ryoji Shibata**, No. 390, Okayama-cho, Higashi-ku, Osaka, Japan

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Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 352,855, March 18, 1964, abandoned.

[30] **Foreign Application Priority Data**

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Nov. 22, 1963	Japan.....	38/87935
Dec. 1, 1963	Japan.....	38/65144

[52] U.S. Cl.....40/158

[51] Int. Cl. G09f 1/10

[58] **Field of Search**40/158, 158 B, 104.18,
40/104.19, 125 A

[56]

References Cited

UNITED STATES PATENTS

2,283,026	5/1942	Yates.....	40/158 X
2,592,078	4/1952	Taylor et al.	40/125 X
2,775,048	12/1956	Berman	40/125 X
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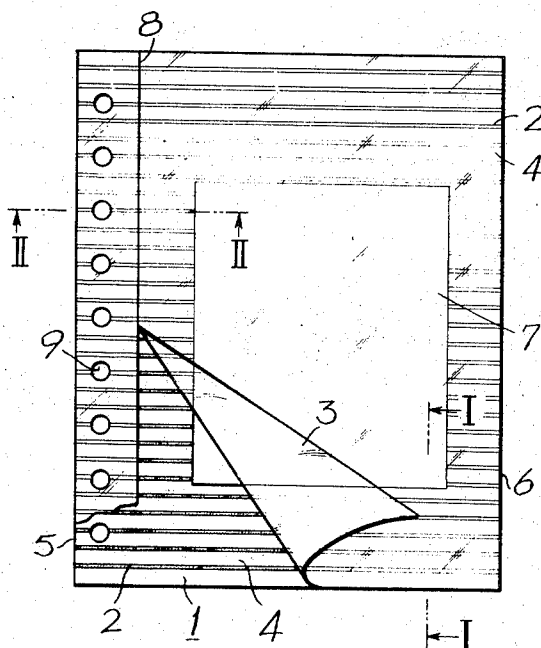
Primary Examiner—Robert W. Michell
Assistant Examiner—Wenceslao J. Contreras
Attorney—McGlew and Toren

[57]

ABSTRACT

A sheet material for mounting items in albums, scrap-books and the like, comprising an adhesive backing sheet and a transparent protective sheet. A suitable pattern of pressure sensitive adhesive films is printed on the backing sheet, leaving a certain amount of unprinted areas which are substantially lower than the printed portions.

6 Claims, 5 Drawing Figures



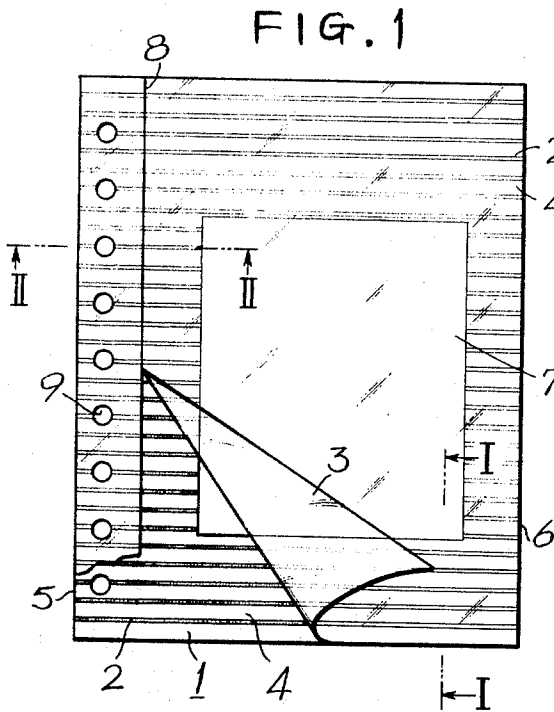


FIG. 2

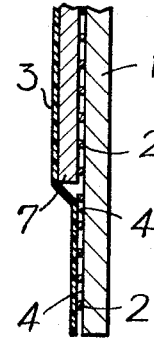


FIG. 3

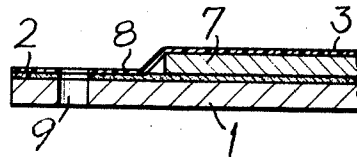


FIG. 4

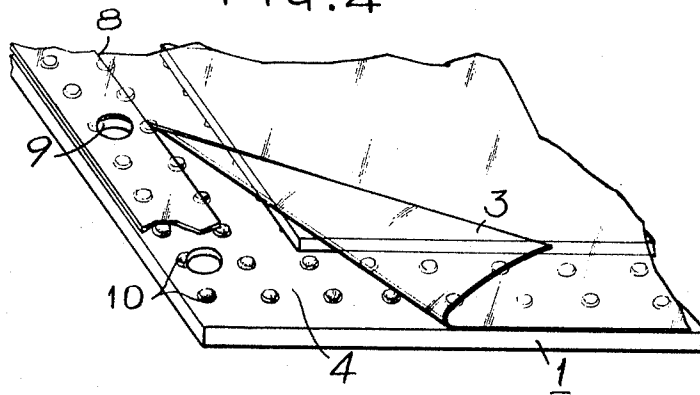
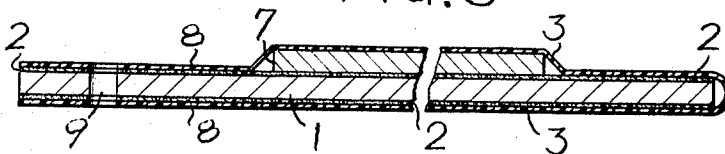


FIG. 5



INVENTOR

RYOJI SHIBATA

BY *Maryleew and Toran*

ATTORNEYS

ADHESIVE SHEET MATERIAL

DESCRIPTION

This present invention is a continuation-in-part application of my application filed Mar. 18, 1964 Serial No. 352,855 and now abandoned.

This invention relates to sheet material and more particularly to sheet material printed at least on one side thereof with a pressure sensitive adhesive in the form of a pattern consisting of lines, dots, or the like.

The product with which this invention is concerned may be used for numerous purposes, but I prefer to use it for holding photographs, name cards, news paper clippings, dried flowers, etc., in such a manner that the items just mentioned can be viewed easily and clearly. Throughout the specification and for the sake of brevity, however, the term photograph is meant to include all of the items just mentioned, in which instance a number of the sheet materials are bound into an album or scrapbook.

In holding photographs in an album over extended periods of time, it is always desirable to mount the photographs in the album with ease, maintain them completely free from wrinkles, blisters and stains or from accidental movement and deviation, clearly view them through a protective sheet covering the backing sheet, and readily remove and relocate them without damage and stain thereto.

It has been a problem of great concern to provide albums or scrapbooks to meet with these requirements and at low price. One previous attempt at providing such albums or scrapbooks involved the use of photo retainers having inserts for securing the corners of photographs on the backing sheet of the albums or scrapbooks. In this instance, however, the photographs attached to the backing sheet are easily subjected to damages and stains since the outer surface of each photograph is exposed to the open air. Moreover, it is impossible to remove and relocate the photographs from the backing sheet once the former have been mounted on the latter.

There is also known a photograph holder comprising a backing sheet coated on and throughout the outer surface thereof with pressure sensitive adhesive and a transparent protective sheet superposed on the backing sheet, photographs being mounted inbetween the backing and protective sheets. In this type of the photograph holders, it is impossible to allow air entrapped inbetween the photograph and the backing sheet to escape therefrom with the result that objectionable wrinkles and blisters are produced inbetween the photograph and the backing sheet. Air also tends to be entrapped inbetween the backing and protective sheets, degrading the aesthetic quality of the albums or scrapbooks. The photograph, in this prior art photograph holder, is attached over its overall area to the backing sheet so that it is difficult to detach it smoothly and without damage thereto due to the excess strength of adhesion.

Another difficulty is encountered by the existing photograph holder of this type in that the pressure sensitive adhesive utilized therein is easily subjected to aging after long use or due to seasonal change in temperature. As the result, the adhesive is softened and transferred to the back of either the photograph or the protective sheet. It follows on the one hand that the photograph is too strongly stuck to the backing sheet to be detached easily and without damage thereto and on the

other that the protective sheet becomes stained and lessened in its transparence quality. It will be readily appreciated that the pressure sensitive adhesive to be used in photograph holder should remain sufficiently resistant to the fluctuation in temperature, moisture, sunlight beam and other physical factors over extended length of time.

The present invention therefore contemplates at providing novel and improved adhesive sheet material to fulfill the above mentioned drawbacks through the special application and formulation of pressure sensitive adhesive.

The sheet material according to my invention comprises a relatively thick backing sheet with film of pressure sensitive adhesive of non-drying nature printed in the form of a pattern consisting of spaced parallel lines, dots or the like. The lines or dots of an adhesive material are applied spaced from each other on a backing sheet to form substantial raised portions thereon with the result that the remaining portions of the backing sheet are substantially lowered with no adhesive film provided. When photographs are mounted in an album, they are superposed direct on such raised portions of pressure sensitive nature, thereby forming clearances between the photograph and the lowered portions of the backing. Air which is present inbetween the photograph and backing sheet is forced out by way of the lowered portions. To prevent the photograph and the adhesive portions of the backing sheet from being exposed to air, it is necessary to cover the backing sheet over its entire area with use of a transparent protective sheet made of, for example, non-plastic polyvinyl chloride.

The clearances formed between the photograph and the lowered portions of the backing sheet where the adhesive film is absent will serve to cause air entrapped inbetween the photograph and the backing to escape from the openings formed at the edges of the backing sheet.

The advantages of such partial application of the adhesive are:

1. Increased aerating nature of the sheet material, which assures freedom from wrinkles and blisters produced inbetween the backing sheet and the photograph or protective sheet, maintaining the original aesthetic quality and clear viewing of the albums;

2. Minimized amount of the adhesive to be used, which assures production economy;

3. While in manufacturing, decreased amount of time required for the drying process of the sheet material, leading to higher production efficiency;

4. Decreased hygroscopic nature of the sheet material in its entirety due to the presence of lowered portions to provide sufficient amount of clearances over the backing sheet; and

5. Easy detachment of the photographs from the backing sheet without damage and stain thereto.

The pressure sensitive adhesive used in my invention may comprise polystyrene butadiene latex and polyisoprene latex added by ethylene glycol, casein resolved in ammonium solution, anti-foaming agent, anti-mould agent and anti-aging agent. Such formulation of the pressure sensitive adhesive is characterized by the addition of polystyrene butadiene latex to polyisoprene latex selected from the group of synthetic rubbers. Polyisoprene latex is, similar in formulation properties to natural rubber, noted for its strong adhesion and co-

hesion. Polystyrene butadiene latex on the other hand has lower adhesive and cohesive ability than any other synthetic rubbers, serving in no way as an adhesive agent. Polystyrene butadiene, when combined with polyisoprene, acts to restrict the adhesive and cohesive power of the latter. Thus the modified adhesive strength of polyisoprene latex is ideal for detachably mounting photographs in albums or scrapbooks.

Another characteristics of the adhesive used in the present invention is the utilization of casein resolved in ammonium solution.

The advantages of such adhesive include:

1. Optimum strength of adhesion and cohesion which is effective far more on fine surface than on relatively rough surface;

2. Higher cohesion to the backing sheet, which assures almost no possibility of the adhesive being transferred to the photograph attached thereto; and

3. Proper resistance to moisture, temperature, sunlight beam and other physical attacks.

The further advantages of my invention will be better understood by referring more specifically to the accompanying specification and a drawing, in which

FIG. 1 is a plan view of the sheet material according to the present invention, a portion of the protective sheet being removed for better illustration and another portion being opened to show clearly the configuration of the pattern of the adhesive printed;

FIG. 2 is a fragmentary sectional view of the sheet material taken on line I—I of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a fragmentary sectional view of the sheet material taken on line II—II of FIG. 1;

FIG. 4 is a fragmentary perspective view of a modification of the sheet material according to the invention; and

FIG. 5 is a sectional view of the sheet material of FIGS. 1 to 3 or FIG. 4, wherein the material is folded centrally back-to-back.

Referring now to FIGS. 1 to 3, the product according to my invention consists of a backing sheet 1 which may be paper, cloth, plastics or other suitable sheet material printed at least on one side with a pressure sensitive adhesive configured in the form of spaced parallel lines 2 which is covered by the transparent protective sheet 3 of polyethylene. As best illustrated in FIG. 2, the printed pressure sensitive adhesive films form raised lines 2 so as to form channels or lowered portions 4 separated by said lines 2. The lowered portions 4 form apertures 5 and 6 at the edges of the backing sheet 1 where the lines 2 of the adhesive film terminates. Designated at 7 is a photograph placed on the raised adhesive lines 2 and covered by the transparent protective sheet 3, and at 8 is a cut line extending along one edge of the protective sheet 3, from which line the protective sheet being able to be stripped from the backing sheet 1.

In this embodiment of the invention, the transparent protective sheet 5 may be stripped from the backing sheet 1, whereupon a photograph may be laid at a desired place on said sheet 1. The protective sheet 3 may be placed back in superimposing relation with the backing sheet 1 by a finger pressure so that the photograph 7 is gripped therebetween and may be viewed through said protective sheet 3.

With the provisions of the channels 4 of the backing sheet 1, it will be appreciated that air entrapped between the backing sheet 1 and the protective sheet 3 is

forced through the channels 4 and allowed out of the apertures 5 and 6 occurring along the edges of the protective sheet 3 shown in FIG. 1.

I have found that the sheet material according to the present invention is most useful when the adhesive film 2 is about 0.8 mm wide and 0.04 to 0.05 mm high, the lowered portion is about 1.2 mm wide and the protective sheet is 0.03 mm thick.

It is important to eliminate the residence of air inbetween the sheets 1 and 3 and even the photograph 7 which would otherwise form wrinkles and blisters, making it difficult to view the mounted photograph 7 through the protective sheet 3 and furthermore marring the appearance of the album as a whole.

The protective sheet 3 which has an extremely smooth surface, is relatively firmly adhered to the backing 1 or more specifically to the raised adhesive lines 2 of said backing so that it can retain the photograph 7 securely in place, the latter being merely substantially freely super-imposed on the backing sheet 1 because of its relatively rough surface.

The photograph 7 already mounted in the adhesive sheet material can be removed or relocated easily and without slightest damage or stain occurring thereto. This is partly because of the non-drying nature of the adhesive used and partly because of the extremely small area of the adhesive portions of the backing sheet 1.

Since the lowered portions 4 are devoid of adhesive films as previously described, the total amount of the adhesive printed on the backing sheet is notably reduced to assure economy of production. Moreover, the reduced area of the backing sheet to which the adhesive is not applied proves to be extremely effective for the quick drying process of the backing sheet while in the manufacturing operation, which also leads to production economy.

Granting that the adhesive used in the invention is more or less of hygroscopic nature which tends to shrink or soften the photograph, the provision of the lowered portions 4 serve to facilitate the photograph to remain dry and hard at all time.

Shown at 9 are holes adapted for binding a number of sheet materials into an album or scrapbooks.

In FIG. 4 I have illustrated another form of the sheet material, wherein the pressure sensitive adhesive is printed in the form of dots 10.

Except for the configuration of the printed adhesive films, the second embodiment is similar in function and effect to the first embodiment. A photograph may be inserted underneath the transparent protective sheet 3, whereupon air entrapped inbetween the sheets 1 and 3 and the photograph 7 is forced out through the lowered areas 8 as shown. In this manner the photograph 7 may be secured in place with the protective sheet 3 contacted with the raised dots 10. The aggregated area of the adhesive portions in the second embodiment is relatively smaller than that in the first embodiment, thus making it easier to release the protective sheet 3 from the backing sheet 1.

Experiments showed that this modified version of the sheet material is most useful when some five dots are scattered per 1 cm².

FIG. 5 shows a sectional view of the sheet material of FIGS. 1 to 3, wherein the backing sheet 1 having printed on one side thereof with a plurality of lines 2 is covered by a coextensive uniplaner protective sheet 3

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and is folded centrally back-to-back, thereby permitting the use of two faces of the sheet material for holding photographs. In such arrangements of the sheet material, it will be appreciated that even though the protective sheet 3 is stripped in its entirety from the backing sheet, it can be retained at the reverse side of the sheet material, thereby prohibiting the protective sheet to depart from its original position when closed.

The pressure sensitive adhesive utilized in this invention is formulated as follows:

Polystyrene butadiene latex	15 - 30 %
Polyisoprene latex	40 - 60 %
Casein resolved in ammonium solution	15 - 16 %
Ethylene glycol	0.5%
Anti-foaming agent and anti-aging agent	20 %
Anti-mould agent	0.1%
Water	a little
Total:	100 %

The formulation specified above provides for stronger adhesion to fine surface than to rough surface. This means that by the application of this adhesive to the backing sheet the protective sheet 3 having relatively fine surfaces are firmly stuck to the adhesive film while the reverse side of the photograph having relatively rough surface is only freely superposed on the backing sheet. Consequently, the photograph can be securely mounted inbetween the backing sheet and the protective sheet and, when desired, can be removed and relocated smoothly and safely.

I have illustrated my invention by reference to two specific examples and have set forth certain principles to be applied in carrying out the invention. As a matter of course, however, it is to be understood that my invention is not restricted to these specific examples and that further embodiments could be implemented according to the present invention, especially, with respect to the configuration of the printed adhesive films.

What I claim is:

1. A photograph mount comprising a pasteboard

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base member, tacky, non-drying pressure-sensitive adhesive coatings on both faces of said base member, and a transparent film overlying both of said faces of the base member so as to be releasably adhered thereto by said adhesive coatings whereby photographs can be located and secured to each face of said base member under said transparent film.

2. A photograph mount as claimed in claim 1, wherein said adhesive coatings are in the form of a linear pattern, said linear pattern comprising spaced parallel lines or strips extending on said faces between opposite edges of said base member, the spaces between said lines or strips defining channels which are devoid of coating.

3. A photographic mount as claimed in claim 2, wherein said linear coating pattern is printed on said faces.

4. A photographic mount as claimed in claim 1, wherein said adhesive coatings are in the form of a dotted pattern, said dotted pattern comprising a plurality of dots scattered over said faces with the areas between the dots being devoid of coating.

5. A photograph mount as claimed in claim 1, wherein said non-drying pressure-sensitive adhesive coatings comprise polystyrene butadiene latex, polyisoprene latex, casein resolved in ammonium solution, ethylene glycol and water.

6. A photograph mount as claimed in claim 5, wherein the composition of the coatings is as follows:

Polystyrene butadiene latex	15 - 30 %
Polyisoprene latex	40 - 60 %
Casein resolved in ammonium solution	15 - 16 %
Ethylene glycol	0.5%
Anti-foaming agent and anti-aging agent	20 %
Anti-mold agent	0.1%
Water	balance
Total:	100%

* * * * *

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Patent No. 3,736,685

Dated June 5, 1973

Inventor(s) Ryoji Shibata

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent are hereby corrected as shown below:

In the Abstract, line 2, cancel "an adhesive" and substitute --a--;
line 4, cancel "films";
cancel lines 6 and 7 and substitute therefor:
--printed areas which are devoid of
adhesive. The unprinted areas permit
entrapped air to escape through the
resulting openings at the edges of
the sheets.--

Column 1,
line 4, cancel "present invention";
line 8, after "printed" add --on--,
after "least" cancel "on";
line 30, after "meet" cancel "with";
line 37, change "damages" to --damage--;
lines 38 and 39, change "impossible" to
--difficult--;
line 39, cancel "remove and";
line 45, change "superposed" to --superimposed--;
line 48, change "inbetween" to --between--;
line 51, change "inbetween" to --between--;
line 53, change "inbetween" to --between--;
line 63, after "As" change "the" to --a--.

Column 2,
line 2, cancel "lessened in",
change "transparence" to
--transparency--,
after "quality" insert --in reduced--;
line 4, change "holder" to --holders--;
line 5, change "the fluctuation" to
--fluctuations--;

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Patent No. 3,736,685

Dated June 5, 1973

Inventor(s) Ryoji Shibata

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent are hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 2, line 6, after "sunlight" delete "beam",
after "over" insert --an--;
line 7, change "length" to --period--;
line 8, cancel "at";
line 9, before "novel" insert --a--;
line 10, change "fulfill" to --overcome--;
line 14, delete "film of" and substitute --a--;
line 16, cancel "consisting";
line 17, before "adhesive" change "an" to --the--;
lines 17 and 18, cancel "material";
line 18, before "backing" change "a" to --the--;
line 21, change "lowered" to --lower--;
line 22, after "provided" insert --and are thus non-
adhering--;
line 23, change "superposed" to --superimposed--,
change "direct" to --directly--;
line 25, change "lowered" to --lower--,
before "portions" insert --non-adhering--;
line 26, change "inbetween" to --between--;
line 28, change "lowered" to --non-adhering--;
line 29, after "portions" change "of" to --on--;
line 31, cancel "use of";
line 35, change "lowered" to --non-adhering--;
line 36, after "absent" insert a comma (-- , --),
change "will serve to cause" to --permit--;
line 37, change "inbetween" to --between--,
after "photograph" insert --or the protective
sheet--;

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Patent No. 3,736,685

Dated June 5, 1973

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Column 2, line 38, change "from" to --through--,
before "openings" insert --resulting--,
cancel "formed",
cancel "backing";
line 39, change "sheet" to --sheets--;
line 42, change "Increased" to --The--,
after "material" insert --is increased--;
line 43, change "assures" to --promotes--;
line 44, change "inbetween" to --between--;
line 45, after "sheet" change the comma to
a semicolon,
cancel "maintaining";
line 46, after "albums" insert --is thereby
maintained--;
line 47, change "Minimized" to --The--,
before "adhesive" cancel "the",
after "used" insert --is reduced--;
line 48, cancel the entire line and substitute
--with resultant lower production cost--;
line 49, change "While in" to --During--,
change "decreased" to --the--;
line 50, after "material" insert --is decreased--;
line 52, change "Decreased" to --The--;
line 53, after "entirety" insert --is decreased--,
change "lowered" to --the non-adhering--;
lines 54 and 55, cancel "to provide...and" and sub-
stitute --providing clearances between the
backing sheet and the photograph as well as
the protective sheet; and--;

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Patent No. 3,736,685 Dated June 5, 1973

Inventor(s) Ryoji Shibata

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent are hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 2, line 57, change "and" to --or--,
after "thereto" insert --is rendered
feasible--;
lines 60 and 61, cancel "added by...ammonium"
and substitute therefor:
--in addition to ancillary materials
such as ethylene glycol and casein
dissolved in ammonia--;
line 62, change "Such" to --The--;
line 63, change "characterized" to --effected--;
line 65, cancel "selected from the group of
synthetic rubbers";
line 66, after "is" delete the comma;
line 67, before "noted" insert --and is--.

Column 3, line 3, delete "serving in no way" and substitute
--and is not used--;
lines 4 and 5, cancel "when combined with
polyisoprene";
line 5, cancel "and cohesive";
line 6, change "the latter" to --polyisoprene--;
line 9, change "characteristics" to --characteristic--
line 10, change "resolved" to --dissolved--;
line 11, change "ammonium" to --ammonia--;
line 13, after "which" insert --, after drying,--;
line 14, after "is" insert --far more--,
after "effective" cancel "far more",
change "fine" to --a smooth--;
line 15, change "rough" to --rougher--;
line 16, change "cohesion" to --adhesion--,
before "which" insert --and higher cohesion--.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE
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Patent No. 3,736,685 Dated June 5, 1973
Inventor(s) Ryoji Shibata

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent are hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 3, line 16, cancel "as-";
line 17, delete "sures almost no" and substitute
--greatly reduces the--;
line 19, change "Proper" to --Sufficient--,
after "temperature" insert --extremes--;
line 20, after "sunlight" insert a comma,
cancel "beam",
change "attacks" to --attack--;
line 23, change "a" to --the--;
line 40, before "my" insert --this embodiment of--;
line 46, cancel "films",
change "form" to --forms--;
line 47, delete "so as to form channels or lowered"
and substitute --with channels or lower,
non-adhering--;
line 48, before "separated" insert --between and--,
change "lowered" to --lower--;
lines 50 and 51, change "film terminates" to
--terminate--;
line 55, change "being able to" to --may--;
line 58, change "5" to --3--;
line 62, before "finger" cancel "a",
after "pressure" insert a comma;
line 63, change "gripped" to --held--;
lines 65 and 66, cancel "provisions...sheet 1" and
substitute --provision of the non-adhering
or lower channel portions 4--.

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Column 4, line 1, change "allowed our of" to --escapes through--;
line 2, change "occurring" to --formed--;
line 3, before "shown" insert --as--;
lines 5 and 6, change "film 2" to --lines, dots or the like--;
line 6, before "about" change "is" to --are--,
change "high" to --thick while--;
line 7, change "lowered" to --lower, non-adhering--;
line 9, change "the residence of" to --residue--,
change "inbetween" to --between--;
line 10, after "7" insert a comma;
line 11, before "would" insert --air--;
line 18, before "said" change "of" to --on--,
after "backing" insert a comma;
line 22, after "mounted" change "in" to --on--;
line 24, cancel "slightest",
change "stain" to --staining--,
cancel "occurring thereto";
line 26, cancel "extremely";
line 27, after "portions" change "of" to --on--;
line 28, after "sheet 1" insert --which adhere to the photograph--;
line 29, change "lowered" to --lower--;
line 30, cancel "films";
line 32, before "the" insert --since--;
line 33, cancel "reduced";
line 34, cancel "not",
delete "proves to be extremely effective for"
and substitute --is reduced--;

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Patent No. 3,736,685

Dated June 5, 1973

Inventor(s) Ryoji Shibata

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Column 4, line 35, before "quick" cancel "the",
cancel "process",
after "sheet" insert --takes place--;
line 38, change "Granting" to --Considering--;
line 39, after "nature" insert a comma,
change "which" to --and thus--;
line 41, change "lowered" to --lower, non-adhering--,
cancel "serve to facilitate" and substitute
--causes--;
line 42, after "hard" insert a period and
cancel "at all time.";
line 44, change "scrapbooks" to --scrapbook--;
line 49, cancel "films";
line 52, change "inbetween" to --between--;
line 53, change "lowered" to --lower, non-adhering--;
lines 55 and 56, change "contacted with" to
--contacting--;
line 65, after "sheet 1" insert a comma,
change "having" to --being--;
line 66, change "one side" to --both sides--,
after "2" insert a comma.

Column 5, line 1, change "and" to --which--;
line 7, change "prohibiting" to --preventing--;
line 8, change "to depart" to --from departing--;
line 13, change "resolved in ammonium" to
--dissolved in ammonia--;
line 16, change "mould" to --mold--;
line 17, change "a little" to --balance--;
line 20, change "fine" to --a smooth--,
before "rough" insert --a--;

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Patent No. 3,736,685

Dated June 5, 1973

Inventor(s) Ryoji Shibata

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent are hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 5, line 22, after "sheet" insert a comma;
line 23, after "fine" insert --or smooth--,
after "surfaces" change "are" to --is--,
cancel "film";
line 24, after "photograph" insert a comma,
before "relatively" insert --a--;
line 25, after "surface" insert a comma,
change "freely superposed" to
--loosely retained--;
line 27, change "inbetween" to --between--;
line 37, cancel "films".

Column 6, (Claims)

line 2, after "member," insert --said coatings
constituting a pattern of discontinuous
adhesive deposits, separated by non-
adhesive portions which are devoid of
coating,--;
line 26, change "resolved in ammonium" to
--dissolved in ammonia--;
line 32, change "resolved in ammonium" to
--dissolved in ammonia--.

Signed and sealed this 18th day of December 1973.

(SEAL)

Attest:

EDWARD M. FLETCHER, JR.
Attesting Officer

RENE D. TEGTMEYER
Acting Commissioner of Patents