March 16, 1971 A. OSBORNE 3,570,019

BATHTUB SEAT

Filed July 24, 1969

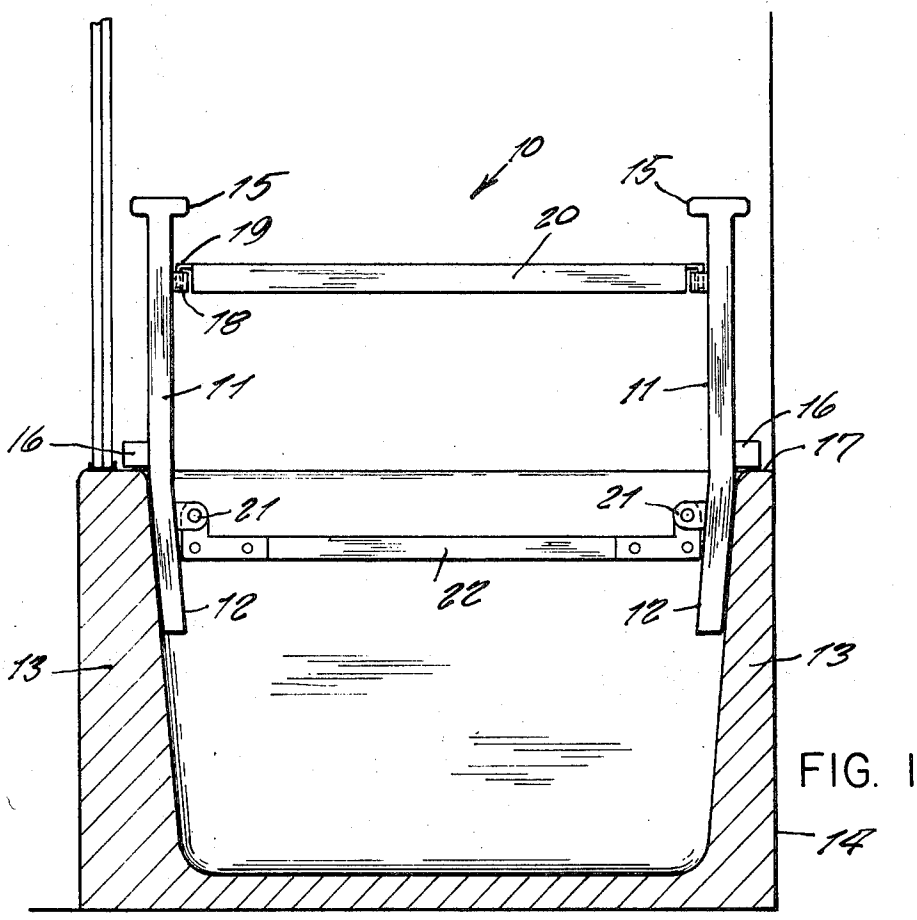


FIG. 1

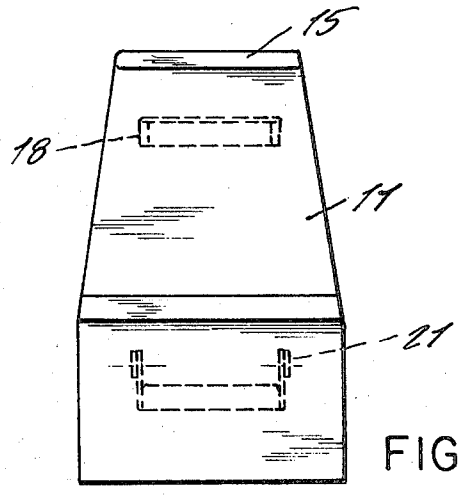


FIG. 2

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BATHTUB SEAT

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A convenient seat for a person within a bathtub, the seat comprising a pair of vertical side panels slideable along opposite sides of the tub, the vertical side panels supporting therebetween a removeable upper seat and a hinged lower seat, thus accommodating fully adjustably all persons.

This invention relates generally to bathtub seats.

A principal object of the present invention is to provide an improved bathtub seat for a bather and which is safe and cannot slide or tip over.

Another object of the present invention is to provide an improved bathtub seat which is adjustable to two levels.

Yet another object of the present invention is to provide an improved bathtub seat wherein the weight of a person using the seat makes it safe, the more weight applied, the safer the seat, and when there is no weight applied to the seat, the same may be moved slideably forward or backwards along the tub for a bather's convenience.

Other objects of the present invention are to provide an improved bathtub seat which is simple in design, inexpensive to manufacture, rugged in construction, easy to use and efficient in operation.

These and other objects will be readily evident upon a study of the following specification and the accompanying drawing wherein:

FIG. 1 is a front elevation view of the present invention shown placed in a bathtub, and

FIG. 2 is a side elevation view of the seat.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, the reference numeral **10** represents an improved bathtub seat according to the present invention wherein there is an assembly comprised of a pair of vertically upstanding, spaced apart end walls **11** each of which has a lower portion **12** that depends along an inner side of the opposite side walls **13** of a bathtub **14**. The downward depending lower portions **12** accordingly are slightly inclined so as to conform to the sloping inner wall of the bathtub sides.

The upper ends of the end walls are each provided with a top rail **15** against which a person may brace himself for steadying himself when arising from the seat.

Along each outer side of each end wall **11** there is provided a cleat **16** which rests normally upon the upper edge **17** of the bathtub side wall or wall and which supports the entire unit.

Near the upper end of each top rail there is provided on an inner side thereof a bracket **18** secured thereto, the bracket **18** being of generally U-shaped configuration and having a slot so as to receive therein an angle shaped lug **19** secured to each opposite end of a upper seat located between the end walls **11**. The upper seat **20** is accordingly readily removeable by simply raising the same so as

to disengage the lugs **19** from the opening formed by the bracket **18**.

Near a lower end of the end walls, there is secured on an inner side thereof a hinge **21**, the hinges being pivotally secured to the opposite ends of a lower seat **22** positioned between the end walls.

The present bathtub seat may be manufactured of any material desireable by a manufacturer and may accordingly be made of moulded plastic, aluminum metal, or the like, and which accordingly should be of relatively light weight so that the same may be made to slide along the bathtub.

In operative use, a person may use either the upper or lower seat, the upper seat being removeable so to provide access for use of the lower seat, and the entire unit may be slideable along the upper edge of the bathtub. Thus a person can be fully comfortable when sitting upon the seat for bathing purposes in a bathtub.

What I now claim is:

1. A bathtub seat comprising a pair of spaced apart generally vertically disposed elongate end walls having upper and lower ends, at least one generally horizontally disposed elongate seat supported at its opposite ends on said side walls, the lower ends of said side walls being inclined toward one another so as to conform generally to the shape of the inner walls of a bathtub on which said seat is used, and the upper ends of said end walls extending upwardly beyond the plane of the seat and upwardly beyond the upper edges of the walls of said bathtub when said seat is positioned thereon so as to define hand rail means for grasping by the user of the seat to aid the user in lowering himself to the seat and rising therefrom.

2. The bathtub seat as set forth in claim **1** wherein a second seat is disposed above the first seat and vertically aligned therewith, the second seat being disposed between the upper ends of the end walls and supported thereby.

3. The bathtub seat as set forth in claim **2** wherein the second seat is removably mounted on the upper ends of the end walls.

4. The bathtub seat as set forth in claim **3** wherein each of the end walls have on an inner surface thereof, bracket means which are horizontally aligned, and the second seat carries downwardly extending lug members on each end thereof which are received by the bracket means to support the second seat.

5. The bathtub seat as set forth in claim **1** wherein the lower ends of said side walls have hinge means positioned on an inner surface of each side wall with the first seat having each end thereof connected to the hinge means whereby the side walls may be pivoted towards each other and over the first seat when the same has been removed from the bathtub.

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