Dec. 19, 1967 M. R. NOLAN ETAL 3,358,294

TOILET HANDLE LOCK

Filed Sept. 1, 1964

Fig. 1.

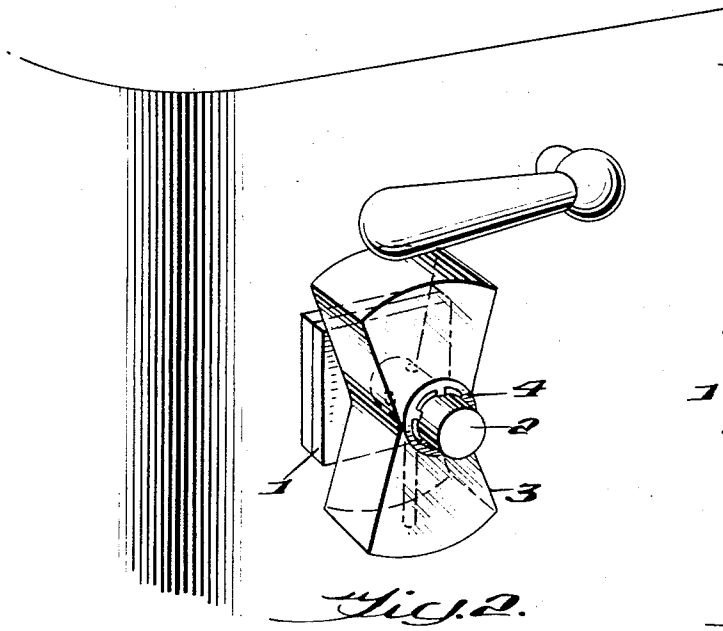


Fig. 4.

Fig. 2.

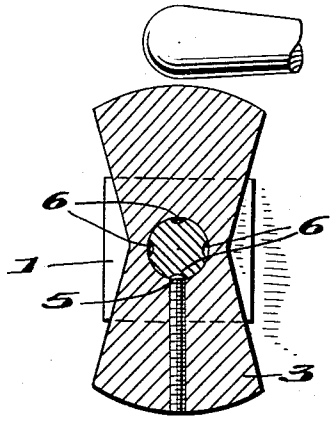
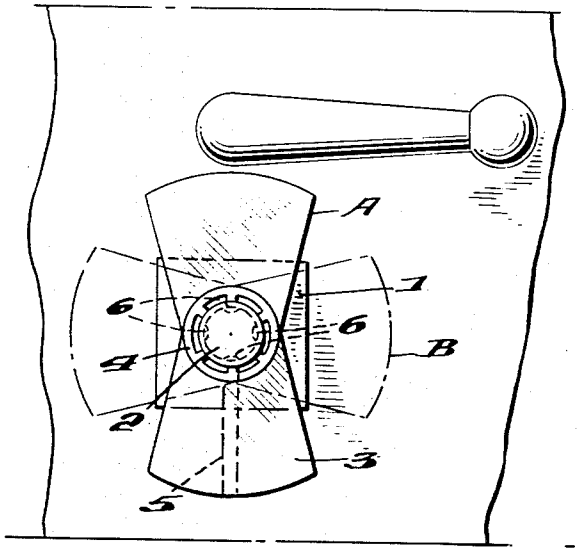
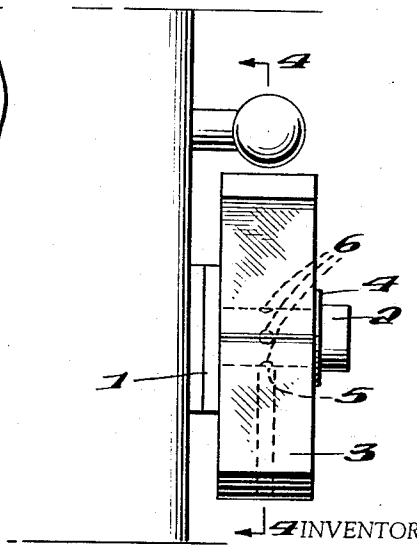


Fig. 3.





INVENTORS

MERYL R. NOLAN,
GAILLARD R. NOLAN,

BY John Roberts

ATTORNEY

United States Patent Office

3,358,294

Patented Dec. 19, 1967

3,358,294

TOILET HANDLE LOCK

Meryl R. Nolan and Gaillard R. Nolan, both of 7513 Spring Lake Drive, Bethesda, Md. 20034

Filed Sept. 1, 1964, Ser. No. 393,707

1 Claim. (Cl. 4—1)

This invention relates to movable stops for flush toilet handles. It allows the handles to be selectively immobilized to prevent the accidental flushing of the toilet.

It is particularly useful first in households with small children who might flush toilets while unsupervised and second in preventing accidental flushing while using the toilet bowl to soak soiled diapers.

In the accompanying diagrams FIGURE 1 shows a perspective view of a toilet's flush handle with the handle lock of the present invention in place.

FIGURE 2 is a front elevation of the handle lock in place showing it in the locking position in heavy lines and in the unlocked position in the dotted lines.

FIGURE 3 is a side elevation of the handle lock as shown in FIGURE 2.

FIGURE 4 is a section of the handle lock taken on lines 4—4 of FIGURE 3.

The lock is composed of three main assemblies: the base 1, the shaft 2, and the body 3. All three elements may advantageously be made of plastic. The base 1 secures the lock to the wall of the toilet beneath the handle. Any means of attachment will work but adhesive attachment is the simplest and is adequate. At the time of manufacture an adhesive may be applied which will become activated by the purchaser moistening the base.

Protruding normally from the base and the side of the toilet when the lock is in place is the shaft 2 on which the body 3 rotates. This body, which is a rotatable stop, is formed in a generally rectangular shape with a hole through the center. This allows the body when in position A, FIG. 2, to immobilize the flush handle and when in position B to allow the handle to flush the toilet.

A lock washer 4 holds the body 3 on the shaft 2. Also included is means to retain the body in either position A or B when it is placed in them. Shown is a spring mounted

plunger 5 which partially fits in slight indentations 6 in the shaft.

While the drawings show a rotatable stop, it is clear that any other type, for instance a sliding mechanism, would work as well. We do not intend to be limited therefore by the drawings but only by the appended claim.

Having described our invention we claim:

A toilet handle lock for selective immobilization of an externally mounted rotatable toilet handle comprising:

(a) a base section having an adhesive backing for attachment to the wall of the toilet;

(b) a shaft protruding normally from the base, and having spaced indentations;

(c) a generally rectangular body rotatably mounted on said shaft;

(d) a lock washer holding the body on the shaft;

(e) a spring mounted plunger within said body cooperating with said indentations to hold the handle in pre-selected positions whereby said handle lock when disposed beneath the flush handle with the body in a vertical position immobilizes the flush handle and when the body is in the horizontal position it allows the handle to flush the toilet.

References Cited

UNITED STATES PATENTS

617,548	1/1899	Wilson	292—108
618,901	1/1899	Hegel	292—108
1,277,754	9/1918	Reed	292—108
1,558,562	10/1925	Naylor	292—347
2,331,150	10/1943	Whiting	292—288
2,331,403	10/1943	Leonard	292—340
2,537,380	1/1951	Travis	292—376
2,963,710	12/1960	Carter	4—67
3,023,601	3/1962	Luikart et al.	292—376

FOREIGN PATENTS

705,900	3/1954	Great Britain.

LAVERNE D. GEIGER, *Primary Examiner.*

H. K. ARTIS, *Assistant Examiner.*