

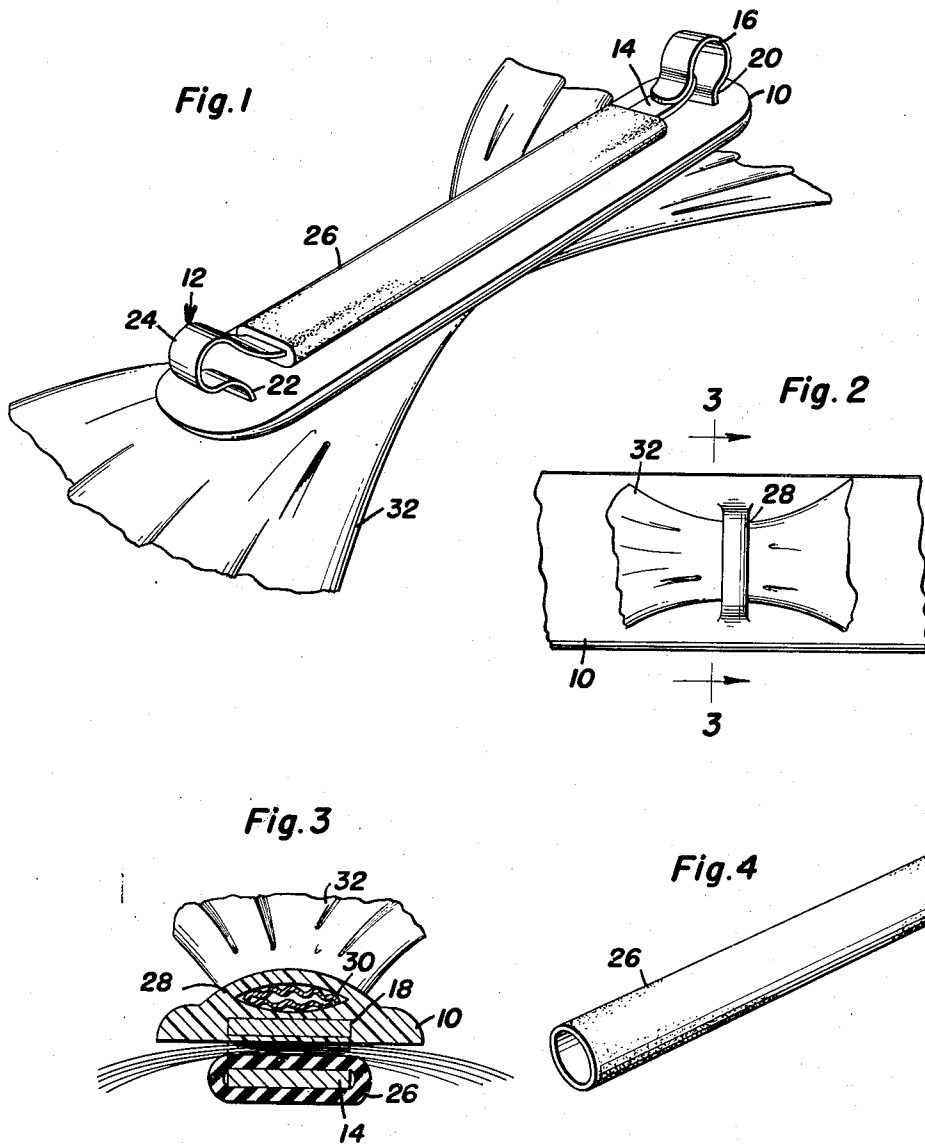
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HOLDER

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HOLDER

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2 Claims. (Cl. 132-48)

1

This invention relates generally to a holder for hair, and more specifically to a holder in the form of a barrette of ornamental configuration adapted to be secured to the hair of a person.

It is a well known practice to utilize hair-holders such as a conventional barrette for retaining hair in a desired position on the head of the person. While the average barrette clamps the hair sufficiently to retain the barrette in place on the head of an average person, it fails to perform its desired function when utilized on the head of a small child. The hair of children is much finer than that of grownups and therefore much more difficult to clamp. Furthermore, the small child has a tendency to attempt to pull the barrette from his or her hair, either because it annoys her or because she is curious to see what is on her head. The barrettes now readily obtainable are defective in that they do not sufficiently grip the hair of a small child to prevent their removal by the child, and those barrettes which are provided with decorative plastic members do not have clamping elements properly secured thereto.

The primary object of this invention is to provide an improved barrette for holding hair in place, said barrette having a clasp structure which tightly clamps hair to prevent removal of the barrette from the same.

Another object of this invention is to provide an improved barrette which includes a decorative molded plastic member having a clasp member tightly secured thereto.

Another object of this invention is to provide an improved barrette for holding hair in place which has integral molded means for attaching a decorative ribbon thereto.

A further object of this invention is to provide an improved barrette for holding hair in place which has a spring clasp member for engagement with hair, said clasp member having a short section of rubber tubing slidably received thereon for frictionally engaging hair clamped by the spring clasp.

With these objects definitely in view, this invention resides in certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of elements and portions as will be hereinafter described in detail in the specification, particularly as pointed out in the appended claims and illustrated in the accompanying drawings which form a material part of this application, and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the under side of the barrette, which is the subject of this invention, and showing the specific structure of the clasp member;

2

Figure 2 is an enlarged fragmentary top plan view of the barrette of Figure 1 and showing the manner in which a decorative ribbon is secured to the barrette;

Figure 3 is an enlarged transverse vertical sectional view taken substantially upon the plane indicated by the section line 3-3 of Figure 2 and showing the manner in which the barrette is clamped to the head of a person; and,

Figure 4 is a perspective view of a short length of rubber tubing prior to its assembly on the clasp member of the barrette of Figure 1.

Similar characters of reference designate similar or identical elements and portions throughout the specification and throughout the different views of the drawings.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, this invention includes a decorative member 10 formed of molded plastic which has secured thereto a clasp member 12.

The clasp member 12 is made of spring metal or other suitable material, preferably in one piece, bent to form an upper arm 14, a catch or keeper 16, and a lower central arm portion 18, which arm has upwardly and outwardly bent portions 20 and 22 at opposite ends thereof. The arm 14 is connected to the central arm portion 18 by a curved U-shaped loop portion 24 which is integral with and continues as an extension to the end portion 22.

The arm 14 constitutes the spring arm of the clasp 12 and in its closed position is engaged with the keeper 16 and the clasp 12 is secured to the decorative member 10 by having its central arm portion 18 embedded within the decorative member 10 as is clearly shown in Figure 3. Since the arm 14 is preferably made of spring metal and the decorative member 10 is formed of a smooth plastic, it is obvious that while the arm 14 will resiliently clamp hair against the under side of the decorative member 10, the smooth surface of the metal spring arm 14 will not offer sufficient resistance to prevent sliding of the barrette off of the hair.

In order to prevent the sliding of the barrette off of the hair on which it is engaged, the spring arm 14 is provided with a tubular sleeve member 26 which is preferably formed of rubber or some other resilient material having a high coefficient of friction. It will be readily apparent that the use of a rubber sleeve member for engaging the hair and clamping the same against the under side of the decorative member 10, as illustrated in Figure 3, will render the barrette more difficult to remove from the hair by a sliding movement.

3

While the sleeve member 26 has been illustrated in Figures 1 and 3 as being a rectangular cross-sectional sleeve member, it is pointed out that the sleeve is really a short section of conventional tubing having a circular cross-section as illustrated in Figure 4.

While the decorative member 10 may be of any ornamental design, the preferred embodiment which is illustrated in the drawings, is to make the decorative member 10 substantially plain and have integrally molded therewith on its upper side a loop 28. As will be seen in Figure 3, the upper surface of the decorative member 10 is also recessed directly beneath the loop 28 so as to provide in combination with the loop 28 an oval-shaped opening 30. Removably secured within the opening 30 is a decorative ribbon 32 which may be easily removed therefrom for purposes of cleaning. It may also be desirable to remove the ribbon 32 and replace it with another ribbon of a different color so as to change the appearance of the barrette.

The manner in which this barrette is attached to the hair of a person will be readily understood from the foregoing description of the details thereof, taken in connection with the above recited objects and drawings. Further description would appear to be unnecessary.

Minor modifications of the barrette, varying in minor details from the embodiment of the barrette illustrated and described may be resorted to without departure from the spirit and the scope of this invention, as defined in the appended claims.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A hair fastener comprising a molded decorative plastic member, a spring clasp of one-

4

piece construction having a central portion thereof embedded with said member, said spring clasp having a clamping leg and a hook portion for retaining said clamping leg in a position whereby hair may be resiliently clamped against the under side of said member, the upper side of said member being provided with an integral mold loop adapted to have passed therethrough a decorative ribbon for securement to said member.

2. A hair fastener comprising a molded decorative plastic member, a spring clasp of one-piece construction having a central portion thereof embedded with said member, said spring clasp having a clamping leg and a hook portion for retaining said clamping leg in a position whereby hair may be resiliently clamped against the under side of said member, said clamping leg being provided with a section of rubber tubing slidably received thereon and resiliently clamping the same, said rubber tubing being adapted to frictionably grip hair disposed between said clamping leg and the underside of said member, the upper side of said member being provided with an integral mold loop adapted to have a decorative ribbon passed therethrough for securement to said member.

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