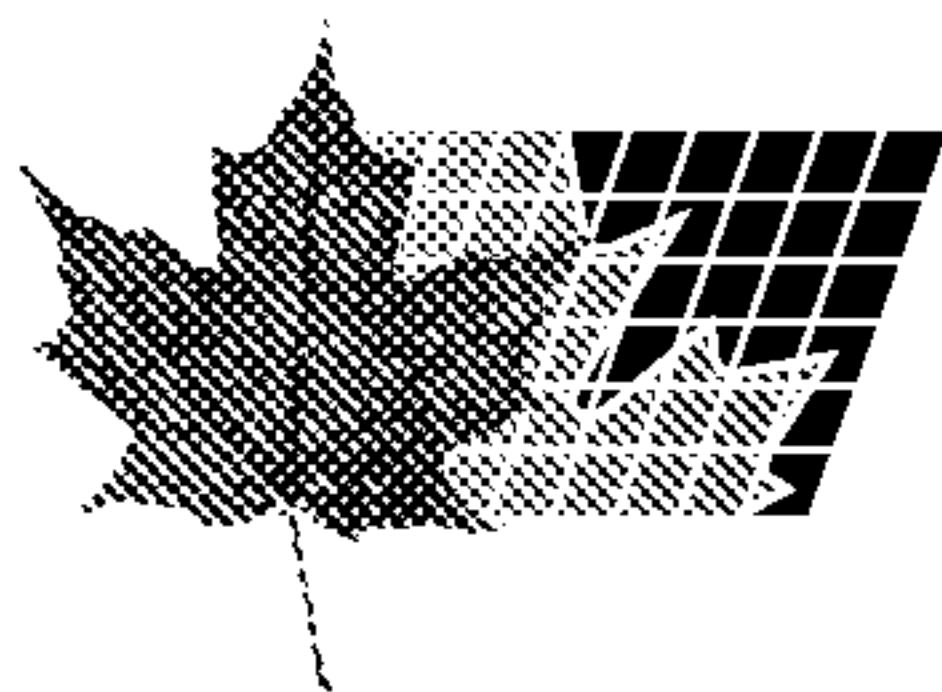




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(72) Holst, Rainer, CA

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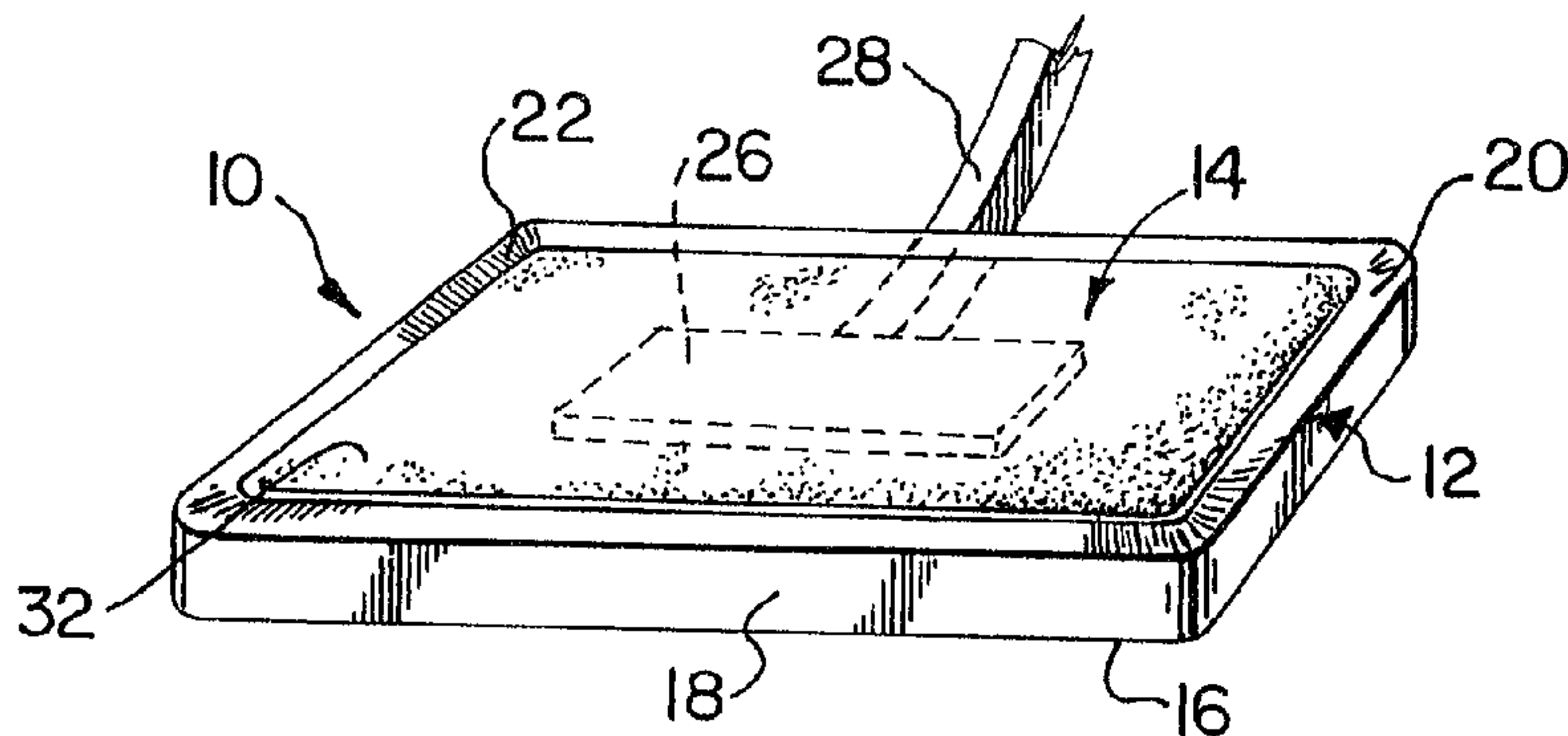
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(54) **REVETEMENT SECURITAIRE**

(54) **SAFETY PAD**



(57) There is disclosed a safety pad adapted for use with foot actuated pedals. The invention provides a body in which there is formed a receiving area. The receiving area contains an abrasive sheet associated therewith, which ensures positive grip when contacted.

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

There is disclosed a safety pad adapted for use with foot actuated pedals. The invention provides a body in which there is formed a receiving area. The receiving area contains an abrasive sheet associated therewith, which ensures positive grip when contacted.

Field of the Invention

This invention relates to foot actuated devices such as pedals. More particularly the invention relates to a safety pad including a textured surface, which may be associated with the pedal.

Description of the Prior Art

In view of increasing population density particularly in urban centres, there is a concomitant increase in both traffic and pedestrians. In many instances during inclement weather driving can become treacherous and this difficulty, compounded with poor visibility results in a dangerous situation for both other drivers and pedestrians. As such, a driver must rely on quick reflexes for braking, clutch and other vehicle manipulation skills. A problem exists, however in that the brake and clutch and accelerator pads with which vehicles of all varieties are equipped, are composed of rubber or plastic material which when wet is slippery. The result of this is a pad, which, over a period of time becomes worn and therefore provides a surface failing to allow for positive grip when contacted. This proves particularly hazardous when the surface becomes wet.

Various developments to obviate this hazard have been attempted in the art, such as that disclosed in U. S. Patent No. 1,358,488.

In 1,358,488, Woodman discloses a shoe corset which holds the foot of a user onto a motor vehicle pedal. The corset comprises a band of material which is adjustable and releasable from the user's foot. The material may also be turned below the pedal when not in use. Thus, this invention solely relies on the band of material to retain positive grip on a pedal and does not contemplate any texture or abrasive sheet on the pedal.

Further, in U. S. Patent No. 1,977,415, Thorp discloses a textured pad adapted for attachment to motor

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vehicle pedals. The invention provides a retainer plate into which is permanently embedded a rubber roughened tread surface. The retainer plate is attached to a receiving surface with screws to prevent disassociation of the plate therefrom. The roughened rubber surface does not provide the maximum amount of surface contact, and additionally is highly susceptible to wear.

Dunn et al., in U.S. Patent 4,599,914 disclose a bicycle pedal grip employing Velcro® in which a band is wrapped about a user's foot, the band having hook projections thereon. The pedal includes a second band of material attached thereon. The band is situated on a pedal pad such that the cooperating material is located to in face to face relation with the mating material of the foot band when the foot is placed thereon. This interesting invention which is particularly useful for bicyclists, is not useful for use in motor vehicle pedals, and, in fact, could prove to be dangerous since quick changing from an accelerator pedal to a brake pedal would be dangerously impeded.

Bearing in mind the limitations in the prior art, there exists a need for an abrasive pad adapted to positively engage a user's foot which readily allows for removal of same therefrom.

Summary

In one preferred aspect of the present invention, there is provided a foot pad having abrasive material thereon which is readily engagable with a foot lever.

In another preferred aspect of the present invention, there is provided a safety pad adapted for use with foot actuated devices having a pedal, the improvement comprising: an abrasive sheet member; a body member having a major face and a spaced apart opposed second face, the second face adapted for placement over a pedal, the major face adapted to receive the sheet

member, whereby the sheet member is secured to the major face to provide an abrasive surface thereon.

In another particularly preferred aspect of the present invention there is provided in a brake pedal structure having an operating arm and a foot lever associated therewith, the foot lever having a body thereover, the improvement comprising: an abrasive sheet member; a body member having a major face, the face having edges and a spaced apart opposed second face having an aperture therein to receive the lever, the major face and the edges defining a recess whereby the abrasive sheet member is secured within the recess of the major surface to provide an abrasive surface thereon.

The present invention provides a safety pad adapted for use with pedals.

The invention provides a body of durable and flexible material which has a major face spaced apart from an opposed second face. The body in a preferred aspect, includes peripheral edging integrally moulded therewith which, in conjunction with the major face, defines a receiving area.

The second face of the body incorporates an aperture therein which permits the body to be placed about a foot actuated lever such as a clutch, brake or accelerator lever. In a particularly preferred aspect of the invention, an abrasive sheet is provided which is adhered to the receiving area of the major face and preferably covers the same.

The abrasive sheet being flexible, comprises preferred materials such as sandpaper or emery paper, however, similar abrasive materials could function equally well. Additionally, the sheet may be formed in strips and adhered to the major face to ensure positive grip when contacted.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Having thus generally described the invention, specific reference will now be made to the accompanying Figures in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a front view of the present invention; and

Figure 3 is a cross sectional view along line 3-3 of Figure 2.

Detailed Description of the Invention

Referring to Figure 1, shown is the safety pad of the present invention, generally indicated by numeral 10. The body 12 preferably comprises a resilient durable material such as PVC, rubber, etc. and includes a major face 14 and an opposed second face 16 spaced apart from face 14 by opposed sides 18 and 20. The body 12 preferably includes raised edging 22, which peripherally surrounds the major face 14.

The second face 16 includes an aperture 24 which receives the foot lever 26 operatively connected to operating arm 28.

The raised edging 22 and major face 14 collectively define a receiving area 30 which preferably accommodates an abrasive material 32 shown in dashed lines.

The abrasive material 32 comprises a thin flexible sheet preferably comprising emery paper or sandpaper. Although these forms of abrasive surfaces are preferred, obvious substitutions having an abrasive surface are contemplated.

The material 32 is preferable placed and adhered using suitable adhesive within the receiving area 30 such that it is spaced inwardly from the edge 22. In this way, the abrasive material 32 will remain adhered to the receiving area 30 of the major face 14 during prolonged use, without lifting from the surface thereof.

In an alternate embodiment, the safety pad of the present invention may include abrasive means formed with the body at the point of manufacture.

In another embodiment, the safety pad of the present invention is dimensionally modified to be used for all types of motor vehicles having pedals for operating the same.

As those skilled in the art would realize, these preferred illustrated details can be subjected to substantial variation, without affecting the functions of the illustrated embodiments.

Although embodiments of the invention have been described, it is not limited thereto and it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that numerous modifications form part of the present invention insofar as they do not depart from the spirit, nature and scope of the claimed and described invention.

THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. A safety pad adapted for use with foot actuated devices having a pedal, said pad comprising:
 - an abrasive sheet member;
 - a body member having a major face and a spaced apart opposed second face, said second face adapted for placement over a pedal, said major face adapted to receive said sheet member, whereby said sheet member is secured to said major face to provide an abrasive surface thereon.
2. The safety pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said abrasive sheet member comprises a flexible sheet.
3. The safety pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said abrasive sheet comprises emery paper.
4. The safety pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said abrasive sheet comprises sandpaper.
5. In a brake pedal structure having an operating arm and a foot lever associated therewith, said foot lever having a body thereover, the improvement comprising:
 - an abrasive sheet member;
 - a body member having a major face, said face having edges and a spaced apart opposed second face having an aperture therein to receive said lever;
 - said major face and said edges defining a recess whereby said abrasive sheet member is secured within

said recess of said major surface to provide an abrasive surface thereon.

6. The safety pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said abrasive member covers said major face.

7. The safety pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said sheet member is adhered to said major face.

8. The safety pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said major face further includes edges.

9. The safety pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said sheet member is spaced inwardly from said edges.

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