

Feb. 19, 1952

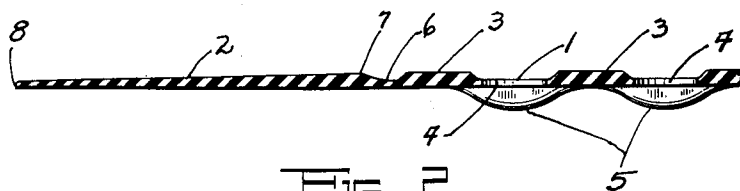
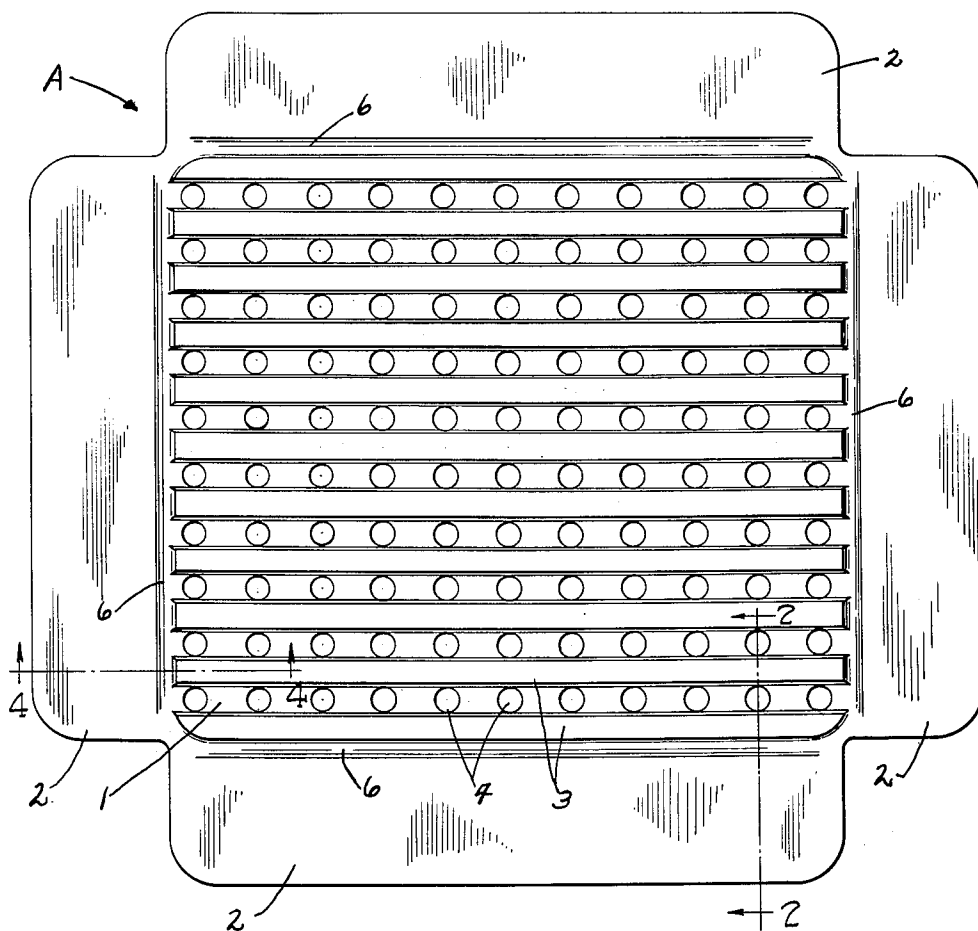
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2,586,612

SINK MAT

Filed July 21, 1950

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2

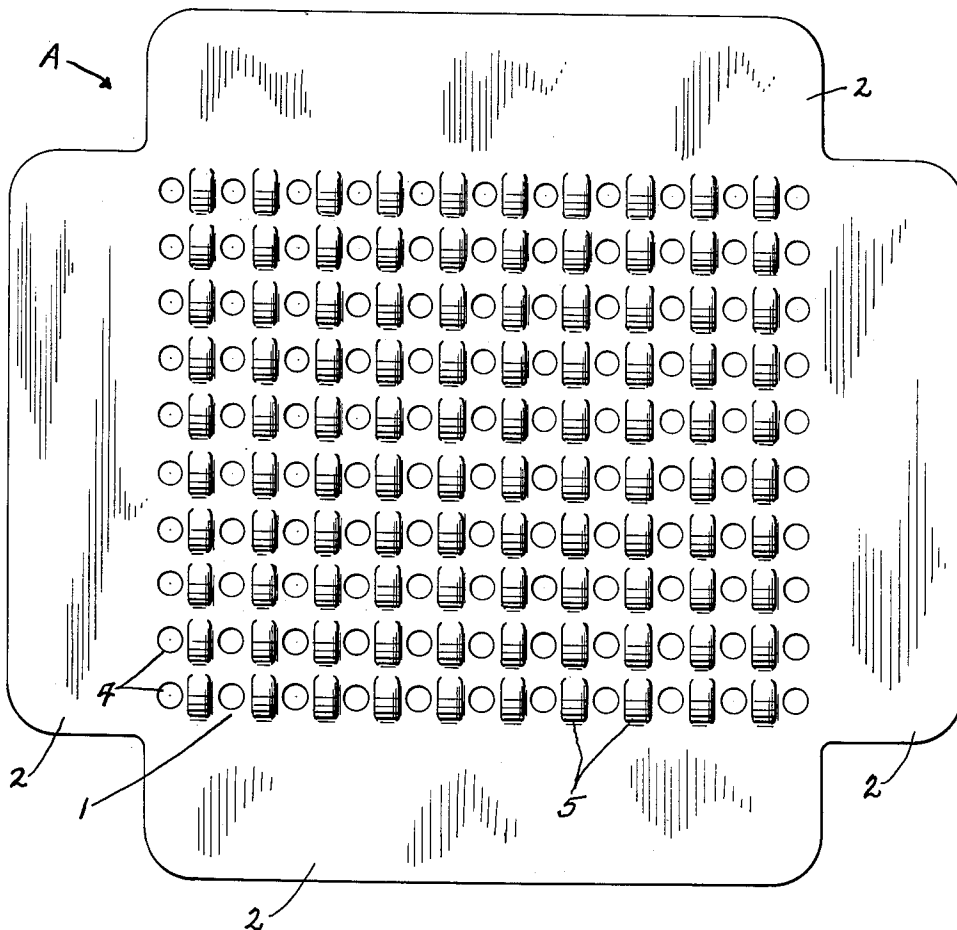


FIG. 3

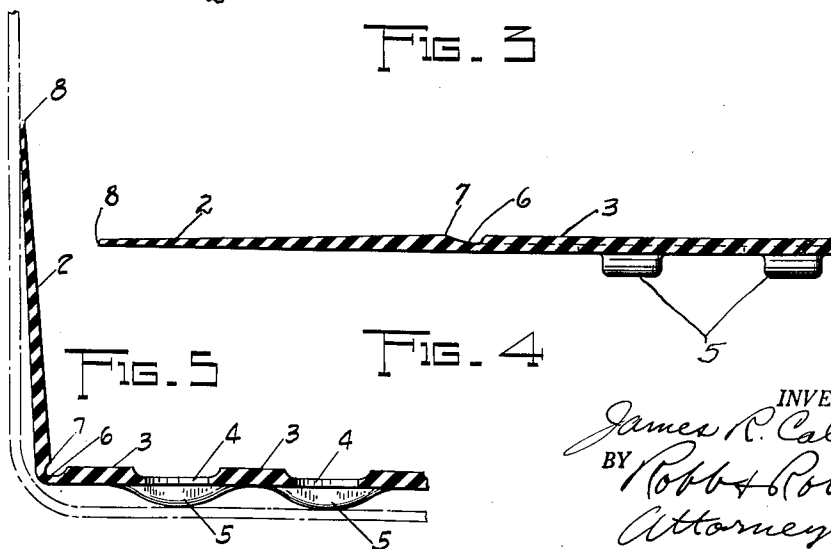


FIG. 5

FIG. 4

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,586,612

SINK MAT

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1 Claim. (Cl. 4—187)

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My present invention comprises a novel construction of mat composed of rubber or rubber-like material and adapted especially for use in porcelain kitchen sinks for the protection of the bottom and side walls of the sink and the prevention of breakage of dishes being washed in such sink by reason of contact of the dishes with the walls thereof.

One object of my invention is to provide a flexible and resilient rubber or rubber-like mat construction comprising a main mat body adapted to rest upon the bottom of a sink, the main mat body having formed integrally therewith side flaps or extensions readily resiliently movable relative to the main mat body so as to be capable of being positioned at an angle thereto to engage the side walls of the sink when the main mat body is resting on the bottom thereof.

Another object of the invention is to provide a mat construction designed for the purpose indicated, having provision for drainage or passage of water through the main mat body and beneath same when it is resting on the bottom of a sink and also for passage or drainage of the water beneath dishes or other articles resting on the upper surface of the main mat body.

A further important object of my invention is to provide a mat for the purpose indicated in which the mat is composed of a body of rubber or rubber-like material of relatively thin construction, provided with ribs extending from the upper surface thereof and a plurality of protrusions extending from the lower surface thereof and peculiarly cooperating with the ribs to reinforce the thin resilient mat body extending between the ribs.

In carrying my invention into practice I provide a mat composed of rubber or rubber-like material and consisting of a main mat body and integrally formed side flaps or extensions comprising a single unitary structure of generally relatively thin and flexible construction. The upper side of the main mat portion is provided with a plurality of uniformly spaced raised ribs, each rib having a flat upper surface and being of substantial width. The main mat portion or body between the ribs is provided with a large number of apertures so that water may readily pass through the body or main portion of the mat. The underside of the main portion or main body of the mat is provided with a plurality of downwardly extending protrusions, each such protrusion being arranged so that it extends between two adjacent ribs extending from the upper side of the mat, so that each of

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the protrusions bridges the thin portion of the mat extending between such two adjacent ribs. This serves to reinforce the main portion or main body of the mat which may thus be largely composed of relatively thin rubber or rubber-like material while at the same time providing the main mat portion of considerable substance by reason of the reinforcing cooperation of the ribs and protrusions aforementioned.

For a detail description of the invention, reference is now made to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a sink mat embodying my invention.

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a bottom plan view of the mat and,

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 1.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary sectional view, showing a portion of the mat in position in a sink.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 indicates the main body or main portion of the mat and the numeral 2 indicates the side flaps or extensions formed integrally with the main body 1 and extending from four sides thereof. The mat as a whole is indicated by the letter A.

The main mat portion or main body 1 of the mat is provided with a plurality of spaced ribs 3 extending from the upper surface thereof. The ribs 3 are relatively wide and have flat upper surfaces as shown. Between the ribs 3 the main body or main portion 1 of the mat is provided with a plurality of apertures 4 so that liquid such as dish water can readily pass through the main portion 1 of the mat.

Extending downwardly from the under side of the main portion 1 of the mat are a plurality of protrusions 5, which as seen best in Figure 2, are preferably of rounded configuration, and each of these protrusions 5 is arranged so that it extends across the thin portion of the main body 1 between two adjacent ribs 3 whereby to bridge the thin portion of the main body 1 of the mat between the ribs and serve to reinforce the same.

The entire mat A is preferably formed of a single unitary body of soft rubber or synthetic rubber and the main portion 1 between the ribs and protrusions 3 and 5 is relatively thin, as are the side flaps or extensions 2. The line of juncture of the side flaps or extensions 2 with the main mat portion 1 is indicated by the numeral 6 and it will be noted that the side flaps or ex-

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tensions 2 have a maximum thickness as indicated by the numeral 7 immediately adjacent the line of juncture 6 with the relatively thin main portion or main body 1 of the mat A. The side flaps or extensions taper slightly from the point of maximum thickness 7 to the outer edge thereof indicated by the numeral 8.

It will be apparent that the construction of the mat is such that the side flaps or extensions 2 are readily movable relative to the main body or main mat portions 1 along the lines of juncture 6 so that the side flaps or extensions can be positioned at an angle to the main body or main portion 1, as seen in Figure 5.

The mat of the invention will be made in various sizes such that the main body or main portion 1 of a given mat is approximately the size of the bottom of a standard sized sink employed for washing of dishes or other relatively fragile articles.

In the use of the invention the mat A of the invention will be disposed in the sink so that the main body or main mat portion 1 substantially covers the bottom of the sink supported by the protrusions 5 extending downwardly therefrom and engaging the bottom of the sink. The flexible side extensions or flaps 2 of the mat will be flexed or moved relative to the main body 1 so as to be disposed at an angle thereto and engage the side walls of the sink in which the mat is disposed. Thus, the side and bottom walls of the sink will be protected and the dishes or other articles being washed in the sink will be protected from direct contact with the walls of the sink. Moreover, the provision of the apertures 4 will enable water to pass through the main body 1 of the mat to afford drainage and the ribs 3 will support the articles being washed in the sink in such a manner as to afford drainage or passage of water beneath the articles thus supported. Similarly, the protrusions 5 extending from the bottom of the main body 1 of the mat support the same in raised condition from the bottom of the sink to afford space for the passage of water be-

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tween the bottom of the mat and the sink, whereby drainage is adequately provided for.

It will be noted that main body or main mat portion 1 of the mat A is of generally rectangular shape as defined by the lines of juncture 6 of the flaps 2 therewith, the rectangular shape of the main body 1 substantially conforming to the shape of the bottom of the sink in which the mat is to be used. The flaps 2 are movable relatively to the main body 1 about the lines of juncture 6 of the flaps 2 with the thin portion of the main body 1.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

A mat of the class described comprising a main body portion of a relatively thin cross section and of generally rectangular shape, and side extensions formed integrally with said main body, one side extension extending from each side of the main body and movable relatively thereto about the line of juncture of the respective extension with said main body, the said main body having a plurality of spaced ribs extending upwardly from the upper surface thereof, the said main body having a plurality of apertures there-through disposed between said ribs, the said main body having a plurality of protrusions extending downwardly from the under surface thereof, each of said protrusions being arranged to extend between two adjacent ribs bridging the relatively thin main body portion between said ribs.

JAMES R. CALDWELL.

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