Dec. 9, 1969 M. A. FLAX 3,482,728

COSMETIC CASE

Filed May 13, 1968 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1

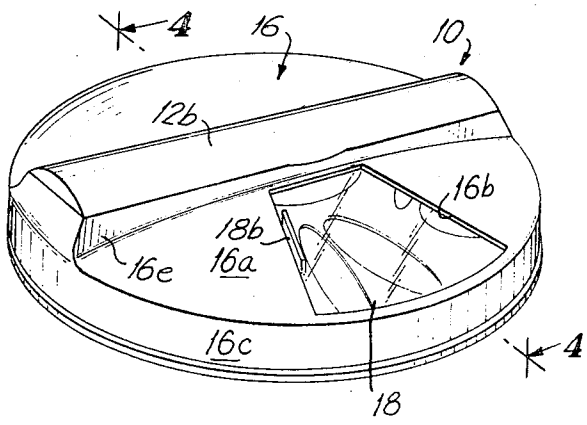



FIG. 2

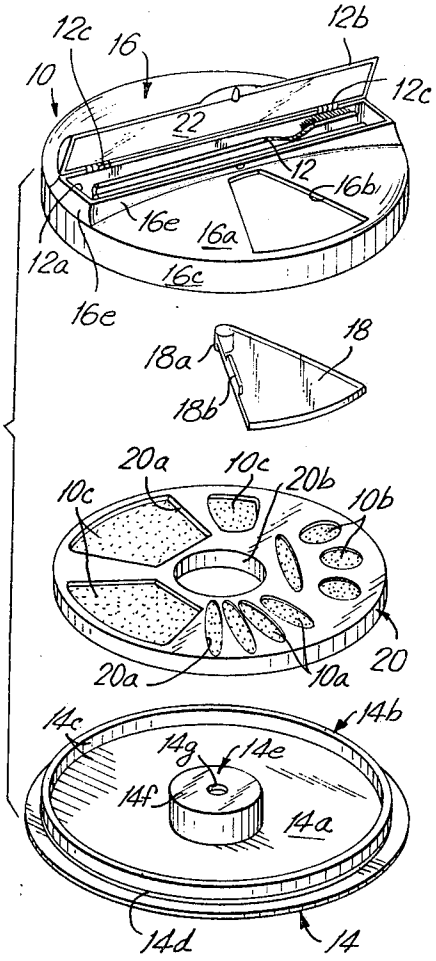
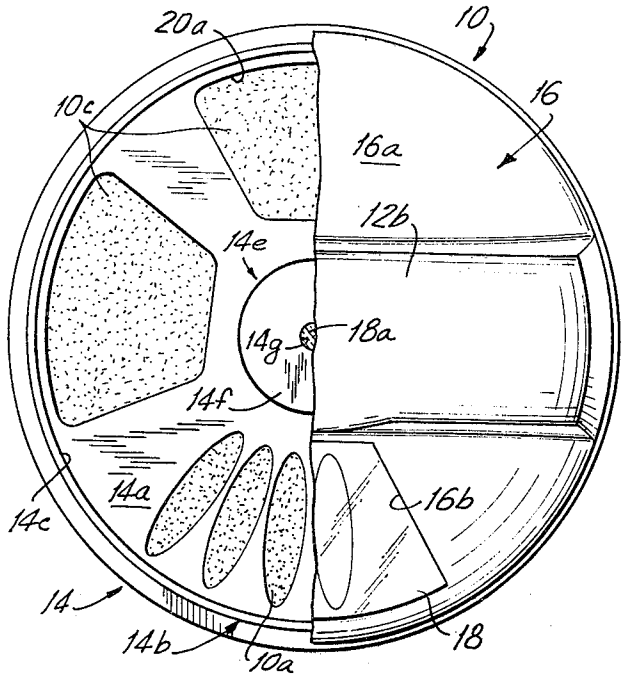



FIG. 3

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COSMETIC CASE

Filed May 13, 1968 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

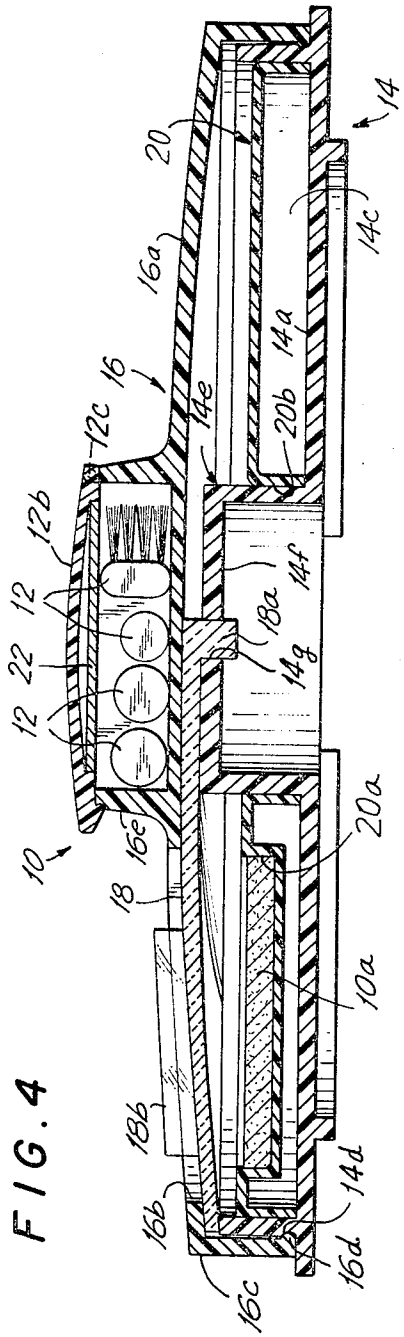


FIG. 4

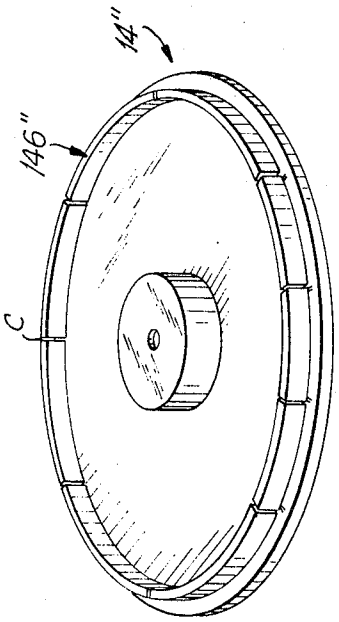


FIG. 6

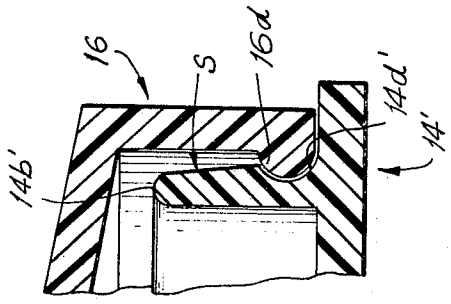


FIG. 5

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3,482,728

# COSMETIC CASE

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U.S. Cl. 220—20 5 Claims

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A cosmetic case including a snap-together cover and base defining an internal storage compartment for a compact arrangement of cosmetic masses and wherein the engagement of cover and base not only minimizes inadvertent disengagement but also effectively guides the cover in rotative movement relative to the base.

The present invention relates generally to carrying cases for cosmetics and more particularly to an improved cosmetic case characterized by a comparatively extensive storage capacity.

Cosmetics currently available include make-up intended specifically for the face, eyes and lips, as well as appropriate brushes for applying this make-up. Further, it is not unusual for the average user to carry all these specialized types of make-up and to suffer the inconvenience of the collective bulk and weight of separate carrying cases for these cosmetics. As a solution to this dilemma, there have been various attempts to provide a single carrying case with sufficient capacity for all the cosmetics and these attempts have met with varying degrees of success. In all these known attempts, the increase in cosmetic storage capacity has correspondingly increased the complexity of the parts as well as the difficulty of assembling the product.

Broadly, it is an object of the present invention to provide an improved cosmetic case overcoming the foregoing and other shortcomings of the prior art. Specifically, it is an object to provide a cosmetic case having a noteworthy capacity for the compact storage of an extensive supply of cosmetics and yet characterized by a simplified construction, ease of assembly, and the use of individual parts which readily lend themselves to economical mass production.

A cosmetic case demonstrating objects and advantages of the present invention includes a cover and a base respectively provided with a cooperating snap-together circular groove and projection and which cover and base, in their engaged position, define a large capacity internal cosmetic storage compartment. Rotative movement of the cover relative to the base selectively exposes the various cosmetics efficiently stored in the internal compartment, the cooperating groove and projection, in this instance, not only being effective to prevent inadvertent disengagement but also to guide the cover in rotative movement.

The above brief description, as well as further objects, features and advantages of the present invention, will be more fully appreciated by reference to the following detailed description of presently preferred, but nonetheless illustrative embodiments in accordance with the present invention, when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a first embodiment of a cosmetic case according to the present invention;

FIG. 2 is similarly a perspective view, but of the various parts thereof in an exploded disassembled condition to better illustrate the structural features thereof;

FIG. 3 is a plan view of the cosmetic case, with the cover thereof partially broken away to show the cosmetic contents;

FIG. 4 is an enlarged elevational view, in section



taken on line 4—4 of FIG. 1, illustrating further internal structural features thereof;

FIG. 5 is an enlarged partial elevational view of a second embodiment of the base of the cosmetic case; and

FIG. 6 is an isolated perspective view of a third embodiment of the base.

Reference is now made to the drawings, and in particular to FIGS. 1–4, wherein there is shown a cosmetic case, generally designated **10**, demonstrating objects and advantages of the present invention. In this preferred embodiment, the case **10** does not exceed four and one-half inches in diameter and yet contains several colors of cosmetic masses, such as lipstick **10***a*, eye make-up **10***b*, face make-up **10***c* and even several types of brushes **12** for applying these cosmetic masses. The structural features contributing to the compactness of the case **10** are thus noteworthy and, additionally, these features also facilitate assembly of the various parts thereby permitting the production of the case **10** as an economical mass produced unit.

As best shown in FIG. 2, the cosmetic case **10** includes four parts, three of which are preferably injection molded plastic articles of manufacture and comprise a base **14**, a main cover **16** and an auxiliary cover **18**. The fourth element is a thin-walled plastic tray **20** which preferably is vacuum molded and includes appropriately shaped and located recesses **20***a*, which are filled with the previously noted cosmetic masses **10***a–c*.

Base **14**, in the embodiment of FIGS. 1–4, includes a flat, circular bottom wall **14***a* having an upstanding continuous circular wall **14***b* located just slightly inwardly of its peripheral edge. Wall **14***b* bounds, on one side, an internal storage compartment **14***c* for housing the tray **20** and, on its opposite side, has an outwardly facing circular groove **14***d*, the significance of which groove will soon be apparent. At the medial portion of the bottom wall **14***a* there is a raised circular section **14***e* which, in the assembly of the case **10**, is projected through a central opening **20***b* in the tray **20**.

The section **14***e*, in an actual embodiment, is one inch in diameter and thus the flat top surface **14***f* thereof, which projects through the opening **20***b*, is of a sufficient extent to effectively serve as a bearing surface for the pivotally mounted auxiliary cover **18**. That is, section **14***e* has an opening **14***g* which, in practice, is adapted to receive in a force fit a depending projection **18***a* of the cover **18** such that cover **18** can partake of pivotal movement relative to the base **14** while being adequately supported at one end on the flat surface **14***f* and, at its other end, on the top of wall **14***b*, all as is best shown in FIG. 4.

Completing the cosmetic case **10** is the previously noted main cover **16** which includes an upper wall **16***a* having an access opening **16***b* to the tray **20** positioned within the internal compartment **14***c* and which opening **16***b* is substantially the same shape as the cover **18** but slightly smaller in extent. Depending from the periphery of the wall **16***a* is a circular rim or wall **16***c* which has on its inner face, as best shown in FIGS. 1–5, a circular, rounded projection **16***d* which will be understood to be of an appropriate size so as to snap in place within the previously noted circular groove **14***d* when the cover **16** is placed in its operative position over the base **14**. Completing the cover **16** is a raised auxiliary storage compartment **12***a* for the brushes **12** formed by upstanding walls **16***e*. A cover **12***b* is appropriately hinged, as at **12***c*, to one of the walls **16***c* and advantageously has an elongated mirror **22** secured to its under-surface either by being snapped in a friction fit within a depending peripheral ridge which frames the mirror or by being adhesively secured to this under-surface.

The raised compartment **12***a*, as shown in the drawings, occupies an area coextensive with the diameter of the cover **16** such that the side walls **16***e* conveniently serve as a hand grip or turning handle for manipulating the cover **16** through rotative movement relative to the base **14**, all as will be subsequently explained in detail.

The cosmetic case **10** is readily assembled by first arranging the various elements thereof in the order illustrated in FIG. 2. Thus, tray **20** with the cosmetic masses **10***a–c* is placed within the storage compartment **14***d* with the raised section **14***e* projecting through the tray opening **20***b*. Next, the auxiliary cover **18** is set in place by snapping the depending projection **18***a* into the opening **14***g* such that the cover **18** is freely pivotal about the axis of the projection **18***a* while spanning the flat surface **14***f* and the top of the circular wall **14***b*. The friction fit of the projection **18***a* within the opening **14***g* is not needed to prevent disengagement of the cover **18** from the cosmetic case but only as a preferred economical way of maintaining the cover **18** in its closed position within the cover opening **16***b*. As the final assembly step, cover **16** is placed over and forced onto the base **14** until the cover projection **16***d* snaps into the annular groove **14***d*. Once the cooperating projection **16***d* and groove **14***d* are in engaging relation, as clearly shown in FIG. 4, not only is inadvertent disengagement of the cover **16** from the base **14** minimized but the groove **14***d* serves as a guide for rotative movement of the cover **16** relative to the base **14**. Thus, while the user of the case holds the base **14** against rotation, rotation of the cover **16** selectively exposes the cosmetic masses **10***a–c* beneath the transparent auxiliary cover **18**. When the cosmetic mass desired by the user is reached, the user simply pushes against the upstanding grip **18***b* and pivots the cover **18** into an open position in the opening **16***b* thereby gaining ready access to the cosmetic masses of the tray **20**. The hand grip **18***b*, by virtue of abutting against an edge of opening **16***b* during counter-clockwise rotation of the cover **16**, also permits the user to inspect the tray **20** through the transparent cover **18** while the cover **18** is maintained in its closed position during such counter-clockwise rotation.

FIG. 5 illustrates a second embodiment for the base **14** in which similar structural features are designated by the same but primed reference numerals. The same reference numerals, however, are used for the cover **16** since it is identical in all respects to the cover already described. Base **14'** differs from the previously described base only in that the outer surface of the upstanding wall **14***b'* is appropriately tapered to facilitate snapping the cover projection **16***d* into place within the groove **14***d'*.

In FIG. 6 still another embodiment for the base is shown which, except for one significant modification, is designated by the same but double primed reference numerals. Here again the modification is intended to facilitate snapping the cover **16** in place over the base **14''** and consists of molding the circular wall **14***b''* not as a continuous element but rather as individual wall sections circumferentially spaced about the base **14''**. Thus, adjacent wall sections have a clearance space C therebetween which enables slight radial compression to the extent of the clearance spaces C and, in the obvious manner, facilitates snapping the cover **16** about the upstanding wall **14***b''* of the base.

A latitude of modification, change and substitution is intended in the foregoing disclosure and in some instances features of the invention will be employed without a corresponding use of other features.



What is claimed is:

**1.** A combined cosmetic case and cosmetic brush container comprising a base member including a circular upstanding wall bounding, on one side, an internal cosmetic storage compartment and, on the other side, having an outwardly facing groove therein, and a cover for said internal cosmetic storage compartment including a plurality of upstanding walls forming a raised compartment for cosmetic brushes and a circular depending wall having an inwardly facing projection thereon, said cover having an operative position on said base with said projection and said groove in engaging relation to minimize inadvertent disengagement of said cover from said base while simultaneously guiding said cover in rotative movement relative to said base, said raised storage compartment having a pivotable top member and occupying an area coextensive with a diameter of said cover so that the walls of said compartment serve as a turning handle for said cover.

**2.** A cosmetic case as defined in claim **1** wherein said base circular upstanding wall is comprised of circumferentially arranged independent wall sections which bound a clearance space therebetween so as to enable a radial compression in said wall during the operative positioning of said cover on said base.

**3.** A cosmetic case comprising a base member including a circular upstanding wall bounding, on one side, an internal storage compartment and, on the other side, having an outwardly facing groove therein, a cover for said internal cosmetic storage compartment having an opening therein providing access to said internal cosmetic storage compartment and including a circular depending wall having an inwardly facing projection thereon, said cover having an operative position on said base with said projection and said groove in engaging relation to minimize inadvertent disengagement of said cover from said base while simultaneously guiding said cover in rotative movement relative to said base, and a closure member for said cover access opening arranged in an interposed position between said cover and said base and mounted for pivotal movement relative to said cover and said base, said base having a raised medial section provided with an opening therein and said closure member having a depending projection accommodated in said opening to permit said pivotal movements of said closure member.

**4.** A cosmetic case as defined in claim **3** including a raised storage compartment formed in said cover effectively serving as a turning handle for said cover.

**5.** A cosmetic case as defined in claim **3** wherein said base circular upstanding wall is comprised of circumferentially arranged independent wall sections which bound a clearance space there-between so as to enable a radial compression in said wall during the operative positioning of said cover on said base.


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U.S. Cl. X.R.

132—79; 206—38