Feb. 8, 1966 J. A. DI TIRRO 3,233,743

COMB RACK

Filed March 23, 1964

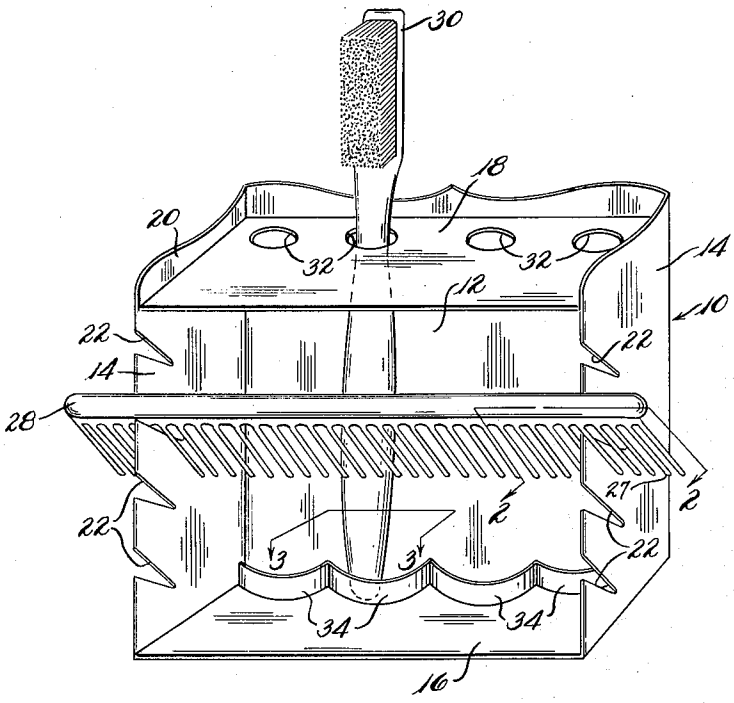



FIG.1

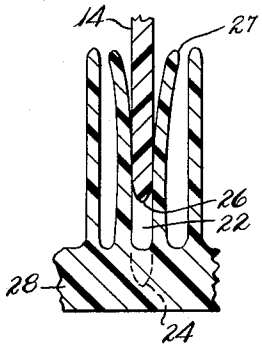
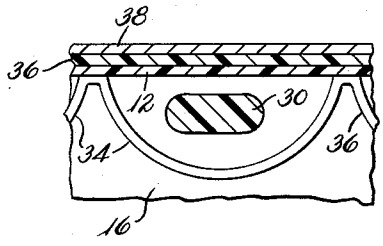



FIG.2

FIG.3




INVENTOR.
JOE A. DI TIRRO
BY Oldham & Oldham
ATTYS.

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# COMB RACK

Joe A. Di Tirro, Schofield Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio

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2 Claims. (Cl. 211—65)

This application is a continaution-in-part of application Serial No. 101,110, filed April 6, 1961.

This invention generally relates to a comb supporting device. More particularly, the invention relates to a molded plastic holder which is specifically designed for supporting combs but adapted to support other articles as well. The device may be removably mounted upon a wall or the like so that it can be removed and placed out of sight in a drawer, or packed for traveling.

It has been proposed heretofore to support combs, toothbrushes, and other related articles on wall or similar racks, but such known means are relatively complicated or expensive. Further, such prior art devices are not adapted for supporting a plurality of combs of different sizes. Also, many of the known supporting devices have not been met with success because the articles could not be easily inserted and retained therein, regardless of the position of the device.

It is a general object of the invention to alleviate the foregoing and other objections to prior art devices.

Another object is to provide a relatively simple, inexpensive, and easily mounted wall or drawer rack for carrying a plurality of combs in a readily accessible manner.

Another object of the invention is to provide a support or rack which will hold a plurality of combs of varying lengths.

Another object of the invention is to provide a movable support which will resiliently retain a plurality of combs.

Another object of the invention is to provide a support for a plurality of combs and other related articles which may be removably mounted upon a wall or in a drawer.

Another object of the invention is to provide a support which will resiliently retain a plurality of combs mounted therein regardless of the position thereof.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a molded comb supporting rack which is removably mounted on a bracket secured to a wall or to a portion of a drawer, by pressure sensitive adhesive or other suitable means.

The foregoing and other objects of the invention will become apparent from the following description of the invention.

The invention generally comprises a molded one piece box-like rack having a pair of parallel integral sides and back and adapted to be mounted in vertical planes. The spaced sides include cooperating pairs of downwardly inclined horizontally aligned slots. The edges of the slots are somewhat tapered to facilitate stabbing a comb therein.

For a better understanding of the invention, reference should be had to the accompanying drawings wherein like reference numerals indicate corresponding parts.

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of one embodiment of the invention;

FIG. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary cross-sectional view taken substantially on line 2—2 of FIG. 1, showing the tapered edge of the slot and the manner in which the teeth of the comb cooperate with the slot;

FIG. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary cross-sectional view taken substantially on line 3—3 of FIG. 1.

In the drawings, the numeral 10 indicates generally the article supporting device of the present invention. The device comprises a substantially rectangular, washable boxlike form which may be made from a relatively



thin molded plastic of any suitable type. The device includes a back 12, ends 14, bottom 16, and top 18, all molded integrally together. The top 18 may have a decorative flange 20 molded around both ends and the back thereof to improve the appearance.

The ends 14 are provided with a plurality of vertically spaced downwardly inclined notches 22 on the forward vertical edges thereof; the notches normally extending inwardly a depth equal to about ½ of the length of the teeth of an ordinary comb. The front edges of the end walls 14 are slightly tapered, as indicated at 24, to facilitate stabbing the comb teeth over the front edges of the end walls. The bottom of the notches are also tapered to facilitate stabbing the teeth of the comb into the notches.

While preferably the article 10 is made in one piece, it may be made from several pieces of suitable material secured together by conventional means.

The notches 22 on each of the end walls 14 are aligned horizontally in a plurality of pairs. Each pair of notches cooperate to receive a comb 28 which is positioned with its teeth toward the pair of notches, and tilted so that the plane of the comb is generally aligned with the downward direction of each pair of notches. The comb is placed in the rack by stabbing the teeth down into the notches in the manner shown in FIG. 1 in perspective and in greater detail in FIG. 2.

FIG. 2 illustrates how the teeth 27 of the comb 28 are stabbed down into the notch 22 and thereby resiliently sprung out from the back of the comb 28. The resiliency of the teeth 27 function to frictionally hold the comb in its stabbed position in each pair of notches. In this regard it is significant to note that the device may be removed from the wall and inverted without releasing the combs. This is important because it allows the device, with the combs, etc., mounted therein to be easily removed from the wall and placed in a suitcase, drawer, etc.

While FIG. 1 of the drawing illustrates only one comb 28 positioned on the holding device, it will be understood that a plurality of other combs can be mounted in the remaining pairs of notches on the holder. Also, the device is capable of receiving combs of various lengths and sizes and of different combtooth spacing. Additionally, a greater number of pairs of notches can be provided in the end walls 14, as will be evident. It is the coaction between the tapered surfaces on the edges of the slots and the resiliency of the teeth of the comb that yield the unusual results.

In the particular embodiment of the invention illustrated, the holder has been adapted to mount, as well, a plurality of toothbrushes, a single toothbrush being indicated by the numeral 30. For this purpose, the top of the holder is provided with a plurality of holes 32, through which the handle of the toothbrush can be stabbed in the manner illustrated. The lower end of each toothbrush is held in proper relation by providing a semicircular flange 34 on the bottom 16, and molded integrally therewith. The semicircular flanges 34 being repeated across the width of the holder in the manner illustrated in both FIG. 1 and FIG. 3, and preferably connect to each other and to the back 12. Any water draining from the toothbrush normally will be caught in the flange 34 and will evaporate therefrom.

In the preferred embodiment, the rack is provided with a mounting means adapted to be secured to a supporting surface such as a wall and to which the rack itself is detachably secured. A typical mounting means of this type may comprise a bracket which has deposited on a surface thereof a pressure sensitive adhesive, thereby to secure the bracket to the wall. The rack is provided with structure designed to cooperate with the bracket to detachably secure the rack to the wall. A characteristic type of cooperating structure between the rack and the

bracket would be a tongue and groove, or a pin and a recess. It is preferred that the bracket be of such a size and design and the cooperating structure between the bracket and the back to be so selected that the rack completely covers the bracket and is mounted flush with the wall.

The device of the invention is of material assistance in a bathroom, a bedroom, or the like, to orderly hold and position a plurality of combs and other articles which may otherwise be tossed into a drawer, where they are not only difficult to pick out but are also unsanitary.

Because the comb is retained in the rack by the coaction between the resilient teeth of the comb and the sharp edges of the slots, the combs are frictionally retained even when the rack is removed from the wall and inverted. This feature is particularly important because it allows one to simply remove the device along with the contents thereof from the wall and place it in a suitcase for traveling.

While one complete embodiment of the invention has been disclosed herein, it will be appreciated that modification of this particular embodiment of the invention may be resorted to without departing from the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

The invention claimed is:

1. A rack for supporting combs and other like articles having an elongated body and a series of spaced teeth depending therefrom, and a toothbrush holder comprising a one piece, thin, molded plastic, box-shaped body having a flat rectangular back, first and second vertical sides formed integral with the back, a horizontal top side and a horizontal bottom side integral with the back and joined integrally at the corners with said first and second vertical sides, said first and second sides each having a front edge correspondingly spacially removed from said back, said first and second sides being perpendicular to and integrally formed with said back, said first and second sides having a plurality of horizontally aligned, angularly downwardly directed slots along the forward edges thereof, said slots being V-tapered from a wide opening at the edge to an apex at their termination, said slots terminating at a point remote from said back, said edges of said slots and the sides being substantially tapered to form narrow forwardmost ends to facilitate stabbing the teeth of the comb into each horizontally aligned pair of slots, for positioning therein, said top side having a plurality of holes therein of a size and shape which will accommodate the handle of a toothbrush, an integral handle restraining flange formed on the upper surface of said horizontal bottom side as a series of half-round loops with the edges of the loops engaging and being affixed to the front surface of said back, said half-rounded loops forming closed compartments with opened tops to receive the handle of a toothbrush, said half-rounded loops being substantially vertically aligned with the holes through said top side, a bracket adapted to be secured to a wall, cooperating structure interconnecting said bracket and said rack, and detachably securing said rack to the wall, said bracket being invisible when the rack is mounted on the wall and said bracket being designed to mount said rack flush with the wall.



2. A rack for supporting combs and the like articles having an elongated body and a series of spacial teeth depending therefrom comprising a back member, integrally formed with said back member and extending perpendicular therefrom in spaced relationship with each other are a top and bottom member, first and second sides formed integrally with the back member and the bottom and top members, said first side being provided with a plurality of vertical forward edge spaced downwardly directed notches, said second side being provided with a similar plurality of vertical forward edge spaced downwardly directed notches horizontally aligned with those of said first side, said vertical sides having a cross-sectional dimension greater than the normal spacing between immediately adjacent depending teeth, the forward edge of said notches being inwardly tapered to provide an increasing frictional mounting surface for support of said comb, with the inward penetration of said notches being substantially removed from said back member, said top member having a plurality of holes formed therein proximate the back member, and formed upon the upper surface of said bottom member are a series of half-round loops, said apertures being of a dimension to receive the handle portion of a toothbrush and said half-round loops providing a retaining surface to maintain the handle in an upright position, said apertures and retaining means being provided proximate the backward edge in non-interfering relationship with any combs supported in said notches.


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CLAUDE A. LE ROY, *Primary Examiner.*

FRANK L. ABBOTT, *Examiner.*