

W. H. WOOD.
 COMBINED SHOE SHANK AND FILLER.
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1,021,032.

Patented Mar. 26, 1912.

Fig. 1.

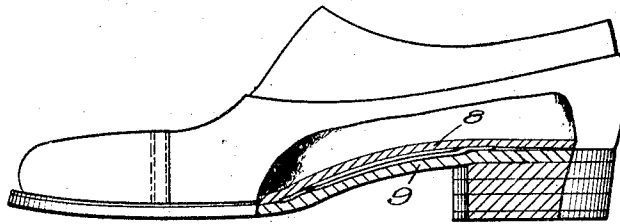


Fig. 2.

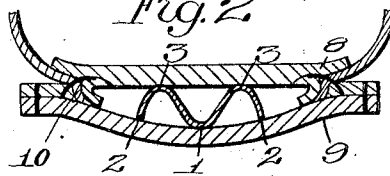


Fig. 3.

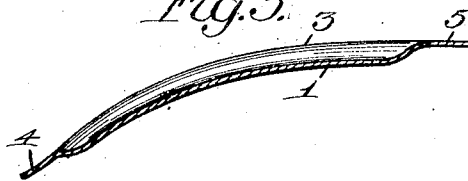


Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. WOOD, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

COMBINED SHOE SHANK AND FILLER.

1,021,032.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 26, 1912.

Application filed August 11, 1911. Serial No. 643,506.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. WOOD, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Combined Shoe Shanks and Fillers, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and shown in the accompanying drawings.

The present invention relates to shoe shanks and an object thereof is to provide an improved construction in which the shank is employed also as a filler for giving a curve to the arch of an outer sole of a shoe.

To this and other ends the invention consists in certain parts and combinations of parts all of which will be hereinafter described, the novel features being pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings:—Figure 1 is a side view of a shoe partly in longitudinal section to show the position of the combined shank and filler; Fig. 2 shows the inner and the outer sole in enlarged transverse section, with the combined shank and filler in position between them; Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section of the shank and filler; Fig. 4 is a plan view; and Fig. 5 is a bottom view.

According to this invention, the shank which is usually arranged between the inner and the outer sole of a shoe is formed from sheet material in such a manner that it acts to provide a filler which will maintain the longitudinal curve of the arch of the outer sole against collapsing throughout the width of the shoe.

Preferably a strip of sheet material of uniform width is employed and is curved transversely to give an arched effect. This strip is also bent or corrugated longitudinally to provide at least three longitudinally extending projections on its under side. In this instance, the central longitudinally extending projection or rib 1 has greater height than and depends below the outside longitudinally extending projections 2, the latter being preferably formed by bending downwardly the opposite longitudinal edges of the strip, so that two ribs 3 are provided on the upper surface of the shank arranged in the same plane and forming a smooth and wide surface for engage-

ment with the inner sole. Of course, the curved faces of the ribs 3 will not cut the inner sole and, at the same time, will be comfortable to the foot of the wearer of the shoe. The two ends of the shank are left flat at 4 and 5 and openings 6 are provided for the fasteners.

In using the shank, it is secured at one end to the inner sole, and afterward, while the latter is on a last with the upper, the outer sole 9 is applied and is bent or curved over the shank, the central rib acting to support the high point of the curve and the projections 2 engaging the outer sole 9 on opposite sides of the high point and acting to support the curve away from the high point so that additional support is provided which prevents the collapse of the curve throughout the width of the sole. The projections 2 preferably cooperate with the outer sole at points substantially midway between the high point and the inseam shoulders 10.

I believe myself to be the first to provide a combined shoe shank and filler which is made from sheet material and has a central rib for supporting the high point of the curve in the outer sole and also has projections on opposite sides of the high point of less height than the central rib to support the outer sole on opposite sides of the high point thus giving support to the curve throughout the width of the sole.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A shoe shank stiffener and filler formed from sheet material, arched between its ends and bent to provide, on the under side of the arch, a central longitudinally extending rib, and longitudinally extending projections on opposite sides of the longitudinally extending rib of less height than the latter.

2. A shoe shank stiffener and filler formed from sheet material, arched between its ends and bent to provide, on the under side of the arch, a central longitudinally extending rib, and longitudinally extending projections on opposite sides of the central rib, the latter extending below the said longitudinally extending projections, and the upper side of the arch of the shank having wide foot-resting portions between the central rib and the longitudinally extending projections.

3. A shoe shank stiffener and filler formed from sheet material, having flattened portions at its ends, arched between its ends, and bent between the flattened portions to provide, on the under side of the arch, a central longitudinally extending rib, and, on the upper side of the arch, two wide foot-

resting surfaces on opposite sides of the central rib for engaging the inner sole of the shoe.

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Witnesses:

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."