J. W. CULP.

CARD GAME.

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1,145,230. Patented July 6, 1915.

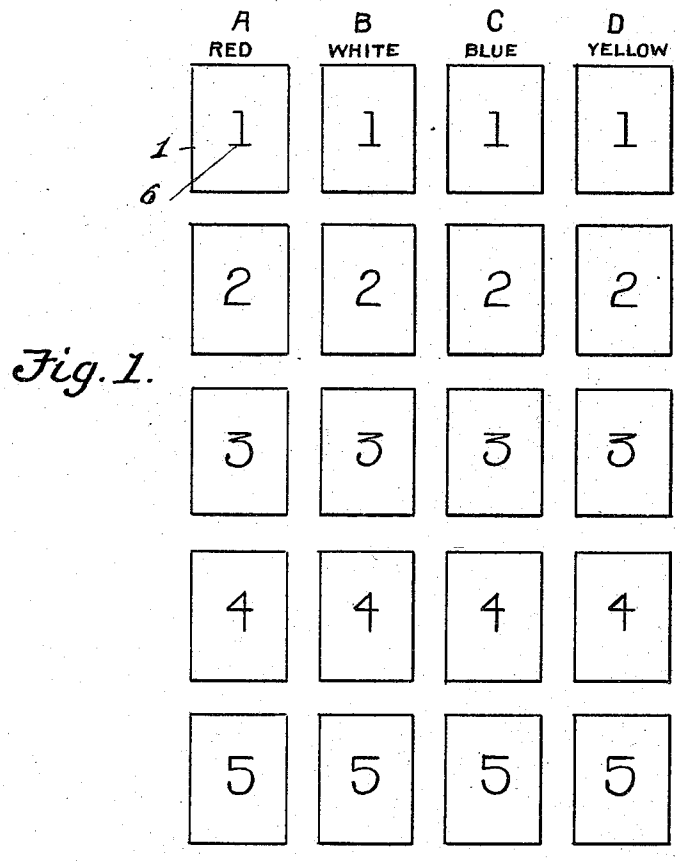


Fig. 1.

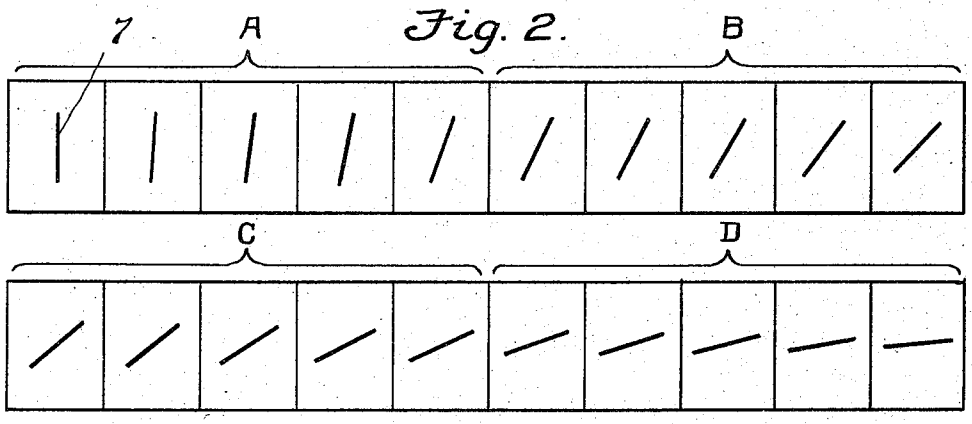


Fig. 2.

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CARD GAME.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. CULP, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mishawaka, in the county of St. Joseph and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Card Games, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in games, and particularly to a series of game playing elements, such as cards, blocks or the like, arranged in distinctive series by characteristic face markings, and with back markings identical one with another except in a single detail, as for example, by varying the relative positions of the back markings, the selection of the cards in the playing of the game being controlled by the back markings.

The improved game contemplates a pack or number of cards, blocks or the like, arranged in series, the cards of each series having distinctive face markings, as for example, successive numerals or letters, or the markings of an ordinary deck of playing cards, with such face markings of one series distinguished from the similar face markings of each of the remaining series by variation in color, the back markings of all of such cards, blocks or the like, being identical, except in one particular, whereby each element differs from the others.

The invention in the preferred form of details will be described in the following specification, reference being had particularly to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 represents a face view of a series of playing elements used in the improved game. Fig. 2 is a back view of the same elements.

In accordance with the illustration herewith, it will be seen that I provide a number of playing elements, such as cards, blocks or the like, as 1, which elements are divided into distinctive series, for example A, B, C, and D. The elements of each series bear on their face distinctive data, in the instance shown being numbered successively from 1 to 5, the data of one series being distinguished from the similar data of each of the other series by distinctive coloring, as for example the data 6 of series A will be in red, the data of series B in white, the data of series C in blue, and the data of series D in yellow.

The backs of the respective elements are each of exactly similar markings except in one particular, and in the instance shown the backs of all of the elements will have a color strip or line 7 arranged so that the relative degree of angularity thereof on each element will differ from every other. The degree of relative angularity of such lines is uniform throughout the entire number of playing elements used, so that with the cards or elements arranged edge to edge as shown, the back marking indicates an increasing degree of angularity for each successive card or element of each series with respect to the marking on the first element. That is, the back markings vary in relative degrees of angularity through each series in accordance with the value of the face markings of the elements of that series, the lowest in value or first card of each series having the smallest degree of relative angularity with respect to the next lowest card of that series, and so on throughout the series.

In playing the game, the cards, blocks or other elements are placed face down and mixed thoroughly. The players, each being limited to the cards of one series, aims to select a card from the mass in his series, relying solely upon his ability to distinguish his series by the comparatively slight variation in the angularity of the back marking of the cards. If the card selected belongs in the series controlled by the particular player, the card is retained by such player, but if the card selected belongs in another series, it is left face upward to be selected at will by the player to whose series it belongs. There is thus provided a penalty for the selection of the wrong card. The player first completing the cards in his series is the winner.

It is of course to be understood that the above description and illustration is indicative of the general arrangement of the face and back markings of the improved playing elements, and that the distinctive feature of the invention is the arrangement of the face markings in distinctive series and the arrangement of the back marking of identical formation, variable only by the relative spacing or location thereof. I contemplate

any and all variations of the arrangement, as for example, making the elements in the form of blocks having face markings of the alphabet, with the back markings of the character hereinabove set forth. Any desired face marking may be used, for example, such as an ordinary deck of playing cards, and any desired back marking of uniform configuration, differing only from each other with respect to the relative disposition of such marking so that no two of the markings will occupy the same position upon the backs of the playing elements.

What is claimed is:—

1. A series of game playing elements having uniform back markings disposed in relatively different positions throughout the set of such elements.

2. A series of game playing elements having uniform back markings, said markings being distinguishable only by the relative location thereof.

3. A series of game playing cards having uniform back markings, said markings being relatively spaced throughout the series of cards.

4. A series of game playing cards having uniform back markings, and grouped distinctive face markings, the back markings varying in their relative locations throughout each group of distinctive markings.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN W. CULP.

Witnesses:
L. W. Cook,
George J. Oltsch.

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