Jan. 4, 1938. D. M. WARREN 2,104,628

TOY GARAGE AND THE LIKE

Filed Aug. 16, 1934

Fig. 1

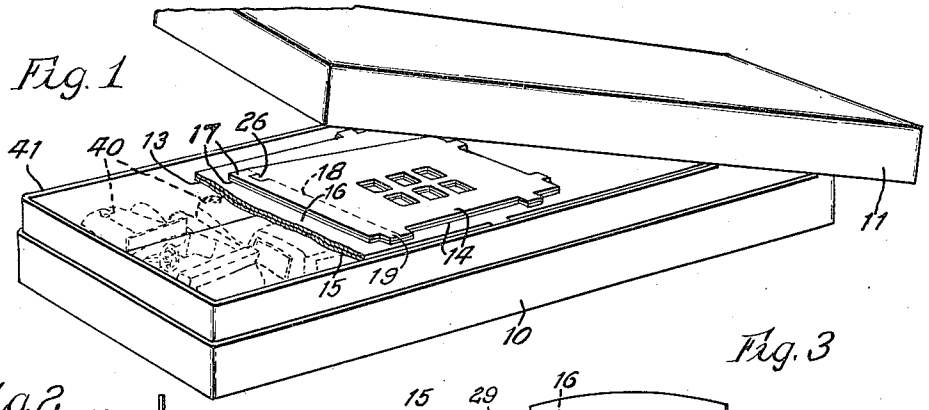


Fig. 2

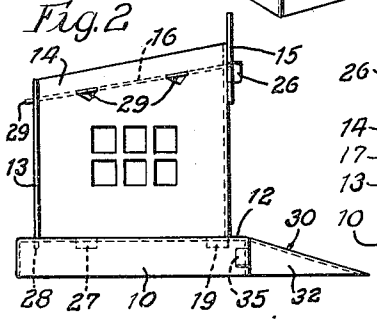


Fig. 3

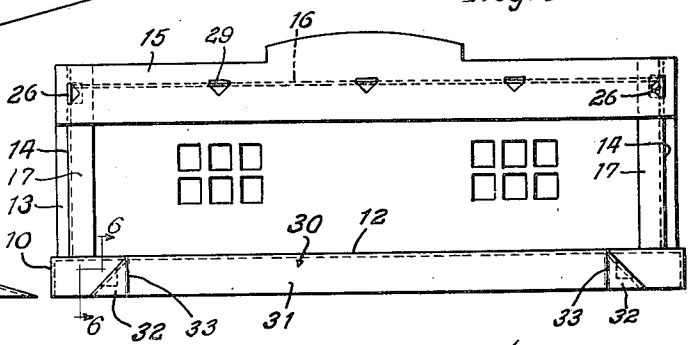


Fig. 4

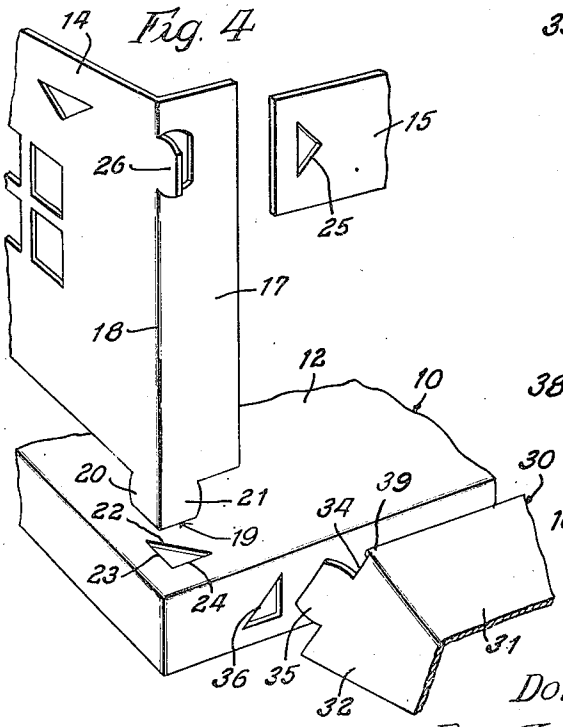


Fig. 5

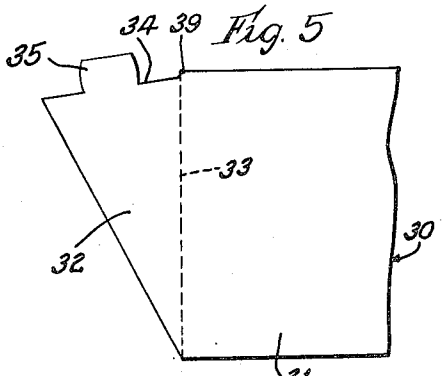
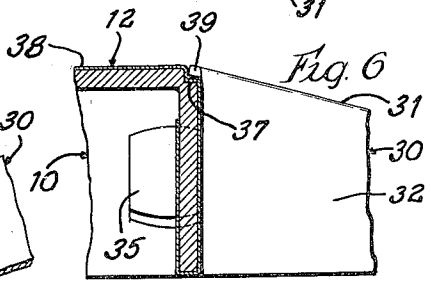


Fig. 6



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2,104,628

TOY GARAGE AND THE LIKE

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Application August 16, 1934, Serial No. 740,102

7 Claims. (Cl. 46—21)

This invention relates to a toy garage or like structure which is adapted to be packaged in box form and in which the box or a part thereof is adapted to be employed in setting up the structure.

One object is to provide a packageable toy structure of the type referred to which may have associated with it and in the same box, one or more toy vehicles or other articles which are normally used in connection with the toy structure when set up. Another object is to provide a structure which when set up will be exceptionally rigid but which will be easy to assemble and disassemble so that very young children may easily handle the article. A further object is to provide an apron or driveway structure for facilitating movement of vehicles into the garage or like structure. In general it is the object of this invention to provide an improved toy of the type referred to which may be manufactured and sold at low cost.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be understood by reference to the following specification and accompanying drawing wherein there is illustrated a toy garage structure embodying a selected form of the invention.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective illustrating the packaged form of the article.

Figs. 2 and 3 are end and front elevations respectively.

Fig. 4 is a perspective illustrating a corner portion of the structure in disassembled relation.

Fig. 5 is a plan illustrating a detail of construction of a driveway forming apron, and

Fig. 6 is a section on the line 6—6 of Fig. 3.

Referring now to the drawing, the toy garage structure illustrated embodies a base element 10 which constitutes one section, preferably the bottom section of a box which includes in addition to the section 10, a cover member 11. The box base section 10 is inverted so that the bottom wall 12 thereof constitutes a floor element and the sides of the box constitute depending side flanges or foundation walls.

Rising from the floor 12 are a back wall 13 and opposite end walls 14—14 and a front member 15 which connects the upper portions of the front edges of the end members 14—14. A roof member 16 is also provided.

The end wall members 14—14 are respectively provided with front edge portions 17 which are foldable to substantially right angular relation to the end wall members to thereby form corner wall portions. To facilitate folding, a scored or other fold line 18 may be provided. A tongue structure 19 is provided at the lower end of the corner wall portion and said tongue structure embodies portions 20 and 21 which depend from the end and front portions 14 and 17 respectively. The tongue portions 20 and 21 are integrally connected to the respective wall portions from which they depend and they have adjacent, straight edges integrally connected in continuation of the fold line 18.

The floor portion 12 of the base is provided at each of its respective front corners with an opening 22, preferably of triangular shape as shown in Fig. 4. Said opening is adapted to have the tongue portions 20 and 21 projected therethrough and the respective tongue portions have their respective free edges rounded or otherwise shaped as clearly shown in Fig. 4 so as to provide narrowed portions adjacent the bottom edge of the respective wall portions from which the tongues depend. The tongue portions 20 and 21 are of course adapted to be positioned with their faces against the sides 23 and 24 respectively of the opening 22 and the size of the opening 22 is such that the narrowed tongue portions will be snugly received. It will be apparent that because of the shape of the free edges of the tongues, there will be a snap-lock action by which the front corner wall structure will be anchored to the base.

The front member 15 is preferably anchored to the front edges of the end walls 14—14 by means of similar tongue and triangular opening connections as above described for connecting the wall corner portion to the base. As clearly shown, front member 15 is provided adjacent each end with an opening 25 which is adapted to receive a tongue 26 formed integral with the adjacent end wall 14. As clearly shown in Fig. 4, the tongue 26 is cut out of the front wall forming portion 17 and the fold line 18 is interrupted across the width of the base of the tongue so that the latter is not foldable with the portion 17.

Adjacent its rear edge, each end wall 14 is further provided with a tongue 27 depending from its lower edge and adapted to project through a suitably located opening in the floor 12 of the base. The opening for receiving the tongue 27 is also preferably shaped to snugly receive and grip the opposite edges of the tongue adjacent the bottom edge of the wall so as to effectively but detachably anchor the wall to the base.

The rear wall 13 is similarly anchored to the

base by means of tongue and opening connections such as indicated at 28.

The roof element 16 may conveniently be held in position by being provided with tongues 29 projecting from its front and rear edges and its opposite ends and received in suitably formed openings in the respective wall elements as shown.

For facilitating the movement of the toy vehicles from the surface on which the toy garage is disposed to the floor member 12, an apron 30 is provided. The apron embodies a driveway portion 31 and opposite end or side portions 32—32 which are of triangular formation as clearly shown in Fig. 5. The said triangular portions are adapted to be folded downwardly from the plane of the driveway portion 31 along scored or otherwise formed fold lines such as indicated at 33. The rear edges 34 of the triangular side portions are designed to abut the front side flange of the base element. For anchoring the apron to the base, the said triangular side portions are provided with rearwardly projecting tongues such as 35 which are adapted to be projected through suitably located openings 36 in the said side flange of the base. The tongues 35 are so shaped as to provide narrow portions adjacent the said rear edges 34 and the openings 36 are of such size and formation that the tongue and opening connection 35—36 will constitute a snap-lock detachable connection between the apron and the base.

In the formation of a box section such as 10 which is here used as the base of the toy structure, a paper board blank is cut to suitable dimensions and its thickness is partly cut through to form fold lines along which the side flanges may be folded to angular relation with the bottom wall. As a result of such partial cutting through the thickness of the paper board blank, a peripheral ledge 37 is formed when the side flanges are folded downwardly, such ledge being spaced downwardly from the top surface 12 of the box section. In Fig. 6, the box section 10 is indicated as being covered with a thin paper covering sheet 38 which is suitably lithographed to represent a tile or other floor construction, such paper covering being applied in the manner in which cardboard boxes are conveniently covered with lithographed labels and the like. The covering sheet 38 does not of course eliminate the presence of the ledge 37 although it does serve to conceal the same. For preventing collapsing of the driveway portion 31 of the apron, said driveway portion is provided with a lip 39 which extends rearwardly beyond the plane of the rear edges 34 of the triangular side portions when the latter are disposed in their normal downwardly folded position. The said lip 39 is adapted to rest on said ledge 37 as clearly shown in Fig. 6, the covering paper 38 readily yielding or being foldable to conform to said ledge formation. The said lip 39 has been found to form an effective means for preventing collapsing of the driveway portion 31 of the apron especially where the toy garage structure is of considerable length and the apron substantially co-extensive with the length of the structure as shown in Fig. 3.

Referring particularly to Fig. 1, the base section 10 of the toy garage structure is indicated as forming the lower section of a box which is adapted to contain a plurality of toy vehicles 40 such as indicated in dotted lines and also the various paper board sections forming the wall, roof and apron of the garage structure. In some instances, depending mainly upon the size of the vehicles to be furnished in connection to the garage structure, the box may be provided with removable side strips 41 which set within the side flanges of the base element 10. The side strip 41 may be of the width required to provide sufficient depth for receiving the toy vehicles and also the garage forming paper board elements and in such case, the cover element 11 may be a duplicate of the base member 10. In such a case, the cover member 11 will of course fit over the projected portions of the removable side strip 41. In other cases where a removable side strip is not required for the purpose of providing depth in the box, the cover member 11 may be of such size as to fit over the base member 10. It is preferred, however, in the case of small sized garage structures that the height of the side walls of the base element 10 be not so great that when the structure is set up, the driveway portion of the apron would be so steep as to preclude satisfactory movement of toy vehicles thereover. Hence in some cases the use of a removable depth providing side strip may be desirable to facilitate packing of the vehicles together with the wall, roof and apron members in the box.

Either box section may, of course, be used for the base of the structure but for obvious commercial reasons I prefer to use the bottom section with suitable lithographing as indicated, whereby the top section may be lithographed with suitable advertising or display material.

The described structure is economical to produce in that it involves only simple paper board cutting operations and the resulting structure is highly desirable in that it may be knocked down and conveniently packed for storage purposes and easily set up to form a very rigid play structure. As indicated the entire garage structure is formed of paper board of suitable weight and it will of course be apparent that windows may be provided where desired and that other suitable shapes to effect ornamentation may be utilized.

Because of the effective gripping action of the described and illustrated tongue and opening connection, the parts are rigidly maintained in their set-up or assembled relation while at the same time being readily detachable.

Changes in the described structure may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention the scope of which should be determined by reference to the following claims the same being construed as broadly as possible consistent with the state of the art.

I claim as my invention:

1. In a toy structure of the class described, the combination of a paper board box section comprising a top wall constituting a floor member and downwardly folded side flanges for supporting the floor member at an elevation from a ground surface on which the structure is set up, said side flanges being folded downwardly relative to the floor member along fold lines formed by cutting through part only of the thickness of the paper board whereby there is formed a peripheral ledge around and spaced downwardly from the top surface of the floor member, an apron for facilitating movement of toy vehicles from said ground surface to said floor member, said apron having a driveway portion and triangular side portions adapted to be folded downwardly, and means for anchoring the apron to the base with the driveway portion in inclined position forming an inclined connecting surface between said floor member and said ground surface, said triangular side portions forming end

closures for the space between said driveway portion and said ground surface and the rear edges of said triangular portions being adapted to abut a side flange of the base, and said driveway portion having a lip extending beyond the plane of the rear edges of said triangular portions and adapted to rest on a portion of said peripheral ledge to prevent collapsing of said driveway portion.

2. In a toy structure of the class described, a pair of wall members, one of which is provided with a fold line to permit folding of the member so as to form a corner portion embodying relatively angularly disposed wall portions, a tongue integral with and projecting from the corner edge of one of the corner wall portions in continuation of the plane thereof and cut out of the other corner wall portion, said fold line being discontinued across the width of said tongue so as to preserve the normal stiffness of the wall material in said tongue, the other wall member having an opening for receiving said tongue to connect said wall members.

3. In a toy structure of the class described, the combination of an element having an opening therein, said opening having a pair of relatively angularly disposed intersecting side edges and additional edge portions extending at acute angles from the outer ends of said intersecting edge portions so as to form restricted corners adjacent the outer ends of said intersecting edges, a member having a fold line on which the member is foldable to form integrally connected corner portions of the structure, and tongue portions extending respectively from said corner portions and having substantially straight adjacent edges integrally connected in continuation of the corner fold line of said foldable member, said tongue portions being of such width as to be adapted to be projected through said opening and the outer or free edges of the tongue portions gripped in said restricted opening corners for anchoring the member to said floor element.

4. In a toy structure of the class described, the combination of a base element comprising a side flange portion provided with a pair of openings spaced upwardly from the lower edge of said flange portion, and a floor element supported by said side flange portion at an elevation from a ground surface, an apron for facilitating movement of toy vehicles from said ground surface to said elevated floor element, said apron having a driveway portion and side portions adapted to be folded downwardly, tongues extending from the ends of said side portions in upwardly spaced relation to the outer or free side edges thereof and adapted to enter said flange portion openings for anchoring the apron to the base with the driveway portion in inclined position forming a connecting surface between said floor element and said ground surface, said flange portion having a shoulder forming upper edge, and said driveway portion having a lip extending therefrom for engaging said shoulder without projecting materially above or materially overlapping said floor element, said lip and flange portion thereby serving to prevent sagging of said driveway portion intermediate its sides.

5. In a toy structure of the class described, the combination of an element having an opening therein, a member having a fold line on which the member is foldable to form integrally connected corner portions of the structure, and tongue portions extending respectively from said corner portions and having adjacent edges extending respectively in continuation of the corner fold line of said member, said tongue portions being relatively foldable as an incident to folding of said member and being adapted to be projected through said opening in the floor element, the fold formed edge of the tongue structure being substantially straight and the opposite free edges being humped intermediate the length of the tongue structure, said opening being of such shape and size as to permit said humped tongue structure to be forced therethrough whereby, when the innermost portion of the tongue is positioned in said opening, the humped portion of the tongue will serve to resist withdrawal of the tongue from the opening, said member being thereby attached to said element.

6. In a toy structure of the class described, the combination of a base comprising a paper board, box-like section having a floor-forming portion and depending side flanges serving to support said floor at an elevation from a surface on which the base may be placed, said base being formed from a blank which is scored partially through its thickness along the lines on which marginal portions of the blank are folded to depending flange-forming relation to said floor, said scoring serving to provide a ledge along the upper edges of said flanges in downwardly spaced relation to the top of said floor-forming portion, and an apron for forming a connecting surface between the floor-forming portion of said base and the surface on which said base may be placed, said apron having a lip adapted to rest on said ledge of the base so as to be thereby supported, and means for attaching said apron to the base to maintain the apron and base in cooperative relation.

7. In a toy structure of the class described, a pair of members, one of which is provided with a fold line to permit folding of the member so as to provide relatively angularly disposed portions, a tongue integral with and projecting from one of said portions in continuation of the plane thereof and cut out of the other of said portions, said fold line being discontinued across the width of said tongue so as to preserve the normal stiffness of the material of the member in the part thereof which connects said tongue with the portion from which the tongue extends, the other member having an opening for receiving said tongue to connect said members.

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