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DISHWASHING TOOL

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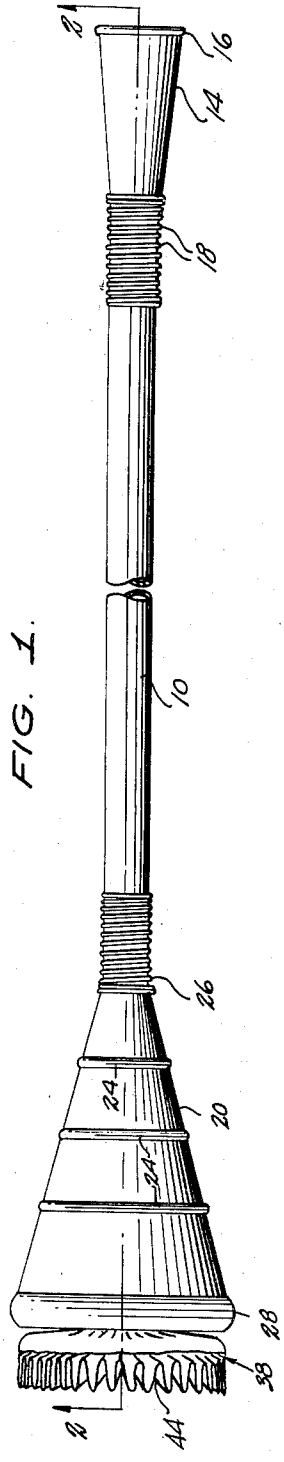


FIG. 1.

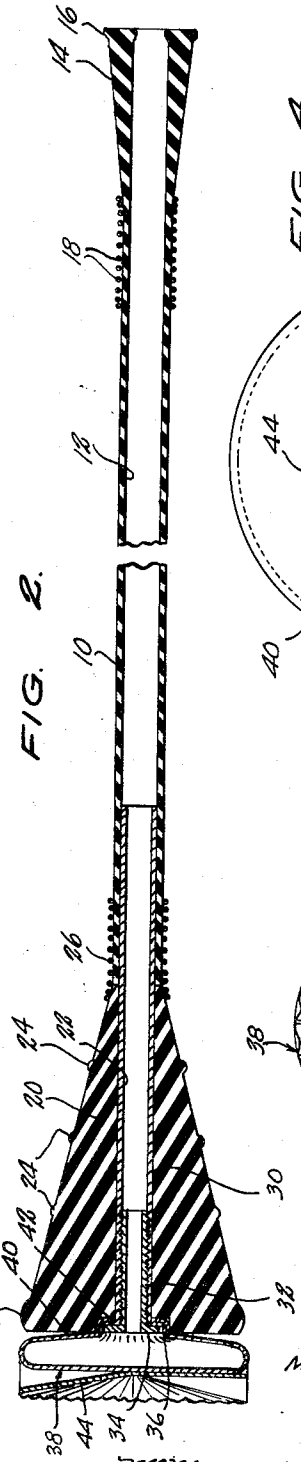


FIG. 2.

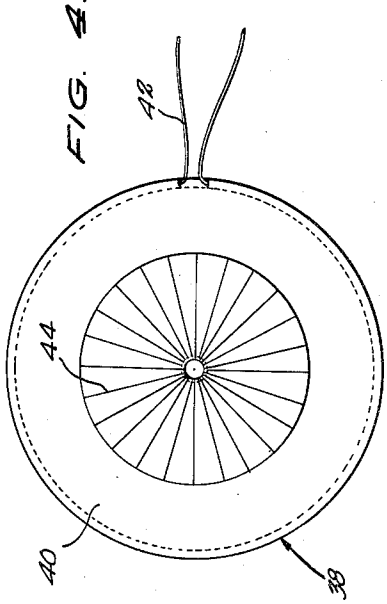


FIG. 4.

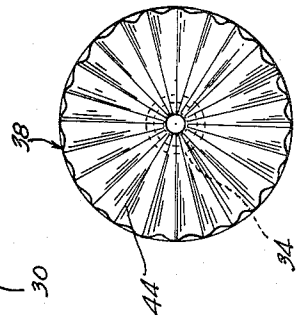


FIG. 3.

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DISHWASHING TOOL

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3 Claims. (Cl. 15—128)

This invention, a manually grasped tool for washing dishes, pots, etc., may be summarized briefly as including a length of flexible tubing connectible at one end to a faucet or other source of water under pressure and having at its other end a flared, thickened head. Connectible to the flared head is a specially formed dish engaging covering formed of a soft fabric or other material of a mesh sufficient to make the same readily pervious to water discharged from the tubular portion of the device, so that the surface of a dish may be swiftly washed with the cover in contact therewith, simultaneously with the forcing of water under pressure through the material of the covering against the surface of the dish.

The main object of the present invention is to provide a generally improved dishwashing tool as described, and among more specific objects are to provide a covering especially well adapted for controlling the steady discharge of water under pressure against the surface of the dish and for, at the same time, swiftly cleaning the dish surface; to provide a covering as stated that will be designed in such a manner as to incorporate in the same a maximum number of different surfaces that will be adapted to contact the surface of the dish, in a comparatively small overall area of the covering; to facilitate the attachment and detachment of the covering in respect to the rest of the device; to form the covering in such a manner that it will be largely self cleaning; and to form the covering in a manner that will facilitate its rapid drying.

Other objects will appear from the following description, the claims appended thereto, and from the annexed drawing, in which like reference characters designate like parts throughout the several views, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of the dish-washing tool in which a portion of the tubing has been broken away;

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view on line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is an end elevational view of the tool as seen from the left of Figure 1; and

Figure 4 is a plan view of the covering removed from the remaining portion of the tool and opened up for drying.

Referring to the drawing in detail, the device includes a length of flexible rubber hose or tubing **10** having a constant diameter bore **12** and formed at the inlet end of the bore with an externally flared end portion **14** terminating at its larger end in a circumferential bead **16** and adapted to be frictionally engaged over a conventional sink faucet, not shown. A coil spring **18** is circumposed about the tubing at the smaller end of portion **14**, to strengthen the hose at a point where pronounced flexure is most likely to occur, and to provide a grip.

At its outlet end, tubing **10** is integrally formed with an elongated externally flared head **20** having a relatively low flexibility characteristic and imparting substantial weight, body, and strength to the hose at the outlet end thereof. Head **20** is formed at uniformly spaced locations along its length with external, circumferential ribs or beads **24** facilitating the gripping of the head, and at the smaller end of the head a coil spring **26** is circumposed about the tubing, for the same purpose as spring **18**.

At the larger end of the head, a circumferential bead **28** is provided, and the head, at said larger end, has a flat end surface.

Engaged snugly in the outlet end of the device, and extending the length of the head and partially along the length of the tubing **10** is a tubular member **30** of brass or other non-corrosive rigid material, formed adjacent the flat end surface of head **20** with internal threads engaging external threads on a tubular plug or connector member **32** having at one end a circumferential outwardly directed shoulder **34** the outer face of which is flush with the end surface of head **20**, and the inner face of which is spaced from the inner end wall of a counterbore **36** of bore **12**. The periphery of the shoulder is correspondingly spaced inwardly from the side wall of the counterbore or recess **36**, to define an undercut, annular recess about the shoulder **34** within the counterbore.

A removable covering **38** for the flat end surface of the tapered head **20** is formed from a flexible, open mesh fabric, and when removed from the head, appears as in Figure 4, being formed to a circular outer configuration substantially greater in diameter than the diameter of the large end of head **20** and including a marginal portion **40**, the periphery of which is provided with a tubular hem through which extends a tie **42**, the ends of which project through closely spaced openings formed in the hem. Secured centrally to the covering is a circular cover piece **44** having a diameter substantially equal to that of the larger end of head **20** and formed over its entire area with ruffles increasing progressively in width and height in the direction from the center of the cover piece to the periphery thereof. The cover piece is also formed of an open mesh fabric, similar to the covering **38**.

In use, the periphery of the covering **40** is engaged in the undercut recess, under the shoulder **34**, and the tie **42** is drawn tight and the ends thereof secured to firmly attach the covering to the plug **32**. This folds the marginal portion **40** under the center portion of the covering, as shown in Figure 2, forming the covering into a closed flattened, circular hollow member of a diameter substantially equal to that of the ruffled cover piece and of the larger end of the head **20**.

The device is now ready for use, and with water flowing under pressure through bore **12**, the head **20** is grasped and the ruffled cover piece held against the dish being cleaned. The dishes, of course, would be washed in a dishpan or sink containing hot water and soap, and with the food particles softened by the hot water and soap, and with water flowing under pressure through the tubing, the ruffled cover piece, when held against the surface of the dish and moved back and forth over said surface, will wash the particles off the dish with minimum difficulty and with maximum speed, the dish being simultaneously rinsed, thus saving not only on soap and hot dishwater, but also on rinse water. The superposed thicknesses of the covering and ruffled cover piece hold the surface of the dish sufficiently away from the flat end surface of the head **20** to insure that the water flowing under pressure will be controllably discharged at substantial velocity against the surface of the dish, over the full area of the head, and further, the use of a fully ruffled area on the cover piece provides in the cover piece a maximum amount of dish engaging washing surface, in a minimum overall area of the cover piece.

When the dishwashing operation is completed, the tubing is detached from the faucet, and the tie **42** loosened permitting the covering **38** and the associated cover piece **44** to be removed from the head and opened

as in Figure 4, thus permitting the rapid drying of said covering awaiting the next use thereof.

It is believed apparent that the invention is not necessarily confined to the specific use or uses thereof described above, since it may be utilized for any purpose to which it may be suited. Nor is the invention to be necessarily limited to the specific construction illustrated and described, since such construction is only intended to be illustrative of the principles, it being considered that the invention comprehends any minor change in construction that may be permitted within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A dishwashing tool comprising a length of tubing adapted at one end for connection to a source of water under pressure and terminating at its other end in an elongated flared head formed with a substantially flat end surface having a central opening through which the water is discharged under pressure; a tubular plug engaged in said opening of said head and including an outwardly directed circumferential shoulder substantially flush with the end surface of the head; a flexible covering formed of a material readily pervious to the passage of water overlying said end surface of the head and including means extending about the periphery thereof engageable removably under the shoulder of the plug for connecting said covering to the head; and a cover piece having a plurality of radial ruffles, said cover piece being secured to the covering and being formed of a material similar to that of the covering.

2. A dishwashing tool comprising an elongated length of flexible tubing adapted at one end for connection to a source of water under pressure; a head on the other end of the tubing, said tubing opening upon one end of the head and said end of the head being formed with a flat surface, a tubular plug engaged in said opening of the head with its outer end substantially flush with said flat surface of the head, said plug including at said outer end thereof an outwardly directed circumferential shoulder; a fabric covering of open mesh material having a circular outer configuration and including a marginal portion and a center portion, said marginal portion of the covering being folded under the center portion and including means at its periphery engageable under the shoulder of the plug; and a cover piece having a diameter substantially equal to that of said surface of the head and secured to the covering in overlying relation to the center portion, said cover piece including over its entire area a series of radially extending ruffles and being formed from a material readily pervious to the passage of water.

3. A dishwashing tool comprising an elongated length of flexible tubing adapted at one end for connection to a source of water under pressure; a head on the other end of the tubing, said tubing opening upon one end of the head and said end of the head being formed with a flat surface, a tubular plug engaged in said opening of the head with its outer end substantially flush with said flat surface of the head, said plug including at said outer end thereof an outwardly directed circumferential shoulder; a fabric covering of open mesh material having a circular outer configuration and including a marginal portion and a center portion, said marginal portion of the covering being folded under the center portion and including means at its periphery engageable under the shoulder of the plug; and a cover piece having a diameter substantially equal to that of said surface of the head and secured to the covering in overlying relation to the center portion, said cover piece including over its entire area a series of radially extending ruffles and being formed from a material readily pervious to the passage of water, said radial ruffles being increased progressively in height and width in a direction from the center of the cover piece to the periphery thereof.

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