The present invention relates to improvements in shoe shining kits of a type adapted to contain shoe shining equipment in a compact and attractive manner.

The shoe shining kits illustrated herein comprise a box or casing, a container of shoe polish, a brush for applying the polish, a polishing cloth, and a polishing element secured to the bottom of the box. The brush and container are securely mounted in the box and do not move about or soil the kit while it is being carried or used. The holding means for the several elements are simple, inexpensive and may be readily manufactured.

The present invention aims to provide a compact, simple, inexpensive shoe shining kit having improved features of construction.

An object of the present invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive shoe shining kit which is compact and strong, but relatively light in weight.

Another object of the invention is to provide improved means for mounting a brush, a container and other suitable devices.

Another object of the invention is to provide a mounting frame having portions for receiving and holding the handle of a brush.

Another object of the invention is to provide a mounting frame secured to the box by a button or other suitable device.

Another object of the invention is to provide a suitable mounting frame which may be cast or stamped from a strip of wood or other material of suitable thickness and is adapted to lie against the bottom of the lower box member 4 at the interior thereof. If desired, the frame may be adhesively secured to the bottom of the box member 4 or may be frictionally retained by means of a clamping member secured to the box.

A further object of the invention is to provide a compact case for carrying the kit.

Other and further objects of the invention will be obvious upon an understanding of the illustrative embodiment about to be described, or will be indicated in the appended claims, and various advantages not referred to herein will occur to one skilled in the art upon employment of the invention in practice.

A preferred embodiment of the invention has been chosen for purposes of illustration and description and is shown in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the specification, wherein

Fig. 1 is a perspective view illustrating a preferred embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the lower part of the box shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken along the line 3--3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a modified mounting frame; and

Fig. 5 is a sectional view illustrating the kit placed in a suitable case.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, there is shown a shoe shining kit comprising a lid or upper box member 1, preferably hinged at 2 to a lower box member 4. The lower box member preferably has a strip 5 of fleece, felt or sheepskin attached to the bottom thereof at the exterior, which is adapted to be used for polishing shoes, boots or the like. The strip 5 provides a suitable buffing element which can be used by grasping the closed box as a handle.

The box preferably contains a polish applying brush 6, a package 7 containing shoe polish or the like, and a polishing cloth 8. These articles are arranged in a compact manner and are held against movement in the box as about to be described.

The brush 6 and shoe polish package 7 preferably are mounted in the lower box member 4, and are held against movement by a suitable mounting frame 12 illustrated more particularly in Figs. 2 and 3. The frame may be cut or stamped from a strip of wood or other material of suitable thickness and is adapted to lie against the bottom of the lower box member 4 at the interior thereof. If desired, the frame may be adhesively secured to the bottom of the box member 4 or may be frictionally retained by causing the lengthwise extending ends of the frame to engage the end walls 13 of the box member (Fig. 2).

In order to hold the shoe polish applying brush 6 in place, the frame 12 has a substantially rectangular recess 14 at one end thereof for receiving the bristles 15 of the brush. By placing the bristles in the recess they are kept out of contact with other portions of the kit and prevent accidental movement of the brush. The mounting frame has a front wall 16 substantially parallel to the front wall 17 of the lower box member and spaced a suitable distance therefrom to provide a channel 18 for receiving the handle 19 of the brush. The front wall of the frame and the inner portion of the front wall 17 of the box member 4, are adapted to cooperate to frictionally engage the brush handle 19 and hold it against movement. To facilitate seating the brush and to reduce the height of the kit, the bottom of the lower box may have a recess or indentation 20 therein (Fig. 3) conforming substantially to the shape of the portion 21 of the brush handle adjacent the bristles. To further reduce the height of the brush handle adjacent the bristles, the handle may have flattened or...
cut-away portions 22 at the top and bottom thereof.

The container or package 1, as illustrated here-in, may comprise a collapsible tube 24 adapted to contain shoe polish in the form of cream, and a cap 25 threaded to the neck thereof. The container is mounted in the kit by securing the tube 24 in a suitable lengthwise extending cut-out portion or recess 26 formed in the mounting frame, which conforms substantially to the shape of the package to prevent sidewise movement thereof. Preferably, the recess 25 is relatively close to the recess 14 for the bristle of the brush and to the front and back walls of the frame to assemble the brush and package in a compact manner.

In addition, the container may be held against movement in the box by a substantially U-shaped resilient clip 27 secured to the bottom of the lower box by a screw, eyelet or rivet 28 extending through the base 29 of the clip (Fig. 3). The clip is adapted to clamp the cap in position. Entry and removal of the cap may be facilitated by providing the upper portions of the clip with outwardly diverging portions 30.

Another feature of the invention is that the mounting frame may be held against upward or sidewise movement with respect to the bottom of the box by means of the clip 27. This may be accomplished by making the end 31 of the recess, adapted to accommodate the cap 25, narrower than the upright spring arms 32 of the clip, whereby the arms resiliently engage portions of the frame at the recess.

The polishing cloth 9 (Fig. 1) preferably is held against the underside of the cover part 10 of the upper box member 1 by a suitable clip 11 secured to the end of the box member 2 opposite the end of the box at which the bristles 15 of the brush are located. The cloth may be folded and inserted between the clip and the cover part to prevent it from engaging the bristle of the brush. To accomplish this, the cloth, when folded, does not extend to the end of the box where the bristles are located to provide a space 33 between the end wall of the box member 2 and the cloth. When the box is closed, the bristles are adapted to fit into the space 33 whereby a compact arrangement is provided.

In Fig. 4 a modified frame member 12 is illustrated, which may be stamped and pressed or otherwise formed from sheet metal or the like. Then frame member 12 is similar in design to the frame 12 and has a recess 14 for the bristles of the brush and a recess 26 for the container.

To increase the effective height or thickness of the metal frame without material increase in cost, the side edges thereof are provided with suitable downwardly depending flanges 34 adapted to space the frame a suitable distance from the bottom of the box. A feature of making the frame of metal is that a clip comprising resilient arms 35 adapted to grip the cap on the tube, can be formed integral with the plate. This decreases the cost of the kit and simplifies the assembly thereof. The frame may be frictionally secured to the box or, for example, by a rivet or eyelet 36 extending through a tab, lug or ear 37 on one of the flanges 34.

In Fig. 5 there is shown a case or box made of suitable material for enclosing the kit to prevent the polishing strip 5 from soiling other articles when the kit is placed in a satchel or other baggage. The case comprises an upper box part 40, hinged at 41 to a lower box part 42 and a tab or gripping flap 44 on the upper box part having a snap button 45 adapted to engage a snap projection 46 on the lower box part to lock the case.

A feature of the case is that it is compact and occupies a minimum amount of space. A further feature is a bendable front wall 47 on the upper box part, whereby in the normal opening of the box by pulling the flap 44 in the direction of the arrow A, the front wall will flex outwardly from its normal position, which is shown in dotted lines. Thus, the lower portion of the front wall 47 will clear the upper front edge 43 of the kit. This permits a smaller casing giving greater compactness and, more important, it limits close nesting of the parts and prevents the parts from jostling around.

It will be seen that the present invention provides an improved shoe shining kit. The polish brush, shoe polish tube and cloth are packed in the kit in a simple, inexpensive and convenient manner and cannot move about when the kit is carried. The kit is constructed of a minimum number of parts which are readily assembled and yet contains all the necessary means for polishing shoes. The kit is packed in a case which occupies a minimum amount of space and can be easily opened and closed while removing or replacing the kit. The kit and the case are rugged in construction and can readily withstand any rough usage to which they may be subjected.

As various changes may be made in the form, construction and arrangement of the parts herein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention and without sacrificing any of its advantages, it is to be understood that all matter herein is to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense as the scope of the invention is defined in the claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A shoe shining kit comprising a box, a mounting frame seated in the bottom of said box and having a slot for receiving a package adapted to contain shoe polish, and a clamping member secured to the bottom of said box having a pair of diverging clamping fingers for gripping a portion of said package, said fingers extending upwardly through said slot and engaging portions of said frame adjacent said slot to hold said frame in the bottom of said box.

2. A shoe shining kit comprising upper and lower box members, a frame member seated at the bottom of said lower box member having a longitudinal slot for receiving a shoe polish container, a clamping member secured to the bottom of said lower box member having diverging fingers extending upwardly through said slot and engaging portions of said frame adjacent said slot to assist in holding the frame in said lower box member, said fingers being adapted to grip a portion of the container, and said frame having a recess for receiving the bristles of a brush and a side portion cooperating with an adjacent side wall of the lower box member to provide a channel for the handle of the brush and adapted to frictionally retain the handle of a brush in position in said channel.

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