Aug. 21, 1923. 1,465,550

A. C. HAYDEN

MAT

Filed March 15, 1922

Fig. 1

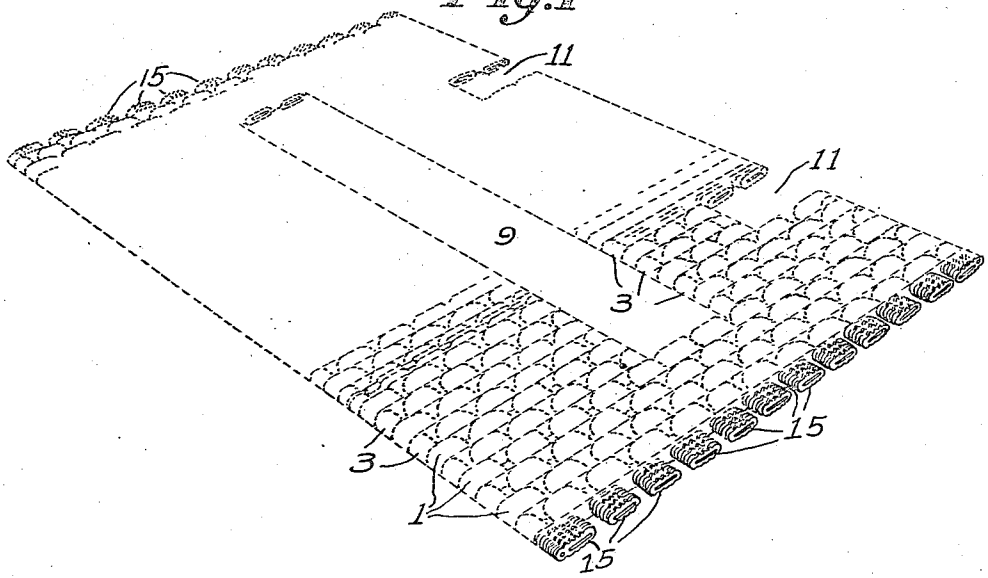


Fig. 2

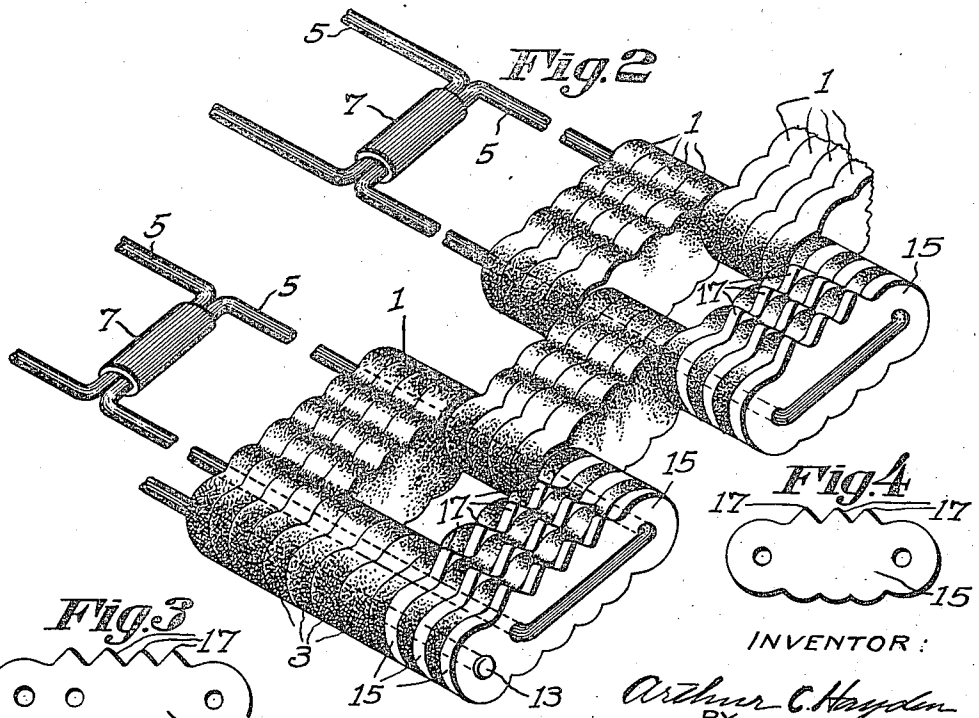


Fig. 3

Fig. 4

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MAT.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR C. HAYDEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brockton, in the county of Plymouth and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Mats, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like characters on the drawings representing like parts.

The invention to be hereinafter described relates to mats, and more particularly to mats for automobiles.

These mats experience hard usage, quickly wear out, and must be replaced by new ones. A good durable mat for automobiles and other uses, may comprise a checkerwork or assembly of leather blocks, preferably formed of leather laminations strung on wires or tie-rods to hold the blocks in their assembled relation.

The margins of the mat adjacent the side doors of the automobile, experience considerable wear, and sometimes persons entering the automobile, when stepping on these edges of the mat, are liable to slip and experience serious injury.

One of the purposes of the present invention, therefore, is to provide margins or edges of a mat such as referred to, with means to increase the durability thereof, and prevent persons stepping thereon from slipping.

With the aforesaid and other purposes in view, the character of the invention will be best understood by reference to the following description of one good form thereof, shown in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a mat embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 on an enlarged scale is a perspective view of a portion of the mat; and

Figs. 3 and 4 are details to be referred to.

Referring to the drawing, the mat shown therein as one good form of the invention, comprises an assembly of blocks or elements 1 which may be formed of leather or other appropriate material. In the present instance, each of these blocks is formed of four leather laminations 3, but the number of the laminations may be varied as desired. The blocks may be arranged in rows, and the blocks of adjacent rows may overlap one another somewhat, thereby giving the mat a checkerwork appearance.

Suitable means may be provided for securing the blocks or elements in assembled relation. This means, in the present instance, comprises tie-rods or loops 5 which may be formed of wire or other suitable material.

These tie-rods may be entered through registering holes in the overlapping portions of the blocks of adjacent rows. The construction is such that the mat may flex along lines parallel to the axes of the tie-rods.

In some instances it is desirable that the mat may flex along lines transverse to the longitudinal axes of the tie-rods. To accomplish this, in the present instance, a single wire loop such as the link 5 referred to, does not extend the entire length of the mat, but a plurality of such wire loops are arranged in alinement, and the adjacent ends of the alined wire loops may be connected by flattened sleeves 7. The construction is such that the mat may flex along the axes of said sleeves.

The mat as a whole may be constructed of suitable form and size for the purposes to which the mat is to be put. In the present instance, the mat is formed to present an elongated central aperture 9 adapted to receive the usual heater for the body of the automobile. The mat may also be formed to present recesses 11 adjacent an edge thereof to accommodate the usual automobile control levers.

To contribute to the strength of the mat, the blocks at opposed edges thereof may be made somewhat larger than the blocks in the body of the mat, and rods 13 may be entered through registering holes adjacent the outer ends of these edge blocks. The terminals of these rods may be upset to secure them in position.

The means for preventing slipping of persons stepping on a margin or margins of the mat, such, for example, as those adjacent the side doors of the automobile, may be of any suitable construction. In the present instance, this means comprises plates 15 of metal or other suitable material, and having a general shape similar to the leather laminations. The upper edges may be formed to present angular points 17, or to present other equivalent edges, preferably projecting somewhat above the upper surface of the mat.

These plates may be interposed between leather laminations of the blocks, and some

of the plates may desirably be at the outer faces of the edge blocks.

The wire loops 5 referred to, may be entered through pairs of holes in the plates, and thereby secure the latter in assembled relation with the leather laminations.

The plates adjacent the terminals of the strengthening rods may be made somewhat larger than the other plates, in order to conform to the size of the larger leather blocks through which the rods extend, and the latter may be entered through holes in these larger plates. The latter will desirably cooperate with the upset ends of the rods to secure the same.

The plates having the pointed or rough tread edges, not only tend to prevent slipping of persons stepping on the margins of the mat, but also materially contribute to the strength and durability of the latter.

It will be understood that the invention is not limited to the specific embodiment shown and that various deviations may be made therefrom without departing from the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:—

1. A mat comprising an assembly of blocks formed of leather laminations, wires entered through said blocks to hold the same in assembled relation, and metal plates interposed between the leather laminations of blocks at a margin of the mat, said plates being provided with upper slip preventing edges.

2. A mat comprising an assembly of blocks formed of leather laminations, the blocks at a margin of the mat having plates at the outer faces of said blocks and intermediate the laminations thereof, said plates being provided with rough upper edges tending to prevent slipping of persons stepping on the margin of the mat.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

ARTHUR C. HAYDEN.