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2,542,292

SHOE BOTTOM

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Fig. 1.

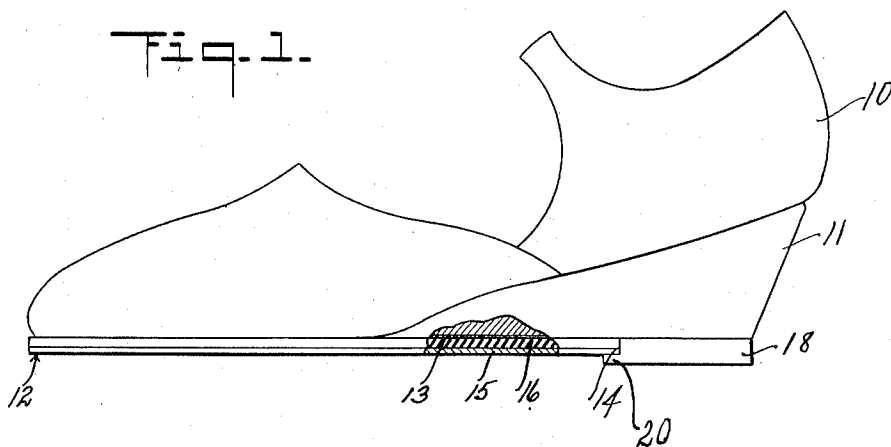


Fig. 2.

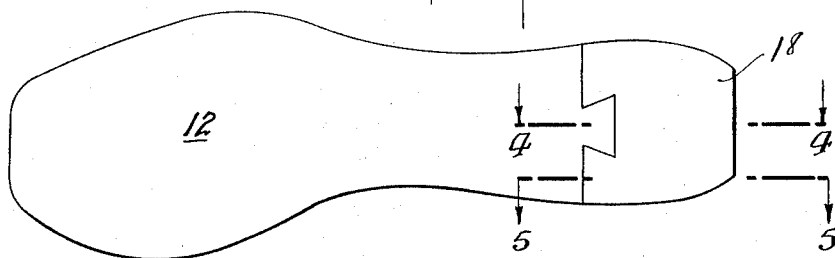
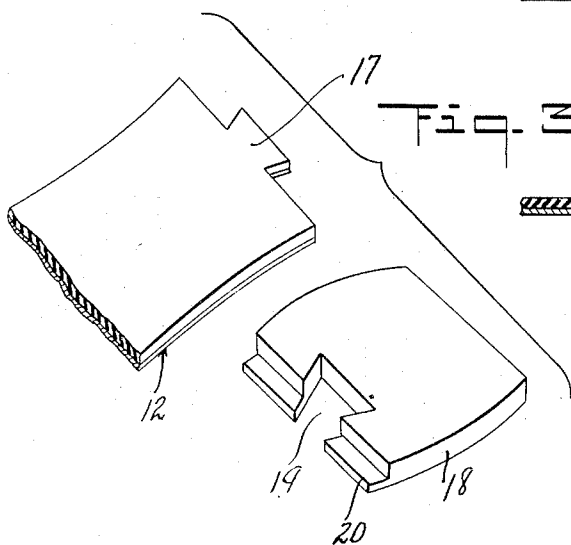


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.



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SHOE BOTTOM

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4 Claims. (Cl. 36—24.5)

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This invention relates to shoes and more particularly to an outer sole and heel lift arrangement therefor. The invention is particularly adaptable to women's shoes.

Insofar as I am aware, conventional shoes employ a flat, planar outer sole over the entire bottom of shoe and a heel or lift which is nailed or otherwise secured to the sole at the heel area. In the so-called "wedgy" type of shoe, the outer sole generally extends flatly across the bottom surface of the heel. In any case, a heel lift is generally included, such a lift being of tough material and replaceable, and its function being to present the heel portion of the shoe with a neat appearance, protect the heel and, generally raise it to a slight extent.

According to the present invention, I provide an outer sole which does not extend completely across the shoe bottom but terminates approximately at the lift area as will hereinafter appear. The lift is arranged to be a longitudinal continuation of the outer sole and is connected thereto by a dove-tail joint. The lift is thicker, and therefore is higher than the sole, and the additional thickness thereof is arranged to lap over the sole. This offers considerable advantages. For example, the sole inner edge is thus restrained against separation from the shoe bottom and a neat arrangement further results therefrom.

The invention also effects a saving in outer sole material and provides important labor saving advantages as will be apparent to those skilled in the art.

The invention will be further understood from the following description and drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view, partly broken away, of a shoe provided with an outer sole and heel lift according to the instant invention.

Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view thereof.

Fig. 3 is an exploded perspective view of the inner end of the outer sole and the heel lift therefor.

Fig. 4 is a cross-sectional view as taken along the lines 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a cross-sectional view as taken along the lines 5—5 of Fig. 2.

In the form shown, the shoe body 10 includes a tapering heel portion 11, popularly known as a "wedgy" heel. In this type of shoe, the outer sole generally extends completely across the shoe bottom, and a heel lift may be nailed or tacked thereover. According to the instant invention, however, the outer sole 12 is secured as by adhesive 13 up to approximately the center line 14 of the heel portion 11.

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Outer sole 12, in the particular form shown, comprises an outer layer 15 of leather or simulated leather and a top layer 16 which may be of composition or any other suitable material.

However, it may be a one-piece structure as well, as will hereinafter be made clear. Outer sole 12 is terminated at its inner end with a projecting triangular or dove-tail joint 17.

Heel lift 18 may be fabricated of a tough rubber or leather like material. It is shaped in conformity with the bottom of the heel portion 11 and it is formed with a dove-tail cut-out 19 complementary to the dove-tail projection 17. Thus, the projection 17 is adapted to be pressed into cut-out 19 and effects a firm, frictional firm engagement between the outer sole and heel lift 18.

As will be observed in the drawing, heel lift 18 is thicker than outer sole 12. It is also formed with a flange 20 which is adapted to overlap or embrace the adjacent inner edge portions of the outer sole 12. Thus, when projection 17 is pressed into cut-out 19, the flanges 20 automatically overlap the bottom edge of the outer sole, such an arrangement resulting in the heel lift extending lower than the outer sole, such as a heel lift should. It will be understood that the increase of thickness of the heel lift 18 relative to the outer sole 12 is represented by the thickness of flange 20, since the outer sole 12, when overlapped by flange 20, has its upper surface in alignment with the upper surface of the heel lift as illustrated in Fig. 1.

In employing the instant invention, the operator may first press the outer sole and heel lift into position. Then, with the flanged side of the heel lift lowermost, he may apply a suitable adhesive to the upper surface of the layer 16 as well as over the upper surface of the heel lift. The composite outer sole and heel lift are then applied to the bottom of the shoe where it may be allowed to set. Generally, no other securing means will be required although the invention does not exclude any such other securing or connecting means.

When the heel lift is applied as hereinabove described, it not only effects a saving of both materials and labor, but it protects the inner edge of the outer sole from disengagement from the shoe bottom. The heel lift is further quite easily replaceable since it may be torn off the shoe bottom when no longer usable, and a replacement heel lift may be glued and pressed into place, using the dove-tail joint as additional securing means.

What is claimed is:

1. For use with a shoe body, the sub-combina-

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tion of a flat planar sole and heel lift therefor, said sole and heel being adapted for substantial alignment along the bottom of the shoe body and having complementary, interfitting end connections, said end connections comprising a diverging projection on said sole and an opening formed through said lift for receiving and engaging said projection, said lift being thicker than said sole and extending below the plane thereof.

2. For use with a shoe body and outer sole therefor, the sub-combination of a heel lift, said heel lift having a lower flange extending forwardly from its breast and being formed with an opening therethrough for receiving and frictionally engaging a connecting member.

3. For use with a shoe body and outer sole therefor, the sub-combination of a heel lift, said heel lift having an opening formed therethrough along and central of its forward edge and a pair of spaced flange sections respectively formed on either side of said opening and extending forwardly of said forward edge.

4. A shoe comprising a shoe body including a heel portion, an outer sole, and a lift for said heel portion, a projection at the rearward termination of said sole, said lift having an opening formed therethrough for receiving and engaging said projection, and a pair of spaced flange sec-

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tions respectively formed on either side of said lift opening and underlapping the bottom surface of said rearward termination of the sole.

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