MULTIPLE VIEWING ANGLE MEDIA SUPPORT

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Appl. No.: 14/518,443
Filed: Oct. 20, 2014

Related U.S. Application Data
Provisional application No. 61/896,540, filed on Oct. 28, 2013.

For multiple viewing angle media support, and apparatus includes three support sides. Each support side includes a back support and an edge support.
MULTIPLE VIEWING ANGLE MEDIA SUPPORT

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 61/896,540 entitled "FLIP EREADER PILLOW" and filed on Oct. 28, 2013 for Bruce Cannon, which is incorporated herein by reference.

FIELD

[0002] The subject matter disclosed herein relates to media support and more particularly relates to multiple viewing angle media support.

BACKGROUND

Description of the Related Art

[0003] It is often comfortable to support media such as electronic readers, tablet computers, magazines, and books while viewing the media.

BRIEF SUMMARY

[0004] An apparatus for multiple viewing angle media support is disclosed. The apparatus includes three support sides. Each support side includes a back support and an edge support. A top of each back support is in physical communication with an adjacent edge support clockwise about a central axis. A plane of a first back support is at a first plane angle in a range of 50 to 60 degrees to a second virtual plane between the top of a second back support counterclockwise to the first back support and an outer edge of a second edge support counterclockwise to the first back support. A plane of the second back support is at a second plane angle in a range of 55 to 65 degrees to a third virtual plane between the top of a third back support counterclockwise to the second back support and an outer edge of a third edge support counterclockwise to the second back support. A plane of a third back support is at a third plane angle in a range of 50 to 75 degrees to a first virtual plane between the top of the first back support counterclockwise to the third back support and an outer edge of the first edge support counterclockwise to the third back support.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0005] A more particular description of the embodiments briefly described above will be rendered by reference to specific embodiments that are illustrated in the appended drawings. Understanding that these drawings depict only some embodiments and are not therefore to be considered to be limiting of scope, the embodiments will be described and explained with additional specificity and detail through the use of the accompanying drawings, in which:

[0006] FIG. 1 is a perspective drawing illustrating one embodiment of a media support;

[0007] FIG. 2 is a side view drawing illustrating one embodiment of a media support;

[0008] FIG. 3 is a perspective drawing illustrating one alternate embodiment of a media support; and

[0009] FIG. 4 is a perspective drawing illustrating one embodiment of media disposed on a media support.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0010] Reference throughout this specification to "one embodiment," "an embodiment," or similar language means that a particular feature, structure, or characteristic described in connection with the embodiment is included in at least one embodiment. Thus, appearances of the phrases "in one embodiment," "in an embodiment," and similar language throughout this specification may, but do not necessarily, all refer to the same embodiment, but mean "one or more but not all embodiments" unless expressly specified otherwise. The terms "including," "comprising," "having," and variations thereof mean "including but not limited to" unless expressly specified otherwise. An enumerated listing of items does not imply that any or all of the items are mutually exclusive and/or mutually inclusive, unless expressly specified otherwise. The terms "a," "an," and "the" also refer to "one or more" unless expressly specified otherwise.

[0011] Furthermore, the described features, advantages, and characteristics of the embodiments may be combined in any suitable manner. One skilled in the relevant art will recognize that the embodiments may be practiced without one or more of the specific features or advantages of a particular embodiment. In other instances, additional features and advantages may be recognized in certain embodiments that may not be present in all embodiments.

[0012] The description of elements in each figure may refer to elements of preceding figures. Like numbers refer to like elements in all figures, including alternate embodiments of like elements.

[0013] FIG. 1 is a perspective drawing illustrating one embodiment of a media support 100. The media support 100 may position media at one of three varied and carefully chosen angles for viewing by a user. The media may be handheld media. In addition, the media may be an electronic reader, a tablet computer, a video display, a magazine, a book, or the like. Because the media may be handheld, it is often viewed while the user is sitting at a table with the media on the table, while the user is sitting with the media disposed in the user's lap, or while the user is lying down.

[0014] During extended periods of viewing, it may be comfortable for the user to prop up the media to reduce hand and arm fatigue. Unfortunately, the use of traditional pillows may position the media at a less than advantageous angle. In addition, during extended viewing periods, the user may shift position, resulting in a need for a support with a different viewing angle. For example, a user may shift from reading while sitting on a couch to reading while lying on the couch.

[0015] The embodiments described herein provide support for multiple viewing angles. The angles are carefully chosen to support the media on a table for a sitting user, in the lap of a sitting user, and on a lying user. As a result, the media support 100 provides a comfortable support at an appropriate angle for the most common viewing positions.

[0016] In the depicted embodiment, the media support 100 includes three support sides 155. Each support side 155 comprises a support back 105 and a support edge 110. The support sides 155 may be disposed about a central axis 125. The media support 100 may have a latitudinal length 150. The latitudinal length 150 may be in the range of 6 to 50 centimeters (cm). In a certain embodiment, the latitudinal length 150 is in the range of 9 to 25 cm. In one embodiment, the latitudinal length 150 is 15 cm.

[0017] In one embodiment, the latitudinal length 150 of an edge support 110 may be different from the latitudinal length
the corresponding side support 155. The edge support latitudinal length 150 may be in the range of 2 to 10 cm. In a
certain embodiment, the edge support latitudinal length 150 is in
the range of 6 to 8 cm. In one embodiment, the edge support latitudinal length 150 is 7 cm.

[0018] The side supports 155 may be arranged to provide
different viewing angles 160 for three different user positions.
Each viewing angle 160 is orthogonal to a support back 105. The summerangement of the side supports 155 are
disclosed in greater detail in FIG. 2.

[0019] In one embodiment, each back support 105 and each
guide edge 110 is a surface of a solid. The solid media
support 100 may have one or more ends 165. In addition, the
solid media support 100 may be a pivot. In one embodiment, the
surface of the solid is ultra suede.

[0020] A user may place the media support 100 on a table, in
the user's lap, or on the user while lying down. The user
may further rotate the media support 100 to select a back
support 105 with a comfortable viewing angle 160. The user
may place media on the edge support 110. The edge support
holds the media with the back of the media against the
back support 105. As a result, the media may be viewed at the
viewing angle 160.

[0021] FIG. 2 is a side view drawing illustrating one
embodiment of a media support 100. The support back 105 and
the support edges 110 of the threesupport sides 155 are
shown about an end 165. A top of each back support 105 is in
physical communication with an adjacent edge support 110 about
the central axis 125. A plane of a first back support 105a may
be at a first plane angle 120a in a range of 50 to 60
degrees to a second virtual plane 130b between the top of a
second back support 105b counterclockwise to the first back
support 105b and an outer edge of a second edge support 110b
clockwise to the first back support 105a. In addition, a plane of the second back support 105b may be at a second
plane angle 120b in a range of 55 to 65 degrees to a third virtual
plane 130c between the top of a third back support 105c
clockwise to the second back support 105b and an outer edge of a third edge support 110c counterclockwise to the second back support 110b. A plane of a third back support 105c may be at a third plane angle 120c in a range of 50 to 75 degrees to a first virtual plane 130a between the top of the first back support 105a clockwise to the third back support 105c and an outer edge of the first edge support 110a counterclockwise to the third back support 105c.

[0022] In one embodiment, the first back support 105a has
a longitudinal length 115a in the range of 12 to 26 cm, the second back support 105b has a longitudinal length 115b in
the range of 9 to 21 cm, and the third back support 105c has a
longitudinal length 115c in the range of 10 to 22 cm. In a
certain embodiment, the first longitudinal length 115a is 19
cm, the first plane angle 120a is 60 degrees, the second longitudinal length 115b is 15 cm, the second plane angle 120b is 68 degrees, the third longitudinal length 115c is 17
cm, and the third plane angle 120c is 52 degrees.

[0023] The arrangement of the longitudinal lengths 115 and
the plane angles 120 generate three distinct viewing angles
160. In one embodiment, the first viewing angle 120a may be
x degrees, the second viewing angle 120b may be X degrees,
and the third viewing angle 120 c may be X degrees.

[0024] In one embodiment, each edge support 110 forms an
dge angle 140 with an adjacent back support 105. The edge
gle angle 140 may be in the range of 85 to 120 degrees. The edge angle 140 may be 90 degrees. Each edge support 110 may
have an edge support width 135. The edge support width 135
may be in the range of 1 to 5 cm. In a certain embodiment, the edge support width 135 is 2 cm.

[0025] FIG. 3 is a perspective drawing illustrating an other
embodiment of a media support 100. In the depicted
embodiment, each back support 105 and each edge support
110 is a surface of a frame. The frame may include a molded
mush, a fabric mesh, a wire mesh, or the like. In the
depicted embodiment, the media support 100 includes ends
165. Alternatively, there may be no ends 165 on the media support 100.

[0026] FIG. 4 is a perspective drawing illustrating an
embodiment of media 170 disposed on the media support
100. A bottom edge of the media 170 is disposed in the edge
support 110 while the back of the media 170 is disposed
against a back support 105.

[0027] The embodiments arrange three support sides 155 to
generate three distinct viewing angles 160. Each viewing
angle 160 is chosen for a specific viewing orientation. The
first viewing angle 160a may be employed when the media
support 100 and the media is disposed in the user's lap. The
second viewing angle 160b may be used when the media
support 100 and the media is disposed on a table and the user
is sitting upright. In addition, the 3rd viewing angle 160c may
be used when the user is lying down and the media support
100 is disposed on the user.

[0028] When the user changes position, the media support 100 may be quickly rotated to provide a different viewing
angle 160. As a result, the media support 100 is quickly
deployed to provide the appropriate viewing angle 160. In
addition, the comfort of the user is greatly enhanced as the
media may be viewed at the appropriate viewing angle 160
without the user holding the media.

[0029] The media support 100 has been marketed as the
"Flip Tablet Pillow" since 2013 at a retail price of $49.98.
Because of the media support's unique properties, it has
enjoyed significant commercial success, with 800 units sold in
2013 and projected sales of 3000 units in 2014.

[0030] Embodiments may be practiced in other specific
forms. The described embodiments are to be considered in all
respects only as illustrative and not restrictive. The scope
of the invention is, therefore, indicated by the appended claims
rather than by the foregoing description. All changes which come with the meaning and range of equivalency of the
claims are to be embraced within their scope.

What is claimed is:
1. An apparatus comprising:
three support sides, each support side comprising a back
support and an edge support, wherein a top of each back
support is in physical communication with an adjacent edge
support clockwise about a central axis, a plane of a
first back support is at a first plane angle in a range of 50
to 60 degrees to a second virtual plane between the top of
a second back support counterclockwise to the first back
support and an outer edge of a second edge support
counterclockwise to the first back support, a plane of the
second back support is at a second plane angle in a range of
55 to 65 degrees to a third virtual plane between the top of
a third back support counterclockwise to the second back
support and an outer edge of a third edge support
clockwise to the second back support, a plane of a third
back support is at a third plane angle in a range of 50 to 75
degrees to a first virtual plane between the top of the
first back support counterclockwise to the third back
support and an outer edge of the first edge support
clockwise to the third back support.
third back support and an outer edge of the first edge support counterclockwise to the third back support.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first back support has a longitudinal length in the range of 12 to 26 centimeters (cm), the second back support has a longitudinal length in the range of 9 to 21 cm, and the third back support has a longitudinal length in the range of 10 to 22 cm.

3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the first longitudinal length is 19 cm, the first plane angle is 60 degrees, the second longitudinal length is 15 cm, the second plane angle is 68 degrees, the third longitudinal length is 17 cm, and the third plane angle is 52 degrees.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein each back support has a latitudinal length in the range of 9 to 25 cm.

5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein each back support has a latitudinal length of 15 cm.

6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein each edge support has a latitudinal length in the range of 2 to 10 cm.

7. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein each edge support has a latitudinal length of 7 cm.

8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein each edge support has an edge support width in the range of 1 to 5 centimeters (cm).

9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein each edge support has an edge support width of 2 cm.

10. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein each back support and each edge support is a surface of a solid.

11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the solid is a pillow.

12. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein each back support and each edge support is a surface of a frame.

13. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein a plane of each edge support forms an edge angle in the range of 85 to 120 degrees with an adjacent back support.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the edge angle is 90 degrees.

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