TOILET ACCESSORY FOR HOUSE PETS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 119—1)

This invention relates to a toilet or more particularly, a toilet accessory for house pets such as cats and dogs, conceived for use with the conventional, flush type toilets or with sanitary toilets.

It is an object of my invention to provide a toilet accessory of the class defined which may be readily applied as an accessory or conversion device to conventional human toilets and which is of such structure that a pet may readily be trained to utilize the same in a natural way.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a toilet accessory for pets in the form of an elongated receptacle having provision for comfortable support of the animal in a natural way and having means for readily attaching the same securely to conventional toilet bowls.

Another object is the provision of a receptacle of the class described wherein provision is made to guard against splashing of liquid materials outside of the receptacle and wherein both liquid and solid materials deposited, are caused to flow or drop into the bowl or vault of the conventional toilet.

More specifically, it is an object to provide a toilet accessory of the class described wherein a supporting and receiving casing is formed for surrounding the body of the animal and where in the rear legs and rear body portion of the animal is naturally positioned below the level of the surrounding portion of the casing or receptacle, preferably, upon a grid or open work structure having at its rear portion, a substantial opening for dropping of solid fecal material.

These and other objects and advantages of my invention will more fully appear from the following description made in connection with the accompanying drawings wherein like reference characters refer to similar parts throughout the several views and in which:

Fig. 1 is a vertical section taken longitudinally and centrally of an embodiment of my invention applied for use to a conventional water toilet;

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the device detached;

Fig. 3 is a vertical cross section taken on the line ——3 of Fig. 2 and;

Fig. 4 is a front elevation of the accessory.

As shown in the drawings, my toilet accessory is applied to the bowl or vault V of a conventional water toilet having the upstanding base B, the usual trap T communicating at its rear with an enlarged drainage conduit or passage P and having the oval ledge or supporting bead L upon which the usual hinged cover C is normally supported. The cover C is hinged in usual manner to an upwardly and forwardly extending bracket X supported upon the rearward portion of the toilet bowl top.

My toilet accessory comprises an elongated generally ovoid receptacle having an upstanding flange or splash guard 6 surrounding the perimeter of the bottom thereof. The body portion including all but the forward end of the receptacle is shaped generally in configuration to the top of the toilet bowl, as clearly shown in Fig. 2 and the forward portion converges slightly from the central portion of the receptacle to overhang the forward edge of the toilet bowl, providing as shown, a stepped bottom composed of sections 7 and 8 for receiving the front paws and legs of the animal. I prefer to spray or otherwise adhere to the upper surfaces of sections 7 and 8, coatings of rubber or other liquid-proof cushioning material. The sections 7 and 8, as well as the annular portion 9 of the bottom of the receptacle slope rearwardly to drain liquid material to the rear of the receptacle where the same may flow downwardly into the toilet bowl below. A handle 10 is affixed to the forward end of my device to facilitate portability and installation thereof. My receptacle includes a depressed portion or sump in the rear central part thereof, formed by an oval skirt 11 which is integrally formed or welded or otherwise affixed to the similar shaped oval aperture in the general bottom of the receptacle, as shown, projecting slightly above the annular bottom 9 at its upper edge and extended several inches below the main or annular bottom 9 at its lower edge. The skirt 11, as shown, has a curved and rounded, forwardly extending lip 11a to prevent discomfort to the chest or body of the animal. An open work or perforated, rearwardly sloping bottom or grill 12 traverses the greater portion of the area of skirt 11 and is secured thereto and supported thereby. This grill has a relatively large opening 12a at the rear thereof through which solid matter may drop into the toilet bowl below.

The upper edge of skirt 11 which protrudes slightly above the annular bottom of casing 6, is apertured at the rear portion to form a passage 13 through which liquid materials flowing rearwardly along the annular gutter of the main casing, may drop through the aperture 12a of the foraminous bottom or grill 12.

To further retain the receptacle upon the toilet bowl I provide a horizontal tongue 14 extending rearwardly from the rear end of the casing and
positioned to underlie the hinge pintle on the conventional cover hinging bracket X and to be straddled by the arms of said bracket. A leaf spring 14a as shown, is connected at its rear end with the tongue 14 and is adapted to press against the rear portion of the toilet bowl to cushion the attachment tongue, providing adequate resiliency to enable the entire casing to be swung upwardly, for disengagement of the oval skirt 11 with the interior of the top edge of the toilet bowl.

When my device is used by male dogs of larger size, it may be of advantage to provide additional splash guards 15 at the sides of the upward guard flange 6. As shown, splash guards 15 are in the form of upward plates conforming to the appropriate shape of the sides of upward guard flange 6 and projecting several inches above the top of said flange. Any suitable, quickly detachable means such as notched bolts 15a, are employed to secure these splash guards to the flange. An additional splash guard 16, shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1, may be applied to the forward end of the casing although this is usually unnecessary.

At the front portion of the casing, to support the same properly for rearward flow of liquid in the annular gutter, I provide a depending strap 1a which is secured to the underside of the rear section 1. This strap rests upon the forward portion of the upper edge of the toilet bowl.

In use, my device may be readily carried as a unit and quickly installed in operative position as shown in Fig. 1, at the top of a toilet bowl. A house pet may be then positioned upon the floor portions of the device with the rear legs and rear portion of the body being disposed within the oval depending skirt or sump 11 and with the forepaws disposed upon the floor sections 7 and 8. After a short training period, a dog or cat will learn to jump upon the toilet accessory device and make use of the same in normal fashion. The guard flange 6 is of sufficient height so that under normal conditions, no splashing of urine from a male dog is possible outside of the casing. The additional splash guards 15 are provided for larger size male dogs.

All liquids are either caught by the annular gutter surrounding the skirt 11 and flow rearwardly to the passage 13 and thereafter, flow downwardly or drop through the opening 12 into the toilet bowl.

Solid material, if the animal is properly positioned upon the foraminous bottom 12, will normally drop through aperture 12a into the toilet bowl but in any event, such solid material will be confined within the depending skirt 11 or upon the supporting grill 12.

The device, while still installed upon a toilet bowl, may be readily flushed and cleaned by pouring water over the floor surfaces 7 and 8 which causes a flushing flow through the annular gutter portion. The grill and sides of the skirt 11 may be also readily cleaned with the device mounted in operative position upon the toilet bowl.

It will be apparent that the unitary device may be readily removed and disposed on end or on a shelf when not in use.

From the foregoing description, it will be seen that I have provided a simple but highly efficient toilet accessory for house pets which enables a conventional toilet to be readily converted into a special toilet for receiving small animals.

It will further be seen that my structure is compact in form, readily portable and is adapted for sterilization and cleaning with expenditure of little effort.

It will of course, be understood that various changes may be made in the form, details and arrangement and proportions of the parts without departing from the scope of my invention.

What I claim is:

A toilet accessory for house pets, comprising an elongated shallow toilet receptacle adapted to generally fit and to be supported upon and at least cover the bottom of a toilet bowl and having a rear depressed portion provided with a rearwardly declined foraminous support for the rear portion of a pet, the bottom of said receptacle declining from front to rear to drain liquid material to said depressed portion, said depressed portion having a rear opening for passage of solid matter downwardly into the conventional toilet bowl, said depressed portion fitting within the inner edge of a toilet bowl to assist in positively retaining the accessory in use.

CARL H. ANDERSON.

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The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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