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GB 1502438 A GB 1014454 A

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UK CL (Edition J) E2A AGU
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(54) Spring clips for suspending objects between angled wall surfaces

(57) The spring clip for suspending e.g. a decorative trimming (Christmas decoration) 8, between two angled wall surfaces 7 comprises pointed ends 3 for engaging each of the wall surfaces 7, and, between the ends 3, a resilient biasing arrangement comprising, as shown two bow-shaped portions 4 and a U-shaped portion 2 which is resiliently compressed when the clip 1 is fitted between the wall surfaces 7 with the ends 3 engaging the wall surfaces 7 and which subsequently exerts gripping forces tending to maintain the ends 3 in engagement with the wall surfaces 7. In Figure 2 U-shaped portion 2 is formed with a hook 9 from which the decoration 8 is hung. The clip enables decorations to be hung without leaving marks on the wall.

In the embodiment of Figure 3, hook 9 is dispensed with and trimmings 8, 12 are supported as shown.

Clip may be partly/wholly of wire or plastics material.

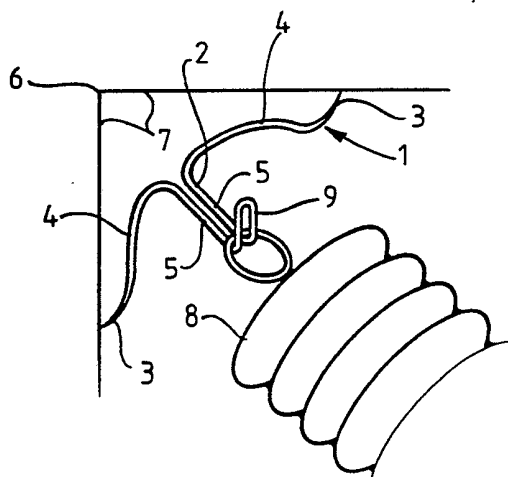


FIG 2

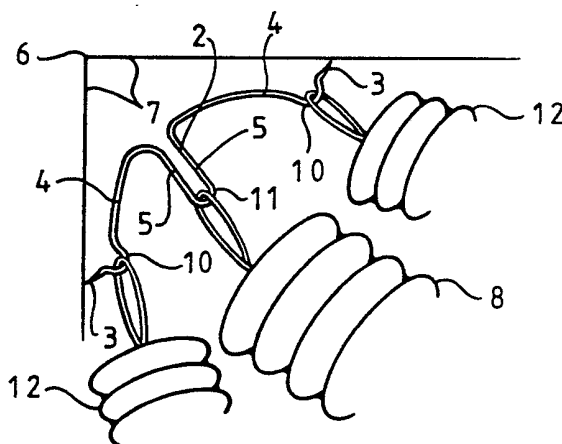


FIG 3

1 / 1

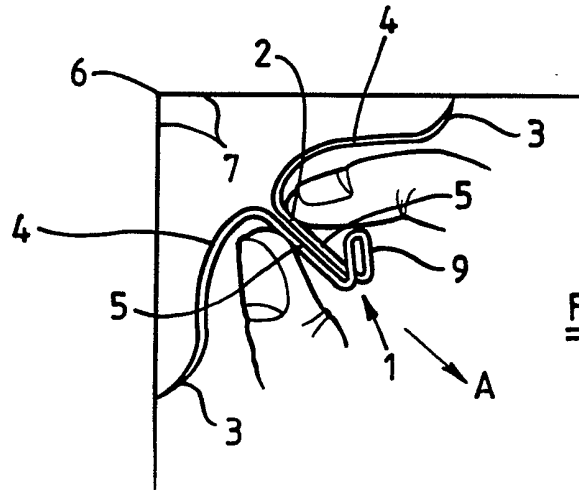


FIG 1

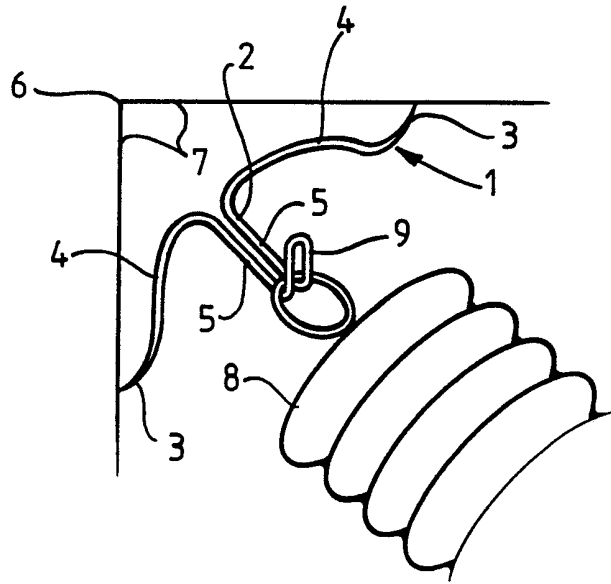


FIG 2

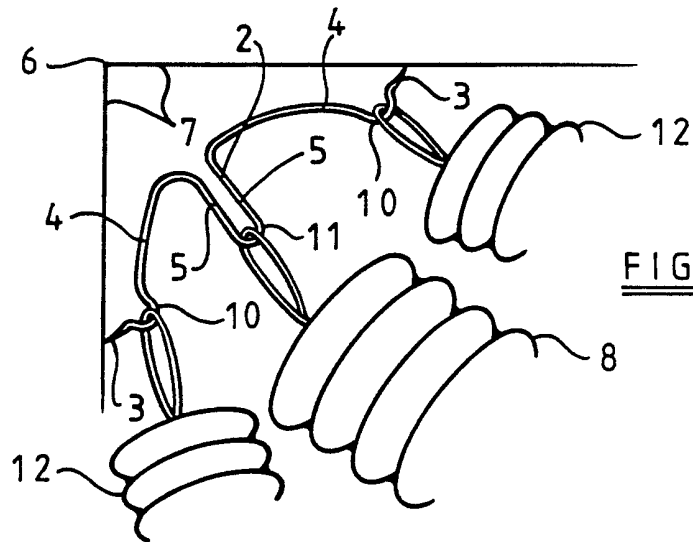


FIG 3

Spring clips for suspending objects
between angled wall surfaces

This invention relates to spring clips for suspending objects between two angled wall surfaces, for example at the corner of a room.

There is a requirement for some means of
5 suspending decorative trimmings and the like, as used at Christmas and other times to decorate a room, at the corner of the room and/or at the top of a wall of the room in such a manner that the decorative trimmings are reliably held in place and that, when the trimmings are
10 subsequently removed, marks are not left on the wall surfaces.

It is an object of the invention to provide a spring clip for this purpose.

According to the invention there is provided a
15 spring clip for suspending an object between two angled wall surfaces, the clip comprising a respective pointed end for engaging each of the wall surfaces and, between the ends, resilient biasing means which is resiliently compressed when the clip is fitted between the wall
20 surfaces with the ends engaging the wall surfaces and which subsequently exerts gripping forces tending to maintain the ends in engagement with the wall surfaces.

It should be understood that the term "wall surfaces" is used herein to denote the surfaces of the
25 side walls and the ceiling of a room, and that the clip

may be fitted between either two adjacent side walls or a side wall and the ceiling of the room.

The resilient biasing means is preferably connected to the ends so as to apply a gripping force at 5 each end having a component acting perpendicularly to the associated wall surface and a component acting in a direction away from the corner at which the wall surfaces meet.

The resilient biasing means preferably includes 10 at least one bow-shaped portion such that the weight of the suspended object tends to straighten the bow shape and to thereby increase the gripping force at each end of the clip.

Furthermore the resilient biasing means 15 preferably includes a substantially U-shaped portion having two arms which extend transversely with respect to the ends and which are resiliently moved together when the clip is fitted between the wall surfaces so that, when released, they apply the necessary gripping forces to the 20 ends. The U-shaped portion may be connected to the ends by respective bow-shaped portions which are curved in the opposite direction to the curve of the U-shaped portion.

The clip may include at least one specially adapted attachment portion, such as a hook, for attachment 25 of the suspended object. Conveniently the U-shaped portion is also shaped as a hook.

The clip may be made of wire or of another material, such as a plastics material, or of a combination

of wire and another material.

The invention also provides a decorative trimming having clips as described above at its ends.

In order that the invention may be more fully understood, reference will now be made, by way of example to the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 shows the fitting of a clip in accordance with the invention between two wall surfaces;

Figure 2 shows the clip in position supporting a decorative trimming;

Figure 3 shows an alternative form of clip in accordance with the invention supporting three decorative trimmings.

The wire clip 1 shown in Figures 1 and 2 is shown being fitted between two angled wall surfaces 7 at the corner 6 of a room. The clip 1 comprises two pointed ends 3 connected together by a resilient biasing arrangement consisting of a U-shaped portion 2 and two bow-shaped portions 4.

In order to fit the clip 1 the two arms 5 of the U-shaped portion 2 are squeezed together in order to bring the ends 3 closer together. The clip 1 is then positioned so that each end 3 is in contact with the respective wall surface 7, and the arms 5 are released so as to cause a gripping force to be applied at each end 3 by the associated bow-shaped portion 4. Where the wall surfaces 7 are covered with wall paper this will cause the pointed ends 3 to puncture the wall paper. The U-shaped portion 2

is formed with a hook 9 from which a decorative trimming 8 may be suspended.

Because of the inherent expanding action of the bow-shaped portions 4 any force acting in the direction of the arrow A due to the weight or pull of the trimming 8 will have the effect of increasing the gripping forces between the ends 3 and the wall surfaces 7, so that the clip 1 is capable of withstanding considerable pulling forces without becoming disengaged. On the other hand, when the clip 1 is to be removed, this can be done simply by squeezing together the arms 5 and, if necessary, applying a slight movement towards the corner 6 to increase the bending of the bow-shaped portions 4, in order to disengage the ends 3 from the wall surfaces 7. No substantial marking of the wall surfaces 7 will remain after removal of the clip 1.

Figure 3 shows an alternative form of clip in which the hook is dispensed with and the trimming 8 is attached to the bend 11 of the U-shaped portion 2. In addition the clip 1 is provided with further bends 10 for supporting further trimmings 12.

CLAIMS

1. A spring clip for suspending an object between two angled wall surfaces, the clip comprising a respective pointed end for engaging each of the wall surfaces and,
5 between the ends, resilient biasing means which is resiliently compressed when the clip is fitted between the wall surfaces with the ends engaging the wall surfaces and which subsequently exerts gripping forces tending to maintain the ends in engagement with the wall surfaces.
- 10 2. A clip according to claim 1, wherein the resilient biasing means is connected to the ends so as to apply a gripping force at each end having a component acting perpendicularly to the associated wall surface and a component acting in a direction away from the corner at
15 which the wall surfaces meet.
3. A clip according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the resilient biasing means includes at least one bow-shaped portion such that the weight of the suspended object tends to straighten the bow shape and to thereby increase the
20 gripping force at each end of the clip.
4. A clip according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the resilient biasing means includes a substantially U-shaped portion having two arms which extend transversely with respect to the ends and which are resiliently moved
25 together when the clip is fitted between the wall surfaces so that, when released, they apply the necessary gripping forces to the ends.
5. A clip according to claim 4, wherein the U-

shaped portion is connected to the ends by respective bow-shaped portions which are curved in the opposite direction to the curve of the U-shaped portion.

6. A clip according to any preceding claim, wherein
5 the clip includes at least one specially adapted attachment portion for attachment of the suspended object.

7. A clip according to claim 4 or 5, wherein the U-shaped portion is shaped as a hook.

8. A clip according to any preceding claim, which
10 is partly or wholly made of wire.

9. A clip according to any preceding claim, which is partly or wholly made of a plastics material.

10. A spring clip for suspending an object between two angled wall surfaces, substantially as hereinbefore
15 described with reference to Figures 1 and 2 or Figure 3 of the accompanying drawing.

11. A decoration fitted with at least one clip according to any preceding claim.