May 14, 1957 I. ISCOE 2,791,865

TELEPHONE PAD ATTACHMENT

Filed July 27, 1956

FIG. 1.

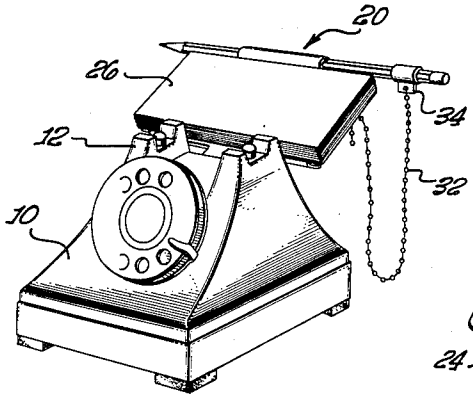


FIG. 2.

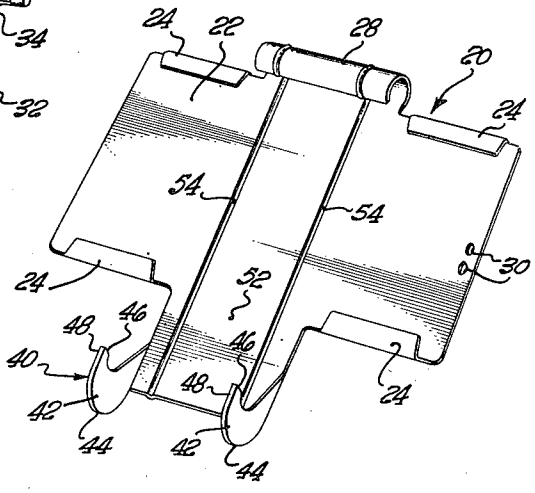


FIG. 3.

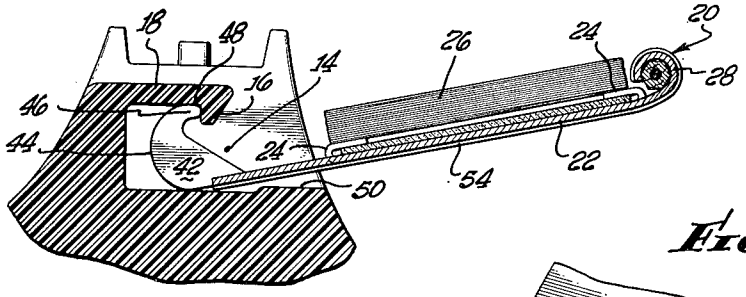


FIG. 4.

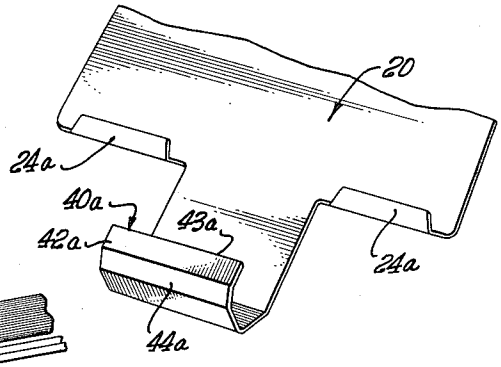
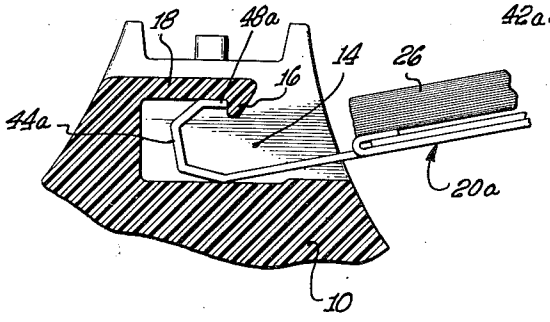


FIG. 5.



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TELEPHONE PAD ATTACHMENT

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6 Claims. (Cl. 45—.5)

The present invention relates to a writing pad holder and particularly to a holder for a writing pad with means on the holder for ready, removable attachment to a telephone.

Writing pads of various sorts have been widely used for recording brief messages such as calls by telephone, orders for groceries and the like. Customarily the writing pad and a pencil are placed adjacent the telephone. The use of such pads is generally unsatisfactory, however, especially when a person is attempting to use the telephone in one hand and to write with the other because the small loose pad slides around upon the supporting surface. Further, the pads frequently become mislaid and therefore are not available at the time of need.

Attempts have been made heretofore to overcome these problems by devising means to secure the writing pad permanently to the telephone. These devices also have proved unsatisfactory generally because the attachment means is secured to the telephone base only with difficulty. Moreover, the device usually requires multiple parts which are costly to produce and which must be joined together in the manufacturing process, thereby increasing labor costs.

An object of the present invention, therefore, is to provide a pad holder for attachment to a telephone without altering the construction of the telephone and without requiring any tools.

A further object of the invention is to provide a holder for a writing pad that may be rigidly secured to the telephone base in one simple manual movement, and just as easily removed.

A further object of the invention is to provide a writing pad holder that may be simply manufactured in one piece, which will be durable and useful while being inexpensive to manufacture.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description and from the drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a conventional telephone base having secured thereto a writing pad holder and pad embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a view in perspective of the writing pad holder of Fig. 1 with the pad removed for the sake of clarity;

Fig. 3 is a vertical section through the telephone base showing the means of rigidly and removably attaching the writing pad holder to the base;

Fig. 4 is a view in perspective, similar to Fig. 2, showing a modified form of the writing pad holder; and

Fig. 5 is a view in section, similar to Fig. 3, of said modified form.

Generally stated, the present invention relates to a unitary writing pad holder of a type particularly adapted to removable attachment to the base portion of a modern telephone, said pad holder including a rigid one-piece substantially planar body upon which a writing pad may be mounted, means to removably secure the writing pad to the body, and interlock means integral with the

body and adapted to pivotally engage within a rearwardly opening carrying recess normally found below the hand set receiving cradle on a telephone base. In conventional devices such carrying recess is normally provided with a rib projecting downward at its rear edge. The novel interlock means of the present invention includes an upstanding hook flange adapted to pivotal insertion into the carrying recess in such a manner that a point provided on the flange is held in abutment against the downward projecting rib by the weight of the pad holder and writing pad. Moreover, the interlock means is adapted to fit snugly adjacent interior surfaces of the carrying recess so as not to detract from a normal usefulness of the recess when carrying the telephone. Desirably, the writing pad holder body is provided with transversely extending portions adapted to engage side portions of the recess and thereby properly orient the angle of support of the pad at the rear of the telephone.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, 10 indicates the conventional telephone base employed with modern telephones. A hand set receiving cradle 12 is provided adjacent upper surfaces of the telephone base. Below this cradle is provided the usual recess 14 which has a rib 16 projecting downward at its rear edge. As is well known, the portion of the telephone base 18 lying between the hand set receiving cradle and the recess 14 forms a handle allowing the telephone to be easily transported from one place to another.

The present invention contemplates a unitary writing pad holder 20 adapted to pivotal engagement within the carrying recess of a telephone base and to the rigid support of a writing pad in an easily accessible position to the rear of the telephone. In its preferred embodiment the writing pad holder is formed in one piece from a single sheet of material such as metal, plastic or composition, the pad carrying portion 22 of said holder comprising a rigid substantially planar body upon which a writing pad may be mounted. If the pad holder 20 is to be constructed of very thin material, as would generally be desirable from a cost standpoint, longitudinally extending grooves 54 may advantageously be provided to strengthen the body 22 of the holder against the downward pressure of writing on the writing pad 26.

In a preferred embodiment illustrated in Figs. 1 to 3, the body 22 is transversely elongated and of approximately the length of a writing pad to be mounted thereon. Guides or flanges 24 provided at the sides of the body permit a conventional writing pad 26 to be easily and removably secured thereto. As best seen in Fig. 3, the writing pad 26 is secured within the flanges 24 by means of the usual cardboard backing which is slid from the side into the space between the flanges and the body 22. If desired, means such as the cylindrical bracket 28 may also be provided adjacent the pad-carrying portion to receive a pencil or other scribing device. As shown in Fig. 1, a flexible cord or chain 32 may be secured in apertures 30 formed in the base and attached to the pencil, as at 34, to prevent its loss.

In accordance with the invention pivotally engageable interlock means 40 are provided integral with the pad holder body adapting the holder to be received within the carrying recess 14 to thereby rigidly support the writing pad at the rear of the telephone base. In the embodiment of Figs. 1 to 3, the pivotally engageable interlock means 40 comprises a pair of hook flanges 42 extending substantially perpendicularly upward from the planar body 22 of the pad holder. Engaging portions of the hook flanges are preferably gently rounded as at 44 and terminate in points 46 adapted to abut against the inner surface of the downward projecting rib 16 of the carrying recess. If desired, each of the points 46 may be provided

with a flattened upper surface 48 to permit a larger area of abutment or retaining contact of the point against a correspondingly flattened upper surface normally found in the carrying recess 14.

To insert the novel writing pad holder of the invention into a telephone base the holder 20 is held in a substantially perpendicular position so that the interlock means 40 may be inserted part way into the carrying recess 14 of the base. The holder is now pivoted within the recess, upon the engaging surfaces 44 of the hook flanges, until the points 46 of the interlock means firmly abut against the inner surface of the downward projecting rib 16. Conceivably pivotal movement of the pad holder 20 could be continued until the body 22 of the holder engaged the bottom surface 50 of the recess 14. Desirably, however, the distance of the interlock means 40 from the body 22 of the holder is such that the transversely extending guide flanges 24 contact portions of the telephone base horizontally adjacent the recess 14 at exactly the moment desired to properly orient the angle of inclination of the supported pad 26. Thus, as may be best seen in Fig. 3, the transversely extending body contacts the telephone base in such a manner that the pad is inclined at an angle of about 30° to the horizontal, although any desired angle may be devised by varying the length of the body portion 52 (see Fig. 2).

When it is desired to remove the writing pad holder, it is only necessary to again pivot the device upwardly and, thereafter, to remove the interlocking means 40 from the recess 14. As will be apparent to one skilled in the art, insertion or removal of the interlock means 40 and pivotal engagement of the points 46 within the recess can be accomplished in a moment's time. Accordingly the manipulative procedures involved in attaching or removing the pad-holding device from the telephone are no longer a problem. Moreover, the interlock means being adapted to fit snugly adjacent the interior surfaces of the recess 14, the normal usefulness of the recess in the carrying of the telephone from place to place is not impaired.

Figs. 4 and 5 illustrate a modified form of the interlocking means in which a single hook flange is provided. In this form of the invention all points along the contacting edge 43*a* abut against the inner surface of the downward protecting rib 16 so that somewhat more rigid support is provided the pad holder. Moreover, as shown, the hook flange 42*a* need not present a smooth rounded engaging surface 44*a*, but may be formed as a series of planes at angles to one another, with the uppermost place 48*a* being adapted to abut or contact the interior flattened surface at the top of the recess 14. In other respects the construction and use of the modified device may be the same as the device of Figs. 1 to 3.

From the above description, it will be apparent that the present invention makes possible a simple efficient attachment of a writing pad to a telephone base, in a matter of seconds, with the pad thereafter being held firmly in position by its own weight and by the weight of the pad holder. In addition, the invention permits the writing pad holder to be simply and inexpensively manufactured, in one piece, from low cost materials such as sheet metal or plastic. Moreover, the present invention provides such a device with a pivotally engageable interlock means that, although fitting easily into the carrying recess normally found in a telephone base, does not detract in any way from the normal use of that recess in the transportation of the telephone from place to place.

To those skilled in the art to which this invention relates, many changes in construction and widely differing embodiments and applications of the invention will suggest themselves without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. For example, clamps, adhesives, or other such means of attaching the pad to the pad holder body 22 may be employed instead of the guides 24 as shown. In addition, although the pad and supporting body 22 are shown in transverse position with respect to the telephone base, a lengthwise orientation of the pad could be easily accomplished without substantial variation in the structure illustrated. Furthermore, additional flanges could be provided on the body portion 22 extending downwardly so as to provide means for holding an address or memo book or other such device adjacent the bottom surface of the pad holder. Accordingly, it should be understood that the disclosures and the description herein are purely illustrative and are not intended to be in any sense limiting.

I claim:

1. A unitary writing pad holder of a type particularly adapted to removable attachment to the base portion of a modern telephone, said base portion including a hand set receiving cradle and a carrying recess opening rearward and located below said cradle and having a rib projecting downward at its rear edge, said pad holder comprising a rigid one-piece substantially planar body upon which a writing pad may be mounted, means to removably secure a writing pad to the pad holder body, and pivotally engageable interlock means integral with said pad holder body and adapting said body to rigid support by the base portion of said telephone, said interlock means including an upstanding hook flange pivotally insertable into said carrying recess in such manner that a point provided on the flange is held in abutment against an inner portion of said downward projecting rib by the weight of said pad holder and writing pad, said interlock means being constructed to fit snugly adjacent interior surfaces of said carrying recess so as not to detract from a normal usefulness of said recess in carrying the telephone.

2. The writing pad holder of claim 1 in which said hook flange is provided with a flattened surface adjacent said point adapted to abut against a correspondingly flattened upper surface found in said carrying recess.

3. The writing pad holder of claim 1 in which said pivotally engageable interlock means comprises a pair of hook flanges integral with and extending substantially perpendicularly upward from the planar body of said pad holder.

4. The writing pad holder of claim 1 in which grooves are provided extending longitudinally of said pad holder body to thereby permit a relatively thin but unbendable construction of said body.

5. A unitary writing pad holder of a type particularly adapted to removable attachment to a telephone base, said base including a hand set receiving cradle and a carrying recess opening rearward and located below said cradle and having a rib projecting downward at its rear edge, said pad holder comprising a rigid one-piece substantially planar body upon which a writing pad may be mounted, means to removably secure a writing pad to the pad holder body, and pivotally engageable interlock means integral with said pad holder body and adapting said body to rigid support by the telephone base, said interlock means being pivotally insertable into said recess and into abutment with said downwardly projecting rib, said pad securing means extending transversely from said pad holder body so as to engage portions of said telephone base horizontally adjacent said carrying recess upon downward pivotal movements of said body relative to said interlock means whereby said pad holder and writing pad are held firmly in position by their own weight, by a pivotal wedging of said interlock means and by engagement of said pad-securing means with the telephone base.

6. The writing pad holder of claim 5 in which said pad holder is die-stamped from a single piece of sheet metal.

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