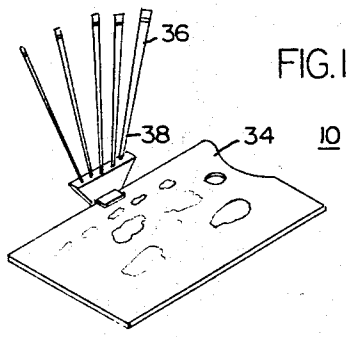
Nov. 22, 1966 E. V. LE BLANC ET AL 3,286,847

ARTIST'S BRUSH HOLDER

Filed Jan. 15, 1965

FIG. 1



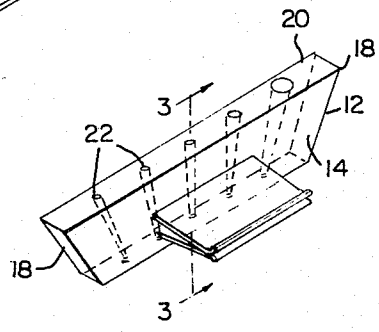


FIG. 2

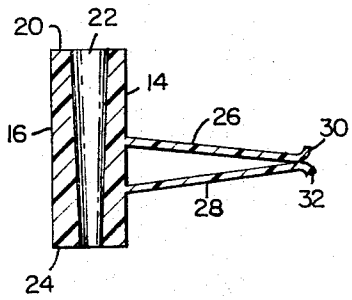
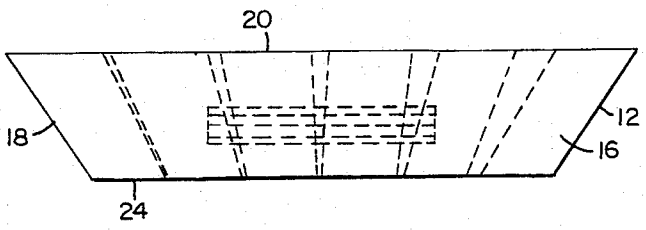


FIG. 3

FIG. 4



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ARTIST'S BRUSH HOLDER

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This invention relates generally to artist's supplies and more particularly to an artist's paint brush holder adapted to be attached to the rear edge of a pallette.

Painters while in the process of painting usually lay their brushes down on any suitable object that will hold them when utilizing a different brush containing a different color. In this manner the painter runs the risk of having the brush pick up foreign matter or in the case where a jar is used to stack several brushes, of neutralizing the color previously achieved by blending on the pallette. Of the devices now utilized in the industry the majority do not make provision for the isolation of the brush tips from each other and others adapted to be attached to a pallette, occupy an area of the pallette so as to make portions of the pallette unavailable for the blending of the colors. Since painting is not confined to a studio where facilities for storing the paint brushes in a fixed position adjacent the easel could be provided, this invention allows the brushes to be immediately available to the painter and in proximity to the paint supply.

Therefore, it is an object of this invention to provide an improved paint brush holder adapted to be attached to a pallette to maintain the brushes in immediate proximity to the painter and with adjacent brush tips well spaced from each other.

It is a further object of this invention to provide a brush holder of approximately trapezoidal shape with resilient arms projecting from only about the middle third of the front surface of the holder, and with the entire width of said front surface in contact with the rear edge of the pallette, for a maximum of stability with minimum occupation of pallette surface.

Other objects of this invention will in part be obvious and will in part appear hereinafter.

Briefly stated the features of this invention are to provide an improved type of artist's paint brush holder normally of one piece construction and adapted to be attached to a pallette so as to be always readily accessible to the painter. Specifically this invention consists of a holder having a series of aligned apertures of graduated size and linearly spaced from each other and having a depth sufficient to retain the brush handles firmly. Furthermore an attaching member is formed integral with the brush holder which is universal in character so as to be utilized with various thickness of pallettes such as the standard wooden pallette in the block pad type.

To the accomplishment of this and the foregoing related ends, the present invention then consists of the means hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the claims, the annexed drawing and the following description setting forth in detail certain means in the carrying out of this invention, such disclosed means illustrating, however, but one of the various ways in which the principle in this invention may be employed.

In the drawings:

FIG. 1 is a view in perspective of the improved paint brush holder having brushes inserted therein and attached to a pallette.

FIG. 2 is a view in perspective of the brush holder.

FIG. 3 is a view taken in line 3—3 of FIG. 2.

FIG. 4 is a view from the rear of the brush holder.

Reference is now to be had to the drawings wherein an illustrative embodiment of the improved brush holder is shown, and a construction made in accordance with the

present invention and designated by the reference numeral **10** is shown.

The brush holder **10** consists of an elongated trapezoidal block **12** having a front **14**, and back, **16**, walls and end members **18**. The upper surface **20** of the block **12** has a series of linearly aligned holes **22** of graduated size spaced from each other and extending through the body of the block **12** and through the bottom **24** thereof. Extending from about the middle third of the front wall **14** of the block **12** are a pair of resilient arms **26** and **28** which are formed integral with the block **12** and have a width less than that of said block **12**. The arms **26** and **28** extend angularly from the front wall **14** in such a manner that the tips **30** and **32** converge at a point spaced from the wall **14**. The tips **30** and **32** have upwardly and downwardly curved radii for a purpose to be described hereinafter. The brush holder may be formed of any lightweight material such as wood or metal but for purposes of simplicity in manufacture we have found that it can be very simply and efficiently molded from any variety to the known plastics. Also the inherent resilent characteristics of plastic such as polystyrene permits the arms **26** and **28** to enter into snap engagement with the edge of a pallette **34** as shown in FIG. 1.

As illustrated in FIG. 3 the holes **22** are tapered downwardly. Since practically all artist's brushes **35**, have tapered shafts, **38**, the tapering of the holes **22** ensures a sliding frictional engagement of the shaft within the hole to permit inadvertent dislodgement because of the painter's movement and also limits intolerant motion of the brushes which would be a distraction to the painter. Also, each of the holes **22** is graduated in size with respect to the adjacent ones.

As illustrated in FIG. 4, one form of this invention has been to provide an isosceles trapezoidal holder with each of the holes **22** with a slightly different angle of incidence with the upper surface of the block **12**. In this manner a fan shaped arrangement of the brushes can be maintained to allow easy insertion and withdrawal and furthermore maintains the tips of the brushes in spaced relation to each other.

In use the arms **26** and **28** are snapped into engagement with an edge of the pallette **34** so that the block extends substantially perpendicular to the surface of the pallette. The curved radius of each of the tips **30** and **32** allows the edge of the pallette to be easily fitted therebetween. The brush handles **36** are inserted into the holes **22** and due to the varying angles of incidence of the holes **22** with the upper surface **20**, of the block **12**, extend in a fan shaped arrangement as shown in FIG. 1. Since the brush handles are tapered there is a sliding friction fit within the holes to retain the brushes firmly therein.

It will thus be obvious to those skilled in the art that a construction made in accordance with this invention will provide convenient means to store artists brushes and yet make them readily available for use due to them being supported by the pallette.

While there have been described herein what are at present considered preferred embodiments of this invention it will be obvious to those skilled in the art that modifications and changes may be made therein without departing from the essence of this invention. It is therefore to be understood that the exemplary embodiments are illustrative and not restrictive of this invention, the scope of which are defined in the appended claims, and that any modifications that come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims are intended to be included therein.

We claim:

For use with a painter's pallette a brush holder of trapezoidal outline with parallel front and back surfaces and with a series of elongated downwardly tapered and down-

wardly converging apertures open at both ends for easy cleaning with their axes in a plane midway between the two surfaces, said plane being perpendicular to the surface of the pallette while the long and short parallel edges of the trapezoid are respectively above and below the surface of the pallette when the holder is in place with its front surface in full-length contact with the rear edge of the pallette, and a pair of resilient arms of substantial width extending forwardly from only the middle portion of the holder with their free ends converging toward each other for supporting the holder on the pallette said arms having curved tip portions diverging from each other for easy fitting of a pallette edge between the arms.

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