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R. C. MANSON

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TUFTING BUTTON

Filed Nov. 15, 1928

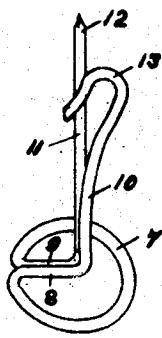


Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

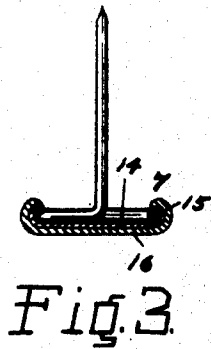


Fig. 3.

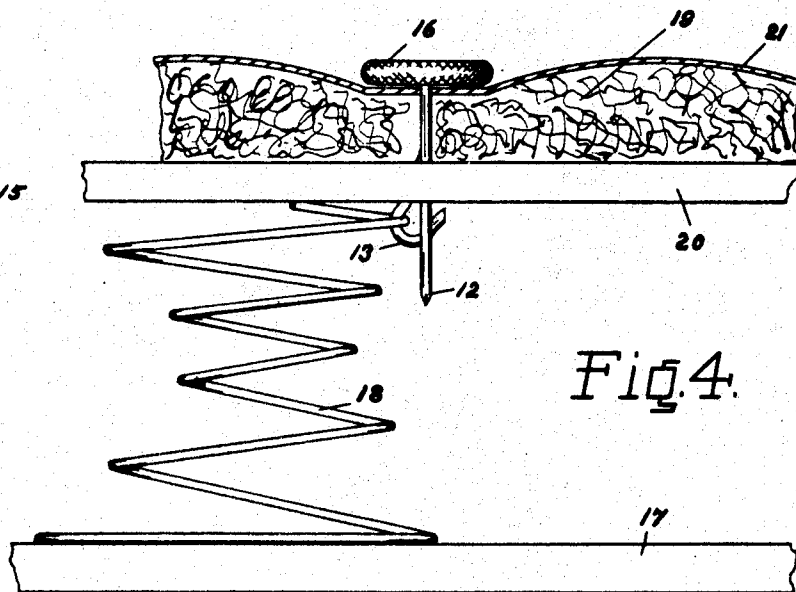


Fig. 4.

Inventor

Roy C. Manson

Murray & Ziegler

Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ROY C. MANSON, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR TO THE F. A. NEIDER COMPANY, OF
AUGUSTA, KENTUCKY, A CORPORATION OF KENTUCKY

TUFTING BUTTON

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This invention relates to a novel form of tufting button for use in upholstery work and the like and has for an object the provision of a rigid structure which is inexpensive of manufacture and which is very easy to use so that much time and effort is saved in upholstery work.

Another object is to provide a button of this class that is especially effective in the fabrication of upholstered spring cushions. These and other objects are attained by the means described herein and disclosed in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a combined fastener and head receiving means of the button of the invention.

Fig. 2 is a side elevational view of a completed device of the invention.

Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view showing the construction of the device of the invention.

Fig. 4 is a fragmental section of an upholstered spring cushion having a tufting button of the invention operatively embodied therein.

Heretofore tufting buttons were made up of a number of pieces usually comprising a shell with a wire eyelet clamped therein, a cap for receiving the shell and serving to bind a covering material about the cap and between the shell and cap and a separate fastener clip which was manually inserted in the eye of the button after that eye portion had been passed through the upholstery. In the case of spring upholstery it was necessary to additionally fasten this clip to some part of the spring structure. The simplicity of the device of the present invention will be appreciated when contrasting the usual structure just described with the following device.

The device comprises a combined ring and fastening clip formed of one piece to which the shell and the covering material are rigidly clamped by crimping the edges of the shell around a portion of the fastener. As shown in Fig. 1 the fastener structure comprises a formed wire member which is turned to provide a ring 7 from which integral struts 8 and 9 extend in the plane of the ring to substantially the center thereof whereupon the respective elongated ends 10 and 11 are turned

up vertically to the plane of the ring. The end 11 is a straight member which may consequently be provided with a point 12. The end 10 is curved to provide a downwardly opening hook 13. A simple metallic shell comprising a bottom 14 and a flange 15 is adapted to receive the ring 7 and to have the edges of the flange 15 crimped or turned part way about the ring. This effects a very solid joinder of parts which will not separate even under the most severe abuse. A cover fabric or substance 16 may be passed over the outside of the bottom 14 and around the flanges 15 so that it may be securely fastened over the cap when the flanges 15 are crimped over the ring 7. Thus the complete device of the invention constitutes essentially two parts in contrast to four parts which constituted the heretofore known tufting button.

In Fig. 4 there is diagrammatically disclosed a cross section of one form of upholstered spring cushion to which the button of the invention may be applied but to which it is not restricted. In this cushion structure a base 17 has the usual helical springs 18 mounted thereon and in turn support a pad 19 of stuffing material either directly or in conjunction with cross members 20. Upholstery fabric 21 covers the stuffing 19. To tuft a cushion of this kind it is necessary for the workman to merely punch a hole through the fabric and stuffing somewhere adjacent the top of one of the springs 18 or any connecting wires which may be associated with it and to then push the point 12 of the end 11 through this hole. The inverted hook 13 is readily passed through the hole, the usual upholstery material 21 permitting its passage. The body of the spring or other supporting structure is then forced between the hook 13 and the end 11 so that these members separate sufficiently to permit passage of the spring whereupon the hook will engage around the spring and lock itself thereon as a sort of snap hook. The free end of the hook is curved to provide a cam which engages the spring or other rod-like member for opening the hook and closing about such member. The strain exerted on the device is practi-

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cally confined to the wire member shown in Fig. 1 so that there is no danger of separation of the cap and its covering regardless of the abuse the cushion may receive. It is to be noted that the single wire member is in effect a complete tufting button and that the cap or shell serves principally to mount a cover fabric on the fastener. It will be apparent that the device is capable of facile and rapid manipulation and attachment so that a saving in time and labor is had as well as a saving in cost of the manufacture of the article itself.

What is claimed is:

1. In a device of the class described the combination of a cap having an annular flange, a wire ring disposed within the cap, covering material disposed over the cap and clamped between the flange and the ring and a pair of co-operating arms comprising an insertable point and a hook both formed integral with the ring.

2. A tufting button comprising a wire ring having integral arms turned inwardly from the body of the ring and thence upwardly and a curved hook formed on one of said arms and resiliently abutting the other arm intermediate its ends to form a normally closed fastening means, and a cap member crimped about the body of the ring.

3. In a device of the class described the combination with a cushion structure comprising springs, padding material over the springs and a cover for the padding material, and a tufting button comprising a wire ring for engaging the covering material and integral arms extending through the covering material and padding, one of said arms having a hook for engagement with the spring for compressing the padding material between the ring and spring, the other of said arms resiliently abutting the hook and precluding dislodgment of the spring from the hook.

4. The combination with an upholstered spring cushion comprising a resilient spring structure, a pad and a cover in superposed relation, of a tufting button comprising a ring forming a head for co-operation with the cover and a pair of integral arms penetrating the cover and pad and forming a resiliently closed hook for engagement with the spring structure, and a cover member clamped directly about the body of the ring.

5. A tufting button comprising a covered cap, a wire ring crimped in the cap by the body of said cap and integral arms on the ring extending inwardly within the body lines of the cap and thence upwardly, said arms comprising a projecting inserting member and a hook abutting said inserting member and co-operating therewith to retain the hook in engagement against separation from a transverse member.

6. As a new article of manufacture a tufting button exclusive of covering and comprising a single length of wire bent intermediate its ends to form a ring-like head, the ends of the wire being turned inwardly to the interior of the ring, then perpendicularly to the plane of the ring, one of said ends being further turned to provide an open hook, the other end of the wire forming an insertion point and a resilient closure for said open hook the free end of the hook being so curved as to provide a cam action for opening the hook when a rod-like body is forced against said curve and then closing itself about such rod-like body.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 8th day of November, 1928.

ROY C. MANSON.

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