United States Patent [19]

Warren et al.

[11] **3,790,118**

[45] **Feb. 5, 1974**

[54] **DOUCHE BAG HOLDER**

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[22] Filed: **Mar. 1, 1972**

[21] Appl. No.: **230,846**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **248/311**

[51] **Int. Cl.**..... **A47k 3/22**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 248/95, 311, 314, DIG. 2; 206/17.5; 222/181, 185; 128/224, 225, 227, 251

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A douche bag holder having a mounting base for attachment to a supporting surface, a hanger on the base for releasable attachment to the neck of the bag, and a cup-shaped support on the base below the hanger for receiving and supporting the bottom of the bag both vertically and laterally. The bag support has a slot which extends from the center of the bottom support wall radially outward through the edge of the wall and then upwardly through the support side wall to and through the upper edge of the latter wall for receiving the douche bag tube in a position wherein the tube hangs freely below the bottom wall.

2 Claims, 3 Drawing Figures

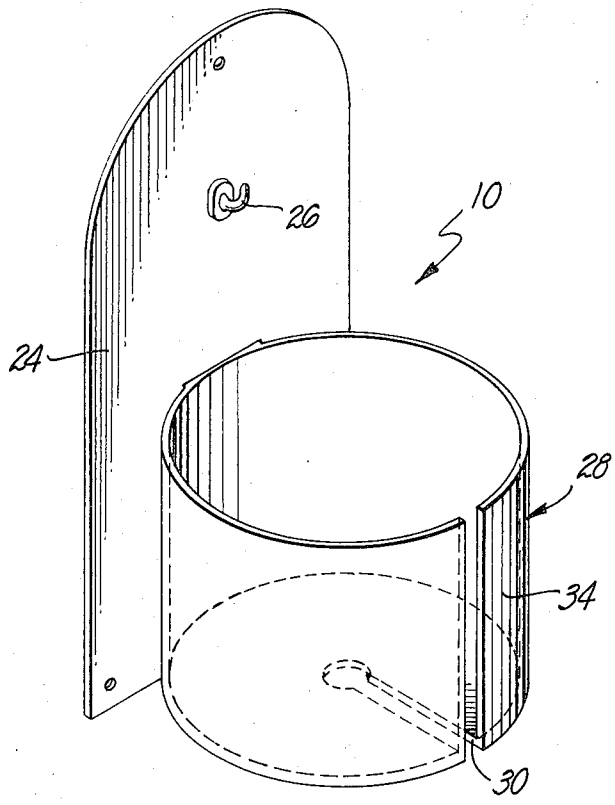


FIG. 1.

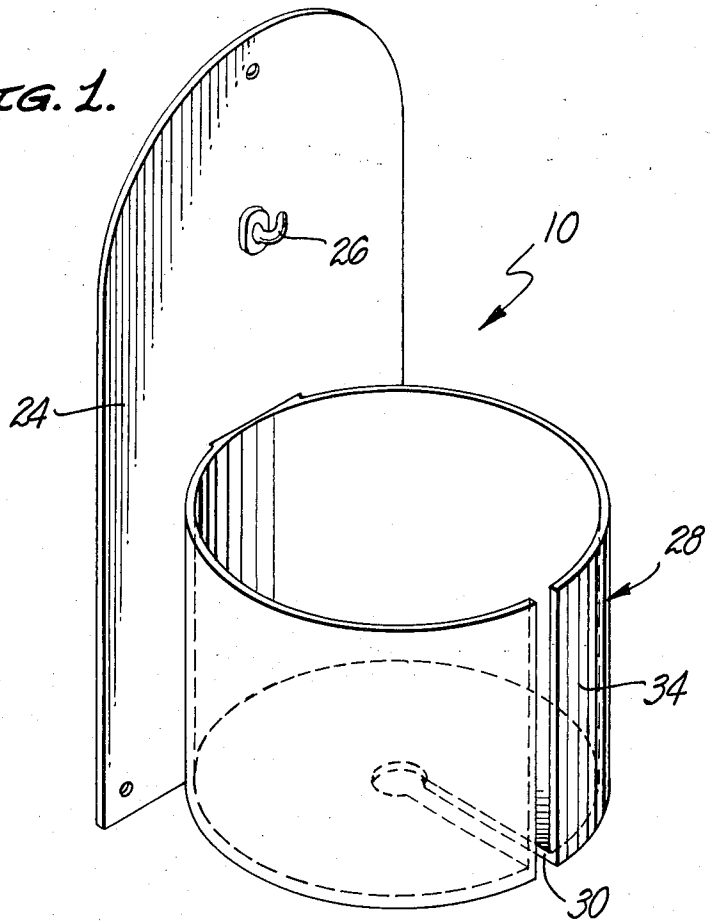


FIG. 2.

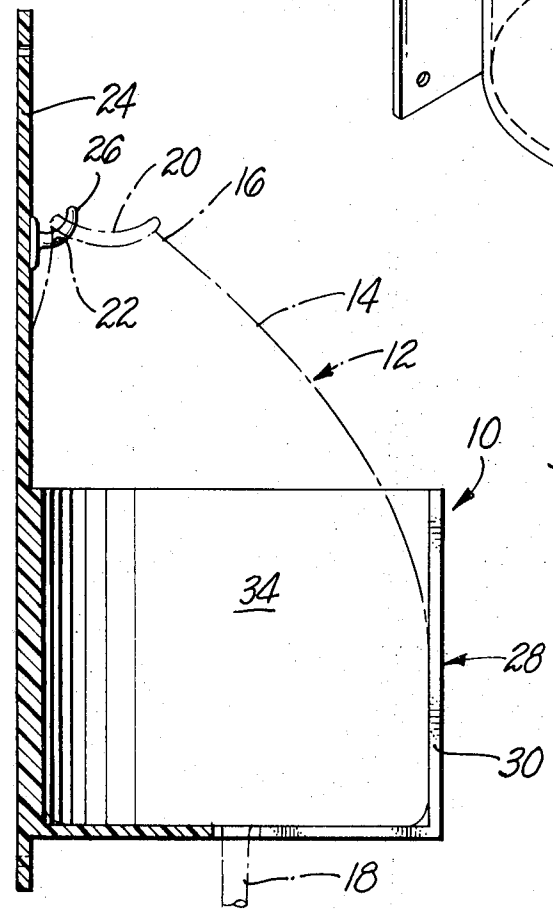
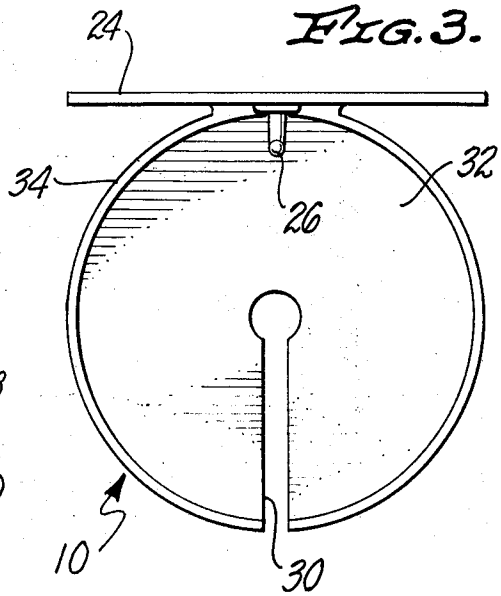


FIG. 3.



DOUCHE BAG HOLDER

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

This invention relates generally to the field of feminine hygiene and more particularly to a novel douche bag holder.

2. Discussion of the Prior Art

As is well known to those versed in the art, a douche bag is a feminine hygiene device having a bag proper with an upper filler opening through which the bag may be filled with douching liquid and a tube extending from the bottom of the bag through which the liquid may drain by gravity from the bag during use. The douche bag commonly has a neck through which the filler opening passes and which is provided with a hole to receive a hanger, such as a hook, for hanging the bag in an elevated position. The bag is constructed of rubber or other relatively thin flexible material which tends to stretch and tear at the hanger receiving hole under the weight of liquid in the bag. Accordingly, it is advisable or necessary to support the bottom of the bag when filled.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a douche bag holder which is uniquely constructed to both suspend the bag in an upright elevated position of use and support the bottom of the bag both vertically and laterally so as to prevent stretching and tearing of the bag. To this end, the holder has a mounting base for attachment to a supporting surface, such as a wall. At the top of the base is a hanger for releasable attachment to the neck of the bag to suspend the latter in an upright position with its filler opening uppermost. This hanger is preferably a hook for insertion through the hanger hole in the bag neck. On the mounting base below the hanger is a support for the bottom of the bag. This support carries the weight of the liquid in the bag to prevent the latter from stretching and tearing. The support has an opening through which the tube of the douche bag may extend in free hanging relation below the support.

The douche bag support of the disclosed inven-tive embodiment is an upwardly opening cup for receiving the bottom portion of the bag. This cup has a bottom wall which supports the bag against vertical distension and an annular wall which surrounds the bag and confines the latter against lateral or horizontal distension. The tube receiving opening of the bag support is a slot which extends radially from the center through the edge of the bottom cup wall and then upwardly through the cup side wall to and through its upper edge to permit lateral insertion and removal of the douche bag tube into and from the opening or slot. Preferably, the entire holder including its mounting base, hanger, and bag support is molded in one piece from plastic.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a douche bag holder according to the invention;

FIG. 2 is an enlarged vertical section through the holder; and

FIG. 3 is a top view of the holder.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

The drawings illustrate a holder **10** according to the invention for a douche bag **12.** Douche bag **12** has a bag **14** proper with an upper neck **16** and a lower tube **18** extending from the bottom of the bag. Passing through the neck **16** is a filler opening **20** through which the bag may be filled with a douching liquid. The neck wall has an opening **22** for receiving a hanger, such as a hook.

Douche bag holder **10** has a mounting base **24** in the form of a flat plate for attachment in any convenient way to a supporting surface, such as a wall. Projecting from the front side of the base adjacent its upper end is a hanger **26** for releasable attachment to the douche bag neck **16.** The particular hanger shown is a hook for insertion through the hanger opening **22** in the neck. On the front side of the mounting base **24** below the hanger **26** is a douche bag support **28** which supports the bottom of the douche bag **14** to prevent the latter from stretching and tearing under the weight of the liquid in the bag. Support **28** has an opening **30** through which the douche bag tube **18** extends in free hanging fashion below the support.

The particular douche bag support **28** illustrated is an upwardly opening cup having a bottom wall **32** and an annular side wall **34** rising from the bottom wall. The tube receiving opening **30** is a slot which extends radially from the center through the outer edge of the bottom cup wall **32** and then upwardly through the cup side wall **34** to and through its upper edge.

In use, the douche bag holder **10** is attached in an elevated position to a wall or other supporting surface. The douche bag **14** is filled with douching liquid and is then placed in the holder by first inserting its tube **18** laterally through the tube slot **30** to the closed inner end of the slot and thereafter lowering the bag into the bag support cup **28.** The hanger or hook **26** is attached to the neck **16** of the bag by passing the hook through the hanger opening **22** in the neck.

The hook **26** supports or suspends the douche bag **14** in an upright position with its filler opening **20** uppermost, as shown, to prevent the douching liquid from spilling from the bag. The bottom wall **32** of the support cup **28** supports the bag against vertical stretching or distension under the weight of the liquid. The cup side wall **34** surrounds the bag and confines the latter against lateral or horizontal distension under the force of the liquid.

As shown in the drawings, the inner closed end of the bag support tube slot **30** may be enlarged to the outer diameter of the douche bag tube **18** such that the tube may slide freely in this slot end. The remainder of the slot may be somewhat narrower than the tube diameter so that the tube **18** must be flattened when inserting it through the slot. Upon entering the enlarged inner end of the slot, the tube expands to its normal circular cross-section and is thereby releasably retained in the inner slot end.

What is claimed as new in support of Letters Patent is:

1. A holder for a douche bag having an upper neck portion with a filler opening through which the bag may be filled with a douching liquid, and a tube extending from the bottom of the bag, said holder comprising:

a mounting base for attachment to a supporting surface,

a hanger on said base for releasable attachment to said bag neck,

an upwardly opening cup on said base below said hanger for receiving said bag and having a bottom wall for supporting said bag vertically and an annular side wall for supporting said bag laterally, and

said cup having a slot extending from the center of said bottom cup wall radially outward through the edge of said bottom wall and then upwardly through said cup side wall to and through the upper edge of said side wall for receiving said tube laterally.

2. A douche bag holder according to claim 1 wherein:

said bag has an opening through the wall of said neck, and

said hanger comprises a hook for insertion through said neck wall opening.

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