United States Patent [19]

Ray

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[54] **CURTAIN ROD AND WINDOW SHADE BRACKET**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **248/255;** 248/263; 248/269

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A47h 1/10;** A47h 5/14

[58] **Field of Search** 248/252, 254, 255, 256, 248/258, 259, 260, 253, 261, 262, 263, 265, 266, 267, 269, 270, 271, 222

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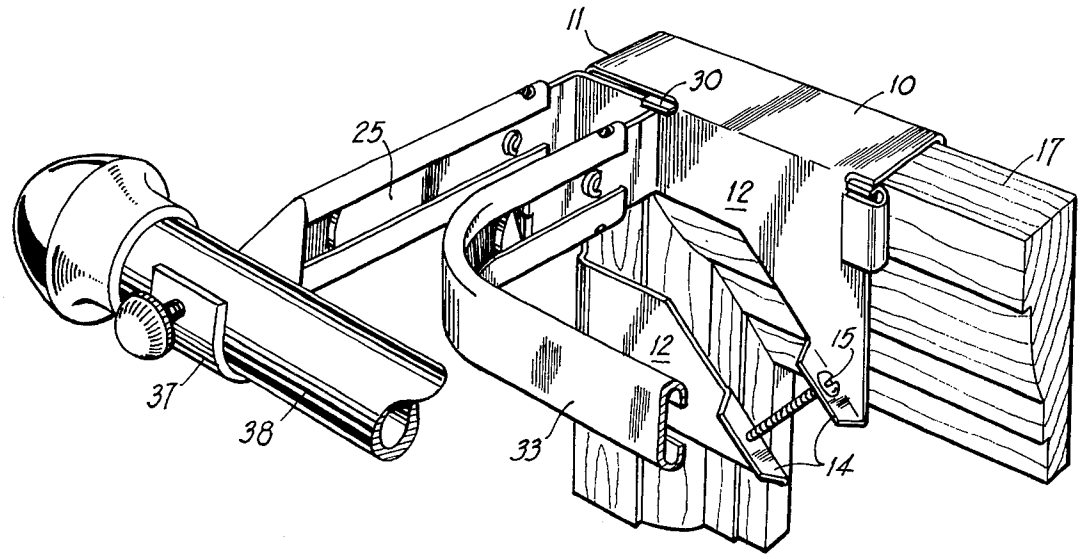
Primary Examiner—J. Franklin Foss

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Newton, Hopkins & Ormsby

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A curtain rod and window shade bracket is disclosed comprising a sheet of metal formed to have two side portions angularly joined together at a corner adapted to be placed over corner sides of a window frame molding, two substantially coplanar face plate portions extending angularly from the two side portions adapted to be placed over the corner face of the window frame molding, and two flange portions projecting outwardly from the two face portions. Fastening means are provided which are adapted to adjustably couple together the two flange portions of the sheet of metal whereby the two side portions and the two face portions of the sheet of metal may be drawn towards one another snugly over the window frame molding corner during bracket mounting.

11 Claims, 8 Drawing Figures



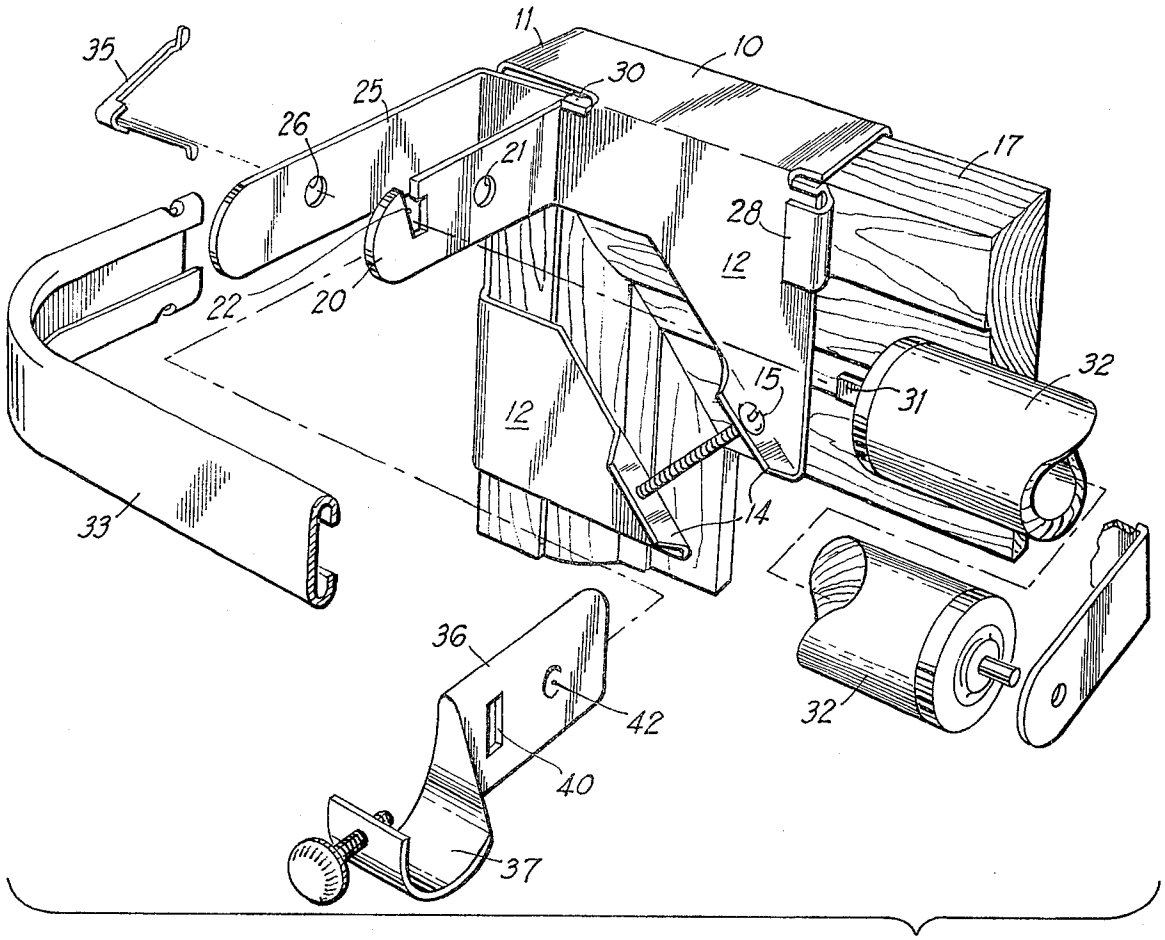

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FIG 1

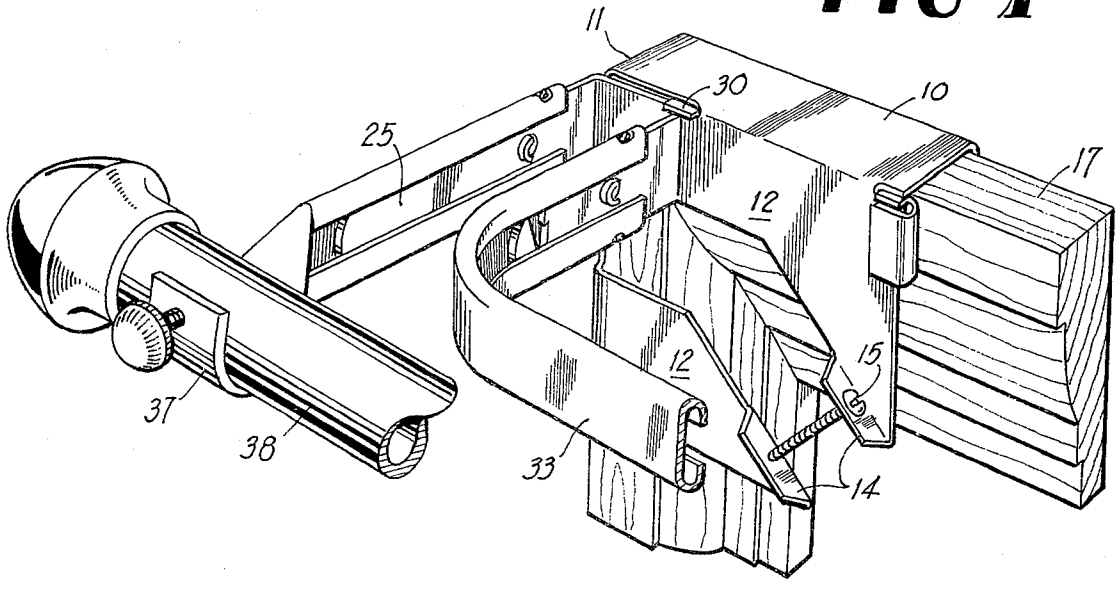

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FIG 2

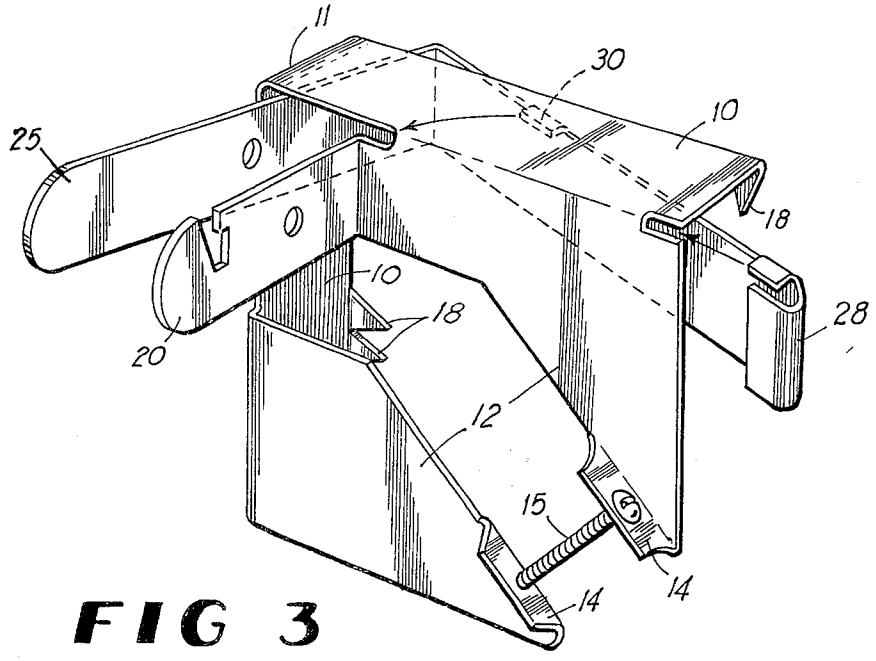


FIG 3

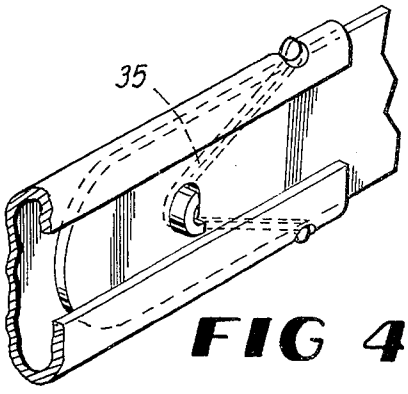


FIG 4

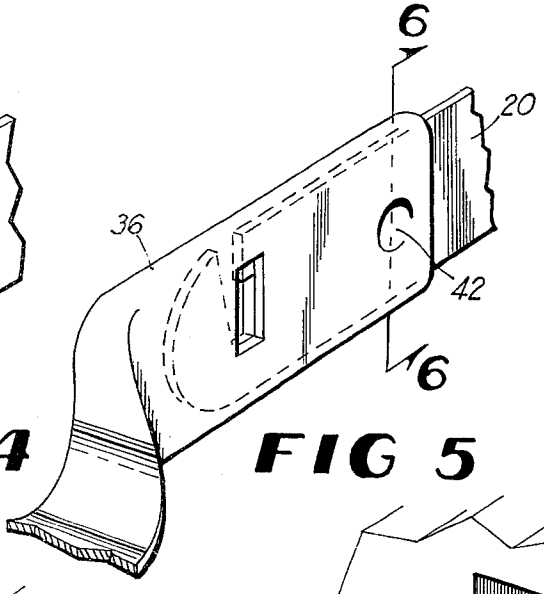


FIG 5

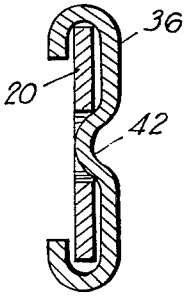


FIG 6

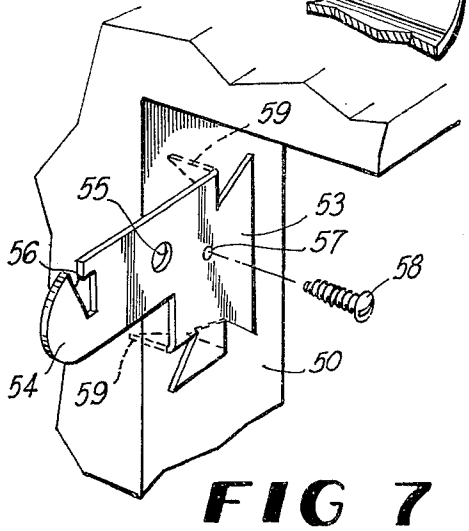


FIG 7

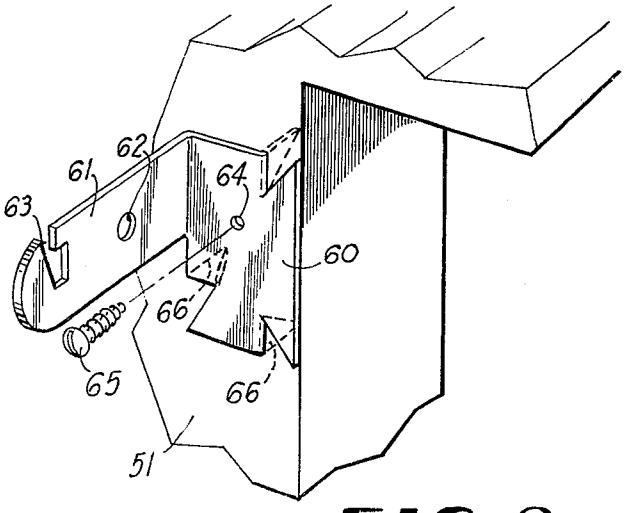


FIG 8

CURTAIN ROD AND WINDOW SHADE BRACKET

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to brackets by which curtain rods and window shades may be mounted to window frame walls or moldings.

It is an object of the invention to provide a curtain rod and window shade bracket which may be easily and inexpensively manufactured.

Another object of the invention is to provide a curtain rod and window shade bracket which may be easily installed to a wall or to a molding about a window without necessarily marring, defacing, penetrating or otherwise damaging the molding.

Yet another object of the invention is to provide a versatile curtain rod and window shade bracket which may support a roll type window shade, one or more curtain rods, or both.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In one form of the invention a curtain rod and window shade bracket is provided comprising a sheet of metal. The sheet of metal is formed to have two side portions angularly joined together at a corner adapted to be placed over corner sides of a window frame molding. The sheet of metal further comprises two substantially coplanar face plate portions extending angularly from the two side portions adapted to be placed over the corner face of the window frame molding. The sheet of metal further comprises two flange portions projecting outwardly from the two face plate portions. Fastening means are provided adapted to adjustably couple together the two flange portions of the sheet of metal whereby the two side portions and the two face portions of the sheet of metal may be drawn towards one another snugly over the window frame molding corner during bracket mounting.

In another form of the invention a curtain rod and window shade bracket is provided comprising a face plate, means securing the face plate over a corner portion of a window frame molding, and a support tab defining a window shade pin receiving aperture formed integrally with and projecting from the face plate. A rod holder attachment is provided having a collar detailed to fit about the support tab and defining a window shade pin receiving aperture adapted to be aligned with the support tab window shade pin receiving aperture.

In yet another form of the invention a curtain rod and window shade bracket is provided comprising a face plate and means securing the face plate over a corner portion of a window frame molding. A support tab is formed integrally with and projecting from the face plate. A generally L-shaped auxiliary support member is releasably attached to the face plate with one leg of the auxiliary support member in abuttment with the face place and with another leg of the L-shaped auxiliary support member projecting from the face plate in spaced, substantially parallel relation with the integral support tab.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of one preferred embodiment of the present invention shown mounted to a corner of a window frame molding.

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the curtain rod and window shade bracket of FIG. 1 shown supporting two curtain rods.

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of the curtain rod and window shade bracket shown in FIGS. 1 and 2 with an auxiliary support member shown detached from the main body of the bracket.

FIG. 4 is a fragmentary view of a portion of the bracket shown in FIGs. 1 – 3 together with a portion of the curtain rod shown mounted thereon.

FIG. 5 is another fragmentary view of a portion of the bracket shown in FIGS. 1 – 3 together with a portion of a curtain rod mounted thereon.

FIG. 6 is a cross-sectional view taken along plane 6—6 of the fragments shown in FIG. 5.

FIG. 7 is a perspective view of an alternative embodiment shown mounted directly to a window frame.

FIG. 8 is a perspective view of yet another embodiment shown mounted directly to a window frame.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Referring now in more detail to the drawing, there is shown a curtain rod and window shade bracket embodying principles of the invention and comprising a sheet of metal formed to have two side portions **10** angularly joined together at corner **11** and two substantially coplanar face plate portions **12** extending angularly from side portions **10.** The sheet of metal further includes two flange portions **14** which project outwardly from the two face plate portions. The flange portions are substantially parallel and define two aligned apertures through which a screw **15** is passed. An unshown nut is secured to the end of screw **15** in securing the bracket over the corner of the window frame molding **17** with a set of wedges **18** inserted between the molding and its supporting wall. Where the molding is thicker than the spacing between the wedges and face plates the wedges may be driven directly into the molding sides.

With side portions **10** overlaying the sides of molding **17** and with face plate portions **12** overlaying the corner face of the molding screw **15** may be tightened into its associated nut thereby drawing flanges **14** and face plate portions **12** towards one another. This action causes the bracket to become tightly secured onto the corner portion of the molding.

The sheet of metal forming the main body portion of the bracket also includes an integral support tab **20** which projects outwardly from one of the face plate portions **12.** The support tab defines an aperture **21** and a slot **22.** In the embodiment shown in FIGS. **1** – **3** the bracket also includes an auxiliary, generally L-shaped support member **25** defining an aperture **26** which support member may be attached to one of the face plate portions **12.** This is partially accomplished by means of a generally U-shaped support end portion **28** that defines a groove in which an edge of face plate portion **12** may be inserted in tongue-and-groove fashion.

In mounting the auxiliary support member, it is first positioned adjacent the main body of the bracket as shown in FIG. **3** and then moved into the position shown in FIGS. **1** and **2** as the bracket is mounted to molding **17.** In performing this operation a lug **30** projecting from an upper edge of the leg of the auxiliary support member is inserted through a slot adjacent the juncture of support tab **20** with face plate **12** and

thence atop the upper edge of tab **20.** With the bracket and auxiliary support member firmly secured to molding **17** the auxiliary support member is effectively interlocked into fixed relation relative to the main body of the bracket.

With the bracket duly mounted to the window frame molding a pin **31** of the roll type window shade **32** may be inserted into slot **22** of support tab **20.** A curtain rod **33** may also be telescoped over the auxiliary support member **25** and held securely in place by means of a resilient pin **35** as shown in FIG. **4.** A second curtain rod may also be supported by the bracket by means of a rod holder attachment **36** having a U-shaped channel support surface **37** upon which a cylindrical type curtain rod **38** may be supported. For this arrangement a collar portion of the rod holder attachment is telescoped over support tab **20** bringing a slot **40** in the attachment into alignment with slot **22.** As these two slots are brought into alignment, a rounded protrusion **42** formed inwardly within the collar portion of the attachment is seated within aperture **21** of support tab **20** in detent fashion as best seen in FIG. **6.** Pin **31** of window shade **32** may now be passed through slots **22** and **40.** Curtain rod **38** may be seated within the U-shaped channel surface portion **37** of the rod holding attachment and curtain rod **33** telescoped onto auxiliary support member **25.**

FIGS. **7** and **8** show alternative embodiments which may be used where molding is not present about a window frame. The bracket shown in FIG. **7** is adapted to be mounted directly to the inner surface **50** of the window frame while the embodiment shown in FIG. **8** is adapted to be mounted directly to the wall **51** disposed immediately adjacent the frame.

The embodiment of FIG. **7** includes a main body portion **53** from which an integral support tab **54** projects. The support tab defines an annular aperture **55** and a slot **56.** The slot is adapted to receive a window shade pin as previously described while aperture **55** provides means for detenting an auxiliary rod holder such as attachment **36** shown in FIGS. **1** and **5.** The main body **53** includes a small hole **57** adapted to receive a wood screw **58.** Two prongs **59** project angularly from the main body portion **53.** In attaching the bracket to the window frame the main body is hammered causing prongs **59** to become embedded within the body of the window frame. It should be noted that the two prongs are oriented at 90° relative to each other for added security.

The bracket of FIG. **8** is seen to include a main body portion **60** from which a support tab **61** angularly projects. The support tab includes a detent aperture **62** and a window shade pin receiving slot **63.** A small hole **64** is provided within main portion **60** to receive a wood screw **65.** Three prongs **66** project angularly from main body portion **60** which may be hammered into wall **51** in attaching the bracket.

It thus is seen that curtain rod and window shade brackets are provided the components of which may be formed from metal blanks. The brackets may be easily mounted adjacent the window frame either directly to a molding or to the wall encompassing the frame. The bracket possesses great versatility in that it may support varying numbers and arrangements of curtain rods and window shades.

It should be understood that the just-described embodiments merely illustrate principles of the invention in preferred forms. Many modifications may, of course, be made to the just-described embodiments without departure from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A curtain rod and window shade bracket comprising:

a. a sheet of metal formed to have two side portions angularly joined together at a corner adapted to be placed over corner sides of a window frame molding, two substantially coplanar face plate portions extending angularly from said two side portions adapted to be placed over the corner face of the window frame molding; and two flange portions projecting outwardly from said two face plate portions; and

b. fastening means adapted to adjustably couple together said two flange portions of said sheet of metal whereby said two side portions and said two face portions of said sheet of metal may be drawn towards one another snugly over the window frame molding corner during bracket mounting.

2. The curtain rod and window shade bracket of claim **1** wherein said sheet of metal two flange portions are substantially parallel and define two mutually aligned apertures adapted to receive said fastening means.

3. The curtain rod and window shade bracket of claim **2** wherein said fastening means comprises a screw and a nut.

4. The curtain rod and window shade bracket of claim **1** wherein said sheet of metal is formed to have at least one support tab portion projecting angularly from one of said face plate portions.

5. The curtain rod and window shade bracket of claim **4** wherein said sheet of metal support tab portion defines a window shade pin receiving aperture, and wherein said curtain rod and window shade bracket further comprises:

c. a rod holder attachment having a collar detailed to fit about said sheet of metal support tab portion with a window shade pin receiving aperture therein adapted to be aligned with said support tab portion window shade pin receiving aperture.

6. The curtain rod and window shade bracket of claim **4** further comprising:

c. an auxiliary support tab attached to said sheet of metal in spaced, substantially parallel relation with said sheet of metal support tab portion.

7. The curtain rod and window shade bracket of claim **1** wherein said sheet of metal further comprises two wedge portions extending from said two side portions in spaced, substantially parallel relation with said sheet of metal coplanar face plate portions, whereby said two wedge portions may be inserted into or behind the window frame molding to sandwich a corner portion of the molding between said wedge portions and said face plate portions.

8. A curtain rod and window shade bracket comprising a face plate, means securing said face plate over a corner portion of a window frame molding, a support tab defining a window shade pin receiving aperture formed integrally with and projecting from said face plate; and a rod holder attachment having a collar detailed to fit about said support tab and defining a window shade pin receiving aperture adapted to be aligned

with said support tab window shade pin receiving aperture.

9. The curtain rod and window shade bracket of claim **8** wherein said rod holder attachment includes a generally U-shaped support surface adapted to support a curtain rod.

10. The curtain rod and window shade bracket of claim **8** wherein said support tab defines a second aperture, and wherein said rod holder attachment includes a rounded protrusion adapted to be detented in said support tab second aperture.

11. A curtain rod and window shade bracket comprising a face plate; means securing said face plate over a corner portion of a window frame molding; an integral support tab formed integrally with and projecting from said face plate; and a generally L-shaped auxiliary support member releasably attached to said face plate with one leg of the L-shaped auxiliary support member in abutment with said face plate and with another leg of the L-shaped auxiliary support member projecting from said face plate in spaced, substantially parallel relation with said integral support tab and wherein an end of said L-shaped auxiliary support member one leg is folded to define a groove in which an edge portion of said face plate may reside, and wherein said L-shaped auxiliary support member one leg includes an integrally formed lug adapted to be supported atop a portion of said integral support tab proximal said face plate.

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