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PEDICURE DEVICE

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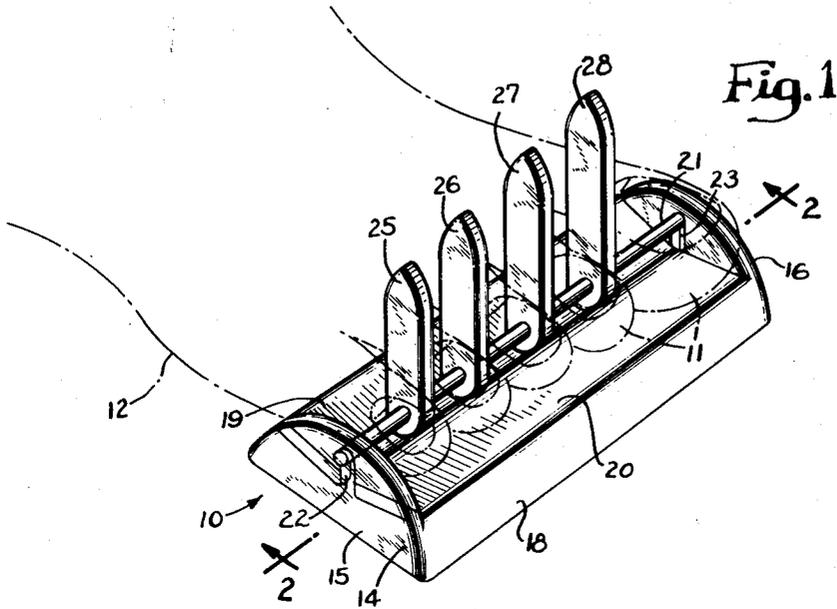


Fig. 1

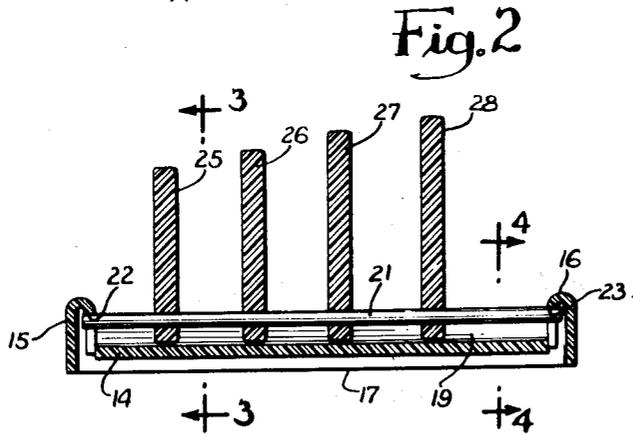


Fig. 2

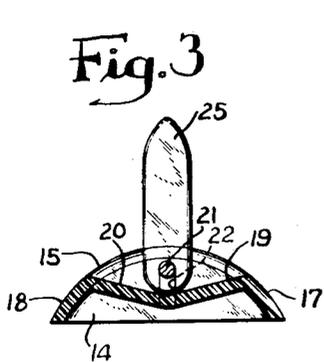


Fig. 3

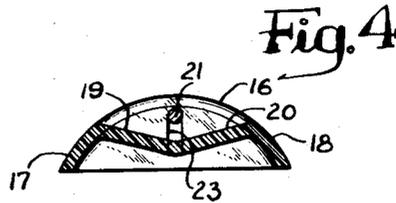


Fig. 4

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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PEDICURE DEVICE

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3 Claims. (Cl. 132-73)

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This invention relates to pedicure devices, and more particularly to toe-spreaders.

In the process of lacquering toe nails, it is customary to apply the lacquer to the nails and then manually keep the toes spread to prevent smearing of the lacquer. In the past, it has been difficult and uncomfortable to keep the toes apart during each of the lacquering period and the drying period, and there has been no apparatus for accomplishing this.

An object of the invention is to provide new and improved pedicure devices.

Another object of the invention is to provide toe-spreaders.

A further object of the invention is to provide an easily adjustable, comfortable toe-spreader.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a toe-spreader which may be used for both the right foot and the left foot and which comfortably supports the toes while effectively separating them.

A complete understanding of the invention may be obtained from the following detailed description of a toe-spreader forming a specific embodiment thereof, when read in conjunction with the appended drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a toe-spreader forming one embodiment of the invention in an operative position spreading the toes of a foot;

Fig. 2 is a vertical section taken along line 2-2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a vertical section taken along line 3-3 of Fig. 2; and

Fig. 4 is a vertical section taken along line 4-4 of Fig. 2.

Referring now in detail to the drawings, there is shown a symmetrical toe-spreader 10 spreading and supporting toes 11 of a right foot 12. The spreader includes a unitary, symmetrical stand preferably composed of transparent plastic compound, such as a compound including methyl methacrylate, a copolymer of vinyl-acetate and vinyl-chloride, or other suitable material, and includes end portions 15 and 16 connected by side portions 17 and 18 and toe-supporting portions 19 and 20 slanting together.

A steel supporting rod 21 is mounted at the upper ends of tight-fitting slots 22 and 23 formed in the inner portions of the end portions 15 and 16, respectively, being sprung into position. Separators or bars 25, 26, 27 and 28 of progressively increasing length are mounted slidably on the rod 21 so that they may be fitted comfortably between adjacent toes regardless of varying sizes of feet and toes with which the spreader is used. Each of the bars 25, 26, 27 and 28 may be pivoted individually on the rod 21 to locate that bar in a comfortable and effective spreading position, and each bar is of a height proportional to the sizes of the adjacent toes between which the bar fits. Thus, the bar 25 is shorter than the bar 26, and

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fits between the little toe and the toe next thereto. The bar 27 is longer than the bar 26 and the bar 28 which fits between the big and second toes being the longest. The rod 21 and the forward one of the toe-supporting portions 19 and 20 support the toes comfortably, and the obtuse ridge formed by the rear one of the side portions 17 and 18 and the rear toe-supporting portion serving to enter the depressions of the toes formed by the first joints of the toes so that the toes may be held comfortably in the device.

Since the spreader 10 is symmetrical, it may be used for either the right foot or the left foot merely by reversing it. Also, since the bars 25, 26, 27 and 28 may be slid along the rod, the spreader is adaptable to fit feet over a wide range of widths and fits each foot with maximum comfort.

Numerous other embodiments may be provided without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention, as defined by the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A toe-spreader, which comprises a toe support provided with upright end portions and a trough portion extending therebetween, a rod supported by the end portions and extending above and along the trough portions, and at least four fingers of progressively increasing length mounted pivotally and slidably on the rod.

2. A toe-spreader, which comprises an elongated, flat base, a pair of uprights projecting upwardly from the ends of the base, a rod supported by the uprights in a position just above the base, and a plurality of bars mounted pivotally and slidably on the rod for separating the toes of a foot.

3. A toe-spreader, which comprises a unitary, symmetrical stand having upright end portions and a support portion extending between the end portions, said support portion being substantially a flat M in shape in transverse cross-section, a rod extending along and above the central portion of the support portion, and separators mounted individually, pivotally and slidably on the rod in positions extending laterally from the rod, the separators extending progressively decreasing distances from the rod from one endmost separator to the other endmost separator.

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