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NECKTIE SUPPORTING RACK

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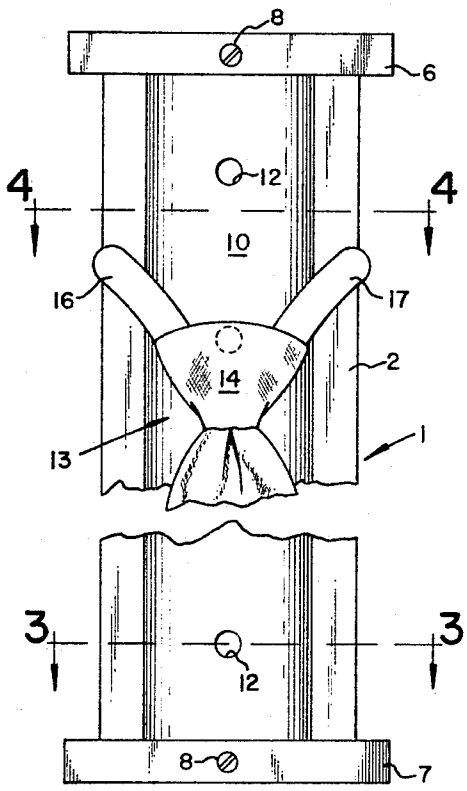


FIG. 1

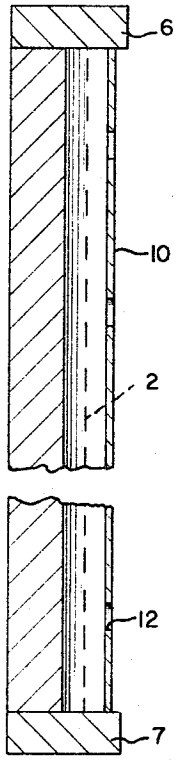


FIG. 2

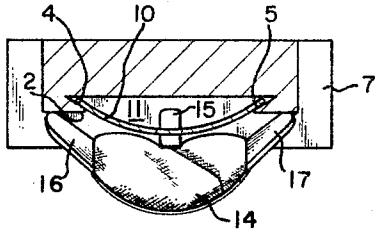


FIG. 4

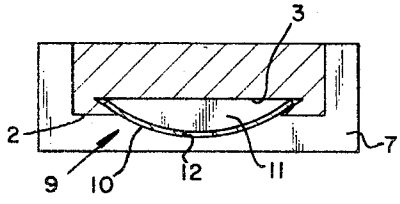


FIG. 3

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NECKTIE SUPPORTING RACK

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This invention relates to necktie supporting racks and more particularly to a rack construction which is especially adapted for use in conjunction with neckties of the so-called pre-tied clip-on type.

During the past several years pre-tied neckties have become increasingly popular, especially those which are adapted to be clipped to the wearer's shirt collar rather than be secured around the wearer's neck. Such neckties conventionally include a decorative knot which is tied around a metal or plastic clip. The clip conventionally includes a projection or hook which extends rearwardly of the knot and which may be clipped to the shirt collar so as removably to anchor the necktie in place. It also is conventional to provide such neckties with upwardly and rearwardly diverging arms or limbs which underlie the wearer's shirt collar and stabilize the necktie when it is being worn.

Inasmuch as neckties of the kind described are not only pre-tied, but do not include a neck encircling portion, difficulty is experienced in supporting the neckties when they are not in use. Especially is it difficult to suspend such a necktie from conventional racks and supporting devices. As a result, it is not unusual for the owners of such neckties to store them in a drawer or atop a chest of drawers, or the like, but such storage of neckties is not satisfactory for a number of reasons. Firstly, neckties which are laid upon a horizontal surface are subject to being rumpled or creased by objects being placed on top of them. Moreover, flat storage of the necktie in an unshielded location enables dust to settle on the necktie, causing their discoloration and soiling. Furthermore, wrinkles and creases are not as readily removed as they are when the necktie is suspended vertically. In addition, the selection of a necktie from a group arranged one atop another on a flat surface is not as easy as when they are suspended vertically, and the selection of a tie from a lower level of a group of ties on a flat surface may cause wrinkling and creasing of other ties in the group unless considerable care is exercised.

An object of this invention is to provide a necktie supporting rack which is capable of suspending vertically one or more pre-tied neckties of the clip-on type.

Another object of the invention is to provide a supporting rack for neckties of the class described and which is capable of supporting a large number of different types of such neckties.

A further object of the invention is to provide a necktie supporting rack and which readily lends itself to mounting in a number of different ways.

Another object of the invention is to provide a necktie supporting rack of the kind referred to and which is simple and inexpensive in construction.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be pointed out specifically or will become apparent from the following description when it is considered in conjunction with the appended claims and the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIGURE 1 is a fragmentary, front elevational view illustrating a rack constructed in accordance with the invention and a pre-tied, clip-on necktie supported thereby;

FIGURE 2 is a vertical sectional view of the rack, but with the necktie removed;

FIGURE 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of FIGURE 1; and

FIGURE 4 is a sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of FIGURE 1 and illustrating the manner in which the necktie is supported.

A supporting rack constructed in accordance with the disclosed embodiment of the invention comprises an elongated body member **1** formed of wood, plastic, metal or any other suitable rigid material and having a front face or surface **2** provided with a longitudinally extending, substantially centrally located dovetailed groove or recess **3** having opposite side edges **4** and **5**.

Means is provided for mounting the body **1** in an upright, substantially vertical position and may comprise blocks **6** and **7** at its upper and lower ends, respectively. The lower block **7** may be of such size as to support the body **1** in an upright position on any flat surface or, if desired, screws **8** may be provided for securing the body to a vertical wall or the like. Alternatively, a circular clip (not shown) of the kind used for hanging pictures could be provided for suspending the rack from a nail or the like driven into a vertical wall.

The rack also includes a necktie supporting member designated generally by the reference character **9**. The supporting member preferably comprises an elongated strip **10** of flexible metal, plastic, or other suitable material, having parallel side edges. The support **9** preferably is of greater width than the width of the groove **3**, but because of its flexibility can be outwardly bowed or curved so as to be accommodated in the groove, with the side edges of the strip substantially coplanar. The outward curvature of the strip **10** provides a space **11** between the strip and the body **1** for a purpose presently to be explained. At longitudinally spaced intervals, the strip is provided with openings **12** which communicate with the space **11**.

The disclosed necktie rack is especially adapted for use in conjunction with a pre-tied, clip-on necktie designated generally by the reference character **13** and having a decorative knot **14** tied around a clip formed of metal or plastic. The clip includes a rearwardly extending projection **15** or clip that is adapted to be clipped to the shirt collar of the wearer. The disclosed necktie also includes a pair of arms **16** and **17** that diverge upwardly and outwardly from the knot **14**. The arms **16** and **17** are adapted to underlie the wearer's shirt collar and provide stability for the tie, but the presence of such arms is optional in the sense that such arms are not necessary in order for the necktie to be supported by the disclosed rack.

To support the necktie **13** on the rack, the latter is arranged so that the supporting member **9** is in a substantially vertical position. The projection **15** then may be inserted in any one of the openings **12**, whereby the tie may be suspended vertically. If the necktie **13** includes the arms **16** and **17**, it is preferably that the arc of the strip **10** be such that the arms are substantially tangential to the strip, thereby avoiding the imposition of stresses on the arms which could act to withdraw the projection **15** from the opening **12**. Such a relationship between the curvature of the strip **10** and the arms **16** and **17** is not essential. It is important, however, that the space **11** between the body **1** and the supporting strip **10** be deep enough to accommodate the projection **15**.

In the disclosed embodiment, all of the openings **12** are circular. It will be understood, however, that the particular shape and size of such openings will be dictated by the shape and size of the projections to be accommodated therein.

The disclosed invention is susceptible of considerable modification. For example, it is not essential that the body member **1** be provided. Instead, the supporting strip **10** could be secured directly to the block **6** or other support in a suitable manner, and the block secured to a wall

by the screw 8 so as to enable the strip 10 to hang vertically. In such a construction the thickness of the block 6 or other support should be such as to provide adequate space between the rear surface of the strip 10 and the adjacent wall to accommodate the projection 15.

The disclosed embodiment is representative of a presently preferred form of the invention, but is intended to be illustrative rather than definitive thereof. The invention is defined in the claims.

I claim:

1. A rack for supporting a plurality of neckties each of which has a knot having a front surface and a rear surface from which extends a rearwardly projecting member, said rack comprising an elongated body member having opposite side edges between which is a flat front surface; an elongated support member having side edges; means mounting said support member on said body member with the side edges of said support member lying between the side edges of the body member, said support member having a forwardly extending portion projecting beyond the front surface of said body member for engagement with the rear surface of a knot and to provide a space between said portion and said surface; and a plurality of longitudinally spaced openings in said portion of said support member each of which is adapted for the reception of the rearwardly projecting member of a necktie, the depth of said space being such as to accommodate said projecting member.

2. A rack for supporting a plurality of neckties each having a knot from which a pair of arms diverge laterally and rearwardly, each of said neckties having a projection located between said arms and extending rearwardly from said knot, said rack comprising an elongated body member having opposite side edges; an elongated support member mounted on said body and having its side edges located inwardly of the side edges of said body member, said support member being formed on the arc of a circle from one of its side edges to the other to provide a space between said body member and said support member, the arc of said support member being such that said support member is substantially tangential to a knot and to the diverging arms; a plurality of longitudinally spaced openings in said support member in communication with said space for reception of said projection; and means attached to said body member for supporting the latter in a substantially vertical position.

3. The construction set forth in claim 2 wherein said body member is grooved adjacent said openings.

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