Aug. 21, 1945. I. B. WITLIN 2,383,100

SLIPPER

Filed Feb. 21, 1944

Fig. 1.

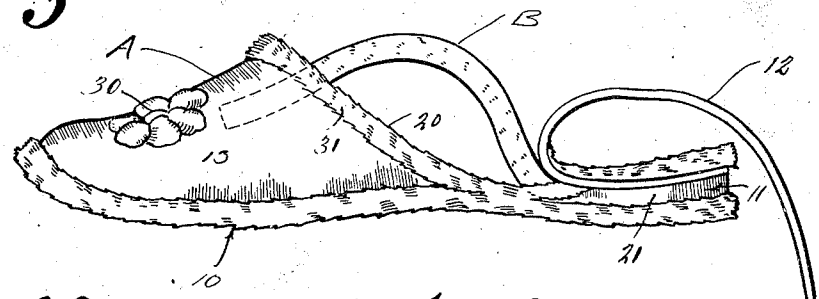


Fig. 2.

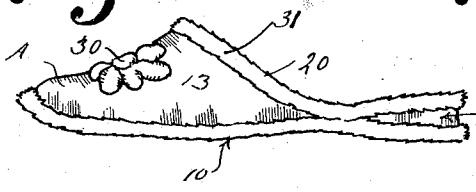


Fig. 3.

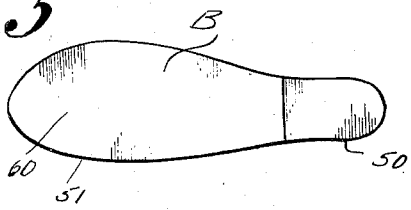


Fig. 4.

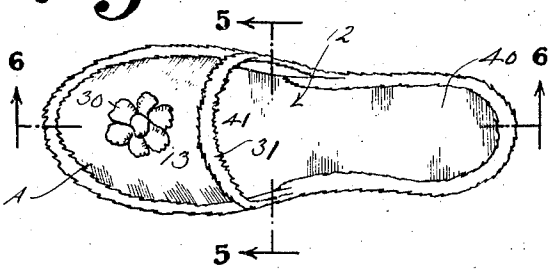


Fig. 5.

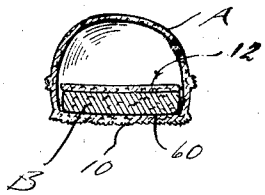
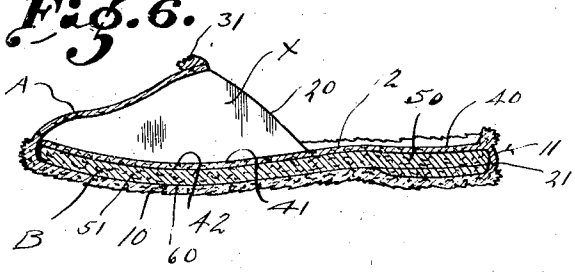


Fig. 6.



INVENTOR.
ISADORE B. WITLIN

BY

ATTORNEY

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SLIPPER

Isadore B. Witlin, Los Angeles, Calif.

Application February 21, 1944, Serial No. 523,269

8 Claims. (Cl. 36—9)

This invention has to do with an article of footwear in the nature of a slipper and it is a general object of the invention to provide a slipper that is comfortable, practical to handle and use, and which lends itself to being conveniently packed and to being readily cleaned.

Slippers are common items of wearing apparel worn by many persons in the home. It is common and advantageous from many standpoints to make slippers of fabric or felt. However, such materials are readily soiled and are difficult to clean, particularly when incorporated in slippers. Further, it is desirable to incorporate in a slipper a means to give it body or a certain degree of rigidity and also to give it some cushioning effect. Such means or construction in the ordinary slipper make it difficult to pack and difficult or impractical to clean, particularly by means of the ordinary methods usually employed in cleaning fabrics or felts.

It is a general object of my present invention to provide a slipper construction in which the bottom and upper are formed of a flexible material such as a fabric or felt, and in which there is a detachable insert which forms a pad and a stiffening element. In carrying out the present invention it is preferred to form the upper and bottom as a unit and of a material which lends itself to being readily cleaned or washed. Such material may be a fabric that is soft and yet has the necessary characteristics of strength and appearance desirable in a slipper. The insert is adapted to be removed when it is desired to clean or wash the other parts and it may be removed when it is desired to pack the slippers in a limited space.

It is a general object of the present invention to provide a slipper of the general character hereinabove referred to which involves a simple inexpensive construction whereby the insert is readily detachable from the other parts of the slipper and yet is fully concealed and is effectively held in position during normal conditions of use.

The various objects and features of my invention will be fully understood from the following detailed description of a typical preferred form and application of the invention, throughout which description reference is made to the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a side view of a slipper embodying the present invention showing the cover portion of the body folded back and the insert in a position such as it passes through in the course of being arranged in or removed from the body. Fig. 2 is a side view of the slipper in its normal condition. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the insert viewed from its lower side and showing it detached from the body of the slipper. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the slipper shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a detailed transverse sectional view taken substantially as indicated by line 5—5 on Fig. 4 and Fig. 6 is a longitudinal detailed sectional view taken substantially as indicated by line 6—6 on Fig. 5.

The slipper constructed in accordance with my invention involves, generally, a body A and an insert B. The body involves or includes a bottom 10 and an upper permanently joined to the bottom and including a forward or toe portion 13 and a heel portion 11. The body also includes an element that I will term a cover 12 and which is joined with the other parts of the body and which is in the nature of a flap that normally overlies the bottom 10 within the confines of the body and fits over or covers the insert B when it is in normal position, as shown in Fig. 6. The insert B is an element completely detachable from the body A and is formed of a material and is so proportioned as to give the slipper shape and to act as a cushion or pad under the foot, as the slipper is worn.

The body A is, in accordance with my invention, made of a soft or flexible material or combination of materials, preferably washable materials. The body involving the parts 10, 11 and 12 is made as a fixed assembly or unit. The several parts may be formed or built up and may be secured together in any convenient manner. In practice it is advantageous to form the body of materials of different specific character, for instance, the bottom 10 which bears on the ground can be advantageously formed of a fabric in the nature of a chenille, whereas the toe 13 and heel 11 may be advantageously formed of a finer material, such as a felt or a suitably woven cloth. In general it may be said that the several parts of the body are formed of fabric and I will use the term fabric to include cloth, felt, or other material that is soft and flexible and which lends itself to incorporation in the construction of the present invention.

The bottom 10 is the tread or ground engaging element of the slipper and is shaped to follow the general plan configuration of the slipper, as shown in Fig. 4. As stated above, in the preferred construction I use a chenille type fabric in the formation of the bottom 10 and face the nap of the fabric down. Such a fabric is soft, wear resisting and has sufficient body to

form something of a pad even when the slipper is used without the insert B.

The upper A of the slipper may, in practice, vary widely in design and formation. In the drawing I have shown a conventional type of slipper wherein the body has a toe portion 13 stitched or otherwise permanently secured to the forward portion of the bottom 10 and shaped to accommodate the forward portion and toes of the foot. The toe portion 13 is shaped and proportioned to present a rearwardly opening pocket X into which the forward portion of the foot is inserted. The rear side edges 20 of the toe portion 13 of the body are inclined or pitched rearwardly and extend to a point adjacent the heel portion 11 of the body as will be apparent from an examination of Fig. 2 of the drawing.

The heel portion 11 of the body has a vertical wall 21 extending a short distance above the periphery of the heel portion of the bottom 10. The vertical extent of the wall 21 is proportioned to properly accommodate the thickness of the heel portion of the insert as will be hereinafter described.

In practice the body A may be trimmed or decorated in any suitable manner. In the drawing I have shown a suitable ornamentation 30 applied to the toe portion 13 and I have shown the edges of the body parts trimmed with a fringe 31. It will be understood, of course, that any suitable color scheme can be carried out and that the various parts of the construction may be alike in color or may be of contrasting colors to suit the individual taste. In practice all of the parts of the body, that is, the toe portion 13, the heel portion 11, the bottom 10 and the cover 12 are preferably made of washable fabric having fixed colors so that the body can be laundered or washed by any ordinary laundry method.

The cover element 12 of the body corresponds, generally, in plan configuration to the bottom 10 except that it is somewhat smaller in size so that its rear or heel portion 40 fits within the sides 21 of the heel portion 11 of the body, while its forward or sole portion 41 fits within the toe portion 13 of the body and in the absence of the insert B will bear upon the top side 42 of the bottom 10.

In accordance with my invention the heel portion 40 is stitched or otherwise secured to the upper edge portion of the upstanding wall 21 of the heel portion 11 of the body. Through this connection the cover 12 is attached to and made an integral part of the body so that the several parts of the body form a single unit.

The forward or sole portion 41 of the cover is in the nature of a tongue or flap that normally projects forward from the heel portion 11 but can be withdrawn from the toe portion 13 of the body and folded back in the manner shown in Fig. 1. It will be apparent that with the construction thus far described the heel end part of the bottom 10, the heel portion 11 of the body A, and the heel portion of the cover 12, being secured together, form a pocket which opens or faces forward or toward the front of the slipper.

In accordance with my invention the insert B is formed entirely separate from the other parts of the slipper and in plan configuration conforms generally to the cover 12. The insert B is shaped and proportioned so that its rear or heel portion 50 fits into and occupies the pocket above described, while its forward or sole portion 51 fits into and occupies the top of the bottom 10 within the toe part 13 of the body. It is preferred in practice to proportion the insert B so that it fits rather snugly in the body and yet is free enough to allow it to be readily inserted in and withdrawn from the body.

The insert B may in practice vary widely in form and character although it is preferred in most cases to employ an insert formed of a heavy felt or felt-like material thick enough and soft enough to form an effective pad and yet stiff or rigid enough to maintain its shape and to effectively hold the body of the slipper in shape when it is within the body, as shown in Fig. 6 of the drawing. The insert may, if desired, be thickened at the heel. In practice I may apply a suitable sizing to the bottom surface 60 of the insert in order to prevent it from spreading out of shape and to give it the necessary characteristics. It will be understood, of course, that a reinforcing fabric or other element may be applied to the insert if desired, either to give it the desired surface or to give it the desired body or rigidity.

In using the slipper of the present invention the sole portion 41 of the cover 12 is folded out or back, as shown in Fig. 1, opening the pocket at the rear of the body so that the heel portion 50 of the insert can be inserted into it. The insert B is then flexed or folded somewhat as shown in Fig. 1, so that the sole portion 51 thereof can be entered into the toe portion 13 of the body. When the insert is entered into the body as above described, it flattens out and covers the bottom 10. The cover 12 is then arranged over the insert by folding the sole portion 41 inward from the position shown in Fig. 1, so that it enters the toe portion 13 of the body and covers the insert B. The slipper is then ready for use, the insert being completely concealed and serving to give the slipper shape and to establish an effective pad therein.

When it is desired to wash the body A of the slipper the cover 12 can be folded back and the insert B readily removed. The several parts of the body being formed of fabric which is washable allows the body to be washed with soap and water or it can be cleaned by any suitable cleaning or washing method. If the slipper is to be used while traveling, or under like conditions, the insert may not be necessary. If the slipper is without the insert B it can be packed in a very small space in that it is completely flexible and can be rolled or folded or otherwise manipulated into a space that would not accommodate any ordinary slipper construction. It will also be recognized that insert B can be packed in a very limited space in that it is flat and of a convenient shape so that the entire construction can be packed most advantageously when the parts are separated.

Having described only a typical preferred form and application of my invention, I do not wish to be limited or restricted to the specific details herein set forth, but wish to reserve to myself any variations or modifications that may appear to those skilled in the art or fall within the scope of the following claims:

Having described my invention, I claim:

1. A slipper including, a body of fabric to receive a foot and including a bottom and an upper permanently secured together and a flap secured only at the heel portion of the body to overlie the bottom to completely cover it, and an insert to be arranged in the body under the flap and over the bottom, the insert being de-

tachable from the body and forming a pad and stiffening element for the slipper.

2. A slipper including, a body of washable material to receive a foot and including a sole shaped bottom and an upper permanently secured together and a flap secured only at the heel portion of the body to normally project into the upper and to completely overlie the bottom, and an insert to be arranged in the body under the flap and over the bottom and completely detachable from the body, the insert being a sheet of material sufficiently rigid to maintain a predetermined form and soft enough to form a pad in the slipper.

3. A slipper including, a body of washable material including a sole shaped bottom thickened at the heel portion, an upper permanently secured to the bottom, and a flap permanently joined to the bottom at the heel portion thereof to normally completely overly the bottom, and an insert to be arranged in the body under the flap to cover the bottom within the upper and detachable from the body, the insert being a sheet of material sufficiently rigid to maintain a predetermined form and soft enough to form a pad in the slipper.

4. A slipper including, a body of fabric including a sole shaped bottom, an upper permanently secured to the forward end portion of the bottom to form a rearwardly facing pocket, and a cover for the bottom secured thereto only at the heel portion to form a forwardly facing pocket, the free forward end portion of the cover being adapted to normally extend within the body, and an insert detachable from the body and adapted to be inserted between the bottom and the cover with its end portions in the said pockets.

5. A slipper including, a unitary body of fabric including a bottom, an upper and a cover forming a flap overlying the bottom within the upper, the said parts of the body forming a forwardly opening pocket at the heel portion of the slipper, and a detachable insert adapted to be inserted in the body between the bottom and cover, the insert having a heel portion held in the pocket.

6. A slipper including, a unitary body of fabric including a bottom, an upper and a cover forming a flap overlying the bottom within the upper, the said parts of the body forming a forwardly opening pocket at the heel portion of the slipper, the cover forward of the pocket being free to be inserted in or withdrawn from the forward part of the body, and a detachable insert adapted to be inserted in the body between the bottom and cover, the insert having a heel portion held in the pocket.

7. A slipper including a fabric body having a sole shaped bottom, an upper joined to the bottom and having a toe portion and a heel portion, and a flap like cover attached only to the heel portion of the upper and having a free flexible portion extending freely forward therefrom to enter the toe portion of the upper so the cover completely covers the bottom, and an insert detachable from the body and adapted to be arranged between the bottom and cover so its forward end is retained by the forward portion of the upper which also retains the free portion of the cover while is rear portion is retained by the cover.

8. A slipper including a fabric body having a bottom, an upper with a toe portion and a heel portion, and a cover attached to the heel portion of the upper and extending freely forward therefrom to enter the toe portion of the upper, and an insert detachable from the body and adapted to be arranged between the bottom and cover, the heel portion of the upper, the heel portion of the bottom and the portion of the cover that is attached to the heel portion of the upper forming a forwardly opening pocket to receive and retain a portion of the insert.

ISADORE B. WITLIN.