Sept. 21, 1948. F. S. GUENTHER 2,449,810

DEVICE FOR DECORATING MATERIALS

Filed Aug. 3, 1944 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

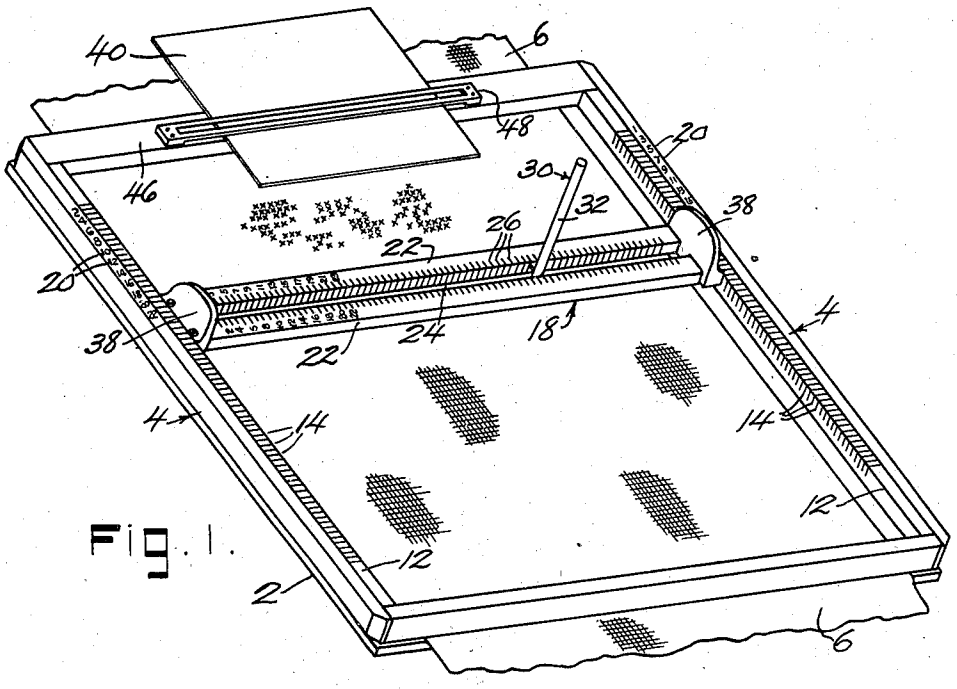


Fig. 1.

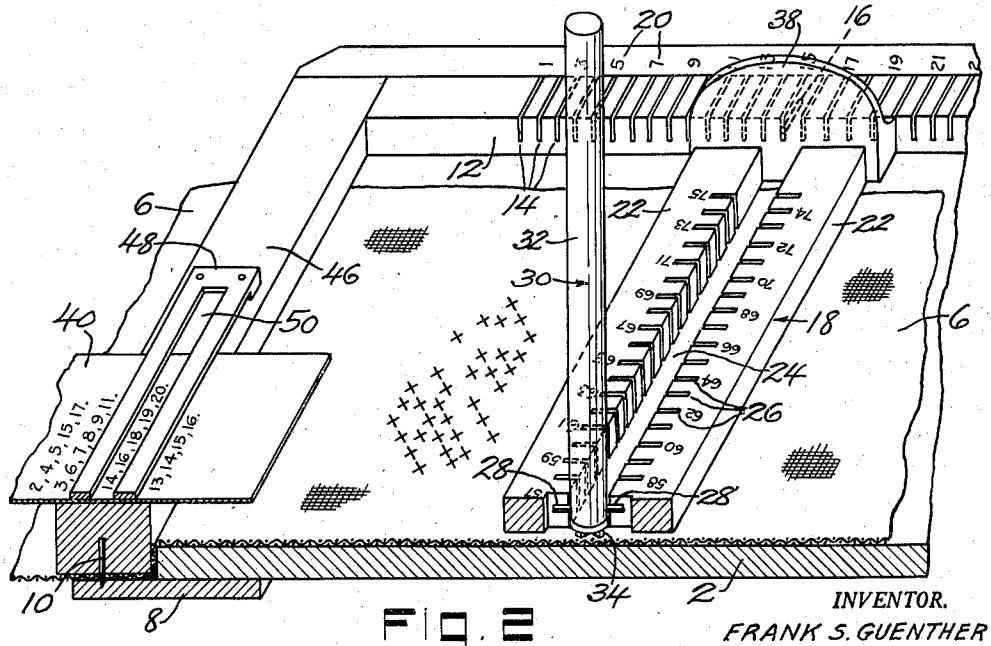


Fig. 2

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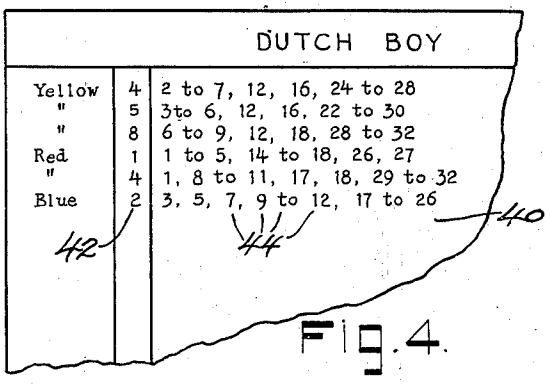


Fig. 4.

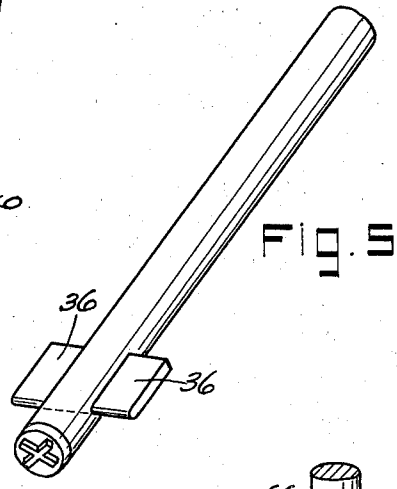


Fig. 5.

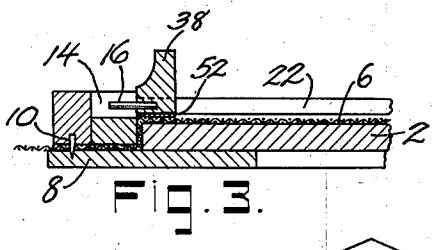


Fig. 3.

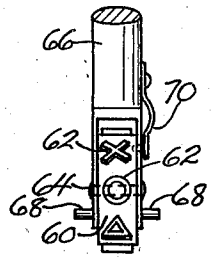


Fig. 7.

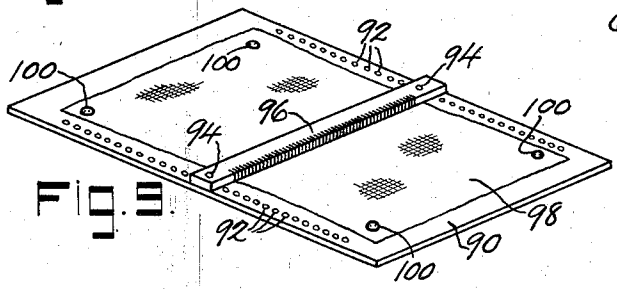


Fig. 9.

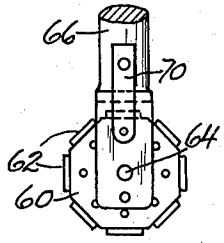


Fig. 6.

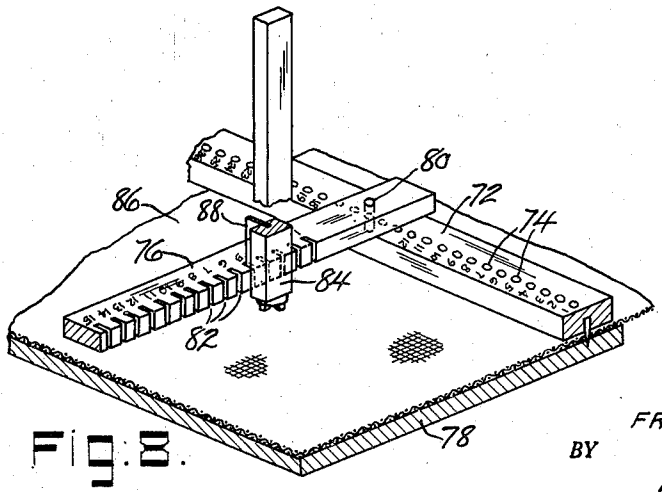


Fig. 8.

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DEVICE FOR DECORATING MATERIALS

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Application August 3, 1944, Serial No. 547,888

5 Claims. (Cl. 33—184.6)

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My invention relates to means and methods for decorating materials and particularly to simple and economical devices whereby fabrics, paper, leather, wood, metal and the like may be decorated in an attractive manner.

Heretofore in the decoration of fabrics and other materials by hand operations such as sewing, block printing, painting or the like, considerable skill has been required, particularly when intricate designs and patterns are to be produced. On the other hand, many persons such as children, invalids, or those who are physically handicapped, as well as housewives, find a great deal of pleasure and recreation in decorating materials and producing artistic products for the home or as gifts for others. However, most prior methods of decorating materials require considerable skill or training in order that attractive designs may be produced, and in many instances such work is so tedious and exacting that it cannot be undertaken by children or for purposes of recreation. Frequently such work becomes so difficult and prolonged that it is never completed or is finally finished in a haphazard or careless manner.

In accordance with my invention, materials may be decorated very easily and quickly and little or no skill is necessary, whereas intricate and beautiful designs can be produced very readily and economically.

One of the objects of my invention is to provide novel devices and means for decorating materials.

Another object of my invention is to provide simple and economical means whereby an infinite number of designs may be produced on materials such as fabrics, paper, wood, leather, metal and the like.

A further object of my invention is to provide methods and devices which may be used by unskilled persons to produce attractive patterns and designs on materials.

These and other objects and features of my invention will appear from the following description thereof in which reference is made to the figures of the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective of a preferred form of device embodying my invention.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of a portion of the construction illustrated in Fig. 1 showing details of the device partly in section.

Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view through another portion of the construction illustrated in Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 represents a typical instruction sheet

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used in producing designs in accordance with my invention.

Fig. 5 is a perspective of an alternative form of printing element used in the practice of my invention.

Fig. 6 is a side elevation of a portion of an alternative type of printing element adapted for use in the practice of my invention.

Fig. 7 is a view taken at right angles to Fig. 6 further illustrating the alternative form of printing arrangement shown in Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is a perspective of a portion of an alternative form of device embodying my invention, and

Fig. 9 is a perspective of still another form of device embodying my invention.

In that form of my invention illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4, the device embodies a base 2 formed of plywood, metal, fiberboard or other suitable sheet material, and a frame 4 is formed to fit over or around the base 2, so as to frictionally hold the material to be decorated in place on the upper surface of the base 2. The material to be decorated is shown at 6 and may be a hand towel, scarf or other like article. In some instances the base is provided with a marginal extension as shown at 8 and the frame 4 has pins 10 carried thereby, which pass through the work and into the extension 8 to aid in securing the material in place.

The frame 4 embodies side members 12 which are provided with positioning means such as the notches 14 which are formed to receive pins 16 or other means carried by a guide member 18 to locate the guide member accurately in place with respect to the frame 4. The notches 14 are preferably numbered as indicated at 20 so that when the pins 16 on the opposite ends of the guide member 18 are located in notches designated by similar numbers the guide member will be held in a predetermined relation with respect to the frame and the article to be decorated.

The guide member 18 is formed with a pair of bars 22 which are spaced apart to provide a slot 24 therebetween. Notches 26 are formed in the adjacent faces of the bars 22 to receive projecting elements 28 carried by a marking or printing member 30 to locate the marking member in a predetermined position along the slot so that a mark or element of a design may be formed on the article to be decorated and located in the desired position to register or cooperate with other elements or features of the design.

The marking member 30 is provided with a handle 32 and has a printing or marking element 34 secured to or formed on the lower end thereof

to engage the work in forming a design thereon. The face of the marking element may be formed as desired, but as shown is in the form of an X for printing a cross mark on the article to be decorated so that a design simulating cross stitch may be produced on the work. However, the marking element may be formed to apply any other form or type of mark on the work and it may serve to print, cut, burn, indent or otherwise produce a design forming element on or in the article to be decorated.

The marking member shown in Fig. 5 is substantially the same as that illustrated in Fig. 2, but the projecting elements **36** thereon are in the form of fins and cooperate with the slots **26** in the bars **22** to prevent tilting of the marking member so that the printing or marking element on the lower end thereof will engage the work evenly throughout the entire area thereof and insure uniform printing of each mark or design element on the work.

As shown in Figs. 1 to 3 the bars **22** of the guide member **18** are held in properly spaced relation by handles **38** which have the positioning pins **16** projecting outwardly therefrom to engage the slots **14** in the side members **12** of the frame **4**.

In using the construction described, a card or instruction card or sheet **40**, such as shown in Fig. 4, is employed and carries numerals in the column **42** which indicate the notches **14** in the side members **12** of the frame **4** in which the pins **16** on the guide member are to be located to establish a transversely extending row of design elements in a pattern. The numerals **44** on the instruction sheet indicate the notches in the bars **22** in which the pins **28** on the marking member are to be inserted in order to locate the point in such a row at which a cross mark or other design forming element is to be made in producing the design. For convenience in operation the upper frame member **46** of the frame **4** is provided with a holder **48** having slot **50** therein through which one line on the instruction sheet may be viewed, while holding the sheet **40** in place.

The instruction sheet is placed in the holder **48** and the guide member **18** is located with respect to the frame as indicated by the numerals in the column **42** of the instruction sheet. When the design is to be formed by printing on the article to be decorated the printing element **34** on the marking member **30** is pressed against a pad of ink or a supply of paint which may be spread on a palette or glass surface. The marking member is then inserted into the slot **24** between the bars with the pins **28** on the marking member projecting in the slots identified by the numbers **44** on the instruction sheet and the printing element is pressed against the work supported on the base **2**. In this way an X mark or other design forming element is printed on the article to be decorated. Thereafter similar marks are applied in the same way to the surface of the article in the locations indicated by the instruction sheet.

Any number of colors and any preferred type of design forming element may be used to produce a pattern which may be relatively simple or extremely intricate as desired. When each row of the design as shown on the instruction sheet has been completed, the guide member **18** is moved to locate the pins **16** thereon in other notches as indicated by the numerals in the column **42** of the instruction sheet and the operation

is then repeated using the colors and marks as called for by the instruction sheet.

In practice it is usual to apply all of the marks of the same color at one time, but any number of different colors may be employed successively or in any desired order. Ordinarily a different printing member is used with each color in order to avoid the trouble of cleaning the printing member to prevent mixing of the colors applied to the article being decorated. The printing material employed may be paints, dyes, lacquers, or any other substance desired, and while it is preferable to employ quick drying materials this is not always necessary, since the lower surface of the bars **22** of the guide member **18** may be spaced from the work by the pads **52** carried by the handles **38** on the guide member and serving to hold the bars **22** in spaced relation with respect to the work.

As the work progresses and each color is applied to the material, the design will stand out brilliantly and attractively on the article being decorated and it is possible to produce an infinite number of designs, many of which may be intricate in character and may be original patterns produced by the user or they may be copied from other designs or furnished by the manufacturer of the device. Furthermore, in printing any design it is not necessary to employ a printing element in the form of an X, since squares, circles, flowers, blocks or any other shapes or types of design forming elements may be used and applied to the work.

It will also be apparent the member herein referred to as a marking member may be of any type or design forming tool or implement such as a burning, indenting, punching or cutting tool, depending upon the character of the material upon which the design is to be produced and the type of the design desired. Thus, for example, by using a cutting tool, paper and fabrics may be formed into doilies which may also carry a printed design. In a similar way leather may be embossed or "tooled," wood may be burned or cut, and metal may be stamped, cut, punched or decorated. The frame and guide member used may be the same for working on any materials whereas the tool used for actually forming the design and herein called a marking member may be any conventional or preferred implement suitable for forming designs.

When it is desired to use a number of colors in a single design or when several different design forming elements are embodied in a single design it is sometimes preferable to employ a printing member such as that shown in Figs. 6 and 7 wherein an octagonal carrier **60** is provided with printing elements **62** on each face thereof and is rotatably mounted at **64** on a handle **66**. Pins **68** project from opposite sides of the handle to fit into the notches **26** in the positioning member **24** of Fig. 1, although fins such as those on the printing element shown in Fig. 5 may be employed if desired.

The handle of the printing member shown in Figs. 6 and 7 also may be provided with a spring detent **70** for engaging the octagonal carrier **60** to hold each printing element firmly in place with respect to the handle while permitting the carrier to be forceably rotated to bring any desired printing element into operative position. In this way several different colors and several different design forming elements may be used in forming a pattern while using only one printing member.

The constructions described above are ideally

suited for forming designs which are intricate and embody design elements which are accurately located so that the work produced is of the same high quality and possesses the same beauty of detail as the finest needlework. However, devices embodying my invention also may be made even simpler and less expensive, particularly if they are intended for use by children, or as a simple pastime or for recreational purposes.

As shown in Fig. 8 the frame **72** of the device is provided with positioning means in the form of a series of holes **74**. The guide member **76** consists of a single bar which extends transversely of the base **78** and is provided with pins **80** located near the ends of the bar **76** and formed to enter the holes **74** to hold the guide member in any one of a plurality of predetermined positions. The bar **76** is formed with positioning means such as the notches **82** along one edge thereof for receiving and positioning a marking member **84** used in forming an element of the design on the article **86** to be decorated.

The marking member **84** may be of any preferred type and is formed with a rib or other means **88** which will engage or cooperate with the positioning means on the bar **76** to guide the marking member and insure the formation of a mark at the desired point on the work.

The construction shown in Fig. 9 is generally similar to the other forms of my invention described above but the base **90** of the device itself is formed with positioning means such as the holes **92** which are located adjacent longitudinal edges thereof for receiving and holding complementary means such as pins **94** carried by the guide member or bar **96**. The article **98** to be decorated is shown in this form of my invention as being held in place on the base **90** by thumb tacks **100** but it will be apparent that it may be secured to the base by any other or preferred means.

The method of using those forms of my invention shown in Figs. 8 and 9 is substantially the same as that described above but the marking member is pressed against the positioning means or notches on the side of the guide member and while so held is moved downward into engagement with the work. The printing or marking member can thus be moved into and out of position quickly and easily and the view of the operator is not obstructed. It then is possible to make minor adjustments in position of the mark by tilting the handle of the marking member, or to control the length of time of a burning operation or the depth of the cut in the work by easy observation of the tool being used.

While I have illustrated and described a preferred form of frame and guide member and different types of printing element, it will be apparent that each of these elements may be changed in form and construction and in their relationship with respect to each other without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention. Furthermore, my invention is by no means limited to its application in forming designs by printing upon materials since the members referred to as marking members may be used for burning, cutting, pressing, stamping, or punching materials, and when so used, the invention may be employed for decorating leather, metal, wood, paper, fabric or any other materials desired. In view thereof it should be understood that the particular embodiments of my invention shown in the drawings and described above are intended to be illustrative only and are not intended to limit the scope of my invention.

I claim:

1. A device for use in decorating material comprising a base having a surface thereon for supporting an article to be decorated, positioning means located adjacent opposite edges of said base, indicating means arranged adjacent said positioning means to identify the same, a notched bar extending transversely of said base and having means adjacent the ends of the bar for engaging said positioning means to hold said bar in any one of a plurality of indicated positions, other indicating means associated with each of said notches and a marking member having means thereon directly engageable with the notches in said bar to position and guide the marking member in forming a mark on the article to be decorated, and a pattern card bearing indicia corresponding with the indicating means associated with the positioning means and notches to indicate the locations in which the marking member is to be placed to form predetermined design elements on the article to be decorated.

2. A device for use in decorating material comprising a base having a surface thereon for supporting an article to be decorated, means extending longitudinally of said base adjacent opposite edges thereof and formed with notches therein, identifying means associated with each of said notched means, a guide member extending transversely of said base and having parts thereon engageable with the notches in said means to hold the guide member in any one of a plurality of predetermined positions, and means on the guide member formed to receive and locate a marking member in forming a mark on the article to be decorated, identifying means associated with said receiving and locating means, a pattern card bearing indicia corresponding with the indicating means associated with said notched means on the base and with the receiving and locating means on the guide bar to indicate the locations in which the marking member is to be placed to form predetermined design elements on the article to be decorated, and means for holding said pattern card.

3. A device for use in decorating material comprising a base having a surface thereon for supporting an article to be decorated, means extending longitudinally of said base adjacent opposite edges thereof and formed with notches therein, identifying means associated with each of said notched means, a guide member extending transversely of said base and having parts thereon engageable with the notches in said means to hold the guide member in any one of a plurality of predetermined positions, said guide member having notches in an edge thereof for receiving and guiding a marking member in forming a mark on the article to be decorated, identifying means associated with said notches, a pattern card bearing indicia corresponding with the indicating means associated with said notched means on the base and on the guide bar to indicate the locations in which the marking member is to be placed to form a predetermined design element on the material to be decorated, means for holding said pattern card, and means located on said holding means for viewing said pattern card.

4. A device for decorating material comprising a card having pattern marks thereon, a base having a surface for supporting an article to be decorated, a holder carried by said device for holding said card and formed with means for

exposing a selected portion of pattern marks, positioning means extending longitudinally of said base adjacent opposite edges thereof, a guide bar having means thereon engageable with said positioning means to hold the guide bar in a location indicated by exposed pattern marks on said card, positioning means on said guide bar, and a marking element formed to engage the positioning means on said guide bar in a location indicated by a pattern mark on the exposed portion of said card.

5. A device for decorating material comprising a card having pattern marks thereon, a base having a surface for supporting an article to be decorated, means on said base for holding said card with portions thereof exposed, positioning means extending longitudinally of said base adjacent opposite edges thereof, a guide bar having means thereon engageable with said positioning means to hold the guide bar in a location indicated by exposed pattern marks on said card, positioning means on said guide bar, and a marking element formed to engage the positioning means on said guide bar in a location indicated by a pattern mark on the exposed portion of said card.

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