

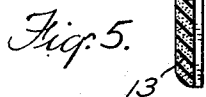
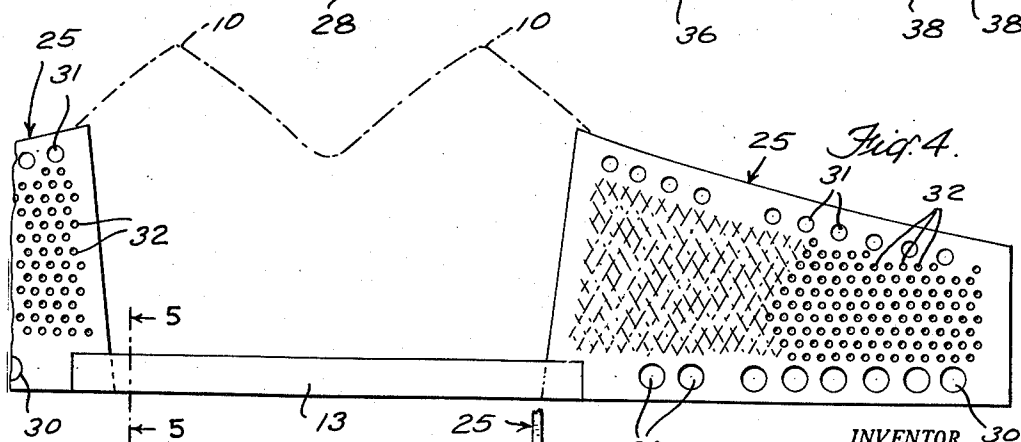
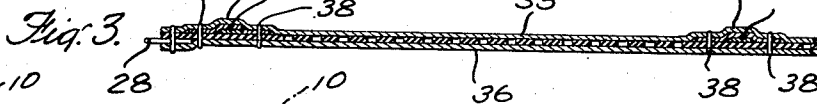
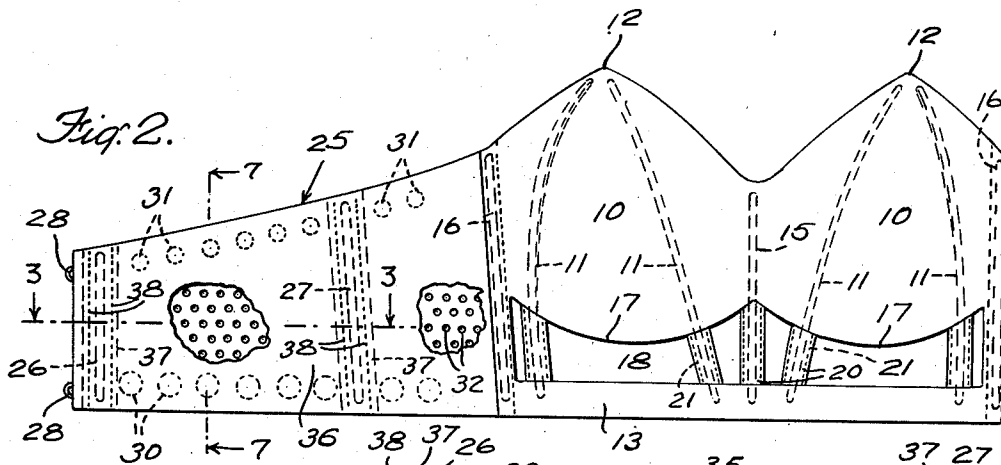
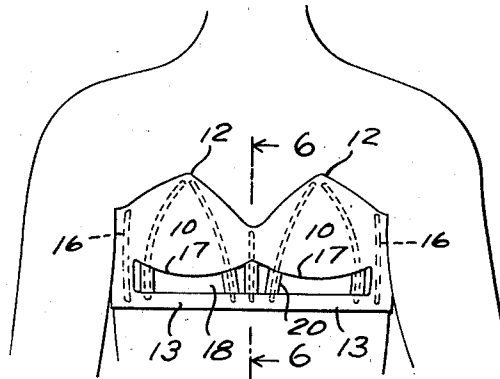
Oct. 3, 1950

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BRASSIÈRE

2,524,620

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2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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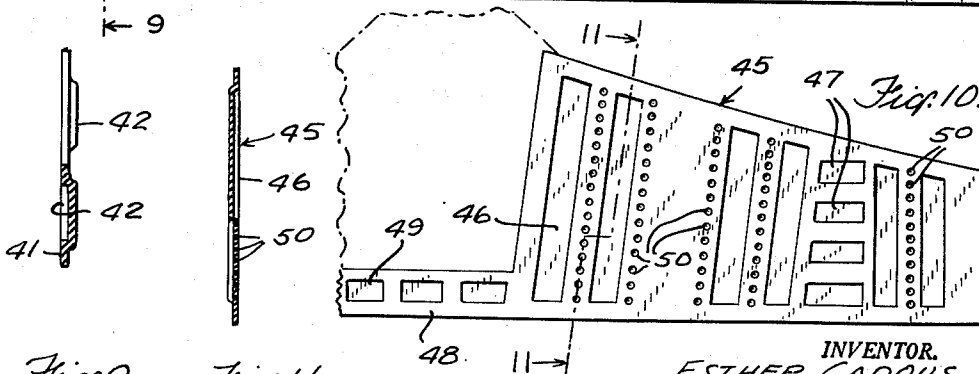
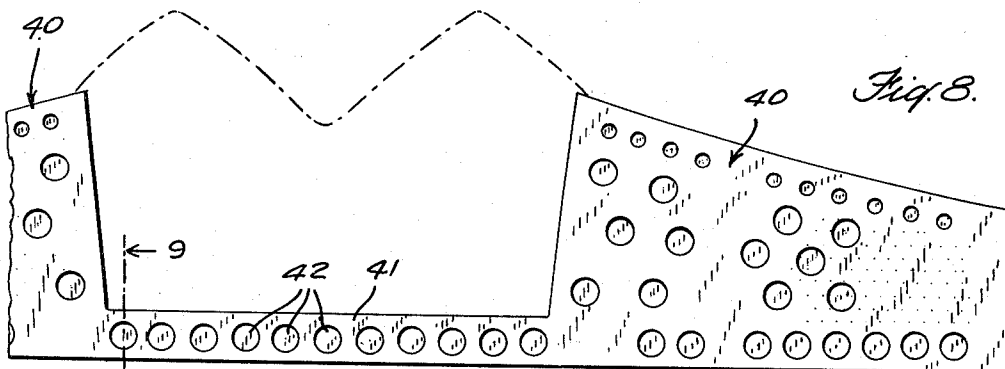
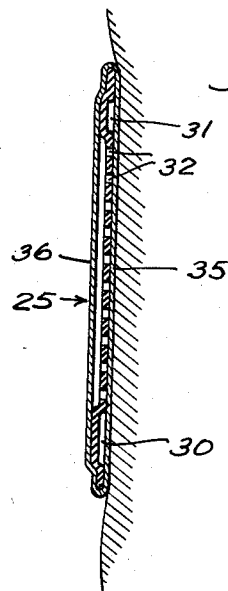
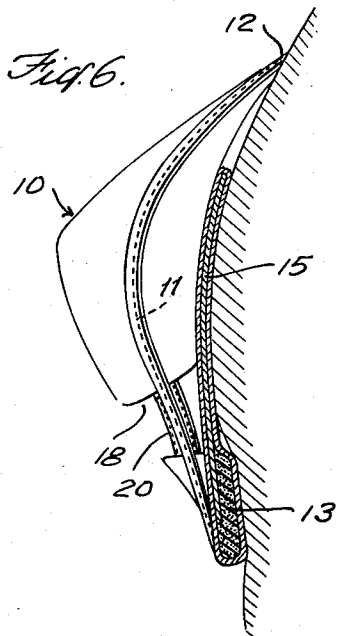
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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BRASSIÈRE

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6 Claims. (Cl. 2-42)

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This invention relates to brassières and has for an object to provide a novel and improved garment of the above type which does not require shoulder straps for support.

Another object is to provide a strapless brassière having novel and improved characteristics.

Another object is to provide a brassière having novel and improved means to grip the body for holding the brassière in place.

Various other objects and advantages will be apparent as the nature of the invention is more fully disclosed.

In accordance with the present invention, front breast pockets are provided with stays for shaping and supporting the breasts and the breast pockets are attached to back panels of impermeable, stretchable, sheet material such as natural or artificial rubber which are provided with fastening means, such as hooks and eyes, for joining the same at the back under tension. The back panels are provided with depressions in their inner surfaces which act similarly to suction cups when the panels are firmly secured around the body and grip the skin to prevent slippage of the garment. The rubber back panels are covered with a suitable fabric covering which may be loose or may comprise a stretchable material, such as a knitted fabric, which is firmly secured thereto and prevents the rubber from coming in contact with the skin. The fabric, however, is sufficiently thin and permeable to prevent any interference with the action of the suction cups.

In one embodiment, a stiff cushioning material, such as sponge rubber, extends across the front of the garment between the two back panels and inside of the lower ends of the stays to form a gripping portion for the front portion of the garment and also to cushion the lower ends of the stays and prevent the same from causing discomfort to the wearer.

In another embodiment this front strip may comprise sheet rubber material similar to that from which the back panels are formed and may also be provided with suction cups if desired.

For purposes of ventilation, a space is provided between the lower edge of the breast pockets and the front strip and the back panels may also be perforated for the same purpose.

The invention will be better understood by referring to the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which certain specific embodiments are set forth for purposes of illustration.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a brassière embodying the present invention showing the same in position on a wearer;

Fig. 2 is a front elevation of a portion of the brassière on a larger scale;

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Fig. 3 is a horizontal section taken on the line 3-3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a detail view of the rubber back panel and the front strip as seen from the inside;

Fig. 5 is a vertical section taken on the line 5-5 of Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is a vertical section taken on the line 6-6 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 7 is a vertical section through the line 7-7 of Fig. 2 indicating the position of the back panel on the wearer;

Fig. 8 is a detail view of a modified form of back panel and front strip as seen from the inside;

Fig. 9 is a vertical section taken on the line 9-9 of Fig. 8;

Fig. 10 is a partial detail view of a back panel showing a further embodiment of the invention; and

Fig. 11 is a vertical section taken on the line 11-11 of Fig. 10.

Referring to the drawings more in detail, the brassière is shown as comprising a pair of breast pockets 10 which are formed of any suitable lightweight fabric and are provided with vertical stays 11 which extend from the upper point 12 of the breast pockets in the form of an inverted V and terminate in a front strip 13 which, as indicated in Fig. 5 may comprise a heavy cushioning material, such as sponge rubber. The stays 11 are suitably shaped to form the breast pockets. A center vertical stay 15 is disposed between the breast pockets and side vertical stays 16 are disposed at the sides of the breast pockets.

In the form shown, the fabric of the breast pockets terminates at a lower curved line 17, which is spaced from the front strip 13, to provide an opening 18 therebetween and the stays 11 and 15 traverse this space and terminate at their lower ends on the strip 13. The stays are of course provided with a suitable fabric covering indicated at 20 which may be secured by rows of stitches 21 in the usual manner. The pockets 10 may be formed as half pockets to cover and support only the lower part of the breast if desired.

Back panels 25 are attached to the breast pockets 10 at side stays 16 and are provided with vertical stays 26 at their free ends and with intermediate vertical stays 27 for holding the panels flat against the skin of the wearer. Fastening means, indicated as eyes 28 and hooks not shown, may be secured to the free ends of the back panels 25 for securing them at the center of the back in the usual manner.

Each back panel 25, as indicated in Fig. 4, comprises a sheet of impervious, stretchable, sheet material, such as rubber, either natural or synthetic, which is provided along its bottom edge with a row of circular depressions 30 and along its top edge with another row of circular depressions 31 which are shown as smaller in area than

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the depressions 30, although they may vary in size as desired. The depressions 30 and 31, as shown in Fig. 7, are formed as closed cups which, when the garment is in place, provide suction and friction for gripping the skin and securing the garment in place against slippage.

For purposes of ventilation and lightness a plurality of holes 32 may be formed in the panels 25, although these perforations may be omitted if ventilation is not required, or the panels may be made of pervious material to which the impervious suction cups individually or in strips are secured.

Each panel 25 is provided with an inner covering 35 and with an outer covering 36 of suitable fabric and the stays 26 and 27 may be provided with a covering 37 secured by rows of stitches 38, as indicated in Fig. 3. The coverings 35 and 36 may be of any suitable stretchable pervious material, such as knitted material, and may be secured only at their edges to lie loosely over the back panels 25, or they may be firmly secured to the panels, as by suitable adhesive. The inner covering 35 prevents the rubber from contacting the skin, but is sufficiently porous and flexible to prevent interference with the action of the suction cups 30 and 31. The sponge rubber from strip 13 is preferably secured at its ends to the inner ends of the back panels 25 and is also covered by suitable fabric material.

In the embodiment shown in Figs. 8 and 9, the back panels 40 and front strip 41 are made of the same material and are provided with depressions 42 forming suction cups which are variously disposed over the surface of the back panels 40 and along the front strip 41. It is to be understood that the panels 40 and strip 41 are incorporated in a garment in the same manner as the panels 25 and strip 13 above described and that the front strip 41 serves to protect the body from the lower ends of the stays in a manner similar to the sponge rubber described above.

Figs. 10 and 11 show a further embodiment of the invention in which back panels 45 are provided with a plurality of elongated vertical rectangular depressions 46 and with similar horizontal rectangular depressions 47. These depressions likewise form suction cups similar to the round depressions shown in Figs. 1 to 9. A front strip 48 is also shown as provided with rectangular depressions 49 for the same purpose and ventilating openings 50 are disposed around the edges of the various suction areas. It is to be understood of course that the back panels 45 may be composed entirely of vertically extending areas 46, or entirely of horizontal areas 47, or they may be variously disposed as desired; also that the suction areas may be of any desired shape certain specific forms being shown for purposes of illustration only.

The stays may be formed of any suitable material, such as rubber, plastic or steel, and are of a type suited to be shaped by bending and to retain their shape.

The garment is made of a size such that the back panels are stretched somewhat when applied to the wearer. This stretching of the back panels causes the suction cups to be drawn against the skin of the wearer and, when the tension is released somewhat, after the back panels have been hooked together, causes the cups to firmly grip the skin due to the suction and friction and to prevent slippage of the garment. The stays 26 and 27 hold the back panels flat so that the full effect of the suction cups is obtained.

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It has been found that such garments remain in place even after the wearer has gone through the body movements incident to strenuous exercise. It is evident therefore that the brassiere may be made as a separate unit, or may be made as a part of a garment, such as bathing suit, slip, sports dress, evening dress, or other strapless garments.

What is claimed is:

1. A brassiere comprising breast pockets and back panels secured thereto, said back panels comprising impervious stretchable sheet material and each having a plurality of depressions formed in its inner surface providing suction cups for securing the same in place on the body of the wearer, and a covering of pervious stretchable fabric disposed over the inner surface of said back panels to prevent the same from contacting with the skin of the wearer.

2. A brassiere, as set forth in claim 1, in which said fabric layer is adhesively secured to said back panels.

3. A strapless garment comprising breast pockets of thin fabric and back panels secured thereto, said back panels comprising flat rubber-like material and each having a plurality of depressions formed in its inner surface for securing the same in place on the body of the wearer, and a narrow front strip extending beneath the breast pockets and joined at its ends to said back panels to absorb the pull thereof.

4. A strapless garment comprising breast pockets of thin fabric and back panels secured thereto, said back panels comprising flat rubber-like material and each having a plurality of depressions formed in its inner surface for securing the same in place on the body of the wearer and a narrow front strip of soft cushioning material extending beneath the breast pockets and joined at its ends to said back panels to absorb the pull thereof.

5. A strapless garment comprising breast pockets of thin fabric and back panels secured thereto, said back panels comprising flat rubber-like material and each having a plurality of depressions formed in its inner surface for securing the same in place on the body of the wearer, and a narrow front strip of sponge rubber extending beneath the breast pockets and joined at its ends to said back panels to absorb the pull thereof.

6. A strapless garment comprising a pair of breast pockets of thin fabric, a front strip extending beneath said breast pockets, vertical stays secured to said fabric to support said pockets and having their lower ends supported by said front strip, soft heavy cushioning material disposed on said front strip over the ends of said stays on the inside of said garment, and back panels of flexible material secured to the ends of said front strip, said cushioning material having depressions on its inner surface forming suction cups for gripping the skin of the wearer.

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