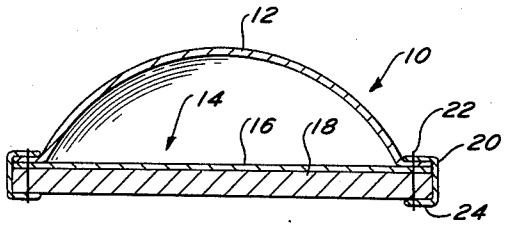
Dec. 7, 1965 W. LEMESHNIK 3,221,422

SLIPPER

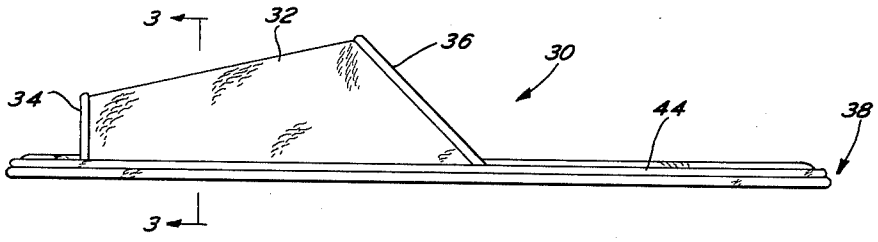
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FIG. 1



PRIOR ART

FIG. 2



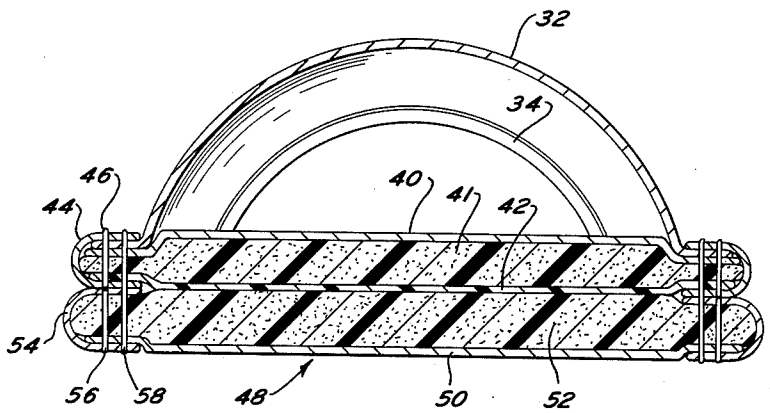


FIG. 3

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SLIPPER

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This invention relates to articles of footwear such as slippers, sandals, and the like, and in general are of the type which do not have rigid leather soles as are conventional in footwear such as shoes.

The slippers of the present invention are generally for indoor wear, but may be worn outdoors if desired. Hence, the slippers of the present invention are more in the nature of house slippers made from fabrics, impervious waterproof layers of sheet-like material, foam rubber or open cell polymeric plastic materials, etc., with or without lace or other ornamentation.

Heretofore, it has been conventional in the slipper field to manufacture slippers of the type of the present invention in a manner whereby the upper is secured to the sole by means of stitching extending through binding tape disposed around the edges of the upper and sole. Such binding tape is conventionally the same material as the upper. The first portion of the slipper to wear is the portion of the tape which overlaps the lowermost surface of the sole and the stitching at such portion. Hence, the life of the slipper is dependent upon the life of such portion.

The present invention extends the life of slippers of the type described above by preventing the above-mentioned tape from overlapping the lowermost surface of the sole notwithstanding the fact that such tape is of the same material as the upper. This is accomplished by using two separate tapes with the second tape corresponding generally to the material and color of the layer of material constituting the lowermost surface of the sole.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a slipper less susceptible to wear than similarly constructed slippers as produced heretofore.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a slipper wherein the insole and outsole are peripherally embraced by separate tapes, with the insole tape corresponding generally to the material of the upper and the outsole tape corresponding generally to the material of the layer of material constituting the lowermost surface on the outsole.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a slipper made from fabric which is comfortable, attractive, and has a longer life than similarly constructed slippers as proposed heretofore.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

For the purpose of illustrating the invention, there is shown in the drawings a form which is presently preferred; it being understood, however, that this invention is not limited to the precise arrangements and instrumentalities shown.

FIGURE 1 is a sectional view through a slipper made in accordance with the prior art.

FIGURE 2 is a side elevation view of a typical embodiment of a slipper in accordance with the present invention.

FIGURE 3 is a sectional view taken along the lines 3—3 in FIGURE 2, but illustrated on an enlarged scale.

Referring to the drawing in detail, wherein like numerals indicate like elements, there is shown in FIGURE 1 a cross sectional view of a slipper made in accordance with the prior art and designated generally as **10**.

The slipper **10** includes an upper **12** having its peripheral edge portion secured to the peripheral edge portion

of a sole designated generally as **14**. The sole **14** comprises an insole **16** which may be made from fabric such as satin and an outsole **18** which may be a layer of felt, plastic, etc. A tape **20** corresponding to the material of the upper **12** extends around the peripheral edge portions of the upper **12** and sole **14** with stitching **22** extending through the juxtaposed layers.

The disadvantage of the slippers made in accordance with the prior art as illustrated in FIGURE 1 lies in the fact that the tape **20** is a fabric generally corresponding to the material and color of the upper **12**. For women's household slippers, the material of upper **12** will be satin, nylon, etc. The portion **24** of the tape **20** which overlaps the layer **18** is juxtaposed to the floor or other surface being walked on, and is the portion which wears first. As soon as portion **24** becomes worn, it becomes raggy looking and materially detracts from the appearance of the slipper **10** so as to necessitate discarding the slipper **10**. Due to the inexpensive nature of the slipper **10**, repair of the same is not warranted when the above condition results due to the wearing of the slipper **10**.

The present invention overcomes the disadvantage of the prior art as described above by means of the slipper illustrated in FIGURES 2 and 3 and designated generally as **30**. The slipper **30** includes an upper **32**, sometimes referred to as a vamp, which may be of the open-toe type, thereby terminating in its front and rear edges in tapes **34** and **36**. The upper **32** is secured at its periphery to the insole of the sole **38** of the slipper **30**.

The insole to which the upper **32** is secured comprises a layer **40** which may be a layer of satin, silk, cotton, or other attractive fabric. The insole also includes a layer **42** juxtaposed to the layer **40** with a layer of open-cell polymeric material or foam rubber therebetween. Layer **42** is preferably a waterproof layer such as a layer of thin plastic, felt materials, etc. A tape **44** extends around the peripheral edge portions of the upper **32**, layer **40**, layer **41**, layer **42**, and stitched together as a unit by stitching **46**.

The sole **38** includes an outsole **48** which is made separately from the elements of the slipper **30** described above, and is secured thereto as will be made clear hereinafter. The outsole **48** includes a layer **50** constituting the floor-engaging layer of the slipper **30**. Layer **50** may be a layer of felt, a thin layer of waterproof plastic, etc. A layer **52** of foam rubber, open-foam polymeric plastic material such as polypropylene, etc., is juxtaposed to the layer **50**. Layer **52** is at least five times as thick as the layer **50**. A tape **54** extends around the layers **50** and **52** and the peripheral edge portions thereof are secured together by stitching **56**. If desired, stitching **56** may be eliminated.

Thereafter, during the construction of the slipper **30**, the outsole **48** will be juxtaposed to the insole and secured thereto by stitching **58** which extends around the periphery of the slipper **30** parallel to the stitching **46** and **56**. Stitching **58** extends through each layer of the sole **38** and the upper **32** as well as the tapes **44** and **54**.

While the tape **44** is made from the material of the upper **32**, the tape **54** is preferably made from the material of layer **50**. Quite often, it is desirable to make the upper **32** laminar in structure with quilting patterns or the like thereon. In such event, the outermost layer of the laminated upper **32** will be the material used for the tape **44**.

In this manner, the slipper will retain its attractive appearance when viewed from above. At the same time, the fabric tape **44** will not be juxtaposed or come in contact with the floor or other surface on which the slipper is worn. Hence, tape **44** is not subject to wear in the same manner as is occasioned by slippers of the prior art, as

illustrated in FIGURE 1. Since the tape **54** is made from the same or similar material as the layer **50**, the slipper **30** is more prone to longer wearing life and is capable of being made from materials which enable the same to be worn outdoors. The layer **42** is generally waterproof in nature or substantially waterproof so as to prevent the same from deteriorating. If desired, the entire slipper **30** may be made from waterproof materials or washable materials.

The present invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential attributes thereof and, accordingly, reference should be made to the appended claims, rather than to the foregoing specification as indicating the scope of the invention.

I claim:

1. A slipper comprising an upper, an insole, said insole comprising an inner fabric layer, a cushion layer and an outer water impervious material layer, a first tape overlapping peripheral portion of said upper and insole, stitching extending through said tape, upper and insole peripheral portions thereby retaining the same in assembled relationship, an outsole having an outermost layer and an innermost layer, said innermost layer being made of a resilient cushioning material, a second tape corresponding to the material of the outermost layer of said outsole, said second tape overlapping peripheral portions of said layer of said outsole, second stitching extending through said second tape and outsole thereby retaining the same in assembled relationship, and a third stitching extending through said tapes and the overlapped peripheral portions of the insole and outsole thereby binding the same together.

2. A slipper in accordance with claim **1** wherein said outsole innermost layer is five times as thick as said outermost layer.

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