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[54] **DEVICE FOR APPLYING FACIAL COSMETICS**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **132/83 B**

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A45d 33/00**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 132/83 B, 83 R, 83 F, 79, 132/88.7, 88.5; 206/38, 51, 56, 56 AB

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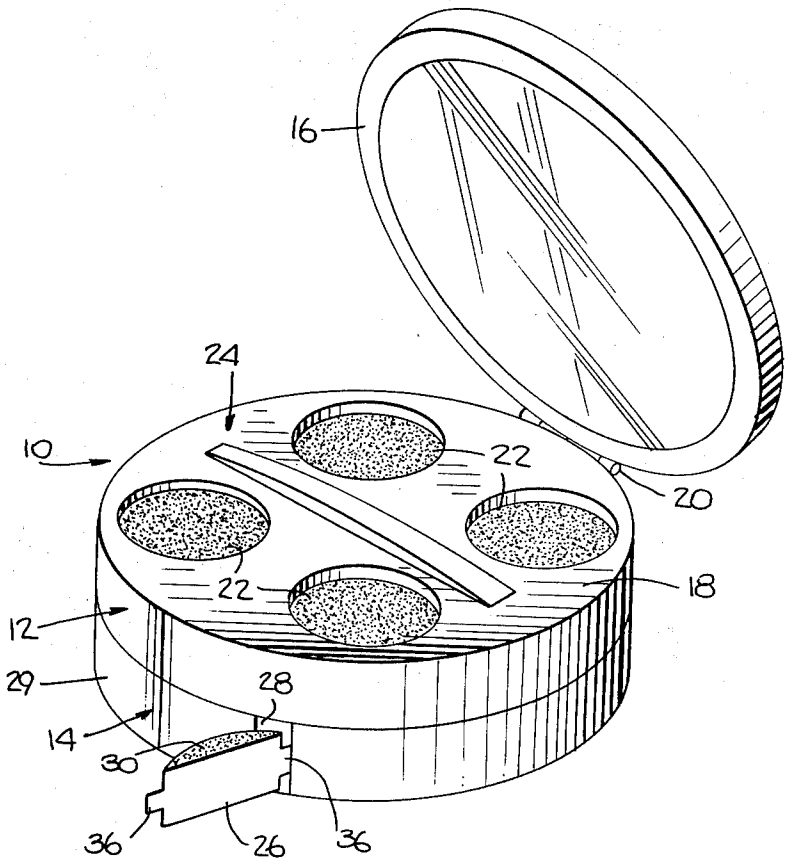
[57] **ABSTRACT**

A device useful in the application of cosmetic materials includes an elongated strip of pad-like elements, each of which functions as an applicator for the cosmetics. The strip is wound in the form of a helix and placed inside of a hollow cylindrical container. The container is provided with an opening in one wall through which the strip of pads is pulled. A cutting device is positioned near the opening in one wall so that the pad elements may be individually sheared from the strip and used to apply makeup. After use they may be discarded and a new pad taken from the strip. A holding device receives the pad to be used and aids the user during application of the make-up.

11 Claims, 6 Drawing Figures



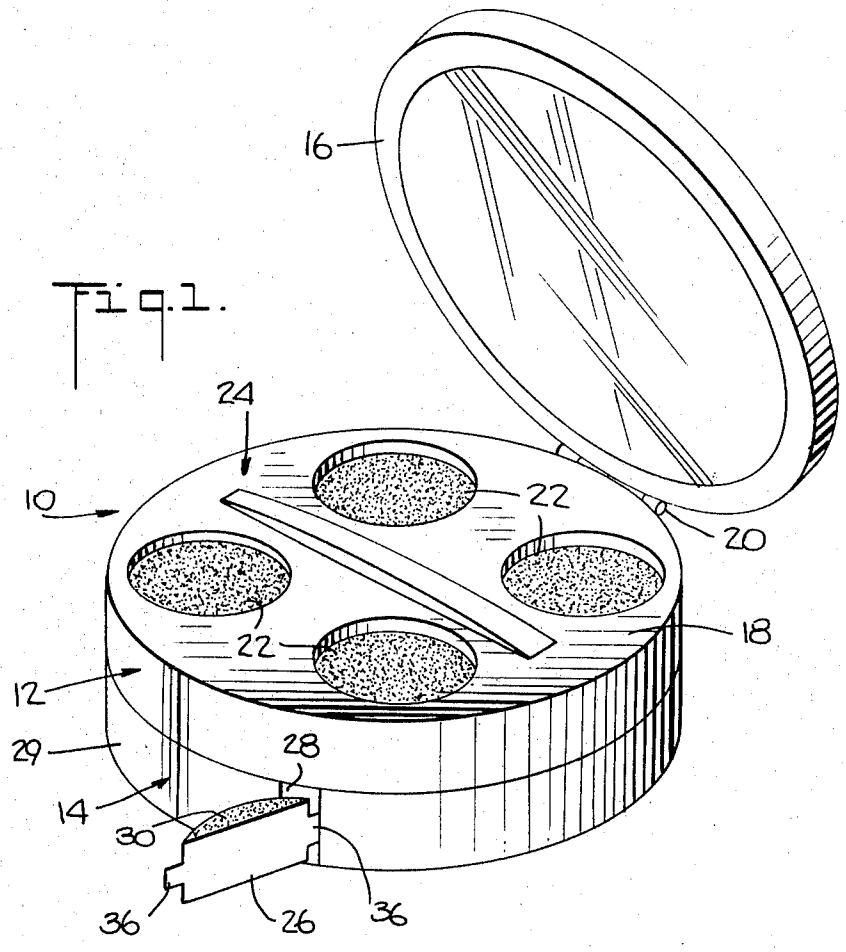


Fig. 1.

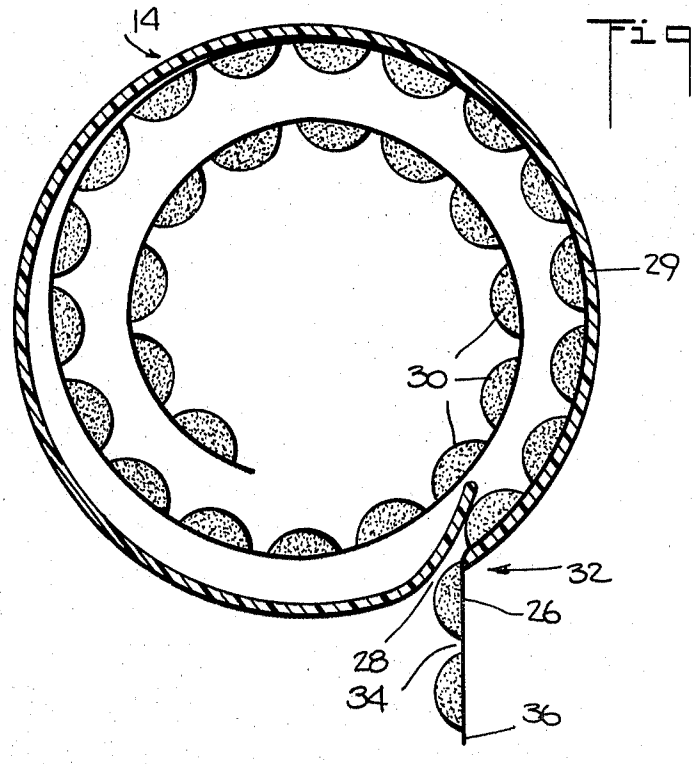


Fig. 2.

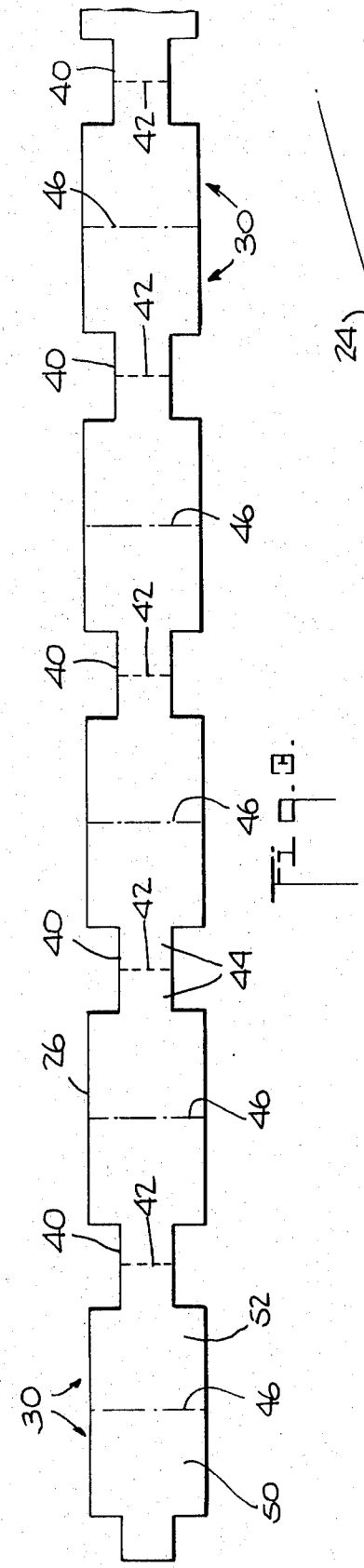


Fig. 3.

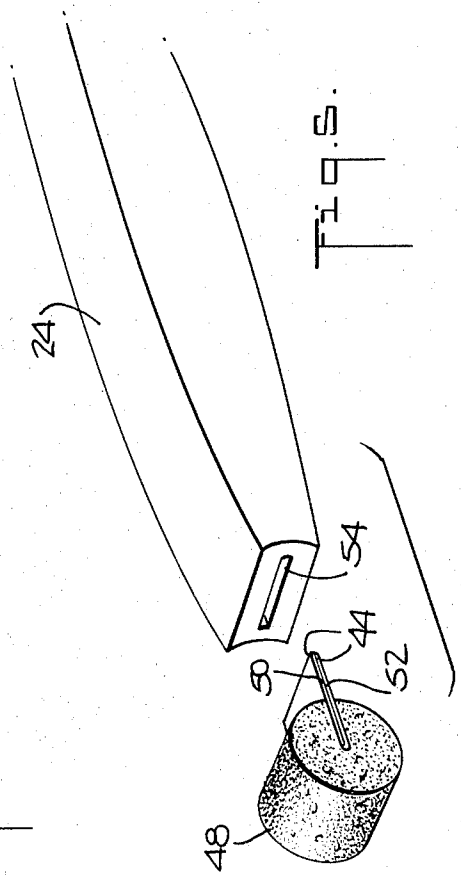


Fig. 5.

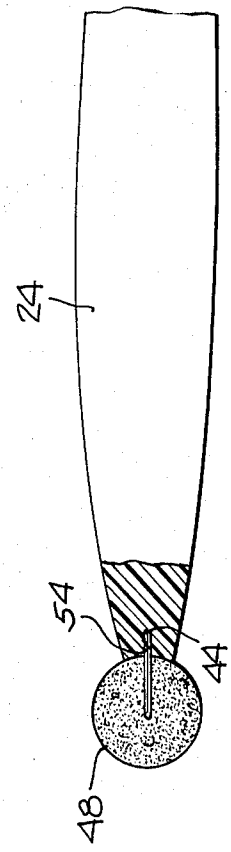


Fig. 6.

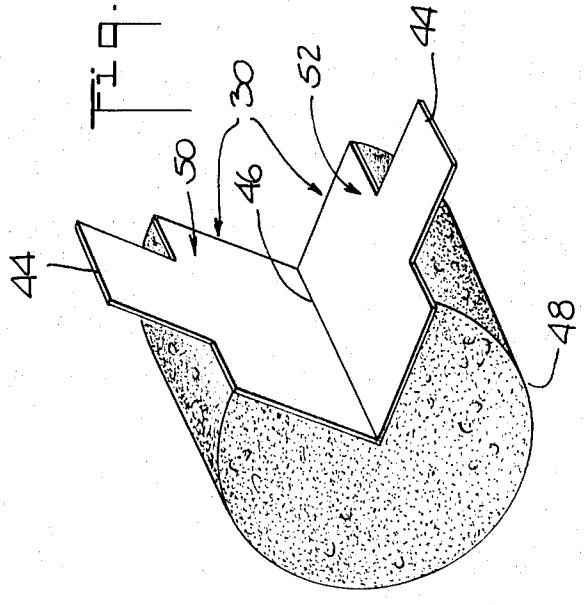


Fig. 4.

DEVICE FOR APPLYING FACIAL COSMETICS

FIELD OF INVENTION

This invention relates generally to applicator devices and more specifically, to an applicator device such as a pad or brush which is useful in the application of cosmetic materials to the face or eyes.

Many varieties of make-up kits useful in the application of facial cosmetics are presently commercially available. Some of the more common varieties include kits useful in the application of a single cosmetic material such as a flesh colored composition normally applied to the face, or of a variety of materials such as eye-shadow. The kits generally include the cosmetic material itself housed in an attractive compact, and an applicator such as a pad or brush.

One of the disadvantages that the user of such a kit experiences is that the pad or brush cannot effectively be kept clean after being used, especially after frequent use. Such a difficulty is particularly troublesome when several different materials having several different colors are packaged in the same compact. Color contamination results very quickly from the use of a single applicator. Obviously, this difficulty can be overcome by providing a pad for each color, but this is neither economical for the manufacturer nor practical for the user. As a result, very few colors are packaged together or if many colors are so packaged, very few applicators are included. Furthermore, no matter how many applicators are included there is a need to clean them after use to avoid caking of the material on the applicator and possible contamination to the skin. Cleaning is a time consuming chore for the user when it is possible to be done, and when certain types of unwashable materials are used in the fabrication of the applicators, it is not even an available remedy.

It is the primary object of this invention, therefore, to provide a make-up device which includes a plurality of disposable applicators requiring no cleaning after use.

It is another object of this invention to provide an applicator device which permits a user of a make-up kit to use a different pad each time the make-up is used thereby avoiding any contamination in the application of the make-up.

It is still another object of this invention to provide a make-up kit in which any number of different make-up colors may be packaged and in which a large supply of disposable applicators may be stored.

These and other objects of the invention will become apparent from the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a make-up kit including a device for supplying disposable applicators and a housing for the cosmetic materials in a superposed unitary structure;

FIG. 2 is a top plan view of a device for supplying disposable applicators such as illustrated in FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a bottom plan view of a portion of a strip containing a plurality of pads used as applicators;

FIG. 4 is a perspective view of a pad removed from the strip of FIG. 3 just prior to being folded into a contiguous arrangement;

FIG. 5 is a perspective view of a handle device and the completed pad of FIG. 4 just prior to the insertion of the pad into the handle; and

FIG. 6 is a side elevational view of the components shown in FIG. 5 after being joined.

Broadly, the objects of the invention are accomplished by a device useful in the application of cosmetic materials which includes an elongated, continuous strip of pad-like elements, each one of the elements being an applicator for facial cosmetics. The strip is preferably wound in the form of a helix and placed inside of a cylindrical container or compact. The container is provided with an opening in one wall through which the strip passes when pulled from the container. A cutting edge is positioned near the opening on the container so that one or more pads can be cut from the strip when it is desired to use them. With this arrangement, a continuous supply of clean applicators is readily available. The pads may be disposed of after use and a new one obtained from the supply strip.

In the preferred embodiment of the invention, the pads on the strip are grouped along the strip, each pad being spaced from a successive pad. There is a fold line in the center of each pad strip, thereby enabling the strip to be folded back into a contiguous arrangement to form the pad. In this manner, a single pad element is formed which provides a large application surface for the user. In order to ensure a firm structure, the strip is composed of a material which has greater rigidity than that of the pad material. Thus when the pad strip is folded back, the strong strip material provides a firm support for the resulting article. The newly formed unitary pad is then placed in a handle device which includes a receptacle for receiving and holding the pad. The pad is then dipped in a cosmetic, applied with the use of the handle device, removed from the handle device when no longer in use, and discarded.

Attachment to the handle device may be effected in a variety of ways but a convenient and simple connection is made by providing an opening in the handle device of a size sufficient to receive a projecting tab on the formed pad. The tab is preferably an extra length of the strip material itself which is left connected to the pads when they are cut from the remainder of the strip. The strip tab is then joined with another such tab when the strip is folded back, and both tabs are pressed into the opening in the handle. Removal from the handle is readily achieved by simply pulling the tab and handle apart.

The container, strip and handle device may all be packaged together with the conventional compact which houses the cosmetic material. In one preferred embodiment, an entire make up kit includes the container for the strip and the cosmetic compact joined in superposed relation as a unitary structure. The handle device is placed in a slot in the compact between the compartments for the cosmetic materials and is easily accessible to the user.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Referring to the drawings, and first to FIG. 1, there is illustrated a make-up kit generally designated by the numeral 10. The make-up kit 10 includes an upper housing or compact 12 and a lower device 14 for supplying applicators. The compact 12 comprises a cover 16 which is rotatably connected to a housing compartment 18 by a hinge 20. The compartment 18 houses various cosmetic materials 22 such as different colors of eye shadow as well as a handle device 24 which as hereinafter more fully explained is useful in conjunc-

tion with the device **14.** In FIG. **1,** a portion of an elongated strip **26** (best shown in FIG. **2**) is shown emerging from an opening **28** in the wall of container **29** which is part of device **14.** A pad element **30** which is useful as an applicator in the application of the eye shadow make-up **22** is shown positioned on the strip **26** just beyond opening **28.**

In FIG. **2,** it can be seen that the strip **26** contains a large number of pad elements **30** positioned adjacent each other on the strip. The strip is wound into a helix and placed within the hollow center portion of the cylindrical container **29.** The pad elements **30** are pulled through opening **28** by exerting a pulling pressure on the tab or tabs which are outside of the container **29.** The container is provided with a sharp cutting edge **32** positioned near opening **28.** The pads are easily individually separated from the strip **26** by bringing the strip in contact with the cutting edge **32** at a desired location in the space **34** between the pads and then shearing the strip. A portion of the strip will always project beyond opening **28** after shearing occurs because a small tab **36** (FIG. **1**) will remain thus enabling the next pad to be pulled from the container. After a pad is cut from the strip it may be dipped in the eye shadow **22,** applied to the user and then discarded. When another pad is later desired, it is cut from the strip in the same manner.

FIGS. **3–6** illustrate a preferred embodiment of the strip **26.** As there illustrated, the strip **26** consists of adjacent pad elements **30** spaced from each other along the strip by the intermediate strip material **40.** A perforated line **42** may be placed in the spaces **40** so that the strip may easily be cut against shearing edge **32.** If cut on the perforated lines **42,** each pair will be separated from the main strip and a part of the strip material which forms a tab **44** would also be sheared from the main strip (See FIG. **4**).

As shown best in FIGS. **4, 5** and **6,** the separated strip **26** may be folded upon itself by means of fold line **46** which is pressed into the strip **26** at the center thereof. The surfaces **50** and **52** provide a firm core support for the pads since they are composed of a material which is more rigid than the pad material. Once folded in this manner, a new unitary pad structure **48** (FIGS. **5, 6**) is formed to provide a large applicator having a large surface. This structure **48** may now be conveniently inserted into handle device **24,** and specifically, tabs **44** are press fit into receptacle **54** so that device **24** carries the applicator **48.** After use, the applicator **48** may be dislodged from device **24** by simply pulling the two apart and when it is desired to use an applicator again, a new pad is separated from strip **26** and the procedure is repeated.

It has been determined that a pad having a width of approximately ⅜ inch and composed of a soft foam type material such as urethene is quite suitable for use in the present invention. These pads are secured to a backing strip material which is more rigid than the urethene such as a stiff plastic or card stock. Perforations spaced about 1½ inches along the strip will aid in detaching the pads as well as providing a sufficient length for tabs **44.**

It will be appreciated that many modifications of the device of the invention may be made without departing from the scope of the invention. It will be further appreciated that the cosmetic applicator device of the invention provides a simple solution to the perplexing problem of contamination in the use of applicators for facial cosmetics. Furthermore, an economical, practical way of providing a fresh, clean applicator each time the cosmetics are used is also satisfied by the device of the invention. In addition, an entire make-up kit comprising the make-up and a large supply of disposable applicators may be packaged in an attractive unitary assembly not much larger than a normal compact.

What is claimed is:

1. A device useful in the application of cosmetic material comprising,

an elongated strip having secured thereon a plurality of pad-like elements adapted to be coated with a cosmetic material when brought in contact therewith and thereafter to release said cosmetic material when placed in contact with a surface to which the cosmetic material is to be applied, said elements being placed successively along said strip,

container means for housing said strip, said container means having an opening therein adapted to successively pass said elements on said strip out of said container means, and

cutting means operatively connected to said container means proximate said opening and effective to separate at least one of said elements from said strip when said strip is urged into contact with said cutting means.

2. The device of claim **1,** in which said elements are grouped along said strip, each element being spaced from a successive element, whereby said elements are cut from said strip and means operatively positioned upon said strip effective to enable a portion of said element to be folded into contiguous arrangement with another portion of said element when said element is cut from said strip, thereby to form a single pad-like element.

3. In the device of claim **2,** tab means operatively connected to the ends of each of said elements and effective when each of said elements is folded into said arrangement to form a projection means extending outwardly therefrom, said projection means being effective to join said element to a holding manner.

4. The device of claim **3,** in which said strip is composed of a material more rigid than said elements and in which said tab means comprises said strip material extending for opposite sides of said elements.

5. An elongated strip having securing thereon a plurality of pad-like elements adapted to be coated with a cosmetic material when brought in contact therewith and thereafter to release said cosmetic material when placed in contact with a surface to which the cosmetic material is to be applied, said elements being placed successively along said strip, said strip having shearing means operatively connected to said strip at intervals therealong, effective to facilitate removal from said strip of said elements positioned between successive shearing means.

6. The device of claim **5,** in which said elements are grouped along said strip, each element being spaced from a successive element, said shearing means being positioned in spaces between said elements whereby said elements are cut from said strip, and means operatively positioned upon said strip effective to enable a portion of said element to be folded into a contiguous arrangement with another portion of element of said pair when said pair is cut from said strip, thereby to form a single pad-like element.

7. In the strip of claim 6 tab means operatively connected to the ends of each of said elements and effective when each of said elements is folded into said arrangement to form a projection means extending outwardly therefrom, said projection means being effective to join said element to a holding means.

8. In the device of claim 1, housing means operatively connected with said container means, said housing means being effective to carry cosmetic materials to be applied with said elements.

9. The device of claim 1, in which said container means comprise a hollow cylindrical container having an opening in one wall thereof sufficient in size to pass said strip through, and in which said strip is wound into a helix within said container.

10. In the device of claim 8, housing means in superposed relation with said container and effective to carry cosmetic materials to be applied with said elements.

11. In combination with the strip of claim 7, holding means having an opening therein and a grasping surface extending beyond said opening, said holding means being effective to receive said projection means in said opening in releasable engagement after said element is separated from said strip thereby to aid in the application of said cosmetic material.

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