June 8, 1948. R. J. DELHAYE 2,443,099

COMBINATION COMB AND CARRYING CASE

Filed March 23, 1946

FIG. 1

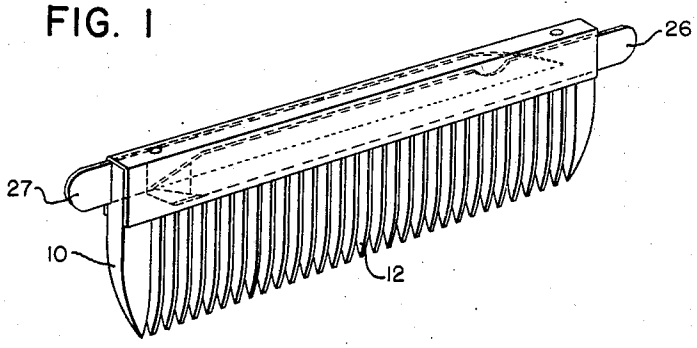


FIG. 4

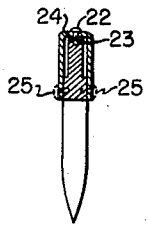


FIG. 3

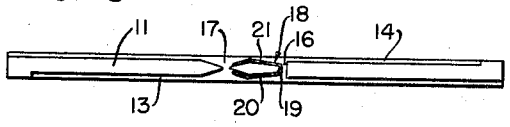
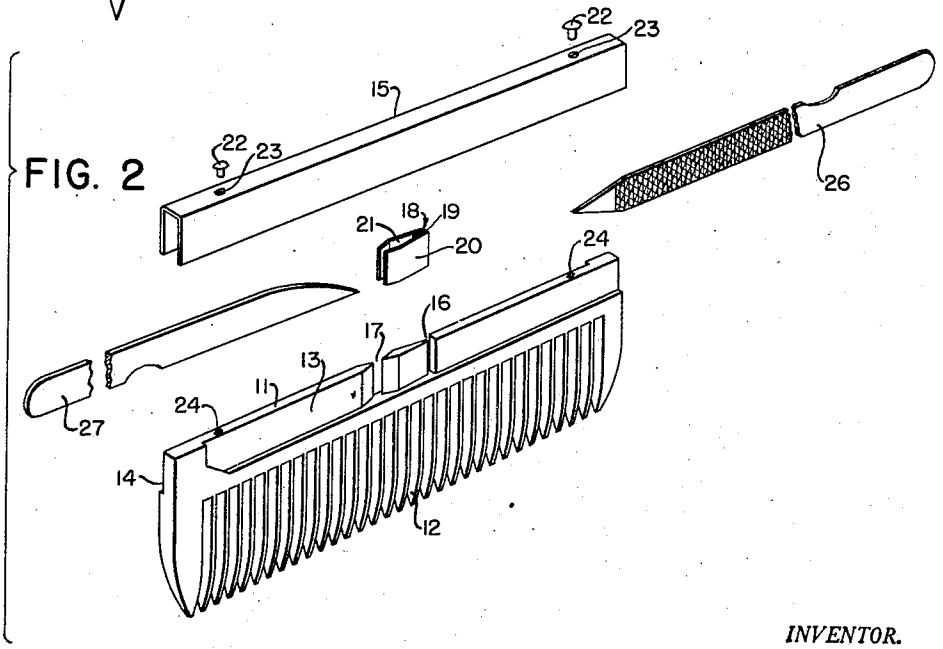


FIG. 2



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COMBINATION COMB AND CARRYING CASE

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6 Claims. (Cl. 132—79)

1

This invention relates generally to a comb and nail file combination and in particular to a comb having slots therein for containing a finger nail file, knife or similar items.

It is common practice for persons to carry a comb, nail file and similar items to be handy for use at any time needed so that an attractive appearance can at all times be presented. Such items are usually carried in the pocket of a man's suit or in a lady's purse. In prior devices of this type it has been customary to provide a case which can be used for carrying these items as files and knives, having sharp edges, might injure the person carrying them or damage the pocket in which they are being carried or damage other objects therein. In these devices the case for carrying the items is usually the most expensive part of the combination. Also a metal member is usually provided on the base portion of the comb for strengthening the comb to prevent breakage thereof while being carried. This further increases the cost of the items.

It is, therefore, an object of this invention to provide a comb and nail file combination which is inexpensive and of simple construction.

It is a further object of this invention to provide a comb having provisions therein for containing a nail file, knife or similar items so that a separate carrying case is not required.

A feature of this invention is the provision of a comb having slots in the base portion thereof for containing a nail file, knife or similar items.

A further feature of this invention is the provision of a comb and nail file combination wherein the comb acts as a case for the nail file and the nail file acts as a reinforcing member for the comb.

An additional feature of this invention is the provision of a comb having provisions for containing a nail file, knife or similar items therein in which the comb includes means for retaining such items in position in the comb.

A still further feature of this invention is the provision of a comb made of molded plastic material formed as two parts adapted to be secured together in such a manner to provide slots therebetween for containing a nail file and knife.

Further objects, features and advantages of this invention will be apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing the combination comb, nail file and knife assembly of this invention;

Fig. 2 is an exploded view of the assembly showing the details of the various components thereof;

2

Fig. 3 is a top view of the base portion of the comb showing the spring clip positioned thereon; and

Fig. 4 is a cross-sectional view of the comb showing the manner in which the parts are secured together.

In practicing my invention I provide a comb made of plastic material having a base portion with teeth molded thereon and recesses at the top thereof and a second part adapted to fit over the recesses to form slots in the comb. The slots are of appropriate size to receive a small nail file and a knife therein. A spring clip is provided in the slots for retaining the file and knife in position in the comb. Thus the comb forms a case for the nail file and knife and the nail file and knife serve to reinforce the comb when in position therein.

Referring now to the drawings, the comb 10 is composed of a base portion 11 having teeth 12 molded thereon. The base portion includes recesses 13 and 14 on either side thereof. A channel shaped cover member 15 is secured to the base portion and cooperates with the recesses to form slots in the comb. The recesses in the base portion are so positioned that the slots have openings in the opposite ends of the comb. Each of the slots extend from one end of the comb longitudinally through the base portion substantially to the other end of the comb as shown in Fig. 3. The base portion is provided with additional recesses 16 and 17 into which a spring clip 18 is positioned. As clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3, the spring clip has a central portion 19 which fits in the recesses 16 and arms 20 and 21 which project into the recesses 13 and 14 respectively. The ends of the arms are bent in and are positioned in the slot 17. The cover member 15 can be secured to the base portion 11 by rivets 22 positioned in openings 23 in the cover member and cemented into openings 24 in the plastic base portion of the comb. Alternatively rivets 25, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 4, or other securing means can be used.

A nail file 26 and knife 27 are shown positioned in the comb in Fig. 1. The nail file and knife are of such length that the end of the handle of each projects from the ends of the slots in the comb so that the file and knife can be easily withdrawn. As is apparent from an examination of Figs. 2 and 3, the arms 20 and 21 of the clip 18 bear against the file and knife when positioned in the

slots to tend to retain these items in the slots, thus preventing accidental removal thereof.

As is apparent in the structure disclosed, the construction of the comb is very simple and inexpensive. The two parts of the comb can be molded in a well-known manner and assembled as previously described. The comb can be molded of any suitable plastic material and may be of any desired color. The cover member can be made of plastic and be of the same color or of contrasting color, thus providing many possibilities for making the item attractive. The cover may also be made of thin metal which can be plated to give a very neat and pleasing appearance. The file and knife may be constructed of any high carbon steel which will provide a sharp file portion and a sharp edge on the knife. The clip is formed by bending thin spring material and does not require expensive machinery for manufacture.

It is therefore seen that a neat and attractive comb, nail file and knife combination is provided wherein the comb forms a case for the nail file and knife to prevent injury to the person of the user or other objects while they are being carried, and the file and knife serve as a reinforcing member for the comb to prevent breakage thereof. The requirement for a separate case for carrying the file and comb and for an additional member for stiffening the comb are therefore eliminated, reducing the cost of the combination to a large extent.

Although the invention has been described with reference to one specific embodiment thereof, it is apparent that the comb may be of various designs, and other modifications thereof are possible within the intended scope of the invention. For example, a slot might be provided on only one side of the comb whereby only one item can be carried therein. Also slots may be provided of such shape and size to carry other items than a nail file and knife. Accordingly, it is desired that the invention be limited only to the extent defined by the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A comb, nail file and knife combination comprising a self-contained unit including a comb having a base portion with teeth thereon, said base portion having a first slot therein extending from one end thereof longitudinally through said base portion substantially to the other end and a second slot extending from said other end substantially to said first end, a clip secured to said base portion having arms extending in said slots, a steel nail file positioned in one of said slots with the end projecting from said slot, a steel knife positioned in the other of said slots with the end projecting from said slot, said arms of said clips contacting said nail file and knife for releasably retaining said nail file and knife in said comb, said steel nail file and said steel knife extending substantially the entire length of said comb to thereby serve as reinforcing members for said comb.

2. A case for containing a nail file and a knife comprising a member having slots therein extending from one end thereof longitudinally through said member substantially to the other end, a clip secured to said base portion having arms extending in said slots, said slots being adapted to receive said nail file and knife therein and said clip engaging with the nail file and knife for releasably retaining them in said slots.

3. A receptacle for articles used in manicuring such as nail files, knives and the like, comprising a base portion having longitudinal recesses on either side thereof extending from one end thereof substantially to the other end, and a recess extending across said base portion, a channel shaped portion secured to said base portion to cooperate with the longitudinal recesses therein to form slots in said receptacle, and a clip including a central portion positioned in the recess extending across said base portion and arms positioned in said slots.

4. A receptacle for articles used in manicuring such as nail files, knives and the like, comprising a base portion having recesses on either side thereof, one of said recesses extending from one end of said base portion substantially to the other end thereof and the other recess extending from said other end of said base portion substantially to said one end, a channel shaped portion adapted to fit over said base portion and cooperate with said recesses to provide two slots in said receptacle one of which has an opening at one end thereof and the second having an opening at the other end of said comb receptacle.

5. A case for containing a nail file or the like comprising a base member having a slot therein extending from one end thereof longitudinally through said base member substantially to the other end thereof, a clip mounted in said base portion centrally thereof and having an arm extending into said slot, said clip being arranged to releasably retain the file in said slot.

6. In a comb and manicure instrument assembly, an elongated base portion with integral teeth extending therefrom and having two longitudinal recesses therein open on opposite sides of said base portion, each of said recesses extending from an end of said base portion substantially to the opposite end thereof, and a channel-shaped cover member on said base portion closing the open sides of said recesses to define slots respectively adapted to receive manicure instruments such as a knife and a nail file.

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