United States Patent [19]

Weick

[11] **3,756,656**

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[54] **CHAIR**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **297/446,** 297/454, 297/457, 297/460

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A47c 1/12,** A47c 5/00

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 312/445–452, 460, DIG. 2; D6/20, 29, 65

[56] **References Cited**

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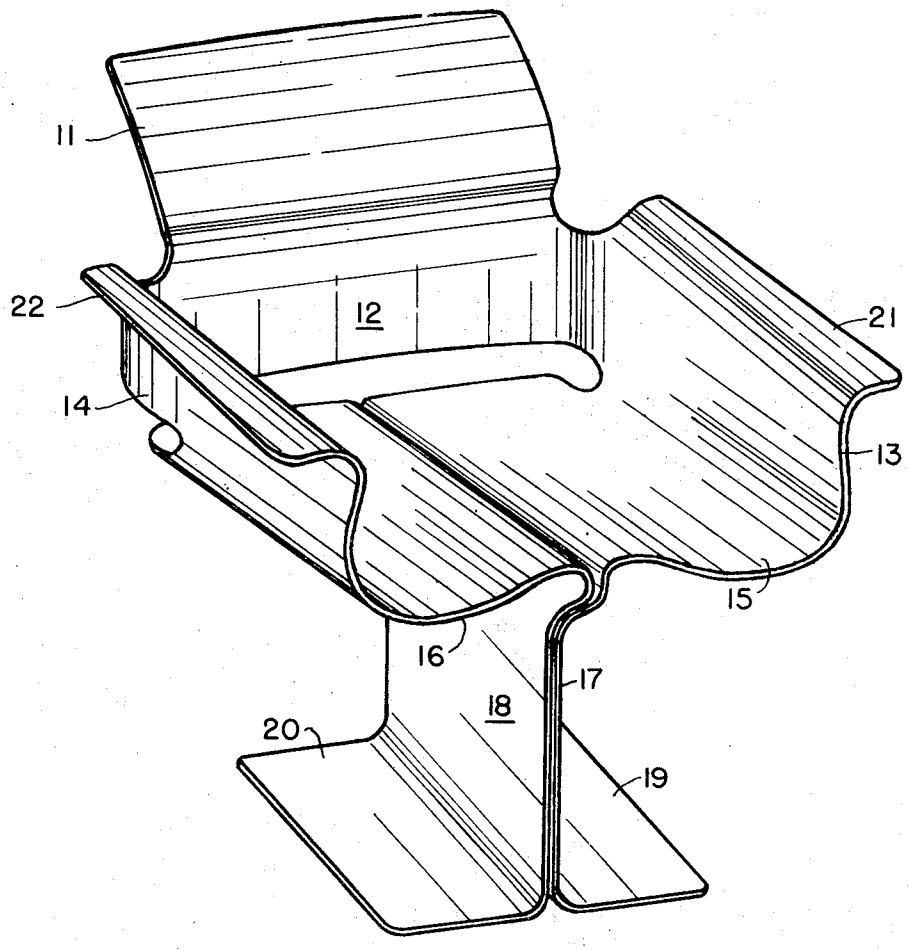
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Primary Examiner—Paul R. Gilliam
Attorney—Peter L. Tailer

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A chair having the appearance of being bent from a blank cut from a single sheet of material has a back, arms extending forward from the sides of the back, and seat halves extending inward from lower edges of the arms. In addition, two pedestal portions may extend downward from the inner adjacent edges of the seat halves and base portions may extend outward from the bottoms of the pedestal portions.

3 Claims, 4 Drawing Figures



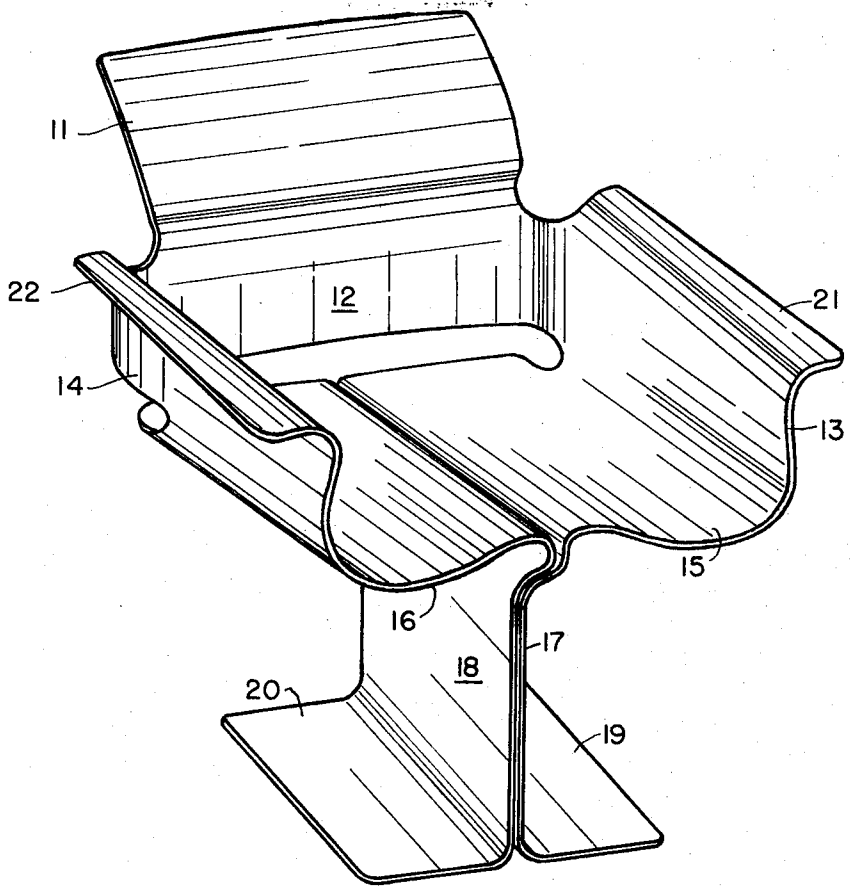


FIG. 1

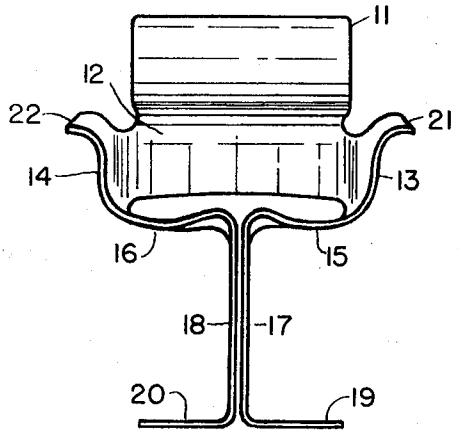


FIG. 2

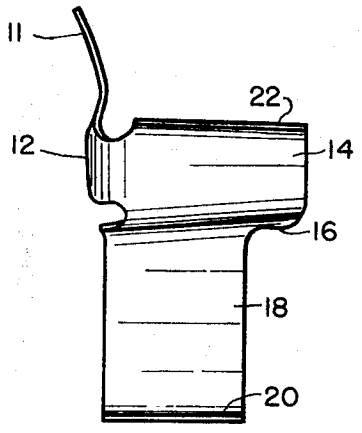


FIG. 3

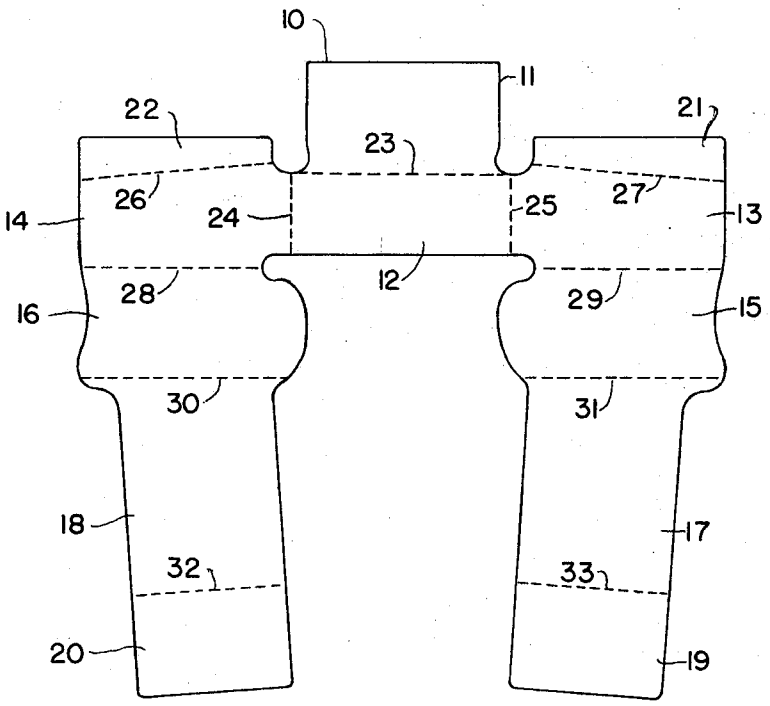


FIG. 4

CHAIR

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

A chair is partially or completely formed by cutting a blank from a single sheet of material and bending it into shape. The blank may form the back, arms, and seat of a chair or it may also form a pedestal and base of the chair and thus form a complete chair. While the chair may be bent from sheet material such as sheet aluminum or sheet steel, it may also be formed by cutting out several thin blanks of sheet material and bonding them as layers or laminates in the form of a complete chair. Thus the chair may be formed of wood veneer, thin layers of leather, or other suitable material bonded together. The chair could also be formed of fiberglass reinforced plastic.

The aesthetic appeal inherent in the design of a functional object such as a chair is difficult to define. The chair of this invention has a unique aesthetic and intellectual appeal as the beholder observes its sculptured form and realizes that it appears to be bent from a blank cut from a single sheet of flat material. In addition, the chair of this invention is comfortable and practical.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a perspective view showing a chair according to my invention;

FIG. 2 is a front view of the chair of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a side view of the chair of FIG. 1; and

FIG. 4 is a plan view of a flat blank of sheet material from which the chair of FIG. 1 may be bent, portions of the blank which are bent being indicated by dotted lines.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring to the Drawing in detail, FIG. 4 shows a blank **10** cut from sheet material. Blank **10** has upper back portion **11**, lower back portion **12**, arm portions **13** and **14** extending laterally from the sides of lower back portion **12**, seat halves **15** and **16** extending downward from arm portions **13** and **14**, pedestal portions **17** and **18** extending from the seat portions **15** and **16**, and the base portions **19** and **20** extending from the pedestal portions **17** and **18**. Arm rests **21** and **22** extend upward from the arm portions **13** and **14**. Areas in which bends are made or formed in fabrication are indicated by dotted lines. Such an area is indicated at **23** between the back portions **11** and **12**, at **24** and **25** between the lower back portion **12** and the arm portions **13** and **14**, at **26** and **27** between the arm rests **21** and **22** and the arm portions **13** and **14**, at **28** and **29** between the arm portions **13** and **14** and the seat halves **15** and **16**, at **30** and **31** between the seat halves **15** and **16** and the pedestal portions **17** and **18**, and at **32** and **33** between the pedestal portions **17** and **18** and the base portions **19** and **20**.

As shown in FIGS. 1–3, blank **10** may have the arms **13** and **14** bent forward from lower back portion **12**, and the seat halves **15** and **16** bent inwards from the lower edges of the arms **13** and **14**. Arm rests **21** and **22** may be bent outward from the tops of the arms **13** and **14**. The upper back portion **11** may be bent backward to a comfortable angle from the lower back portion **12**. If desired, these elements of my chair may be mounted on conventional or other legs (not shown).

If the chair is to be completely formed from a single sheet of material, pedestal portions **17** and **18** are bent downward from the adjacent inner edges of the seat halves **15** and **16** and the base portions **19** and **20** are bent outward from the lower edges of the pedestal portions **17** and **18**.

While the chair has been described as being bent from a blank **10**, the term bent is intended to also include a chair laid up or otherwise formed to give the finished appearance of being bent from a single sheet of material. The pedestal portions **17** and **18** are spaced apart as shown in FIGS. **1** and **2** to clearly indicate that the pedestal portions **17** and **18** are separate portions of the same sheet of material. If they were touching or directly joined, they would tend to appear as a single element of double thickness. If desired a brace, stiffener, or spacer (not shown) may be inserted between the pedestal portions **17** and **18** and below the base portions **19** and **20**. Such brace means should be disposed well back from the visible edges of the pedestal portions **17** and **18**.

While my invention has been shown and described in the best form known, it will nevertheless be understood that this is purely exemplary and that modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim:

1. A single blank from which a chair may be bent comprising, in combination, a lower back portion, an upper back portion, an area between said upper and lower back portions in which a bend may be made, arm portions extending laterally from said lower back portion, areas between said lower back portion and said arm portions in which said arm portions may be bent relative to said lower back portion, seat halves extending downward from said arm portions, an area between each adjacent arm portion and seat half in which said seat halves may be bent relative to said arm portions, pedestal portions extending downward from said seat halves, an area between each adjacent pedestal portion and seat half in which said pedestal portions may be bent relative to said seat halves, base portions extending downward from said pedestal portions, an area between each adjoining base and pedestal portion in which said base portions may be bent relative to said pedestal portions, arm rests extending upward from said arm portions, and an area between each adjoining arm portion and arm rest in which said arm rest may be bent relative to said arm portion.

2. A chair having at least the appearance of being bent from a blank cut from a single sheet of material, said chair comprising, in combination, a lower back portion having sides, an upper back portion bent backwards from said lower back portion, arms bent forward from the sides of said lower back portion, seat halves bent inward from lower portions of said arms, said seat halves having adjacent central portions, pedestal portions bent downward to extend downward adjacent to each other from the adjacent central portions of said seat halves, and base portions bent outward from the lower ends of said pedestal portions supporting said chair.

3. The combination according to claim **2** with the addition of arm rests bent outwards from the upper edges of said arms.

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