May 2, 1933. J. B. LAWRENCE 1,906,909

DECALCOMANIA TRANSFER

Filed May 27, 1932

Fig. 1.

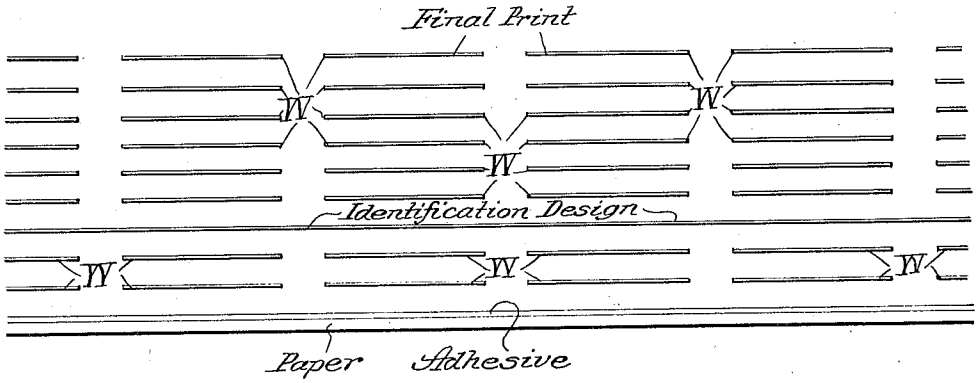


Fig. 2.

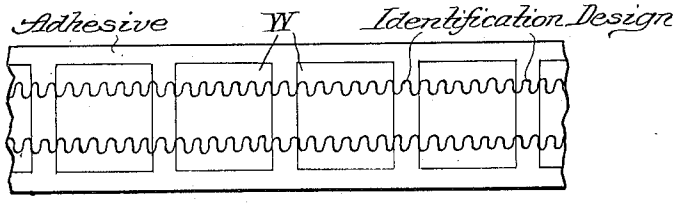
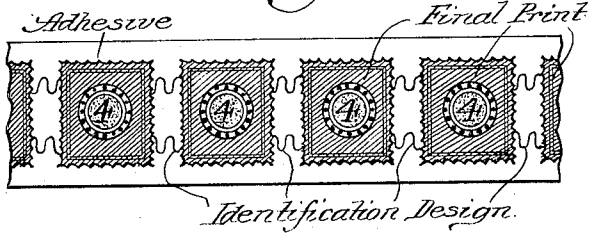


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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DECALCOMANIA TRANSFER

Application filed May 27, 1932. Serial No. 613,991.

This invention relates to decalcomania transfers and is particularly useful in connection with revenue stamps and the like.

A primary object of the invention is to provide a decalcomania transfer with a distinctive mark or design which under ordinary conditions is practically invisible but which can be detected when the transfer is held toward the light. Other objects and advantages will appear as the specification proceeds.

The invention is illustrated, in its preferred embodiment, in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a diagrammatic view of a transfer embodying my invention, the various layers making up the transfer being shown in separated relation and the spaces therebetween being greatly exaggerated; Fig. 2, a plan view of the paper sheet with the distinctive or identifying design applied thereto but the final layers of the transfer body being omitted: and Fig. 3, a plan view of the finished article consisting of a series of transfer bodies applied to the base sheet.

In the illustration given, a strip or sheet of water-permeable paper is surfaced on one side with a water-soluble adhesive. A series of spaced transfer bodies are built up on the adhesive surface by printing successive layers of translucent ink or other suitable material. The layers of translucent ink are indicated on the drawing by the letter "W".

In accordance with my invention, after several layers of ink have been deposited as a foundation for the transfer bodies, I print or otherwise form upon the topmost layer W as well as upon the exposed surface of the adhesive-covered paper a distinctive design or mark or print. After the identification design has been formed, the printing operation is continued until a number of successive layers of white translucent ink or the like have been deposited upon the previously deposited layers W. In this manner, the transfer bodies are built up to a substantial thickness. Then upon the topmost layer of each of the transfer bodies is formed the final print which, by way of example, may be a revenue stamp design.

The prominence of the identification design, the number and character of the layers W, and the character of the final top print are all coordinated so as to practically conceal the identification design when the transfer body rests upon the paper sheet or upon any ordinary background. However, when the transfer body is held up to the light, the identification design becomes distinguishable.

In forming the transfer body, any ordinary or suitable transfer ink may be employed. Such inks are ordinarily made by combining zinc oxide, white lead, or titanium oxide with linseed oil varnish or the like. Sometimes a color dye is added to form different shades of white.

In the operation of applying transfer bodies of the character illustrated, usually the sheet of paper or paper board is moistened, as by dipping the paper into a body of water, the paper permitting the water to pass readily therethrough and to dissolve the adhesive beneath the transfer bodies. The transfer bodies may then be removed and applied to the desired surface. Sufficient adhesive remains to the bottom-most layer W to fasten the transfer body to the new surface.

One difficulty experienced in the use of revenue stamps has been that such stamps readily become detached from cellophane, wood boxes, etc., and have been repeatedly reused. The present form of transfer body readily adheres to cellophane, wood, tin and paper containers and is too fragile in construction to permit removal and reuse. The identification design permits the spurious and counterfeit stamp to be readily detected by the tax examiner, while at the same time it is effectively concealed under ordinary conditions of use.

The identification design, as illustrated in the drawing, extends not only between certain of the successive layers W but also upon the adhesive surface between the transfer bodies. This enables the paper strip, with its series of transfer bodies, to be detected as genuine. At the same time, when the

paper strip is dipped in water, the design disappears as the adhesive goes into solution in the water. It will be understood, however, that my invention may be employed without exposing any portion of the design outside of the transfer bodies. Also, it will be understood that in the use of the word "translucent" in the appended claims, I mean any white or other translucent material, through the strata of which the identifying mark may be rendered visible when the transfer body is held toward the light and invisible when the body is provided with an ordinary non-brilliant background.

The foregoing detailed description has been given for clearness of understanding only, and no unnecessary limitations should be understood therefrom, but the appended claims should be construed as broadly as permissible, in view of the prior art.

I claim:

1. A decalcomania transfer comprising a body built up of non-separable layers of translucent transfer ink, an identifying print on one of the intermediate ink layers, a final print on the top of said body, and an adhesive layer on the exterior surface of the bottom-most ink layer for fixing the said transfer on a surface.

2. A decalcomania transfer comprising a body made up of non-separable layers of translucent transfer ink, a final print on the top of said body, adhesive on one side of the body for fixing the transfer to a surface, and a print on one of the intermediate ink layers visible by transmitted light to identify the layer-built transfer.

3. A decalcomania transfer comprising a plurality of non-separable layers of translucent material, a final print on an outer layer, adhesive on one of the outer layers for fixing the transfer to a surface, and a print on an intermediate layer visible by transmitted light to identify the transfer.

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