Feb. 4, 1969 K. L. CHARBONNET 3,425,690

JUMPING HOOP TOY

Filed July 16, 1965

Fig. 1.

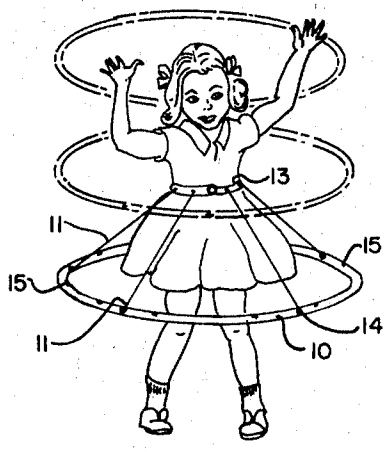


Fig. 2.

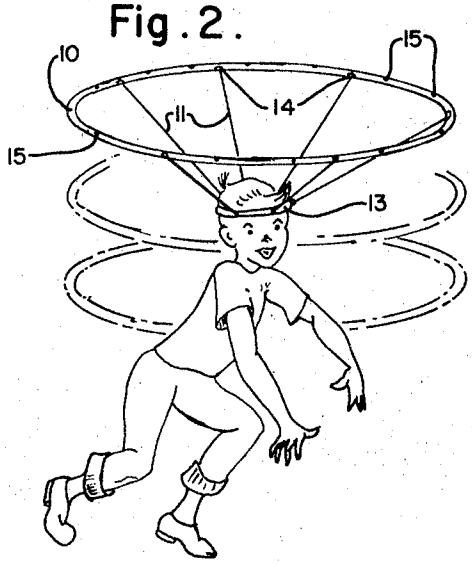


Fig. 3.

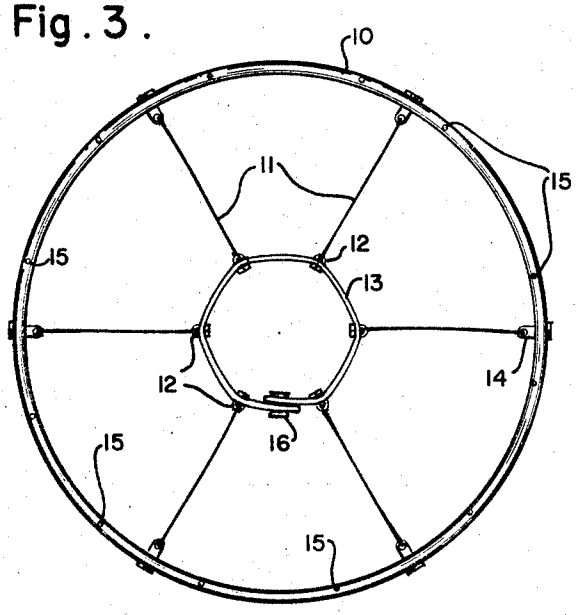


Fig. 4.

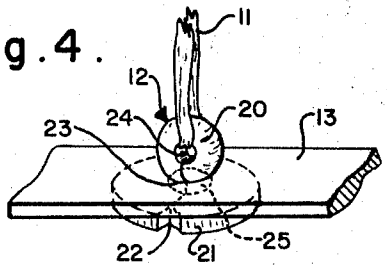


Fig. 5.

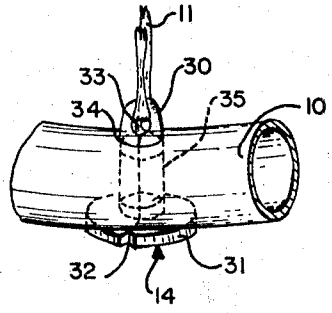
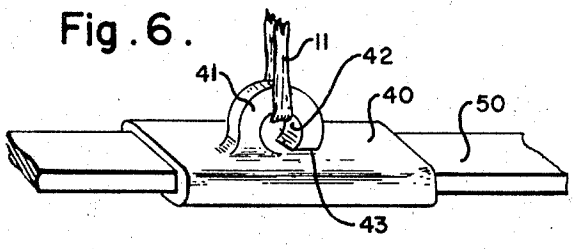


Fig. 6.



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JUMPING HOOP TOY

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U.S. Cl. 272—57 5 Claims
Int. Cl. A63b *19/00;* A63h *33/00*

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A toy device providing an adjustable belt to encircle the body of a user, a self supporting hoop surrounding and spaced from the belt and connected to the belt by radial elastic members at spaced intervals.

This invention relates to toys and particularly to a toy to be worn on a portion of the body such as the waist or head and which moves vertically and circumferentially about the body portion to which it is attached. The device provides exercise as well as amusement and is designed to provide a large amount of movement of the device with a small movement of the wearer's body.

In a preferred embodiment, I provide adjustable belt means adapted to encircle a portion of the body of a user, self supporting hoop means surrounding and spaced from the belt means and radial elastic members connecting the belt and hoop means at equally spaced intervals. Preferably, the radial elastic members are rubber and radiate like the spokes of a wheel from the belt means to the hoop means which is preferably of tubular plastic. Preferably, the belt means is rubber and of a fixed length when not under tension. The radial elastic members are attached to the belt means by fasteners which project through small holes equally spaced around the circumference of the belt means. The belt means adjusts for different sized users by stretching over its entire length, maintaining the equal spacing of the attachments of the radial elastic members. Preferably, the ends of the belt are held together by a button means which maintains the same elasticity of the belt means up to and including the coupling as in all other segments of the belt means. Preferably, the radial elastic means are connected to the hoop means by fasteners which project through radial holes equally spaced around the circumference of the hoop means.

In the foregoing general description, I have set out certain objects, purposes and advantages of my invention, which invention I have termed "Jump-A-Hoop." Other objects, purposes and advantages of this invention will be apparent from a consideration of the following description and the accompanying drawings in which,

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of the toy of this invention, the Jump-A-Hoop, worn about the waist of a child and indicating in chain line the movement of the toy;

FIGURE 2 is a perspective view of the toy of this invention, the Jump-A-Hoop, worn about the head of a child and indicating in chain line the movement of the toy;

FIGURE 3 is a plan view of the toy of this invention, the Jump-A-Hoop;

FIGURE 4 is an isometric view of the fastening means on the belt of the device of FIGURES 1–3;

FIGURE 5 is an isometric view of the fastening means on the hoop of the device of FIGURES 1–3; and

FIGURE 6 is an isometric view of a second embodiment of a fastening means between the radial elastic members and a belt means. This fastener is fashioned to slide on a nonelastic belt with a conventional buckle.

Referring to the drawings, I have illustrated a hoop **10** made of light weight material such as tubular plastic, aluminum or the like which is self supporting, i.e., retains its shape. Fasteners **14** inserted radially into holes **34** equally spaced around the circumference of the hoop **10** are connected to one end each of a plurality, preferably six, of radial elastic members **11**. The other ends of the radial elastic members **11** are connected to fasteners **12** adapted to protrude through holes **23** equally spaced around the circumference of the elastic belt **13** worn around a portion of the wearer's body such as waist (FIGURE 1) or head (FIGURE 2). The hoop fasteners **14** are solid molded plastic, a button like base **31** surmounted by a cylindrical shaft **35** ending in a round head **30** with a hole **33** in it. The hoop fastener **14** is split **32** through the button base **31** into the hole **33**. The belt fasteners **12** are solid molded plastic, a button like base **21** surmounted by a short cylindrical shaft **25** ending in a spherical head **20** with a hole **24** in it. The belt fastener **12** is split **22** through the button base **21** into the hole **24**. The elastic belt **13** is coupled by a button like attachment **16** and has holes **23** equally spaced around its circumference. The hoop **10** has radial holes **34** equally spaced around its circumference. Whistle holes **15** are equally spaced around the circumference of the hoop **10**.

When the wearer as in FIGURE 1 raises and lowers his waist rhythmically by jumping or bending his knees, the hoop **10** moves vertically alternately above and below the belt **13**. The elastic members permit this movement to enlarge as the wearer's movements increase as well as permitting circumferential movement of the hoop if the wearer rhythmically rotates his body in one direction and then the other. Small holes **15** drilled in the hoop **10** slightly off perpendicular to the plane of the hoop **10** give off a whistling sound when the hoop is in use. A similar movement is attained by the wearer having the belt on his head as in FIGURE 2.

In FIGURE 6, I have illustrated a second embodiment of the belt fastener. This fastener is one piece molded plastic and is used with a nonelastic belt with a conventional buckle. A sleeve **40** surrounds the belt **50**. A closed hook **41** surrounds hole **42**. Radial elastic member **11** is looped into hole **42** by raising closed hook at cut **43**.

It will be obvious that the hoop may be colored or may carry ribbons, spangles, whistling devices, bells or pinwheels all activated by its movement when in use.

In the foregoing specification, I have set out certain preferred embodiments of my invention. It will be understood, however, that this invention may be otherwise embodied within the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. A toy device comprising adjustable belt means adapted to encircle a portion of the body of a user, self supporting integral circular hoop means surrounding and spaced from belt means and radial elastic members connecting belt and hoop means at equally spaced intervals, said belt means adjusting to the size of the user by stretching in length, said hoop means being adjustably fastened to said belt thereby maintaining equal spacing of the radial elastic members attached to it.

2. A toy device comprising adjustable belt means adapted to encircle a portion of the body of a user, said belt means adjusting to the size of the user by stretching in length while maintaining equal spacing of radial elastic members attached to it, fastener means in equally spaced holes around the circumference of the belt means attached to one end of spaced radial elastic members, self supporting integral circular hoop means surrounding and spaced from belt means, fasteners in equally spaced radial holes in the circumference of hoop means attached to said radial elastic members and said radial elastic mem-

bers connecting belt and hoop means at said fasteners at equally spaced intervals.

3. A toy device as in claim 2 wherein said hoop is provided with whistle holes lying at an angle of a few degrees off perpendicular to the plane of the hoop.

4. A toy device as claimed in claim 2 wherein said belt fastener is a semi-rigid closed form surrounding the radial elastic member, the fastener protruding through a hole in the belt and having a joining of its closed ends only on the inside of the belt at the farthest point from the radial elastic member, said closed ends openable only when the fastener and the radial elastic member are drawn back out of the hole in the belt in the direction opposite to the pull of the elastic member.

5. A toy device as claimed in claim 2 wherein said hoop fastener is a semi-rigid closed form surrounding the radial elastic member, the fastener protruding through a radial hole in the hoop and having a joining of its closed ends only on the outside of the hoop at the farthest

point from the radial elastic member, said closed ends openable only when the fastener and the radial elastic member are drawn out of the hole in the hoop in the direction opposite from the pull of the elastic member.

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U.S. Cl. X.R.

46—1; 272—80