March 31, 1959 J. MILLER 2,879,777

HAIR CUTTING GUIDE

Filed Dec. 19, 1956

FIG. 1.

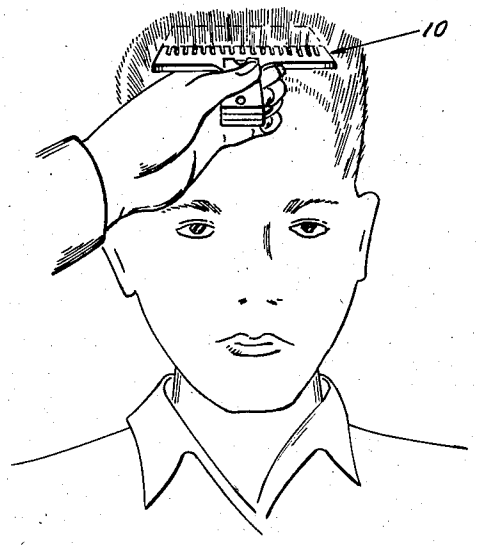



FIG. 2.

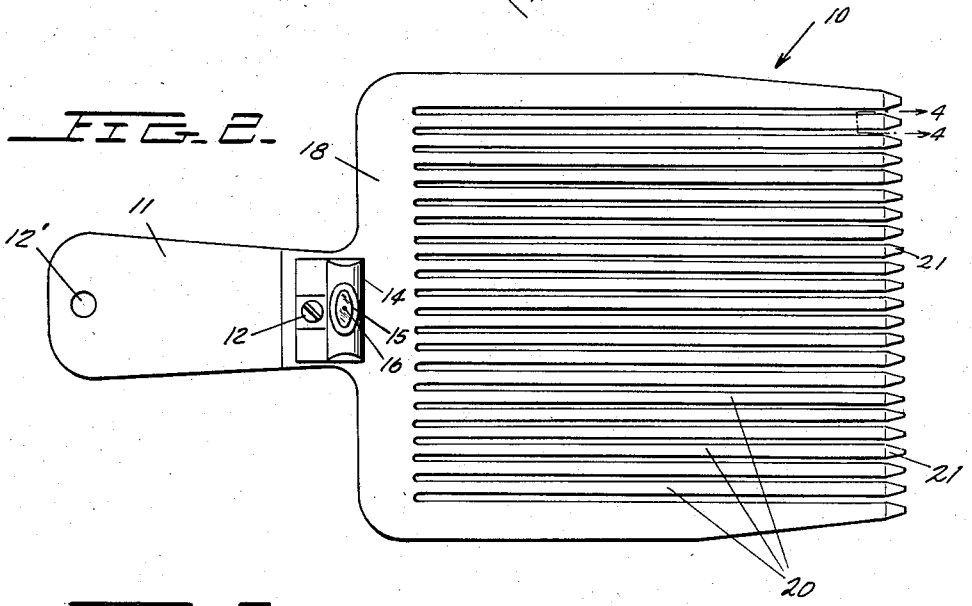



FIG. 3.

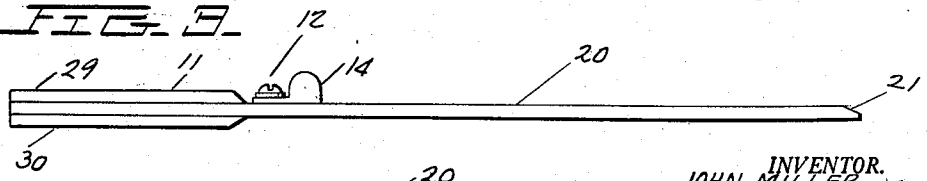
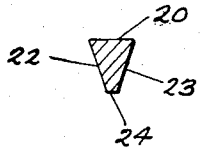



FIG. 4.




INVENTOR.
JOHN MILLER

BY Kirkland, Faber, Gerb & Soffen

ATTORNEYS

United States Patent Office 2,879,777 Patented Mar. 31, 1959



2,879,777

# HAIR CUTTING GUIDE

John Miller, Fallsington, Pa.

Application December 19, 1956, Serial No. 629,361

3 Claims. (Cl. 132—45)

This invention relates to a hair cutting guide and more particularly to a guide which will facilitate the level cutting of hair to produce crew cuts and other similar hair styles.

In cutting the hair to relatively short lengths it has heretofore been a problem for the barber or other person doing the hair cutting to perform the operation so that the haircut has a level appearance. This difficulty is due to the fact that the person whose hair is being cut does not always tend to hold his head level, so that it becomes a matter of great difficulty requiring extreme skill for the barber to make certain that the final haircut will have a level appearance.

In accordance with the present invention there is provided a device which will overcome this difficlty by providing a visual indication to the barber that the hair is being properly cut so that it will ultimately give a very level appearance. The present invention further provides a guide means for the clippers, scissors or other cutting instrument so that by following such guide a level cut is automatically provided. Thus, the operation may be done more quickly, efficiently, and at the same time, more accurately.

Accordingly, it is one object of this invention to provide a hair cutting guide particularly suitable for crew cuts which will give a visual indication that the top of the hair is being cut on a level.

Another object is to provide a comb-like guide which may be readily inserted into the hair and over which the cutting instrument may be moved so as to result in a level crew cut.

Still another object is to provide a hair cutting guide having a comb-like construction in which the teeth are designed to readily facilitate the hair cutting operation.

These and other objects will become more apparent from the accompanying description and from the drawings in which:

Figure 1 is illustrative of the hair cutting operation using the novel guide of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a top view of the hair cutting guide herein disclosed and claimed.

Figure 3 is an elevation view of the guide shown in Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a cross-section of one of the teeth of the comb in the cutting guide illustrated by taking a section of 4—4 as indicated in Figure 2 and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Essentially, the present invention comprises a hair cutting guide which includes a comb-like body and gripping means therefor. The gripping means may be a part of the comb-like body or, in a preferred embodiment, comprise a handle integral with the said comb-like body. In such an embodiment the teeth of the comb-like body will run longitudinally with respect to the handle. The guide has secured to the normally upper surface thereof a level indicating means which preferably comprises a liquid level indicator transverse to the teeth of the comb-like body. This allows the barber or operator to immediately determine that the hair is being cut so that the top thereof will have a level appearance.



The teeth of the comb-like body of the present device are particularly designed to facilitate the operation herein contemplated. Thus, they are made readily insertible into the hair by having a tapered cross-section wherein the wider edge of the tooth cross-section is substantially flat and integral with the normally upper surface of the guide, while the lower edge has a pointed construction. Moreover, the free ends of the teeth are beveled on the upper surface so that the device is easily inserted into the body of hair.

The sides of the teeth of the comb-like portion of the present device are tapered and may be either linear or curved. A preferred construction is that wherein the teeth have a trapezoidal cross-section in which the sides of the teeth are tapered at an angle of from 45° to 60° with respect to the upper surface of the guide. The lower tooth surface may approach a point, i.e. the trapezoidal cross-section may approach one of triangular cross-section, such that the said surface may be as little as 1/64 of an inch in width. The teeth are spaced further apart in the normal hair comb and in a preferred construction there would be about 4 to 6 teeth per inch. The space between the teeth would be smallest at the upper surface of the guide, and at that point would constitute only about 1/4 to 1/2 the width of each tooth. Thus, in a specific embodiment the teeth would be 1/10 to 1/8 of an inch wide at the upper level of the guide, while the spacing between teeth at this point would be about .05 inch.

The sides of the teeth could be cut or machined by known methods and typically could be made with a 24 pitch No. 1 involute gear cutter. Thus, the sides could have either a curved or linear cross-section, and the term trapezoidal as herein used is intended to include both constructions.

The cutting guide of the present invention may be made of any suitable material of construction such as a wrought aluminum alloy, a copper aluminum alloy, other metals or plastics well known to the art.

Referring now to the drawings in more detail, it can be seen in Figure 1 that the guide generally designated as **10** will be inserted into the hair from the front to the rear of the head. With the level indicator facing upward the barber is immediately able to determine whether a level cut is being obtained. This is particularly important in the case of crew cuts where the essential feature of the styling requires a level top surface for the cut. There appears to be less difficulty in having the person whose hair is being cut adjust his head so that a longitudinal level is maintained, although through the use of the present device this can also be determined simply by turning the cutting guide at the right angles of the position indicated in Figure 1.

In Figure 2 the details of the guide can be more readily seen. Looking at the normally upper surface thereof the guide comprises a handle **11** which may contain a suitable opening **12'** for hanging the same, and, secured thereto by screw **12** or other suitable joining means, a liquid level indicator **14**. The level indicator is of a type well known to the art having an opening **15** through which a bubble **16** is visible so that it is easy to determine that when the bubble is centrally located with respect to opening **15** proper leveling is being obtained. The guide also includes a comb-like portion generally designated as **18** having a plurality of teeth **20**. The teeth are preferably tapered or beveled near the free ends thereof at **21** so that when inserted into the hair as shown in Figure 1 they will tend to force the hair upward and make the insertion of this device a relatively simple procedure. The upper surface of the teeth **20** which is visible on Figure 2 is more clearly apparent from Figure 4. The

sides of the teeth **22** and **23** are tapered and terminate in a bottom relatively narrow surface **24** which, as previously indicated, may be as narrow as 1/64 of an inch. The cross-section shown in Figure 4 shows a construction having relatively straight sides, although these sides may also be of a curved nature. The trapezoidal construction is apparent from the fact that edges **21** and **24** are substantially parallel.

Another feature which becomes apparent from an inspection of Figure 3 is that the tapered section **21** of the teeth is at a relatively small angle and will typically be about 30° with respect to the horizontal. The handle section may comprise either a single integral piece or as shown in Figure 3 comprise a pair of cut metallic pieces **29** and **30** which have been secured to the main body of the guide forming the teeth **20**.

In the foregoing, I have described my invention only in connection with preferred embodiments thereof. Many variations and modifications of the principles of my invention within the scope of the description herein are obvious. Accordingly, I prefer to be bound not by the specific disclosure herein, but only by the appending claims.

I claim:

1. A hair cutting comprising a body with spaced parallel teeth extending therefrom, gripping means therefor,



said teeth having a tapered cross section, the upper surfaces of said teeth being substantially flat and of a width greater than the spaces between adjacent teeth, said teeth becoming narrower toward the under side of said body, and further being downwardly tapered at the free ends thereof so as to make them readily insertible into the hair, the upper surface of said body having secured thereto a transversely-extending liquid level indicator so that the guide may be maintained on a transverse level when inserted into the hair.

2. The hair cutting guide of claim 1 in which the teeth are of a trapezoidal cross-section.

3. The hair cutting guide of claim 2 in which the sides of the teeth are tapered at an angle of from 45° to 60° with respect to the upper surface of the guide.

**References Cited** in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 567,910 | Mathews | Sept. 15, 1896 |
| 1,633,893 | Hymer | June 28, 1927 |
| 2,325,246 | Halen | July 27, 1943 |
| 2,778,366 | Richmond | Jan. 22, 1957 |
| 2,786,477 | Cohen | Mar. 26, 1957 |

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

# CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Patent No. 2,879,777 March 31, 1959

John Miller

It is hereby certified that error appears in the printed specification of the above numbered patent requiring correction and that the said Letters Patent should read as corrected below.

Column 3, line 24, after "cutting" insert -- guide --.

Signed and sealed this 28th day of July 1959.

(SEAL)

Attest:

KARL H. AXLINE
Attesting Officer

ROBERT C. WATSON
Commissioner of Patents