

June 8, 1971

C. C. CONKLIN, JR

3,583,019

DISPOSABLE TOOTH CLEANER

Filed Sept. 12, 1968

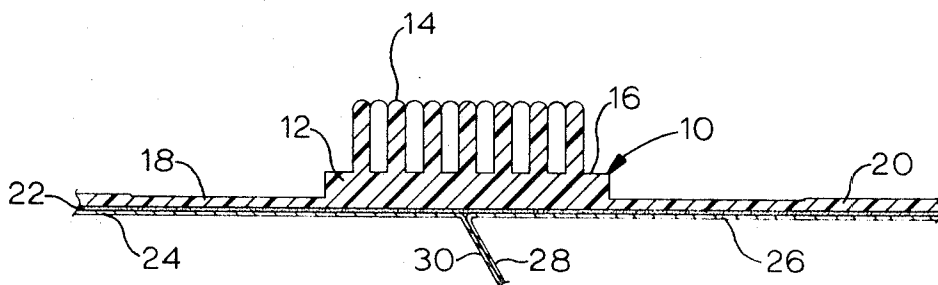


FIG. 4

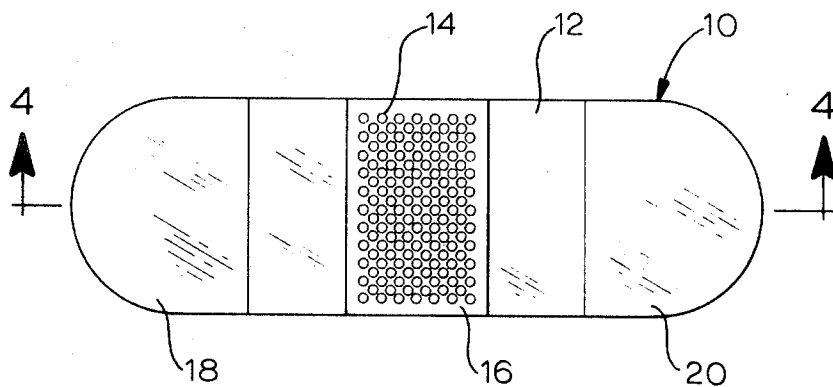


FIG. 1

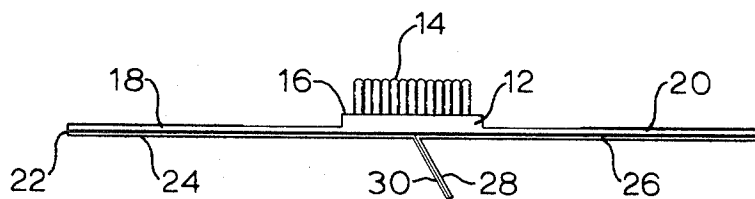


FIG. 2

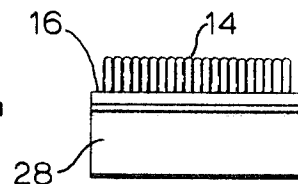


FIG. 3

INVENTOR.
CARROLL CONKLIN JR.

BY

Schmieding & Sultz

ATTORNEYS

1

3,583,019

DISPOSABLE TOOTH CLEANER
Carroll C. Conklin, Jr., 722 S. Prospect St.,
Marion, Ohio 43302

Filed Sept. 12, 1968, Ser. No. 759,400

Int. Cl. A46b 1/00

U.S. Cl. 15—167

1 Claim

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A disposable tooth cleaner of the type that includes pressure sensitive adhesive backing for securing the device to the finger of the user. The device includes integrally molded component portions of synthetic resinous material that uniquely include a central platform portion that provides a semi-rigid base for integral tooth engaging projections, thereby maintaining their desired upstanding orientation, said platform portion also serving as a relatively strong junction between said projections and integral oppositely extending strip portions used to secure the device to the user's fingers.

This invention relates to disposable tooth cleaners, and more particularly to devices of this character which include pressure sensitive adhesive backing securing the tooth cleaner to the finger of the user.

In general, as one aspect of the present invention the present tooth cleaner comprises integrally molded component portions of synthetic resinous material that uniquely include a central platform portion that provides a semi-rigid base for integral tooth engaging projections, thereby maintaining their desired upstanding orientation, said platform portion also serving as a relatively strong junction between said projections and integral oppositely extending strip portions used to secure the device to the user's fingers.

As another aspect of the present invention the tooth cleaner of the present invention is uniquely designed and adapted to consist of integrally formed component portions of synthetic resinous material that can be molded as a unit, thereby providing unusual economics in material and fabrication costs.

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide an improved disposable tooth cleaner the components of which are uniquely arranged so as to be formable as a unit wherein said components are strongly secured together at their respective junctions.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a disposable tooth cleaner that includes relatively flexible tooth engaging projections that are integrally mounted on a less flexible platform portion, the latter serving to maintain proper upstanding orientation of the former.

It is still another object of the present invention to provide a disposable tooth cleaner that consists of component portions uniquely adapted to be integrally molded as an integral unit thereby eliminating expensive assembly costs during fabrication of the devices.

Further objects and advantages of the present invention will be apparent from the following description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings wherein a preferred form of embodiment of the invention is clearly shown.

In the drawings:

FIG. 1 is a top elevational view of the disposable tooth cleaner of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a side elevational view of the disposable tooth cleaner of the present invention;

2

FIG. 3 is an end elevational view of the disposable tooth cleaner of the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a side sectional view of the disposable tooth cleaner of the present invention, the section being taken along the line 4—4 of FIG. 1.

Referring in detail to the drawings the disposable tooth cleaner of the present invention comprises a body portion 12 formed of integrally molded components of synthetic resinous material such as ethylvinylacetate or the like, which assembly include a central platform portion 12, spaced projections 14 extending upwardly from an upper surface 16 of said platform portion, and outwardly extending strip portions 18 and 20.

The device further includes a layer of pressure sensitive adhesive 22 applied to the undersurface of strip portions 18 and 20, and protective covering means preferably formed by two sections 24 and 26 joined at central pull tab positions 28 and 30.

The sections 24 and 26 are preferably formed of cloth, paper, cellophane, polyethylene, or the like.

It should be pointed out that central platform portion 12 is relatively thick, as compared to the integral strip portions 18 and 20 so as to be relatively inflexible as compared to said strips whereby it will maintain said protrusions 14 in substantially upright disposition, with respect to platform portion 12, when the thinner and relatively flexible strips 18 and 20 are stretched into curved, adhered relationship with the user's finger.

Also, it should be pointed out that the relatively thick central platform portion 12 forms a thick and relatively strong junction between the projections 14 and strip portion 18 and 20 whereby the projections are firmly retained to the strips during vigorous use of the device.

As another structural feature the lower surface of central platform portion 12 is co-planar with the lower surfaces of strip portions 18 and 20 which serves to expose substantially all of the adhesive bearing undersurfaces of strip portions 18 and 20 to contact with the user's fingers, as well as providing for a continuous co-planar undersurface for the assembly for ease in application of the adhesive layer 22.

I claim:

1. A disposable toothbrush comprising a molded one piece integrally formed strip of plastic material including a centrally disposed base portion having a plurality of bristles emanating from the surface thereof, said base portion being thicker than the strip and adding rigidity thereto and serving as a strong junction between the bristles and the strips for maintaining the bristles in an upstanding orientation during the cleaning operation, pressure sensitive adhesive on the other side of the strip, and a removable protective cover on said adhesive whereby upon removal of the same the strip is wrapped transversely around the user's finger and held in place by the adhesive.

References Cited

UNITED STATES PATENTS

1,965,009	7/1934	Stevens	15—227UX
3,298,507	1/1967	Micciche	15—227X
3,354,491	11/1967	Schlegel, Jr.	15—227X
2,686,325	8/1954	Silver	15—227X
2,915,767	12/1959	Vaughan	15—227X
3,070,102	12/1962	MacDonald	15—227X

PETER FELDMAN, Primary Examiner

U.S. Cl. X.R.

15—187, 227