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The present invention relates to improvements in oil drip catchers for use under automobiles or other machinery.

Conventional oil drip pans have been used on garage floors and automobile show rooms but after a short time in use they become unsightly and require cleaning due to the appearance of oil on them. If a paper or cardboard lining is provided for the oil drip pan the appearance of oil spots on the lining is ordinarily likewise objectionable.

An important object of the present invention is to provide an oil drip catcher which is tidy and attractive during use and which is readily cleanable.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a lining or pad for an oil drip pan which conducts drippings to the bottom of the pan and maintains a clean appearance on top.

A further object of the invention is to provide an oil drip catcher which is not liable to become damaged or to cause damage to an automobile or to spill oil on the floor if the catcher is accidentally run over.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent during the course of the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification and in which drawing,

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of the oil drip catcher.
Fig. 2 is a central vertical cross sectional view of the oil drip catcher on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of a blank sheet of metal preferably used in making the pan forming a part of the oil drip catcher.

In the drawing which for the purpose of illustration shows only a preferred embodiment of the invention and wherein similar reference characters denote corresponding parts throughout the views, the numeral 10 generally designates the oil drip catcher comprising a shallow rectangular sheet metal pan 11 and a lining consisting of a thin flat rectangular pad 12 of matted metal fibers.

The pan 11 preferably is formed from a rectangular blank 13 of sheet metal having its corners cut off along diagonal edges 14. This blank 13 may have delineations 15—18 defining marginal edge portions 19—22 that are turned relative to the central main body or pan base portion 23 of the blank 13 to provide a peripheral rim 24 for the pan 11. The uniformly thin flat pad 12 of matted metal fibers forms a lining covering the base or bottom 23 of the pan and is held in place by the upwardly and inwardly folded rim 24 which firmly engages the marginal edges of the pad 12.

In use under a car, oil drippings falling on the pad 12 tend to dissipate from the top of the pad due to the ability of the metal fibers to conduct drippings to the bottom of the pad by capillary action thus leaving the top clean appearing.

Should a car wheel accidentally run over the rim of the oil drip catcher the edges of the pad 12 which are under

the folded marginal portions 19—22 of the sheet metal blank 13 will tend to resist flattening of the rim 24. Inasmuch as the oil drippings caught by the pan are dispersed by the matted metal fibers of the pad, the contents of the pan will not tend to spill or run out even if the pan is tilted or used on an inclined surface.

The oil drip catcher 10 may be cleaned as a unit whenever necessary by sudsing with a detergent and flushing with a hose.

Various changes may be made in the form of invention herein shown and described without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. A garage floor covering and protecting oil drip catcher comprising a shallow pan having a flat bottom and non-absorbent means catching and conducting oil drips into concealed location at the bottom of the pan thus maintaining a clean appearance on top comprising a thin flat pad of matted metal fibers covering and contacting the bottom of the pan.

2. A garage floor covering and protecting oil drip catcher comprising a shallow sheet metal pan having a flat bottom and an upwardly and inwardly turned peripheral rim, and non-absorbent means catching and conducting oil drips into concealed location at the bottom of the pan thus maintaining a clean appearance on top comprising a thin flat pad of matted metal fibers covering and contacting the bottom of the pan and having its marginal edges extending under the rim of the pan.

3. A garage floor covering and protecting oil drip catcher comprising a shallow rectangular sheet metal pan having a flat main body portion forming a base and upwardly and inwardly turned marginal edge portions forming a peripheral rim, and non-absorbent means catching and conducting oil drips into concealed location at the bottom of the pan thus maintaining a clean appearance on top comprising a thin flat pad of matted metal fibers covering and contacting the base of the pan and having its marginal edges clamped between the rim and pan base.

4. A garage floor covering and protecting oil drip catcher comprising a metal sheet having a flat rectangular main body portion forming a base and upwardly and inwardly turned marginal edge portions forming a rim, and non-absorbent means catching and conducting oil drips into concealed location at the bottom of the pan thus maintaining a clean appearance on top comprising a thin flat rectangular pad of matted metal fibers covering and contacting the base and having marginal edge portions extending under the rim, said rim engaging the marginal edge portions of the pan and holding the sheet and pad in assembled relation.

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