United States Patent

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[54] **DISPLAY PACKAGE FOR MIRRORS AND THE LIKE**
2 Claims, 9 Drawing Figs.

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **206/62,** 206/79
[51] **Int. Cl.** **B65d 85/48**
[50] **Field of Search** ..... 206/79, 78 B, 62; 229/87

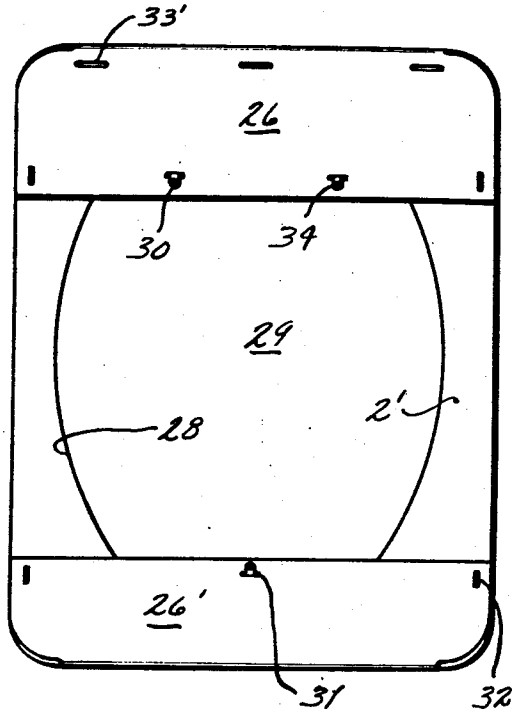
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ABSTRACT: A display package for a flat article, such as, a mirror, picture, decorative panel, and the like, which package is constructed from a single blank of sheet material having a central panel and a pair of foldable, opposed end panels. The central panel is provided with an opening for receiving the particular article; said end panels being adapted for disposition against the rear face of the article and detachably secured thereto.



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SHEET 1 OF 2

FIG. 1

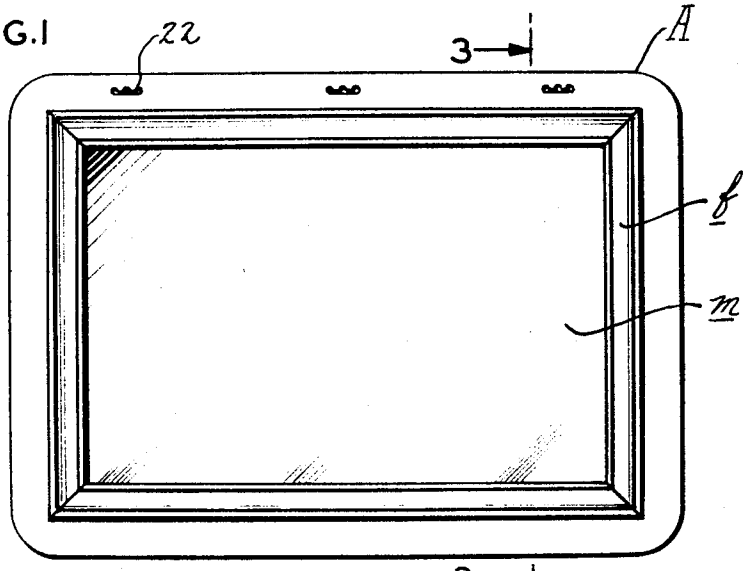


FIG. 3

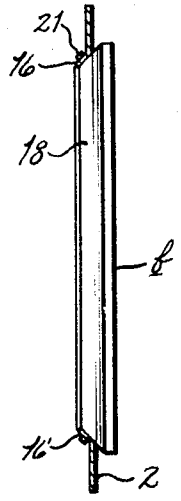


FIG. 5

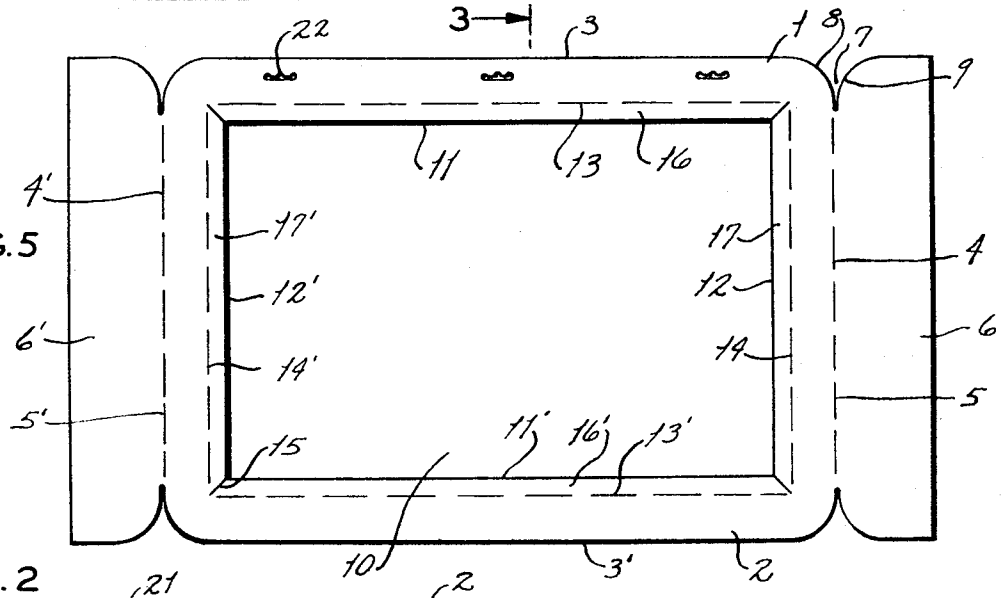


FIG. 2

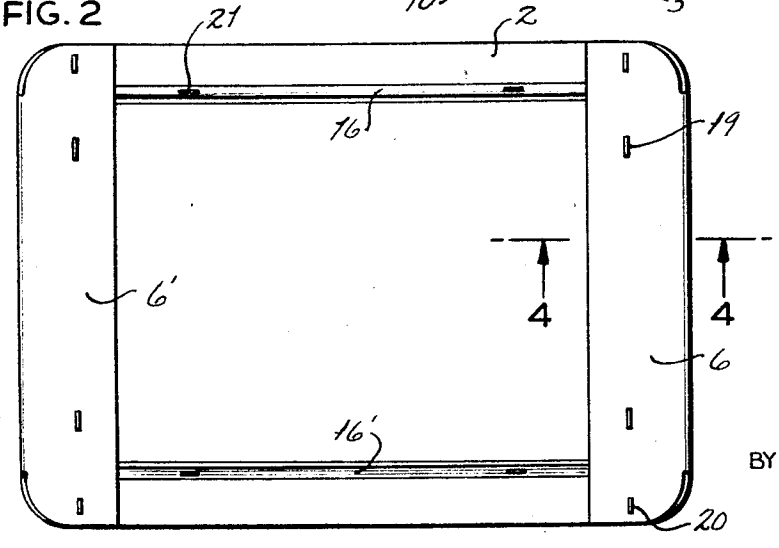
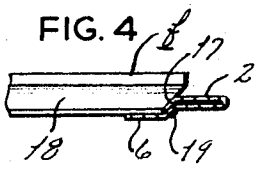


FIG. 4



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FIG. 6

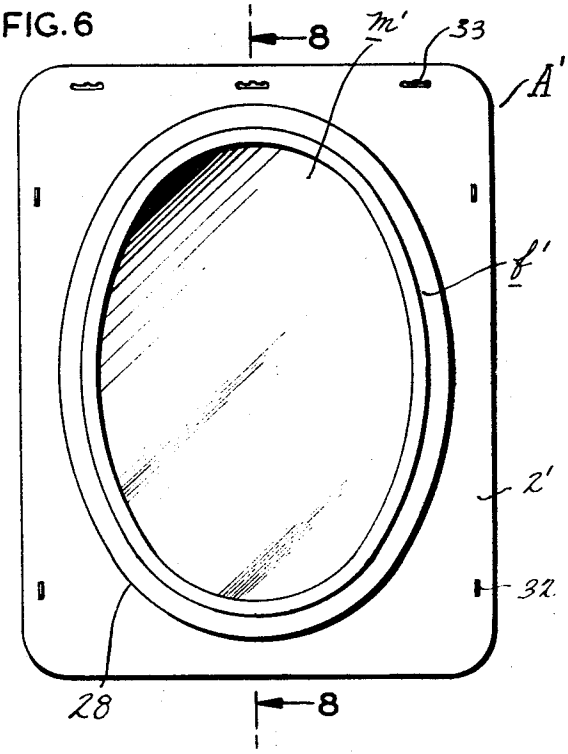


FIG. 7

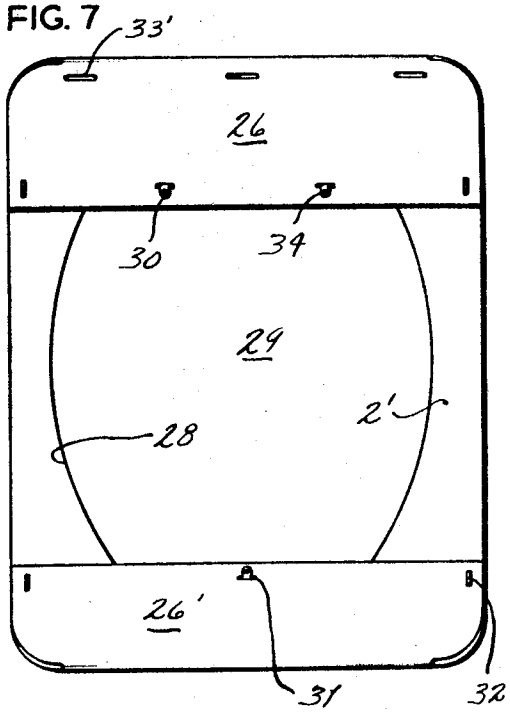


FIG. 9

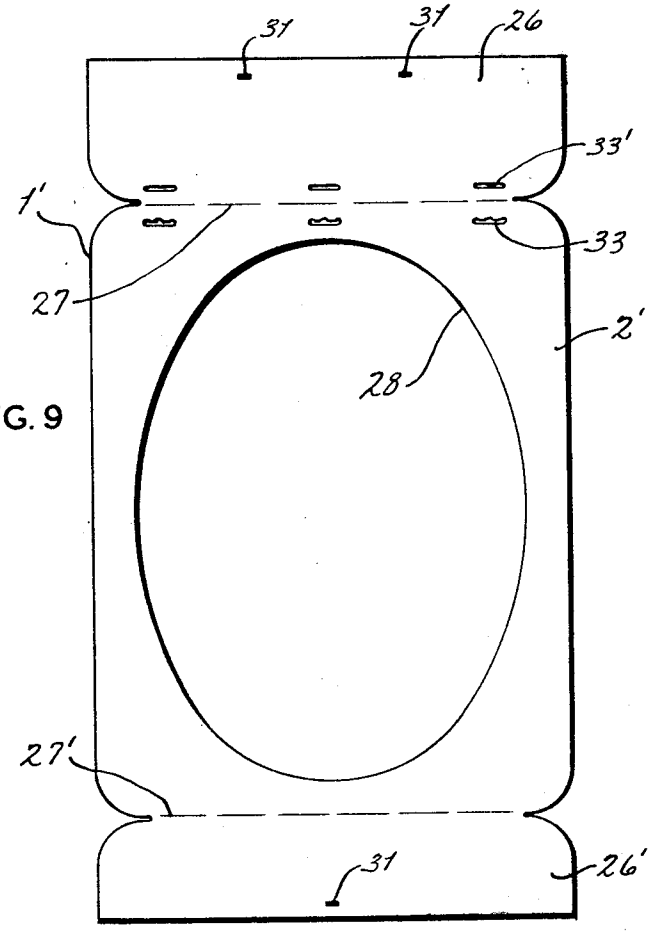
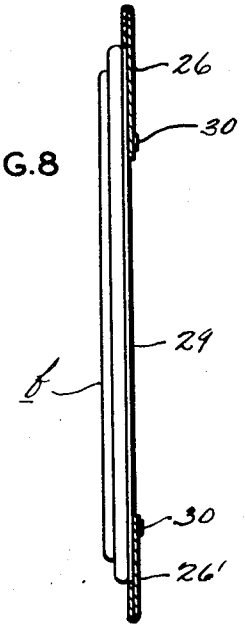


FIG. 8



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DISPLAY PACKAGE FOR MIRRORS AND THE LIKE

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to packaging, and more particularly, to a display package for a flat article and being adapted for facilitating handling of the article, as on store premises and during transport.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a display package which is adapted to receive a flat article, such as a mirror, picture, decorative panel, or the like; said package being constructed from a single blank of sheet material so as to conduce to expeditious, high volume production.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a display package of the type stated which permits of exposure of the entire forward or front face of the article so that the same may be fully inspected by a purchaser without removing same from the package.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a display package of the type stated which incorporates integral components securable to the retained article for maintaining same within the package; which components are not visible from the front of the package.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a display package of the type stated which incorporates various types of means for securement to the retained article, but which means may be affixed or withdrawn with equal facility.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a display package of the type stated which may be most economically manufactured; which provides a protective border to the retained article; and which permits of suspension from a suitable wall bracket to enhance the exhibition of the retained article; and which is durable and reliable in usage.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a front elevational view of a display package constructed in accordance with and embodying the present invention, illustrating same in operative condition with a retained mirror.

FIG. 2 is a rear view of the package as shown in FIGURE 1.

FIG. 3 is a vertical transverse sectional view taken on the line 3–3 of FIG. 1.

FIG. 4 is a horizontal transverse sectional view taken on the line 4–4 of FIG. 2.

FIG. 5 is a front view of the package in inoperative, open condition.

FIG. 6 is a front elevational view of another form of display package constructed in accordance with and embodying the present invention, illustrating the same in operative condition with a mirror retained therein.

FIG. 7 is a rear view of the package shown in FIG. 6.

FIG. 8 is a vertical transverse sectional view taken on the line 8–8 of FIG. 6.

FIG. 9 is a front view of the display package in inoperative condition, being fully opened.

DESCRIPTION OF PRACTICAL EMBODIMENTS

In essence, the present invention constitutes a package formed from a single blank of sheet material and having a main panel portion with an enlarged opening suitably dimensioned and contoured for receiving a particular flat article, such as, a mirror, picture, decorative tile, and the like. The blank incorporates end flaps foldable through an angle of substantially 180° for disposition against the rear face of the retained article and with means for detachably affixing said end panels to the rear face of the article. Recognizedly, the present invention is adaptable for use with myriad types of flat articles when one takes into consideration the multiplicity of frame designs which may be used therewith. The instant invention, in appearance, will provide an enclosing border for the retained article, and the following merely demonstrates the adaptability of the said invention for use with but two types of framed, flat articles. Thus, the descriptions hereinbelow merely serve to exemplify the versatility of the present invention.

Referring now by reference characters to the drawings which illustrate practical embodiments of the present invention, A generally designates a display package formed from a single blank 1 of sheet material, such as, preferably, corrugated paper, kraftboard, and the like, of approximately one-eighth inch to one-fourth inch in thickness. Blank 1 comprises a central or main panel 2 which may be of any desired configuration but is illustrated herein as being quadrilateral, having parallel side margins 3,3' and opposed end margins 4,4'; the latter being coincident with a fold line 5,5', respectively, for establishing the demarcation between the central panel and end panels 6,6', respectively. Said end panels 6,6' are of like height as central panel 2, but are of relatively limited transverse extent; being adapted for swingable movement about the respective fold lines 5,5' from planar aligned condition with panel 2 to substantially flatwise disposition on the rear face thereof (see FIG. 2); being thus swingable through an arc of substantially 180°. At opposite ends of fold lines 5,5', as at 7, blank 1 may be cut away in order to provide rounded corners, as at 8, to panel 2 with registering arcuate portions 9 on end panels 6,6' for enhancing the ornamental appearance of package A.

Panel 2 is provided with an enlarged central opening 10, the size and contour of which is dictated by the character of the particular article to be retained by package A. In the embodiment being described, the opening 10 is of four-sided character, having parallel side margins 11,11' and parallel end margins 12,12'. It will be seen that by reason of the relative size of opening 10 the remaining portion of panel 2 is of a general frame or border-forming character for surrounding the particular article contained within package A. Outwardly of each margin 11,11', 12,12' of opening 10, there is provided a parallel scored, or fold line, 13,13', 14,14', respectively; the said margins and related fold lines being connected at their ends by virtue of diagonal cutting lines, as at 15, whereby there is developed in each marginal portion of opening 10 a bendable flap, as indicated at 16,16', 17,17'. The lesser dimension of the aforesaid flaps, being the distance between the related inner margin of opening 10 and the respective fold line, may be of any desired extent, as will be evident more fully hereinbelow; but in the present example is relatively less than the adjacent border-defining portion of panel 2.

Package A, as above described, has been designed and constructed to receive a rectangular mirror *m* enclosed within a frame *f*, the side faces of which latter are beveled, as at 18, (see FIG. 3). It is apparent that frame *f* is of a conventional, well-known character. With an article, such as the aforesaid framed mirror, opening 10 is normally of less area than the rear face of said mirror, and with the area being bounded by the fold lines 13,13', 14,14' being greater than the area of the rear face of said mirror but less than that defined by the outer portions of frame *f*.

Accordingly, in usage, mirror *m* will be inserted into opening 10 through what is to be considered the forward face of blank 1 (as the same may carry decorative or informational printed material thereon). By such insertion, the beveled side faces 18 of mirror frame *f* will engage flaps 16,16', 17,17', and cause same to be folded inwardly; with the limit of inward movement of mirror frame *f* determined by the relative dimensions of the area bounded by said flaps so that a portion of said frame *f* will project forwardly of the plane of panel 2 (see FIG. 3). With said mirror *m* so received within opening 10 end flaps 6,6' are swung rearwardly into overlying relationship with respect to the adjacent end portions of panel 2 and the rear face of mirror *m*. It will be noted that end panels 6,6' are of such transverse extent so as to overlie a portion of opening 10 when in rearwardly swung position. As so disposed, end panels 6,6' are substantially flatwise and thereupon the user will secure the folded flaps to both the rearward face of mirror *m* by staples, as at 19, and to the overlying portions of panel 2 by

similar staples **20**. Additionally, flaps **16,16'**, **17,17'** may be secured to the beveled side faces of frame *f* by staples, as indicated at **21**.

Other types of securing means, such as, adhesives, might be utilized for completing the formation of package A. In this condition, it will be seen that end panels **6,6'** reinforce the end portions of package A while assisting in stabilizing the received article, mirror *m* in this case, in position, as well as providing a shield or protector against damaging contact with a similar package placed against the rear face of package A or stacked thereon, such as might be encountered in storage or display areas.

Panel **2** along one marginal portion may be provided with spaced openings **22** for extension therethrough of wall brackets (not shown) for suspension of package A thereby. Panel **2** also presents a ready means for manipulating or handling mirror *m* without touching same so that facile transport thereof and the like may be effected. The novel configuration of package A permits of full exposure of the article for display purposes so that a customer's inspection may be achieved without disruption of the protection accorded by the fully formed blank **1**.

FIGS. **6—9**, inclusive, disclose another form of the package of the present invention, being indicated at A'; the same being constructed from a single blank **1'**, having a central panel **2'** of general rectangular character with end panels **26,26'** being engaged to opposite ends of central panel **2'** along fold lines **27,27'**; said elements being of like character as the corresponding elements of package A hereinabove described. Central panel **2'** is provided with an ovate opening **28** being contoured for snugly receiving an article of corresponding contour; in this instance, the same being a oval mirror *m'* received within a frame *f'* of like configuration but wherein the rear face of mirror *m'* and frame *f'* are coplanar, as indicated at **29**, (see FIG. 7). In this form of the invention the article to be retained, mirror *m'*, is of like area and dimension as opening **28** so that the same will fit snugly therein. Opening **28** is devoid of any marginal flaps as provided in package A above set forth.

Mounted upon the rear face **29** of mirror *m'* adjacent its upper and lower ends is a plurality of bendable tabs or fingers **30** projecting from the plane of rear face **29** and being deformable for projection parallel with, or toward, said rear face **29**.

End flaps **26,26'** in their free end marginal zones are provided with slotlike apertures **31** for registration with the proximate tabs **30** of mirror *m'* when said end panels **26,26'** are folded rearwardly into package-forming position. Thus, said tabs **30** will extend through the related aperture **31** and with the projecting portion of said tabs **30** being then bent downwardly toward the plane of the respective panel or rearward face **29** so as to secure said panels **26,26'** in operative position.

With said panels **26,26'** being in package-forming relationship, the side portions thereof may be secured to the confronting portion of central panel **2** by any suitable means, such as, staples **32**, which latter serve to enhance the stability of end panels **26,26'** in operative position.

Central panel **2'** and the normally upper end panel **26** are provided with alignable openings **33, 33'** for receiving suspension brackets, if desired, for display of package A.

In view of the foregoing, it will be seen that packages A and A' illustrate two forms of the present invention for demonstrating the versatility thereof and the potential of this invention for use with flat articles of myriad design and construction.

With the article *m'* supported in package A' it will be seen that tabs or fingers **30** also serve as means for supporting the article in its intended position of use as tabs **30** may be provided with openings **34** for extension therethrough of wire or other like suspension means. In this connection tabs **30** are uniquely contrived to serve a double function, that is, for conducing to closure of package A' as well as for permanent utilitarian purposes.

Having described our invention, what we claim and desire to obtain by Letters Patent is:

1. A package for flat article, said package being formed from a blank of sheet material and comprising a central panel, a pair of end panels, there being a fold line between said end panels and the proximate margin of said central panel for allowing swingability of said end panels from coplanar disposition with respect to said central panel to flatwise disposition on the rear face thereof, said central panel having an opening of an area and configuration commensurate with the article to be received, each end panel having its dimension normal to the fold line being less than one-half the corresponding dimension of said central panel so that when said end panels are in folded condition the same will be mutually spaced apart and overlie adjacent end portions of the article to be received, a plurality of deformable tabs mounted on the rear face of said flat article, said end panels having openings for registration with said deformable tabs when said end panels are in overlying relationship with said flat article, and staple means securing said end panel to said end panels when the latter are in folded condition.

2. A package for a flat article, said package being formed from a blank of sheet material and comprising a central panel, a pair of end panels, there being a fold line between said end panels and the proximate margin of said central panel for allowing swingability of said end panels from coplanar disposition with respect to said central panel to flatwise disposition on the rear face thereof, said central panel having an opening of an area and configuration commensurate with the article to be received, each end panel having its dimension normal to the fold line being less than one-half the corresponding dimension of said central panel so that when said end panels are in folded condition the same will be mutually spaced apart and overlie adjacent end portions of the article to be received, first means securing said end panels to the rearward face of said article when the latter is disposed within said opening, and second means securing said end panels to said central panel in portions thereof confronting said end panels when the latter are in folded condition, flap members being provided along marginal portions of said opening for abutting edge portions of the article retained and staples for engaging said flaps to the adjacent portions of said article.