June 4, 1974 H. ROSENBAUM Re. 28,036

BASEBALL GLOVE

Original Filed July 15, 1968

FIG. 1

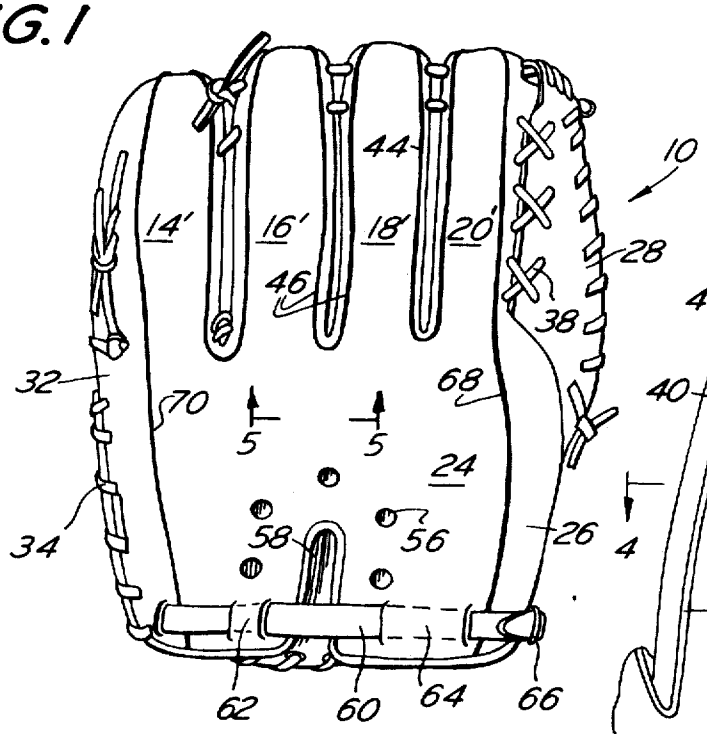


FIG. 3

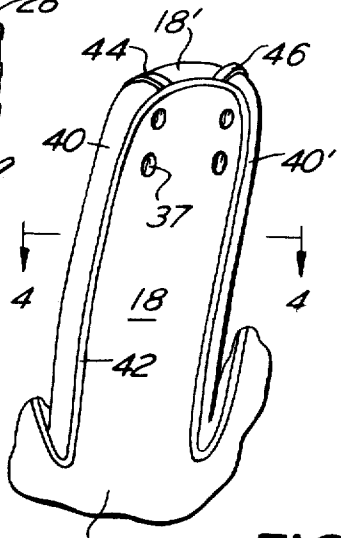
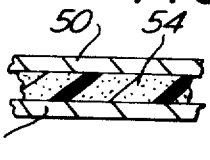


FIG. 5



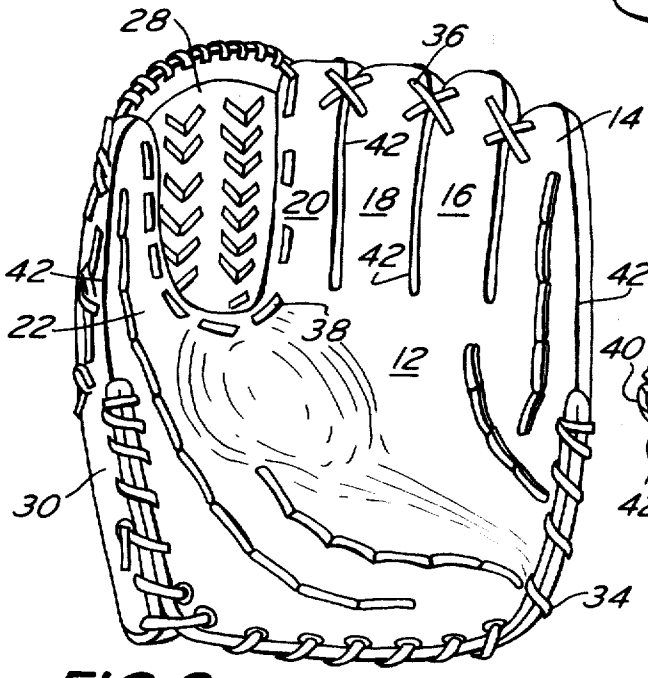


FIG. 2

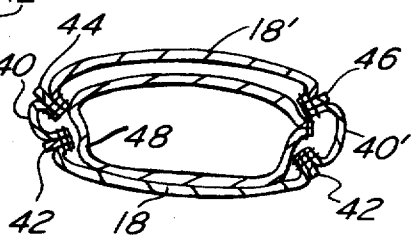


FIG. 4

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BASEBALL GLOVE

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Int. Cl. A41d *13/08*
U.S. Cl. 2—19 10 Claims

Matter enclosed in heavy brackets [ ] appears in the original patent but forms no part of this reissue specification; matter printed in italics indicates the additions made by reissue.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A baseball infielder's glove is disclosed having a one-piece back notched for adjustment. The construction of the back facilitates the provision of a better pocket, prevents slipping of the glove off the player's hand, enables welts along the finger positions to be eliminated, while providing for maximum safety against spiking the back of the player's hand.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

It has been conventional for many years to make a baseball infielder's glove with a substantial opening in the back with an adjustable strap across the bottom. The opening provides for ventilation and facilitates the ease of adjustment whereby a glove may be more universally utilized by players having different sized hands. I have found that many advantages can be provided if the back were made of one piece as opposed to conventional gloves presently utilized wherein the back is formed of a plurality of separate strips stitched together generally along the center of the finger positions. When a one-piece back is used, there are problems presented in that ventilation must be provided for and the glove back must still be adjustable.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with the present invention, a one-piece back is provided so as to prevent slipping of the glove off the player's hand, and provide maximum safety against spiking the back of the player's hand. Adjustment is facilitated by means of a notch along the lower edge of the back and by utilizing a separate strap which forms no part of the back. When the back is constructed in this manner, the glove is more flexible due to the elimination of welts or seams at the location wherein the fingers join one another. In addition, welts extending along the finger positions are eliminated, thereby making the glove more comfortable. Further, the glove constructed in accordance with the present invention is provided with finger seams which are less likely to tear due to dragging of the fingertips along the ground.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a novel baseball infielder's glove having a one-piece back.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a baseball infielder's glove having a construction which facilitates a better pocket, prevents slipping of the glove off the player's hand, while providing for maximum safety against spiking the back of the player's hand.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a baseball infielder's glove having a one-piece back notched for adjustment while having increased flexibility and increased comfort to the wearer.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a baseball infielder's glove which more readily assumes a claw-like shape.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

FIG. 1 is a rear view of the glove of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a front view of the glove of the present invention.

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of one finger of the glove shown in FIGS. 1 and 2.

FIG. 4 is a sectional view taken along the line 4—4 in FIG. 3.

FIG. 5 is a sectional view taken along the line 5—5 in FIG. 1.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT OF THE INVENTION

Referring to the drawing in detail, wherein like numerals indicate like elements, there is shown a baseball infielder's glove designated generally as **10**. The glove **10** is preferably made from leather, although cheaper models thereof may be made from leather-like material.

The glove **10** includes a front **12** having a pocket defined by fingers **14**, **16**, **18**, and **20**. The front **12** also includes a thumb **22** which is spaced substantially from the finger **20**. As is conventional in the art, the front **12** includes an inner and outer layer of leather which are peripherally joined together and which may be provided with padding therebetween so as to facilitate shaping of the pocket.

The back **24** of the glove **10** is in one piece and includes integral one-piece fingers **14'**, **16'**, **18'**, and **20'**. The back **24** does not include a finger position corresponding to thumb **22**. Instead, a side panel **26** is provided. The side panel **26** includes a thumb portion. A web **28** is removably attached to the side panel **26**, to the thumb **22**, and to the finger **20** by rawhide stitching **38**.

An edge panel **30** is stitched to the front **12** and the side panel **26**. An edge panel **32** is stitched to the front **12** and rear **24** along the finger **14'**. Conventional rawhide stitching **34** is providing along the lower periphery of the glove **10** and is provided within the front **12** to facilitate shaping the pocket. Conventional rawhide stitching **36** is provided for interconnecting the various fingers adjacent the tips of the fingers.

As will be apparent from the drawing, there is no stitching provided directly down the center of the fingers at the back of the finger pockets. Heretofore, it was conventional to provide stitching longitudinally up the back of the finger pockets and utilize a back made of a plurality of strips. Such construction resulted in stiffness at the joints between adjacent fingers and interfered with the comfort of the finger pockets. A typical finger construction is shown in FIGS. 3 and 4. The portion of the front **12** extending along finger **18** is provided with holes **37** through which the rawhide stitching **36** will extend.

The front and back of finger **18** are joined together along their sides by finger pieces or panels **40** and **40'**. At the front of the finger, there is provided a seam **42** which joins the finger portion of the front **12** to the finger pieces **40** and **40'**. The portion of the back **12** along the finger is designated as **18'**. The side edges of portion **18'** are joined to the finger pieces **40** and **40'** by seams **44** and **46** respectively. As shown more clearly in FIG. 3, the seams **42**, **44** and **46** do not meet at a common point at the tip of the finger. This construction provides for increased resistance to rubbing and scuffing when the glove is dragged along the ground so that the seams are less likely to rip open. As will be apparent from FIG. 4, the finger may be provided with a linear **48**. As shown more clearly in FIG. 4, there is a complete absence of seams along the front or the back of the finger.

The back **24** is preferably made from two thin layers **[52 and 54]** *50 and 52* as opposed to a single thickness which would detract from flexibility. If desired, a layer of foam rubber *54* or other padding material such as felt

may be interposed between the layers **50** and **52**. The back **24** is constructed in a manner so as to eliminate the conventional air gap which presents a hazard to the rear of the hand of the player since there is nothing to protect the player from being spiked in this area. As shown more clearly in FIG. 1, substantially the entire back of a player's hand will be protected by the back **24**.

The back **24** may be provided with breather holes **56**. Such holes may have a diameter of approximately ¼ inch. As illustrated, the glove **10** is adjustable by providing a notch **58** at the lower periphery of the back **24**. The holes **56** surround the notch **58**. A strap **60** extends across the back **24**.

One end of strap **60** is secured in any convenient manner to the edge strip **32**. Strap **60** extends through loops or webs **62** and **64** in the back **24** and extends across the notch **58** adjacent the open end of the notch. The right-hand end of strap **60** in FIG. 1 is adjustably secured to a buckle **66**. Buckle **66** or any other similar device is preferably secured to the side panel **26** so that the adjustment is made on the side panel **26** below the web **28**.

The notch **58** is generally V-shaped. In an operative embodiment of the glove **10**, the notch **58** extends upwardly from the bottom edge of the back **24** for a distance of approximately 2 to 2¼ inches and the opening at the lower end of the notch is approximately 1 to 1½ inches. These dimensions may be selectively varied as desired within a certain tolerance or range compatible with the purpose and intent of notch **58**. When the strap **60** is tightened, the notch **58** will assume a generally U-shape with the length of the opening at the lower end of the notch being substantially reduced. The notch **58** is preferably located centrally to the back **24** as illustrated in FIG. 1.

As will be apparent from FIGS. 2 and 3, the seam **42** extends continuously from the bottom of finger **14** to the bottom of thumb **22**. As shown more clearly in FIG. 1, seam **44** extends from the tip of finger **18** to the tip of finger **20** so as to be coextensive with finger piece **40**. Also, seam **46** extends from the tip of finger **16** so as to be coextensive with finger piece **40'**. Side panel **26** is joined to back **24** by seam **68** which extends from the lower edge of the back **24** to the tip of finger **20'**. Panel **32** is joined to back **24** by seam **70** which extends from the lower edge of the back **24** to the tip of finger **14**.

When the glove **10** is constructed as described above, it will have the features and advantages referred to heretofore. Those portions of the glove **10** which have not been described in detail heretofore are conventional and no detail explanation is deemed necessary. As used hereinafter, the word "leather" is intended to encompass leather substitutes.

The present invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential attributes thereof and, accordingly, reference should be made to the appended claims, rather than to the foregoing specification as indicating the scope of the invention.

I claim:

1. A baseball infielder's glove having a front and a back *which define a space therebetween,* said front having fingers *for protecting a player's hand,* and a thumb *including a forefinger,* a web secured across the space between the thumb and forefinger of said front, said front and back being made from leather, said back including a one-piece layer for overlying the back of a player's hand and having integral one-piece fingers for overlying the back of a player's finger, said back including inner and outer layers having a layer of foam rubber disposed therebetween, *said back having a lower end,* said back being notched generally at its center lower end, the notch *having an apex and an open end and* being generally V-shaped with the apex being spaced from the lower end of the back, and an adjustable strip extending across the back adjacent the open end of said notch.

2. A glove in accordance with claim **1** wherein the finger panels on the back are uninterrupted across their width, said finger panels being joined to mating finger panels on the front by finger pieces disposed between adjacent fingers.

3. A glove in accordance with claim **1** wherein said front and back are joined together by a side disposed below said web, said strap including an adjustment device [on said side below said web.]

4. A glove in accordance with claim **1** wherein said back *includes inner and outer layers which* are perforated to provide air holes alongside said notch and adjacent the apex of said notch.

5. A baseball infielder's glove having a front and a back, said front having fingers and a thumb, a web secured across the space between the thumb and forefinger on the front, *said front and back being made from leather,* said back including a one-piece layer for overlying the back of a player's hand, said front and back being joined together by a side disposed below said web, said front and back being joined together by a side disposed below said web, said front and back having finger panels uninterrupted across their width, the finger panels on the front being joined to the finger panels on the back by mating finger pieces disposed between adjacent fingers, *said front including inner and outer layers with padding therebetween,* said back being notched generally at its center lower end, the notch being generally V-shaped with the apex being spaced from the lower end of the back, the lower end of the back being juxtaposed to the lower end of the front, and an adjustable strap extending across the back adjacent the open end of the notch, said strap extending through loops in said back on opposite sides of the open end of the notch.

6. A glove in accordance with claim **5** including rawhide stitching interconnecting the fingers adjacent the free end of the fingers, stitching joining the web to the thumb and forefinger, and said back including inner and outer layers which are perforated to provide air holes alongside said notch adjacent the apex of the notch.

7. A glove in accordance with claim **5** wherein at least some of said fingers are provided with a liner.

8. A baseball infielder's glove for protecting a player's hand, said hand having a back and a front, said glove containing in combination

(A) a front
- *(1) said front containing a thumb and four fingers one of which is a forefinger,*
- *(2) the thumb and forefinger defining a space therebetween*
- *(3) the front including at least one layer;*

(B) a web secured across the space;
- *(1) said web extending between the thumb and the forefinger;*

(C) a back in registry with the front,
- *(1) said back including a one-piece layer,*
- *(2) said back overlying the back of the player's hand,*
- *(3) said front and back being joined together by a side disposed below the web,*
- *(4) the front and back having finger panels uninterrupted across their width,*
- *(5) the finger panels on the front being joined to the finger panels on the back by mating finger pieces disposed between adjacent fingers,*
- *(6) the back including a lower end, the back being notched with a V-shaped notch having an apex and an open end, the notch being located near the center of the lower end,*

the apex being spaced from the lower end; and

(D) an adjustable strap extending across the black adjacent the open end of the notch,

(1) said back being provided with loops positioned on opposite sides of the notch,

(2) said strap extending through the loops for securing the glove to the player's hand.

9. The invention of claim 8 wherein the said front includes inner and outer layers.

10. The invention of claim 9 and a layer of padding interposed between the said inner and outer layers.

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