Jan. 19, 1932. A. J. BROOKS 1,841,875

HAT PROTECTOR

Filed April 22, 1930

Fig. 1.

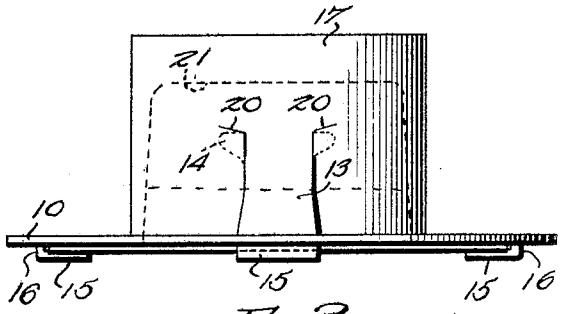
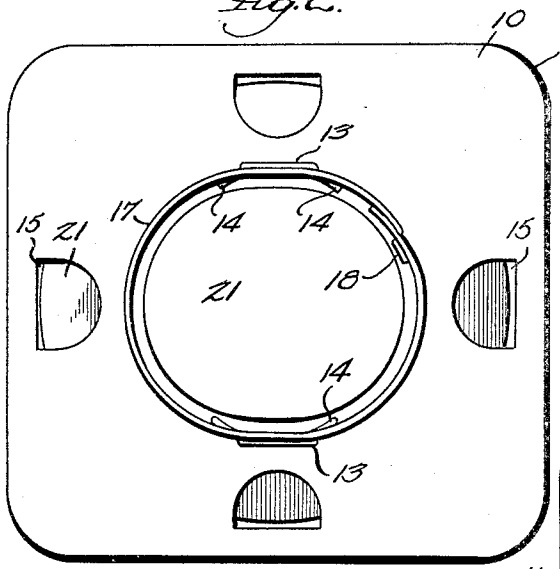


Fig. 2.



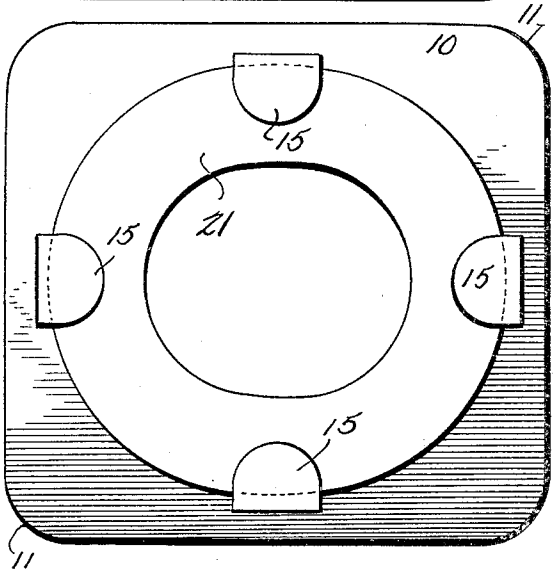


Fig. 3.

Fig. 5.

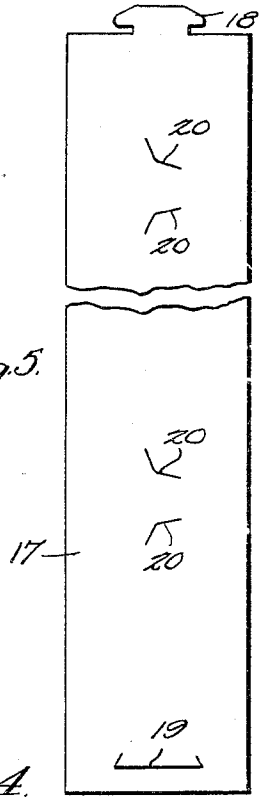
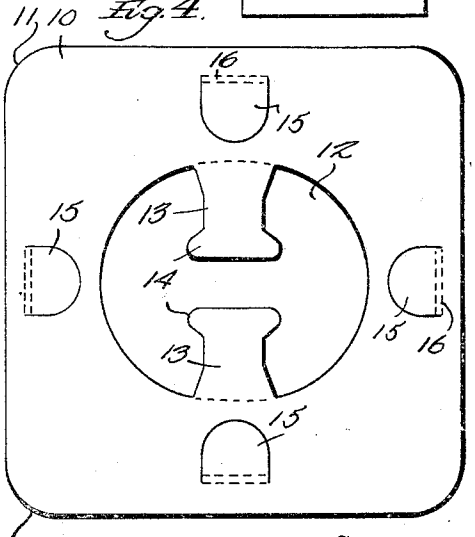


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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HAT PROTECTOR

Application filed April 22, 1930. Serial No. 446,356.

This invention relates to a hat protector particularly adapted for use with felt or soft hats.

An object of the invention is to provide a hat protector comprising a brim protector and a crown protector secured together whereby the crown of a hat may be held within the crown protector.

Another object is to provide a device of the character referred to wherein the crown protector does not extend below the plane of the brim protector whereby a hat may be placed with its brim in contact with the brim protector and its crown in contact with the crown protector.

A further object is to provide novel means for engaging the brim of a hat to prevent displacement of the hat.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent during the course of the following description.

In the drawings I have shown a preferred embodiment of the invention. In this showing:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the device with a hat shown in position,

Figure 2 is a top plan view with the hat in position,

Figure 3 is a bottom plan view with the hat in proper position,

Figure 4 is a plan view of the brim protector, and,

Figure 5 is a detail view of the crown protector.

Referring to the drawings the numeral 10 indicates a brim protector preferably formed of cardboard or other suitable material in the shape of a square with its corners rounded as indicated at 11. The member 10 is provided with a substantially central opening 12 large enough to permit the crown of a hat to be moved therethrough. A pair of securing members 13 are formed integral with the brim protector and extend into said opening 12, being scored at their junctures with the brim protector. Each securing member is provided with an enlarged end portion 14. A plurality of integral tabs 15 are arranged adjacent the edges of member 10, being cut therefrom except as indicated at 16 where they remain integral with member 10. One or more scorings may also be provided to assist in giving hinge-like action to tabs 15 on member 10.

The numeral 17 indicates a crown protector formed of a flat piece of cardboard or other suitable material and preferably of oblong shape. One end of the member 17 is provided with a securing element 18 adapted to engage a slot 19 formed in the opposite end of the member 17. The crown protector assumes a tubular shape when the member 18 is secured in position and pairs of slots 20 are provided on opposite sides thereof for a purpose to be described.

The operation of the device is as follows:

After the crown protector has assumed a tubular shape by being folded so that the securing member 18 will engage the slot 19, the securing members 13 are turned upwardly from the position shown in Figure 4 whereby they will engage in the pairs of slots 20 to hold the crown protector in contact with the brim protector, substantially as shown in Figure 1.

A hat indicated by the numeral 21 is placed with the crown thereof within the crown protector and the brim will engage the lower surface of the brim protector. The tabs 15 are then bent so that they will be beneath the brim of the hat and will prevent the latter from falling downwardly out of the device, as well as preventing lateral displacement thereof.

It is obvious that I may make the brim protector of any desired shape, as circular or oval, instead of square, as shown in the preferred example. The preferred material used for the manufacture of my hat protector is cardboard of suitable strength and rigidity, and I may use cardboards of different qualities for either brim or crown protector. Of course other materials may be used such as pressboard, leather, pulp products or the like. The process of manufacture is extremely simple since the brim protector is punched and scored by a single operation from one piece of material on standard machines customarily used for punching and scoring operations. The crown protector is similarly made. The

brim protector and crown protector are each packaged and shipped flat and are not assembled until desired for use.

It is believed to be apparent that I have provided a hat protector which is extremely simple to manufacture, which may be shipped in its flattened position and when ready for use may be quickly assembled. The device is used to protect the hat from being crushed in transit, as when being delivered by a cleanser, after cleansing and blocking to the owner. It may also be used by manufacturers in shipping, retailers in delivering, or owners in storing or transporting hats. The device containing a hat may be placed in any type of bag, box or other container of suitable size. As the brim protector is wider than the brim of the hat and the crown protector is larger than the crown thereof, it will be obvious that injury to a hat is not likely to occur, owing to the rigidity of materials from which the hat protector is made.

It is to be understood that the form of the invention herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example of the same and that various changes in the shape, size and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

I claim:

1. A hat protector comprising a brim protector, a crown protector connected thereto, and a plurality of spaced tabs carried by said brim protector to engage the brim of a hat to prevent displacement thereof.

2. A hat protector comprising a brim protector having a relatively large opening therein, a tubular crown protector secured to said brim protector in alinement with said opening whereby the crown of a hat may be placed within said crown protector, and a plurality of spaced tabs carried by said brim protector to engage the brim of the hat to prevent displacement thereof.

3. A hat protector comprising a brim protector, and a crown protector assembled by insertion of upright projecting members of said brim protector into receptive slots of said crown protector whereby said upright members rest against the outer walls of said crown protector leaving the inner walls substantially free from obstructions.

4. A hat protector comprising a brim protector, and a crown protector assembled by insertion of upright projecting members of said brim protector into receptive slots of said crown protector whereby said upright members rest against the outer walls of said crown protector leaving the inner walls substantially free from obstructions, and means for substantially rigidly positioning a hat within said protector.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ALFRED J. BROOKS.