

Aug. 3, 1954

I. CASTER

2,685,402

FOLDING SHOE BOX

Filed Aug. 5, 1952

FIG. 1

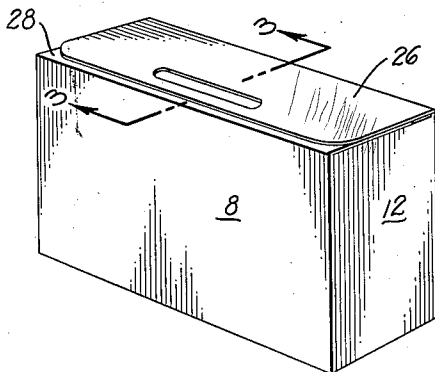


FIG. 2

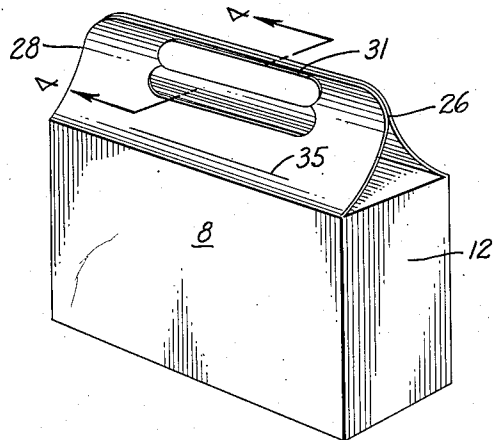


FIG- 3 -

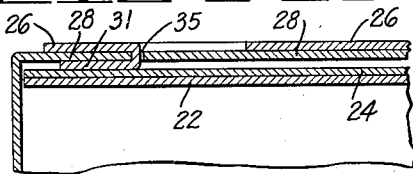


FIG-4-

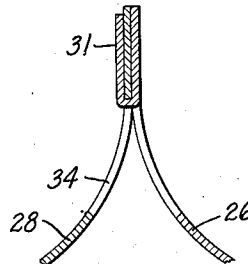
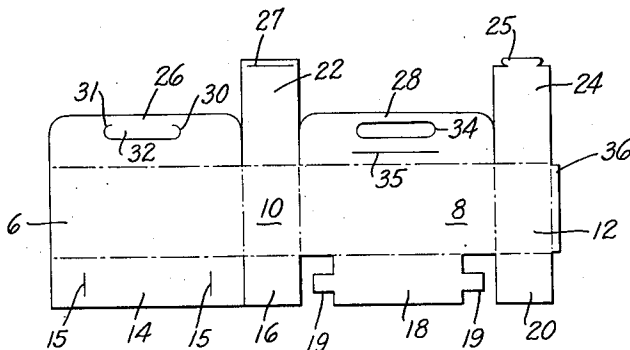


FIG - 5 -



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FOLDING SHOE BOX

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1 Claim. (Cl. 229—52)

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This invention relates to a box and particularly relates to a convertible box which may be used both as a box for storing merchandise and as an attractive carrying case for carrying the merchandise home.

In selling items of merchandise, it is always advantageous if the customer can be induced to carry his purchases home rather than requiring the store to deliver them. Customers are frequently reluctant to do this, primarily because of the lack of convenient packages for carrying merchandise as most boxes are rather unwieldy. This is particularly true in the case of shoes. The box of present invention is particularly adapted for use as a shoe box but, of course, it may be readily adapted and used for various items of merchandise.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a box for shoes and the like which has a convenient carrying handle which is an integral part of the box.

It is another object of this invention to provide a shoe box with a carrying handle wherein the carrying handle folds snugly against the box, so that the box occupies no more space on a shelf than a conventional box.

A further object of this invention is to provide a shoe box which may be partially assembled and shipped flat and which may be readily further assembled without the use of any special tools or equipment to provide the finished box.

It is also the object of this invention to provide a shoe box of a generally improved design which is very attractive in appearance.

In the drawings forming a part of this application there is shown in Figure 1 a perspective view of the shoe box of the present invention with the handle folded against the box so that the box occupies a minimum amount of space; i. e. the box is in the form in which it would ordinarily be stored on a shelf.

In Figure 2 there is shown a perspective view of my improved shoe box with the handle in an extended position so that the box may be readily carried.

In Figure 3 there is shown a cross-section view of the box on the lines 3—3 of Figure 1.

In Figure 4 there is shown a cross-section view of the box on the lines 4—4 of Figure 2.

Figure 5 shows the blank from which the box in the present invention is made.

Referring now to the drawing by reference characters, the box of the present invention has sides 6 and 8 and ends 10 and 12. A bottom for the box is formed by four extensions of the

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sides and ends attached as is shown in Figure 5 and designated 14, 16, 18 and 20. As can be seen from the drawing, the extension 14 has slots 15 therein, while the extension 18 has tabs 19 thereon. A top for the box is formed by two elongated flaps designated 22 and 24 which are attached respectively to ends 10 and 12. The flap 22 has a slot 27 therein, while the flap 28 has a tab 25 thereon. The carrying handle of the present invention consists of two flaps 26 and 28 which are attached respectively to side portions 6 and 8. The flap 26 has an elongated slot with curved ends 30 cut therein forming a flap 31 which is adapted to fold either outwardly or inwardly along the fold line designated 32. The opposite flap 28 has cut therein an elongated hole with rounded ends designated 34 and a slit 35. As will be later apparent, the slot 30 which forms flap 31 is substantially the same size and shape as the hole 34 and is the same length as the slit 35.

To facilitate the assembly of the box, the end piece 12 has a small flap 36 located thereon which is ordinarily glued, or fastened by other suitable means to the extreme end of the side piece 6. This forms a collapsible structure which will lie perfectly flat, and in this form, the blank for the box may be readily stored and shipped.

In assembling the box, the bottom flaps 16 and 20 are first turned inwardly, and the flap 14 is then turned inwardly. After this operation, the flap 18 is turned inwardly and the tabs 19 inserted in the slots 15. This leaves the box completed, except for the closing of the top. To close the top of the box, one first bends the flap 22 inwardly followed by the flap 24 whereupon the tab 25 is inserted in the slot 27.

If, at this time, it is desired that the box be in its most compact form, suitable for storage on a shelf, flap 28 is bent inwardly to form a cover over the box, and the flap 26 is then bent inwardly over the flap 28, and the tab 31 inserted in the slit 35. This forms the box in the condition shown in Figure 1 and in the detailed cross-section of Figure 3.

When it is desired to use the box as a carrying package, all the operations outlined above are performed with the exception of the manner of folding flaps 26 and 28 inwardly. When it is desired to use the box in this fashion, the flaps 26 and 28 are placed in face to face abutment as is shown in Figures 2 and 4 and the tab 31 inserted through the hole 34 and bent upwardly. This forms a convenient carrying handle.

Of course, it is apparent that many departures

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may be made from the exact embodiment of the box illustrated without departing from the spirit of this invention. The box may be made of various sizes and shapes to accommodate various articles of merchandise. Further, the method of holding the box together by means of the parts designated 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24 and 36 may be modified as is well known to those skilled in the art.

I claim:

A box for shoes and the like comprising a box formed from a flat blank having a bottom, two ends and two sides, one side of said box having an upwardly extending first flap thereon, and the other side of said box having an upwardly extending second flap thereon, said first flap having an elongated portion partially cut out to provide an elongated flap therein, said second flap having an elongated hole and a slit therein, said

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hole and said slit being of substantially the same length as and lying parallel to the elongated flap of the first flap, said slit lying between said hole and the fold line between said second flap and its corresponding side, said first flap overlying said second flap with the elongated flap in said slit in a first position and said first flap and said second flap standing in face to face abutment with the elongated flap in said hole in a second position.

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