June 17, 1924. 1,497,773

I. W. DAVID

STITCHDOWN SOLE FOR FOOTWEAR

Filed Dec. 4, 1922

Fig. 1.

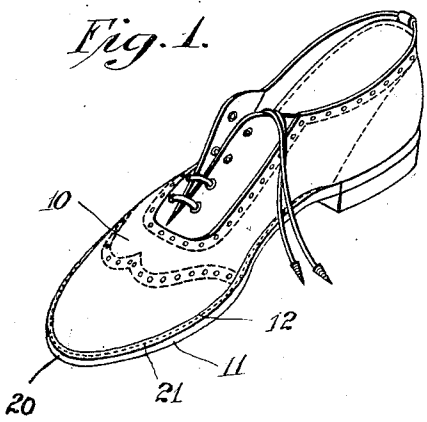


Fig. 2.

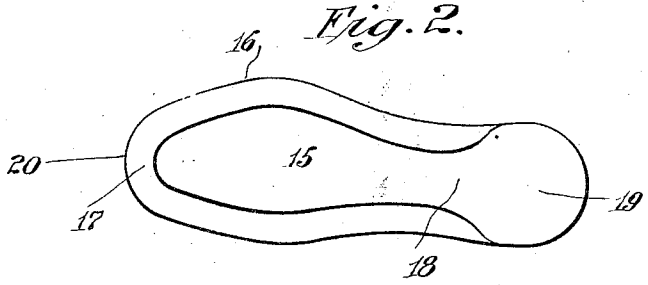


Fig. 3.

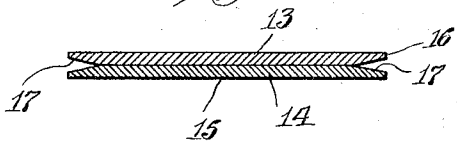


Fig. 4.

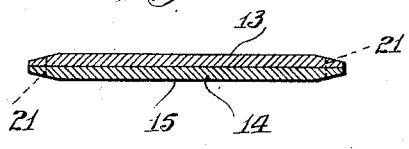
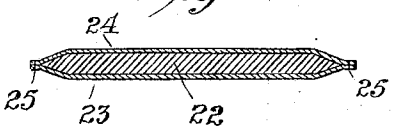


Fig. 5.



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Patented June 17, 1924. 1,497,773

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

IRWIN W. DAVID, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

STITCHDOWN SOLE FOR FOOTWEAR.

Application filed December 4, 1922. Serial No. 604,674.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, IRWIN W. DAVID, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stitchdown Soles for Footwear, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates generally to improvements in footwear, and has specific reference to the construction of the soles of what are known as stitch-down shoes, i. e. a type of shoe having a rather heavy sole and low heel, and in which the upper is sewed to the sole.

The sole in this type of shoe consists of at least two layers or thicknesses of leather or other material marginally interconnected by stitching, and as a result of this construction the sole is of substantially uniform thickness throughout its width. In walking, the marginal stitching is subjected to considerable abrasion and as a consequence the stitching wears through relatively quickly causing separation of the upper from the sole. Furthermore, the considerable thickness of the sole at its edge or marginal portion conveys an appearance of heaviness or solidity which is often more seeming than real, thus detracting from the appearance of the shoe.

With the foregoing in mind, the principal object of my invention is to improve the appearance of the shoe generally by giving the sole an appearance of less thickness, and at the same time to increase the life of the shoe by reducing the danger of abrasion of the stitching by which the layers of the sole are secured together. I accomplish this object by making the marginal portion of the sole thinner than the ball portion thereof, so that in walking the ball portion of the sole will normally and fully contact with the ground which the marginal portion of the sole will remain clear of the ground until the ball part has become fairly well worn. I preferably secure this difference in thickness of the sole by skiving the inner edges of the two sole layers, so that when these layers are stitched together the ball portion will be full thickness while the edge portion will be of reduced thickness.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a stitch-down shoe; Fig. 2 is a plan view of the inner side of one of the layers or thicknesses which make up the sole; Fig. 3 is a transverse section of two such layers or thicknesses before being stitched together; Fig. 4 is a similar view of the thicknesses after they are stitched; and Fig. 5 is a modified form of the invention showing a skived filler piece about which a thin insole and outer sole are superposed.

In the drawing, particularly Fig. 1, the shoe upper is designated 10, the sole generally is designated 11, and 12 is the stitching by which the upper is attached to the sole.

The sole is made up of the thicknesses 13 and 14, of which 13 forms the insole, and 14 the outer sole. Both insole and outer sole are similar in construction and Fig. 2 depicts the inner face of either. The ball portion of the two soles is denoted 15 and their edge portions 16. Extending inwardly from the edge 16 a suitable distance is a skived area 17 which follows the contour of the sole from the toe 20 along both sides to a little beyond the instep portion 18, the heel part 19 being left unskived.

After the soles have been skived, and in the course of manufacturing the shoe, the two soles are accurately superimposed and appear as in Fig. 3 with a space or gap between the skived edges 16. Thereafter these skived edges are secured together by a line of stitching 21 and the sole appears as in Fig. 4 with the ball portion appreciably thicker than the edge. Obviously the edge of the sole lies in a higher plane than the ball and the stitching 21 will not be abraded by contact with the ground until the ball has worn down substantially even with the edge, at which time resoling will be needed. When the sole is in the condition illustrated in Fig. 4 it is ready for attachment to the upper 10 in the manner well known in this art.

In the modified form of Fig. 5, the sole is made up of an interior filler member 22 composed of rubber or other suitable moisture proof material which is skived about its edges to provide a raised ball portion similar to that shown in Fig. 4. The filler 22 is enclosed between two thicknesses of thin ma-

terial, of which 23 forms the outer sole and 24 the insole, the outer sole and insole being secured together by a line of stitching 25 extending about the edges thereof and just beyond the edge of the filler 22.

I claim:

As an article of manufacture, a shoe having a stitch down sole made of marginally skived layers of material, and a row of marginal stitching disposed in the skived portion of the layers.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

IRWIN W. DAVID.