

Sept. 4, 1951

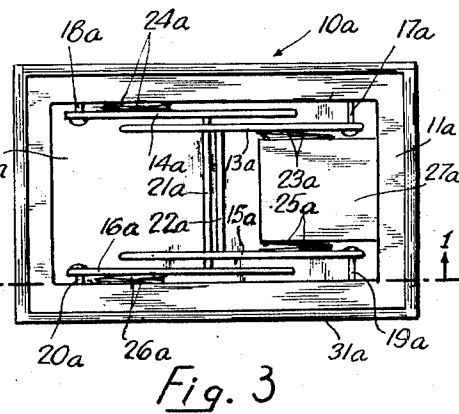
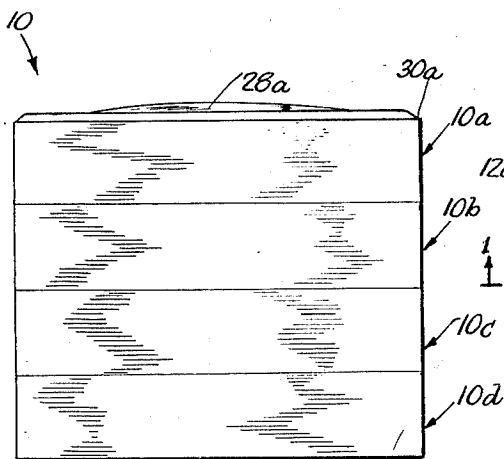
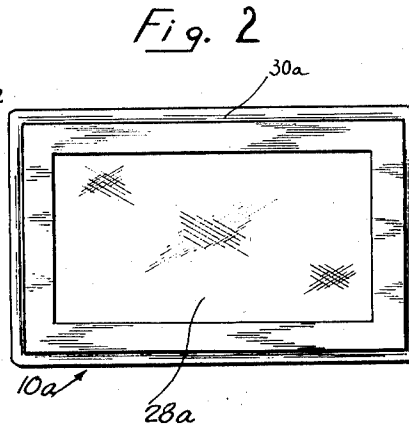
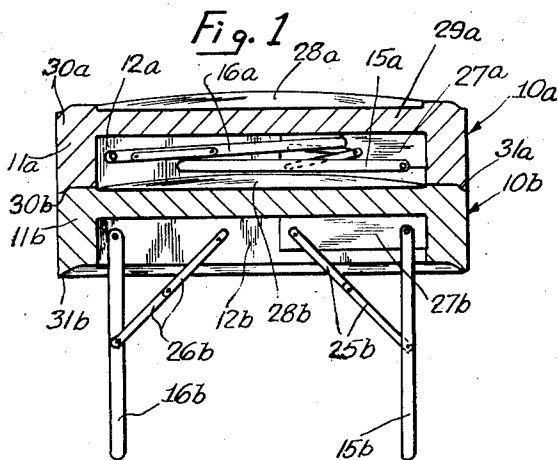
D. BABIT

2,566,818

MULTIPURPOSE FURNITURE

Filed Feb. 10, 1950

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



INVENTOR.

DAVID BABIT

BY

Karl F. Ross

AGENT

Sept. 4, 1951

D. BABIT

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

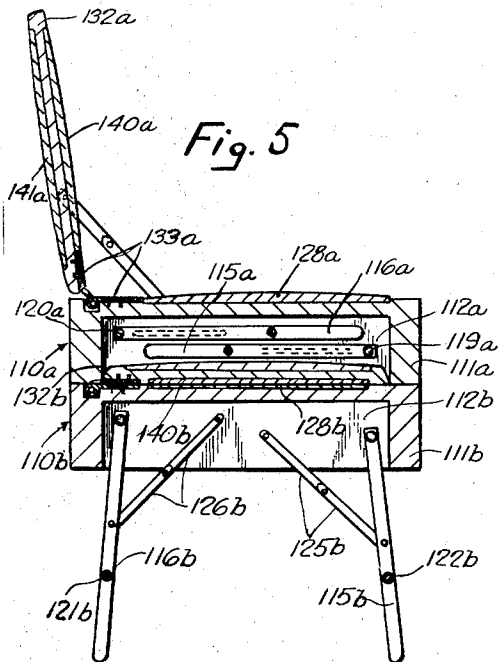


Fig. 5

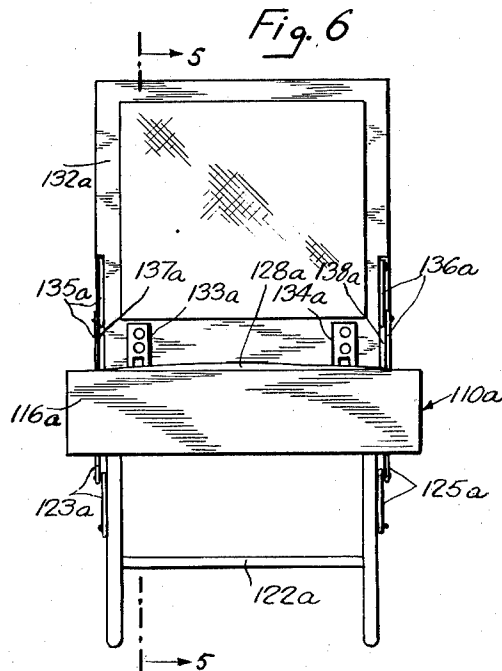


Fig. 6

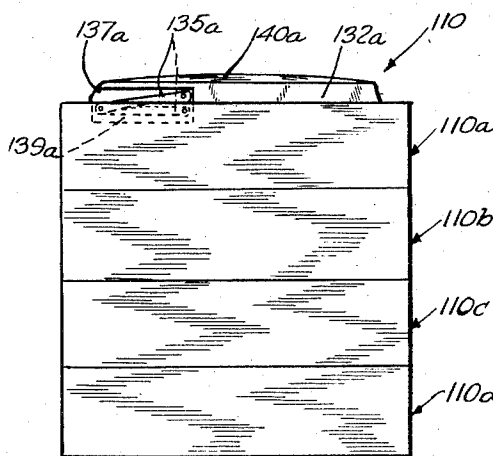


Fig. 7

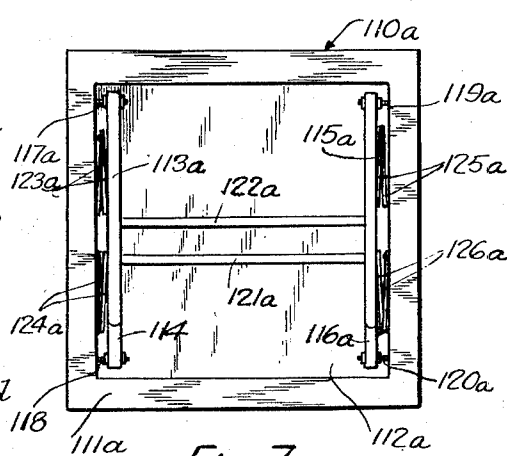


Fig. 8

INVENTOR.
DAVID BABIT
BY
Karl F. Rom
AGENT

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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MULTIPURPOSE FURNITURE

David Babit, New York, N. Y.

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7 Claims. (Cl. 155—2)

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My present invention relates to multi-purpose furniture and more particularly to pieces of furniture adapted to be used individually or in a variety of combinations for seating purposes.

An object of the present invention is to provide a piece of furniture, such as a chair, adapted to be combined with one or more additional pieces of like or related character, e. g. chairs and/or stools, to form another useful article of furniture, such as a hassock.

Another object of this invention is to provide pieces of furniture of the character set forth which may be conveniently stacked and may have utility even in stacked condition.

A further object of my invention is to provide pieces of furniture of this character which may be combined with similar or related pieces to form a chair, stool or the like of altered proportions.

The above and other objects of the invention will become apparent from the following description of certain embodiments, reference being had to the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a section, on the line 1—1 of Fig. 3, of a plurality of stacked stools in accordance with the invention;

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of a stool as shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a bottom view of a stool as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, with the legs thereof in retracted position;

Fig. 4 shows several stools of the configuration illustrated in the preceding figures, stacked together to form a hassock;

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 1, taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 6, showing a plurality of stacked chairs according to the invention;

Fig. 6 is a front elevation of a single chair as shown in Fig. 5, illustrated in fully open position;

Fig. 7 is a bottom view, similar to Fig. 3, of one of the chairs shown in Fig. 5; and

Fig. 8 is a view similar to Fig. 4, showing several chairs according to Figs. 5-7 stacked together to form a hassock.

Referring first to Figs. 1-4, there are shown a plurality of stools 10a, 10b, 10c and 10d stacked on top of one another to form a hassock 10 (Fig. 4). Each stool comprises a seat 11a, 11b, etc., provided on its underside with a recess 12a, 12b, etc. for the purpose of enabling withdrawal of legs such as 13a, 14a, 15a, 16a which are pivoted to the seat 11a at 17a, 18a, 19a and 20a, respectively. The legs 13a, 15a and 14a, 16a are connected together in pairs by cross bars

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21a, 22a, respectively, and are adapted to be braced in extended position, as shown for the unit 10b in Fig. 1, by means of links 23a, 24a, 25a and 26a; links 24a and 26a are pivoted to the legs 14a and 16a, respectively, and to the seat 11a, whereas links 23a and 25a are pivoted to the legs 13a and 15a, respectively, and to a block 27a depending from the seat 11a. The seat 11a carries a pad 28a lodged in a depression 29a.

Each stool unit, such as 10a, is provided with a peripheral ledge such as 30a adapted to mate with a corresponding peripheral ridge formed on the underside of an identical stool, such as the ridge 31b of stool 10b. Fig. 1 clearly shows how ridge 31a of unit 10a engages ledge 30b of unit 10b, thereby firmly joining the two units together against relative lateral displacement. It will thus be understood that a user may sit on, say, the unit 10b after extending its legs as shown in Fig. 1, or, if a greater height be desired (as, for example, in the case of a piano stool designed for small children), on the upper unit 10a of the assembly shown in Fig. 1, or yet on the top unit of the stack such as shown in Fig. 4 in which the legs of all the units are retracted. Also, the stack 10 of Fig. 4 may be used as a foot rest, a makeshift table or the like, in addition to its representing a hassock of selectively adjustable height.

In Figs. 5-8 the same numerals have been used as in the preceding figures, prefixed, however, with the digit 1 in the hundreds position. Thus the stack 110 (Fig. 8) represents a hassock composed of four units 110a, 110b, 110c and 110d. In contradistinction to the embodiment described above, these units represent chairs each provided, in addition to seats such as 111a and legs such as 113a-116a, with a back such as 113a, 113b etc. Back 113a is swingably hinged to the seat 111a at 113a, 114a and is provided with outward braces 115a, 115a to maintain it, if desired, in the open position shown in Fig. 5; back 113a is provided with lateral recesses 117a, 118a to accommodate the braces 115a, 116a, respectively, so as to prevent them from projecting beyond the outline of the back; co-extensive recesses or cutouts such as 119a (Fig. 8) are provided in the seat 111a to receive the lower portions of these braces when the latter are in doubled-up position, with the back 113a folded over horizontally as shown in Fig. 8. The back 113a is further provided with a front and a rear cushion 140a, 141a, respectively, lodged in its suitably recessed faces. The entire member 113a is of such shape as to fit snugly into the bottom recess, such as 112b, of any other unit of like configuration.

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When two or more units such as 110a, 110b are assembled as shown in Fig. 5, the backs of all but the uppermost unit are folded over as shown for the back 132b in this figure, being snugly engaged by the bottom recess of the next higher unit; the front cushion 140b of unit 110b then comes to rest against the seat pad 128b thereof, so that both of these elements will be flattened, as shown. When it is desired to obtain a stack or hassock such as 110, the back 132a of the uppermost unit 110a is likewise folded over as shown in Fig. 8.

By way of example, the legs 113a-116a are shown pivoted to the seat 111a at 117a-120a, respectively, the pivots 117a, 119a being in a lower plane and the pivots 118a, 120a in an upper plane, the pairs of legs interconnected by cross bars 121a and 122a being equidistant in this case.

It may be mentioned, and will be plain from the foregoing description, that chairs such as 110a-110d may be used interchangeably or in combination with stools of the general character illustrated in Figs. 1-4, as by replacing the top unit 110a of stack 110 with a stool similar to unit 10a but of square configuration. It will also be seen that Fig. 6 represents a chair of ordinary height and Fig. 5 a chair of extra height, formed by superimposing the two units 110a, 110b, and that still greater height may be obtained by adding still another unit such as 110c. Furthermore, by raising the back 132a of the stack 110 into the position shown in Fig. 5, there will be formed a piece of furniture adjustable in height and adapted to serve as a reclining seat.

It should be understood that the invention is not limited to the specific arrangements shown and described, which have been given merely by way of illustrating a stack, representing a hassock or other piece of furniture, composed of a plurality of units (e. g. 10a, 110a) each having a topside and an underside of complementary or partly complementary configuration (as at 31a, 30b or 112a, 132b), thereby preventing substantial lateral displacement of any unit relative to all other units forming part of the stack. The invention, accordingly, is capable of numerous modifications and adaptations without exceeding its scope as defined in the objects and in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A hassock composed of a plurality of stacked seating devices, each of said seating devices being provided at its underside with a recess and with a set of legs attached thereto at said underside,

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said legs being retracted into said recess and extendable therefrom, each of said seating devices further having a top provided with a raised portion, the said recess of each but the lowest one of said seating devices receiving said raised portion of the top of the next lower seating device, thereby preventing substantial relative lateral displacement between said seating devices.

2. A hassock according to claim 1 wherein at least one of said seating devices is a stool having a top provided with a raised portion forming a seating surface, said seating surface entering the recess of the next higher seating device.

3. A hassock according to claim 1 wherein at least one of said seating devices is a chair provided with a seat and a back pivotally connected with and folded down upon said seat, said back being movable into a raised position, said folded back entering the recess of the next higher seating device, said chair being further provided with bracing means adapted to hold said back in an upright position when unfolded.

4. A hassock according to claim 3 wherein said back is provided with a rear cushion forming a seating surface when said chair is placed on top of the stack and said back is folded.

5. A hassock according to claim 1 wherein all of said seating devices are identical.

6. A seating device comprising a body having a recess at its underside and having a top provided with a raised portion, said raised portion being substantially coextensive with said recess, thereby fitting closely into the recess of an identical seating device, and a set of legs attached to said body and fully retractable into said recess.

7. A seating device according to claim 6 wherein said seating device is provided with a seat and a back pivotally connected with and swingable relative to said seat, said back when swung down upon said seat forming said raised portion, said seating device being further provided with bracing means adapted to hold said back in an upright position when swung away from said seat.

DAVID BABIT.

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