United States Patent

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[54] **MULTIPLE GARMENT HANGER**
7 Claims, 7 Drawing Figs.

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **211/116,** 223/85
[51] **Int. Cl.** **A47g 29/00**
[50] **Field of Search** 211/113, 116, 119; 223/85, 88

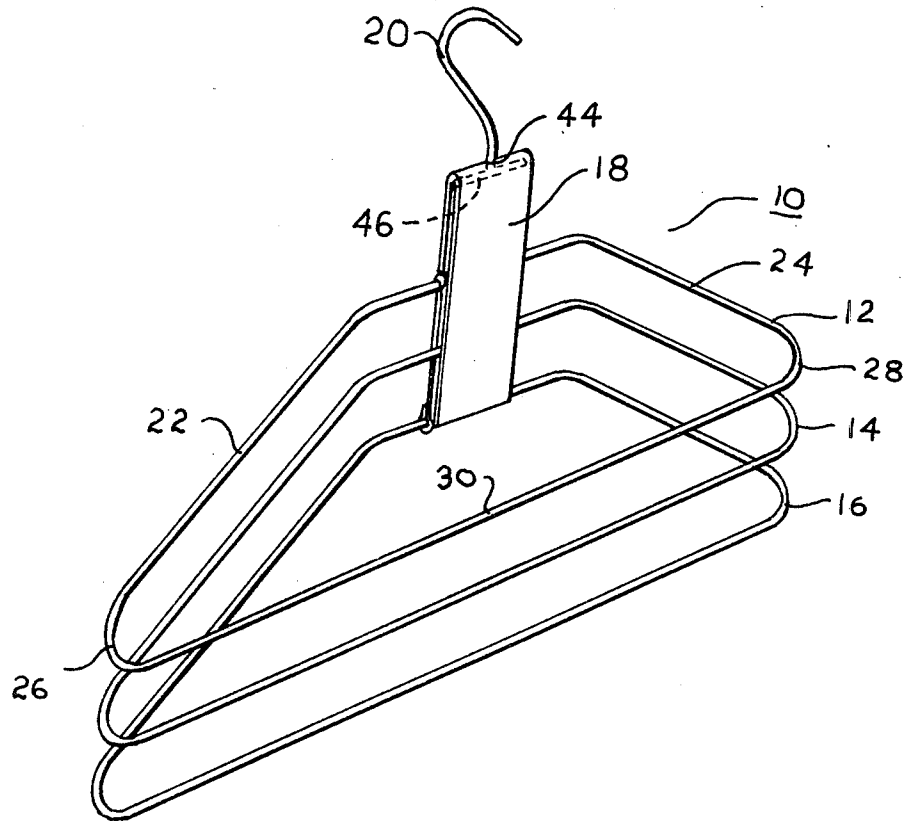
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ABSTRACT: A multiple garment hanger having a plurality of hanger sections mounted on a member which is adapted to pivot outwardly and upwardly as garments are placed successively on the hanger sections. A hook is connected to the pivoted member for supporting the three sections on a hook or pole. The three sections and hook fold onto a substantially common plane. The hanger sections have laterally extending arms and preferably a horizontal member connecting the outer ends of the arms.



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SHEET 1 OF 2

FIG. 1

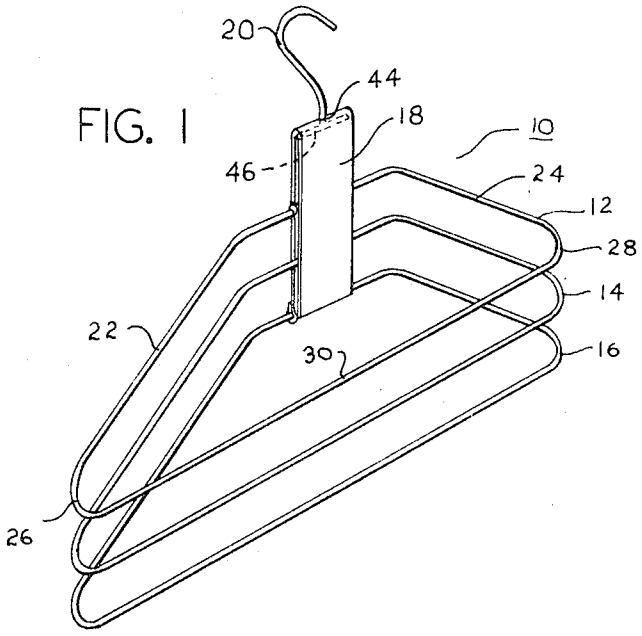


FIG. 3

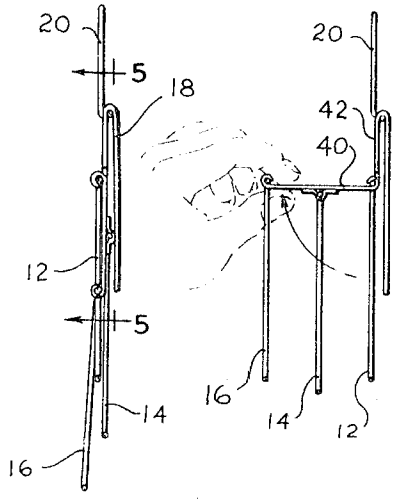


FIG. 4

FIG. 2

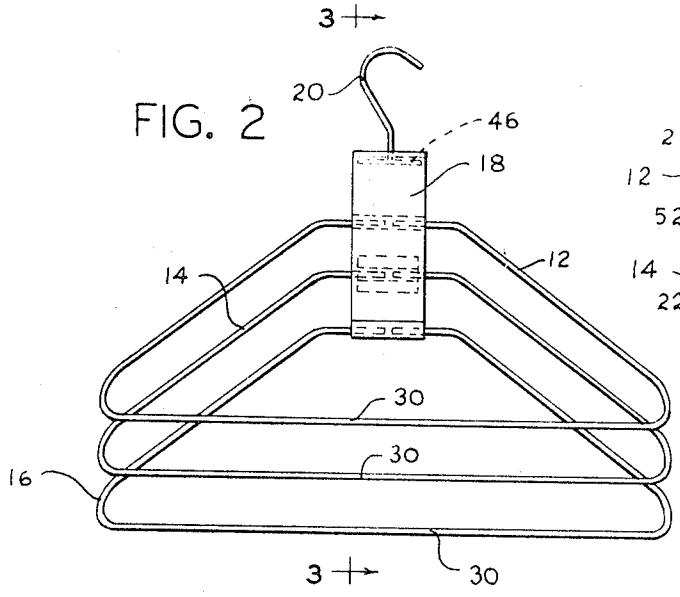
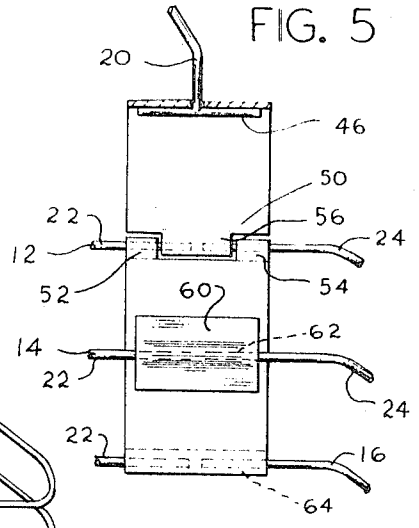


FIG. 5



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FIG. 6

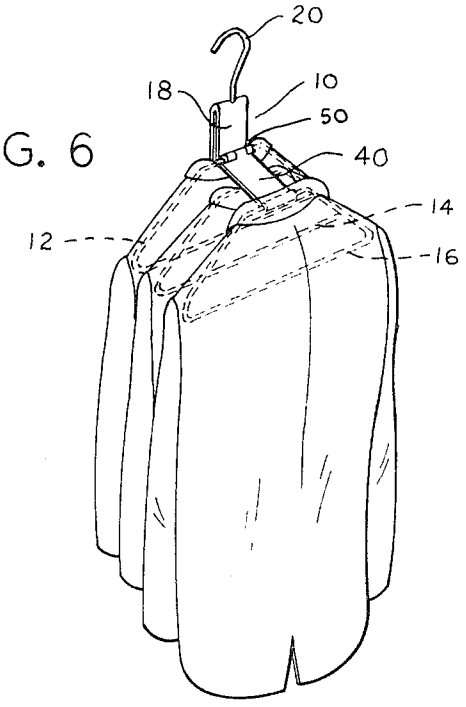
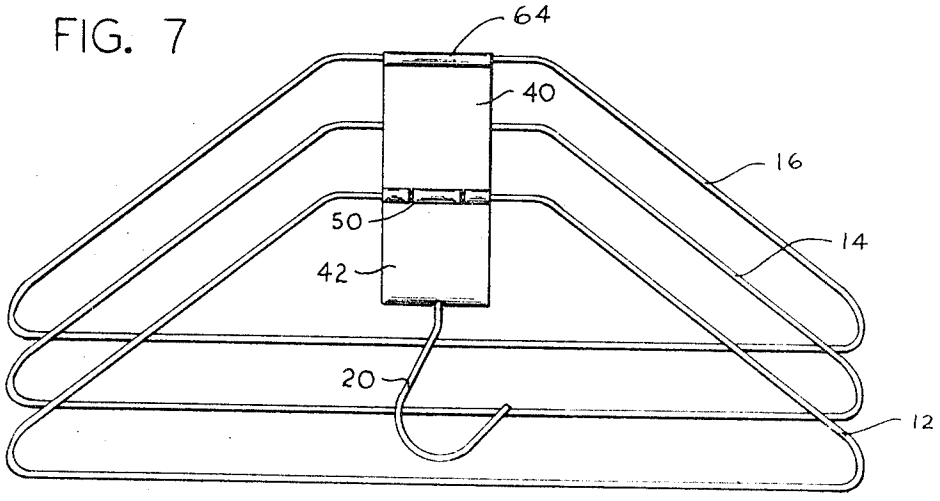


FIG. 7



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MULTIPLE GARMENT HANGER

In the cleaning industry and in storing garments, the standard practice is to place a single garment on a hanger, and occasionally with respect to men's suits and other two-piece garments, to place one of the pieces on the conventional horizontal crossmember beneath the principal part of the garment. When a number of garments are handled at the same time, the usual practice requires separate handling of the garments or carrying a number of garments on separate hangers which is often cumbersome and inconvenient and occasionally results in dropping one or more of the garments. Further, when the garments on separate hangers are handled together, it is often difficult to place the hanger hooks over a closet or delivery van pole, again frequently resulting in dropping, and/or damaging some of the garments. It is therefore, one of the principal objects of the present invention to provide a multiple garment hanger which permits the garments to easily be placed on the garment support arms in an unwrinkled condition and the garments carried on the hanger by merely holding and lifting one hook, and which collapses into a compact structural unit when not in use either on or off the pole or other supporting structure.

Another object of the invention is to provide a multiple garment hanger which retains the garments in a compact condition on the hanger without wrinkling them, and which permits a conventional garment bag to be easily slipped over the garments after they are cleaned.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a garment hanger which will accommodate more than one garment, such as several coats, shirts or dresses, and which will automatically hold the garments firmly on the hanger by the weight of the several garments tending to press the garments together and thereby prevent them from being accidentally dislodged from the arms of the hanger.

A further object is to provide a foldable garment hanger of the aforesaid type constructed principally of wire which will fold onto substantially a single plane with the hook folded downwardly over the arm portion so that the unused hangers can be easily transported and stored in a compact space, and which can be readily unfolded into its operating position.

Another object is to provide a multiple garment hanger which is simple in construction and operation and economical to make and use, and which can be used satisfactorily either for holding a single or a number of garments or for holding a single coat, jacket or the like and a plurality of pants or other parts of the suit or garment on separate horizontal crossmembers.

Additional objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description and accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the present multiple garment hanger showing the hanger in a partially folded position;

FIG. 2 is a front elevational view of the present garment hanger;

FIG. 3 is a vertical cross-sectional view of the hanger, the section being taken on line 3–3 of FIG. 2;

FIG. 4 is a cross-sectional view similar to FIG. 3 illustrating the manner in which the multiple garment hanger unfolds;

FIG. 5 is an enlarged fragmentary cross-sectional and partial elevational view showing details of construction of the hanger, the section being taken on line 5–5 of FIG. 3;

FIG. 6 is a perspective view illustrating the manner in which the present multiple garment hanger is used; and

FIG. 7 is an elevational view, showing the hanger in its folded condition.

Referring more specifically to the drawings, numeral 10 indicates generally the present garment hanger having three hanger sections 12, 14, and 16 connected to a supporting body 18 which in turn is connected to a hook 20. Hanger sections 12, 14, and 16 are formed of relatively stiff wire of the type normally used in coat hangers and the hook is likewise constructed of a similar material; however, since three garments are relatively heavy, the hook may be constructed of heavier or stronger material than the normal hook for the single hanger. Each of the hanger sections consists of laterally extending arms 22 and 24 connected by curved sections 26 and 28 to a horizontal garment support member 30. The inner ends of the arms are connected to pivoted body portion 40 which in turn is connected to the upper body portion 42. The upper body portion 42 extends upwardly in front and downwardly in back to form an inverted generally U-shaped cross-sectional configuration, and contains an opening 44 through which the lower end of hook 20 extends, the hook being retained in the upper body portion by a crossmember 46 joined to the lower end of the hook and extending laterally in the upper body portion.

Hanger section 12 is supported on body 18 at hinge 50 consisting of two laterally spaced eyes 52 and 54 at the upper end of body portion 40 and a cylindrical portion 56 at the lower end of the front part of upper body portion 42. The hinge parts are retained in operative position by the inner ends of arms 22 and 24 which extend inwardly through eyes 52 and 54 into cylindrical portion 56 as illustrated in FIG. 5. With this construction the hanger section is free to swing forwardly and backwardly relative to body 18. Hanger section 14 is secured to pivoted body portion 40 by a member 60 spot welded or otherwise secured to the pivoted body portion, the member having a channel 62 on the inner side thereof for receiving the inner ends of arms 22 and 24 of section 14. Section 14 is thus free to swing forwardly and backwardly relative to body 18. Section 16 is pivotally connected to body portion 40 by a loop 64 formed integrally with body portion 40 at the lower end thereof as viewed in FIG. 5. The inner ends of arms 22 and 24 of hanger section 16 extend inwardly into the loop and support the hanger section in a freely pivoting manner so that it can move forwardly and backwardly relative to body 18.

The hook and upper body portion, which are pivoted on hinge 50, are adapted to pivot downwardly to provide a compact hanger structure for shipping and storage, as illustrated in FIG. 7. The rear part of the upper body portion may be shorter than that shown in the drawings to reduce the size of the folded structure; however, the rear part may contain advertising or instruction material, if desired. The present multiple hanger is normally shipped and stored in its collapsed or folded position with the three hanger sections 12, 14, and 16 lying against one another, and with the upper body portion and hook turned downwardly with the hook lying adjacent the three sections.

When one or more garments are to be placed on the hanger, it is unfolded to the position illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 2 and the garments are then placed on the hanger sections, preferably placing the first garment on section 12, the second garment on section 14, and the third garment on section 16. If the garments are of a two-piece design such as a man's suit, the pants may be folded over horizontal member 30 of the respective hanger section. As the garments are added progressively to the hanger sections, the pivoted body portion 40 pivots outwardly from a substantially vertical position to an angular position up to 90°, depending upon the thickness of the garments on the various hangers, as illustrated in FIG. 6. After the garments have been placed on the hanger sections, the hanger may be placed on a closet or service van pole, or on some other suitable supporting structure, in the same manner as a single conventional hanger. This type of multiple hanger can be particularly advantageous in dry cleaning and similar establishments, in that the garments can be kept in their best condition while utilizing the minimum amount of storage space. Further, the hanger and the garment can be easily carried by merely lifting the single hook 20, thus eliminating the possibility of one or more garments inadvertently slipping from a stack of garments as they are being carried or moved. A bag or other cover can be easily placed over the garments with the hook protruding in the same manner as the conventional single hanger, thus giving maximum protection with the greatest degree of compactness of the garment.

While only a three-section hanger has been illustrated in the drawings, multiple hangers with only two or with more than three sections may be made, utilizing the concept of the present invention. Only one embodiment of the present invention has been described in detail herein; however, changes and modifications may be made without departing from the scope of the invention.

I claim:

1. A multiple garment hanger comprising a body having a portion pivotable from a substantially vertical position to a forward angular position. A first hanger section having lateral arms pivoted to said pivoted body portion. A second hanger section having lateral arms pivoted to said pivoted body portion at a point thereon spaced downwardly from the point at which said first hanger section is pivoted and on a plane substantially parallel with said first hanger section, and a hook connected to said body portion and extending generally vertically therefrom.

2. A multiple garment hanger as defined in claim 1 in which a third hanger section having lateral arms is pivoted to said body portion at a point thereon spaced downwardly from the point at which said second hanger section is pivoted on a plane substantially parallel with said first and second hanger sections.

3. A multiple garment hanger as defined in claim 1 in which said hanger sections are constructed of wire and include a horizontally positioned member connecting connecting the outer end of said arms.

4. A multiple garment hanger as defined in claim 2 in which said hanger sections are constructed of wire and include a horizontally positioned member connecting the outer end of said arms.

5. A multiple garment hanger as defined in claim 1 in which said body consists of a platelike portion pivotally movable from a substantially vertical position to a forward angular position, and a platelike member to which said hook is connected, thereby permitting said hook to fold downwardly adjacent to and on a plane substantially the same as said first and second hanger sections.

6. A multiple garment hanger as defined in claim 3 in which said body consists of a platelike portion pivotally movable from a substantially vertical position to a forward angular position, and a platelike member to which said hook is connected, thereby permitting said hook to fold downwardly adjacent to and on a plane substantially the same as said three hanger sections.

7. A multiple garment hanger as defined in claim 5 in which said hanger sections are constructed of wire and include a horizontally positioned member connecting the outer end of said arms.