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COMBINED CIGARETTE CASE AND MATCH BOOK HOLDER

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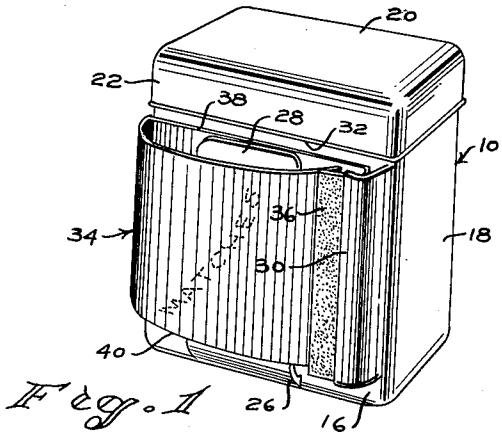


Fig. 1

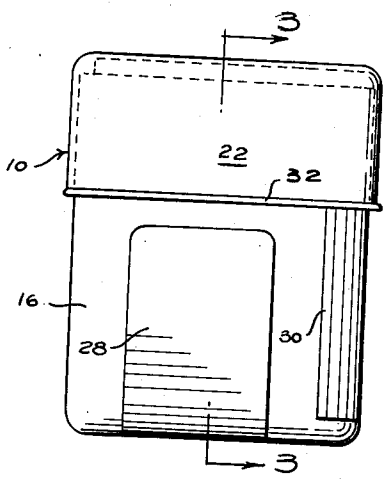


Fig. 2

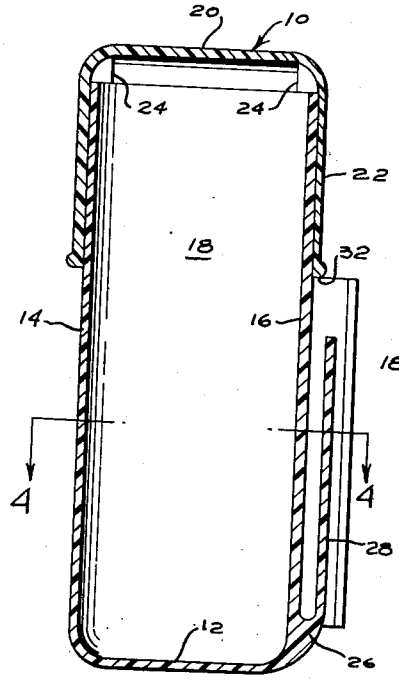


Fig. 3

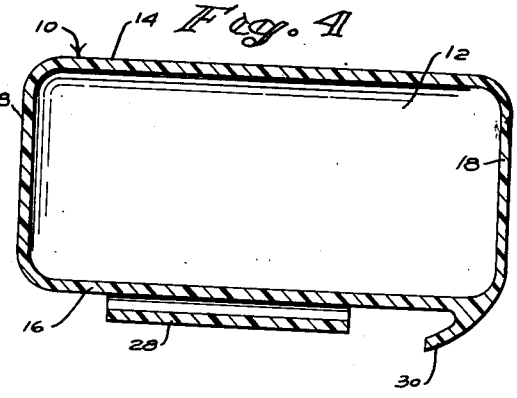


Fig. 4

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COMBINED CIGARETTE CASE AND MATCH BOOK HOLDER

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1 Claim. (Cl. 206—48)

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This invention relates to an article of manufacture adapted to hold a pack of cigarettes and an associated match book.

Those cigarette smokers who use book matches will generally keep a pack of cigarettes at a location upon the person where the cigarettes will be readily accessible. The ready accessibility of the pack is enhanced, in this regard, by the relatively large size thereof.

However, very often the smoker cannot readily locate a book of matches, and often goes through several pockets of his garments before finding a match book. Women, too, often find it difficult to locate matches in their purses. The small size of the match book, will of course, add to the difficulty of locating the same.

The broad object of the present invention, is accordingly, to provide a combined cigarette case and match book holder, which will be so designed as to hold both the pack of cigarettes and a book of matches, in such a manner as to cause the same to remain together at all times.

Another object of importance is to provide, in a combined cigarette case and match book holder, an improved construction of the same, whereby the book of matches will be securely held in place by a novelly designed support therefor, afforded on the outer surface of the body portion of the case, the removable cover of the case cooperating to prevent accidental separation of the match book from said body portion.

Another object of importance is to provide, in a device of the type stated, a construction wherein the match book will be held by the case even when opened, the support for the match book being so formed as to cause the striking surface of the book to be properly located at all times for striking of a match.

Yet another object is to provide an article as stated in which the match book can be inserted in place, or removed when exhausted of matches, with maximum speed and ease.

Still another object is to provide a device as described which will be so designed as to permit its manufacture at relatively low cost, from molded plastic or similar material, metal, or any other material found suitable. The invention need not, of course, necessarily be of molded construction.

Other objects will appear from the following description, the claim appended thereto, and from the annexed drawing, in which like reference characters designate like parts throughout the several views, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a combined cigarette case and match book holder formed in accordance with the present invention, the article being shown in operative relation to a supported match book;

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Figure 2 is a front elevational view of the combination article per se;

Figure 3 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Figure 2; and

Figure 4 is an enlarged transverse sectional view on line 4—4 of Figure 3.

A cigarette case constituting a part of the present invention includes a rectangular box-like receptacle 10 open at its upper end for reception of a pack of cigarettes therein. The receptacle of the cigarette case is formed with a bottom wall 12 of rectangular outer configuration, said bottom wall being integral, along its front and back edges, with upstanding back and front walls 14, 16 respectively. Extending between the opposite side edges of the respective front and back walls are end walls 18.

This completes the construction of the receptacle, and as will be readily apparent, said receptacle will be so dimensioned as to permit a package of cigarettes to be snugly engaged therein. The length of the receptacle will, of course, be determined during the manufacture thereof according to whether regular or so called "king size" packs are to be held thereby.

A cover is frictionally and removably engaged with the open upper end of the receptacle, and includes a flat lid 20 extending transversely of said open upper end. The lid 20 is dimensioned correspondingly to the bottom wall 12, and is integral, at its periphery, with a depending skirt 22 which will overlap the several upstanding walls of the receptacle.

At the several corners of the open upper end of the receptacle, molded internal lugs 24, formed on the underside of the lid 20 are provided to limit movement of the cover toward its closed position.

At the juncture between the bottom wall 12 and front wall 16, the receptacle may be molded with a thickened part 26, and projecting upwardly from the outer edge of said thickened part, and integral with said part, is a relatively wide, flat, thin tongue 28. The tongue 28 can have rounded corners at its upper or free end, as shown in Figure 2. Alternatively, the free end portion of the tongue can be tapered so as to permit a book of matches to be readily associated therewith.

Tongue 28, as will be noted from Figure 3, is extended upwardly in front of and in parallel

relation to the front wall 16. Preferably, the space between the tongue 28 and front wall should be very small, and in a commercial embodiment of the invention would probably be little greater than the thickness of the back wall of a match book. The back wall of a match book would thus be frictionally engaged by and between said tongue 28 and front wall 16.

A lip 30 is also molded integrally with or otherwise fixedly secured to the front wall 16, said lip extending upwardly along one side edge of the front wall, in spaced relation to the adjacent side edge of tongue 28 (see Figure 2). Lip 30 is of transversely curved formation (Figures 1 and 4), and curves outwardly from the front wall and toward the tongue 28. The free edge of the lip 30 is, however, spaced a greater distance from the front wall 16 than is the tongue 28, it being understood that the folded base of the match book would be insertible in said space between the lip and front wall.

Further, it will be noted that the lip 30 is formed open at its opposite ends.

The lower edge of the skirt 22 of the cover is beaded as at 32, and when the cover is in closed position, will be engaged by the upper end of the lip 30. If it is not desired that the cover be directly engaged by the lip, said beaded edge 32 can be spaced a short distance above the lip.

A match book has been designated generally by the reference numeral 34 and is of conventional construction. Thus, the match book has a folded base end 36, the front surface of which will be provided with the usual abrasive to provide a striking surface. The match book is also formed with a back wall 38 engaged, as hereinbefore discussed between the tongue 28 and front wall 16. The back wall 38 merges into a front wall 40, the free end of which is engaged in the folded base end of the match book.

In use of the article, it will be understood that a conventional pack of cigarettes would be inserted in the case. Thereafter, with the cover removed, a match book is engaged by the tongue 28 and lip 30 in the manner shown in Figure 1. Movement of the match book downwardly, toward the lower end of the case, is limited by the thickened part 26, which forms a seat for the bottom side edge of the match book.

When the cover is applied to the body portion of the case, the beaded lower edge 32 thereof will engage or be spaced closely above the upper side edge of the match book, so as to hold the match book against accidental movement upwardly from its case-attached position.

The lip 30 is so dimensioned as to width as to engage only that part of the folded base end of the match book that is not covered with abrasive. This will leave the coated part of said base end exposed in the manner shown in Figure 1, so as to permit a match to be struck without disturbing the position of the match book upon the cigarette case.

It is believed apparent that the invention is not necessarily confined to the specific use or uses thereof described above, since it may be utilized for any purpose to which it may be adapted. Nor is the invention to be necessarily limited to the specific construction illustrated and described, since such construction is only intended to be illustrative of the principles of operation and the means presently devised to carry out said principles, it being considered that the invention comprehends any minor change in construction that may be permitted within the scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

In a combined cigarette package case and match book holder, a receptacle having an open top, a bottom wall, front and back walls, and endwalls, a tongue having a lower end secured to said front wall at a point near the juncture of the front wall and said bottom wall, said tongue having a free upper end spaced below the open upper end of the receptacle, said tongue being spaced outwardly from said front wall, and a vertically elongated lip secured to the front wall at a point near and extending along the juncture of said front wall and one of said sidewalls, said lip being spaced outwardly from said front wall and being directed toward said tongue, said lip terminating in a free edge spaced from the opposite endwall of the receptacle, said receptacle having a removable cover on its open upper end, said cover having a lower edge positioned above the free upper end of said tongue in the space between said tongue and said front wall.

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