Oct. 15, 1957 H. S. FUTRAN 2,809,379

PORTABLE SHOWER STALL

Filed March 29, 1954

Fig. 1

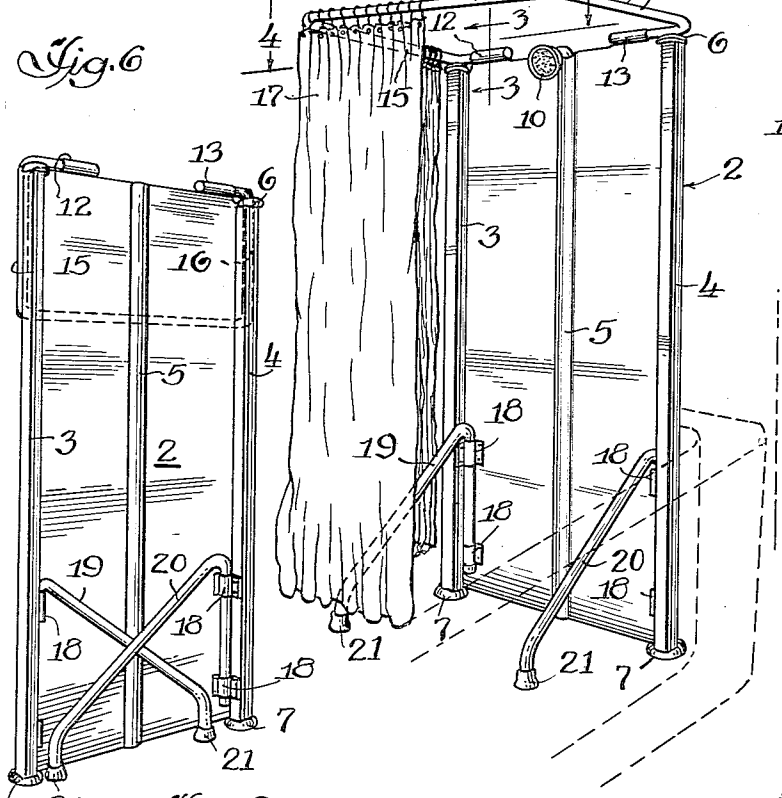


Fig. 6

Fig. 3

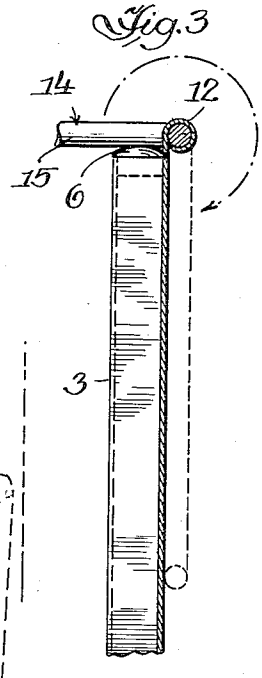


Fig. 2

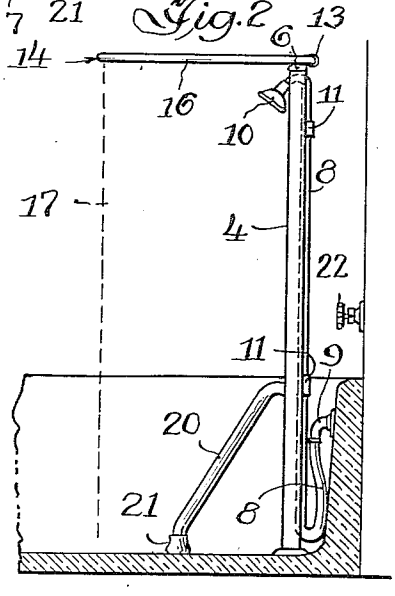


Fig. 5

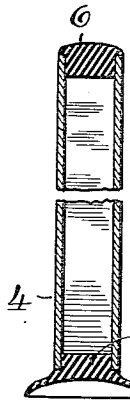
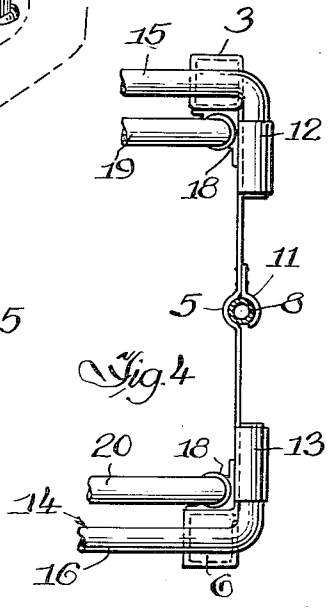


Fig. 4



Inventor,
Herbert S. Futran,
By: Schneider & Dressler,
Attys.

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PORTABLE SHOWER STALL

Herbert S. Futran, Chicago, Ill.

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8 Claims. (Cl. 4—149)

This invention relates to a portable shower stall and is particularly concerned with a shower stall that may easily be set up for use in a conventional bath tub and removed therefrom.

The shower stall contemplated by the present invention comprises a light framework that may be collapsed into a flat package requiring very little storage space. The framework preferably comprises a panel of substantially the same width as the inside of a conventional bath tub. A curtain rod is hinged to one end of the panel, and supporting legs are pivotally secured to opposite edges of the panel adjacent the other end. The panel may be of any suitable material, such as plastic, and is preferably provided with an integral reinforcing rib which also serves to hold the hose in place. The panel may be hinged or telescoped to facilitate packing and storage.

Although the shower stall may be made in any convenient size, it is designed especially for small children. It is perfectly safe for children of all ages, and a child taking a shower can not tamper with the flow of water. A mother can set up the shower stall in a bath tub, open the drain to make sure that the water will not accumulate in the tub, adjust the water to the desired temperature, place the child in the shower, and go about her other duties without worrying about the child. After the child is finished with the shower, the mother can turn off the water, disconnect the hose, and collapse the shower into a flat package that may be placed behind the door or in some similar storage place.

The structure by which the above and other advantages of the invention are attained will be described in the following specification, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, showing a preferred illustrative embodiment of the invention, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a shower stall embodying the present invention set up for use in a bath tub, with the bath tub partially shown in dotted lines;

Fig. 2 is a cross sectional view showing the shower stall set up in a bath tub;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary cross sectional view, taken along the line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a cross sectional view, taken along the line 4—4 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is a cross sectional view through one edge of the shower panel; and

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the shower stall in collapsed condition.

Referring to the drawings, the reference numeral 2 indicates a back panel which is preferably made of a thermosetting plastic material, but may be made of any suitable material that will not be deleteriously affected by exposure to hot or cold water and has sufficient strength for its intended purpose without being too heavy. The plastic material may be reinforced with fiber, if desired. Panel 2 is preferably provided with integrally formed tubular legs 3 and 4, at its opposite longitudinal edges, and with a centrally disposed vertically extending reinforcing rib 5 to provide the desired rigidity. Tubular legs 3 and 4 may be of any desired cross sectional configuration, but are preferably closed on all sides to prevent entrance of water therein. The upper ends of tubular members 3 and 4 are each provided with a cap 6, and the lower ends are provided with suction cups 7 which help to hold the shower stall in place.

The centrally disposed rib 5 is shown as having a semicircular cross sectional configuration to provide a recess for receiving a hose 8 adapted to be secured to the nozzle 9 of a faucet and provided at its free end with a shower head 10. In the embodiment shown in Fig. 4, a plurality of vertically spaced clips 11 are secured to panel 2 adjacent rib 5 to hold the hose 8 in place. Reinforcing rib 5 may be in the form of a tubular member to provide additional strength for the central longitudinal portion of the panel. Hose 8 is conventional flexible tubing, of plastic or rubber, and may be housed in the tubular reinforcing rib. The hose 8 may project through an aperture provided therefor in the tubular rib.

The upper end of panel 2 is provided with a pair of sleeves 12 and 13, into which opposite ends of a curtain rod 14 are pivotally mounted. The rod 14 is preferably provided with straight sides 15 and 16, which coincide respectively with tubular members 3 and 4 when curtain rod 14 is folded downwardly. When curtain rod 14 is in extended position it rests on caps 6 of tubular members 3 and 4 to hold it against accidental collapse. A flexible curtain 17 is conventionally supported on rod 14. The curtain may be removed before the shower stall is collapsed, or, if dry, may be folded and put away with the shower stall.

The lower portions of tubular members 3 and 4 are provided with brackets 18 for pivotally supporting legs 19 and 20, each of which is provided with a suction cup 21 to hold it in extended position against the bottom of the bath tub. Legs 19 and 20 are foldable inwardly to position them against panel 2 when the shower stall is collapsed.

In use, panel 2 is positioned in the bath tub in such a manner as to conceal the faucet or faucets 22 from a child placed on the opposite side of the panel. The hose is connected to nozzle 9 and the faucet is turned to provide the desired flow of water. The width of panel 2 prevents a child in the shower stall from tampering with faucet 22. Legs 19 and 20, when in extended position, serve as hand rails for the child taking a shower.

Panel 2 is illustrated as comprising a unitary member, but it may be hinged transversely to permit folding into a more compact package, or may be formed of two vertically telescopic parts, if desired.

The shower stall has been described for use by small children in connection with a bath tub having no permanent shower facilities. However, it may be made in a size suitable for use by adults, if desired. It should also be understood that when the shower stall is of the size intended for small children, it may be installed in a regular shower stall or in a bath tub provided with an overhead shower head. Panel 2 is positioned so that the shower head projects over it to direct the flow of water into the shower stall. The small shower stall serves the purpose of confining small children to an area commensurate with their size so that they are not likely to fall, and will be able to use the legs 19 and 20 to pick themselves up if they do fall.

Although I have described several preferred embodiments of my invention in considerable detail, it will be understood that the description thereof is intended to be illustrative, rather than restrictive, as many details of the structure may be modified or changed without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention. For example,

the back panel may comprise a rigid open frame covered by flexible material such as canvas or plastic. In this event, the panel might be provided with an intermediate transverse reinforcing member, if desired. Accordingly, I do not desire to be restricted to the exact construction described.

I claim:

1. A portable shower stall comprising a rigid panel, a curtain rod pivotally mounted on the upper edge of said panel, and a pair of supporting legs pivotally secured to said panel, said legs being adapted in one position to support said back panel in vertical position, said curtain rod and said supporting legs being each movable into a plane adjacent and parallel to the plane of said panel, whereby said shower stall may be packed compactly into a flat package.

2. A portable shower stall comprising a rigid panel, a curtain rod pivotally mounted on the upper edge of said panel, means on the upper edge of said panel to hold said curtain rod extended at right angles to said panel to support a curtain in spaced relationship to said panel, and a pair of supporting legs pivotally secured to said panel, said legs being adapted in one position to support said panel in vertical position, said curtain rod and said supporting legs being each movable into a plane adjacent and parallel to the plane of said panel, whereby said shower stall may be packed compactly into a flat package.

3. A portable shower stall comprising a panel having rigid longitudinal edge portions, a curtain rod pivotally mounted on the upper edge of said panel, the tops of said edge portions engaging said curtain rod in extended position to support it at right angles to said panel, a supporting leg pivotally secured to said panel adjacent each of said edge portions, said curtain rod and each of said legs being foldable against said panel to facilitate packing said shower stall into a compact flat package.

4. A portable shower stall comprising a rigid panel provided with edge portions along its longitudinal sides, a pair of supporting legs pivotally secured to said panel, and a curtain rod pivotally secured to the upper edge of said panel, the tops of said edge portions engaging said curtain rod for supporting it in extended position.

5. A portable shower stall comprising a rigid panel provided with edge portions along its longitudinal sides,

a cap member secured to the top of each of said edge portions, and a curtain rod pivotally secured to the upper edge of said panel, said cap members engaging said curtain rod for supporting it in extended position.

6. A portable shower stall comprising a panel having integral longitudinal edge portions and a centrally disposed integral reinforcing rib extending longitudinally of said panel to position a flexible hose relative to said shower stall, a curtain rod pivotally secured to the upper edge of said panel, and a pair of supporting legs secured to said panel, said legs being movable relative to said panel to position both legs against said panel or to space the lower end of each leg from the lower edge of said panel.

7. A portable shower stall comprising a panel having integral longitudinal edge portions and centrally disposed longitudinally extending means to house a flexible hose relative to said shower stall, a curtain rod pivotally secured to the upper edge of said panel, the tops of said edge portions engaging said curtain rod to support it in extended position, and a pair of supporting legs pivotally secured to said panel, said legs being movable from a position adjacent one surface of said panel to a position spaced from said surface to help support said panel in upright position.

8. A portable shower stall for use in a bath tub, said shower stall comprising a panel of less width than the inside width of a conventional bath tub, a plurality of suction cups secured to the lower edge of said panel and engageable with the bottom of said tub, a pair of legs pivotally secured to said panel, said legs each having a suction cup mounted on its lower end and engageable with the bottom of said tub, a curtain rod pivotally secured to said panel adjacent its upper edge, and means on the upper edge of said panel engaging said curtain rod to hold it in extended position.

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