Sept. 3, 1957 J. COMFORT 2,805,013

GARMENT HANGER

Filed April 19, 1955

Fig. 1

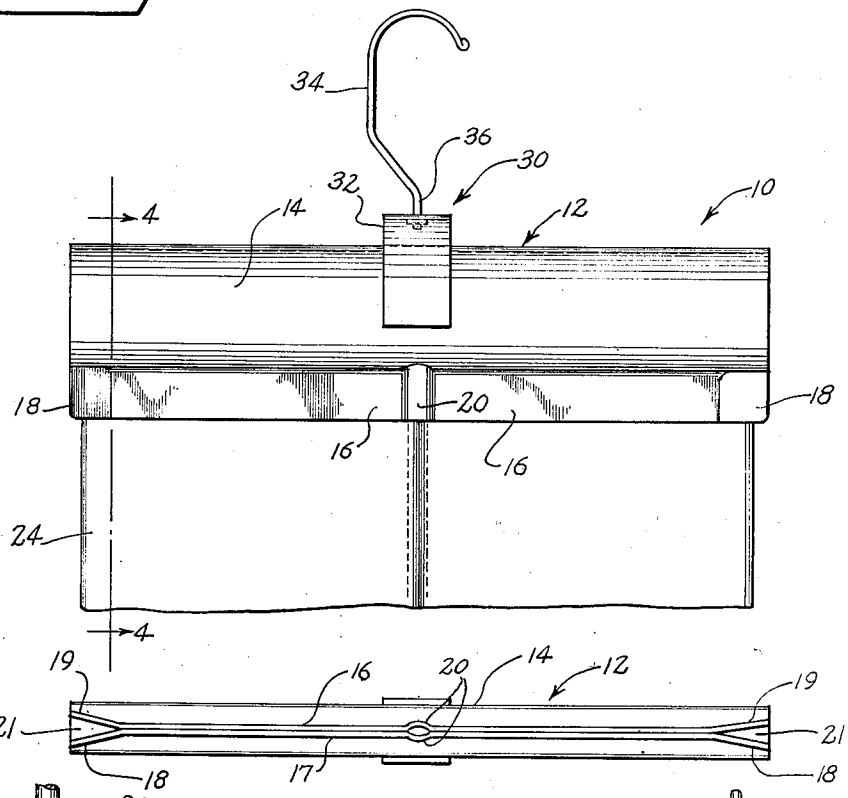


Fig. 2

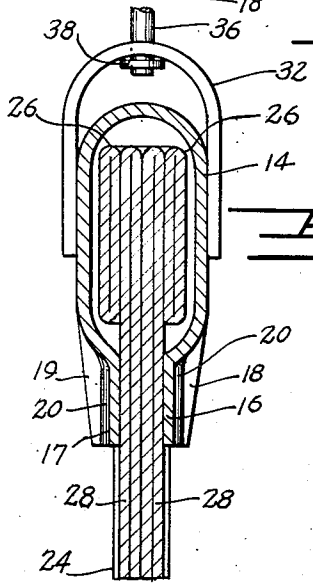


Fig. 4

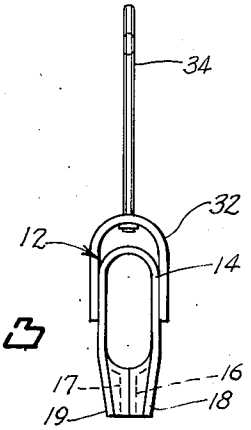


Fig. 3

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GARMENT HANGER

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2 Claims. (Cl. 223—96)

This invention relates to an improved hanger, especially but not exclusively for trousers.

Most usually, in the cases of trousers hangers the clamping means thereof are clampably engaged directly with the cuffs of the trousers legs, with the trousers being suspended in an inverted postion. This manner is undesirable, because the trousers may, by reason of their own weight or the failure of the clamping device to grip the cuffs securely, or by reason of an accidental force exerted upon the trousers, pull out of the clamp means. Further, the cuffs of trousers have, medially between the front and back creases of the trousers, transversely enlarged portions, in the form of seams which prevent the clamp means from gripping the trouser cuffs over sufficient area, so that over long periods of usage, the clamping means impart an unseemly appearance to the cuffs of the trousers by wearing of the seams.

The primary object of the present invention is to provide a generally improved trousers hanger arranged to engage the trouser legs beneath the cuffs thereof, in such manner as to hold the trousers securely and in neat condition, the trousers-engaging portions of the hanger being provided with means affording clearance for the seams of the legs and of the cuffs so that a proper grip upon the trousers will be had fully from the front to the back creases.

A further object is to form the trousers hanger in such a manner as to facilitate the insertion or removal of the trousers with maximum ease and facility.

Still another object is to provide a hanger as stated which is permanently tensioned, by reason of the inherent springable nature thereof, whereby the tension is retained permanently, as distinguished from various other hangers which, because of the methods and materials of manufacture thereof, are mechanically tensioned and tend to lose their tension over a period of time.

Still another object is to so design the trousers hanger as to permit the same to grip two pairs of trousers in side-by-side relation, or one pair if desired.

Other objects will appear from the following description, the claims 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 side elevational view of a garment hanger according to the present invention, a garment supported thereon being illustrated fragmentarily;

Figure 2 is a bottom plan view of the hanger with the trousers removed;

Figure 3 is an end elevational view of Figure 2; and

Figure 4 is an enlarged transverse sectional view on line 4—4 of Figure 1.

With continued reference to the drawing, the illustrated garment hanger is generally designated **10**. The garment hanger **10** comprises a clamping assembly **12** formed preferably of a single piece of material of inherently resilient nature, which may be a suitable plastic or other material suitable for the purpose. The garment clamping means **12** is in the form of an elongated, straight, thin-

walled, inverted channel-shaped body **14** formed open at its opposite ends, and may be formed from a flat blank of sheet material bent into the cross sectional shape shown. The sides **13** of the body **14** terminate in laterally inwardly curved portions **15** which merge into depending, straight, relatively wide flanges **16** and **17** extending from end to end of the body. The flanges **16** and **17** are normally in face-to-face contact with each other when the garment holder is not in use, as shown in Figure 3, due to the inherent resilience of the body **14**. However, the flanges can be spread apart against the resilience of the body **14** for the insertion therebetween of a garment to be held thereby. A garment may be a pair of trousers whose legs the flanges engage beneath the cuffs, or a skirt whose body the flanges engage beneath its hem portion.

At their opposite ends, the flanges **16** and **17** are formed with laterally outwardly bent lips **18** and **19**, respectively, which are in divergent relation to each other at the ends of the body **14** to provide flared inlet passages opening into the space between the flanges **16** and **17** when a garment is being inserted in the body **14**. Thus, the insertion of the garment is facilitated, since the inlet passages **21**, defined between the lips **18** and **19** at opposite ends of the flanges **16** and **17**, are sufficiently wide to accommodate the combined thicknesses of the trouser legs or of a skirt folded upon itself. After the garment has been inserted through one of the inlet passages **21**, movement of the garment longitudinally of the body will cause the garment to spread the flanges **16** and **17** against the restraint or resilience of the resilient body **14**.

Insertion of a garment in a passage spreads the flanges **16** and **17** apart a distance sufficient to permit free insertion of the cuffs or the hem portion of the garment within the body **14**, as shown in Figure 4, so that there is no gripping action against the legs or hem portion, but gripping action is exerted upon the legs or body of the garment by the clamping flanges **16** and **17**.

Formed in the flanges **16** and **17** medially between the opposite ends thereof are vertically extending, outwardly struck portions **20** defining grooves disposed in opposition for the accommodation of the seams of the legs or body of the garment.

In the case of a pair of trousers, the side seams of the trousers legs will be received in the grooves **20** which provide clearance for the seams so that the seams will not bear the full clamping action of the flanges **16** and **17** and the clamping action will be exerted against the trouser legs fully from the front to the back creases thereof with uniform pressure. In the case of a woman's skirt, the same will hold true with respect to the seams provided in the waistband thereof, where the waistband is enclosed within the body **14** and the body of the skirt is gripped in a smooth fashion by the flanges **16** and **17**. This holding action of the device with respect to a skirt is equally effective whether the skirt be inserted in an unfolded condition or is folded upon itself. In the event that it is desired to have the hanger specifically designed for accommodating unfolded skirts, it is merely necessary to make the body **14** and the flanges **16** and **17**, correspondingly longer to accommodate the greater width skirts.

As shown in the drawings, a pair of trousers **24** has cuffs **26** on legs **28**, the cuffs being disposed within the body **14** while the flanges **16** and **17** clamp therebetween the legs beneath the cuffs, as clearly shown in Figure 4.

Suspension means, generally designated **30**, is provided for the purpose of suspending the garment hanger **10** from a suitable support. The means **30** comprises a generally U-shaped bracket **32** having its opposite legs disposed outwardly of the sides of the body **14** and secured

thereto at a mid-point location intermediate the ends of the body, with the bight portion of the bracket in vertically spaced concentric relation above the upper surface of the body, remote from the flanges **16** and **17**. A hook **34** has its lower straight shank portion **36** passing through a suitably formed aperture in the bight portion of the bracket and provided with a stop element **38**, which may be a nut or washer, to prevent the hook **34** from being accidentally removed from the bracket.

While there is shown and described the preferred embodiment of the invention, it is to be understood that the structure is susceptible to change and modification within the practicability of the invention and therefore should be limited only by the scope of the claims appended hereto.

What is claimed is:

1. In a garment hanger, a resilient inverted channel shaped body having sides terminating in laterally inwardly directed portions merging into depending relatively wide clamping flanges extending the length of the body, the sides of the body being spaced from each other at a distance sufficient to receive therebetween the cuffs of a trousers in unclamped condition, said clamping flanges being flat substantially throughout their length and width and having facing sides normally engaged with each other in an unspread condition of the body, the flanges being arranged to be spread apart to receive therebetween and clamp therebetween the legs of trousers whose cuffs are positioned above the flanges and within said body, and means secured to the body for suspending the hanger from a support.

2. In a garment hanger, a resilient inverted channel shaped body having sides terminating in laterally inwardly directed portions merging into depending relatively wide clamping flanges extending the length of the body, the sides of the body being spaced from each other at a distance sufficient to receive therebetween the cuffs of a trousers in unclamped condition, said clamping flanges being flat substantially throughout their length and width and having facing sides normally engaged with each other in an unspread condition of the body, the flanges being arranged to be spread apart to receive therebetween and clamp therebetween the legs of trousers whose cuffs are positioned above the flanges and within said body, and means secured to the body for suspending the hanger from a support, said facing sides of the clamping flanges being provided with vertical grooves located intermediate the ends of the flanges for receiving seams on the legs of trousers clamped between the flanges.

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