Aug. 8, 1950 H. J. THRUSH 2,518,098

GARMENT HANGER

Filed Nov. 8, 1947 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

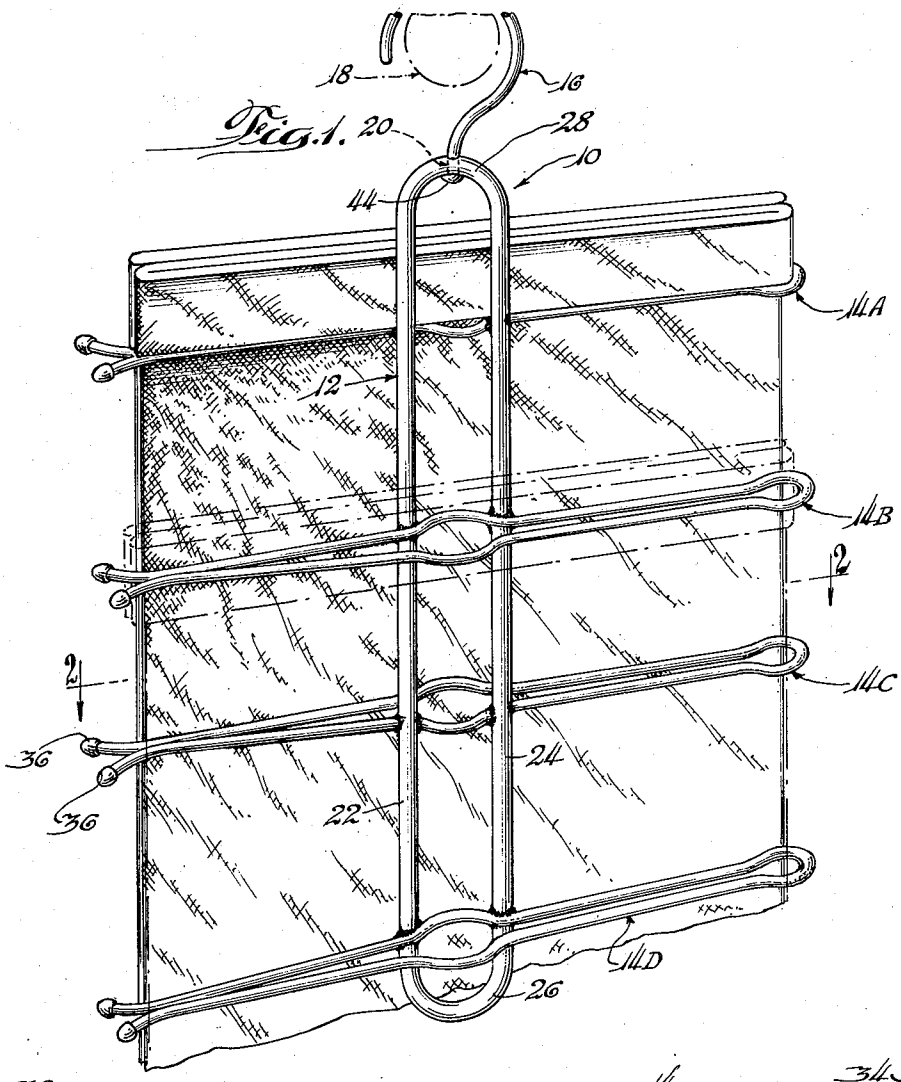


Fig. 1.

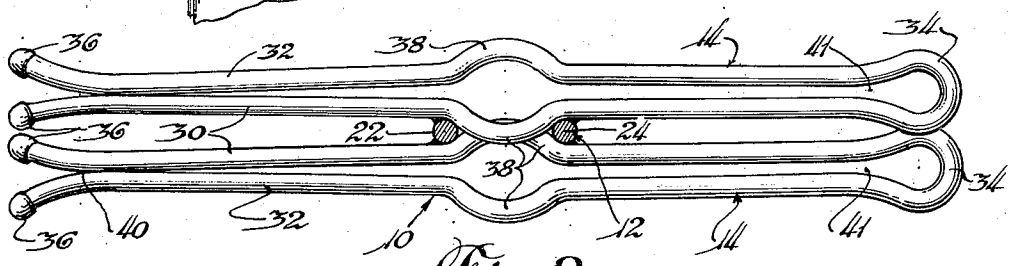


Fig. 2.

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Filed Nov. 8, 1947 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 3.

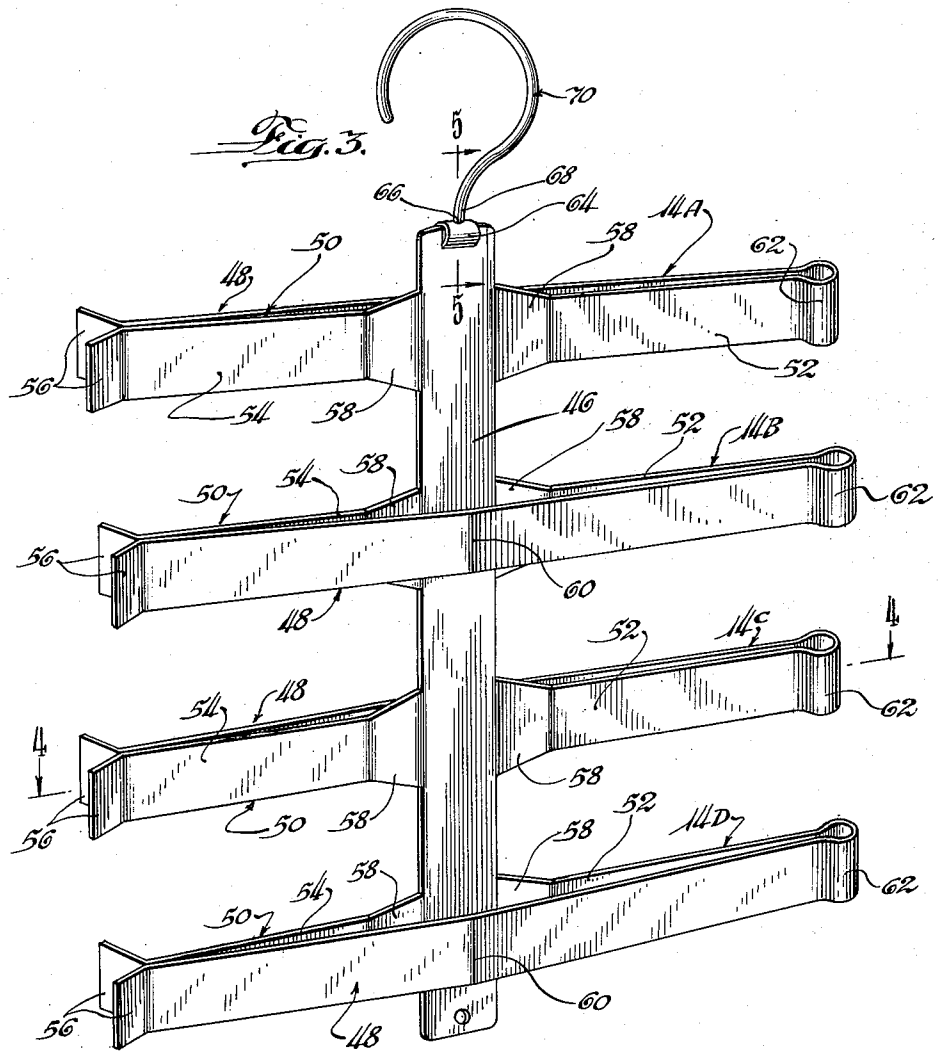


Fig. 4.

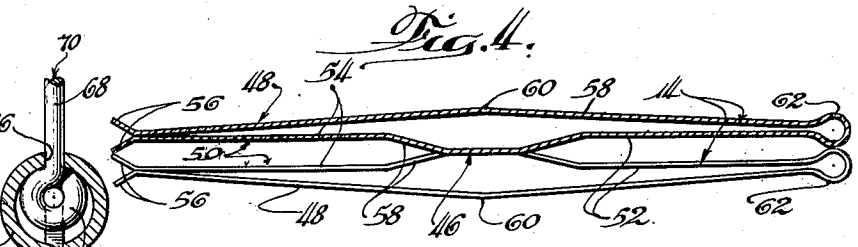
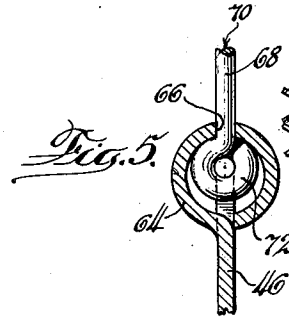


Fig. 5.



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GARMENT HANGER

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6 Claims. (Cl. 223—96)

1

The present invention relates generally to garment hangers and in particular to an improved garment hanger which is adapted to hold several garments at one time and in such manner that one garment can be removed without removing or disturbing any of the other garments on the hanger.

Conventional hangers for holding men's trousers or pants and women's skirts are designed for a single garment. Such hangers frequently comprise a pair of arms or bars and a device for causing the arms or bars to be brought together so as firmly to clamp or grasp the garment between their adjacent faces. The clamping arms are secured to a hook so that the hanger can be hung upon a clothes rod or some such similar support. Another type of hanger comprises a bar to which is secured a pair of spring type clips which may be opened so as removably to receive and hold a pair of trousers or a skirt. These prior art hangers are common and well known and have received commercial acceptance, but they have certain disadvantages which the hanger of the present invention overcomes.

Frequently a person finds it necessary to hang two garments or more on the same hanger, particularly when he has not enough hangers or insufficient space on the clothes rod prevents the use of two hangers. In such cases two or three garments are hung from between the clamping arms or bars or from the clips. Since these prior art clothes hangers are adapted to hold but a single garment, it not infrequently happens, particularly when the garments are of heavy weight or comprise several folds of cloth, that the normal capacity of the hanger is exceeded and the means for applying the clamping pressure has insufficient force to maintain the clamping action. Then all of the garments fall to the floor, becoming soiled and mussed. Furthermore, when a single capacity garment hanger of the prior art type is used for holding two garments such as two pairs of trousers or two skirts, in order to remove one of the two garments it is necessary to remove both and then replace the one which is not desired.

Another disadvantage attendant upon use of hangers of single garment capacity is that when a number of garments are hung from a clothes rod, one from each hanger, the space that the hangers occupy is considerably greater than the space which would be taken up by the garments alone. This is due to the construction of the hangers whereby the trousers or skirt is grasped between a pair of bars, and consequently the space

2

which is occupied by the garment is increased by the additional space requirement of the hanger itself.

It is, therefore, a principal object of the present invention to provide a garment hanger from which a plurality of garments may be hung and which overcomes all of the disadvantages attendant upon the single garment capacity hangers of the prior art.

It is a further object to provide an improved garment hanger having means for securing a plurality of garments in hanging position so that each garment can be removed without the necessity of removing or disturbing any other garment.

It is a further object to provide an improved garment hanger from which a multiplicity of garments can be hung so that each garment is supported independently of the other garments and all of the garments hang so that none of them become mussed, soiled or wrinkled.

Still another object is to provide an improved garment hanger for the purpose of holding a multiplicity of garments in such a manner that when hung upon a clothes rod the hanger and garments take up less room in the storage space than the garments would if each were hung from a separate hanger.

It is still another object of this invention to provide an improved multiple capacity garment hanger which is adapted to hold a plurality of men's trousers or women's skirts or a combination of men's trousers and women's skirts and is adapted to accommodate them regardless of the number of thicknesses of cloth or the weight of the cloth from which the garment is made.

It is a still further object of the present invention to provide an improved garment hanger which is simple in construction and economical to manufacture.

A still further object is to provide an improved garment hanger the main body of which may be formed from a single piece of material.

Other objects and advantages will become apparent from the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of one form of the improved garment hanger of the present invention showing the manner in which the hanger holds a plurality of garments;

Fig. 2 is a horizontal cross-sectional view, on a slightly enlarged scale, of the garment hanger illustrated in Fig. 1 and may be considered as being taken substantially along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows;

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 1, illustrating another form of the present invention;

Fig. 4 is a horizontal cross-sectional view of the garment hanger shown in Fig. 3 and may be considered as being taken substantially along the line 4—4 of Fig. 3, looking in the direction of the arrows; and

Fig. 5 is a cross-sectional view on a greatly enlarged scale illustrating in detail the swivel mounting for securing the hook to the main body of the hanger, and may be considered as being taken substantially along the lines 5—5 of Fig. 3, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Referring primarily to that form of the invention illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, reference character 10 indicates generally the improved hanger of the present invention which is shown to comprise a standard 12 which when the hanger is in use is arranged substantially vertically, a plurality of clamping members 14, each of which is adapted to hold a single garment such as one pair of trousers or one skirt, and a hook 16 by means of which the hanger may be hung from a clothes rod 18, the hook 16 being pivotally secured to the standard 12 at 20.

The standard 12 consists of an elongated closed loop of wire so that there are provided a pair of side members 22 and 24 interconnected by curved or semi-circular ends 26 and 28. The standard 12 may be formed of a single piece of wire of sufficient diameter to carry the weight which is to be held by the hanger and bent to the shape shown in Fig. 1. The adjacent ends of the wire are preferably brazed to close the loop.

Each of the clamps 14 is formed of a single piece of wire bent to the shape shown most clearly in Fig. 2. Thus, each clamp comprises a pair of arms 30, 32 which at one end are interconnected by a loop 34. Opposite the loop 34 the termini of the arms 30, 32 are deformed at 36 to a knob or ball shape so that the free ends of the arms 30 and 32 do not present sharp edges which could catch upon or tear the garments. Furthermore, these knobs give an attractive appearance to the hanger.

Intermediate their free ends and the loop 34 the arms 30 and 32 are provided with oppositely and outwardly formed relatively short curved sections 38 so as to provide a space at approximately the center of each of the clamps 14 to accommodate the additional material present in the side seams of men's trousers. Each of the arms 30 and 32 converge toward the free ends so that they have a point of contact at 40 adjacent the ends when no garment is held by the clamp. The arms similarly converge toward the loop 34 but are spaced apart slightly at 41 adjacent the loop. This particular shape insures that the free ends of the arms 30, 32 will be urged toward each other with enough pressure firmly to hold the garment. The spacing at 41 is sufficient to permit insertion of the garment, yet the clamping pressure exerted by the arms 30, 32 by virtue of the loop 34 and offsets 38 acts sufficiently uniformly along the clamp 14 to hold the garment so that it hangs straight down.

Each clamp 14 is secured to the standard 12 by the arm 30 which is brazed to the members 22 and 24. The arm 30 is positioned against the standard 12 so that the offset portion 38 lies between the members 22 and 24, thus centering the clamp 14 relative to the support.

The clamps 14 are arranged so that they are on alternate sides of the standard 12, that is, so that the top clamp 14A is on the far side of the

standard 12 (Fig. 1), clamp 14B is on the near side, clamp 14C is on the far side, and clamp 14D is on the near side, giving an alternate arrangement. For clarity of illustration, only a single pair of trousers has been shown by full lines, hung from one of the clamps. However, it will be appreciated that if a pair of trousers is hung from the clamp 14C, a pair of trousers hung from the clamp 14A will overlie the pair hung from the lower clamp. This is likewise true of the clamps 14D and 14B. It will be further appreciated that a pair of trousers, for instance, hung from clamp 14B can be removed without disturbing a pair held by the clamp 14A or any of the other clamps. It is a relatively easy matter to remove the trousers from the clamp 14C even though there be a pair on the clamp 14A and overlying the pair which is being removed. It is clear that any garment which is hung from any one of the four clamps can be removed without removing or disturbing any of the other garments. It is likewise true that a garment may be placed upon the hanger in an empty clamp without disturbing any garment already held by the hanger.

The hook 16 by means of which the hanger is supported from a clothes rod or other suitable support is of conventional shape and its lower end projects through a hole 42 in the top curved end 28 of the standard 12. The lower extremity of the hook 16 is upset to form a head 44 which engages the standard 12 on the inner side of the looped end 28. This connection permits swivelling or pivoting the standard 12 about its vertical axis. This pivotal mounting is convenient so that one side or the other of the hanger can be turned to face a person when a garment is being added to or removed from the hanger.

While there is shown in Fig. 1 a hanger having but four clamps, it will be readily appreciated that the hanger may be made with two or any number of clamps, the number being limited by practical expediency so that a garment hung from the lowermost clamp would be held sufficiently off the floor so as not to be in the way of shoes or any other article of attire which customarily is placed upon the floor of a closet. It is preferable, of course, that the hanger be provided with an even number of clamps so that the alternate arrangement can be carried out completely and the same number of clamps provided upon each side of the hanger.

In Figs. 3 to 4 there is illustrated a second form of the invention which is similar in its utility and principle to the form shown in Figs. 1 and 2 and in which the standard and the clamping elements are made from a single piece of sheet metal. In this modification the standard 46 is flat and has its width running parallel to the longitudinal axes of the clamps 14. Each of the clamps 14 (Figs. 3 to 5) comprises a pair of vertically flat bars or arms 48 and 50, the arms 50 having an inner portion 52 and an outer end 54 which are integral with the standard 46. The outer portions 54 and the free ends of the bars 48 are provided with diverging ends 56 to permit the easy insertion of a garment between the bars 48 and 50.

The portions 52 and 54 of the inner arm 50 are formed with integral connecting portions 58 which are bent toward the standard 46 and are integral therewith. These portions 58 and the standard 46 are adjacent an outward bend 60 in the arms 48. This construction provides for a greater spacing between the arms 48 and 50

adjacent the center of each of the clamps 14 to allow sufficient space for the multiple thicknesses of cloth at the side seams of trousers.

At their closed or inner ends the arms 48 and 50 are formed with integral loops 62 which are similar to and perform the same functions as the loops 34. The shape and construction of these clamps provide inherent spring pressure which urges the arms 48 and 50 toward each other so that a clamping pressure may be exerted on the garment supported by the hanger.

The hanger illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4 can be made extremely readily by a simple blanking and bending process comprising comparatively few steps and thus is relatively inexpensive to manufacture.

The upper end of the standard 46 is formed with a closed loop portion 64, integral with the body of the standard 46 (Fig. 5). The loop 64 is pierced at 66 to provide a hole for the insertion of lower end 68 of a hook 70, similar to the hook 16 of the embodiment of Fig. 1. The hook 70 is prevented from sliding freely through the hole 66 by a looped portion 72 which engages within the loop 64. The wire loop 72 pivots freely within the enclosure 64 and provides a swivel arrangement for the hanger.

From the foregoing description it is clear that there is provided by this invention a garment hanger particularly adapted for men's trousers and women's skirts which attains all of the objects claimed for it in the opening paragraphs of this specification. While there are but two forms of the invention shown in the drawings and described in the specification, it will be clear to those skilled in the art that other modifications and forms can be made without departing from the spirit and scope of this invention.

What is new and claimed by United States Letters Patent is:

1. A garment hanger adapted to hold two or more garments comprising a generally vertically arranged central standard, a plurality of vertically spaced garment clamps secured to the standard, said garment clamps being arranged with vertically adjacent clamps positioned on opposite sides of the standard so that a garment held by a clamp on one side of the standard will have its lower hanging portion overlying the upper portion of a garment hung from a lower clamp on the same side of the standard and so that garments held by clamps on opposite sides of the standard will not overlie each other, and means for removably hanging the standard from a fixed support such as a clothes rod.

2. A garment hanger adapted to hold two or more garments comprising a generally vertically arranged central standard, a plurality of vertically spaced garment clamps supported by the standard, said garment clamps being arranged with vertically adjacent clamps positioned on opposite sides of the standard so that a garment held by a clamp on one side of the standard will have its lower hanging portion overlying the upper portion of a garment hung from a lower clamp on the same side of the standard and so that garments held by clamps on opposite sides of the standard will not overlie each other, and means for removably hanging the standard from a fixed support such as a clothes rod, said means being pivotally secured to the standard so that the latter may be turned about its vertical axis while hung from the fixed support.

3. A garment hanger adapted to hold two or more garments comprising a generally vertically arranged central standard, a plurality of vertically spaced garment clamps supported by and formed integrally with the standard, said garment clamps being arranged with vertically adjacent clamps positioned on opposite sides of the standard so that a garment held by a clamp on one side of the standard will have its lower hanging portion overlying the upper portion of a garment hung from a lower clamp on the same side of the standard and so that garments held by clamps on opposite sides of the standard will not overlie each other, and means for removably hanging the standard from a fixed support such as a clothes rod.

4. A garment hanger adapted to hold two or more garments comprising a generally vertically arranged standard formed of a wire loop having substantially parallel vertically extending sides, a plurality of vertically spaced garment clamps, each garment clamp comprising a wire member bent back upon itself so as to have a closed end and an open end and a pair of arms, each of said arms being bowed slightly outwardly at approximately its midpoint, each clamp being secured to the standard sides by one arm at points adjacent the two sides of the bowed out portion, said garment clamps being arranged with vertically adjacent clamps positioned on opposite sides of the standard so that a garment held by a clamp on one side of the standard will have its lower hanging portion overlying the upper portion of a garment hung from a lower clamp on the same side of the standard and so that garments held by clamps on opposite sides of the standard will not overlie each other, and means for removably hanging the standard from a fixed support such as a clothes rod.

5. A garment hanger adapted to hold two or more garments comprising a generally vertically arranged standard formed of a wire loop having substantially parallel vertically extending sides, a plurality of vertically spaced garment clamps, each garment clamp comprising a U-shaped wire member having a closed end and an open end, each clamp being secured to both of the vertically extending sides of the standard, said garment clamps being arranged with vertically adjacent clamps positioned on opposite sides of the standard so that a garment held by a clamp on one side of the standard will have its lower hanging portion overlying the upper portion of a garment hung from a lower clamp on the same side of the standard and so that garments held by clamps on opposite sides of the standard will not overlie each other, and means for removably hanging the standard from a fixed support such as a clothes rod.

6. A garment hanger adapted to hold two or more garments comprising a generally vertically arranged standard formed of a wire element having substantially parallel vertically extending sides, a plurality of spaced garment clamps, each garment clamp comprising a wire member bent back upon itself so as to have a closed end and an open end and a pair of garment engaging arms, each of said arms being bowed slightly outwardly at approximately its midpoint to accommodate thicker garment portions such as seams, each clamp having one arm secured to both of the vertically extending sides of the standard at points adjacent the two sides of the bowed out portion, said garment clamps being arranged with adjacent clamps positioned on opposite sides of the standard so that a garment held by a clamp on one side of the standard will have its lower

hanging portion overlying the upper portion of a garment hung from a lower clamp on the same side of the standard and so that garments held by clamps on opposite sides of the standard will not overlie each other, and means for removably hanging the standard from a fixed support such as a clothes rod.

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