Sept. 16, 1958 G. G. RONA 2,852,055

HANDBAG CONSTRUCTION

Filed April 24, 1956

FIG. 1.

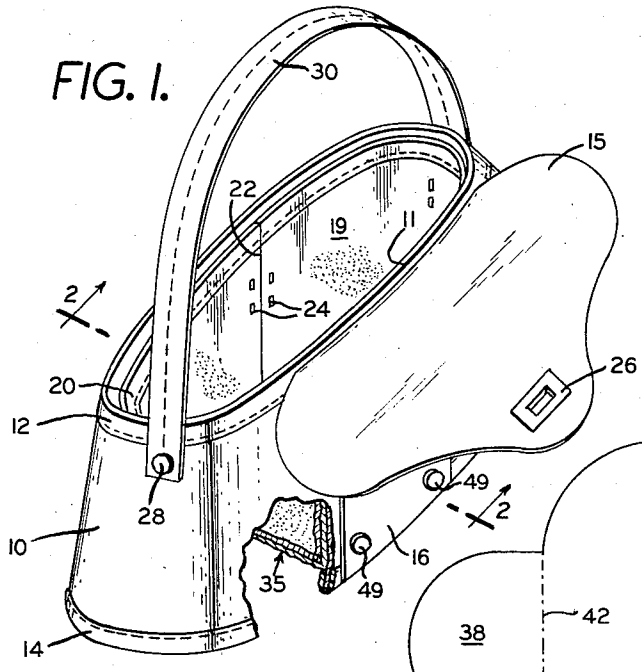


FIG. 3.

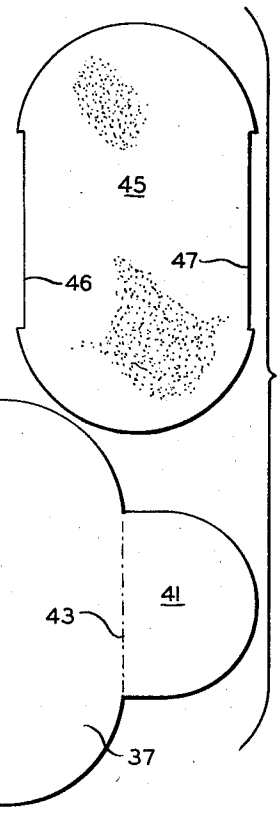


FIG. 2.

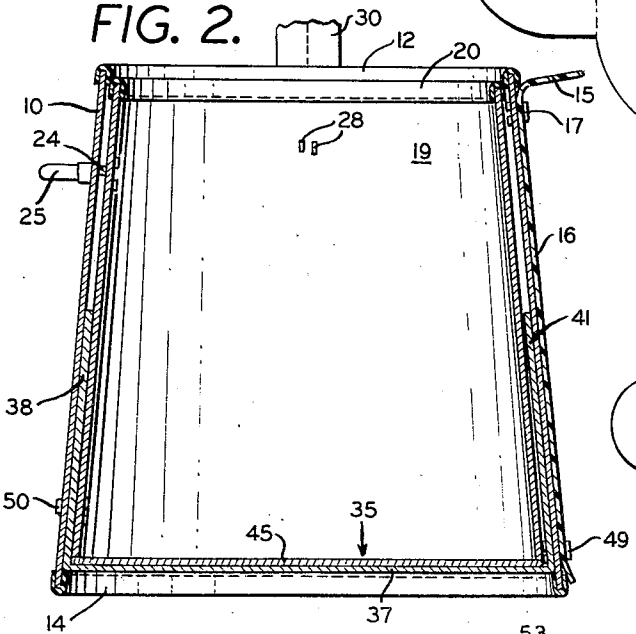


FIG. 5.

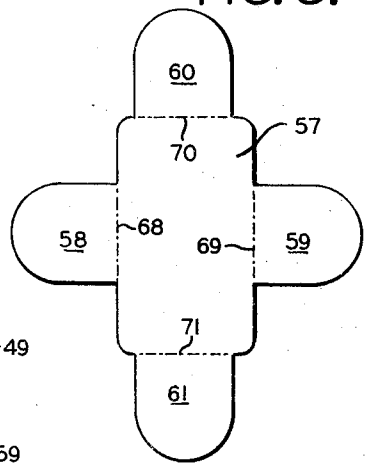
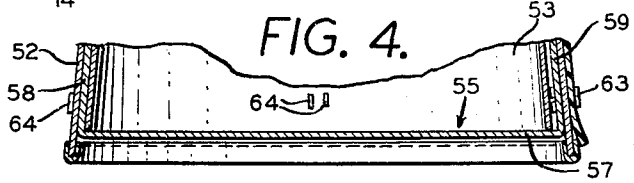


FIG. 4.



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HANDBAG CONSTRUCTION

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3 Claims. (Cl. 150—28)

This invention relates to handbags and, more particularly, to the construction thereof.

Along with the increasing interest in clothing fashions, handbags have assumed a very important role in the accessories field. As such, there has been an increasing demand for handbags which not only serve a utility purpose but which also serve a decorative purpose. In this regard, attention has been directed to the shape and configuration of the handbag and also to the color schemes of the interior and exterior surfaces. Of course, where the amount of time and expense of materials for styling purposes increases, so does the cost of the finished product. An object of this invention, therefore, is to provide a handbag of novel construction that is of efficient arrangement and attractive appearance.

A further object of this invention is to provide a handbag that contains a minimum number of parts and which may be efficiently and attractively assembled.

Another object of this invention is to provide novel floor construction for handbags that provides a plurality of color combinations and which is readily secured to the remaining elements of the handbag.

A still further object of this invention is to provide a handbag having few parts, each of which cooperates with the others to provide an attractive and sturdy handbag which is effective for the purposes intended and which can be manufactured and offered for sale at a reasonable cost.

All of the foregoing and still further objects and advantages of this invention will become apparent from a study of the following specification, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of handbag made in accordance with this invention, with the cover in open position and parts broken away to show detail.

Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view taken along line 2—2 of Fig. 1, showing the interior construction of one form of this invention.

Fig. 3 is a top elevational view of associated blanks used in connection with the floor construction of the handbag shown in Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 2, showing another form of construction in accordance with this invention.

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 3, showing a blank used in a modified floor construction of the handbag shown in Fig. 4.

Referring now to Figs. 1 to 3 of the drawing, a handbag made in accordance with this invention is shown to have an exterior shell **10** that is made of a strip of material formed into an elliptical shape having the ends meeting along a line at the rear thereof. The upper edge of the shell may be provided with beading **12** and the lower edge thereof may be provided with similar beading **14**. A one-piece closure construction **15** is adapted to overlie and close the top of the handbag and is secured thereto by means of a downwardly extending longitudinal strip **16** that is secured to the upper portion of the shell by any suitable means, such as rivets **17**. A similarly

formed interior shell **19** is disposed within the exterior shell **10**, as better shown in Fig. 2, and may have an upper beaded edge **20**. The interior shell **19** is also formed from a longitudinal strip of material that is formed into an elliptical shape in which the ends of the strip meet along a line **22**. A latch element **25** disposed on the outside of the handbag has a plurality of rivet elements **24** associated therewith, which extend through the exterior and interior shells **10**, **19**, respectively, and which assist in holding the respective shells in proper relative position. A cooperating latch element **26** is carried by the closure **15** and is adapted operatively to engage with the latch **25** on the handbag to hold the closure in closed position. A pair of fastening elements, such as rivets **28**, engage a carrying strap **30** at each end to secure it to the handbag, as shown in Fig. 1, wherein the rivets **28** also serve to maintain the interior and exterior shells in assembled position.

Referring now to Fig. 3 of the drawing, a pair of blanks **37**, **45**, which cooperate to form a floor structure **35** for the handbag are shown in disassembled position. The supporting blank **37** has a central portion having a configuration conforming to the lower margin of the outer shell **10** and has a pair of tabs **38**, **41**, projecting laterally outwardly therefrom, which are adapted to be folded along a longitudinal crease line **42**, **43**, respectively, associated therewith. The supported floor blank **45** is of similar configuration as the central portion of the supporting blank **37** but has a pair of recesses **46**, **47**, one of which is disposed along each longitudinal edge thereof. These recesses are of a dimension corresponding to the thickness of the tab portions **38**, **41**, and are adapted to accommodate the said tabs when they are folded upwardly, embracing the supported floor portion disposed on top of the centrally disposed portion of the supporting blank **37**.

In assembling the floor with the handbag, the interior floor **45** is placed in supporting engagement on top of the supporting blank **37** and the tabs **38**, **41**, are folded upwardly and inserted between the interior and the exterior shell portions, as shown in Fig. 2. In this manner, the floor is supported above the lower edge of the outer shell and the lower edge of the interior shell **19** engages the top surface of the blank **45**, thereby producing a smooth mating joint as viewed from the interior of the handbag. Held in this position, a plurality of rivets **49**, **50**, or the like, are used to secure the respective outer shell, tabs, and interior shell in proper assembled position.

It will be recognized that any suitable materials may be used for the construction of this handbag. A variety of color schemes may be achieved, however, by choosing matching or contrasting colors for interior and exterior surfaces. In this regard, the floor structure **35** may be so arranged that the supporting blank **37** may have one color on the exterior facing surfaces and the supported floor blank **45** may have the same or a different color than that used for the interior surface of the interior shell **19**. As only one surface of each floor blank **37**, **45**, is seen, it is necessary only to color or finish the respective visible surfaces thereof. Thus, a variety of color arrangements may be had at a minimum cost.

Referring now to Figs. 4 and 5 of the drawing, a modification of the present invention is shown, wherein a one-piece floor structure **55** is provided. In order to provide sufficient rigidity, this floor structure can be of substantially greater thickness than the material used for the floor structure **35**, shown in Fig. 2, or a different material may be substituted. This floor structure is also suitable for use with handbags of rectangular configuration that include similarly shaped outer and inner shells **52**, **53**, respectively. The floor blank **57** has a tab **58**,

59, 60, 61, projecting outwardly from each side thereof, each of which is adapted to be folded upwardly along an associated crease line 68, 69, 70, 71, associated, respectively, therewith. In assembling this floor structure, the tabs are folded upwardly and placed between the adjacent shells 52, 53, so that the lower edge of the inner shell 53 snugly engages the top surface of the floor 57. A plurality of securing means, such as rivets 63, 64, may be placed in secure engagement with the outer shell, the tabs, and the inner shell, so as to hold these elements in proper assembled engagement. It will be recognized that the blank used for the floor construction 55 may be colored the same on both sides, in contrasting colors, or may have only one side colored, as desired, so as to produce a particular effect.

It should be observed that the various forms of bag floor may be used without the necessity of having an inner shell. The tabs 38, 41 and 58, 59, 60, and 61 may be secured to a single, outer or inner shell of a bag, in any well known manner, as by riveting, glueing, stitching, etc. The location of the floor within the handbag is not limited. It may be secured at any position or location intermediate the top and bottom edges of the handbag shell.

While this invention has been described with particular reference to the specific forms shown in the drawing, it is to be understood that such showing is for illustrative purposes only and not to be construed as imparting limitations upon the invention, which is best defined by the claims appended hereto.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. A handbag comprising in combination, a body and a floor, said body comprising an outer shell, an inner shell of substantially the same configuration, said inner shell being disposed within said outer shell, said floor being secured to said body and comprising an assembly of substantially the same configuration as said body, said assembly having a plurality of tabs projecting therefrom and extending between said inner and said outer shells,

the lower edge of said inner shell being disposed in engagement with the upper surface of said floor assembly and said assembly being disposed above the lower edge of said outer shell, said floor assembly comprising a supporting blank and a floor blank supported thereon, said tabs projecting from said supporting blank, and means securing said tabs to said body.

2. A handbag as set forth in claim 1, wherein said supported floor blank is of substantially the same configuration as said supporting blank, said lower edge of said inner shell overlying said supported floor blank, said inner shell thereby locking said supported floor blank against displacement relative thereto, said tabs being folded upwardly into embracing engagement with said supported floor blank and said supported floor blank being recessed along the edges thereof to accommodate said upwardly folded tabs.

3. A handbag comprising in combination a body and a floor, said floor comprising an assembly of substantially the same configuration as the transverse cross-section of said body, said assembly comprising a supporting blank and a floor blank supported thereon, the supporting blank having two opposed tabs projecting therefrom, means for securing said tabs to said body, said tabs being folded upwardly into embracing engagement with said supported blank, said supported blank having recesses adjacent to the edges thereof to accommodate said tabs and an interior shell overlying and securing said supported floor blank in proper assembled relationship therewith.

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