July 15, 1952 C. J. ERICKSON ET AL 2,602,936

BATHTUB SUPPORTING BRACKET

Filed Sept. 30, 1949 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1

Fig. 1.

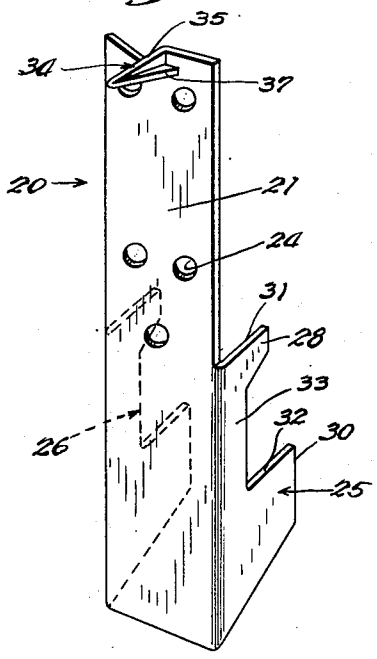


Fig. 2.

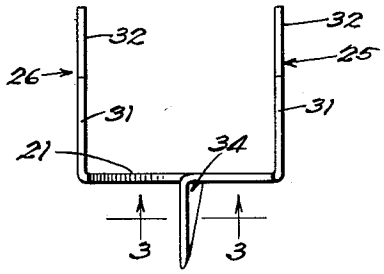


Fig. 3.

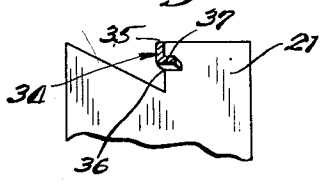


Fig. 4.

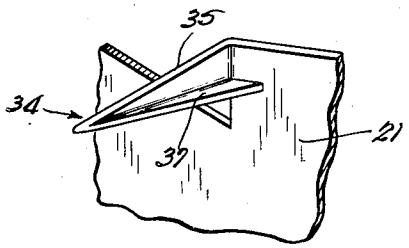


Fig. 5.

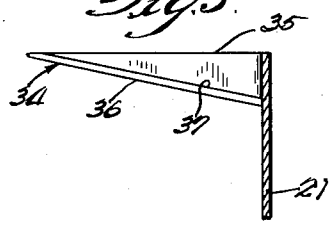
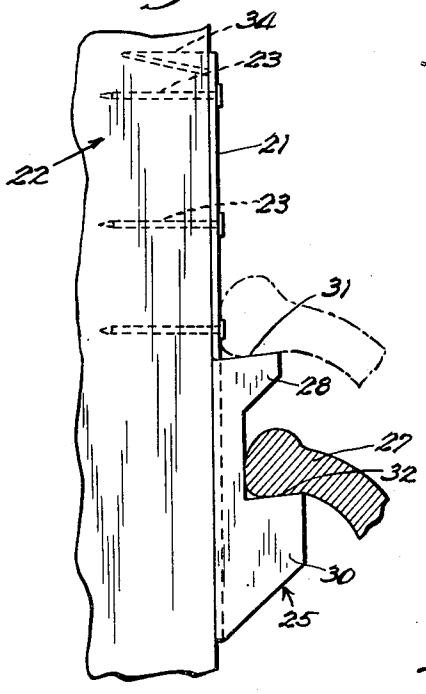


Fig. 6.



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BATHTUB SUPPORTING BRACKET

Filed Sept. 30, 1949 2 SHEETS—SHEET 2

Fig. 7.

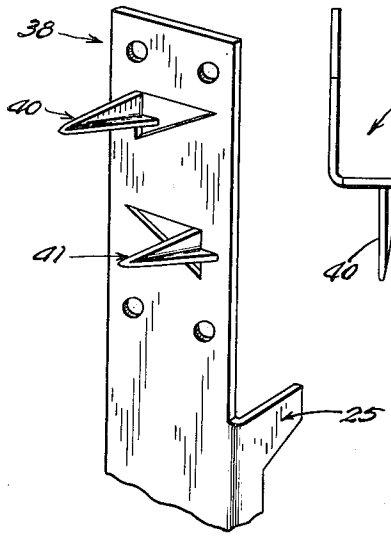


Fig. 8.

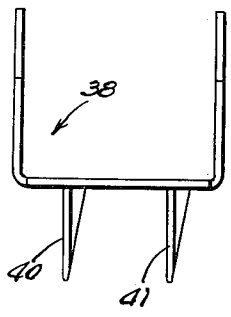


Fig. 9.

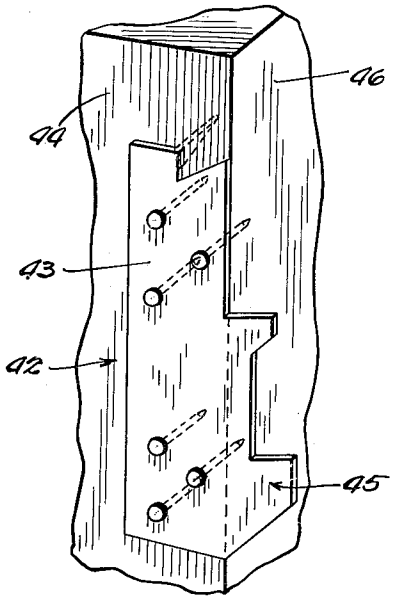


Fig. 10.

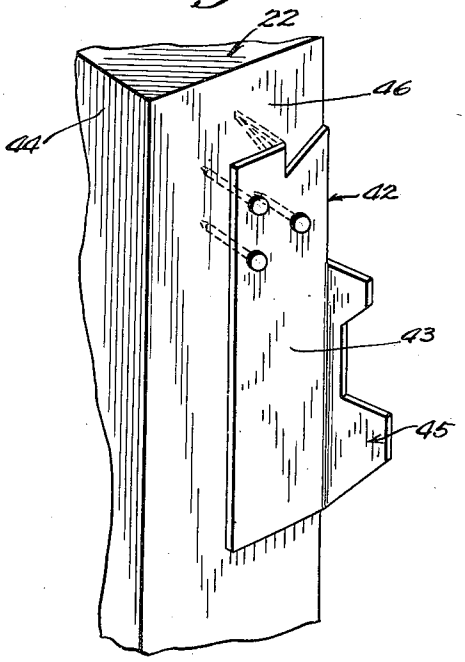


Fig. 11.

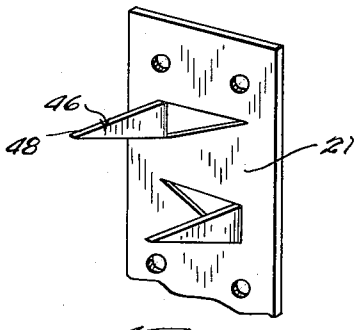
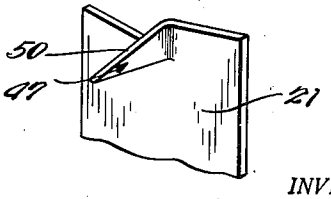


Fig. 12.



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Patented July 15, 1952 2,602,936

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,602,936

BATHTUB SUPPORTING BRACKET

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Application September 30, 1949, Serial No. 118,826

5 Claims. (Cl. 4—173)

1

This invention relates to improvements in a bracket of the type disclosed in our prior Patent #1,938,818 issued December 12, 1933, for supporting bathtubs and the like on wall studs.

The improvements embodied in this invention have for one of their objects the provision of means on the bracket whereby the bracket will retain its proper relative position with respect to the supporting stud while being permanently secured thereto.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a bracket having its tub-engaging portion shaped so as to afford greater support for the tub.

It is a still further object of this invention to provide a bracket which is simple in construction, effective in operation, and inexpensive to produce.

Further and additional objects will appear from the description, accompanying drawings and appended claims.

In accordance with one embodiment of this invention a bracket is provided comprising an elongated, substantially flat, stud engaging, base portion having the lower part thereof formed into a pair of offset, parallel flanges. The upper edges of the flanges are adapted to serve as ledges for the rim of the bathtub supported thereby. Formed in the upper part of the base portion is a stud-piercing element having the upper edge thereof at substantially a right angle to the base portion and the lower edge thereof sloping upwardly from the base portion.

For a more complete understanding of this invention reference should be made to the drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of one form of bracket.

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the bracket shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary sectional view of the bracket taken along line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of the upper end portion of the bracket shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary side elevational view of the structure shown in Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary side elevational view of the bracket shown in Fig. 1 operatively mounted on a wall stud and having the rim of the bathtub engaging the flange portion of the bracket.

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary perspective view of a modified form of bracket.

Fig. 8 is a top plan view of the bracket shown in Fig. 7.

2

Fig. 9 is a fragmentary perspective view of another modified form of bracket shown operatively mounted on a wall stud.

Fig. 10 is a fragmentary perspective view of the bracket shown in Fig. 9 but with the tub-supporting flange thereof bent into angular relation with respect to the base portion of the bracket.

Fig. 11 is a fragmentary perspective view showing a modified form of the struck-out fingers disclosed in Fig. 7.

Fig. 12 is a fragmentary perspective view showing a modified form of the struck-out finger disclosed in Fig. 1.

Referring now to the drawings, and more particularly to Figs. 1 through 6, a bracket 20 is shown for supporting bathtubs and the like on adjacent wall studs 22. The bracket is preferably constructed of sheet metal and comprises an elongated, substantially flat plate or base portion 21 which is adapted to engage one surface of the stud 22 and to be secured thereto by nails or screws 23 which extend through openings 24 provided in said base portion. Formed at the lower part of the base portion 21 is a pair of parallel flanges 25 and 26 which extend outwardly at right angles to the face of the stud 22 and base portion 21 and are adapted to engage the underside of the rim 27 of the bathtub, as shown in Fig. 6. The outer edge of each flange is deformed so as to provide a pair of vertically spaced lugs 28 and 30. The upper or rim-engaging edges 31 and 32 of lugs 28 and 30, respectively, are inclined downwardly toward the base portion 21 and thereby more positively engage the rim 27.

When the finished wall is to be constructed of tile, the rim 27 is supported by the lower lug 30 and the edge of the rim abuts a web 33 formed in the edge of the flange and is held in spaced relationship with respect to the base portion of the bracket as shown in Fig. 6 in order to accommodate the tile. When the wall is to be covered with only a thin coat of plaster the rim 27 is positioned on the upper lug 28 whereby the edge of the rim abuts the base portion 21 of the bracket as seen in dotted lines in Fig. 6.

There is provided in the upper part of base portion 21 a struck-out finger 34 which is substantially triangular in shape. The upper edge 35 of the finger 34 is substantially horizontal or at a right angle with respect to the base portion, and the underside or edge 36 of the finger inclines upwardly from the base portion 21 as shown in Fig. 5. The finger 34 is pointed and adapted to be embedded in the stud 22 and temporarily hold the bracket in a predetermined location on the

stud while it is being permanently fastened thereto by means of nails or screws **24**. Thus finger **34** prevents any sagging or slipping of the bracket while it is being fastened to the stud. The finger **34** is substantially L-shaped in cross section. The cross leg **37** of finger **34** is at a right angle to the vertical leg **39** thereof, and likewise inclines upwardly from the base portion **21**, the upwardly inclined lower edge **36** of the finger causes a component force to be exerted upwardly on the finger when it is being driven into the stud, causing it to be urged upwardly into snug engagement with the bathtub rim. The cross leg **37** increases this upward component force and insures against sag or downward slip of the bracket in relation to the bathtub rim.

The modified form of bracket **38** shown in Fig. 7, is like bracket **20** in construction except that two struck-out fingers **40** and **41** are provided instead of the single finger **34**. The two fingers **40** and **41** enable the bracket **38** more readily to assume its correct position on the stud.

In Fig. 9 a modified form of bracket **42** is shown wherein the base portion **43** is adapted to be secured to the side surface **44** of the stud, and has a single, tub-supporting flange **45** formed in the lower part thereof. The flange **45** is in the same plane as the base portion and is adapted to extend beyond the front surface **46** of the stud. The outer edge of flange **45** is deformed in a manner similar to flanges **25** and **26** hereinbefore described.

As shown in Fig. 10, bracket **42** may be adapted for use in a manner similar to brackets **20** and **38**, that is to say, the base portion **43** is fastened to the front side or surface **46** of the stud adjacent the tub, and the flange **45** is bent at a right angle with respect to the base portion **43** and extends outwardly therefrom. In this instance, only a single tub-supporting flange is provided which reduces the load-carrying capacity of the bracket; however, the cost of manufacture is likewise reduced.

Modified forms of fingers **46** and **47** are shown in Figs. 11 and 12, which are substantially triangular in shape and have the upper edges **48** and **50** thereof substantially horizontal. The cross leg **37** of fingers **34**, **40** and **41** has been eliminated.

While several embodiments of this invention are shown above, it will be understood, of course, that the invention is not to be limited thereto, since many modifications may be made, and it is contemplated, therefore, by the appended claims to cover any such modifications as fall within the true spirit and scope of this invention.

We claim:

1. A device for use in supporting a bathtub on a vertical surface comprising a substantially flat, surface-engaging base portion, a surface-piercing element extending transversely from said base portion, and a flange formed at one end of said base portion and having the upper edge thereof adapted to support the underside of the rim of said tub; said surface-piercing element having the lower edge portion thereof of greater area than the upper edge portion thereof, said edge portions being angularly disposed with respect to one another.

2. A device for use in supporting a bathtub on a vertical wall, comprising an elongated, substantially flat, base portion mountable on said wall, a tapered, wall-piercing finger extending transversely from said base portion, and a flange, and extending outwardly from said base portion and having the upper edge thereof supporting the underside of the rim of said tub; said finger being substantially L-shaped in cross-section.

3. A device for use in supporting a bathtub on a wall, comprising an elongated, substantially flat, base portion mountable on said wall, a triangular-shaped, wall-piercing finger extending transversely from said base portion, and a ledge extending outwardly from said base portion and adapted to support the underside of the rim of said tub; said finger having the upper edge thereof substantially horizontal and the lower edge thereof sloping upwardly from said base portion.

4. A device for use in supporting a bathtub on a flat wall, comprising a wall-engaging base portion, a tub-engaging ledge formed on said base portion, and a wall-piercing element provided on said base portion and extending transversely therefrom; said element having the lower edge portion thereof extending angularly upwardly from said base portion and having a greater surface area than the upper edge portion thereof, said upper edge portion being disposed in a substantially horizontal plane.

5. A device for use in supporting a bathtub on a vertical wall, comprising a wall-engaging base portion, a bathtub-supporting member extending transversely from said base portion, and a wall-piercing element extending transversely from said base portion and being angularly disposed with respect to said bathtub-supporting member; said element having a surface thereof inclined with respect to said base portion whereby, upon said element piercing said wall in a direction substantially perpendicular with respect to the plane of said wall, said device will move relative to said wall in substantially the same direction as the inclination of said inclined surface from said base portion and effect a positive engagement between said bathtub and said bathtub-supporting member.

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CARL H. JOHNSON.

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