Dec. 4, 1934. E. G. BIBERMAN 1,983,116

WORK BASKET

Filed April 25, 1933

Fig. 1.

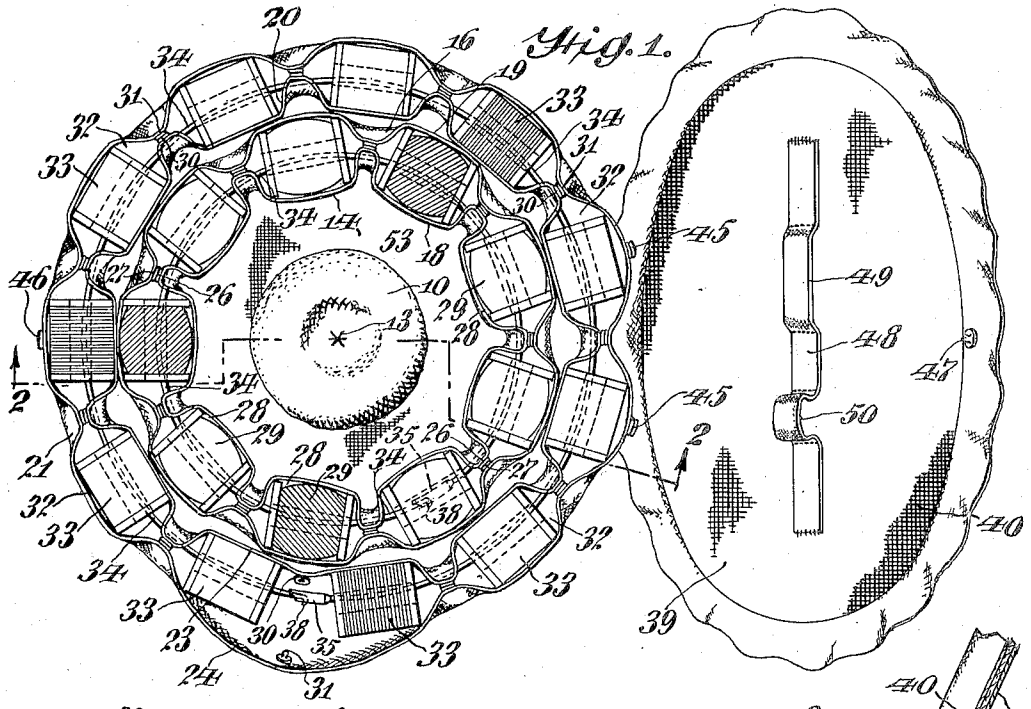


Fig. 2.

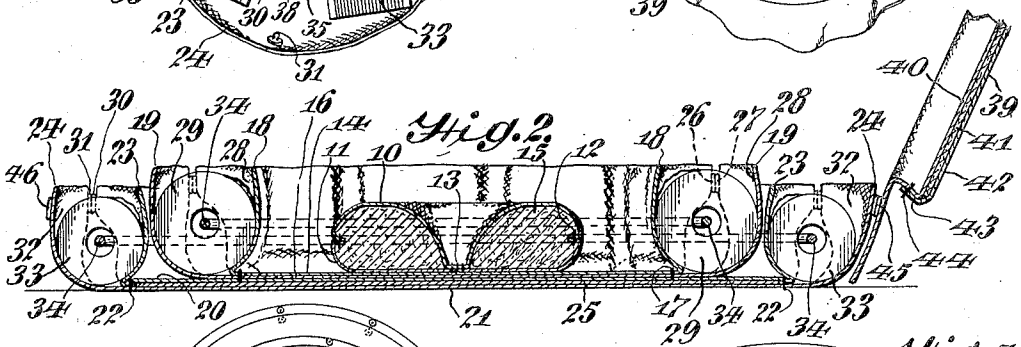


Fig. 3.

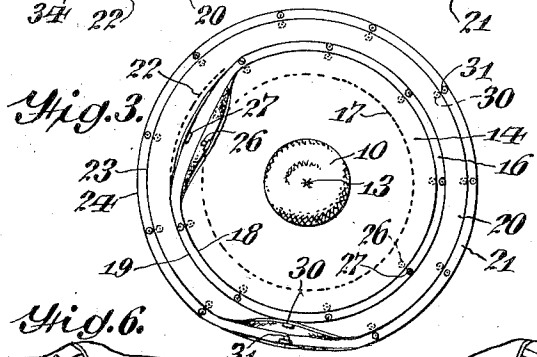


Fig. 4.

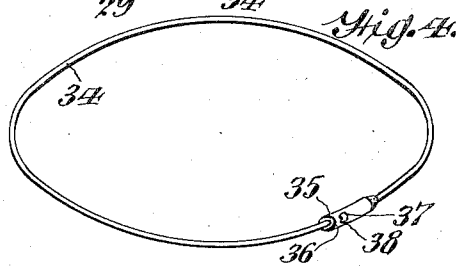


Fig. 5.

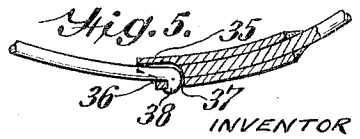
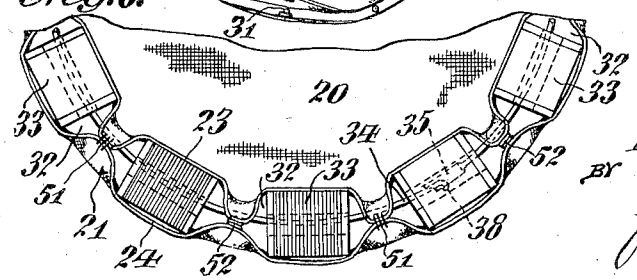


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,983,116

WORK BASKET

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Application April 25, 1933, Serial No. 667,803

6 Claims. (Cl. 223—53)

This invention relates to a novel and useful work basket which is designed particularly for holding spools of thread or similar articles in such a manner that the thread may be readily unreeled from the spools when the spools are in position in the basket, and the individual spools may be easily and quickly removed or replaced.

The principal object of the invention is the provision of a work basket for holding a plurality of spools of thread in such a manner that a length of thread may be readily removed from individual spools without the removal of the spools from the spool holder utilized therein. A further object of the invention is the provision of a work basket in which a plurality of spools may be easily and quickly secured in position therein and removed therefrom either for replacement of individual spools or to permit the use of individual spools separately from the basket. A further object of the invention is the provision, in a work basket, of means for retaining a plurality of spools therein in such a manner as to permit the ready insertion and removal of a group of spools or the individual spools of the group. A further object of the invention is the provision, in a work basket, of means for permitting a plurality of groups of spools to be easily and quickly inserted or removed therefrom, at the same time permitting the ready insertion and removal of the individual spools of each group. A still further object of the invention is the provision, in a work basket, of a spool holder for retaining the spools in position in the basket in such a manner as to permit the insertion and removal of a group of spools from their position in the basket, and to permit the removal and replacement of individual spools without removing the group of spools from position in the basket.

In order that my invention may be clearly understood, reference may be made to the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a work basket embodying my invention, with the closure in open position;

Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view through the basket and a portion of the cover, taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the base portion of the basket before the insertion of the spools therein, and before the addition of the cover;

Fig. 4 is a view of the spool holding ring;

Fig. 5 is an enlarged detailed view of the fastening means for securing the ends of the spool holding ring together; and

Fig. 6 is a partial plan view of a work basket embodying my invention and showing a modified form of pocket forming means.

As illustrated herein, the work basket in which my invention is embodied is preferably made up of a plurality of pairs of superposed sheets of fabric, the two sheets of each pair having substantially the same marginal outline and the sheets of the different pairs varying in diameter in such a manner that each pair is substantially larger than the next succeeding pair superposed thereon.

As disclosed herein, the two sheets of fabric 10 and 11 forming the uppermost pair are of circular shape and are secured together along their edges by means of a line of stitching 12, and the center of the upper sheet 10 of this pair is secured by means of stitches 13 to the lower sheet 11 of this pair as well as to the upper sheet 14 of the next succeeding pair of fabric sheets. The space between the upper and lower sheets 10 and 11 is preferably filled with cotton or similar material 15 to form a pin cushion in a well-known manner.

The uppermost sheet of fabric 14 of the next succeeding pair of sheets is secured to the lower sheet 16 of this pair by means of a line of stitching 17 extending therearound at a substantial distance from the opposing edges 18 and 19 of these two sheets.

In securing the sheets of fabric 14 and 16 together, the line of stitching 17 also extends through the upper sheet 20 of the lowermost pair of sheets of fabric forming the base portion of the work basket. The two sheets 20 and 21 of this pair are likewise of substantially the same size, and are secured together by a line of stitching 22 extending thereabout at a substantial distance from the opposing edges 23 and 24 of the sheets and adjacent the outer edge of a sheet of stiffening material 25 interposed between the two sheets 20 and 21. The sheet of material 25 may be cardboard, wood, metal or any other suitable stiffening material.

At intervals along the opposing edges 18 and 19 of the sheets of fabric 14 and 16, I provide cooperating separable fastener elements 26 and 27. These fasteners are spaced apart such a distance as to provide pockets 28 for the reception of the row or group of spools 29 when the opposing edges 18 and 19 are secured together by the fastener elements.

Similar cooperating fastener elements 30 and 31 are provided for the opposing edges 23 and 24 of the two sheets of fabric 20 and 21 forming the lowermost pair, and these fastener elements are likewise spaced at such a distance as to pro-

vide suitable pockets 32 for the reception of the outer row of spools 33.

In order to retain each of the rows or groups of spools 29 and 33 within its respective pockets, I provide a spool holding ring 34, preferably made from a length of wire or other suitable material having an element of a separable fastener device on each end thereof. As shown herein, this fastener device comprises a sleeve 35 secured to one end of the piece of wire so as to extend slightly beyond the end thereof. A portion of the outer wall of the sleeve is cut away as shown at 36, and inwardly of the cut-away portion an opening 37 is provided within which a hook portion 38 on the opposite end of the wire may be readily engaged and from which it may be readily disengaged. A spool holding ring of this type is utilized in each row of spool pockets 28 and 32 for the purpose of retaining the spools within the pockets.

When it is desired to equip the basket with spools, the fastener elements of the pockets are disengaged from each other, and a suitable number of spools, corresponding to the particular number of pockets 28 or 32 in the row, are assembled upon the spool holding ring 34. This group of spools is then positioned in the open space between the opposing edges of the sheets of fabric, and the cooperating fastener elements are secured together. The engagement of the cooperating fastener elements prevents the removal of the spool holding ring 34 and consequently serves to retain the spools of each group within their respective pockets.

Either of the groups of spools may be removed from the basket by disengaging the cooperating fastener elements which serve to retain the group of spools in position. When it is desired to remove or replace an individual spool of either group, this may be accomplished by disengaging the cooperating fastener elements adjacent one end of that particular spool, whereupon the spool holding ring may be moved through the spools to bring the ring fastener device into the position shown in Fig. 1, whereupon the ends of the spool holding ring may be readily disengaged to permit the removal of the spool. The spool may be returned to the ring, or it may be replaced by another spool, whereupon the fastener devices on the ends of the ring may be engaged and the entire group will then be retained in position in the basket, with each spool in its proper pocket, by merely engaging the cooperating fastener elements of the fastener device adjacent the replaced spool.

A cover 39 may be provided for the basket. Preferably the cover is formed of a sheet of fabric 40 of a sufficient size to extend across the top of the basket and downwardly over the outer edge. A sheet of stiffening material 41, such as cardboard, is superposed upon the sheet 40, and a further sheet of fabric 42 is placed over the stiffening material and has its outer edge 43 secured to the lower sheet in some suitable manner such as by a line of stitching 44. The cover 39 is secured on the basket by means of a pair of separable fastener elements 45 which serve as a hinge. Opposite this pair of fastener elements 45 cooperating fastener elements 46, 47 on the downwardly turned edge of the sheet 40 and the upwardly turned edge of the lower sheet 21 respectively may be used for securing the free edge of the cover in position when the basket is not in use. A strip of fabric 48 may be stitched to the lower face of the cover to provide loops 49 and 50 for holding scissors and other articles commonly employed with a basket of this general type.

In Fig. 6 of the drawing I have shown a modified form of my invention wherein I make use of stitches 51 alternating with separable fastener elements 52 for securing the opposing edges of the pocket forming sheets of fabric together. Such a modification is possible by reason of the fact that it is necessary to disengage the opposing edges between two adjacent spools only, as illustrated in Fig. 1 of the drawing, to enable the spool holding ring 34 to be moved through the spools to bring the fastening element of the ring into a position where the hook portion 38 may be disengaged from the sleeve 35. With this modification, it will be understood that one entire group or row of spools cannot be inserted in and removed from the pockets. By separating the ends of the spool holding ring, one of the free ends thereof may be easily and quickly threaded through the spools in the pockets, whereupon the ends of the ring may be secured together by engaging the hook portion 38 within the opening 37 of the sleeve 35.

In making my improved work basket in the manner described herein and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, it will be noted that ample space 53 may be provided between the centrally arranged pin cushion and the inner row of spools for the reception of buttons and such other similar articles as are commonly used with work baskets of this general type. It is also to be noted that, except for the various fastening means and stiffening means utilized therein, the basket is made entirely from fabric material. Preferably, I utilize decorated fabrics, and consequently the finished basket may be made attractive and useful, although at slight expense for labor and material.

While I have shown herein a form of basket in which the sheets of fabric are circular in shape, it will be understood that other shapes may be utilized if desired. While a preferred form of construction of my improved basket is disclosed herein, together with a modification thereof, it will be apparent that various changes may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention as it has been particularly shown and described.

Having thus described my invention, what I desire to claim by United States Letters Patent is:

1. A spool holder comprising a sheet of supporting material having opposing flexible walls around the outer edge thereof to form an open spool receiving channel, fastener means for separably securing the opposing, free edges of said walls together at intervals to form spool holding pockets, and rigid means extending lengthwise and freely movable through said channel for receiving a plurality of spools thereon to retain the spools in said pockets, said rigid means being held in said pockets solely by said fastener means.

2. A spool holder comprising a pair of superposed sheets of fabric having substantially the same size and marginal outline, means for securing said sheets together along a line spaced substantially from the edges of said sheets, cooperating means on the opposing edges of said sheets for separably securing said edges together at intervals to form a plurality of spool receiving pockets, and a split ring extending lengthwise through said pockets and held therein by said cooperating means for retaining the spools in said pockets.

3. A spool holder comprising a pair of superposed sheets of fabric having substantially the same size and marginal outline, a sheet of stiffening material secured between said sheets of fabric and having its edge spaced inwardly a substantial distance from the edges of the sheets of fabric, cooperating means on opposing edges of said sheets of fabric for separably securing said opposing edges together at intervals to form spool receiving pockets, and a separable spool holding ring extending lengthwise and freely slidable through said pockets and retained therein by said cooperating means.

4. A spool holder comprising a pair of superposed sheets of fabric having substantially the same size and marginal outline, a sheet of stiffening material between said sheets of fabric and having its edge substantially spaced from the outer edges of the sheets of fabric, means for securing the sheets of fabric together along the edge of the sheet of stiffening material, fastening means for separably securing the edges of said sheets of fabric together at intervals to form spool receiving pockets, a spool holding split ring extending lengthwise through said pockets and retained therein solely by said fastening means, and means whereby the ends of said ring may be separably secured together.

5. A spool holder comprising a plurality of pairs of superposed sheets of fabric, the two sheets of each pair having substantially the same size and marginal outline and the edges of adjacent pairs being substantially spaced laterally from each other, means for securing the pairs of sheets together, means for securing the two sheets of each pair together along a line spaced substantially from the edges of the sheets, fastening means on opposing edges of the sheets of each pair for separably securing the opposing edges together at intervals to form spool receiving pockets, and means removable upon disengagement of said fastening means for retaining spools within said pockets.

6. A work basket comprising a base of substantially rigid material, a sheet of fabric covering the lower face of said base and extending substantially beyond the edge thereof, a sheet of fabric covering the upper face of said base and extending substantially beyond the edge thereof, means for securing said sheets together along the edge of said base, cooperating means on opposing edges of said sheets for separably securing said opposing edges together at intervals to form a plurality of spool receiving pockets, means extending lengthwise through said pockets to retain the spools therein, a closure for said basket, and cooperating fastener elements on said closure and the sheet of fabric covering the lower face of the base for securing the closure in position.

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