E. N. HYDEMAN.
BATH TUB AND MAT THEREFOR.
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Inventor
ERNST N. HYDEMAN

Witnesses
Robert M. Hutchins
A. J. Hack

By Watson E. Coleman
Attorney
To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Ernest N. Hydeman, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lawrence, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bath-Tubs and Mats, thereof, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to bath tub appliances, and particularly to a mat arranged in the bottom of the bath tub and designed to prevent the bather slipping upon the polished or enameled surface of the bath tub.

The main object of my invention is to provide a mat of this character made of rubber or like material, and so fastened to the bottom of the tub that, while it may be readily removed, yet it will not of itself slip in the bath tub and will always remain in place until removed.

A further object of the invention is the provision in connection with a tub having a sunken space in its bottom of a bath tub mat disposed in such space so that its upper face is approximately flush with the margin of the bath tub bottom, and in connection with this mat, of mating interengaging fastening devices mounted upon the tub within the sunken space and upon the mat whereby the mat may be held removably positioned on the bath tub bottom.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a plan view of a bath tub and the mat therein; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the bath tub constructed to receive the mat; Fig. 3 is a fragmentary elevational section through the bottom of the tub and the mat.

Corresponding like parts are referred to in the following description and designated in all parts of the accompanying drawing by like reference numerals.

Referring to these drawings, 2 designates a bath tub of any suitable character.

The bottom 3 of the bath tub is provided with a sunken or depressed portion 4 which is depressed below the general level of the bottom and which is provided at a plurality of points with sockets, designated generally 5, these sockets being preferably disposed at the corners of the rectangularly shaped depressed portion 4.

Removably disposed in the bottom of the tub is a mat 6, which is preferably formed of water-proof material such as rubber, and which is provided at its corners with the studs 7 which project downward from the corners of the mat. The mat is of course of the same area as the depressed portion 4 of the tub, and hence the mat when in place is held around its entire edge by butting against the shoulder forming the wall of said depressed portion. As before stated, the studs 7 engage with the sockets 5, and preferably these studs and sockets are in the form of the studs and socket fasteners which are used for fastening gloves or for a variety of other purposes. It will be seen that the studs as a consequence are globular in form and that the sockets are constructed to spring open to permit the insertion of the studs and then the spring closed upon the studs. This form of fastener permits the ready attachment and detachment of the bath tub mat from engagement with the tub.

As illustrated, the mat 6 is formed of a plurality of plies, the uppermost ply being preferably of white rubber or other waterproof material, and preferably corrugated or otherwise formed with a matted surface to prevent the bather slipping upon the mat. The lowermost or base ply may be formed of any suitable material, but is preferably formed of a relatively cheap grade of rubber, which may be vulcanized or otherwise intimately connected with the uppermost ply. These two plies are designated respectively a and b. The base flanges of the stud member 7 are disposed between these plies so that the plies assist in holding the stud member firmly in position.

The advantages of my invention will be obvious upon consideration. Many accidents have occurred from bathers slipping on the highly enameled surfaces of bath tubs, and many very severe injuries have been received from this cause. Mats of corrugated rubber have been used, but these mats have been simply laid in the bottom of the tub and afford relatively small protection against slipping for the reason that the mat will move longitudinally along the tub and if the bather takes a position which would tend to exert a pushing force against the mat, the mat will fold or bend and the bather will be very liable to fall. It is for this reason that I provide the mat with means for holding it in place within the tub and preventing either its bodily longi-
tudinal movement or preventing its crumpling or bending.

My device is entirely sanitary, inasmuch as the mat is not permanently attached or disposed at the bottom of the tub, and yet entirely obviates any danger of accident from slipping.

The attachment is simple, relatively cheap in construction, and is thoroughly effective in practice for the end desired.

Having described my invention, what I claim is:—

1. The combination with a bath tub, of a bath tub mat, and means formed on the bottom of the tub for engaging the mat and preventing movement thereof.

2. The combination with a bath tub having a portion of its bottom depressed, of a bath tub mat fitting said depressed portion, and fastening devices carried by the mat and tub for detachably connecting the mat to the tub.

3. A bath tub having a depression formed in its bottom extending longitudinally thereof, the depressed portion being formed at its corners with sockets, a bath tub mat formed of a plurality of layers of material, the upper layer having a matted or corrugated surface, the layers being attached to each other, and fastening studs having base flanges disposed between the layers, said studs projecting out through the lowermost layer and being adapted to engage with said sockets.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ERNEST N. HYDEMAN.

Witnesses:

James W. McManus,
Michael A. Landers.