

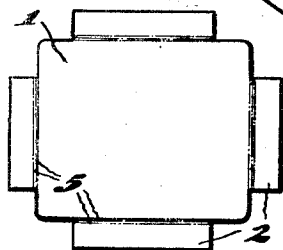
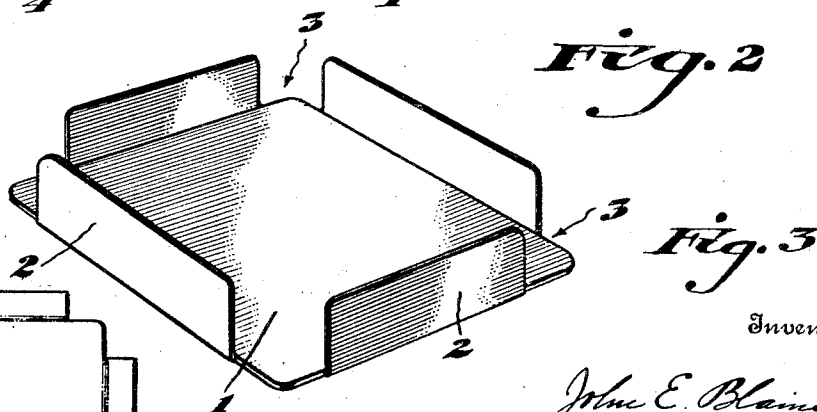
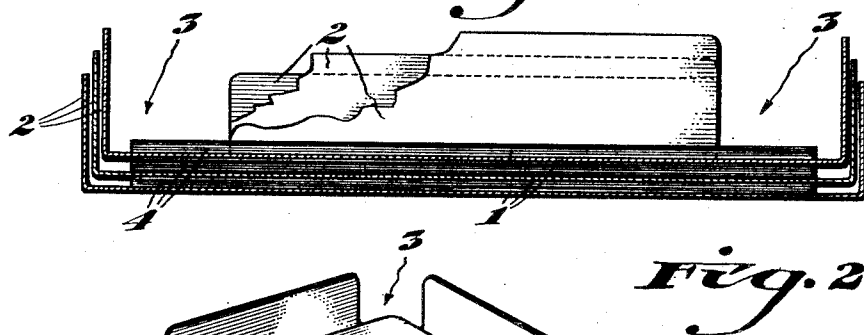
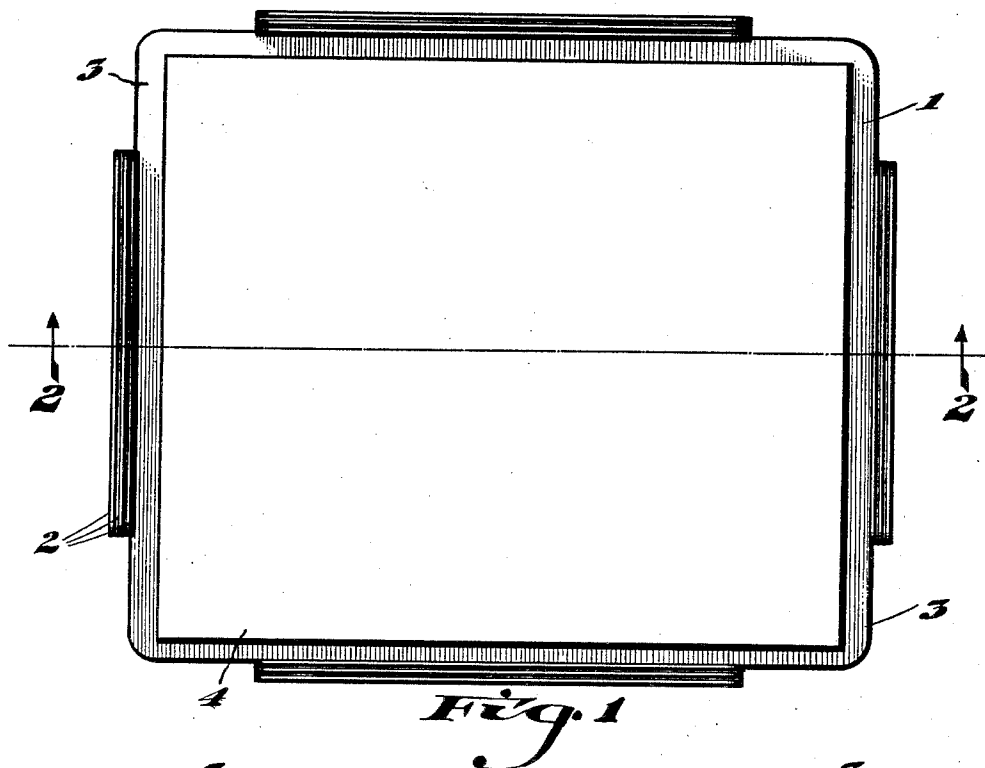
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FILING TRAY

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FILING TRAY

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This invention relates to desk trays or receptacles for filing papers, and is particularly directed to trays of a type especially adapted for packing in shipping or storage maneuvers and considerable economizing desk space during the actual use.

It is an object of this invention to provide trays constructed in series, comprising, trays of gradually decreasing dimension, enabling the same to be nested or stacked one within the other for convenience in shipping, storage or use.

Another object is to provide trays of this character which may be nested when in use on the desk, each having its respective papers filed therein, thereby preventing displacement of papers, localizing matters on the desk and economizing space.

Another object is to provide a desk tray of simple construction, stamped from a single piece of sheet material and requiring no joining and securing together of corners.

Another object is to provide trays of a series adapted to be nested one within the other, stamped from a uniform blank of standard dimension, the variation in finished tray size produced by the manner of forming the sides.

Another object is to provide a desk tray having its sides so constructed as to provide openings, enabling the user to easily extract the papers from the tray.

Another object is to provide a stacked arrangement of filing trays for segregating papers of such nature that a tray of the series may be bodily removed with its segregated contents if desired.

Other objects and certain advantages will be more fully set forth in a description of the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which:

Figure 1 is a plan view of a plurality of series of trays nested together as in actual filing use.

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken on line 2—2, Figure 1, further illustrating the trays in a stacked relation.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the tray.

Figure 4 is a plan view of the standard blank from which the trays are formed.

Referring to Figure 3 of the drawings, the

tray is formed of metal and comprises a bottom 1 and sides 2. Sides 2 are in the nature of flanges bent upwardly from the bottom or bottom portion 1, at right angles thereto and disposed intermediate of the edges of the bottom, leaving considerable clearance at each corner of the tray. This clearance, indicated at 3, is of considerable utility permitting facile removal of papers from the tray, inasmuch as the user can through these clearance spaces get under the papers when they have a tendency to cling to the bottom of the receptacle.

The trays are preferably stamped from a single sheet of metal for rapid and simple manufacture. A blank of uniform size and shape is used for all the trays of a series, this tray being shown in Figure 4. The finished tray dimensions is varied for producing a series of trays adapted to nest by moving the lines of fold 5 outward on the side portions 2 of the blank, a little more than the thickness of the metal for decreasing the over-all dimension of the finished trays serially.

As shown in Figures 1 and 2, the trays are formed in series, and are of gradually decreasing dimension, the engaging trays of the series varying in size just enough to permit a snug nesting engagement. The drawings show a series of three trays nested together but it will be readily understood that the number is immaterial.

The papers filed in their respective trays are indicated at 4. Through this nesting arrangement the weight of each tray as it is placed within the tray beneath it secures the papers in the lower tray against accidental displacement.

Furthermore, apart from the idea of preventing displacement of the papers the nesting or stacking arrangement provides that a series of these receptacles can be used on a desk, localizing all the filed matters on the desk and embodying a means for segregating pertinent matters without using too much desk space and permitting the user to remove one tray of the series, if he desires to do so.

By this same nested or stacked arrangement it is possible to ship or store the trays with great economy of space.

Having described my invention, I claim:—

5 A series of filing trays adapted to nest one within the other, said trays formed from a standard size and shape blank and the variation in tray size produced by bending the side portions thereof on lines of fold, varied on each blank.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name.

JOHN E. BLAINE.

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