

March 26, 1963

A. PHILIPS ETAL
ARTICLE OF FURNITURE

3,082,435

Filed Feb. 18, 1960

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

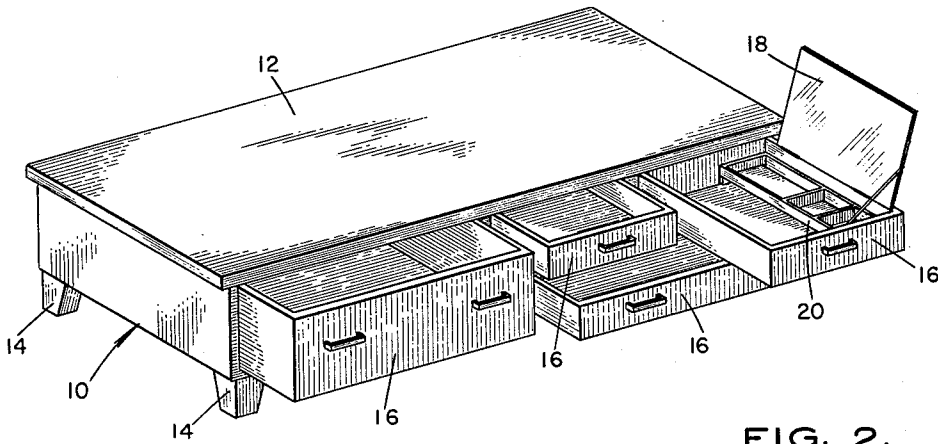


FIG. 2.

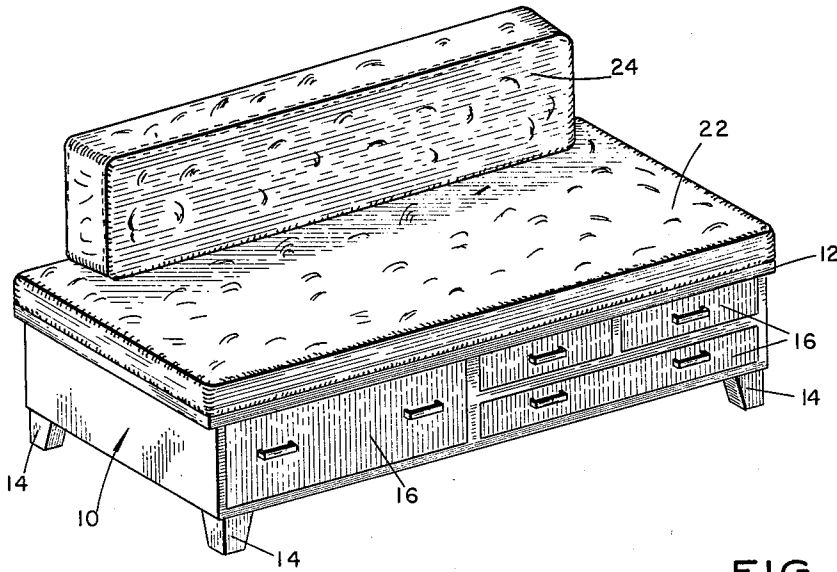


FIG. 1.

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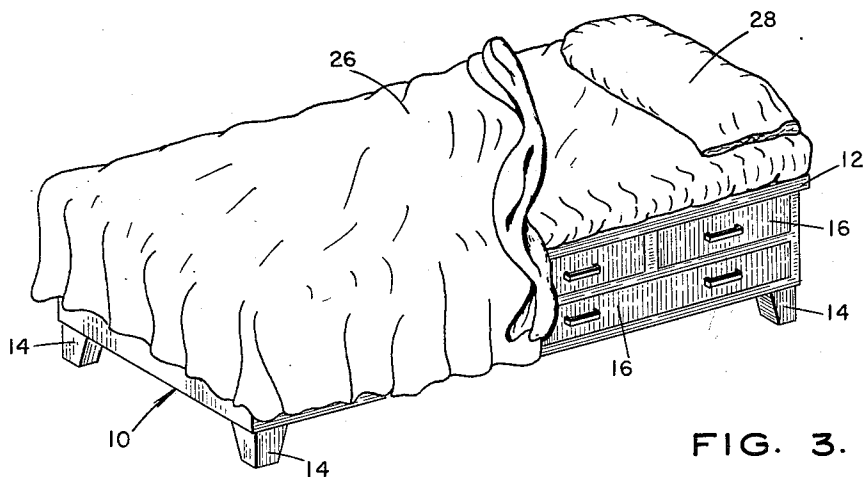
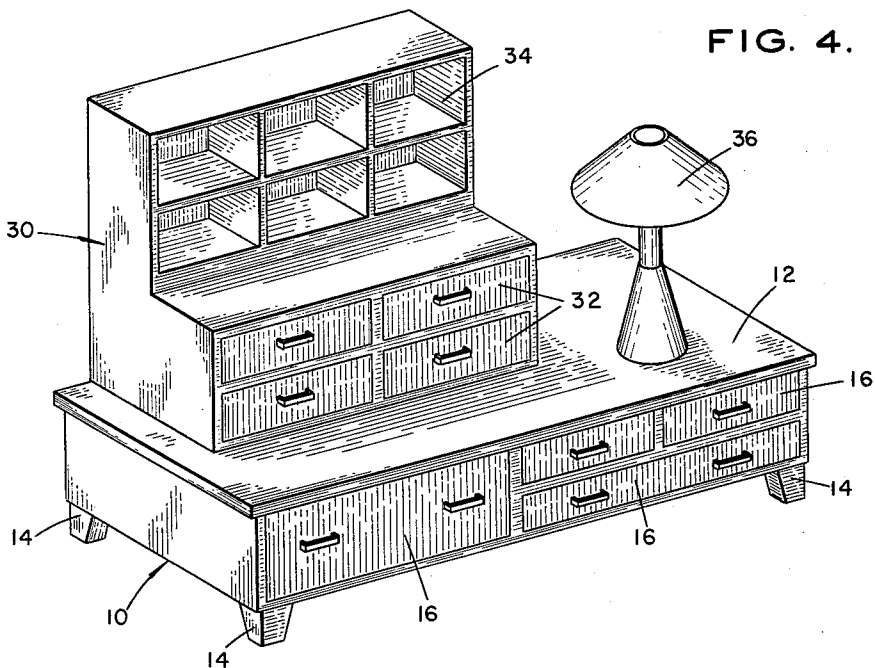
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FIG. 5.

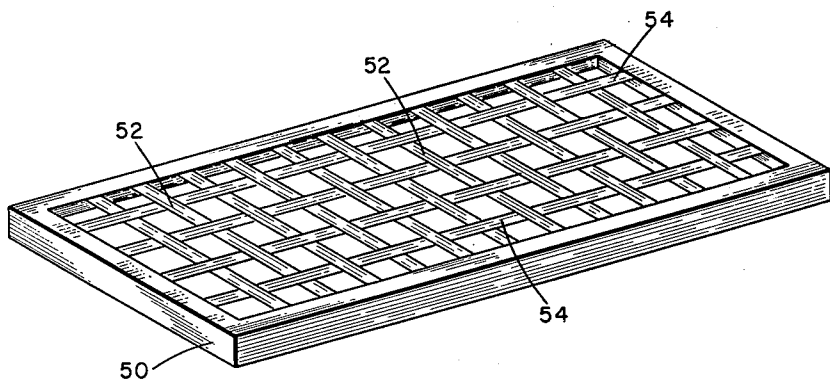
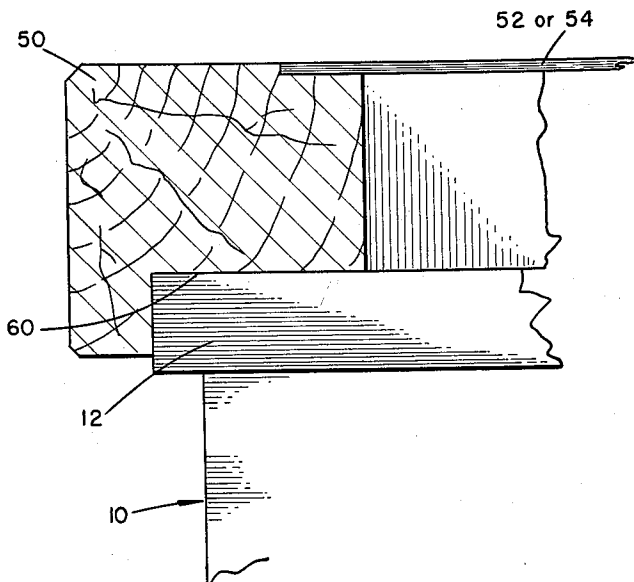


FIG. 6.



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ARTICLE OF FURNITURE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 5—2)

This invention is a combination seating, sleeping, and storage unit.

The invention to be described herein is a multi-purpose furniture unit. It is primarily usable in small or limited floor space areas such as an efficiency apartment. However, it is adaptable for use in any type of living quarters or in any room of said living quarters.

In efficiency apartments or other small living quarters, the floor space is at a premium. It is highly desirable that the space taken up by each furniture unit be kept to a minimum. If one furniture unit can be used for many purposes which formerly required many furniture units, space can be saved.

Another important feature in choosing the furniture one would use in an efficiency apartment or other small living quarters is whether or not the multi-purpose furniture unit can be changed from one purpose, such as for sleeping, to another purpose, such as for storage or as a sofa, with a minimum amount of effort and without increasing the space required. This invention provides us with an article of furniture which serves many, many purposes not only in small living quarters but in any type of home. Specifically, it can be used as a storage compartment, as a bed, or as a sofa. Thus, one unit provides storage, sleeping, and seating.

This new article of furniture can be changed from a sofa to a bed without any movement of the furniture itself and without any increase or change in the floor space required when it is changed from sleeping to a seating unit or vice versa.

The invention as well as its advantages will be further understood by reference to the following detailed description and drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view showing the new seating, sleeping, and storage unit in use as a sofa;

FIG. 2 is a perspective view showing the base member of FIG. 1 with the storage means exposed;

FIG. 3 is a perspective view showing the new seating, sleeping, and storage unit when used as a combination bed and storage means;

FIG. 4 is a perspective view showing the base member of FIGS. 1, 2, and 3 being used in conjunction with other storage and bookcases;

FIG. 5 is a perspective view showing a member which may be added to the furniture unit of FIG. 1 in order to improve sleeping comfort; and

FIG. 6 is an enlarged fragmentary view showing the manner in which the member of FIG. 5 fits on the base.

Referring to the drawings and more specifically to FIG. 1, this invention includes a rectangular base member indicated generally by the numeral 10. The base member 10 includes a horizontal solid wood top portion 12.

The base 10 may be supported by a plurality of leg members 14 with one leg member being located at each corner of the base 10.

The base member 10 serves as a storage member. For this purpose, a plurality of sliding drawers 16 are provided within the base 10. One deep drawer and two shallow drawers can be used or any other arrangement as long as the drawers remain within the limits of the base 10 itself.

If desired, as shown in FIG. 2, one of the drawers may include a lift-up mirror 18 and a lift-out cosmetic and/or collar and cuff link tray 20. The inclusion of the lift-up

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mirror 18 and cosmetic tray 20 enlarges the usefulness and purposes this new furniture unit can be used for.

Notice for all of the drawers 16 are located in the front of the base 10. This is highly important. By having the drawers located in the front, the materials stored within the base 10 are easily accessible. Thus, the base 10 can be placed just a short distance away from a wall and the base need never be moved in order to obtain access to the storage compartment. This is highly important, particularly in small living quarters.

Placed on top of the solid wood portion 12 of base 10 is a cushion 22. The cushion 22 is preferably removably disposed upon the solid wood top 12. The removable cushion 22 and the base 10 serve as a bed and/or a seating member. Since the base 10 and cushion 22 serve as a seating member, the height of the base and cushion is such that the average adult can sit comfortably upon the cushion 22. Preferably, the total height of the base and cushion should range from about 15 inches to 20 inches. The cushion 22 may be made of foam rubber or any other material commonly used for sleeping purposes. A removable bolster or backrest 24 may be included upon the cushion 22 for added comfort.

The cushion 22 and base 10 also serve as a bed. Thus, the dimensions of the cushion 22 are necessarily such that one can sleep comfortably thereon. Thus, the cushion has substantially the same length and width as the solid wood top portion 12 of the base 10. For example, the base may be from 6 feet to 7 feet long and from 30 inches to 36 inches wide with the height and width of the cushion 22 being substantially the same. If the cushion is made of foam rubber, it should range approximately 4½ inches in thickness. The bolsters 24 can be approximately 12 inches to 18 inches high, with the length and width varying according to the size of the unit. There may be anywhere from one bolster to several cushions as backrests.

The unit can be manufactured in any style, such as modern, contemporary, traditional, provincial, colonial, oriental, etc.

In order to use this new furniture unit as a bed, it is only necessary that the bolster 24 be removed and bedding means be placed upon the cushion 22. This use of the unit is shown in FIG. 3, which shows the bolster 24 removed and the usual bedding 26 and pillow 28 placed on and about the cushion.

Notice that at all times the base 10 is left in the same position regardless of what the unit is being used for. Thus, whether the unit is used for a bed, sofa, and/or storage means, no additional floor space and no movement of the unit is required. Also, the drawers open from the front, so it is not necessary to move the unit in another position to utilize its storage capacity. The unit is relatively simple in construction and does not include the conventional hinges, swivels, or other gadgets currently needed in order to "convert" from bed to sofa to storage unit. No time-wasting, space-wasting conversion is necessary. This unit's functional versatility cannot be matched by any furniture on the market today.

If additional sleeping comfort is desired, the member shown in FIG. 5 can be inserted on top of the base 10. The cushion 22 is then placed upon the inserted member.

The inserted member includes a frame 50. A plurality of transverse spring members 52 and a plurality of longitudinal spring members 54 are mounted across the upper portion of the frame 50. Spring members 52 and 54 are interlacing members and may be made in the form of ribbons made from plastic webbing, link springs, or other suitable material to provide a substantially non-sagging spring.

As shown in FIG. 6, the inside perimeter of the frame 50 is provided with a cut-out portion 60. The cut-out

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portion 60 of frame 50 mates with the edge of top member 12 of the base 10.

If desired, the frame member 50 may be left permanently as a part of the combined storage, sleeping, and seating unit. Notice that the inclusion of the frame 50 does not increase the amount of space required and if it is left permanently on the unit, no more additional effort is required to convert the unit from a sleeping means to a seating means than required by the embodiment shown in FIG. 1.

The base 10 and the storage means such as the drawers 16 can be used for many other purposes if a sofa or bed is no longer needed. This can be done by simply removing the bolster 24 and cushion 22. One such use is shown in FIG. 4. As shown in FIG. 4, an additional furniture unit 30 including additional storage space such as drawers 32 and a bookcase 34 has been placed upon the solid wood top 12 of the base 10. A lamp 36 may also be placed on top of the base 10.

The storage base 10 can also be used for correlated units such as bookcases, room dividers, sliding door cabinets, chest of drawers, and other such units. Thus, the base 10 makes an attractive piece of furniture when it is no longer needed as a sofa or bed.

We claim:

1. A multi-purpose article of furniture comprising: a rectangular base having a solid flat top and provided with storage means accessible from the front, thereof, a frame removably positioned on said base, the inside perimeter of said frame having a cut-out portion extending from the bottom of the frame so that said frame

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rests on the top of said solid flat top with the cut-out portion mating with the top and edge of said solid flat top, spring means supported by said frame, and a cushion resting on the frame, said base, frame, and cushion having a total height such that the average adult can sit comfortably thereon, and said base, frame, and cushion also each having a length and width of proper dimensions to provide for comfortable sleeping for the average adult.

2. A multi-purpose article of furniture in accordance with claim 1 wherein the spring means includes a plurality of interlacing transverse springs and longitudinal springs mounted across the upper portion of said frame.

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