AUTOMOBILE WASHING DEVICE

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ABSTRACT
An automobile washing device having a hollow body portion for receiving a flow of water from a water supply line and a coupling member for attaching the body portion to the water supply line. The body portion includes a plurality of apertures on its top surface for allowing the water entering the interior of the hollow body portion to be disposed therethrough and includes means on its bottom surface for gripping the surface of the automobile to prevent sliding of the device. The coupling member includes a water cutoff means for reducing or cutting off the flow of water from the water supply line to the body portion.

2 Claims, 4 Drawing Figures
AUTOMOBILE WASHING DEVICE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention
This invention relates generally to devices for aiding the washing of automobiles or the like and, more specifically, to devices for providing a diffused flow of water to the surface of the automobile or the like.

2. Description of the Prior Art
A preliminary patentability search revealed the following U.S. patents: Fischer U.S. Pat. No. 1,081,597; Ferguson U.S. Pat. No. 2,325,758; Schermerhorn U.S. Pat. No. 3,055,040; Paternon U.S. Pat. No. 3,070,826; Dryden U.S. Pat. No. 3,161,905; and Kellis U.S. Pat. No. 3,544,226. None of the above references disclose or suggest the present invention.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION
The present invention is directed towards overcoming many of the disadvantages and problems related to washing an automobile or the like. The concept of the present invention is to provide a device that attaches to a common water hose or other water supply line, that provides a diffused flow of water to the surface of the automobile, and that allows the person washing the automobile to have both hands free to soap and scrub the surface of the automobile.

The device of the present invention comprises, in general, a hollow body portion for receiving water from a water hose and a coupling member for attaching the body portion to the water hose. The body portion includes a plurality of apertures on its top surface for allowing the water entering the body portion from the water hose to be dispersed therethrough and includes means on its bottom surface for gripping the surface of the automobile to prevent sliding of the device. The coupling member includes a water cutoff means for reducing or cutting off the flow of water entering the body portion from the water hose.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS
FIG. 1 is a top view of the automobile washing device of the present invention.
FIG. 2 is a side view of the present invention.
FIG. 3 is a side view showing the present invention in use.
FIG. 4 is a sectional view of a portion of the present invention taken as on the line IV-IV of FIG. 1.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT
The present invention comprises a device 11 for use in washing automobiles or the like that provides a diffused flow of water to the surface of the automobile being washed. The device 11 includes a hollow body portion 13 for receiving water from a water supply line such as a common water hose 15 and includes means such as a coupling member 17 for attaching the body portion 13 to the water hose 15. The body portion 13 is preferably made out of a watertight and resilient material such as rubber. A plurality of apertures 19 are provided on the top side of the hollow body portion 13 for allowing the water entering the interior of the hollow body portion 13 from the water hose 15 to be dispersed therethrough. It should be noted that while the apertures 19 have been shown arranged in two parallel lines, they can be arranged in a number of different patterns, such as a circle. The bottom side of the body portion 13 is provided with means such as a plurality of protrusions 21 for gripping the surface of the automobile and thereby prevent sliding of the device 11 on the surface of the automobile. The protrusions 21 can be arranged in a number of different patterns. It should be noted that other means can be substituted for the protrusions 21 to prevent sliding of the device 11 on the surface of the automobile without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention. For example, the device 11 may be made out of a rubber material or synthetic material that has a high coefficient of friction so that with protrusions 21 omitted, the rubber surface of body portion 13 will act as gripping means to hold the device on an automobile.

A protective collar 23 is provided on the body portion 13 adjacent the coupling member 17 for preventing the coupling member 17 from contacting the surface of the automobile. The coupling member 17 comprises a ferrule means 25 having a female screw portion 27 for receiving a male screw portion 29 that is a part of the water hose 15. The ferrule means 25 includes one closed end 31 communicating with the interior of the body portion 13 and includes a plurality of openings 33 adjacent the closed end 31 and on the circumference of the ferrule means 25 for allowing water to enter the interior of the body portion 13 from the water hose 15 through the coupling member 17. The ferrule means 25 includes a water cutoff means 35 that comprises resilient washers 37 adjacent the openings 33 for blocking the openings 33 when the male screw portion 29 of the water hose 15 is screwed thereagainst, thereby reducing or cutting off the supply of water entering the interior of the body portion 13 from the water hose 15. Although the resilient washers 37 have been shown as two O-rings, one flat washer and one O-ring would have the same result. Also, it will be understood that cutoff means 35 may be omitted without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention. When cutoff means 35 is omitted, the closed end 31 can also be omitted, thereby allowing a freer flow of water from the water hose 15 to the interior of the body portion 13.

To wash an automobile, using the present invention, the device 11 is placed upon the surface of the automobile with the apertures 19 facing upwardly and the protrusions 21 facing downwardly. Water is allowed to flow from the water hose 15, through the coupling member 17 and into the interior of the body portion 13 by opening the water cutoff means 35 of the coupling member 17. The water is then dispersed through the apertures 19 and to the surface of the automobile (see FIG. 3). The weight of the water held in the interior of the body portion 13 and the protrusions 21 keep the device 11 from sliding off the surfaces of the automobile. The person washing the automobile uses both hands to soap and scrub the surface of the automobile while the device 11 provides a constant diffused flow of water to the surface of the automobile. It should be noted that the device 11 may be used for aid in finding water leaks in automobiles by allowing a person to isolate places that leak by localizing the flow of water on the automobile.

Although the invention has been described and illustrated with respect to a preferred embodiment thereof, it is not to be so limited since changes and modifica-
3,806,040

1. A device for providing a diffused flow of water to the surface of an automobile or the like for use in the washing thereof, said device comprising: a hollow body portion for receiving water from a water supply line and means for attaching said body portion to the water supply line; said body portion having a plurality of apertures on one side thereof for allowing the water entering said body portion from the water supply line to be dispersed therethrough and having means for gripping the surface of the automobile or the like and thereby prevent sliding of said device on the surface of the automobile or the like; said means for attaching said body portion to the water supply line including ferrule means having a female screw portion for receiving a male screw portion that is part of the water supply line, having a water cut-off means for reducing or cutting off the supply of water entering said hollow body portion from the water supply line, having one closed end communicating with the interior of said body portion and having a plurality of openings adjacent said closed end and on the circumference of said ferrule means for allowing water to enter the interior of said body portion; said water cutoff means including resilient washers adjacent said openings for blocking said openings when the male screw portion of the water supply line is screwed thereagainst thereby reducing or cutting off the supply of water entering said hollow body portion from the water supply line.

2. A device for providing a diffused flow of water to the surface of an automobile or the like for use in the washing thereof, said device comprising: a hollow body portion for receiving water from a water supply line and means for attaching said body portion to said water supply line; said body portion having a plurality of apertures on its top side for allowing the water entering said body portion to be dispersed therethrough, said body portion having a plurality of protrusions on its bottom side for gripping the surface of the automobile or the like and thereby prevent sliding of said device, said body portion including a protective collar for preventing said means for attaching said body portion to said water supply line from contacting the surface of the automobile or the like; said means for attaching said body portion to said water supply line including ferrule means including one closed end communicating with the interior of said hollow body portion, said ferrule means having a female screw portion for receiving a male screw portion that is a part of the water supply line, said ferrule means having a plurality of openings adjacent said closed end and on the circumference of said ferrule means for allowing water to enter the interior of said body portion, said ferrule means including a water cutoff means for reducing or cutting off the supply of water entering said hollow body portion from the water supply line, said water cutoff means comprising resilient washers adjacent said openings for blocking said openings when the male screw portion of the water supply line is screwed thereagainst thereby reducing or cutting off the supply of water entering said body portion from the water supply line.

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