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FOLD AWAY IRON HOLDER

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FIG. 1

FIG. 2

FIG. 3

FIG. 4

FIG. 5

FIG. 6

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The present invention relates generally as indicated to a fold-away iron holder and more particularly to a holder designed to be mounted on an ironing board.

It is a primary object of this invention to provide a fold-away iron holder which may be quickly and easily mounted on an ironing board and which, when not in use, may be folded to relatively flat condition in a plane parallel to the surface of the ironing board.

It is another object of this invention to provide a fold-away iron holder which, in its unfolded operating position, is adapted to support an iron in generally upright position, and which may be indexed to any of several desired positions in the manner shown in Fig. 2, the ironing board being stood up on end when stowed away.

It is another object of this invention to provide a fold-away iron holder which, in its unfolded operating position, is adapted to support an iron in generally upright position, and which may be indexed to any of several desired positions so that the person who is ironing may conveniently do so from either side of the ironing board.

It is another object of this invention to provide a fold-away iron holder which safely holds the iron and prevents fumbling thereof by jarring or vibration of the ironing board.

It is yet another object of this invention to provide a fold-away iron holder which is especially useful in connection with steam irons that require to be set aside in upright position to prevent the escape of steam, the present holder being operative to support the iron with its nose at the bottom and its heel at the bottom.

It is another object of this invention to provide a fold-away iron holder which is provided with an adjustable retainer to accommodate different sizes and types of irons.

It is still another object of this invention to provide a fold-away iron holder that is designed to prevent excessive heating of the holder while the heated iron is supported thereby.

Other objects and advantages of the present invention will become apparent as the following description proceeds.

To the accomplishment of the foregoing and related ends, the invention, as hereinafter fully described and claimed in the claims, comprises the features hereinbefore described and particularly pointed out in the claims, the following description and the annexed drawing setting forth in detail a certain illustrative embodiment of the invention, this being indicative, however, of but one of the various ways in which the principle of the invention may be employed.

In said annexed drawing:

Fig. 1 is a top view of the present iron holder showing the same in its folded condition and showing in part the relative positions to which it may be indexed for working from either side of the ironing board to which said holder is adapted to be clamped;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation view showing the holder in its folded away condition;

Fig. 3 is an end elevation view as viewed from the righthand side of Fig. 2, the ironing board having been omitted;

Fig. 4 is an elevation view showing the holder in its unfolded operating position, as viewed along the line 4-4, Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary cross-section view, on an enlarged scale, as viewed along the line 5-5, Fig. 1; and

Fig. 6 is a cross-section view taken substantially along the line 6-6, Fig. 5.

Referring now more particularly to the drawing, the iron holder herein comprises a channel-shaped clamp 1, having a pair of relatively widely spaced apart threaded extrusions 2 in which thumb screws 3 are in threaded engagement. Each screw 3 has a pair of thumb screws 3 may be engaged, as in instances when the ironing board has reinforcing members or other structural elements which would be in the way when the thumb screws 3 are engaged with the ironing board.

Said clamp 1 has secured thereto a pair of rubber buttons 5 so that the ironing board B with the holder attached may be stored away by standing up right and resting upon the said rubber buttons or feet 5.

The holder 6, when in its unfolded operating conditions as shown in Fig. 4 (and in dotted lines in Fig. 5) is of generally L-shaped including a heel retainer 7 formed with upwardly extending side flanges 8 and end flange 9 in which the heel of an iron 1 fits, and an upright sole and toe retainer 10, tilted back 10°-15°, formed with side flanges 11 to position the base of the iron 1 therebetween.

The retainer 7 additionally comprises a strap 12 secured, as by welding or other expedient, under said retainer, said strap 12 having secured thereto a downwardly extending pin 13 that extends through holes in the flanges of clamp 1 adjacent the web thereof. A cotter pin 14 or the like through the lower end of said pin 13 serves to retain a compression spring 15 which yieldably draws the retainer assembly downward against clamp 1.

The parts 7 and 10 of the holder 6 are hingedly connected together by rivets 18 or the like through the overlapping side flanges 8 and 11 of said parts whereby the sole and toe retainer 10 may be swung down to a position above and generally parallel to the ironing board as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3.

When the iron holder 6 is to be used the retainer 10 is swung to the position shown in Fig. 4 (dotted line position of Fig. 6), or the lower edge of said retainer engaging the strap 12 to serve as a positive stop so that said retainer 10 will be disposed in upwardly extending position slightly inclined from vertical, preferably 10° to 15°, for example.

With the retainer 10 thus swung to operating position the closely coiled wire spring 19 that extends across the upper ends of side flanges 11 serves to support the toe portion of the iron 1. As best shown in Figs. 2 and 4 a series of openings 20 are provided in such flanges 11 to enable shifting of said spring 19 to different longitudinal positions to accommodate different sizes of irons. Thus, it is seen that it is a very simple matter to insert and remove the iron 1 from the holder 6 just by positioning the pointed nose under the spring 19 and slipping the heel down in the recess formed by the flanges 8 and 9 of the retainer 7.

The retainer 10 adjacent its upper end is preferably formed with recesses 21 which serve to hold the heated sole plate of the iron 1 out of contact with the retainer.
proper to prevent excessive heating of said retainer during use. The present holder is easy to install just by positioning the clamp 1 of the holder 6 over the blunt end of an ironing board B as shown in Fig. 2 and tightening the thumb screws 3. When the holder 6 is in the folded away condition, as shown in Figs. 1 to 3, it will remain in view of the engagement of the tongue 16 of the strap 12 in the middle one of the three openings 17 in the top flange of the clamp 1. When it is desired to use the holder 6 for supporting an iron in substantially upright position, as shown in Fig. 4, all that the housewife need do is to raise the holder assembly 6 to disengage the tongue 16 from the middle hole 17, then rotate the holder assembly 6 until the tongue 16 drops down into the desired one of the other two holes 17 depending from which side of the ironing board B the housewife wishes to iron. The retainer 10 then is swung upwardly about the rivets 18 to its upright, slightly tilted position, whereupon the toe of the iron 1 may be positioned under the closely coiled spring 19 and the heel swung in and fitted into the heel retainer 7. This firmly holds the iron 1 in substantially upright position whereby in the case of steam irons the escape of steam is prevented and when it is desired to remove the iron for use, it is a simple matter to swing out the heel and disengage the toe from underneath the spring 19.

Other modes of applying the principle of the invention may be employed, change being made as regards the details described, provided the features stated in any of the following claims, or the equivalent of such, be employed.

I therefore particularly point out and distinctly claim as my invention:

1. A fold-away iron holder comprising an L-shaped holder disposed to support an iron in generally upright position, a clamp adapted to be secured to one end of an ironing board, said holder and clamp being secured together for pivotal movement of the former about a vertical axis to provide ready access to the iron from either side of the ironing board, and said holder comprising a heel retainer part providing a recess to embrace the heel of an iron and an upwardly extending part that are hinged together about a horizontal axis for swinging of said upwardly extending part to a generally horizontal position above the ironing board, said parts being formed with complementary stop means arranged to provide for swinging of said upwardly extending part from horizontal position to a tilted position beyond vertical position whereby its own weight and that of the iron serve to retain said upwardly extending part in iron holding position.

2. The iron holder of claim 1 wherein said upwardly extending part is provided, adjacent its upper end, with an elastic member thereacross which extends over the nose of the iron.

3. A fold-away iron holder comprising a channel-shaped clamp having a top flange and screws through the bottom flange between which the end of an ironing board is adapted to be clamped; an iron holder provided with a pin that extends downwardly through said flanges adjacent the web of said clamp to form a pivot for said holder; said holder comprising a heel retainer secured to the upper end of said pin and formed with upstanding flanges to embrace the heel of an iron, and an upstanding base retainer formed with side flanges to embrace the sides of the base of an iron, said base retainer at its lower end being hinged to said heel retainer for swinging from upstanding position to a generally horizontal position and being provided with a stop engaging said heel retainer to position said base retainer in tilted, upstanding position whereby said base retainer remains in iron holding position by its own weight and by the weight of the iron.

4. The iron holder of claim 3 wherein an elastic member extends across the side flanges of said base retainer adjacent its upper end to extend over the nose of an iron to hold the iron in place on said holder.

5. The iron holder of claim 3 wherein said heel retainer is formed with a downwardly extending tongue that is engageable in any selected one of a plurality of openings in said top flange of said clamp for retaining said holder in a predetermined rotary position with respect to said clamp.

6. The iron holder of claim 5 wherein spring means are provided to yieldably hold said tongue in engagement with the selected opening.

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