

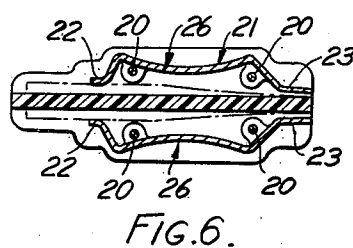
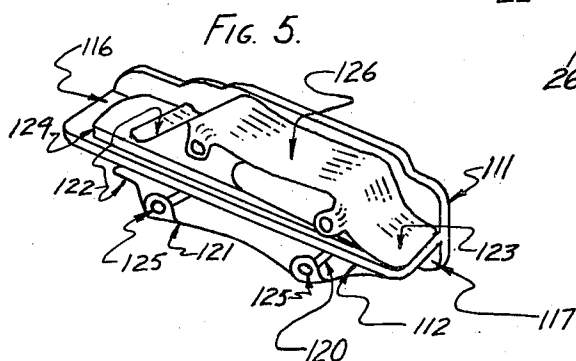
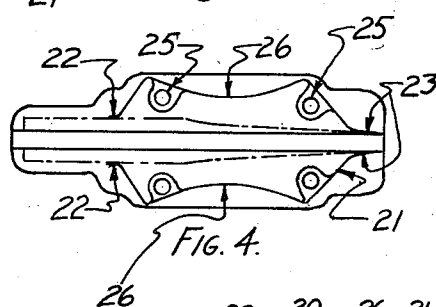
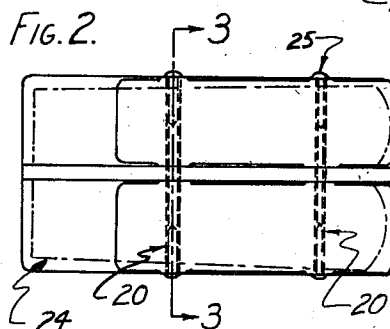
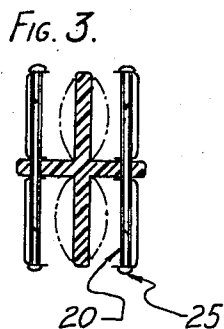
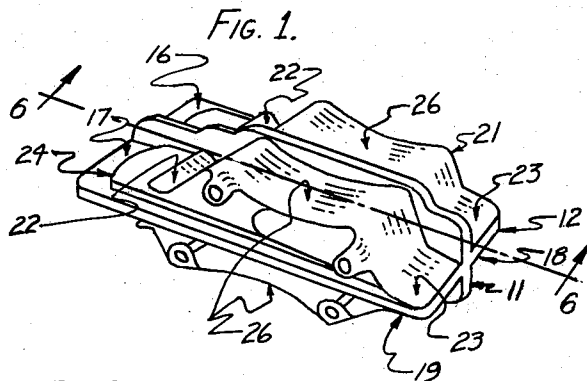
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REED HOLDER

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The invention, in general, relates to a device for holding musical instrument accessories, and more particularly relates to an improved reed holder affording longevity to the utilization of reeds for all types of wood-winds.

A primary object of the present invention is to provide an improved reed holder which entirely obviates the warping of reeds and maintains the same in condition for immediate better playing qualities.

Another important object of my invention is to provide a device of the aforementioned character which affords the retention of one or more reeds in always sanitary condition as well as free from all likelihood of damage thereto.

A still further object of the invention is to provide an improved reed holder of the indicated nature which is additionally characterized by its ability to retain a plurality of reeds in one structure, all immediately accessible.

Another object of my invention is to provide an improved reed holder of the aforementioned character which can conveniently be manufactured in unitary or dual or tandem form for varying the capacity of a single holder.

A still further object of the present invention is to provide an improved reed holder which can be inexpensively manufactured and which lends itself admirably to mass production in pleasing design motifs, and which requires little, if any, maintenance expense.

Other objects of the invention, together with some of the advantageous features thereof, will appear from the following description of a preferred embodiment and one modified embodiment of the invention which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings. It is to be understood that I am not to be limited to the precise embodiments shown, nor to the precise arrangement of the several parts thereof, as my invention, as defined in the appended claims, can be embodied in a plurality and variety of forms.

Referring to the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a preferred embodiment of the invention.

Figure 2 is a plan view thereof.

Figure 3 is a sectional end elevational view of the preferred embodiment of the invention, taken on the line 3-3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a side elevational view of the preferred embodiment of the invention.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of a modified embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 6 is a longitudinal sectional view taken on the line 6-6 of Fig. 1.

In its preferred form, the improved reed holder of my invention preferably comprises a base intersected by a web normal to said base and dividing the same into a plurality of sections, together with a resilient member pivotally mounted on each of said sections for confining a reed between

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said resilient member and said web on each of said sections.

As illustrated particularly in Figures 1 to 4 inclusive of the accompanying drawings, I provide a substantially planar base 11 which is preferably fabricated from a suitable plastic material, such as polystyrene or from either a urea or phenolic condensate, or which can be fabricated from any suitable hard rubber or other suitable material. In the exemplification of the invention shown in Figures 1 to 4 inclusive, I preferably divide the base 11 into four sections by providing a plate or web member 12 which pierces the base 11 at its transverse center and which is co-extensive with the length of the base to afford one element of the reed-retaining means of the device; the web 12 projecting normally from the base on opposite sides thereof as clearly shown in Figure 1 of the drawings. There are thus provided four separate sections 16, 17, 18 and 19 in the base 11 on which are supported at spaced intervals a plurality of tubular posts 20 which preferably are molded integrally with base 11 or which may be mounted uprightly on the base by inserting the same into suitable perforations formed in the base. The posts 20 serve as pivots for four resilient members 21 disposed on the posts 20 in the four sections of the base and to prevent dislodgment of the resilient members from the posts I conveniently press-fit escutcheon pins 25 into the tops of the posts 20. The resilient members 21 preferably are fabricated from phosphor bronze but may be made from nickel-silver spring stock, if desired.

In accordance with my invention, each of the resilient members 21 preferably is so formed as to provide thereon two reed-engaging areas 22 and 23 for the reeds 24 with an intermediate finger portion 26 that conveniently is formed to a concave surface. The reed-engaging areas 22 and 23 of the resilient members 21 engage the reeds, when mounted in the holder, adjacent their tips as well as adjacent their centers on the sides thereof nearest the other ends of the reeds. To mount the reeds on the holder, it is only necessary to press the fingers on the finger portions of the resilient members 21 which causes the reed-engaging areas 22 and 23 of the resilient members to be urged away from the web 12; then slip the reeds in between the resilient members 21 and the web 12 and release the fingers which, by virtue of the spring action of the members 21, causes the reed-engaging members to spring back against the reeds and engage the same at the areas indicated. The two point engagement of each of the reeds by the resilient members 21 obviates warpage of the reeds but the applied force of the resilient members 21 will not dent or otherwise damage the reeds.

While the showings of Figures 1 to 4 inclusive depict a preferred embodiment of the invention

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as exemplified in a device for holding four individual reeds, it is to be understood that I am not to be limited to such specific embodiment as the device can be constructed so as to retain any desired number of reeds. For example, and as shown in the modified embodiment of the invention depicted in Figure 5 of the annexed drawings, the reed holder of my present invention can comprise a base 111 with an integral plate or web 112 projecting from but one side thereof. In this modification, the base 111 is thus divided into but two sections 116 and 117, and on each section a similar resilient member 121 is pivotally mounted by means of tubular posts 120 which may be molded directly with the base 111 or which can be inserted into perforations formed in the base. Suitable escutcheon pins 125 are press-fitted into the tops of the posts 120 to hold the resilient members 121 against dislodgement. As in the case of the exemplification of the invention shown in Figures 1 to 4 inclusive, each of the resilient members 121 of the modification of Figure 5 is so formed as to provide thereon two reed-engaging areas 122 and 123 which yieldingly but firmly hold a reed 124 against the web 112 to maintain the reed always in a non-warped or flat condition and free from all likelihood of damage so as to present the reed always immediately available with better playing qualities.

In accordance with my invention, the resilient members 21 and 121 of the embodiments illustrated in the accompanying drawings are preferably formed with elongated, concave finger portions 26 and 126, respectively. By exerting pressure of the fingers at the portions 26 and 123 of these resilient members, the reed-engaging areas thereof are urged away from the reeds to permit withdrawal thereof from the holder. It is obvious that release of the fingers or pressure from the finger portions of the resilient members will cause the reed-engaging areas of such members to spring back to their initial positions adjacent to the webs 12 and 112 of the embodiments with the reeds intermediate the resilient members and the webs. By holding the holders of my invention in a horizontal position, it is clear that one or more reeds may readily be placed or mounted on the holder for retention by the resilient members thereof, and just as readily withdrawn therefrom.

While not shown in the annexed drawings, a suitable cover may conveniently be provided for the holder and wedge-fitted or otherwise fastened to the plate 12 or 112 or, for that matter, to the base 11 or 111 of the embodiments illustrated, as the case may be. The cover affords the maintenance of the reeds at a constant humidity in all instances or situations, particularly since the reeds are periodically withdrawn from the holder and re-moistened for use and then replaced in the holder. Maintenance of the reeds at constant humidity minimizes the possibility of warping of the reeds. The cover likewise insures against likelihood of damage to the reeds by inadvertent contact therewith or from deterioration by exposure to the air.

Since I have provided for engagement of each of the reeds retained in the holder of my invention at the tips thereof as well as adjacent to their centers, there is no likelihood that any of the reeds can become warped as is normally the case when moistened reeds are placed or mounted in prior types of reed holders. The resiliency of the metal members 21 and 121 is such as firmly

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to hold the reeds against the web of the holders in flattened positions and in such areas and manner that they cannot possibly become warped. Of course, any suitable form of resilient members 21 and 121 can be pivotally mounted on the bases of my improved holder as long as there are provided thereon reed-engaging areas at least at two points so that the reeds preferably will be gripped or engaged at their tips as well as adjacent to their centers to effect the object above specified. The particular shape of the resilient members 21 and 121 as shown in the annexed drawings has been found most effective in accomplishing the purpose of preventing warpage and therefore has been stated herein to be the preferable embodiment of such members.

It is to be understood that the appended claims are to be accorded a range of equivalents commensurate in scope with the advance made over the prior art.

I claim:

1. A reed holder comprising a base, and reed-retaining means on said base for releasably holding a plurality of reeds in non-warpage positions thereon, said means consisting of a plate extending normally from said base and dividing the same into a plurality of sections; said plate presenting a planar face to at least two sections, a pair of aligned tubular posts projecting normally from said base in each of said sections and arranged in spaced relationship with respect to one another as well as with respect to the planar faces of said plate, a resilient member mounted on the pair of aligned tubular posts in each section; each of said resilient members consisting of an inwardly curved central portion for engagement by a finger, inwardly and outwardly projecting end portions, and a pair of ears positioned at each end of said central curved portion overlying said posts, and escutcheon pins piercing said ears and fitted into said tubular posts to hold said resilient members on said post; the free end of said projecting end portions normally terminating in the plane of the planar face of said plate, pressure applied at the curved central portion of each of said members causing said end projecting portions to be urged away from said plate while release of pressure on said curved portions causing said end projecting portions to be urged toward said plate whereby at least one reed can be releasably retained in a non-warpage position on said base between said plate and said end projecting portions of each resilient member in each of said sections.

2. A reed holder as defined in claim 1 wherein said plate projects from opposite sides of said base normally thereto to increase the number of sections and the reed-retaining capacity of the holder.

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