May 14, 1957 C. S. MARIEN 2,791,899

KEY HOLDER

Filed Nov. 30, 1955

Fig. 1.

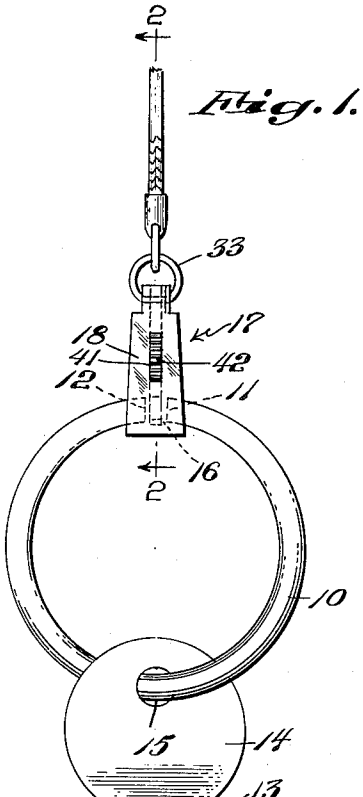


Fig. 2.

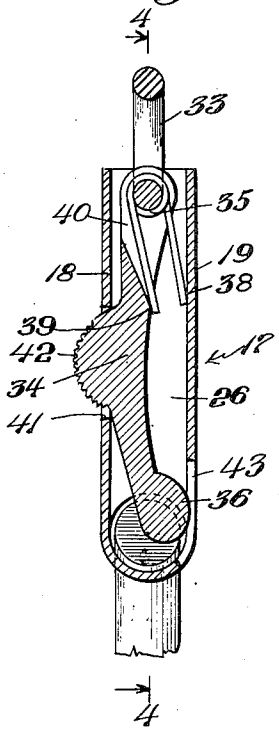


Fig. 3.

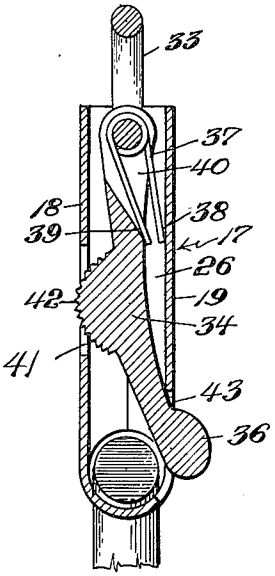


Fig. 5.

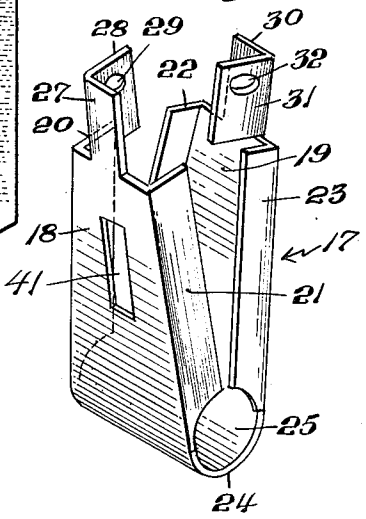
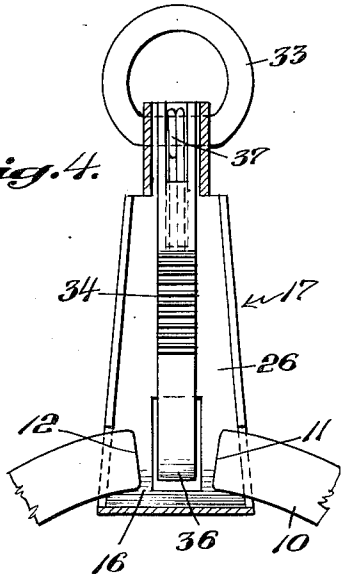


Fig. 4.



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KEY HOLDER

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5 Claims. (Cl. 70—459)

This invention relates to a key holder.

Key holders may be of varying types. The type with which this invention is concerned has a loop which is rigid so far as its functioning in the invention is concerned with the ends of the loop spaced so as to provide for access of the key in positioning it on the loop. The handle of the key is provided with a hole through which the loop may be passed to mount the key on the loop. In order that the key will not be accidentally disengaged from the loop, some closure is then provided for the space between the ends of the loop, and it is this closure member to which this invention is directed. Various forms of closures have been heretofore provided.

One of the objects of this invention is to provide a closure which will be of simple construction and thus inexpensive to manufacture.

Another object of the invention is to provide a closure which may be so manipulated that it may be easily slid to and from closing position.

Another object of the invention is to provide a suspending ring and use this suspending ring as a means for holding the closure in assembled position and also using this ring as a means for pivotally mounting one of the parts of the member.

Another object of the invention is to provide a member which will be of thin construction so that it will lie flat in the pocket and conform itself readily in the pocket of the user to the space available for it.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is an elevation showing the key holder in closed position with a key mounted on the loop;

Figure 2 is a sectional view on substantially line 2—2 of Figure 1 with the loop broken away;

Figure 3 is a view similar to Figure 2 but showing the tongue of the closure member as moved to release position so that the closure member may be slid along the loop;

Figure 4 is a sectional view on substantially line 4—4 of Figure 2; and

Figure 5 is a perspective view showing the body of the closure member in partly folded up position.

In proceeding with this invention, I utilize a loop of ring shape with spaced ends and mount a closure member on this loop by folding up from sheet stock the body of the closure so that the loop may slide through the body and then provide a tongue within the body to extend between the ends of the loop to block the body from sliding along the loop, the body being of sufficient width so that the loop is closed when the tongue is between the ends of the loop. For opening the loop, the tongue is withdrawn from the space between the ends by some sort of manual manipulation and then the body may be slid along the loop so that the keys may be threaded into or removed from the loop.

With reference to the drawings, 10 designates the loop which will be of rigid construction with the ends 11 and 12 spaced as shown in Figures 1 and 4. A key 13 having a handle portion 14 is provided with a hole 15 and the wire part of the loop 10 may be threaded through this hole to mount the key on the loop. The space 16 between the ends 11 and 12 is spanned by a hollow body closure 17.

This closure is formed from sheet stock cut out in a suitable shape and then bent to provide the body. The body will have a front wall 18 and a back wall 19 with flanges 20 and 21 extending from the front wall 18 and flanges 22 and 23 extending from the back wall 19. The walls 18 and 19 are folded up from a flat sheet of stock along an arcuate bite portion 24, and the flanges are so shaped at one of their ends as to provide a generally circular opening 25 of a size to receive and slide along the loop 10. The flanges 20, 22 and 21, 23 will abut in edge to edge relation throughout their length to provide a body which is hollow as at 26 within. In order to hold the body with the flanges abutting as shown in Figures 2 and 3, a tab 27 extends upwardly from the front wall 18 having an ear 28 folded at right angles thereto and pierced with an opening 29, while a tab 30 extends upwardly from the back wall 19 having an ear 31 folded at right angles thereto, which is pierced with an opening 32 therethrough. When the flanges 20, 22 and 21, 23 are in edge to edge abutting relation, the holes 29 and 32 will be substantially in axial alignment, and a ring 33 will be passed through these openings so as to hold the front and back walls 18 and 19 in generally parallel relation and the flanges abutting.

A tongue 34 is provided with an opening 35 through which the ring 33 passes so as to pivotally mount the tongue within the hollow 26 of the body. This tongue is of a width so that its lower end 36 may extend in the space 16 between the ends of the loop 10. A coiled spring 37 extends about the ring 33 with one end 38 engaging the back wall 19 of the closure, while the other end 39 extends through a slot 40 in the tongue 34 and presses against the back side of the tongue to force it toward the front wall 18 and into the space 16 between the ends of the loop.

The front wall 18 is provided with an opening 41 through which the finger piece 42 which comprises a projecting portion from the tongue extends so that pressure may be applied to the tongue by the finger of the operator to swing the tongue against the spring in moving it out of the space 16. In order, however, that the tongue may have sufficient freedom of movement to move from the space 16, I also provide an opening 43 in the back wall of the closure member that the lower enlarged portion 36 of the tongue may extend into this opening and have sufficient clearance to move from a position between the ends of the loop.

It will be apparent that when the closure member is in the position shown in Figure 1 with the tongue in between the ends 11 and 12 of the loop, it will remain in this position and block the removal or entrance of keys from the loop. However, in order to provide access to the ends of the loop, I may press upon the finger piece 42 of the tongue, moving it to the position shown in Figure 3, thereby permitting the closure member to be slid along the loop through the opening 25 to a position removed from the space 16, thereby permitting entrance of the keys on to the loop.

I claim:

1. A key holder comprising a rigid loop having a space between its ends and of a size to be passed through the hole in the handle of a key, a closure for said space comprising a hollow body slidably mounted on said loop and of a width greater than said space, a ring through said

body, a tongue pivotally mounted on said ring and of a width less than said space to extend therein, and a finger piece projecting through said body to be engaged for moving the tongue from the said space between the ends whereby sliding of the closure along said loop is permitted to open the space for positioning keys on the loop.

2. A key holder comprising a rigid loop having a space between its ends and of a size to be passed through the hole in the handle of a key, a closure for said space comprising a hollow body slidably mounted on said loop and of a width greater than said space, a ring through said body, a tongue pivotally mounted on said ring and of a width less than said space to extend therein, a spring acting between said body and tongue to urge the tongue in one direction into said space, and a finger piece projecting through said body to be engaged for moving the tongue from the said space between the ends whereby sliding of the closure along said loop is permitted to open the space for positioning keys on the loop.

3. A key holder comprising a rigid loop having a space between its ends and of a size to be passed through the hole in the handle of a key, a closure for said space comprising a hollow body slidably mounted on said loop and of a width greater than said space, said body having opposite walls each with an opening therein, a tongue pivotally mounted in said body and of a width less than said space to extend therein, and a finger piece projecting through one of said openings in said body to be engaged for moving the tongue from the said space between the ends into the opening in the other wall whereby sliding of the closure along said loop is permitted to open the space for positioning keys on the loop.

4. A key holder comprising a rigid loop having a space between its ends and of a size to be passed through the hole in the handle of a key, a closure for said space comprising a hollow body slidably mounted on said loop and of a width greater than said space, said body having opposite walls each with an opening therein, a ring through said body, a tongue pivotally mounted on said ring and of a width less than said space to extend therein, and a finger piece projecting through one of said openings in said body to be engaged for moving the tongue from the said space between the ends into the opening in the other wall whereby sliding of the closure along said loop is permitted to open the space for positioning keys on the loop.

5. A key holder comprising a rigid loop having a space between its ends and of a size to be passed through the hole in the handle of a key, a closure for said space comprising a hollow body slidably mounted on said loop and of a width greater than said space, said body having opposite walls each with an opening therein, a ring through said body, a tongue pivotally mounted on said ring and of a width less than said space to extend therein, a spring acting between said body and tongue to urge the tongue in one direction into said space, and a finger piece projecting through one of said openings in said body to be engaged for moving the tongue from the said space between the ends into the opening in the other wall whereby sliding of the closure along said loop is permitted to open the space for positioning keys on the loop.

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