April 14, 1953 H. C. MAYERS 2,634,835

TRAVELING DISPLAY CASE FOR SHOES

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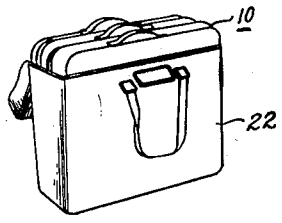


Fig. 5

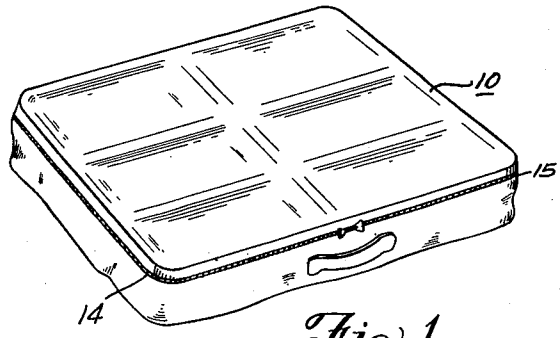


Fig. 1

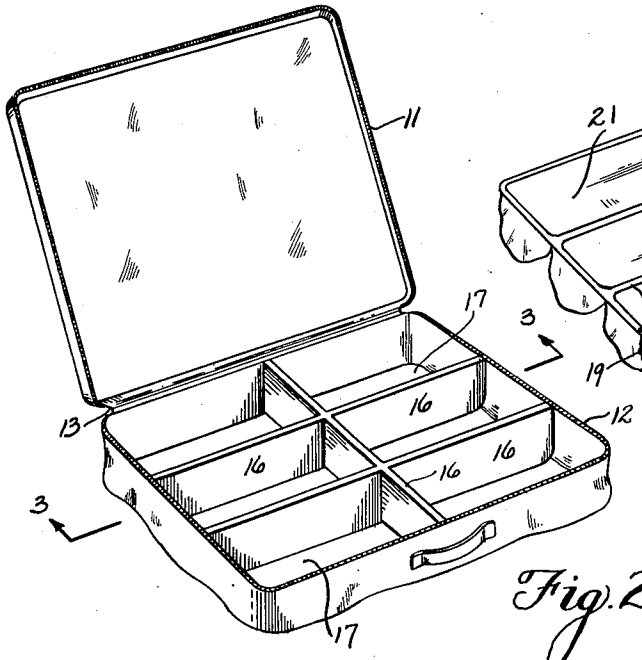


Fig. 2

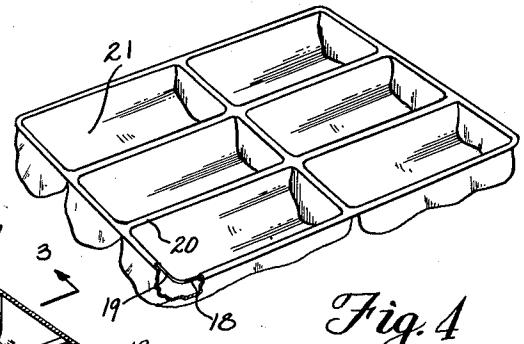


Fig. 4

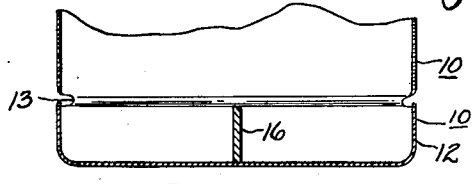


Fig. 3

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TRAVELING DISPLAY CASE FOR SHOES

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1 Claim. (Cl. 190—16)

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My invention relates to partitioned traveling cases generally, and relates particularly to cases in which sample shoes may be advantageously stored and displayed.

It is an object of my invention to provide a traveling case formed of foldable sections having compartments for receiving different sample shoes in combination with which there is provided removable trays in which other sample shoes are provided, which trays will fit in nested relation to the shoes retained in the compartments of the sections of the case.

Another object of my invention is to provide a series of insert trays for a traveling shoe case in which pockets are provided for receiving a number of sample shoes which can be quickly removed from the case so as to be advantageously displayed.

Still another object of my invention is to make the side walls of the compartments resilient and thereby protect both surface and structure of the article therein.

Other objects and a fuller understanding of my invention may be had by referring to the following description and claim, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the outside of my improved case;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the improved case opened;

Figure 3 is a sectional view along line 3—3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the insert tray arranged alongside of the open case; and

Figure 5 is a view of a composite carrying case having three of the cases therein illustrated in Figure 1.

In traveling cases for sample shoes it has been customary to provide sectional cases with compartments for receiving each a sample shoe, and in order to economize space other sample shoes have been wrapped in paper and inserted in the compartments in a position reversed from the samples originally placed in the compartments so that the toe of a wrapped shoe will be received in the compartment in the space left by the heel of the sample shoe contained therein.

In my Patent No. 1,867,886, I disclosed an improved case which provides inserts having pockets for receiving sample shoes in which the inserts may be so arranged and positioned in the case that each compartment will have a shoe originally placed in it, and with the triangular space left in the compartment occupied by one of the shoes in the pocket of the insert.

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Ordinarily a shoe salesman carries with him a number of samples of the left shoe of a pair, so that practically all the shoes will occupy the same amount of space. If the traveling case is subdivided into rectangular compartments each shoe will occupy a space in the compartment between the bottom and side wall and a diagonal line extended across from one corner to the other, leaving an empty triangular space which I fill in with the shoes carried in the pockets of the inserts or trays.

In the use of my improved display case, the sample shoes became somewhat shopworn during a selling tour, but such wearing was expected. Slight scuffs in the finish and crumpled leather are an expected result of carrying a case of shoes on trains, cars and other transportation vehicles.

The walls of the case, and the compartment walls were made of hard, unyielding materials. An attempt to line the compartments with soft cloth reducing scuffing, but not the crushed leather. A case was recently made with resilient composition material called leatherette in order to avoid lining a wood partition. The foldable sections themselves were made of soft leather.

After the new case was in use for a period of time, it was realized that the shoes remained in a new condition with no indication of deterioration. The reason appears to be in the fact that the compartments not only are soft enough to avoid marring the surface of the shoes, but that when the cases are dropped, the force of the shoes against the compartment walls will deform the walls, rather than the shoes being deformed. The wall "rocks with the punch" and reduces the shock.

The case is illustrated generally by the reference character 10 and may be any suitable design, composed of open-sided sections 11 and 12, and provided with a hinge portion 13. Two slide fasteners 14 and 15 are provided for securing the sections in closed position as indicated in Figure 1.

Although both of the sections 11 and 12 may be provided with shoe-receiving compartments, the illustrated embodiment provides a compartment only in the section 12. The section 12 is provided with a series of compartment walls 16 which subdivide the section 12 into a plurality of compartments 17. As previously stated, the material forming the case 10 may be made of leather or leatherette, or similar resilient material, and the walls 16 are made of similar resilient material having slightly more body to thereby act as a skeleton for the case 10. Never-

theless, the walls 16 are resilient and will give when a suitable force is applied, and thereafter resume their normal form after the force is removed.

I have shown a case 10 having six compartments, each compartment being of sufficient size to receive a sample shoe in the triangular space extending across between the corners of the compartment.

Referring to Figure 4 of the drawing, I have shown an insert tray having metallic side bars 18, end bars 19, and with cross bars 20, spaced similarly as the compartment walls 16 are spaced in the section 12 of the case. I prefer to cover the metal frame formed by the bars 18, 19 and 20 with cloth material formed with pockets 21 for receiving the sample shoes, which are to be set in to occupy the unfilled triangular spaces in the display case compartment.

In placing sample shoes in the display case 10, the case is opened as indicated in Figure 2, and each one of the compartments is filled with a shoe. The toe of the shoe is placed in one corner of the compartment and the top of the shoe in contact with the longitudinal wall of the compartment. The heel of the shoe then extends out along one end of the compartment. In other words, the shoe occupies a triangular space roughly defined by an imaginary line drawn diagonally across the compartment. The insert tray pockets 21 are then filled with shoes positioned to occupy the remaining triangular space in the compartment, and the tray placed into the case 10 with the shoes within the pockets 21 filling the unoccupied space of the compartment, but being separated from the shoes within the compartment by the cloth forming the pocket 21.

When the salesman desires to display the samples in his case he merely opens the case and removes the insert trays, when all the shoes which he has in the case are displayed to good advantage without its being necessary to unwrap any shoes.

When constructed as described, my case may be handled in a rough manner and the shoe samples therein will remain in a new and attractive condition.

In Figure 5, I have illustrated a multiple unit carrying case having a jacket case 22 with three of the described cases 10 therein. In this manner, any number of cases 10 may be carried together to present a full line of samples.

Although my invention has been described in its preferred form with a certain degree of particularity, it is understood that the present disclosure of the preferred form has been made only by way of example and that numerous changes in the details of construction and the combination and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and the scope of the invention as hereinafter claimed.

What is claimed is:

A resilient and flexible sample shoe display case comprising, a closable container of flexible material consisting of a flexible first wall, flexible side wall portions carried by said first wall, said first wall and said side wall portions defining a closable receptacle, a lid member closable upon said receptacle, means to secure said lid to said side walls in closed relationship, a plurality of flexible partitions extending in angular relationship with respect to one another and crossing to define smaller discrete compartments within said receptacle, each said flexible partitions extending from side wall to side wall and fixed in position within said receptacle, an insert tray rack having a rigid frame consisting of an outer loop substantially as large as the inner circumference of the side wall portions to fit closely within the case, and a plurality of rigid cross frame members extending in substantially the same pattern as said partitions to thereby overlay the partitions, a flexible material covering secured to said tray rack frame and hanging loosely between the various frame portions thereby providing pockets to hang down into the compartments defined by the partitions.

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