July 14, 1931. A. PERUGIA 1,814,260

MANUFACTURE OF SHOE UPPERS

Filed Oct. 3, 1928

Fig. 1.

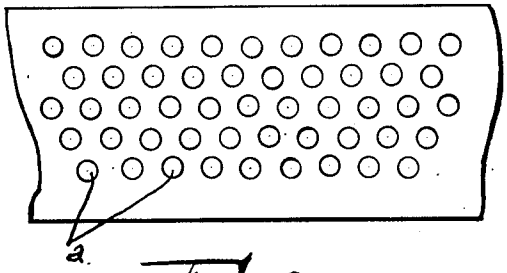


Fig. 2

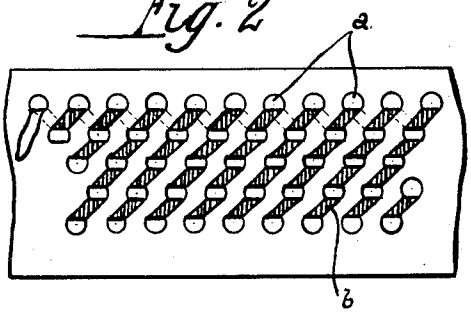
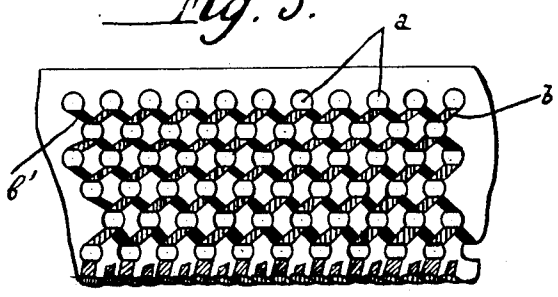


Fig. 3.



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THE MANUFACTURE OF SHOE UPPERS

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It has been already proposed namely in the manufacture of shoe uppers to make side uppers of leather thongs or straps, the braiding of the said thongs making it possible to connect them together.

The present invention has for its object the manufacture of shoe uppers of this kind. This manufacture is essentially characterized by the fact that the thongs or straps, instead of being interwoven, are connected upon a backing or support which is provided, for this purpose, with holes which form a net-work upon which to position the said thongs or straps.

In the accompanying drawings given by way of example:

Fig. 1 shows part of the backing or support before the thongs are interwoven therewith.

Figs. 2 and 3 show respectively, a shoe upper material obtained by the use of one set of thongs or straps and of two sets of thongs, of different shades.

As hereinbefore stated, the manufacturing process essentially consists in the previous preparation of a backing or supporting surface which is provided with holes *a*.

The form and the arrangement of the said holes relatively to one another can vary and it is only by way of example that the accompanying drawings show a form of construction of a net-work formed of perforated material, the holes being regularly staggered. This net-work is then used for positioning the leather thongs or straps *b* and secure them in position. Consequently, the thongs *b*, instead of being connected together, are connected to the net-work carrying the same.

Accordingly, the thongs or straps *b* can be plaited or braided in being passed alternatively from the one face of the net-work to the other, and inversely, through the holes *a*, which are arranged in contiguous parallel rows (Fig. 2).

Fig. 3 shows that, after one set of thongs or straps *b* has been put in place, as hereinbefore described, it is possible to lace in a like manner upon the common net-work another set *b'* of a different color, for example; the visible parts of thongs *b'* of this second set on each surface of the perforated backing or support, being inclined in a reverse direction to the visible parts of the thongs or straps *b* of the first set.

According to this figure, said thongs embrace the exposed edge of the blank. When incorporating this blank in a shoe, care must be taken that the edge embraced by the thongs remains the exposed edge of the shoe upper. The shoe edges will then be reinforced so that a tearing of the perforated material is prevented.

However, the thongs can obviously be arranged in a different manner according to the effect it is desired to obtain.

In the same way, use can be made, for the purpose of constituting the perforated backing, of uppers which can be provided with local overthickness or strengthened portions.

Thus, for instance, in case the process is used for making the upper part of shoes, the perforated part which forms the thong or strap carrying net-work can be reinforced at the top and at the counter so as to offer, at these points, a sufficient resistance or rigidity. This reinforcement can be obtained through a localized overthickness (by means of adjoined members of the same sort for example) or by the adjunction of more resisting members (adjunction of metal plates, for example).

These thicker or more resisting parts of the backing or support can of course be perforated like the rest of the upper, so as to also form a net-work for the positioning and fastening of the thongs or straps.

The uppers which are obtained in this manner are particularly adapted for the manufacture of shoes, of leather articles, and the like. The supporting or backing wall can be partly perforated so as to display full or plain parts and open parts for effecting the lacing.

I claim:

1. An ornamental shoe upper blank, comprising a body portion formed with a plurality of perforations arranged in predetermined relation to one another, and continuous strands or thongs interwoven in said perforations, and exposed upon said body por-

tion, said strands or thongs, also embracing the exposed edge of the blank which is exposed when the blank is incorporated in a shoe.

2. An ornamental shoe upper blank comprising a body portion formed with a plurality of perforations arranged in predetermined relation to one another, reinforcing portions formed with perforations similar to those of the body portion, and continuous strands or thongs interwoven in said perforations and exposed upon said body portion, said strands or thongs also embracing the exposed edge of the blank which is exposed when the blank is incorporated in a shoe.

3. An ornamental shoe upper blank comprising a body portion formed with a plurality of perforations arranged in predetermined relation to one another, and continuous strands or thongs having two surfaces of different colors interwoven in opposite directions in said perforations, each of said two surfaces being exposed to view upon the body portion.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ANDRÉ PERUGIA.