

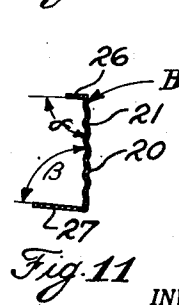
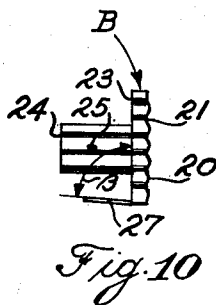
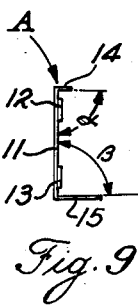
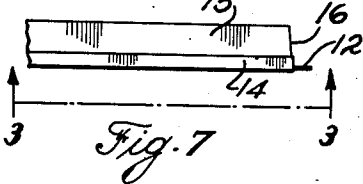
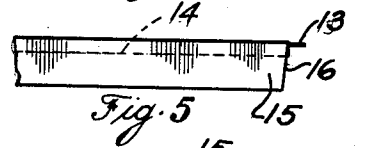
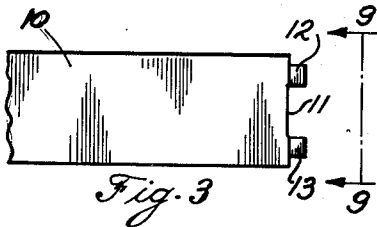
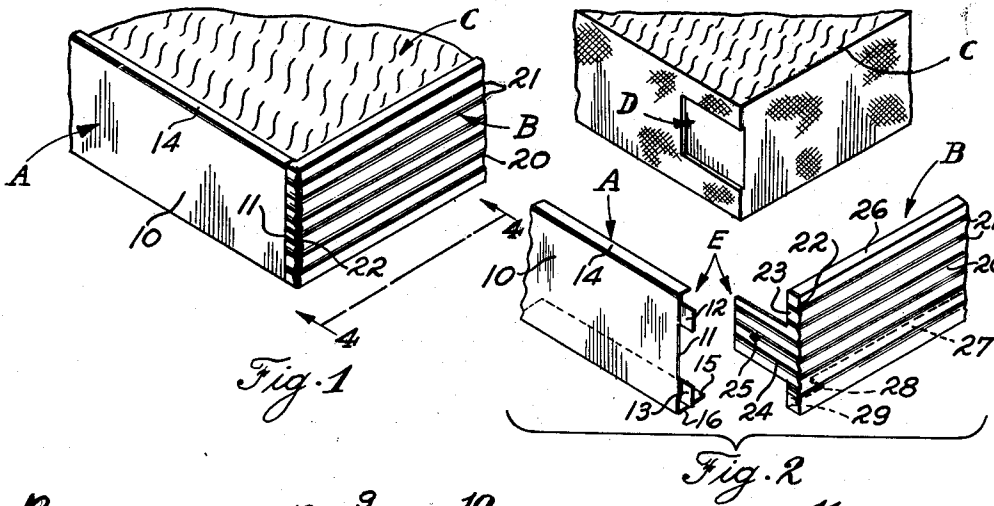
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EDGE TRIM CORNER CONSTRUCTION FOR TABLE TOPS OR THE LIKE

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EDGE TRIM CORNER CONSTRUCTION FOR
TABLE TOPS OR THE LIKE

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This invention relates to a corner construction for an edge-trimmed top of a table, desk, counter or the like, all of which are comprehended by the word "table" as hereinafter used.

Where the top structure of a table is left with an unfinished or "raw" edge, it is usually desirable to conceal such edge by means of edge trim, which, in a great many cases, takes the form of a decorated or undecorated metal strip fastened in some way to the top structure. Ordinarily, the application of such edge trim involves the necessity of providing joints, of which, particularly if the top structure is interrupted by a cleavage plane provided for the insertion of fillers or leaves, there are likely to be at least four but of which, in the case of square or oblong tables, there may be as many as eight. Regardless of shape, if the exterior sections of edge trim are decorated, it is not usually desirable that the interior sections of edge trim defining the cleavage plane be so decorated; rather, it is preferable, in the interests of a close fit, that such sections be left wholly undecorated. Thus the sections of edge trim meeting at the joints may be, and frequently are, dissimilar.

One of the objects of the present invention is to provide edge trim of this kind which, whether decorated or undecorated, is easy to attach and detach, which remains in place without likelihood of lateral displacement until such time as it becomes necessary or desirable to remove it, and which effectively conceals the raw edge of the top structure of the table. It is a further object of the invention to provide edge trim of this kind which lends itself to decorative effects, particularly where it defines the periphery of the table proper, which has no exposed rough edges, and which leaves no pockets in or on the top structure of the table wherein debris may collect. A further object of the invention is to provide edge trim of this kind which lends itself to the formation of a neat, inconspicuous but sturdy joint that does not detract from the appearance presented by any decorative effects that may be applied to the exterior sections of the edge trim between corners of the top structure of the table. Still a further object of the invention is to provide edge trim and a joint therefor which, although imparting to it an unusually attractive appearance, will not add unduly to the cost of the table.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention are achieved in the manner disclosed in the following description and the accompanying drawings, which show a corner construction for a table top at a point where a section of decorated edge trim meets a section of undecorated edge trim.

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In the drawings, Figure 1 is an isometric view of a corner construction of an edge-trimmed table top. Figure 2 is an exploded view of the parts making up the corner construction of Figure 1. Figure 3 is a side elevation, as seen from the left in Figure 1, of the undecorated edge section A of Figures 1 and 2. Figure 4 is a side elevation, looking in the direction indicated by arrows 4-4 in Figure 1, of the decoratively finished edge section B of Figures 1 and 2. Figures 5 and 6 are bottom plans of sections A and B, respectively. Figures 7 and 8 are top plans of sections A and B, respectively. Figures 9 and 10 are end elevations of sections A and B as seen from lines 9-9 and 10-10 of Figures 3 and 4, respectively. Figure 11 is a vertical section through section B on line 11-11 of Figure 4.

As indicated in Figures 1 and 2, the corner construction of the present invention incorporates an undecorated section of edge trim, designated A, which extends toward the geometric corner of the top structure but falls somewhat short of it, usually by a distance of the order of one-eighth inch in a typical case. It includes a second section of edge rim, designated B, which is decorated as shown by indented grooves and which does not stop short of or at the corner but instead turns the corner and continues for a short distance, usually one-eighth inch or slightly less, in a manner such that the end thereof abuts or opposes the end of section A. The top structure of the table proper, designated C, is provided near the corner with a hollowed-out space D lying for the most part behind section A. Within hollowed-out space D, which as represented in Figure 2 is of minimum length and breadth but which may, if desired, be larger or differently shaped, are received interlocking means, designated E, which take the form of interdigitating projections on sections A and B that in large part, but not entirely, are located back of section A.

Section A consists, among other things, of a main portion 10, preferably perfectly plain as regards decoration, which extends as described toward the geometric corner of top structure C and which, perhaps one-eighth of an inch or so short of the corner, is provided with a squared-off edge 11. Main portion 10 of section A may be made fast to top structure C in any desired manner, as by means of screws, brads, glue or the like; however, in the construction shown none of these is necessary and all may be dispensed with, if so desired. As shown in Figures 2, 3 and 9, section A is provided with two tabs 12 and 13 which, at the time when section A is being stamped or otherwise formed, are off-set very

slightly back of the plane of main portion 10 in order that they will not prevent a smooth joint where squared-off edge 11 of section A meets the corresponding edge of section B.

Flanges above and below top structure C may be included in or omitted from section A as may be desired; however, what is shown in the drawing is a construction characterized by a narrow top flange 14 extending for about one-eighth of an inch inward from the top of main portion 10 and a bottom flange 15, relatively wide as compared to top flange 14, which may extend inward from the bottom of main portion 10 for a distance of about three-eighths of an inch. Preferably, the top and bottom flanges, if present at all, are angled somewhat so that in each case the included angle is less than 90°. In the case of top flange 14, such angling ("conditioning") is so slight that the included angle α indicated in Figure 9 is less than 90° by an amount measured only in minutes or seconds. On the other hand, bottom flange 15 is angled by approximately 3°, so the included angle β indicated in Figure 9, rather than being precisely 90°, measured approximately 87°. The purpose of angling top and bottom flanges 14 and 15 in this manner is to preclude the possibility of gaps between the respective flanges and top structure C; also, in the case of bottom flange 15, to cause the latter to tend to bite into the bottom of top structure C in the interests of more firmly holding section A in position. As shown in Figures 5 and 7, the outer end 16 of bottom flange 15 is not squared-off but cut back slightly for reasons which will appear hereinafter.

Section B consists, among other things, of a main portion 20 decorated by the incorporation of a plurality of grooves 21 stamped or otherwise formed therein in such manner as to extend longitudinally thereof. Main portion 20 does not stop short of or even at the geometric corner of top structure C, which has a counterpart in corner 22 of section B, but is provided with a continuation 23 extending substantially at right angles to main portion 20 for a distance of about one-eighth of an inch. Continuation 23 carries a grooved integral tab 24 provided with a pierced hole 25 by means of which tab 24, and therefore section B, may be made fast to top structure C. Tab 24, which is bent in such manner that included angle γ (Figures 6 and 8) is a few degrees less than a right angle, is both longer and wider than tabs 12 and 13 on section A and, like them, is off-set slightly to the rear of the plane of the joint in order to permit the end of continuation 23 of main portion 20 of section B to abut squared-off end 11 of main portion 10 of section A without unnecessary lack of evenness or other irregularity. Tab 24 is so located relative to tabs 12 and 13 that it fits snugly between them, interlocking therewith to form concealed means effectively preventing lateral displacement of sections A and B.

As in the case of section A, section B is characterized by a narrow top flange 26 overlying top structure C of the table, which flange extends inward at an angle very slightly less than 90° from the top of main portion 20 of section B (Figure 11). With continuation 23, top flange 26 forms a shallow peripheral rim of uniform width outlining the top and end portions of section B. Projecting inward from the bottom of main portion 20 of section B and thus underlying top structure C of the table is a bottom flange 27 generally similar to bottom flange 15 and similarly angled (Figures 10 and 11), which flange

may be narrow or wide, as may be desired, but which, especially if of a width considerably greater than top flange 26, is preferably provided with a rectangular cut-away area 28 the purpose of which is to preclude interference between bottom flange 27 of section B and outer end 16 of bottom flange 15 of section A. As shown in Figures 6 and 8, the cut-away area 28 need not extend all the way back to main portion 20 in order to provide the desired clearance, but may leave intact a narrow portion 29, perhaps one-eighth inch in width, forming part of bottom flange 27. This construction, together with the fact that the outer end 16 of bottom flange 15 is cut back as shown in Figures 5 and 7, prevents over-riding of bottom flanges 15 and 27 when the sections are assembled to form a joint.

When the edge trim is to be applied to top structure C, main portion 20 of section B is fitted to the side of top structure C shown at the right in each of Figures 1 and 2, being glued if desired but preferably made fast by a brad in hole 25 in tab 24, thus precluding the possibility of displacement, lateral or otherwise, of section B in the vicinity of the joint. Tab 24, being off-set slightly from and bent at angle of a few degrees to the plane of continuation 23 of main portion 20, fits into hollowed-out space D at the corner of top structure C of the table. Thereafter, section A is brought into proximity to the edge of top structure C shown at the left in each of Figures 1 and 2, being bowed slightly to cause tabs 12 and 13 to straddle tab 24 and, when section A springs back into its normal flat shape, to slide in under continuation 23 of main portion 20 of section B. Like tab 24, tabs 12 and 13 are received within hollowed-out space D in top structure C. The two opposing ends of sections A and B thus are enabled to abut without any tendency on the part of either to bulge out of the plane of section A; in addition, section A is precluded from lateral displacement, at least at the joint, by virtue of the fact that tabs 12 and 13 are located back of continuation 23 of main portion 20 of section B.

Assuming that both top and bottom flanges are used and that the top flange is narrow and the bottom flange wide, as shown, for example, in Figures 2, 9 and 10, no problem is presented where top flange 26 of section B abuts top flange 14 of section A for, as previously pointed out, top flange 26 and continuation 23 of main portion 20 of section B form a shallow peripheral rim of substantially uniform width; accordingly, they abut the opposite or counterpart elements of section A without overlap and preferably without gap. A similar situation would come about if bottom flange 27 on section B were of the same width as top flange 26; but where, as indicated in Figures 2, 6, 8, 10 and 11, a relatively wide bottom flange is employed, it is desirable that cut-away area 28 be provided in order that it may receive the outer end 16 and corner of bottom flange 15 of section A without overriding of the parts.

The material of the edge trim; i. e., the material of which sections A and B are made, will ordinarily be a corrosion-resistant metal; for example, Monel metal, stainless steel, aluminum or the like, that is capable of being stamped or otherwise formed to the desired shape. However, it is possible to employ instead non-metallic materials that are capable of being extruded or molded in strip form, as, for example, horn-like synthetic resins of any one of several known types that lend themselves, because of their toughness,

springiness and other desirable physical characteristics, to use in the manner described. The material of which top structure C is made may be metal, glass, natural wood, plywood or any other like material in sheet or panel form. Preferably, but not necessarily, the upper surface of top structure C will be decorated in one of the many ways known to the art to impart to it an attractive finish. Edge section B, instead of being decorated by means of longitudinally extending grooves, may be decorated in any other desired way, as, for example, by milling, knurling, painting, enameling, etc. Similarly, section A, which normally would be left undecorated, may be decorated or finished in any desired fashion.

It is apparent that modifications may be made within a wide range in the details of the corner construction described above and shown in the drawings. Changes in the indicated configurations, dimensions, proportions, etc., as well as in the stated materials of construction, may be made without difficulty by persons skilled in the art. The locking or interlocking means at the joint may take forms specifically different from the interdigitating projections shown in the drawings and described in the specification; for example, they need not be concealed but may be visible, if preferred, for reasons of convenience or otherwise. Other changes of a structural nature may likewise be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

It is intended that the patent shall cover, by suitable summarization in the appended claims, whatever features of patentable novelty reside in the invention.

I claim:

1. A corner construction for an edge-trimmed top of a table, desk, counter or the like comprising top structure forming a corner; a first section of edge trim affixed to said top structure on one side of the corner, said first section extending toward but falling somewhat short of the corner; a second section of edge trim affixed to said top structure on the other side of the corner, said second section extending toward, turning, and projecting for a short distance beyond the corner in such manner that the end thereof opposes the end of the first section where the latter falls short

of the corner; top and bottom flanges on each of said sections, one of said flanges being wider than the other; and interlocking means preventing lateral displacement of both and endwise displacement of at least one of said sections, said means being received within a concealed recess formed in said top structure behind said first section.

2. A construction as in claim 1 in which the wide flange on one of said sections is cut away to accommodate the outer end of the wide flange on the other section.

3. A construction as in claim 2 in which the wide flange in which the cut-away area is provided projects from the main portion of the section at an angle less than 90°.

4. A corner construction for an edge-trimmed top of a table, desk, counter or the like comprising top structure forming a corner; a first section of edge trim affixed to said top structure on one side of the corner, said first section extending toward but falling somewhat short of the corner; a second section of edge trim affixed to said top structure on the other side of the corner, said second section extending toward, turning, and projecting for a short distance beyond the corner in such manner that the end thereof opposes the end of the first section where the latter falls short of the corner; and interlocking means preventing lateral displacement of both and endwise displacement of at least one of said sections, said means being received within a concealed recess formed in said top structure behind said undecorated section.

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