MULTIPLE EXTERIOR REVERSIBLE TOTE-BAG

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ABSTRACT
The present invention therefore 1. A tote bag comprising: a plurality of separate compartments, wherein each of the plurality of separate compartments has an interior case and an exterior case, and wherein each of the interior and exterior case is comprised of a flexible material and having a front wall and a rear wall that are connected to each other to define a closed volume having an open top side, the open top side forming the tote bag opening, and wherein each of the interior cases is contained within and attached to one of the exterior cases and each of the plurality of compartments are inseparably joined to at least one other of the plurality of compartments by at least one of a first and a second connection seam wherein the first and second connection seams are each located adjacent to the open top side on opposite sides of the open top side of each of the plurality of compartments such that a plurality of the separate compartments are interconnected one to another and, wherein each of the plurality of separate compartments interior case and exterior case is selectively exposed by turning any one of the compartments inside out and where each of the plurality of compartments move independently to be turned inside out, and selectively and independently folded within any one of the other plurality of compartments, a releasable closure mechanism attached to the bag opening for releasably securing the bag opening; and, at least one handle for carrying the tote bag.
MULTIPLE EXTERIOR REVERSIBLE TOTE-BAG

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application is a continuation of and claims priority of co-pending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 13/385,180, filed Feb. 6, 2012, which is a non-provisional application claiming priority from U.S. Provisional Application Ser. No. 61/459,846 filed on Feb. 5, 2011, the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] 1. Field of Invention
[0003] The present invention relates to the field of handbags, tote bags and other fashion apparel bags, and more particularly to reversible bags having multiple exterior covers.
[0004] 2. Description of Prior Art
[0005] There are a variety of tote bags on the market adapted for a variety of purposes and with features aimed to serve unique needs. In the realm of tote bags, consumers desire a product that provides the user with a fashionable bag that can be used in a variety of settings and well a matching with a variety of outerwear. Users typically will have multiple bags with various exterior colors and patterns which can be utilized in different circumstances and settings in accordance with a variety of factors such as the intended use, the intended setting or event.
[0006] Several bags exist on the market that provides an interchangeable exterior surface or cover. Examples of such handbags include those shown in U.S. Design Pat. D610,801 and U.S. Pat. No. 7,607,461. However, both of the handbags that are disclosed in accordance with the above cited patents require that a user have a base handbag unit to which various exterior covers or surfaces may be applied. This requires that the user purchase multiple and individual components in order to take advantage of the variable exterior feature. Moreover, the user can only change the exterior surface when the user has access to multiple individual exterior covers.
[0007] While the above referenced patents demonstrate that combined bag and blankets are beneficial, it is also desirable at times to have a tote bag and blanket that will serve multiple purposes. At times it is desirable to have a tote bag with multiple functions, which preferably may include, but are not limited to pillow functions, beverage cooler functions, reversible bags, and pocket(s) on both the interior and/or exterior of the bag so that pockets are available even when the bag is in a reversed blanket mode. Although numerous improvements have been made in the bag industry, none effectively solve the problems addressed by the present invention.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0008] It is accordingly the objective of the present application to disclose an embodiment of a multi-purpose tote bag that is readily reversible with multiple exterior colors and patterns that can be revealed by turning the tote bag inside out to reveal one of a plurality of exterior surfaces as selected by the user.
[0009] It is a further object of the present application to provide a multipurpose reversible tote bag that is assembled in a novel manner so as to provide a plurality of exterior surfaces available to the user and selectable by reversing the tote bag in a particular predetermined manner.
[0010] It is a further object of the present application to provide a multipurpose reversible tote bag featuring at least one pocket on the interior and/or the exterior surfaces of the product.
[0011] The present invention therefore provides a tote bag comprising a plurality of compartments, each having an interior case with a fascia and an exterior case with a fascia wherein each of said interior and exterior case is comprised of a flexible material and having a front wall and a rear wall that are connected to each other to define a closed volume having an open top side, and wherein each of said interior cases is contained within one of said exterior cases and each of said interior and exterior cases are joined together by a seam to define a closed volume with an open top side and wherein each of said plurality of compartments are in separably joined to at least one other of said plurality of compartments by a first and second connection seams wherein said first and second connection seams are each located adjacent to said open top side on opposite sides of said open top side of each of said plurality of compartments such that a plurality of said separate compartments are interconnected one to another and wherein each of said interior case fascia or said exterior case fascia for each of said plurality of compartments is alternately and selectively displayed by turning each of said a plurality of compartments inside out, wherein said plurality of compartments are attached to each other such that each compartment moves independently.
[0012] Other objectives of the invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art once the invention has been shown and described. These objectives are not to be construed as limitations of the invention, but as embodiments that will be appreciated by those skilled in the art.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0013] The manner in which these objectives and other desirable characteristics can be obtained is explained in the following description and attached drawings in which:
[0014] FIG. 1 is a side perspective exploded view of the multi-purpose reversible tote bag (hereinafter “tote bag”) according to the present invention.
[0015] FIG. 2 is a side perspective exploded view of the multi-purpose reversible tote bag (hereinafter “tote bag”) according to the present invention.
[0016] FIG. 3 is a side perspective exploded view of the multi-purpose reversible tote bag (hereinafter “tote bag”) according to the present invention.
[0017] FIG. 4 is a side perspective exploded view of the multi-purpose reversible tote bag (hereinafter “tote bag”) according to the present invention.
[0018] FIG. 5 is a side perspective exploded view of the multi-purpose reversible tote bag (hereinafter “tote bag”) according to the present invention.
[0019] FIG. 6 is a perspective view of the multi-purpose reversible tote bag in use depicting an additional feature of the invention.
[0020] FIG. 7 is a perspective view of the multi-purpose reversible tote bag in use depicting an additional feature of the invention.
[0021] It is to be noted, however, that the appended drawings illustrate only typical embodiments of this inven-
tion and are therefore not to be considered limiting of its scope, for the invention may admit to other equally effective embodiments.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0022] Although specific embodiments of the invention will now be described, it should be understood that these embodiments are examples only and merely illustrate a small number of the many possible specific embodiments that can represent application of the principles of the invention. Various changes and modifications obvious to one skilled in the art, to which the present invention pertains, are deemed to be within the spirit, scope and contemplation of the present invention as further defined in the claims.

[0023] FIG. 1 is a side perspective exploded view of the multi-purpose reversible tote bag. FIG. 1 depicts variations of the tote bag according to the present invention. Turning to FIG. 6 there is shown a side perspective view of the multi-purpose reversible tote bag of FIG. 1. FIG. 1 depicts variations of the tote bag according to the present invention. The embodiment shown includes a two compartment version 100 and 102. Each compartment is comprised of a continuous side wall 104, a front wall 106 and a back wall (not shown in this view) and an open top side 108. The compartments are only joined together along a top seam 110 between the two compartments and adjacent to the open top side 108. The seam 110 allows both compartments 100 and 102 to move independently of each other and as will be shown and described hereinafter may be reversed by turning one of the compartments inside of the other compartment. In this way either side of each compartment may be exposed as the exterior surface and the other compartment be turned inside of the other compartment. Additionally, as shown in FIG. 6, there may be a closure mechanism provided along the seam, such as for example a zipper, drawstring, concealed magnetic snaps, 619 mechanically affixing snaps, buckles, buttons, clasps or clips, although this list is not meant to be limiting as to the means of closure. The zipper or other closure mechanism may be oriented in such a way such that the corresponding portions of the closure mechanism are in alignment. In this way, the closure mechanism may be utilized regardless of which exterior surface is exposed by the user. Additionally, each compartment may include a pocket on both the interior and exterior surface which may be used to accommodate a first compartment which is reversed within a second compartment. Alternately, a first compartment that is reversed within a second compartment may serve as an internal liner for the second compartment. FIG. 2 further depicts this arrangement wherein there is shown compartments 100 and 102 in a first view. In the second view the tote bag is shown as a single compartment 112 where a first compartment, for example, 100 has been reversed and folded inside of a second compartment, for example 102, along seam 110. In this way, only the exterior surface of one compartment 112 is visible. That compartment 112 may also be reversed to switch the exposed surface, in other words, switch the inside with the outside. In this arrangement the first compartment is still contained and concealed within the second compartment, however, the exposed surface of the second compartment has been switched to reveal a different surface. Likewise, as depicted in FIG. 2, the single compartment 116 may have the second compartment unfolded from within the first compartment to once again reveal both compartments 100 and 102. The user can then switch the order that the compartments are reversed, for example 102 has been reversed and folded inside of a second compartment 100, thereby leaving a single compartment 118 for the user. In this way, a user can with a single tote bag according to the present invention have in the embodiment depicted four possible exterior surfaces to display.

[0024] Turning now to FIG. 3, there is shown an embodiment of the present invention which includes three separate compartments, 120, 121 and 122. As described with respect to FIGS. 1 and 2, each compartment is comprised of a continuous side wall 104, a front wall 106 and a back wall 107 which is seen in this view as compartment 122 is shown as being rotated about seam 110 into an opposed orientation compartments and an open top side 108. The compartments are only joined together along a top seam 110 between the two compartments and adjacent to the open top side 108. The seam 110 allows both compartments 100 and 102 to move independently of each other. This is clearly depicted in FIGS. 4 and 5 with respect to the varying orientation of compartments 120, 121 and 122. As previously explained with respect to FIGS. 1 and 2, the single compartment 120 may have the second and third compartment folded within the first compartment and then unfolded from within the first compartment to once again reveal all compartments 120, 121 and 122. The user can then switch the order that the compartments are reversed, for example 121 and 122 have been reversed and folded inside of compartment 120, thereby leaving a single compartment for the user. In this way, a user can with a single tote bag according to the present invention have in the embodiment depicted six possible exterior surfaces to display.

[0025] As depicted in this view any number of compartments may be attached together in accordance with the teachings of this invention. While the examples depicted show the present invention as having two or three separate compartments, one skilled in the art will recognize that any number of compartments can be attached in accordance with the techniques disclosed herein.

[0026] Turning now to FIG. 6 there is shown an alternate embodiment of the multipurpose reversible tote-bag according to the present invention depicting additional features which may be incorporated. FIG. 6 depicts the tote bag 600 which may include a strap 602. The strap may be attached to the tote-bag utilizing any means typically used in the art (not shown). For example, it may be attached using buckles, snaps, buttons, clasps, concealed magnetic snaps or clips, although this list is not meant to be limiting as to the means of attachment. The means of attachment are located on the top of the multipurpose reversible tote-bag such that they are accessible regardless of which exterior surface is exposed. Additionally, there may be included more than one set of attachment means such that the strap may be securely and removably attached to the tote-bag regardless of which exterior surface is exposed.

[0027] The strap provided may also be coordinated in appearance with the tote-bag by changing features such as color, style, texture, material and dimensions to match the tote-bag. Additionally, the strap may be reversible to expose either side of the strap thereby providing more options available to coordinate with the exposed tote-bag exterior.

[0028] Turning now to FIG. 7, an additional feature of the strap and multipurpose tote-bag according to the current
invention is depicted. As set forth above, the strap 602 is removably affixed to the tote-bag 600 by the use of a releasable attachment means. The user may thus remove the strap 602 and thereupon use the strap as a fashion accessory option such as a belt as depicted in FIG. 7. The strap may be equipped with various devices in the manner typically known in the art to allow it to be securely worn as a belt. For example, the strap 602 may have a buckle or a hook and loop fastener or buttons, concealed magnetic snaps or mechanically affixing snaps which enable it to be securely worn by the user.

[0029] The preferable construction of tote bag is cloth, with a variety of cloth products known in the apparel industry to be preferable, including but not limited to cotton, cotton-poly blends, polyester, nylon, canvas, natural or synthetic woven textiles, polytetrafluoroethylene and perfluorocarbon resin products as sold under the Gore Tex® labels. Other desirable construction materials include but are not limited to denim, corduroy, washable suede, leather, suede, fur, and faux fur.

[0030] While certain novel features of this invention have been shown and described, it is not intended to be limited to the details above, since it will be understood that various omissions, modifications, substitutions and changes in the forms and details of the device illustrated and in its operation can be made by those skilled in the art without departing in any way from the spirit of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A tote bag comprising: a plurality of separate compartments, wherein each of said plurality of separate compartments has an interior case and an exterior case, and wherein each of said interior case and exterior case is comprised of a flexible material and having a front wall and a rear wall that are connected to each other to define a closed volume having an open top side, said open top side forming said tote bag opening, and wherein each of said interior cases is contained within and attached to one of said exterior cases and each of said plurality of compartments are inseparably joined to at least one other of said plurality of compartments by at least one of a first and a second connection seam wherein said first and second connection seams are each located adjacent to said open top side on opposite sides of said open top side of each of said plurality of compartments such that a plurality of said separate compartments are interconnected one to another and, wherein each of said plurality of separate compartments interior case and exterior case is selectively exposed by turning any one of said compartments inside out and where each of said plurality of compartments move independently to be turned inside out, and selectively and independently folded within any one of said other plurality of compartments, a releasable closure mechanism attached to said bag opening for releasably securing said bag opening; and, at least one handle for carrying said tote bag.

2. The tote bag of claim 1 wherein each of said plurality of compartments includes a pocket adapted on both said first exterior bag surface and said second exterior bag surface for receiving one of said other compartments.

3. The tote bag of claim 1 wherein said first exterior bag surface and said second exterior bag surface for each of said plurality of compartments have a different appearance.

4. The tote bag of claim 1 wherein said first exterior bag surface and said second exterior bag surface for each of said plurality of compartments are finished with a different material.

5. The tote bag of claim 1 wherein said first exterior bag surface and said second exterior bag surface for each of said plurality of compartments have a different texture.

6. The tote bag of claim 1 wherein said handle for carrying said tote bag is a strap.

7. The tote bag of claim 1 wherein said handle for carrying said tote bag is a drawstring.

8. The tote bag of claim 1 wherein said plurality of compartments includes two compartments.

9. The tote bag of claim 1 wherein said plurality of compartments includes three compartments.

10. A tote bag comprising a plurality of compartments, each having an interior case with a fascia and an exterior case with a fascia wherein each of said interior and exterior case is comprised of a flexible material and having a front wall and a rear wall that are connected to each other to define a closed volume having an open top side, and wherein each of said interior cases is contained within one of said exterior cases and each of said interior and exterior cases are joined together by a seam to define a closed volume with an open top side wherein each of said plurality of compartments are inseparably joined to at least one other of said plurality of compartments by a first and second connection seam wherein said first and second connection seams are each located adjacent to said open top side on opposite sides of said open top side of each of said plurality of compartments such that a plurality of said separate compartments are interconnected one to another and wherein each of said interior case fascia or said exterior cases fascia for each of said plurality of compartments is alternately and selectively displayed by turning each of said a plurality of compartments inside out, wherein said plurality of compartments are attached to each other such that each compartment moves independently.

11. The tote bag of claim 10 wherein each of said plurality of compartments includes a pocket adapted on both said first exterior bag surface and said second exterior bag surface for receiving one of said other compartments.

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