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ATTACHMENT DEVICE FOR HANDBAG HANDLE OR THE LIKE

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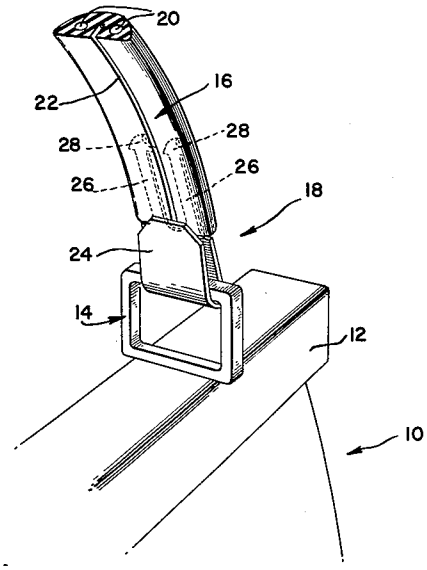


Fig. 1.

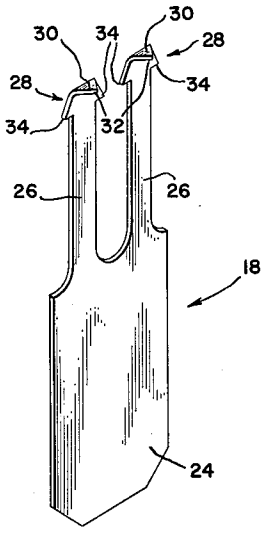


Fig. 2.

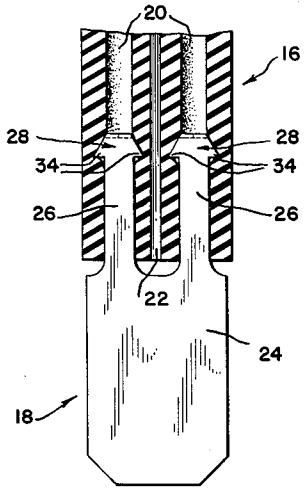


Fig. 3.

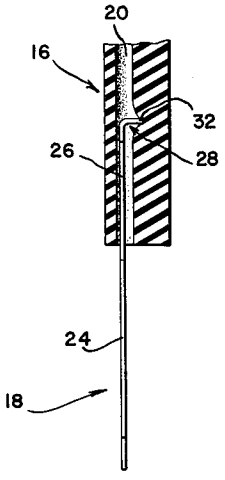


Fig. 4.

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ATTACHMENT DEVICE FOR HANDBAG HANDLE OR THE LIKE

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3 Claims. (Cl. 24—265)

This invention relates to a device for attaching a handle to a handbag, and more particularly to a device which greatly increases the reliability of such attachment.

One type of handbag handle employed heretofore is formed of rubber or similar flexible material and has a pair of longitudinal passages. Such handles may be attached to the associated handbag proper by employing a device having projections which are inserted in the passages. However, the devices employed heretofore for this purpose have not had the desired reliability, and it is not uncommon for the attachment to give way, particularly after hard or protracted use.

It is accordingly a principal object of the invention to provide an improved attachment device of the foregoing type.

In the mass production of ladies' handbags, the cost of the handle fastening must be kept to a minimum if a mass market is to be reached and if competition is to be met. It has accordingly been the practice in the art to employ devices of extreme simplicity for providing the desired handle attachment. It is a principal object of the invention to provide a handle attachment device which meets the criteria of simplicity and economy and yet affords the desired reliability.

The foregoing and other objects, features, and advantages of the invention, and the manner in which the same are accomplished will become more readily apparent upon consideration of the following detailed description of the invention taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, which illustrates a preferred and exemplary embodiment of the invention, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a truncated perspective view illustrating the manner in which the invention may be employed for the attachment of a handle to a handbag;

Figure 2 is a perspective view illustrating the attachment device per se of the invention;

Figure 3 is a partly sectional elevation view illustrating the manner in which the device of the invention engages the handle; and

Figure 4 is another partly sectional elevation view, orthogonal to the view of Figure 3, illustrating further the manner in which the device of the invention and the handle are joined.

Briefly stated, the invention comprises an attachment device formed from a single sheet of stiff material having a body portion of generally rectangular configuration and a pair of substantially parallel elongated extensions at one end thereof. The extensions are provided with free extremities in the form of arrow-heads, and the tips of the extremities are bent substantially perpendicular to the remainder of the extensions. When the extensions are inserted in corresponding passages of a handle, the respective vertices of the arrow-heads engage different portions of the walls of the passages and prevent withdrawal of the extensions from the passages. The body portion of the attachment device is adapted to be secured to the handbag itself.

Referring to the drawings, in Figure 1 reference numeral 10 designates a lady's handbag of conventional construction, and in the form shown the handbag has a frame 12 along its upper extremity. Attached to the frame, as by welding, is a metal ring 14, of rectangular configuration in the form shown. A handle 16 is attached to the ring by an attachment device generally designated 18.

The handle may be formed of a material such as rubber and has a pair of longitudinal passages 20 on opposite sides of a longitudinal groove 22. In the form shown the handle is of generally semi-circular cross-section.

The attachment device of the invention is shown in Figure 2 prior to its assembly with the handle and the handbag. It is formed from a single piece of stiff sheet material, such as a suitable metal, and has a flat main body portion 24 of generally rectangular configuration and a pair of extensions 26 at one end of the main body portion. The extensions are elongated and substantially parallel and at their free extremities are provided with arrow-heads 28. The tips of the arrow-heads are bent over so as to be substantially perpendicular to the remainder of the extensions 26. The leading vertices 32 of the arrow-heads thus lie in a different plane from the trailing vertices 34.

In the use of the attachment device of the invention, the extensions 26 are inserted within corresponding passages 20 of the handle, and since the width of the extensions is made greater than the width of the passages, the latter are distended somewhat. When the extensions are substantially fully inserted, the relationship of the attachment device and the handle is as shown in Figures 3 and 4. As shown in Figure 3, the trailing vertices 34 engage and bite into the walls of the passages 20 in the plane of the extensions 26, and as shown in Figure 4, the leading vertices 32 engage and bite into the side walls of the passages 20 in an orthogonal plane. Each arrow-head thus is forced into the side wall of its corresponding passage at three separate locations.

To secure the attachment device to the ring 14 of Figure 1, the body portion 24 may simply be bent back upon itself and upon the handle 16 to form a loop around the ring as shown. For the sake of appearance, the handle may be provided with a suitable covering, such as leather, and an elongated strip of the covering material may be wrapped about the handle so that its longitudinal edges are inserted within the groove 22. A terminal portion of the covering may be wrapped about the exposed portion of the attachment device 18.

Alternative modes of securing the device 18 to a handbag or the like may be used. For example, for a soft handbag having no frame along its upper extremity, the body portion 24 of the attachment device may simply be bent into L-shape so that its lower leg may be secured to the handbag material as by a rivet passed through a suitable opening in the leg.

With the construction described above, the handle is securely attached to the handbag. If the handle is pulled, the vertices of the arrow-heads tend to bite more deeply into the walls of the passages 20 and prevent withdrawal of the extensions 26 from the passages. The salient feature of the invention is the bent tip of the arrow-heads, for if the arrow-heads were simply flat, so that the leading vertices 32 did not engage the walls of the passages 20, the forces exerted on the handle and the attachment device in the course of protracted use of the handbag would tend to cause the sharp trailing vertices 34 of the arrow-heads to cut grooves in the walls of the passages 20, and eventually the extensions 26 would pull out of the passages 20. However, be-

cause the tips 30 of the arrow-heads provide relatively wide surfaces in a plane transverse to the length of the passages, such failure of the attachment device is prevented.

The invention thus provides the desired permanence of attachment without requiring an attachment device which is economically impractical. The attachment device of the invention may be formed by conventional stamping operations from inexpensive metal stock, and no special materials or manufacturing processes are required. Moreover, the device of the invention is readily capable of mass production in large quantity and is easily assembled with its associated handbag handle.

While a preferred embodiment of the invention has been shown and described, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that changes can be made in this embodiment without departing from the principles and spirit of the invention, the scope of which is defined in the appended claims. Accordingly, the foregoing embodiment is to be considered illustrative, rather than restrictive of the invention, and those modifications which come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims are to be included therein.

The invention claimed is:

1. An attachment device for a handbag handle or the like, said device being formed from a single sheet of stiff material having a main body portion of generally rectangular configuration and a pair of substantially parallel elongated extensions at one end of said body portion, said extensions lying side-by-side in a common plane, and said extensions having arrow-heads at their respective free extremities, the tips of said arrow-heads being substantially perpendicular to the remainder of said extensions, whereby said extensions may be inserted within passages in the handle so that the tips and trailing vertices of said arrow-heads may engage different portions of the walls of said passages.

2. An attachment device for a handbag handle having a pair of substantially parallel longitudinal passages formed therein, said attachment device being formed

from a single sheet of stiff material having a main body portion of generally rectangular configuration and a pair of substantially parallel elongated extensions at one end of said body portion having arrow-heads at their respective free extremities, the tips of said arrow-heads being substantially perpendicular to the remainder of said extensions, whereby said extension may be inserted within passages in the handle so that the tips and trailing vertices of said arrow-heads may engage different portions of the walls of said passages, the width of the said extensions being greater than the width of the said passages, whereby the latter are distended slightly as the extensions are inserted.

3. An attachment device for the handle of a handbag or the like of the type having longitudinal passages, said device having a body portion adapted to be secured to the handbag and at least one elongated extension from said body portion, said extension having a pointed tip bent out of the plane of the remainder of the extension, said tip being part of an arrowhead on said extension with the bend of said extension being between said pointed tip and the trailing vertices of said arrowhead, the trailing vertices of said arrowhead engaging the wall of said passage at locations displaced from the location of engagement of said tip, whereby when said extension is inserted in a passage of the handle said tip engages the passage wall of the passage and prevents said extension from being withdrawn from the handle.

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