Nov. 18, 1941. N. VASIL 2,262,977

FINGERNAIL STENCIL

Filed Aug. 12, 1940

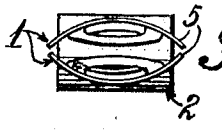


Fig. 3

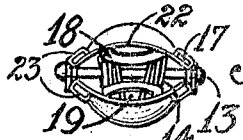


Fig. 6

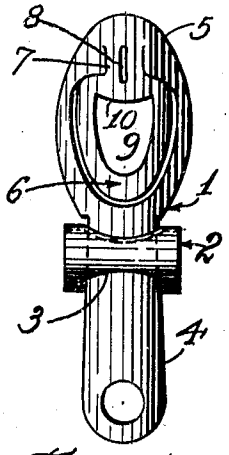


Fig. 1

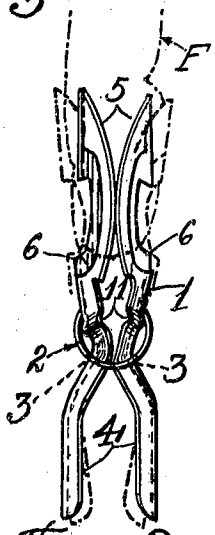


Fig. 2

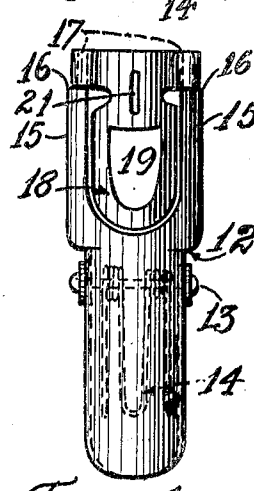


Fig. 4

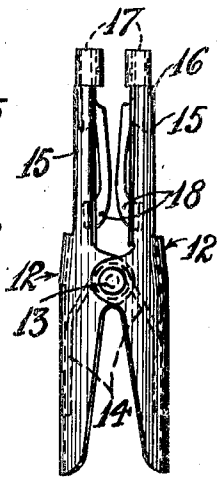


Fig. 5

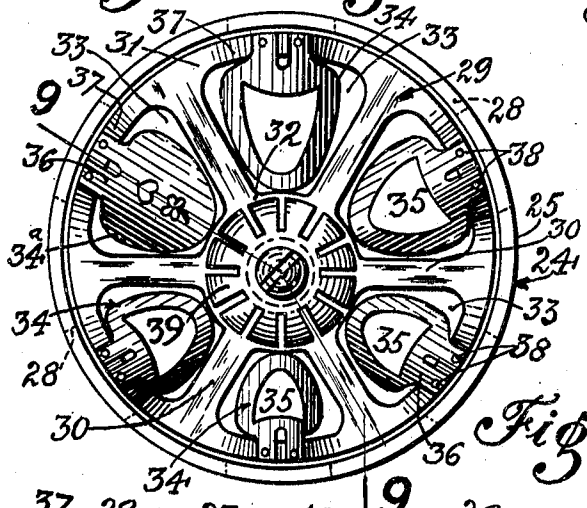


Fig. 8

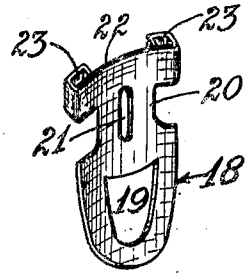


Fig. 7

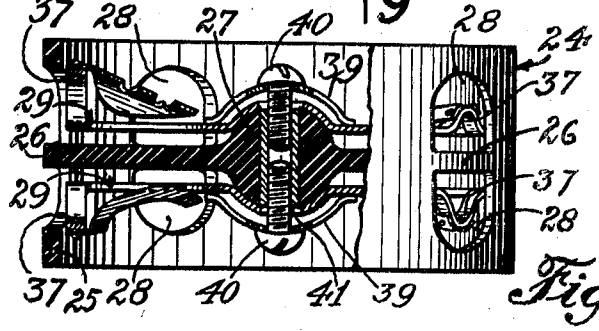


Fig. 9

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FINGERNAIL STENCIL

Nick Vasil, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Application August 12, 1940, Serial No. 352,242

4 Claims. (Cl. 132—88.5)

This invention relates to toilet articles, and more in particular to finger-nail stencils.

The primary object of this invention is to provide an adjustable finger-nail stencil whereby paint or colored lacquer may be applied to finger-nails without touching the nail-folds or the fleshy parts of the fingers.

Another object of this invention is to provide a finger-tip clamping device having two or more finger-nail stencils.

Still another object of this invention is the provision of a clamping device having removable, resilient, finger-nail stencils of various sizes and constructed to fit snugly over the portion of the nails to which it is intended to apply coloring.

Additional features and advantages of this invention will appear in the following description considered in connection with the accompanying drawing forming part of this application.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a simple form of my invention.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of Fig. 1, and

Fig. 3 is a top view thereof.

Fig. 4 is a front elevation of a finger-nail clamp having removable finger-nail stencils,

Fig. 5 shows a side elevation, and

Fig. 6 a top view of Fig. 4.

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a removable stencil used with the device shown in Fig. 4.

Fig. 8 is a top plan view of a more elaborate embodiment of this invention, and

Fig. 9 is a side elevation, partly in section, of this modification.

Reference being had to the drawing, the simpler form of my invention comprises two suitably shaped, identical, clamp-halves 1, made preferably of thin sheet metal and connected hingedly together by a split tubular spring 2 having spaced arcuate slots 3 suitably shaped to each receive the concavo-convex handle 4 of a clamp-half.

The spoon shaped body portion 5 is substantially straight longitudinally, but is arcuate transversely, and at the center is provided with a flexible depending stencil-shield 6 which is connected to the main body at its forward end by a narrow strip 7 which is preferably slitted longitudinally, as at 8, to increase its flexibility.

Substantially in the middle of this shield there is cut out the stencil opening 9, the size and shape of which correspond to that of the finger-nails for which it is intended. As shown, the forward end 10 of the stencil opening is preferably curved to agree more or less with the curvature of the whitish moon of the finger-nail, which moon is preferably left in its natural color.

The handles are preferably provided with outwardly pressed beads 11 which serve to hold the former in proper position within the clamping spring 2.

In the modified construction shown in Figs. 4 to 6, the substantially identical clamp-halves 12 are hingedly connected together by a pin-connection 13 and acted upon by a wire spring 14, the tendency of which is to force the forward ends of the clamp-halves against each other.

The latter are bifurcated at the front to form two equal tines 15, the ends of which are preferably reduced in width to produce the stop-shoulders 16 and the prongs 17 which serve to hold and definitely locate the removable stencil-shields 18.

Each stencil-shield 18 is made of very thin and flexible material, such as stainless steel and, as shown in Fig. 7, has a stencil-opening 19 for the finger-nails and a narrow, resilient, shank-portion 20, preferably slotted centrally as at 21, to increase its flexibility. At the top of this shank is the cross-member 22 the sides of which are suitably bent to form the sleeves 23, adapted to snugly receive the prongs 17 on the clamp-halves.

This flexible shield is given an initial transverse curvature somewhat more pronounced than that of the average finger-nail and it is also normally inclined longitudinally and inwardly of the clamp, so that it will resiliently mold itself about an inserted finger-nail, thus favoring a sharply defined painting job.

The main advantage of this modification is that the same clamp may be used to paint all sizes of finger-nails, by simply affixing suitable stencil-shields onto the clamp. Thus, a purchaser will have to buy only one clamp and as many stencil-shields as needed to satisfy personal requirements.

The more complete device shown in Figs. 8 and 9 has been designed mainly for professional use and holds sufficient stencils to satisfy practically all normal sizes and types of finger-nails. Because of its universal adaptability, the device may be standardized for mass production and thus warrant capital investment in special machinery and tools to enable its manufacture at relatively low cost.

This device comprises a cylindrical housing 24, made preferably of any desired and suitable molded plastic material, and having a cylindrical wall 25 and an intermediate partition 26 provided at its center with a spherical hub 27. Dis-

tributed about its circumference, the wall has suitably shaped and sized apertures 28 disposed in two groups, one above and one below the partition 26.

Rockably supported on both sides of the spherical hub are the supporting spiders 29 having spaced radial arms 30, a peripheral rim 31 and a central disc 32 between which are cut out openings 33 of various sizes to accommodate correspondingly dimensioned stencil-shields 34 in which are stamped out the stencil-openings 35.

These stencil-shields are also arched transversely and suitably inclined inwardly. They are made of any suitable thin and flexible material and have slotted shanks 36, secured to the arched portions 37 of the rim 31 by rivets 38, for instance.

The spiders 29 are rockably secured on the spherical hub 27 by means of dished spring-washers 39 held by screws 40 driven into a metal core 41 molded in the hub.

As will be noted from Fig. 8, because of the varying length of the stencil-shields, the hub 27 is, preferably disposed eccentrically in the housing 24, for the purpose of reducing the outside diameter and weight of the device. Due to this eccentric mounting, the spiders will not rotate horizontally and the stencil-shields will remain in alignment with their corresponding apertures 28.

The specially stenciled shield 34a may be used, if desired, to apply on top of painted finger-nails different colored ornamental designs, such as the heart or the four leaf clover shown.

When using either one of the devices shown, a person inserts a finger "F" under the proper stencil-shield and proceeds with the painting. Because of its universal resiliency, the shield will fit closely over the finger-nail and effectively cover the nail-folds and surrounding skin.

When a device of the type illustrated in Figs. 8 and 9 is made for individual use, the stencil-shields are selected and assembled to suit the buyer's finger-nails, and the number of stencils may be reduced to five or six. In this case, the device may be made smaller in diameter, by placing only three stencil-shields on each side of the partition 26, or else, a whole set of stencil-shields at one side of this partition may be omitted and the height of the device practically halved, in a manner that will be readily conceived by mechanically minded persons.

It will be understood, of course, that the various arrangements I have herein shown and described are merely suggestive of many that might be adopted in carrying out my invention, and I do not wish to be limited to the constructions shown otherwise than as specified in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A finger nail stencil including a clamping element having a stencil-shield receiving aperture; a stencil-shield positioned coaxially in said aperture, and a narrow strip to connect one side of the shield to said clamping element.

2. A finger nail stencil including a clamping element having a central aperture; a stencil-shield positioned coaxially within said aperture in spaced parallel relation therewith, and a narrow strip of resilient material to connect one side of the shield to said clamping element.

3. A finger nail stencil including a spring actuated clamping element having a central aperture; a stencil-shield positioned coaxially within said aperture in spaced relation therewith, and a narrow flexible strip formed integral with the shield to connect one side thereof to the clamping element.

4. A finger nail stencil including a clamping element having a central aperture; a transversely arcuate stencil-shield made of resilient material positioned coaxially within said aperture in spaced relation therewith, and a resilient narrow strip of material positioned centrally on one side of said shield to connect same to the clamping element, the free end of said stencil-shield being deflected inwardly to resiliently bear against an inserted finger-nail.

NICK VASIL.