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2,552,700

SHOE PROTECTOR

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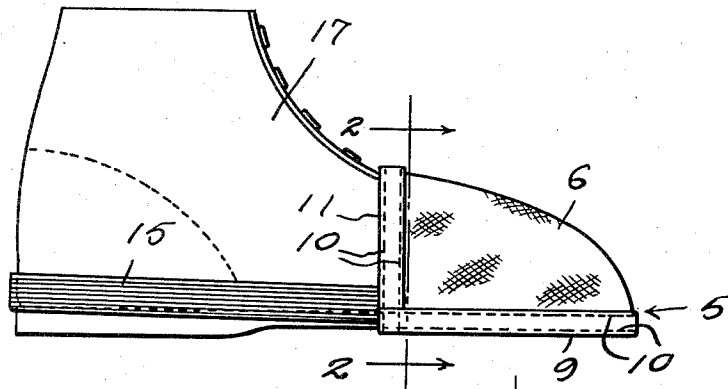


Fig. 3.

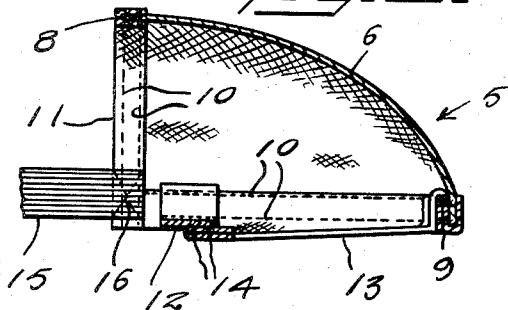
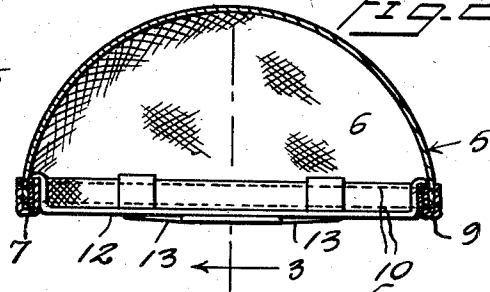
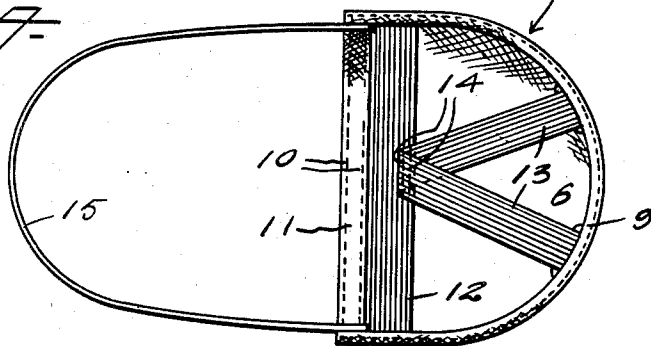


Fig. 2



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SHOE PROTECTOR

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3 Claims. (Cl. 36-72)

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This invention relates to a novel shoe protector or protective covering for the toe portion of a shoe and more particularly to a covering adapted to be detachably applied over the toe of a baby's shoe to protect the toe of the shoe from being soiled or scuffed when the infant creeps or crawls.

More particularly, it is the primary object of the present invention to provide a protector of extremely simple construction which may be quickly and easily applied to or removed from a position over the toe of a baby's shoe and which is provided with elastic means for engagement under the forward portion of the shoe sole and which is so arranged as to exert a substantially uniform pull at approximately even spaced points on the protector or covering to retain the covering in a properly applied position and to prevent the covering from being displaced from its correctly applied position as a result of frictional pull exerted thereon as the baby creeps or crawls and the covering is dragged over a floor, rug or other surface.

Various other objects and advantages of the invention will hereinafter become more fully apparent from the following description of the drawing, illustrating a preferred embodiment thereof, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view showing the shoe protector in an applied position;

Figure 2 is a cross sectional view of the protector taken substantially along a plane as indicated by the line 2-2 of Figure 1, with the shoe removed;

Figure 3 is a longitudinal sectional view thereof taken substantially along a plane as indicated by the line 3-3 of Figure 2, and

Figure 4 is a bottom plan view of the protector.

Referring more specifically to the drawing, the shoe or toe protector in its entirety is designated generally 5 and comprises a strip 6 forming a toe covering and having a curvilinear bottom edge 7 which is adapted to conform generally to the curvature of the edge of the forward part of a shoe sole, and a substantially straight back edge 8 which is upwardly bowed. The bottom edge portion of the toe covering 6 is enclosed in a fabric tape 9 which is folded lengthwise into channel-shaped form in cross section to receive said bottom edge and which is secured thereto preferably by two substantially parallel rows of stitching 10. The rear edge 8 is similarly contained in a binding formed by a longitudinally folded tape 11 which is likewise stitched thereto by two rows of stitching 10. The covering 6 may be formed of a washable fabric or of various

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other materials, such as canvas, light weight leather, plastic or other flexible material.

An elastic strap 12 extends transversely to the underside of the covering 6 and has its ends extending into opposite portions of the folded binding 7 and stitched thereto internally and externally of the binding, as seen in Figure 2, by the rows of stitching 10 connecting said binding 9 to the covering 6 so that the tape 12 will be disposed with its plane substantially parallel to the bottom folded edge of the binding 7. An elastic tape 13 is folded upon itself intermediate of its ends and so that the end portions thereof will be disposed to form a V, as illustrated in Figure 4. The folded intermediate portion of the tape or band 13 is stitched as seen at 14 to the intermediate portion of the elastic band or strap 12 and the terminals are secured to the binding 7 by the stitching 10 in the same manner that the ends of the band 12 are secured to said binding and as previously described, so that the elastic strap 13 will likewise be disposed substantially in the same plane as the bottom, folded edge of the binding tape 7. As seen in Figure 4, it will be readily apparent that the ends of the elastic straps 12 and 13 which are secured to the binding 9 are disposed substantially equal distances apart, for a purpose which will hereinafter become apparent.

An elastic heel engaging strap 15 is secured by stitching 16 at its ends to the inner side of the binding 11 adjacent the ends thereof.

The shoe protector 5 is applied to an infant's shoe 17, illustrated in Figure 1, by inserting the toe portion of the shoe into the covering 6 so that the elastic straps 12 and 13 will be disposed under the forward portion of the shoe sole and the heel engaging strap 15 is then stretched and engaged around the heel of the shoe, as illustrated in Figure 1. The elastic straps 12, 13 and 15 will combine to retain the covering 6 in position over the toe of the shoe and said covering with the binding strips applied is of sufficient size so that the binding strip 9 will extend slightly below the edge of the shoe sole and will be drawn inwardly of the underside of the shoe sole adjacent the forward end thereof by the ends of the strap 13 and laterally inwardly at the sides of the shoe sole by the elastic strap 12 which straps will thereby combine with the heel engaging strap 15 to hold the covering 6 over the upperside of the toe of the shoe and to prevent it from being displaced from its position as illustrated in Figure 1 by the frictional pull applied thereto as the baby wearing the shoe creeps or crawls over a floor, rug or other surface. It will be readily apparent that a

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protector 5 is applied to each of the shoes of a baby and will function to prevent the toes of the shoes from being scuffed or soiled while the baby creeps or crawls thereby maintaining the shoes clean and also preventing wear to the toe portions thereof. The protectors 5 may be quickly applied or removed and are intended to be made in various sizes to fit different shoe sizes.

Various modifications and changes are contemplated and may obviously be resorted to, without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention as hereinafter defined by the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A baby's shoe protector comprising a flexible toe covering member adapted to fit over the toe portion of a shoe and to overlie a portion of the shoe sole, and a plurality of elastic straps adapted to be disposed beneath the shoe sole and secured at their ends to the toe covering adjacent its bottom edge, said elastic straps being joined together at a point substantially intermediate of their ends and being of a length to be stretched when applied to a baby's shoe.

2. A shoe protector as in claim 1, the ends of

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said elastic straps being secured to the toe covering substantially equally spaced distances apart.

3. A shoe protector as in claim 1, and an elastic heel engaging strap secured at its ends to said covering adjacent its lower rear corners and adapted to be disposed under tension around the heel of the shoe.

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