Jan. 27, 1948. F. CLEVE, JR 2,434,990

SHOE HALF SOLE OR TAP

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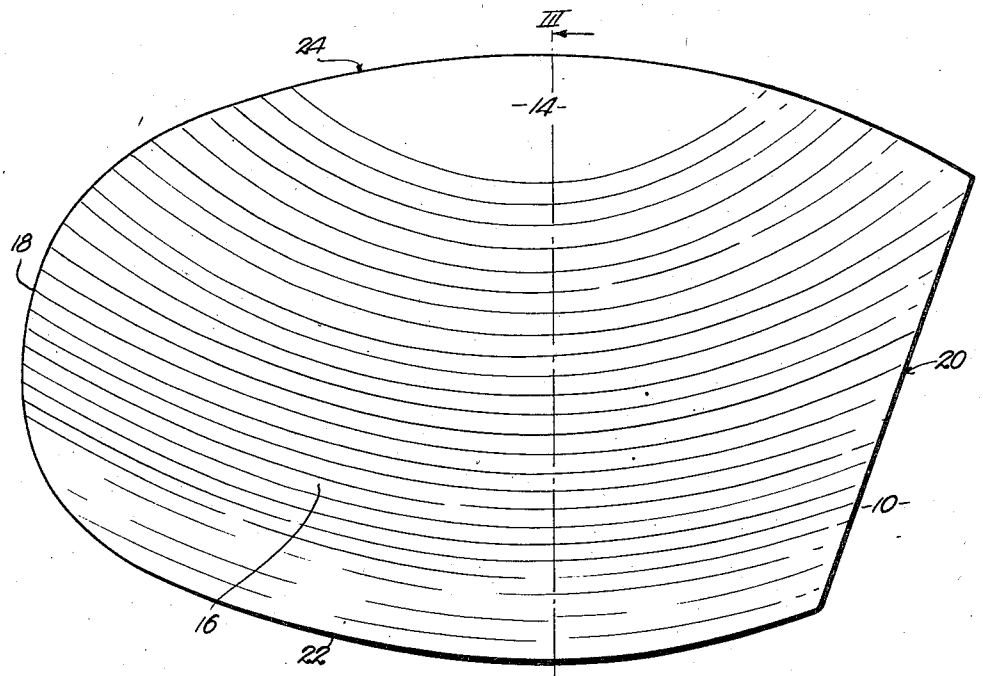


Fig. 1.

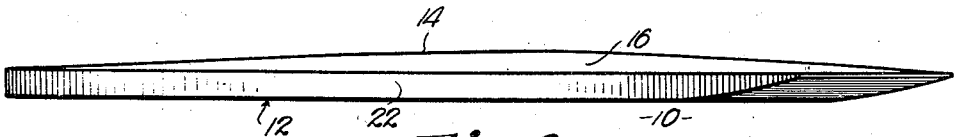


Fig. 2.

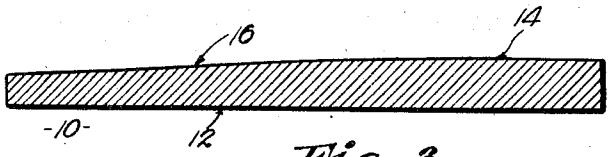


Fig. 3.

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SHOE HALF SOLE OR TAP

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4 Claims. (Cl. 36—25)

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This invention relates to shoes and particularly to repair parts therefor in the nature of half-holes or taps and the primary aim of the invention is to provide such an article of manufacture that may be employed in the original manufacture of shoes or in the rebuilding thereof to the end that the wearer may have correct posture, proper walking and a relief of ankle strain because of the form of the half sole and its ability to overcome the tendency of the shoe wearer to impart greater wear to that area of the shoe half sole underlying the outside ball of the foot.

One of the important objects of the invention is to provide a shoe half sole or tap that is molded or otherwise formed to present a relatively thick portion near one longitudinal edge of the half sole body, while the remaining part of the said body progressively decreases in thickness as the periphery is approached in all directions.

Other objects of the invention include the provision of a shoe half sole or tap which is so formed as to establish a relatively small flat area at one longitudinal edge of the body of the half sole, while the remaining part of the half sole becomes progressively thinner as the opposite longitudinal edge and the ends thereof are approached.

Other aims of the invention will appear during the course of the following specification referring to the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is an elevational view of the normally inside face of a shoe half sole or tap made pursuant to the present invention.

Fig. 2 is an edge elevational view of the half sole, and

Fig. 3 is a transverse cross sectional view taken on line III—III of Fig. 1 and looking in the direction of the arrows.

The placement of soles having uniform thicknesses throughout their area on shoes at the factory or in the repair shop may result in an objectionable wearing below the outside ball of the foot, due to the universal tendency to place more weight upon that part of the foot than elsewhere. When shoe soles start to wear beneath the outside ball of the foot, a rolling of the shoe sole along the inner longitudinal edges is the inevitable result and a destructive action is commenced so far as the appearance of the entire shoe is concerned. When the shoe sole is worn at a zone beneath the outside ball of the foot, walking becomes difficult because of the twisting action and a strain is imparted to the muscles of the foot and ankle. Correct posture is not possible and the heels of the shoes are usually worn down to an objectionable degree as wearing of

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the sole progresses. In many instances filler pieces or wedges have been inserted along the entire length of the shoe tap in an effort to avoid the wearing tendencies above mentioned and the destructive results arising therefrom. A slipping of these added units is the inevitable result and their inability to create a smooth gradually tapering half sole or tap is one of the main reasons why they cannot be successfully assembled with half soles having uniform thickness throughout their areas.

So far as I am aware there is no half sole or tap for shoes that is contoured to solve the many problems above enumerated. The half sole shown in the accompanying drawing is capable of fulfilling the objects above set down and many others that will occur to those skiled in the art.

The half sole illustrated comprises a body generally designated by the numeral 10 and having the contour of conventional half soles now employed in the construction and repair of shoes but the thickness of body 10 is such as to present a flat surface 12 that is normally the outer surface of the body 10 when the latter is in the operative position. The normally inner face of body 10 has a comparatively small flat area 14 at one longitudinal edge thereof and on its median transverse line.

This flat area 14 underlies the outer ball of the foot when body 10 is affixed to the shoe. The remaining portion of the inner face of body 10 is designated by the numeral 16 and is inclined downwardly and outwardly from area 14 to present a gradually decreasing thickness to body 10 as ends 18 and 20 and longitudinal edge 22 are approached. Thus the thickness of longitudinal edge 22 is less than the thickness of edge 24 where area 14 is located and since face 12 is exposed to view and presents the ground or walking surface engaging face of body 10, no rocking or objectionable tilting of the foot will occur but the desired amount of elevation is imparted to the outer ball of the foot and the wear which occurs at the outer surface 12 opposite to this area 14 will be less destructive so far as the length of the life of the shoe sole is concerned. This wear, which inevitably occurs in a great percentage of shoe soles, is invariably greater at the outer longitudinal edge of the sole and gradually decreases in intensity as the opposite or inner longitudinal edge is approached. Therefore, the inclined portion 16 of the half sole or tap just described will wear thin so far as necessity of replacement is concerned at a uniform degree throughout its entire extent.

Half soles made as above described may be economically molded and the necessity of building up or inserting filler wedges is completely obviated when the sole is put to use by placement on a shoe. The inner edge of flat surface 14 which merges with inclined face 16 is substantially arcuate and the inclined face 16 extends to those portions of longitudinal edge 24 between flat face 14 and ends 18 and 20 thereof. The soles of shoes must be applied so that the relatively thick portion or flat surface 14 underlies the outer ball of both the right and left feet.

The material from which body 10 is constructed is of no critical importance and such reenforcement of body 10 through the use of cords or the like as desired may be used.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A shoe half sole comprising a generally flat body including a flat normally outer face and an inner face having a flat area at one longitudinal edge of the body, the remaining portion of the inner face being inclined downwardly and outwardly from the said area to the opposite longitudinal edge of the body and to each end of said body respectively.

2. A shoe half sole comprising a generally flat body including a flat normally outer face and an inner face having a flat area at one longitudinal edge of the body, the remaining portion of the inner face being inclined downwardly and outwardly from the said area, said flat area being substantially oval in shape and disposed on the median portion of the body.

3. A shoe half sole comprising a generally flat body including a thickest portion at one longitudinal edge thereof and intermediate its ends, and a portion comprising the remainder of the body, progressively decreasing in thickness as the opposite longitudinal edge and the ends of the body are approached.

4. A shoe half sole comprising a generally flat body including a thickest area extending inwardly from a portion of the periphery of one longitudinal edge thereof and intermediate its ends, and a portion comprising the remainder of the body having opposite surfaces progressively approaching each other as the remainder of the periphery of the body is approached, the thickness of said area being substantially the same throughout the width and breadth thereof.

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