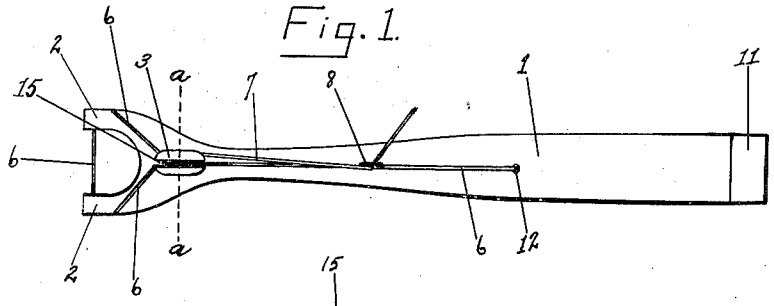
Sept. 3, 1935. V. C. GETZ 2,013,143

DENTAL FLOSS APPLICATOR

Filed April 5, 1935

Fig. 1.



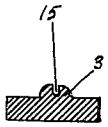


Fig 2.

Fig. 3.

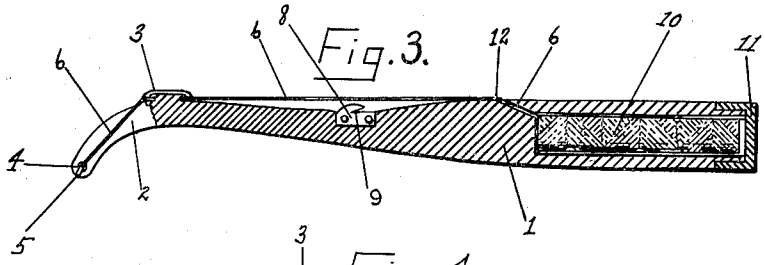


Fig. 4.

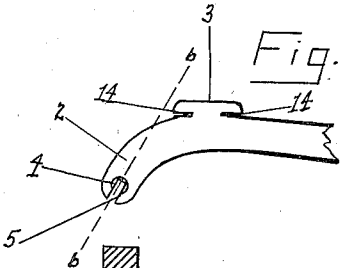


Fig. 5.

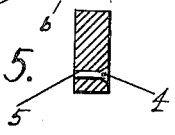


Fig. 6.

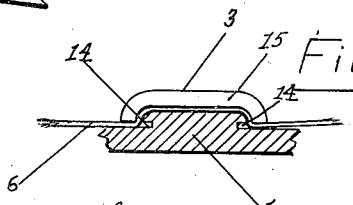
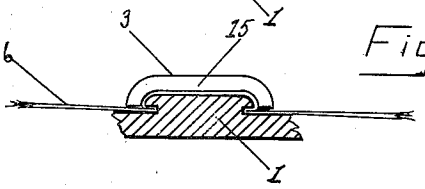


Fig 7.



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Patented Sept. 3, 1935

2,013,143

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,013,143

DENTAL FLOSS APPLICATOR

Vernon C. Getz, Philadelphia, Pa.

Application April 5, 1935, Serial No. 14,752

2 Claims. (Cl. 132—92)

The invention relates to dental floss applicators upon which a strand of dental floss may be mounted while being applied between the teeth.

The object of this invention is to provide a simple efficient fastening means integral with the applicator for the purpose of securely holding a strand of dental floss while being used for dislodging particles between the teeth in such manner as to remain taut within the natural yield limit of such floss against the pressure applied while being used.

A further object of this invention is to provide an applicator that may be made from urea, molded or cast phenolic plastics so that it will be sanitary and of a single piece construction that may be quickly cleaned and sterilized without difficulty and have a minimum of crevices in which undesirable particles may lodge.

The improvement claimed is hereinafter fully set forth.

Dental floss applicators are essential for the proper application of dental floss and render it useful for cleaning between all the teeth. Holders of this character and of various designs have been found inefficient by reason of their failure to securely hold the floss under sufficient tension to enable the user to apply it to the best advantage because of sagging due to slipping through the fastener in addition to the natural yield of the silk strands.

Dental floss is stranded, not roved, and treated with wax which makes it difficult to hold in position under buttons, catches, and spring devices thereby making the general use of silk floss difficult if not impossible, particularly when cleaning between the back teeth.

The invention claimed is hereinafter fully set forth.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a plan view of the applicator; Fig. 2, a sectional view in elevation taken on line *a*—*a* in Figure 1; Fig. 3, a side elevation of the applicator partly in section showing the silk quill in the handle; Fig. 4, a fragmentary section of a forked member of the applicator; Fig. 5, a sectional view taken on line *b*—*b* in Fig. 4; Fig. 6 a fragmentary sectional view of the fastening means showing the silk floss in primary position; and Fig. 7, the same as Fig. 6, showing the floss in tightened position.

In the practice of this invention as herein exemplified, a body portion 1 provided with a handle portion at one end and a bifurcated or forked member 2 at the other end thereof, has a floss fastening means 3 integrally mounted adjacent to the forked member 2, said member 3 being longitudinally bisected to provide a thread passage 15. The thread passage 15 is sufficiently elevated to permit a groove or slot 14 at each end of the member 3 on a plane with the body surface of the applicator and below the level of the thread passage 15 as shown in the enlarged views Figs. 6 and 7. The bifurcated members 2 are provided with slotted openings 5 the outside edge of said slots at their root being countersunk 4 to prevent chafing and cutting the stranded silk.

The handle end of body 1 may be provided with a space in which to insert a quill of silk floss and a cap 11 placed thereon to hold same in confinement and protect it from soiling and damage. A passage 12 provides means for removing the floss from the handle. A cutting means 8 consisting of a non-corrosive metal having a wedge shaped opening 9 may be conveniently placed on the handle between the fastening means 3 and the thread opening 12 by being molded or inserted therein.

When threading the applicator for use the thread 6 is pulled from the applicator body 1 through opening 12 and laid in the thread passage 15, then brought under the edge of the front slot 14 to one side and passed through the opening 5 in one of the forked members 2 and across the space between said members through an identical opening 5 in the other member 2, then placed tightly around the member 3 through the grooves 14 at each end of the member 3 wedging the thread lying in the passage 15 in the slots 14 as shown in Fig. 7. When fastened in this manner the tension on the floss will be increased and held secure against slipping or becoming loose.

What is claimed as the invention and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is:

1. A dental floss applicator comprising; a body portion having a thread suspension forked means at one end thereof, the tines of said means being slotted and the outside edge of said slots being countersunk; a thread fastening means integral with and adjacent to the thread suspension means, said means having a longitudinal thread passage above the plane of the body portion and a groove at each end thereof on a plane with said body portion.

2. Same as claim 1, and a space in the handle end for receiving a quill of silk floss, a thread passage through the handle, and a cutting means for severing the waste end of said floss.

VERNON C. GETZ.