July 5, 1938. A. F. MASCHKE 2,122,432

ADJUSTABLE AND COLLAPSIBLE SKIRT BLOCKER

Filed July 7, 1936 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

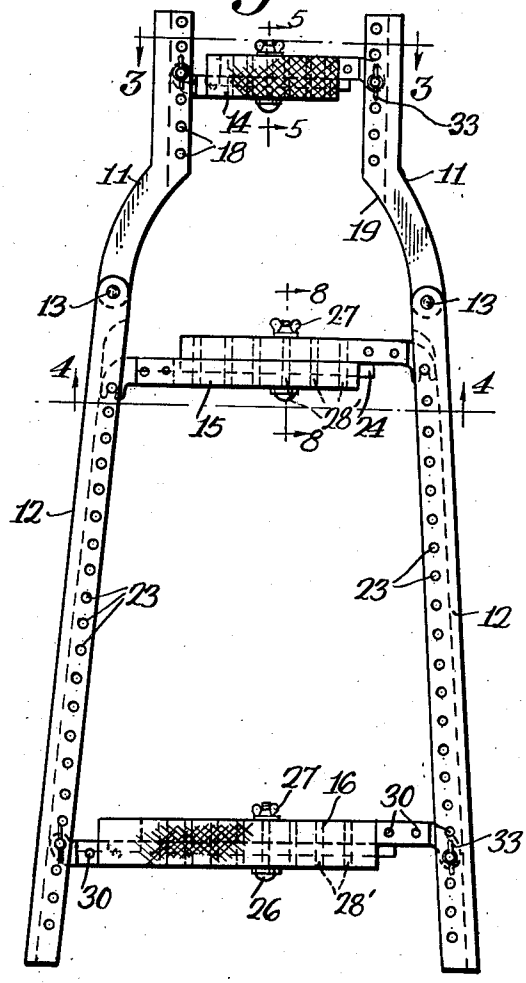
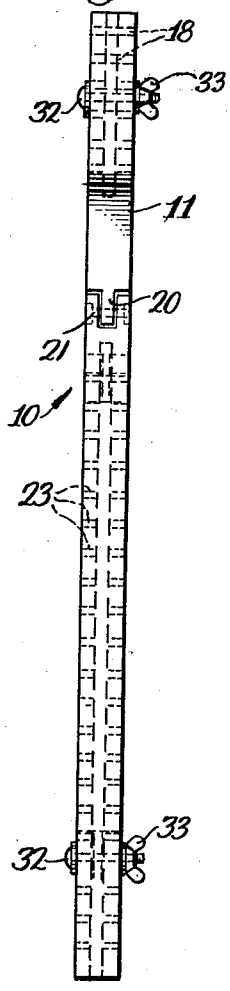


Fig. 2.



Inventor

ARTHUR F. MASCHKE.

By Miller & Miller

Attorneys.

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Filed July 7, 1936 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 3.

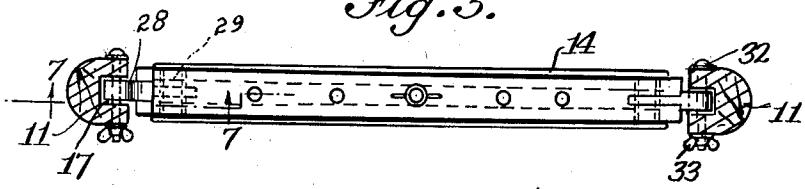


Fig. 4.

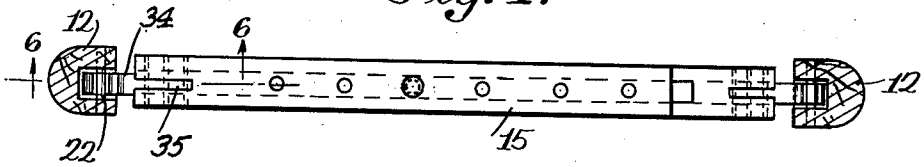


Fig. 5.

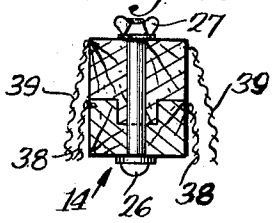


Fig. 6.

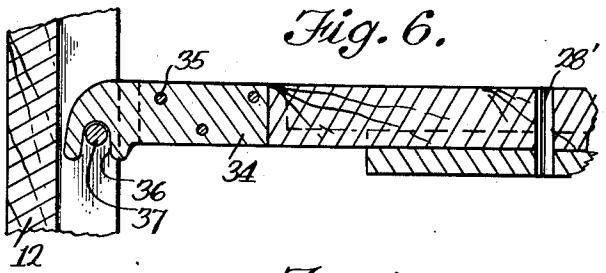


Fig. 8.

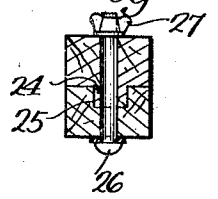
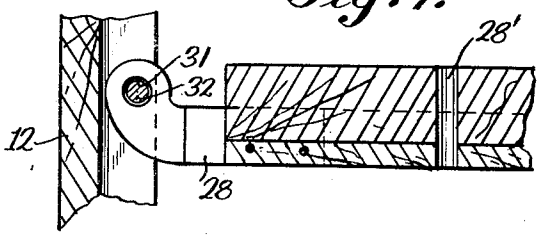


Fig. 7.



Inventor

ARTHUR F. MASCHKE.

By Miller & Miller

Attorneys.

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ADJUSTABLE AND COLLAPSIBLE SKIRT BLOCKER

Arthur F. Maschke, St. Paul, Minn.

Application July 7, 1936, Serial No. 89,454

1 Claim. (Cl. 223—69)

This invention relates to an adjustable and collapsible skirt blocker and has for an object to provide an adjustable frame on which clean and washed skirts may be stretched to the proper size, and which will maintain the skirt in the proper size both as to width as well as to length, while the skirt is drying, thus insuring proper fit of the skirt after it has completely dried.

A further object of this invention is to provide an adjustable frame which may be easily collapsed so as to occupy a minimum amount of space when stored away out of use.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, this invention comprises the constructions, combinations and arrangements of parts hereinafter claimed, disclosed and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is an elevational end view of the invention.

Fig. 2 is a side view of Fig. 1.

Figs. 3, 4 and 5 are each sectional views on line 3—3, 4—4 and 5—5 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 6 is a sectional view on line 6—6 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 7 is a sectional view on line 7—7 of Fig. 3, and

Fig. 8 is a sectional view on line 8—8 of Fig. 1.

The average skirt is approximately ten inches larger around the hips than around the waist, and the skirt blocker of this invention is therefore shaped with this fact in mind. It consists generally of a pair of vertical frame members, each vertical frame member being made of two pieces hinged to each other and three pairs of cross members for adjustably securing the vertical frame members together. In order to more clearly describe the invention, the preferred dimensions and preferred materials will be particularly specified, but in so doing it is not intended to limit the invention to the particular dimensions or the particular materials, except as necessitated by the scope of what is hereinafter claimed.

The skirt blocker 10 of this invention includes the upper vertical frame member 11, the lower vertical frame members 12 pivoted thereto as at 13, the upper cross bars 14 the mid cross bars 15, and the lower cross bars 16.

Each of the frame members and cross bars will preferably be made of wood, although other suitable materials may be substituted therefor. The vertical frame members 11 and 12 may be made from wood approximately three-fourths of an inch by one and one-half inches, while the cross bars 14, 15 and 16, are each preferably made of wood, three-fourths of an inch, by one inch.

The frame members 11 are each approximately seventeen and one-fourth inches long. The upper six inches of the frame member 11 is provided with a dove slot 17 approximately one inch from the inner side, and holes 18 to receive three-sixteenth inch bolts spaced approximately one inch apart are placed about five-eighths of an inch from the inner edge of this straight section of this upper vertical frame member. The lower end of this upper frame member 11 is curved or offset approximately two and one-half inches as at 19 to provide for the greater width of the hips over the waist line and ends in a pendent 20 which cooperates with the dowel pin 13 for hinging it to the lower vertical frame member 12. The upper end of the lower vertical frame member 12 is mortised as at 21 to receive the pendent 20 therein. This lower vertical frame member 12 is approximately thirty-three and three-fourths inches long, and has a slot one inch deep as at 22 extending along its inner edge similar to the slot 17. Bolt holes 23 similar in size and location to bolt holes 18 are spaced approximately one inch apart along the lower vertical frame member 12 as shown.

The upper cross bars 14 are approximately nine inches long. The mid cross bars 15 are each approximately fifteen and one-half inches long, and the lower cross bars 16 are each approximately fifteen and one-half inches long. One piece of each pair of cross bars is tongued as at 24 to slide in a groove 25 formed in the other piece. The total length of the assembled cross bars may be lengthened by sliding the bars along their tongues and grooves and by securing each cross bar by means of bolts 26 and wing nuts 27 inserted through bolt holes 28′ extending vertically through each cross bar member. The bolt holes 28′ are preferably spaced 1″ apart along the length of the bars, although, if desired, the holes may be more closely arranged so as to provide a finer adjustment.

Each end of each piece of the cross bar members 14 and 16 is provided with a metal tongue 28 mortised therein as at 29 and riveted thereto as at 30. The curved or offset ends of the tongues 28 are provided with bolt holes 31 through which the bolts 32 may extend, the bolts 32 being placed through the bolt holes 18 and 23 in the vertical frame members 11 and 12, and being secured thereto by means of wing nuts 33.

Tongues 34 similarly secured to the ends of the middle cross bar pieces as at 35 are provided

with grooved ends **36** to cooperate and form a press fit with metal dowel pins **37** extending through the top-most bolt holes **23** in the vertical frame members **12**. Each piece of the upper cross bar **14** and the lower cross bars **16** is provided with a tape member to which the skirt being blocked may be pinned.

In the upper cross bars **14**, the tape members are secured along the upper edges while in the lower cross bar members **16**, the tape members are secured along the lower edges. A narrow tape member **38** is secured along the upper edges of the lower piece of the cross bar member **14** on opposite sides, while a wide tape member **39** is similarly secured along the upper edge of the upper piece of the cross bar **14** on opposite sides, as shown in Fig. 5. The width of the tape **39** is such that it may completely overlap the lower tape **38**.

Similar tape members are secured on the lower edges of the lower cross bar member **16** in this case, the wider piece being secured to the lower edge of the lower piece and the narrower piece being secured to the lower edge of the upper piece.

In operation, this skirt blocker is especially intended for use as a frame for blocking knitted and crocheted skirts, but may likewise be used for drying wool skirts and any other type of skirt which tends to shrink while drying and being cleaned. The size of the frame will be adjusted according to the width of the skirt at the waist, hips, and lower ends, by appropriately adjusting the combined lengths of the pieces of the cross bar members **14**, **15** and **16**.

The length of the skirt from the waist line to the lower end will be compensated for by vertically raising or lowering the cross bar members **14** and **16** to the proper distance from each other along their bolt holes **18** and **23**. After thus properly adjusting the frame to fit the size of the skirt, the skirt is placed over the frame, and then the waist line is pinned to the tapes **38** and **39** on the upper cross bar **14**, while the lower end of the skirt is pinned to the tape members on the lower cross bar **16**. Thus, as the skirt dries, it is maintained in its full size. The vertical frame members prevent the skirt from shrinking in width, while the cross bars with the skirt attached prevents the skirt from shrinking in length.

The skirt is thus blocked and dried and maintained in the proper size and shape at the same time.

Although particularly described as a skirt blocker, it will be obvious that this blocker may likewise be used for blocking other articles of clothing by suitably changing the size of the different members of the frame and cross bars, so that slip over sweaters, especially of the sleeveless type may just as easily be blocked, and dried on this frame work by merely suitably adjusting it in the same manner that a skirt is blocked and dried, and even coat sweaters or other articles may likewise be blocked and dried thereon, and the term skirt blocker is not, therefore, intended to limit this invention to an article solely for use with a skirt but rather to a blocker for use with any suitable article of clothing which may be used thereon in the manner heretofore described.

Having thus set forth and disclosed the nature of this invention, what is claimed is:—

A blocking frame for garments comprising a pair of vertical frame members and a plurality of adjustable cross members for holding said vertical frame members in spaced apart position, each of said vertical frame members including an upper and a lower portion pivoted together, each of said lower portions having a slot extending longitudinally along the inner face thereof and spaced transverse apertures intersecting said slots, said cross members being each tongued and grooved for adjustment as to length, means for maintaining each cross member in its adjusted position, and means carried by each of said cross members for pivotally connecting same to said vertical members, means for adjusting said cross members vertically along said vertical members, said last mentioned means comprising bolts insertable through the apertures in said vertical members.

ARTHUR F. MASCHKE.