Dec. 15, 1942. J. P. WEGE 2,305,363

KEY CASE

Filed Nov. 12, 1940

Fig. 1.

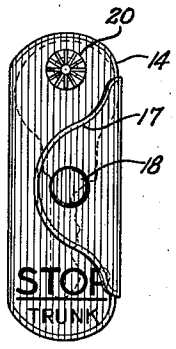


Fig. 2.

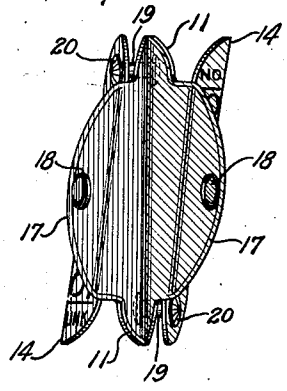


Fig. 3.

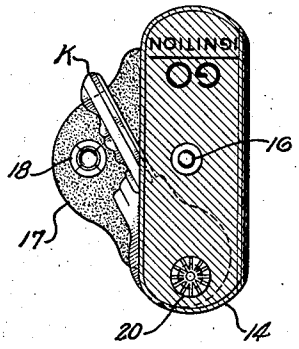


Fig. 4.

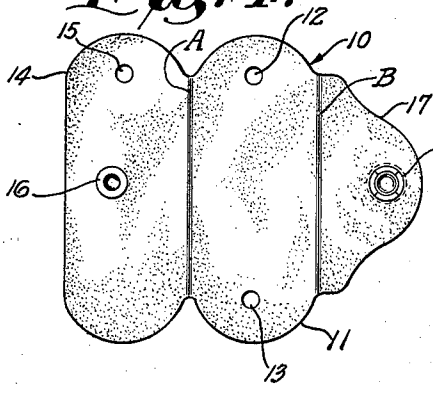


Fig. 5.

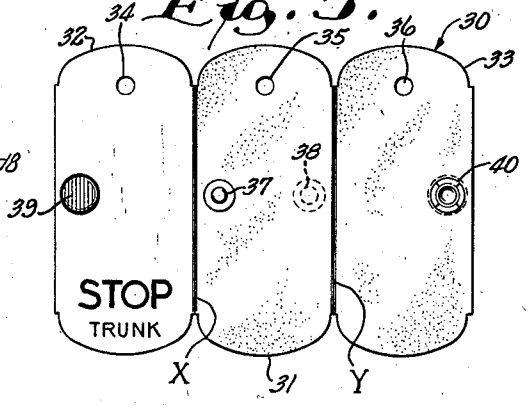


Fig. 6.

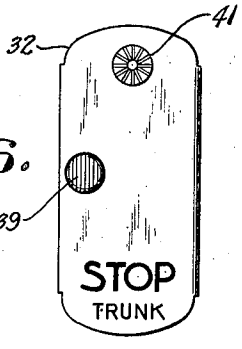
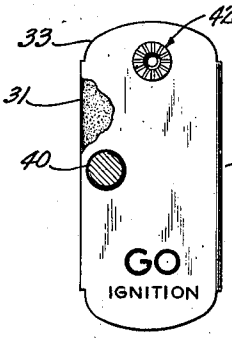


Fig. 7.



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2,305,363

KEY CASE

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Application November 12, 1940, Serial No. 365,247

3 Claims. (Cl. 150—40)

This invention relates to improvements in key cases, and more particularly to key cases especially adapted for use with automobile keys.

The object of the invention is to provide a key case of the type described in which the ignition key and trunk key are held in separate, easily distinguishable, and readily accessible compartments.

Another object is to provide a key case having a plurality of separate compartments, each quickly and accurately distinguishable.

The foregoing objects are accomplished by adjoining two key compartments, one formed of red colored material in which is placed the trunk key, and the other formed of green colored material in which is placed the ignition key. The user associates the green with "go," and hence with the ignition key. The red causes association with "stop," and hence with the trunk key. Additional indicia, such as the printed words "Stop"—"Trunk" may be placed on the red colored compartment or used in lieu of that color. The printed words "Go"—"Ignition" may be placed on the green colored compartment, or may be used in lieu of that color.

The novel features, which are considered characteristic of the invention, are set forth with particularity in the appended claims. The invention itself, however, both as to its organization and its method of operation, together with additional objects and advantages thereof, will best be understood from the following description of a specific embodiment when read in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of a key case embodying the invention;

Figure 2 is a view in side elevation of the key case showing both key compartments;

Figure 3 is a view in rear elevation of the key case;

Figure 4 is a plan view of a blank of material used to form each compartment of the key case;

Figure 5 is a plan view of the blank of material used to form a key case embodying a modification of the invention; and

Figures 6 and 7 are respectively views in front elevation and rear elevation of the key case embodying the modification.

Referring in greater detail to the drawing, the key case generally comprises a pair of key-holding compartments secured together to form a single case. Each compartment is made from a piece or blank 10 of pliable material, such as leather or the like, cut in the shape indicated in Figure 4. As viewed in Figure 4, the inside of the blank is faced upwardly. Each blank has a body portion 11 in the upper and lower ends of which perforations 12 and 13 are provided. The blank 10 has a cover portion 14 in the upper end of which a perforation 15 is provided. The perforations 12 and 15 are so located as to be axially alined when the cover 14 is folded over on the line A so as to coincide with the body portion 11. Placed centrally top to bottom, and removed from the outer edge of the cover 14, is the stud part 16 of a snap fastener. The stud portion of part 16 projects from the outside face. To the right of the body member 11 is a flap member 17 which has located approximately centrally of its apex a spring button 18 of the snap fastener. The spring button 18 opens toward the inside face of the blank 11. The button is so located that it will be in approximate alinement with the stud part 16 when the cover 14 is folded over on the line B so as to lie over the cover portion 14 and the body portion 11. When so alined the button 18 may be pressed down on and snapped into position on the stud 16 to removably maintain the parts in folded position.

One blank is preferably formed of material colored red, as illustrated in Figure 1. On the outside of the cover portion 14, and at the end thereof opposite the perforation 15, may be stamped or otherwise applied the indicia "Stop"—"Trunk," as indicated in Figure 1. The other blank is preferably colored green and may have stamped, embossed, or otherwise applied thereon, the indicia "Go"—"Ignition." This stamping is also placed on the outside of the cover member 14 and at the end opposite the perforation 15.

To form the two blanks into a single two-compartment case, the blanks 11 are placed with their outside surfaces face to face and with their flaps 17 coinciding. When so positioned, as viewed in Figure 4, the perforation 15 of one blank will be at the top while the perforation 15 of the other blank will be at the bottom, and the perforation 12 of each blank will be in axial alinement with the perforation 13 of each blank. Flanged studs 19 are passed through each pair of alined perforations 12 and 13. The projecting portion of the stud 19 extends through perforation 12 of each blank 11 and outwardly from the inside surface of body portion 11. A collar (not shown) is pressed over the projecting portion of each stud 19 and engages the inside surface of body portion 11 around the perforation 12. This holds the two blanks in fixed relation-

ship. To install the keys K in each compartment the apertures are fitted over the studs 19 and the covers 14 are folded about the line A. The aperture 15 of each cover fits over the projecting portion of a respective stud 19. A plate screw 20 is threaded into the projecting end of each stud 19 to hold the covers 14 and keys K in place. To store the keys they are swung between the cover 14 and body member 11. The flap 17 is then folded over, as shown in Figures 1 and 2, and the button 18 is snapped over stud 16, thus maintaining the flap in position and the key within the compartment.

Whenever it is desired to use a selected key, such as for example the trunk key, the case is turned so that the red colored compartment is toward the user. The flap 17 of this compartment is unsnapped and folded away from its respective cover 14. The trunk key is then swung outwardly from the case. The flap 17 may or may not then be snapped back into closing position. The same process is employed with the green colored compartment when it is desired to use the ignition key.

From the foregoing it will be seen that it is only necessary to rapidly glance at the case to determine which compartment to open in order to obtain the desired key. The green color immediately associates in the mind of the automobile owner-user the word "Go" which in turn is associated with the ignition key. The red color brings to mind the word "Stop" and thus suggests a key used only when the vehicle is stationary, such as the trunk key, or the like.

In the modification shown in Figures 5, 6, and 7, the two compartments are formed from a single blank 30, which has a central body portion 31 and two cover portions 32 and 33 formed on opposite sides thereof. These portions 31, 32, and 33 have at the tops thereof perforations 34, 35, and 36. These perforations are so positioned with respect to each other that when the cover portion 32 is folded downwardly about the line X to coincide with the body portion 31, and the cover portion 33 is folded upwardly about the line Y to coincide with the body portion 31, the perforations 34, 35, and 36 will all be in approximate axial alinement. The body portion 11 is provided with stud parts 37 and 38 of snap fasteners. One of the stud parts 37 is positioned to the left-hand edge of the body member and faces upwardly, as viewed in Figure 5. The other stud part 38 is positioned adjacent the right-hand edge of body member 31 and projects downwardly as so viewed. The cover member 32 has a spring button 39 positioned adjacent its outer edge and facing downwardly. The button 39 and stud part 38 are so positioned as to be in substantial alinement when the cover 32 is folded downwardly about the line X into coinciding position with respect to the body member 31. In like manner the cover member 33 is provided with a spring button 40 positioned adjacent its outer edge and facing upwardly. The spring button 40 and stud part 37 are so positioned that when the cover member 33 is folded upwardly about line Y, so as to coincide with body member 31, those parts will be in substantial alinement.

When the cover members 32 and 33 are folded about the respective fold lines, as heretofore described, a flanged stud 41 is inserted through the perforations 34, 35, and 36, and is held in place by a plate screw 42. After placing the projecting portion of the stud member 41 through the perforation 34, a key may be positioned thereon. After the projecting portion passes through the perforation 35 another key may be positioned thereon. Access to the keys is accomplished in a similar manner to that heretofore described. In this modification it is often commercially impossible, particularly when leather is used, to utilize a two color scheme for the entire surface. In order to carry out the invention the outside covering portion of spring button member 39 is colored red and the outside cover portion of spring button member 40 is colored green. In addition, indicia may be inscribed on the cover members 32 and 33 in the form indicated in Figures 6 and 7, and by the manner heretofore described.

Although there are shown and described certain specific embodiments of the invention, many modifications thereof are possible. The invention is not to be restricted except in so far as is necessitated by the prior art and by the spirit of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A key case comprising a pair of pocket-forming members each including a body portion having a cover member and a closure flap secured thereto, said cover member and closure flap being foldable upon the body portion in superposed relation, separable fastener means carried by the cover member and closure flap to secure said members in pocket-forming position, each said body portion being provided with a pair of spaced stud-receiving apertures and each cover member being apertured in alignment with an underlying stud-receiving aperture of the respective body portions, said pocket-forming members being arranged with the respective body portions thereof in contact and with the respective stud-receiving apertures thereof aligned, a pair of stud members for securing the pocket forming members in assembled relation, each stud member including a head and shank, the shanks of the studs penetrating the respective aligned apertures in the body portions of the pocket-forming members and the head of each stud being disposed in the pocket of one of said pocket-forming members with its shank portion extending through the aperture in the cover member of the other pocket-forming member, and a removable securing means on the free end of each stud.

2. A key case comprising a pair of elongated pocket-forming members each including a body portion having a cover member secured to one longitudinal edge thereof and a closure flap secured to the opposite longitudinal edge thereof, said cover member and closure flap being foldable upon the body portion in superposed relation, separable fastener means carried by the cover member and closure flap to secure said members in pocket-forming position, each said body portion being provided with a pair of spaced stud-receiving apertures and each cover member being apertured in alignment with an underlying stud-receiving aperture of the respective body portions, said pocket-forming members being arranged with the respective body portions thereof in contact with the closure flaps juxtaposed and with the respective stud-receiving apertures thereof aligned, a pair of stud members for securing the pocket-forming members in assembled relation, each stud member including a head and a shank, the shanks of the studs penetrating the respective aligned apertures in the body portions of the pocket-forming members and the head of each stud being disposed in the pocket of

one of said pocket-forming members with its shank portion extending through the aperture in the cover member of the other pocket-forming member, and a removable securing means on the free end of each stud.

3. A key case comprising a pair of elongated pocket-forming members each including a body portion having a cover member secured to one longitudinal edge thereof and a closure flap secured to the opposite longitudinal edge thereof, said cover member and closure flap being foldable upon the body portion in superposed relation, separable fastener means carried by the cover member and closure flap to secure said members in pocket-forming position, each said body portion being provided with a stud-receiving aperture adjacent each end thereof, and the respective cover members being apertured at opposite end portions in alignment with one underlying stud-receiving aperture only of the respective body portions, said pocket forming members being arranged with the respective body portions thereof in contact with the closure flaps juxtaposed and with the respective stud-receiving apertures thereof aligned, a pair of stud members for securing the pocket-forming members in assembled relation, each stud member including a head and shank, the shanks of the studs penetrating the respective aligned apertures in the body portions of the pocket-forming members and the head of each stud being disposed in the pocket of one of said pocket-forming members with its shank portion extending through the aperture in the cover member of the other pocket-forming member, and a removable securing means on the free end of each stud.

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