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(54) **A bag for washing sports shoes and the like**

(57) The bag comprises an enclosed area with walls permeable to the washing liquids of a domestic washing machine, provided with reinforcements in order to obtain consistency and having an openable opening intended

for introducing one or more footwear pieces inside of the bag to permit washing thereof inside of a domestic washing machine as a stable wrapping or parcel for said footwear piece or pieces.

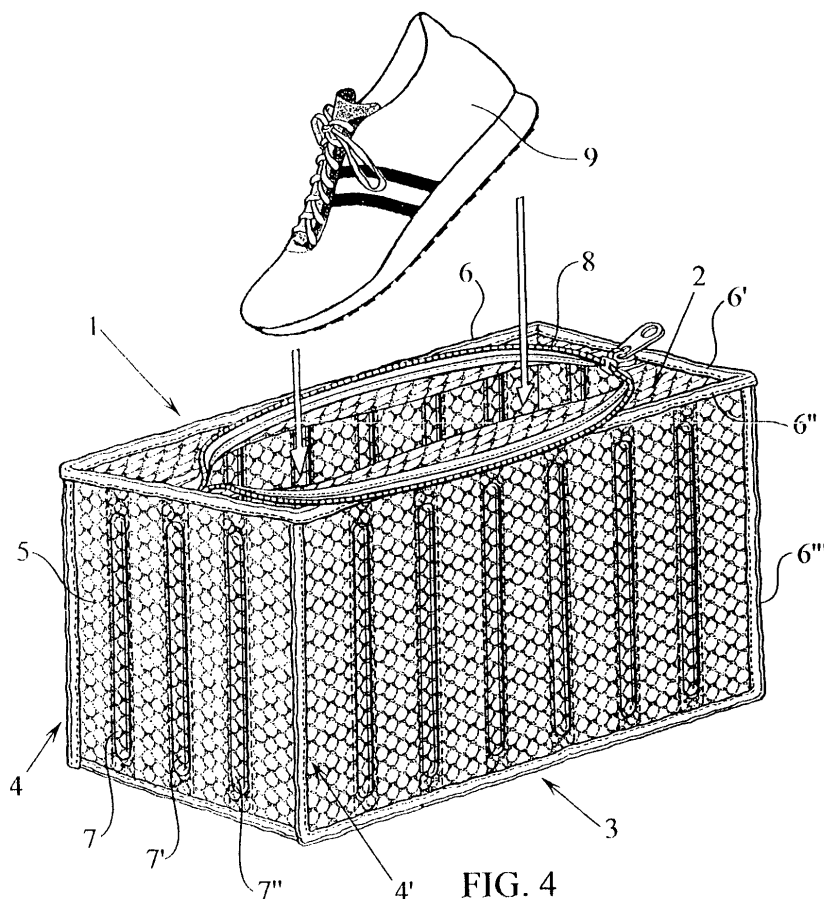


FIG. 4

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Description

[0001] The present invention is intended for providing a bag for washing sports shoes and other similar footwear pieces.

[0002] As is known, in recent years there has been a large acceptance of footwear pieces, especially sport-type footwear pieces, which are washable. Given the use of said footwear pieces in practicing sports and, in many cases by young people who use them in their games, they tend to become dirty. Given the nature of the materials used in manufacturing said footwear, sports shoes and similar footwear pieces are washable, which should be carried out by hand or machine, although in this latter case there are significant drawbacks because of the features of the reference footwear pieces, because of their degree of dirtiness, because of the difficulty of combining them with other finer garments, etc.

[0003] The present invention is intended for solving the aforementioned drawbacks by providing a bag with specific features which permits washing said sports shoes or other similar footwear pieces in a domestic washing machine with another garment, without the need of special precautions.

[0004] To achieve its objective, the present invention is based on the constitution of a bag which is an enclosed area with walls in the form of mesh which permit the completely free passing of the washing liquids inside of a domestic washing machine, and which bag has dimensional features suitable for internally retaining footwear pieces of the type mentioned, preferably a pair of them, provided with closure means which permit retaining on the inside thereof the footwear pieces, such that during the entire washing phase, the footwear pieces form a unitary parcel with capacity of movement inside of the bag object of the invention, like another garment, completely and freely permitting the action of the washing liquids but which, however, prevents the shoes from becoming entangled or ensnared with other garments during their washing, causing breakdowns and/or reducing the washing effect.

[0005] In a preferred version, the bag object of the invention is constituted of a significantly straight, rectangular parallelepipedic structure with mesh walls, provided with a closure made for introducing the shoes on the inside thereof, carried out, for example, by means of a zipper closure along the length of its largest sides, providing certain reinforcement on the edges and side walls in order to obtain in its entirety certain stability in the bag which does not represent excessive weight or volume therein.

[0006] The parallelepipedic structure of the bag could be replaced by any other geometric structure on the proviso that the general shape of the enclosed area permits internally containing, as a minimum, two footwear pieces or more, that the bag has certain external stability, and that its walls are completely permeable to the wash-

ing liquid, provided with a closure device which can be, in a preferred case, a zipper closure, but which could be constituted by snap fasteners, a Velcro-type hook and eye closure, or the like.

[0007] To better understand the invention, several drawings are attached as an illustrative and non-limiting example, which drawings show a preferred embodiment of the present invention.

[0008] Figure 1 shows a perspective view of a bag carried out according to the present invention.

[0009] Figures 2 and 3 shows respective sections of the bag by the indicated cutting planes.

[0010] Figure 4 shows a perspective view of the bag, showing the operation of introducing a footwear piece.

[0011] Figure 5 shows a perspective view of the placement of the bag, with the footwear pieces on the inside thereof, inside of a domestic washing machine.

[0012] As shown in the figures, the present invention comprises a bag 1 which, in the example shown, has a general straight rectangular parallelepipedic structure with upper 2 and lower 3 bases, as well as sides such as 4, 4', ... defining the structure of the bag. The walls of the bag are carried out in a material completely permeable to the washing liquids, for example, a mesh 5 provided with multiple openings.

[0013] The bag will be provided with means for conserving certain stability, constituted by means of external reinforcements, for example, reinforcements along the edges such as 6, 6', 6", 6''' and other reinforcements such as 7, 7', 7" ... on the side walls, such that the bag in its entirety has great flexibility features but also has a certain stability such that it permits constituting a parcel with the footwear pieces arranged on the inside thereof.

[0014] To permit introducing and removing the footwear piece, the bag will be provided with an openable opening such as, for example, the one shown with number 8 and carried out by means of a zipper or other fast opening and closing element, such as a set of snap fasteners, a snap fastener of the hook and eye type or others.

[0015] The dimensions of the bag and of the opening 8 will be sufficient for introducing the footwear pieces, as shown with the shoe 9 in figure 4, which will be introduced through the opening of the bag, after opening the closure element. Once the footwear pieces are introduced in the bag, the bag can be introduced as a single element, i.e., forming a single parcel or wrapping, inside of a domestic washing machine 10 through the normal opening 11 for introducing clothes or the like.

[0016] Bag surface reinforcements will be constituted in any manner that is suitable for permitting the bag to have certain consistency for improving its handling inside of the washing machine, but, as is understandable, its constitution can vary within broad limits. In one example, the reinforcements of the sides are constituted of elongated elements wrapped in and retained by the material of the bag.

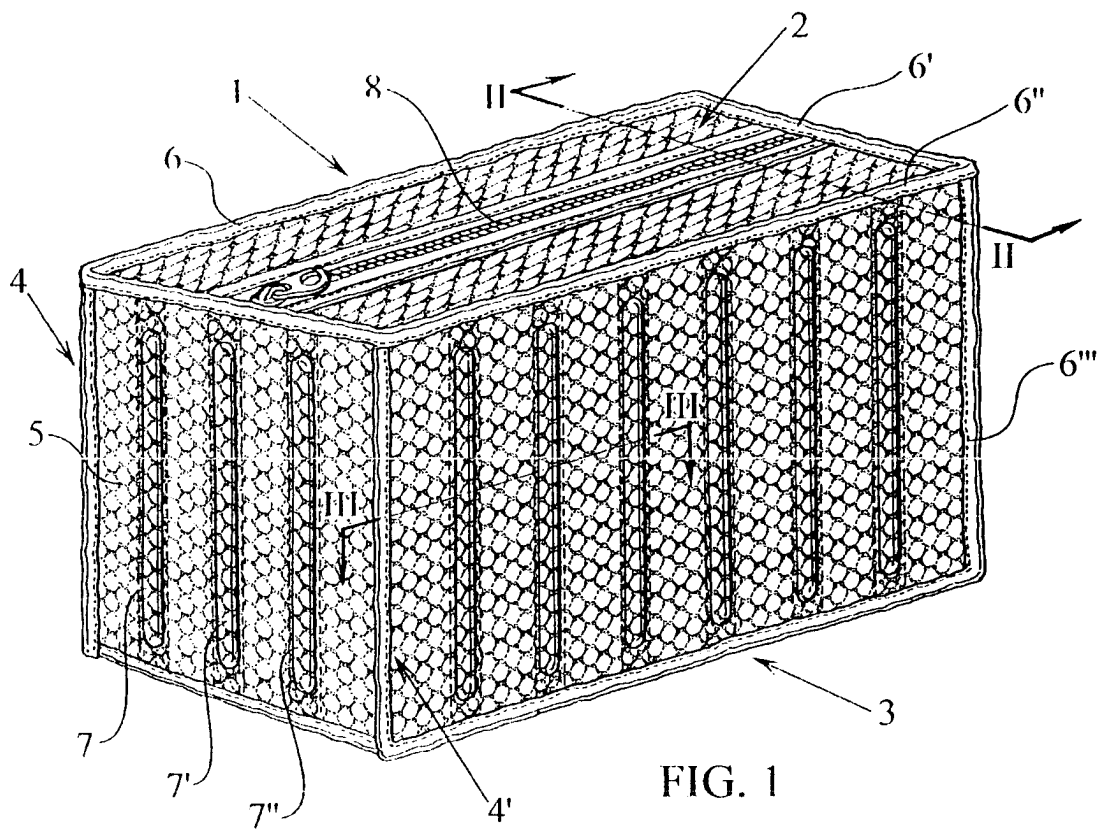
[0017] The edge and side reinforcements also can

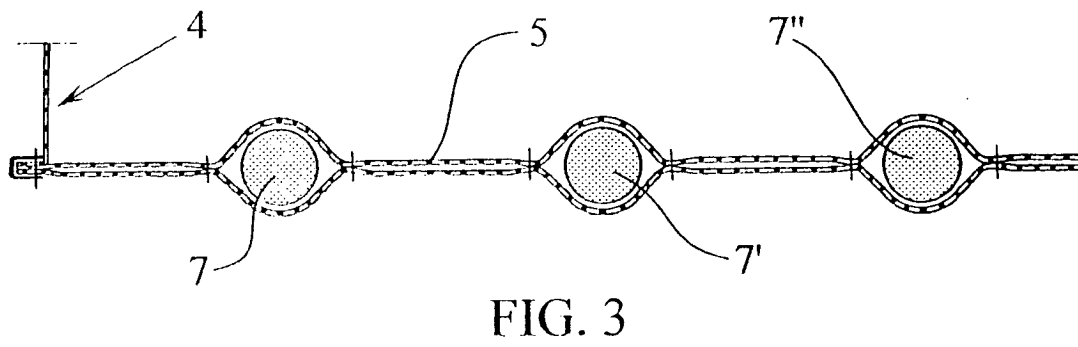
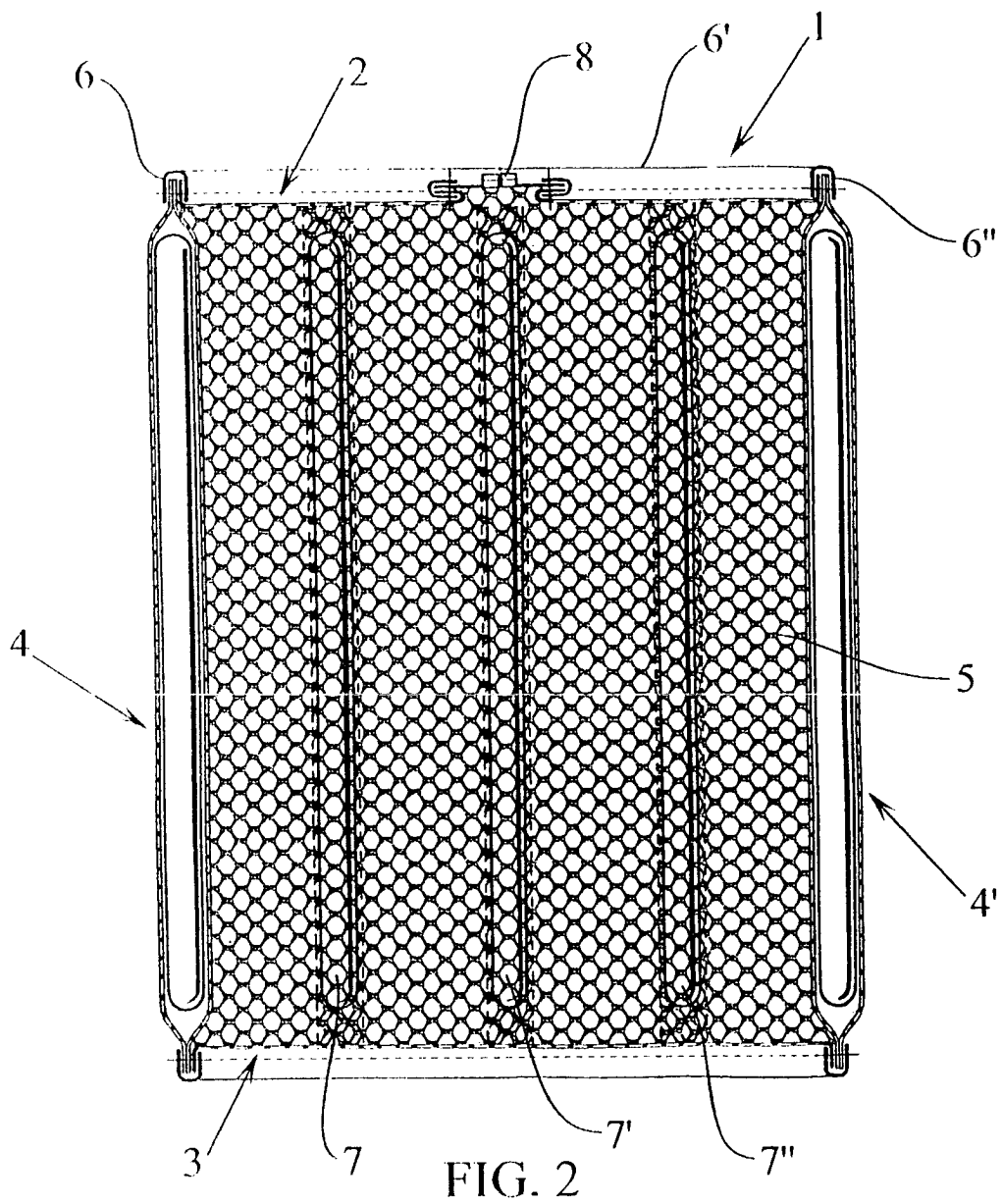
vary within broad limits, complying with the features of its structure, preferably elongated, which, besides the linear structure shapes shown, could adopt an angle form, branched form, forming curves or mixed straight and curved lines, etc., as long as they provided enough stability to the bag and reduce as little as possible the washing liquid passage section. For example, in the embodiment shown, the reinforcements of the edges can be constituted by sewing on suitable laminar strips, whereas the reinforcements of the lateral sides can be constituted by means of elements in the form of linear rods 12, 12' ... of a light material but which has certain resistance, such as a plastic material rod or the like.

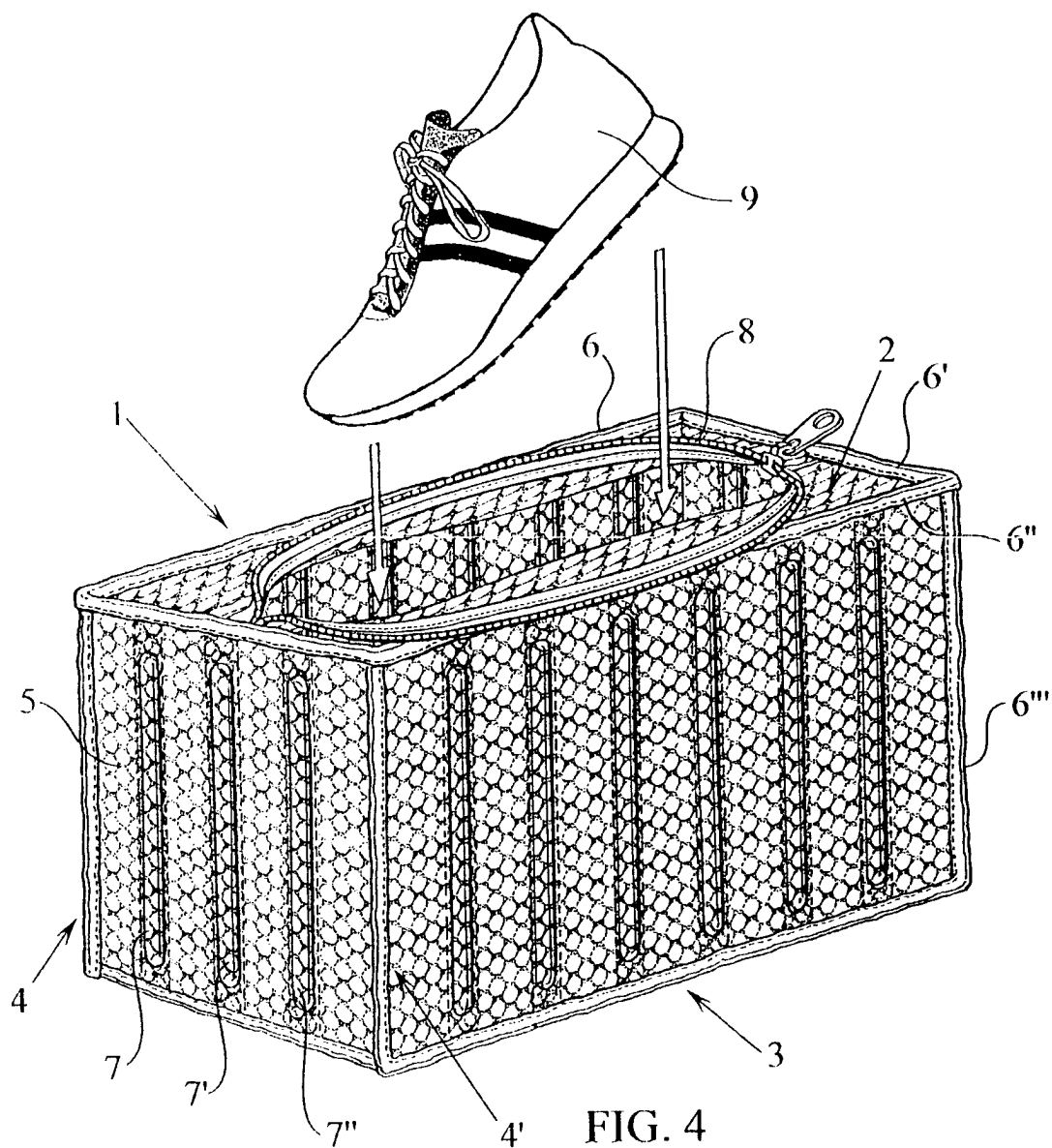
[0018] All that which does not affect, alter, change or modify the essence of the described bag described herein will be variable for the purposes of the present invention.

Claims

1. A bag for washing sports shoes and the like, **characterized by** comprising an enclosed area with walls permeable to the washing liquids of a domestic washing machine, provided with reinforcements for obtaining consistency and having an openable opening intended for introduction of one or more footwear pieces inside of the bag, so as to permit their washing inside of a domestic washing machine like a stable wrapping or parcel for said footwear piece or pieces.
2. A bag for washing sports shoes and the like according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the bag adopts a straight parallelepipedic structure.
3. A bag for washing sports shoes and the like according to previous claims, **characterized in that** the bag is provided with reinforcements on the edges and sides.
4. A bag for washing sports shoes and the like according to claim 3, **characterized in that** the side reinforcements are constituted of elongated elements wrapped in and retained by the material of the bag.
5. A bag for washing sports shoes and the like according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the bag is constituted of a synthetic material mesh.
6. A bag for washing sports shoes and the like according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the openable opening is provided with a zipper closure.







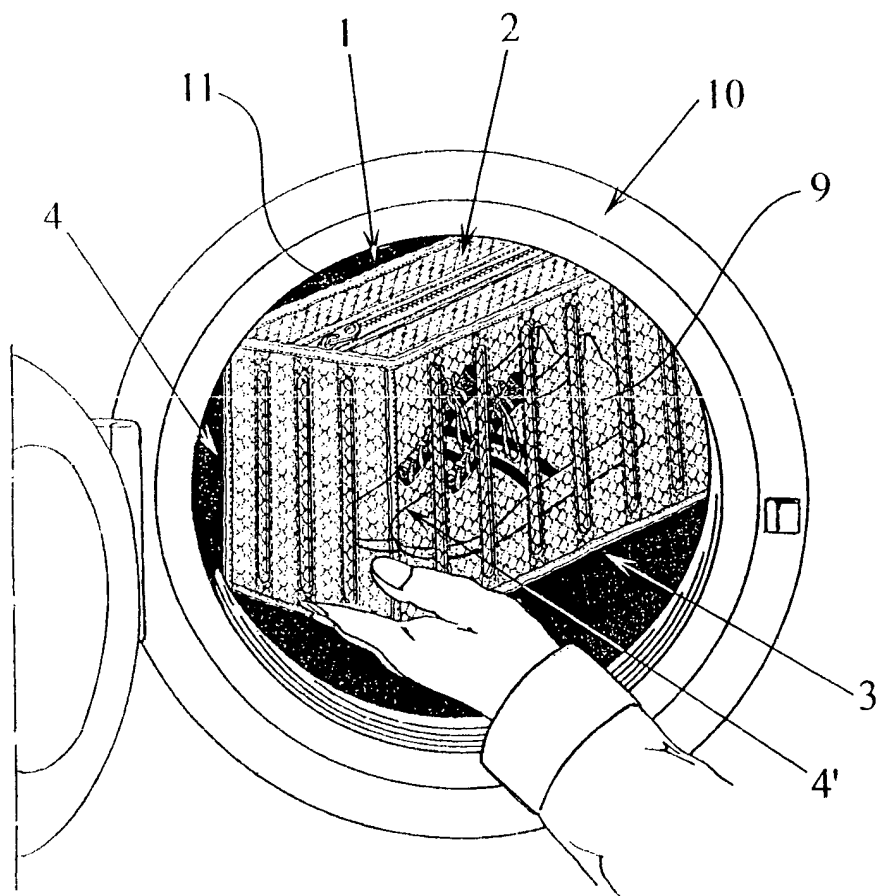


FIG. 5