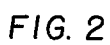
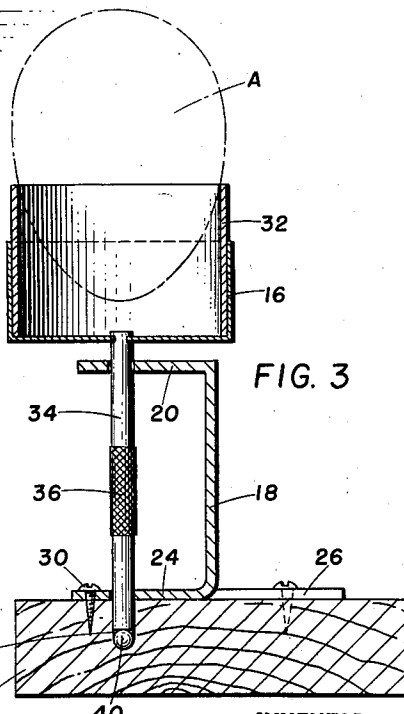


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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## EASEL

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The present invention relates to an improved easel particularly adapted for use for facilitating the decoration of Easter eggs, small articles of pottery, and the like.

One of the principal objects of the invention is to provide an easel which is characterized by its extreme simplicity of construction and ease of manufacture and which, therefore, may be marketed at very low cost.

Another object of the invention resides in the provision, in an easel, of simple means for rotatably supporting an Easter egg, or small article of pottery, so that it may be decorated with the utmost ease and effectiveness.

A further object is to provide a device of this character embodying a simple and efficient brush rest by the use of which accurate work can be done with minimum fatigue to the operator.

Other objects and many of the attendant advantages of my invention will be appreciated readily as the same becomes understood by reference to the following detailed description, when considered in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the invention as it would appear with an egg in the cup for decoration, and a brush partially supported by the brush rest.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the device, on an enlarged scale.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3-3 of Fig. 2.

Referring now to the drawings in more detail, the numeral 10 indicates the base of my device. Although shown as a rectangular wooden block, it should be understood that the base may be of any other suitable material and of any desired shape.

The work holder of my easel is shown generally at 12 and includes a bracket 14 and a work receiving cup 16. The bracket 14 is formed from a sheet metal strip, bent to define a vertical web or center section 18, a laterally directed upper section 20 and a lower section 22. The lower section 22 of the strip is formed with spaced, parallel slits which define a center portion 24 and outer portions 26 and 28 at each side of said center portion. The center portion 24 is bent laterally to a position normal to the center section 18, said outer portions 26 and 28 also being bent to positions normal to said center section 18 but in the opposite direction, so that said portions 24, 26, and 28 define feet for the bracket. Screws 30, extending through the said portions 24, 26, and 28, secure the bracket to the base 10.

The work receiving cup 16 is of metal or other

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suitable material and is provided with a liner 32, preferably of cardboard or other relatively soft material, for protecting the surface of the work to be decorated from the rim of said cup. A shaft or pivot pin 34 is secured to the bottom wall of the cup axially thereof and is formed with a knurled portion 36, extending throughout its mid-portion, for engagement by the thumb and forefinger of the operator. As best seen in Fig. 3 of the drawing, the upper section 20 and the portion 24 of the bracket 14 are apertured near their corresponding outer ends to provide journals for the upper and lower end portions of the pivot pin 34, a recess 38 being formed in the base 10 beneath the aperture in the portion 24 to receive the lower end of said pin. A ball bearing 40 is carried in the recess 38 to pivot the lower end face of the pin to assure free rotation thereof when manipulated by the operator.

It will now be understood that I have provided a simple and efficient rotatable support for an Easter egg or a small article of pottery to be decorated. In order properly to rest the brush or other implement used for decorating the work in the cup during such decoration, I employ a brush rest 42 which, as best seen in Fig. 1, is formed of sheet metal and is of right-angular cross section. More specifically, the brush rest 42 is formed by binding a flat strip of sheet metal to right-angular shape, slitting the strip along the vertex of the formed angle and bending the bifurcated portions to define feet 44 for the rest. The brush rest 42 is, as clearly seen in Figs. 1 and 2, screwed on the base 10 in parallel spaced relation to the work holder 12, and is formed, on its edge nearest said work holder, with a row of connected tooth-like notches 46 to receive the shank of the decorating brush to provide a steady rest therefor. As will be seen clearly in Fig. 2 of the drawings, the brush rest 42 is of sufficient height to extend well above the horizontal plane of the top of the cup, so that a brush, used for decorating an egg (as shown at A in Fig. 1) or other article in the cup, may be held steady while the cup is rotated.

It is thought that the construction and manner of use of my improved easel will be fully understood from a reading of the foregoing description and a study of the drawings.

Obviously modifications of the present invention are possible in the light of the foregoing description. It is therefore to be understood that, within the scope of the appended claims, the invention may be practiced otherwise than as specifically described.

I claim:

1. An easel including, in combination, a base, a work support on the base and comprising a cup, and a bracket rotatably supporting the cup, said bracket consisting of a strip of sheet metal having a vertically extending portion and spaced pin guiding portions extending horizontally therefrom, one disposed a substantial distance above the other, said portions having aligned apertures, said cup having a pivot pin extending between guiding portions, and through the apertures, for manual engagement, whereby the cup may be rotated.

2. An easel including, in combination, a base, a work support on the base and comprising a cup having a pivot pin, a bracket rotatably supporting the cup, said bracket consisting of a strip of sheet metal having a vertically extending portion and spaced pin guiding portions extending horizontally therefrom, one disposed a substantial distance above the other, said portions having aligned apertures, said base having a recess below the aperture in the lowermost pin guiding

portion, a bearing in the recess, the lower end of the pivot pin engaging the bearing in the recess, and means securing the bracket to the base, said pivot pin having a knurled portion between the journaling portions of the bracket to facilitate manual rotation of the cup.

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