

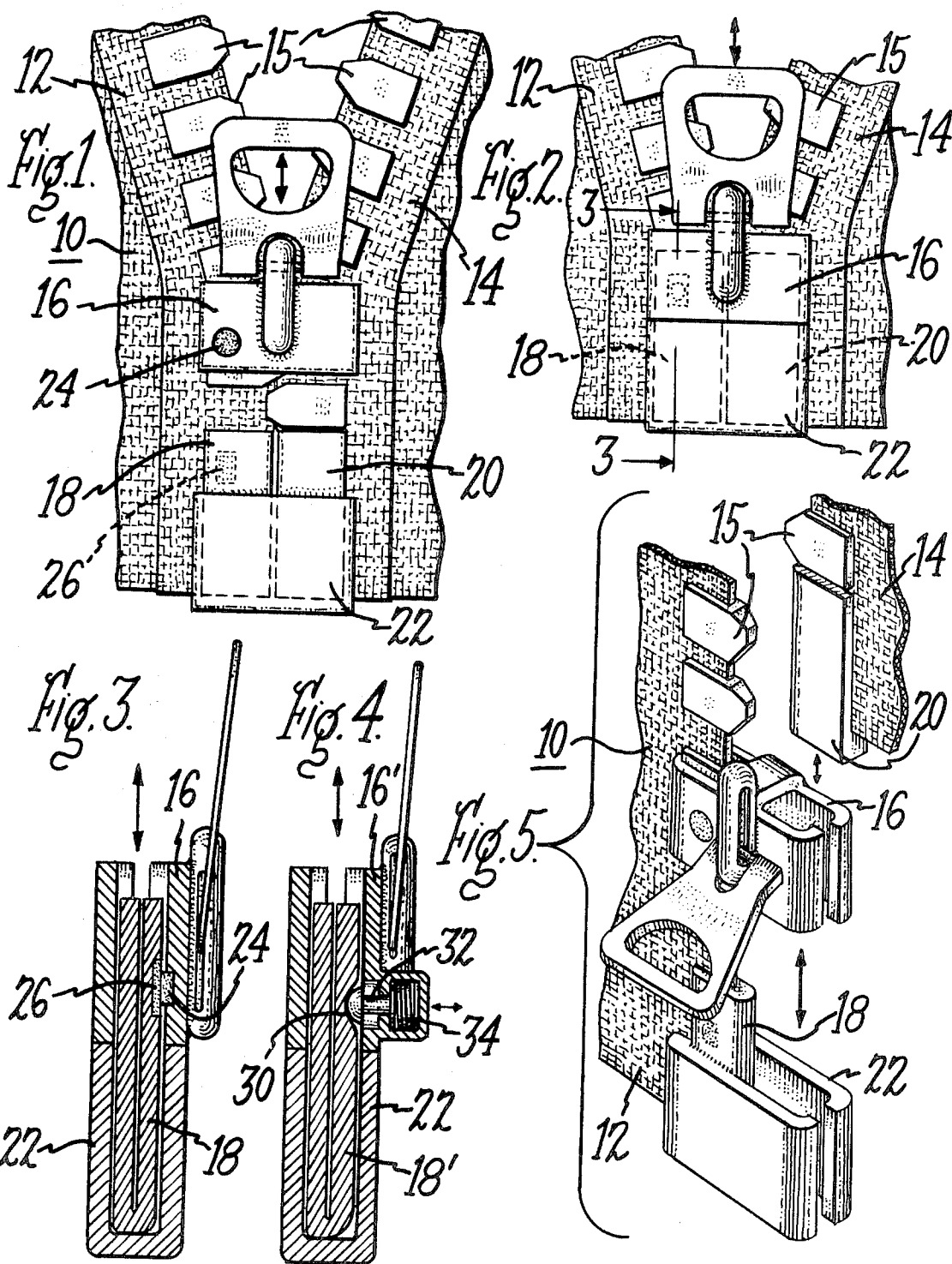
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ZIPPER SLIDE RETAINER

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ZIPPER SLIDE RETAINER

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1 Claim

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A zipper slide retainer for holding the slide of a zipper in contact with the stationary end of a separable zipper. The stationary end of the zipper is provided with a magnetic member or depression which cooperates with a magnetic member or detent on the zipper slide to retain the slide in contact with the stationary end.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to zippers, and more particularly, to separable zippers having means for retaining the slide in contact with the stationary end of the zipper when the zipper is opened.

As is well known to those skilled in the zipper art, there are basically two types of zippers. One type, such as a skirt or trouser type, has the ends of the zipper firmly secured together, providing only a partial opening in the garment. The other type, one that is usually found in jackets and the like, is one in which the ends can be separated, such that the opening of the garment will be complete, aiding in its removal. Also, as is well known, the separable type of zippers lead to much frustration, especially with young people, because the slide of the zipper will not remain in contact with the fixed or stationary end when the zipper is opened.

It has long been recognized as desirable to provide some means for retaining the slide in contact with the stationary end of the zipper when it is opened, readily allowing the slide to be engaged with the teeth when closed to allow the zipper to be actuated.

Therefore, it is one object of this invention to provide a separable type of zipper in which the slide is provided with means to hold it in contact with the stationary end of the zipper.

A further object of this invention is to provide a separable type zipper in which the slide member is provided with means cooperating with the stationary end of the zipper to hold the slide in contact with the stationary end of the zipper.

Yet another object of this invention is to provide a separable type zipper in which the slide member is provided with magnetic means which cooperates with a magnetic member on the stationary end to securely hold the slide in contact with the stationary end.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Briefly, in one form, this invention relates to a zipper slide retainer in which the slide member of a separable type zipper is provided with means which cooperate with means on the stationary end of the zipper to hold the slide securely in contact with the stationary end of the zipper when it is in its open or separated condition.

The invention which is sought to be protected will be clearly pointed out and distinctly claimed in the claims appended hereto. However, it is believed that this invention, and the manner in which its objects and advantages are obtained, as well as other objects and advantages thereof, will be better understood from the following detailed description of the preferred embodiments thereof, especially when considered in the light of the accompanying drawing.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

FIG. 1 is a plan view of a separable type zipper showing one form of slide retainer according to a preferred embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 2 is a plan view similar to FIG. 1, showing the slide in contact with the stationary end;

FIG. 3 is a sectional view taken on the lines 3—3 of FIG. 2;

FIG. 4 is a sectional view similar to FIG. 3, showing another form of slide retainer according to this invention; and

FIG. 5 is an exploded perspective view of the invention showing the slide retainer of FIG. 1 in greater detail.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The zipper slide retainer of this invention comprises means associated with the slide of a separable zipper which will cooperate with the fixed or stationary end of the zipper to removably secure the slide to the stationary end when the zipper is in the separated or opened position. The present preferred embodiments of this invention are shown in the drawing, to which reference will now be made for a more complete description thereof, and wherein like reference numerals are used to indicate like parts throughout the several views.

Referring first to FIGS. 1-3 and 5, one preferred embodiment is shown in connection with a separable type zipper 10, having the separate side elements or members 12 and 14, each of which include a plurality of teeth 15, as shown. A slide member or fastener 16 is provided for closing and opening the zipper 10 in a manner well understood in the art. Side element 12 is provided with an end member 18, while the side element 14 is provided with the end member 20. As is well understood, in separable type zippers, end member 18 is generally considered the fixed or stationary end, while end 20 is the removable end. A substantially U-shaped member 22 is secured to end 18, and as is clearly shown in FIG. 5, a U-shaped member 22 is secured to or formed integral with the stationary end 18. As is understood, the end 20 slides into and out of the open portion of the U-shaped connecting member 22 and slide 16, as is shown by the arrows in FIG. 5.

In order to securely hold the slide 16 in contact with the stationary end 18 of the zipper 10, means are provided on slide 16 and end 18 which cooperate to removably secure these members together when the zipper is opened. In FIGS. 1-3 and 5, the means is shown in the form of a magnetic member or insert 24 mounted in slide 16. The end 18 may be made of magnetic material, or it may be provided with a magnetic member or insert 26, as indicated in FIGS. 1-3 and 5. Obviously, the magnetic members may be in both the end 18 and the slide 16, or a magnet may be placed in either, with magnetic material provided in the other. Thus, 24 may be a magnet while 26 is magnetic material, or 24 could be magnetic material while 26 is a magnet. All that is necessary is that the slide 16 be attracted to and held in contact with the end 18 when the zipper 10 is open.

Instead of magnets and magnetic material, other means can be provided to secure the slide 16 and stationary end 18 in contact when the zipper 10 is open. One such means is shown in FIG. 4. As is shown in FIG. 4, the stationary end 18' is provided with an opening or depression 30 while slide 16' is provided with a spring pressed detent 32 having a spring member 34. As will be understood, when the slide 16' is pulled down against the U-shaped member 22 the detent 32 will engage the depression 30. Spring 34 will firmly press the detent 32 into depression 30, holding slide 16' securely in contact with the stationary end 18'. Of course, it will be obvious that the depression

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could be on the slide member 16' while the detent is on the stationary end 18', if desired.

While there has been shown and described the present preferred embodiments of this invention, it will be apparent to those skilled in this art that various structural changes may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of this invention. 5

What is claimed as new and which it is desired to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A separable zipper having a zipper slide retainer for holding the slide in contact with the separable stationary end of the zipper comprising: 10

a separable zipper having a stationary, separable end member,

longitudinally extending element on said end member, a movable slide member for opening and closing the zipper and dimensioned to slidably fit over said extending element, 15

retaining means on said separable end member and on said movable slide member cooperating to removably secure said movable slide member to said separable end member when the zipper is separated, said retaining means including magnetic means on the ex- 20

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terior of said extending element and flush with its surface and also on the inner surface and flush therewith of said slide member, said magnetic means being opposite to each other when said slide member is moved over said extending element and in its lowermost position against said end member with the magnetic means attracting each other.

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