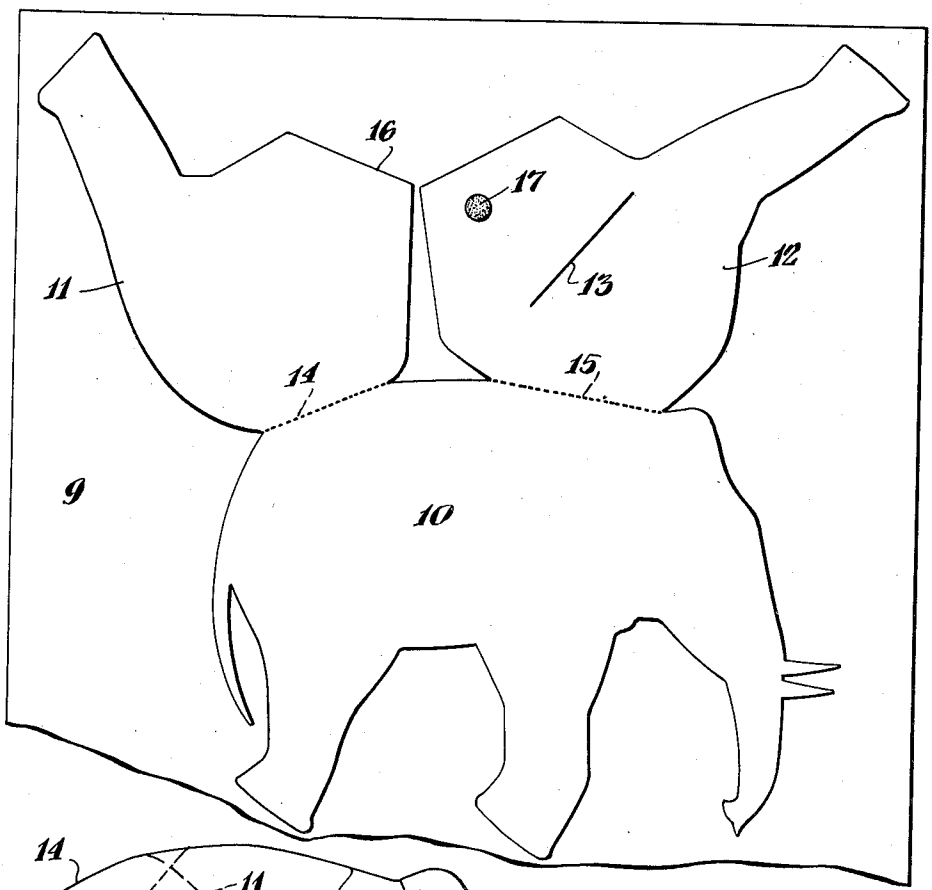
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CUT-OUT TOY

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Fig. 1



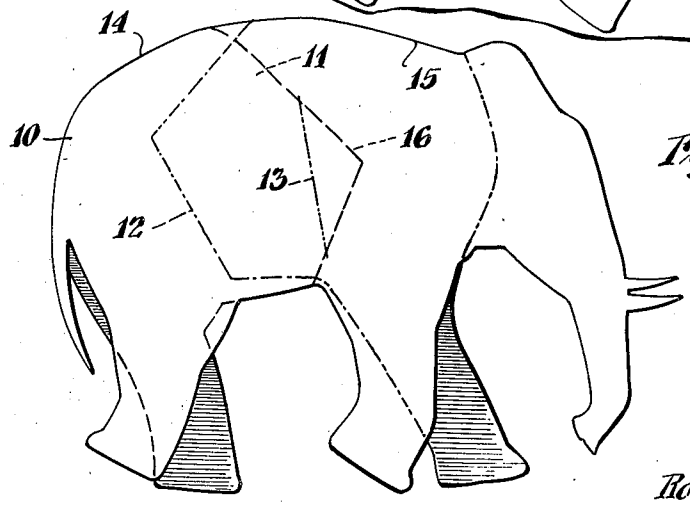


Fig. 2

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Fig. 3

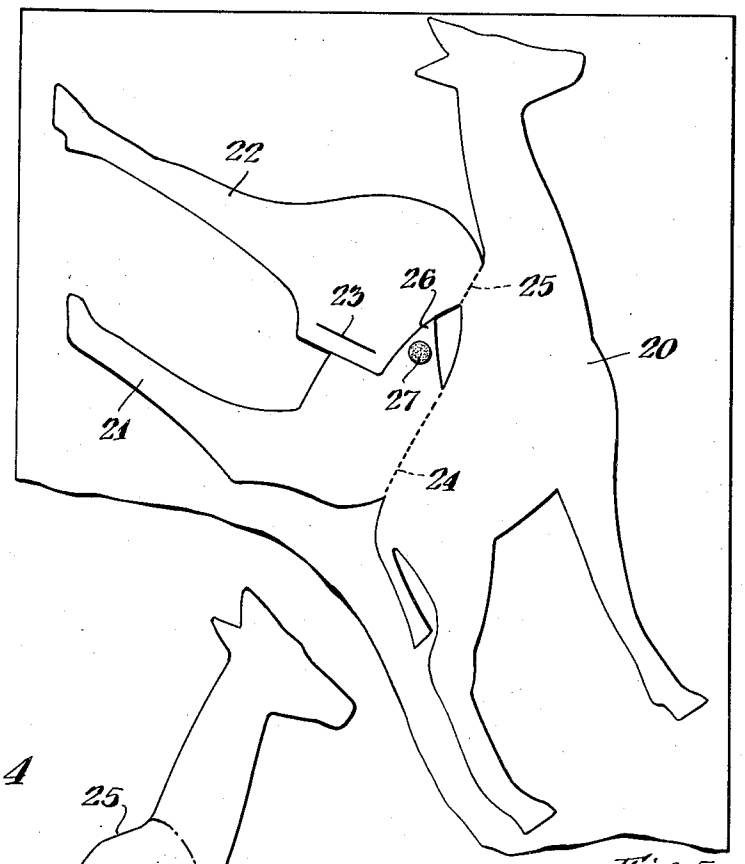


Fig. 4

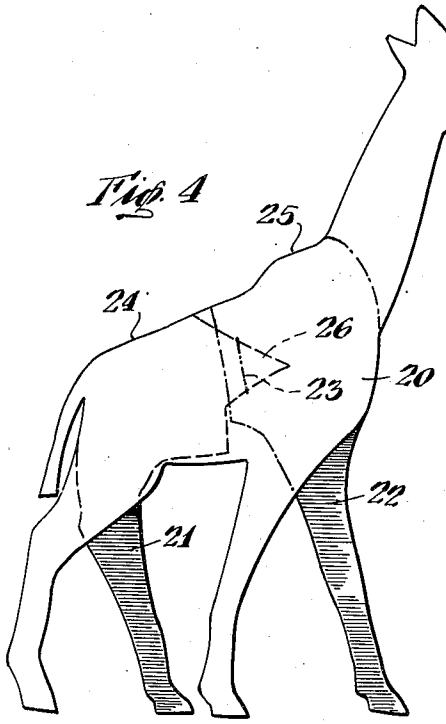
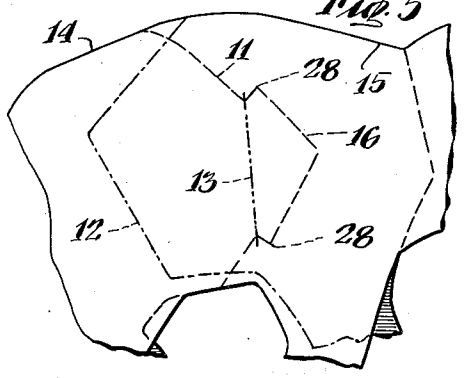


Fig. 5



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CUT-OUT TOY

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Application December 30, 1938, Serial No. 248,461

4 Claims. (Cl. 46—157)

This invention relates to "cut-out" toys of the general class in which the toy is cut in outline from a sheet of paper, cardboard, or other suitable material, after which the piece is folded to make the desired article. Heretofore it has been common practice to make the outline double, that is, with two complete representations of the desired figure, for example a four-footed animal, so that when folded along the line on which they are joined, usually at the top of the back, they will represent one complete figure. In such case any slight resiliency or springiness of the sheet material gives the two sections a tendency to unfold, or spread apart. To overcome this tendency it has been proposed to provide one of the sections with supplementary strips or tabs which can be fastened to an adjoining folded section, thus holding such two in fixed relation to each other.

The present invention in its preferred embodiment provides a cut-out toy in which at least one of the sections is formed with parts connected directly to another section along lines of fold which are offset relatively to one another so that folding merely on these lines will not only bring such parts into proper relationship to the section to which they are directly connected but will also cause the parts, as they are folded, to approach one another so that they can be secured together, releasably or permanently, in such proper relationship to said other section. These lines of fold, along which the foldable parts are directly connected to another section, are preferably offset by inclining them angularly relatively to one another, so that if the lines were extended they would intersect. However, in some cases the lines of fold may have a parallel relationship. In such case the offsetting is obtained by transverse separation, as for example in one of the embodiments hereinafter described. In all forms of the invention the parts referred to as approaching each other as they are folded are connected to the said other section directly instead of by interposed strips or the like.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 shows the outline of a cut-out as printed on a flat sheet of paper, cardboard or other suitable material, the outline in this case being shaped to produce the figure of an elephant when properly cut out and folded. In this toy two lines of fold are provided, arranged at a slight angle to each other.

Fig. 2 is a side view of the figure produced by folding the cut-out illustrated in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 shows in outline a cut-out for representing a giraffe, in which the two parts of one section are arranged to fold toward the other section on parallel lines which are displaced or offset transversely to each other.

Fig. 4 is a side view of the figure produced by folding the cut-out illustrated in Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a detail view showing folding parts shaped for locking inter-engagement in their folded relationship.

Referring to Fig. 1, the sheet 9 on which the outline is printed is to be cut along the continuous solid lines, forming a main or front section 10 of the animal, and a rear section composed of two parts 11, 12, joined directly to section 10 along two angularly offset lines 14, 15. Part 11 represents one of the hind legs of the animal and part 12 one of the fore legs. It will be observed that by reason of the angular offset or displacement of the lines of fold 14, 15, the two parts approach each other as they are folded rearwardly and downwardly, and that as they do so portions of the two parts come into overlapping relationship so that they can be secured together in any convenient manner. Thus a slit, as indicated by the line 13, Fig. 1, can be cut in part 12, and part 11 can be shaped with a point, as 16, which can be inserted in the slit. The creature thus produced with the parts 11, 12 in overlapping relationship is illustrated in Fig. 2. In this figure part 11, behind section 10, is indicated by the dash lines, and part 12 by the dash-dot lines, with the point 16 inserted in the slit 13 which is indicated by the dash and double-dot line.

In Fig. 3 a cut-out for a giraffe is shown, comprising a front section 20, and a rear section made in two parts 21, 22, the latter having a slit 23 suitably located. It will be observed that the lines of fold 24, 25, along which the parts 21, 22 are directly connected to section 20, are in parallel relationship; but that these lines being offset or displaced transversely so as to be unaligned, the parts are in overlapping relation to each other when folded, thus enabling point 26 of part 21 to be inserted in the slit 23, as shown in Fig. 4.

To hold the folded parts together with sufficient firmness the width of the inserted portion and the length of the slit can be proportioned to provide a snug fit, and a sheet material can be used which has a rather rough surface so as to increase the friction of the overlapped portions. The overlapped portions can be more permanently secured by means of an adhesive, for which purpose one or both portions which are to be overlapped can be provided with a spot of adhesive, as indicated, for example, at 17, Fig. 1, and at 27,

Fig. 3. In such case the adhesive provided is conveniently one which only needs to be touched with water to make it sticky. When an adhesive is to be used the slit can be omitted or left unused. Instead of relying on mere friction or wedging of the interengaging parts they may be constructed to interlock, as for example in Fig. 5, in which the pointed portion 16 of part 11 of Figs. 1 and 2 is provided with tabs 28 to hook over the ends of the slit 13.

Whatever the means employed to hold the overlapping parts together, the lines of fold, as 14, 15, in Fig. 1, and 24, 25, in Fig. 3, should be so arranged that when the parts are properly overlapped and secured the rear parts, say the legs 21, 22, in Fig. 4, will be far enough behind the front section to enable the creature to stand upright. This spaced relation of the two sections is then maintained, since spreading of the two sections by unfolding along the lines of fold requires that the folded rear parts shall themselves spread, and this latter spreading is resisted by the securement of the overlapped parts together.

It is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the specific constructions herein illustrated and described but can be embodied in other forms without departure from its spirit as defined by the subjoined claims.

I claim:

1. A folded cut-out toy object of sheet material and composed of two sections, one section being unitary to represent the complete object in profile, and the other section being formed in two parts shaped to represent different portions of the object and connected directly to the other section along lines individual to the respective parts on which lines said parts are respectively folded toward said other section, said lines being offset relatively to one another to cause portions of the folded parts to overlap in their folded relationship, the overlapping portions being secured together to oppose unfolding of the said folded parts relatively to each other and relatively to the unitary section.

2. A folded cut-out toy as claimed in the preceding claim, in which the lines of fold are offset angularly.

3. A folded cut-out toy made as claimed in claim 1, in which the lines of fold are in parallel relationship and offset transversely to enable said parts to partially overlap one another in their folded relationship to the other section, the overlapping portions of said part being secured one to another to oppose unfolding.

4. A cut-out of sheet material foldable to form a toy quadruped animal, comprising a unitary body section having a head and fore and hind legs for one side of the animal; and separate overlapping fore and hind legged parts for the other side, integral with the body section along individual lines of fold at the back line of the body section to fold relatively thereto, said lines of fold being offset relatively to each other to cause portions of the foldable leg parts to overlap when folded, said portions being formed for inter-engagement in their overlapping relationship to resist unfolding of said parts relating to each other and relatively to the body section.

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