N. I. YERKES.

BELT.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 10, 1921.

1,437,330. Patented Nov. 28, 1922.

Fig. 1.

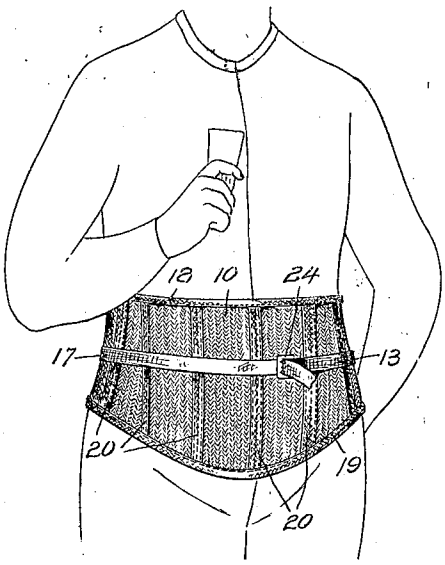


Fig. 2.

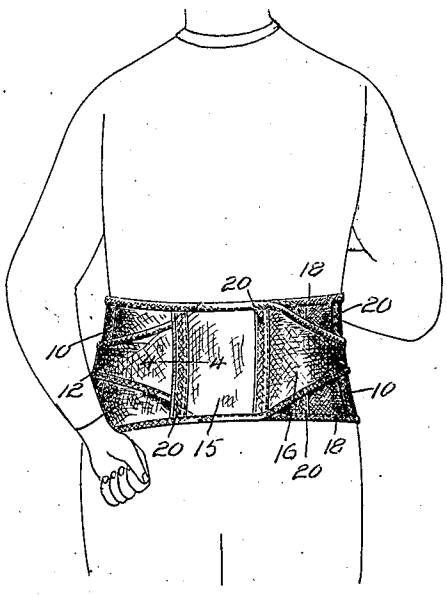


Fig. 3.

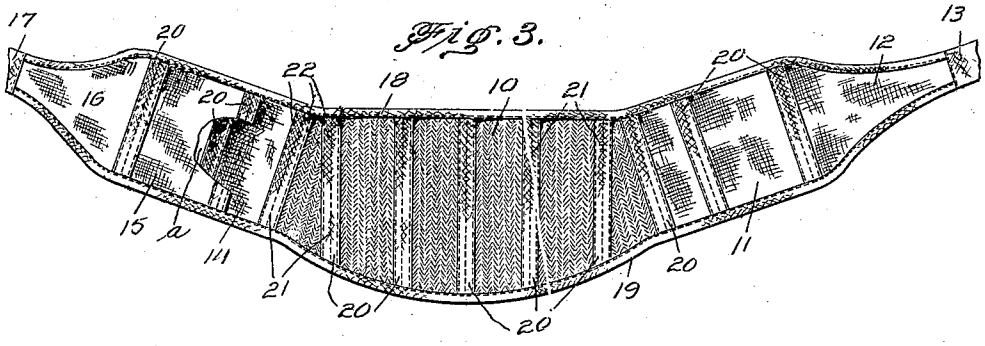
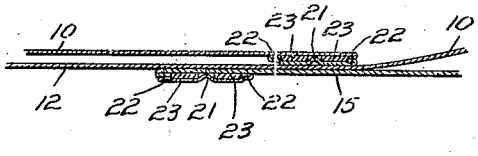


Fig. 4.



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Patented Nov. 28, 1922. 1,437,330

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NATHANIEL I. YERKES, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

BELT.

Application filed March 10, 1921. Serial No. 451,112.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NATHANIEL I. YERKES, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Belt, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in body belts, and more particularly to a type of such belts commonly known as abdominal supporters.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a belt of the class mentioned, and one embodying extremely simplified features of adjustment, inherent with the peculiar construction of the same as distinguished from usual forms of adjustment devices, such as buttons, lacings and other similar suppositories, so tiresome and annoying to manipulate for the purpose.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention resides in the certain novel and useful construction as will be hereinafter more fully described, set forth in the appended claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 is a front view of the body of a person showing the belt used as an abdominal supporter.

Fig. 2 is a rear view from that of Fig. 1,

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the body portion of the belt, and,

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawing, wherein similar characters of reference designate corresponding parts in the several views thereof, the main or intermediate portion 10 of the belt is preferably formed of a single sheet of fine grade of soft web fabric, or other suitable woven material, having its top edge formed or cut on a straight line and its lower edge reversely curved outwardly from the vertical center thereof. At one end of the main portion 10 is secured a sheet of material 11, preferably of a heavy fabric, such as canvass or the like, having its free end of a reduced width on lines curving inwardly from the opposite edges of the sheet in a manner to provide a medially extending end portion 12 to the end of which is attached a belt tape strip 13. Connecting the opposite end of the main portion 10 is a substantially rectangular sheet 14, of the same material as the portion 11, to which, in turn, is secured at its upper and lower edges only, a second sheet of the canvas material 15, the connection portions of the sheets 14 and 15 overlapping one another for a distance approximating one-half the width of the portion 14. The free end of the portion or sheet 15 is reduced, as at 16, to correspond the reduced end portion 12 of the end strip 11, and to this reduced end 16 is secured a belt tape strip 17.

The upper and lower edges of the belt proper are suitably reinforced by strips of tape or the like 18 and 19, respectively, the length of the tape being folded over the edges and secured thereto by lines of stitching. The belt is also provided with a series of transversely extending spaced strips of tape or the like 20 which have their opposite ends engaged under the edge of the tape strips 18 and 19 on one side of the belt, and these strips 20 are secured in position by means of a center line of stitching 21 and lines of stitching 22 at their opposite side edges, whereby to form transversely extending pockets to each side of the center line of stitching 21 for the reception of reinforcing elements 23 of bone or the like. The free overlapped edges of the sheets 14 and 15 are similarly reinforced, and, as before stated, these sheets are unconnected transversely of the belt to provide a lateral passage or a slit *a*, but are connected together at their adjacent overlapping side edges.

In the use as an abdominal supporter, the belt is encircled around the body of the person with the straight edge of the same uppermost and disposed approximately on the waist line of the person wearing the same, and with reinforced strips 20 outward from the body the center reinforcing strip of the main or intermediate portion 10 of the belt being disposed on the vertical center of the front of the body of the person. The taped belt end 13 is inserted through the slit *a* between the sheet sections 14 and 15, at the rear of the person, and both belt ends 13 and 17 are then brought around the body to the front of the person where the free ends of the same are connected in any suitable manner, or by means of a buckle 24, as shown. By the insertion of the belt end 13 outward of the slit between the sheet sections 14 and 15 at the rear of the body of the person, the sheet sections 15 and 16 of the canvas or heavy

fabric are disposed in overlapping relation with respect to the sheet section 11.

In the adjustment of the belt thus provided and applied, all that is necessary to tighten or loosen the same is to release one belt and from its engagement with the buckle 24, and then draw the opposite portions 12 and 16 in opposite directions until the desired tightness is felt by the person, or by allowing the portions 12 and 16 to slip one with respect to the other in the reverse direction whereby to loosen the belt to any desired degree, and by withdrawing the belt end 13 entirely free from the slit between the sections 14 and 15, the same is readily removed from the body.

From the foregoing, it will be readily apparent that the invention provides for an extremely simple belt supporter construction; for ease and comfort in the wearing of the same; for ready adjustment of the same to any desired degree of tightness or looseness without necessitating the removal of the belt or without tiresome and annoying effort on the part of the wearer; and for the washing of the belt, when soiled, without any chance of injury thereto by reason of the use of a nonshrinkable or preshrunk material or fabric, or by discoloration from metal parts in the belt proper.

Having thus fully described the invention, what is claimed, is:—

1. A belt for the purpose set forth comprising a body portion of a soft web fabric, a rectangular sheet of heavy fabric attached to and projecting from one end of said body portion, an end portion of heavy fabric extended upon said sheet and having solely the upper and lower edges thereof secured to the upper and lower edges of said sheet to provide a passage extending lengthwise in the direction of the length of said end portion, and an end portion of heavy material secured to the other end of said body portion and adapted to extend through said passage whereby the outer face of said second end portion will be overlapped by the inner part of the first mentioned end portion.

2. A belt for the purpose set forth comprising a body portion, a rectangular sheet of material attached to and projecting from one end of said body portion, an end portion extended upon one face of said sheet and having the upper and lower edges thereof solely secured to the upper and lower edges of said sheet to form a passage extending lengthwise with respect to the length of said end portion, and an end portion secured to the other end of said body portion and adapted to extend through said passage whereby the opposed spaces of said sheet and first mentioned end portion will oppose the faces of the second mentioned end portion.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature hereto.

NATHANIEL I. YERKES.