March 15, 1938. L. PORTNER 2,111,493

KEY HOLDER

Filed Jan. 6, 1937

Fig. 1.

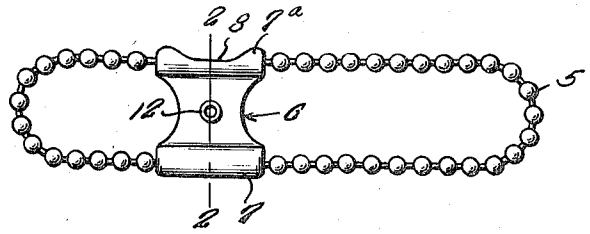


Fig. 2.

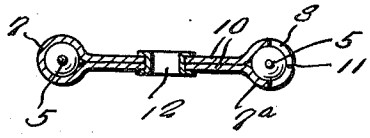


Fig. 3.

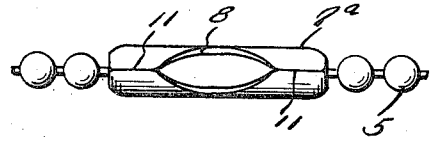
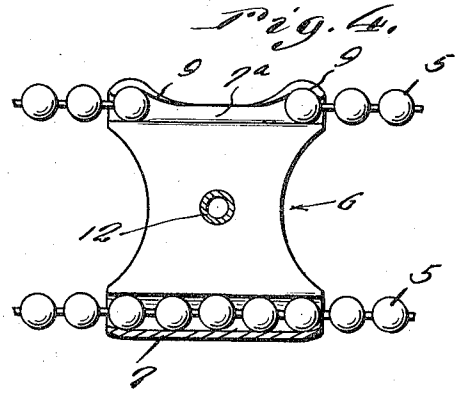


Fig. 4.



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KEY HOLDER

Louis Portner, Buffalo, N. Y.

Application January 6, 1937, Serial No. 119,345

2 Claims. (Cl. 70—457)

This invention is a device for holding keys, such as automobile keys, door keys, and the like. An object of the present invention is to provide a key holder in the form of a flexible member together with means for securing the ends of the member together in such a manner as to provide two closed loops adjustable to any size desired whereby keys for one purpose, for example, may be engaged with one loop, and keys for another purpose, or for miscellaneous purposes may be engaged with the other loop of the holder.

The invention together with its objects and advantages may be best understood from a study of the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing wherein:—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the holder.

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary side elevational view of the holder and

Figure 4 is an enlarged fragmentary view illustrating certain details hereinafter more fully referred to.

Referring to the drawing by reference numerals it will be seen that the key holder, in the preferred embodiment of the invention comprises a flexible member 5 in the form of a ball-chain and a member 6 associated with the chain in a manner hereinafter made manifest to provide with the chain two loops.

The member 6 in the present instance consists of an elongated plate folded on a transverse line upon itself and suitably formed at opposite sides of the fold line to provide at said fold line an elongated sleeve 7 through which the chain is trained as clearly shown.

At its respective opposite ends, the plate of the member 6 is also complementarily formed to provide a sleeve 7a formed intermediate its end with an enlarged lateral opening 8 and at its respective opposite end with pockets 9 to receive the balls on the respective opposite ends of the chain 5.

At opposite ends of the opening 8 the meeting edges of said end of the folds 10 of the member 6 form slits 11, the sleeve 7a being thus expansible to facilitate the engaging or disengaging of the end of the chain with the member 6.

The folds or super-imposed portions 10 of the plate 6 are secured together through the medium of an eyelet or other suitable rivet 12.

It will thus be seen that with the chain 5 trained through the sleeve 7 of the member 6 and the respective opposite ends of the chain engaged in the recesses 9 provided therefor in the respective opposite ends of the split sleeve 7a, the holder thus presenting two closed loops whereby keys may be retained thereon in groups.

In using the device an end of the chain may be disengaged from the member 6 by forcing the string portion of the chain at said end along the slit 11 for working the ball on said end of the chain out of the recess 9 to be subsequently drawn from the sleeve 7a through the opening 8. Said end of the chain may then be trained through the opening usually provided in the head or handle end of the key and the end of the chain then re-engaged with the member 6 by passing the ball on said end of the chain into the sleeve 7a through the opening 8, and by forcing the string portion of the chain along the slit 11 towards the end of the sleeve to work said end ball of the chain into its recess 9.

Also the intermediate portion of the chain may be drawn through the sleeve 7 to increase the loop at either end of the chain, resulting of course in the forming of a smaller loop at the opposite end of the device.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed as new is:—

1. In a key holder of the character described, an elongated flexible ball chain, a plate member folded transversely upon itself and having the folds, at the line of fold, complementarily formed to provide a sleeve through which the chain is trained, said folds at their free ends being also complementarily formed to provide a split sleeve having enlarged lateral openings intermediate its ends and at one side of said split sleeve to facilitate the engaging of the respective opposite ends of said chain therewith whereby said plate member cooperates with the chain to form two key retaining loops.

2. In a key holder, a plate member folded transversely upon itself and having the folds, at the line of fold, complementarily formed to provide a sleeve, said folds at the free ends thereof being also complementarily formed to provide a second sleeve pocketed at its ends, and a flexible member trained through the first mentioned sleeve and having ends adapted to engage the pockets of the second mentioned sleeve, to divide the flexible element into a plurality of key carrying loops.

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