United States Patent [19]

McEvers

[11] **3,897,122**

[45] **July 29, 1975**

[54] **NECKWEAR CABINET**

[76] Inventor: **Wilber C. McEvers,** 655 Ave. C, S.W., Winter Haven, Fla. 33880

[22] Filed: **May 14, 1973**

[21] Appl. No.: **360,072**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **312/321;** 211/13; 211/94; 211/86

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A47b 88/00;** A47b 95/00

[58] **Field of Search** 312/298–309, 312/351, 3, 4, 5, 6, 321, 245; 211/162, 13, 94, 94.5, 86

[56] **References Cited**

UNITED STATES PATENTS

749,120	1/1904	Weir	312/302 X
834,595	10/1906	Wadsworth	312/321
1,680,864	8/1928	Freeman	312/351
2,964,196	12/1960	Phillips	211/13
2,985,311	5/1961	Abel	211/94 X
3,081,881	3/1963	Seeger	211/13
3,124,253	3/1964	Petrich	211/94
3,661,435	5/1972	Miller	312/309 X

Primary Examiner—Paul R. Gilliam
Assistant Examiner—Andrew M. Calvert
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Lowe, King & Price

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A cabinet for neckwear comprising telescoping bars carried by built-in guideways, tie support elements particularly adapted for the type of neckwear to be stored and displayed, and universal mounting means for the cabinet is disclosed. The support elements on the telescoping bars particularly advantageously provide storage for the conventional hanging type neckwear, such as neckties, scarves, etc., formed neckwear, such as ties and pre-formed bow ties so that all may be brought into clear view without interference and any one may be readily removed for wearing. The telescoping bars are each provided with a finger loop at one end whereby the bars may be easily extended after opening the cabinet. Hanging type neckwear is supported on horizontal rods forming hangers mounted on one of the telescoping bars. Pre-formed ties are supported on swinging chip-like plates mounted on another of the telescoping bars and the clip-on bow ties are supported on flanges mounted on a third telescoping bar. The bars are carried on double shouldered tracks on the inner walls of the cabinet. The cabinet is universally mounted in a closet such as a clothes closet by means of a wall plate and clothes rod receiving adjustable brackets.

2 Claims, 8 Drawing Figures

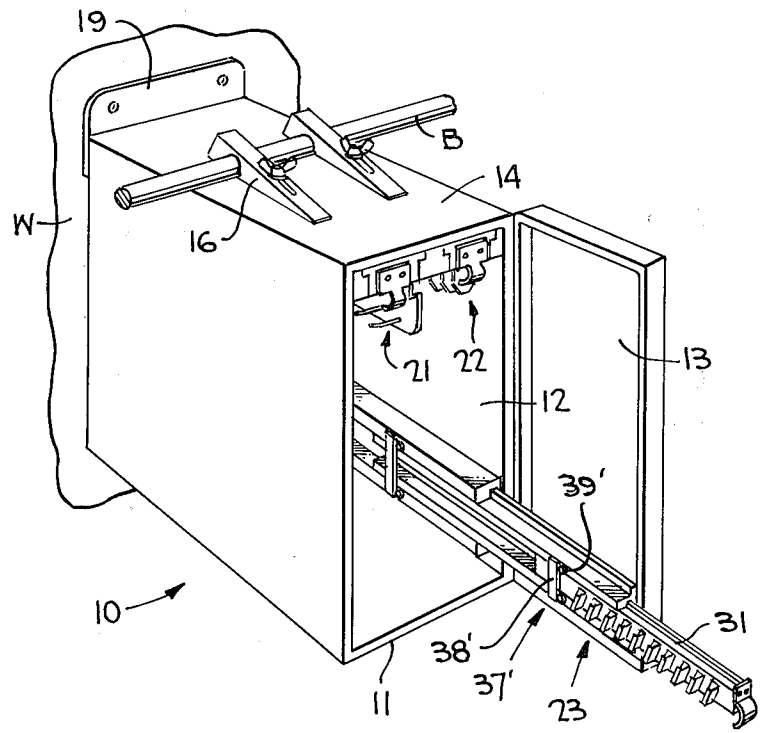


FIG. 1

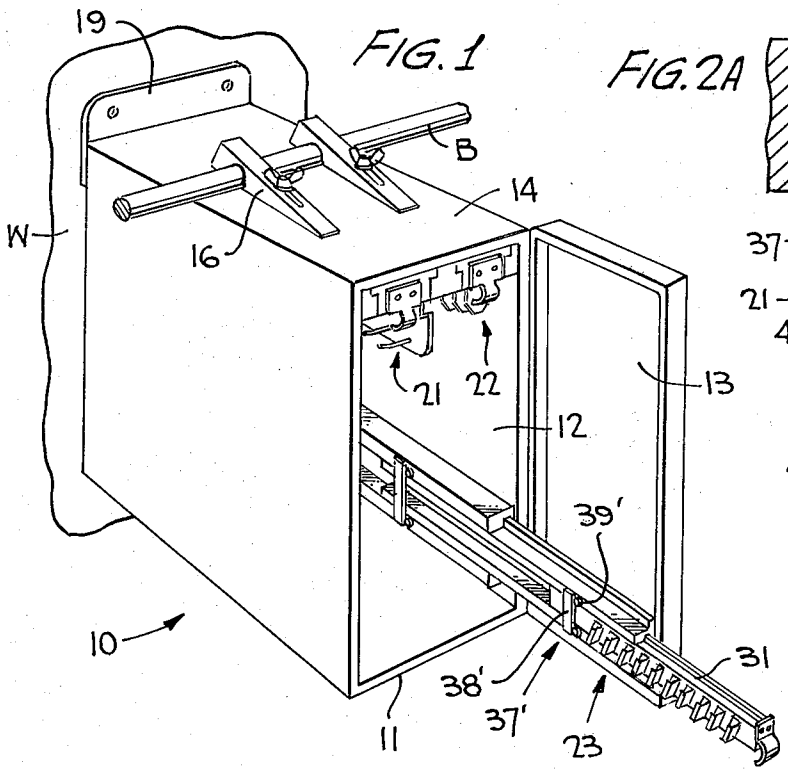


FIG. 2A

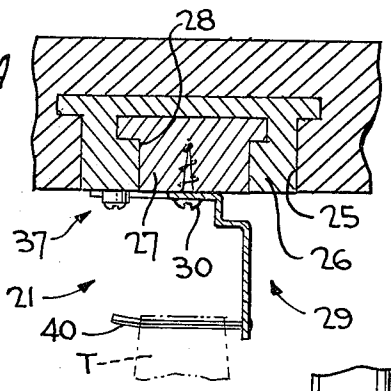


FIG. 2B

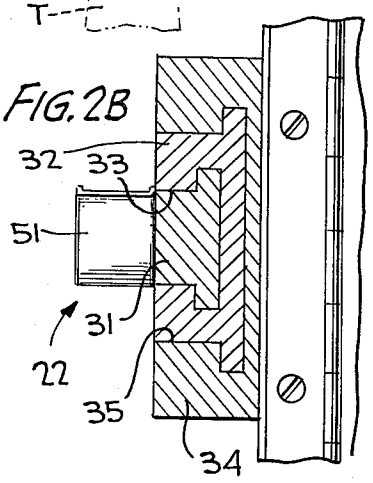


FIG. 3

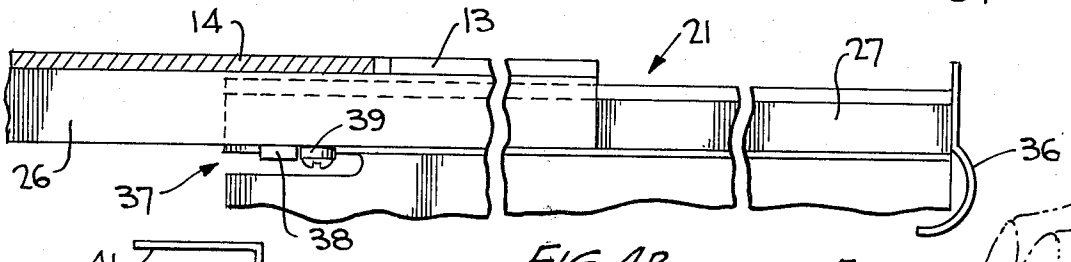


FIG. 4A

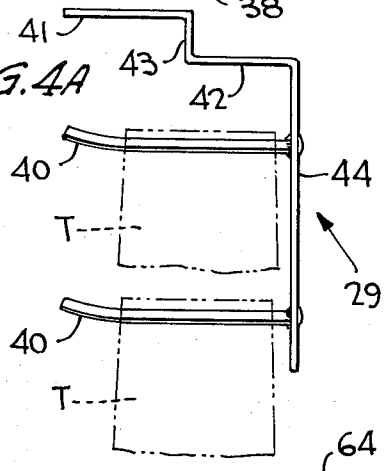


FIG. 4B

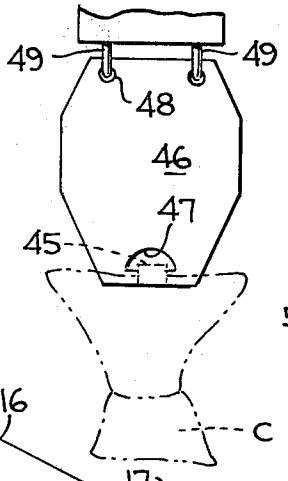


FIG. 4C

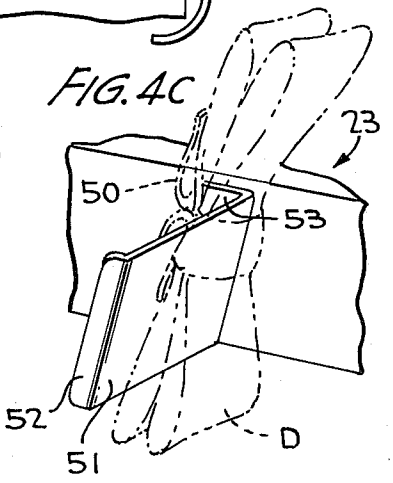
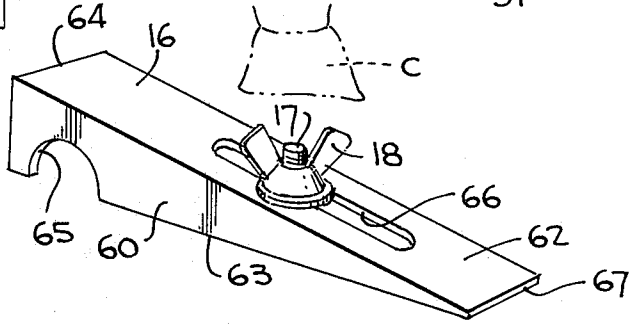


FIG. 5



NECKWEAR CABINET

The present invention relates to article supports, and more particularly, to improvements in cabinets for the storage and display of neckwear.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

It is not unusual for an average man to have a large variety of neckwear. His wardrobe usually comprises neckties of many colors, patterns and designs. Additionally, his wardrobe will very probably comprise convenient pre-formed clip-on ties which are gaining in popularity as their colors and style selections widen.

As style changes, ties that were once considered out of style experience a resurgence of popularity. The case in point is the bow tie. This tie has gone through many cycles and will, no doubt, continue to cycle.

The above considerations present a problem with storage of neckwear. Most men have means of storing conventional ties, and some men have means for storing clip-on ties; and a few have bow tie storage means. However, as noted above, changing styles and preferences may require a man to own, and use, diverse types of ties. Because of the variety in form and material of neckties and the manner of wearing the ties, a rack or cabinet adapted for one type of tie is not suitable for other types or styles. A satisfactory solution to this tie storage problem would thus be a contribution to this art that is believed would gain wide acceptance. Desirable advantages that would add to the contribution would be: (1) lowering of costs involved in storing a large volume of ties, (2) providing for quick and easy access with clear display for tie selection, (3) providing neat appearing organized storage of the ties, and (4) creation of a handsome storage cabinet itself for enhancing the appearance of the closet or other clothes storage area.

OBJECTIVES OF THE INVENTION

Therefore, it is an objective of the present invention to provide a cabinet with the above attributes, which cabinet is particularly designed for efficiently storing a wide variety of styles and types of neckwear.

A broader objective of the present invention is to provide a cabinet for convenience in both storage and selection of neckwear.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a cabinet of integral construction which is compact and sturdy.

A further objective of the invention is to provide an attractive cabinet which is inexpensively and simply yet sturdily constructed.

A further objective of the invention is to provide a cabinet which is easily installed in a clothes closet or the like.

BRIEF SUMMARY

A neckwear cabinet is provided wherein a large number and variety of neckties or neckwear may be stored together. Convenient selection is provided by supporting the neckwear on telescoping bars which are connected to the cabinet by means of guideways and trackways. The bars are operated by finger loops positioned on the ends of the bars. Stops positioned on the bars prevent over extension of the bars. A wall plate is positioned on the outside of the cabinet to cooperate with brackets located on the top of said cabinet to support said cabinet in place. The top mounted brackets are adjustable and fit around a bar, such as a closet clothes bar, to provide support to said cabinet. The cabinet is conveniently mounted in a closet by means of the brackets and wall plate.

Still other objects and advantages of the present invention will become readily apparent to those skilled in this art from the following detailed description, wherein I have shown and described only the preferred embodiment of the invention, simply by way of illustration of the best mode contemplated by me of carrying out my invention. As will be realized, the invention is capable of other and different embodiments, and its several details are capable of modification in various obvious respects, all without departing from the invention. Accordingly, the drawings and description are to be regarded as illustrative in nature, and not as restrictive.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same;

FIG. 1 is an overall perspective view of a neckwear cabinet embodying this invention;

FIGS. 2A and 2B are cross-sectional views of the telescoping bars of this invention;

FIG. 3 is a side view (cut-away) of a telescoping bar partially extended;

FIGS. 4A, 4B and 4C show diverse mounting means for neckwear; and

FIG. 5 is an enlarged perspective view showing a bracket used in mounting the cabinet.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

With reference to the figures, a detailed description of the preferred embodiment of the present invention will now be presented. A cabinet **10** constructed of wood, plastic or the like and which is both attractive and compact is provided, particularly adapted for the storage of neckwear, such as neckties. The cabinet allows convenient storage of a variety of styles and types of neckwear in one single area. Broadly, cabinet **10** has a base **11**, sidewalls **12**, door **13** and top **14**. The door **13** may be retained in the closed position by any suitable latch and the closed cabinet advantageously protects the neckwear from ambient conditions.

The cabinet **10** is supported on a clothes bar, such as B, by elongated brackets **16** which are held in place by fastening bolts **17** passing through top **14** and interfitting with wing nuts **18**. Brackets **16**, as will be seen later, adjustably engage bar B to form one portion of the cabinet support. Bolts **17** projecting through longitudinal slots **5** beyond bracket **16**, allow convenient positioning of brackets **16** on top **14**. A wall plate **19**, forming a second support for cabinet **10**, is secured to said cabinet and is attached to a wall W.

Positioned within cabinet **10** are telescoping bars **21**, 22 and **23**. As will be seen, bar **21** accommodates straight ties or the like, bar **22** accommodates preformed neckwear, such as ties, and bar **23** accommodates pre-formed bow ties.

With reference to FIGS. 2A and 2B, a detailed description of the telescoping bars will now be presented. Bars **21** and **22** are similar and hence this description will refer only to bar **21**; however, it is understood that

the description is equally applicable to bar **22**. As shown in FIG. 2A, bar **21** is telescopingly built into top **14** by means of T-shaped guideway **25**. Bar **21** comprises a plurality of horizontally collapsible sections, such as **26** and **27**, telescopingly interfitting with each other by means of T-shaped guideway **28**. It is understood that there may be any number of telescoping sections and the two shown in FIG. 2A are by way of illustration only and are not intended as a limitation thereof. Neckties T are supported on the bar **21** by mounting plate assembly **29** which is secured to bar **21** by a screw or other securing means **30**. The guideways **25** and **28** are shown to be T-shaped or shouldered, but may be any other functional shape within the broad aspects of the invention.

Telescoping bar **23** for pre-formed bow ties is shown in FIG. 2B. The bar **23**, like bars **21** and **22**, is collapsible and comprises telescoping section **31** slidingly mounted within telescoping section **32** by guideway **33**. Bow ties are supported on bar **23** by individual mounting plates or flanges **51** longitudinally spaced along and attached thereto. Bar **23** is conveniently mounted on the inside of one side wall **12** of the cabinet **10** by means of trackway **34** which forms the guideway **35**.

Telescoping bar **21** is shown in the partially extended (cut-away) position in FIG. **3**. Bar **21**, like bars **22** and **23**, is extended by means of an arcuate finger loop **36** attached to the innermost section **27**, said loop being adapted to be engaged by the forefinger and thumb of the user in the obvious manner. Full extension of section **27** without separation from section **26** is insured by stop assembly **37**. A stop finger **38** of the assembly is attached to telescoping section **27** and contacts a washer abutment **39** on telescoping section **26** upon full extension of the bar **21**. The position of stop assembly **37** is selected to allow a prescribed amount of extension of bar **21**, i.e., as the section **27** is pulled out to its fullest extent, the section **27** on which the ties are carried, is extended beyond the door jamb of the cabinet to allow convenient display and thus easy selection of ties. Note, for example in FIG. **1**, the positioning of the section **31** of the bar **23** in the fully accessible position outside the cabinet **10**. Note that each section of the bars **21–23** remains supported by a substantial length of the cooperating adjacent section so that said bar remains sturdy in all positions.

As seen in FIG. **1**, bar **23** has a stop assembly **37'** similar to stop means **37**. Stop finger **38'** mounted on telescoping bar **23** engages abutment stop **39'** upon full extension of bar **23**.

The telescoping bars provide several important features to the cabinet **10**. First, the bars are easily constructed thereby providing simplicity of design and construction to the cabinet. Simplicity, while enhancing the attractiveness of the cabinet, more importantly, reduces the unit cost of construction of said cabinet. Simplicity of construction also provides compactness to the cabinet. Because no complicated mechanical parts are required, the various components of the cabinet **10** operate smoothly. Furthermore, the compact design of the component parts of the cabinet also allows more space for the storage of the neckwear itself, providing maximum usage of available space. The cabinet therefore provides storage for a relatively large number of ties. Third, but perhaps most important, the telescoping bars provide a simple, effective and convenient means of allowing selection of a particular necktie without disturbing other neckwear also stored in the cabinet.

The tie or neckwear mounting plates that are carried on the bars **21–23** are best shown in FIGS. **4A**, **4B** and **4C**. Hangers **40** are attached to the depending plate **29** on the section **27** (see FIG. 2A) and are designed to support straight four-in-hand ties, denoted by reference character T, as shown in FIG. **4A**. The hangers **40**, fabricated of plastic, steel or the like, extend approximately horizontal, as shown in FIG. **1**, and have a bent-up end to retain ties T in the position shown in FIG. **4A**. Hangers **40** also provide a convenient means for storing the Western style string ties or conventional untied bow ties as well as any other hanging type neckwear.

As seen in FIG. **4A**, the plate **29** is approximately Z-shaped having horizontal sections **41** and **42** and vertical sections **43** and **44**. The hanger assembly is attached to telescoping section **27** of bar **21** along horizontal section **41** of said hanger assembly. As shown, hangers **40** or hanger elements are attached to plate **29** on vertical section **44**. The preferred embodiment of plate **29**, shown in FIG. **4A**, comprises two hangers **40** in a column, however, any number may be chosen to form a column. The column may be staggered along the length of the section **27**, as shown in FIG. **1**.

Pre-formed hanging neckwear such as ties C having clip **45**, whereby said tie may be attached to the collar of a shirt, are stored on telescoping bar **22** by means, such as chip-like plates **46**, shown in FIG. **4B**. Clip **45** attaches to mounting aperture **47** of the plate **46**. Rings **49** fit into attaching holes **48** and thereby attach plate **46** to a telescoping section of bar **22** so that swinging action takes place. This allows variation in space for each of the ties and manual separation for better observation. The shape of plate **46** may be that shown in FIG. **4B**, oval, circular or any other decorative shape. Thus with these two bars **21, 22**, the two most popular types of ties may be stored together, but readily accessible. By supporting ties T and C vertically, the ties are stored in such a manner as to not only remain wrinkle-free, but actually allow wrinkles to be "hung out" during storage.

Pre-formed bow ties, such as D, which include elongated clip **50** to fasten a tie to the collar of a shirt are stored in cabinet **10** on mounting plates **51**, as shown in FIG. **4C**. The mounting plates **51** are attached to the remaining telescoping bar **23**, as shown in FIGS. **1**, **2B** and **4C**. Mounting plate **51** is approximately U-shaped having flared ends **52** and **53**. For convenience in selecting ties, plate **51** is attached on one side perpendicular to bar **23**, but at a slight angle to the vertical. This allows the upper portion of each bow tie D to be exposed sufficiently in view to identify the color and pattern when the bar **23** is withdrawn from the cabinet **10**. Flared end **52** prohibits the ties from slipping off plate **51** and flared end **53** serves as the attaching means for the mounting plate **51**. The clip **50** of the tie D attaches to plate **51** thereby mounting the ties D in the position shown in FIG. **4C**. The mounting of the bar **23** along the side **12** (FIG. **1**) and below the ties C that are shorter than the four-in-hand ties T, makes the most effective use of space provided by cabinet **10**. Any size bow tie may easily be accommodated on bar **23**, from the small button-type ties to the "mod" jumbo ties that are now becoming popular.

As shown in FIG. **1**, cabinet **10** is conveniently mounted on a supporting bar B (such as a closet clothes

bar B or the like) by means of brackets **16.** A bracket **16** is shown enlarged in FIG. **5.** Bracket **16** is wedge-shape, having side faces **60,** top **62** and end **64.** A semi-circular passage **65** is positioned near end **64.** An elongated slot **66** is positioned in the top **62** near apex **67** of wedge-shaped bracket **16.** The slot **66** is elongated to allow adjustment of bolt **17** and nut **18** to accommodate various diameter bars. Also, as the distance between bar B and adjacent wall W (see FIG. **1**) may vary, the elongated shape of slot **66** permits expeditious installation of cabinet **10** by allowing a simple lengthwise compensation or adjustment of bracket **16.**

Because of the adjustable feature provided by bracket **16,** and because face **63** of bracket **16** need not be exactly flush with top **14** along the entire length thereof, passage **65** will accommodate any diameter of bar B without modification of bracket **16.**

In operation, a straight tie T may be selected by grasping the loop **36** and extending telescoping bar **21.** The innermost telescoping section **27** extends out beyond the plane of the door opening (at the door jamb) to its fully extended length, thereby presenting the entire selection of ties T for easy view and access. The stop assembly **37** maintains a substantial portion of the section **27** within the section **26** and prevents further extension of bar **21** after the maximum desirable extension thereof. After selection, pushing force is exerted on the loop **36** to return the bar **21.** With telescoping bar **21** back in position, door **13** may easily be closed to protect the ties. The operation of bars **22** and **23** are similar to the above-described operation of bar **21.**

In summary, a cabinet **10** has been provided for storing a selection of neckwear or ties T, C, D of diverse types. Each type is separately mounted on its own telescoping bar **21–23** and all ties are easily accessible outside the cabinet **10** when the bars are extended. The cabinet **10** is attached by at a least one adjustable bracket **16** and stabilized by a wall bracket **19.**

In this disclosure, there is shown and described only the preferred embodiment of the invention, but as aforementioned, it is to be understood that the invention is capable of use in various other combinations and environment and is capable of changes or modifications within the scope of the inventive concept as expressed herein.

I claim:

1. A neckwear support and display cabinet comprising a plurality of guideways mounted in said cabinet, a plurality of telescoping bars slidably mounted in said guideways, each of said bars including at least two interfitting sections, means for supporting neckwear connected to said bars, said supporting means comprising at least a first set of hangers connected to one bar for hanging a first type of neckwear and a second set of different hangers connected to another bar for a second different type of neckwear, and mounting means for said cabinet, the neckwear supporting sections of said telescoping bars being individually extendable outside said cabinet whereby a relatively large volume of diverse neckwear may be stored and neckwear types individually displayed for selection, wherein said mounting means includes at least one mounting bracket for engaging a clothes rod in a closet, said mounting bracket being elongated and including a transverse cutout to receive said clothes rod, said bracket containing a longitudinal slot, and fastening means extending through said slot for adjustably attaching said cabinet to said brackets.

2. A neckwear cabinet as recited in claim **1** wherein said interfitting sections are substantially T-shaped in cross section.

* * * * *