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2,069,333

PACKAGE STRUCTURE

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FIG. 1

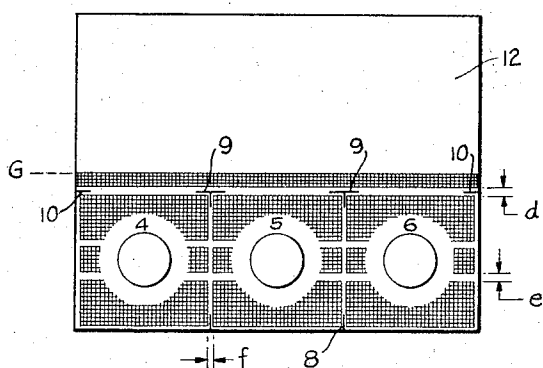


FIG. 2

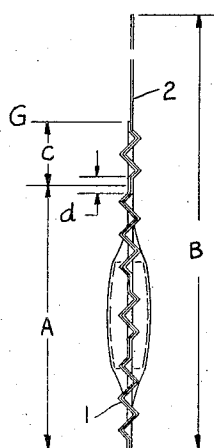


FIG. 3

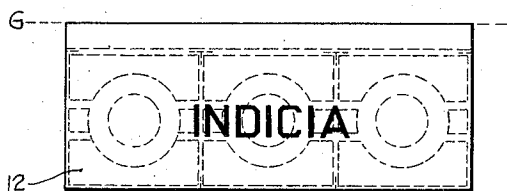


FIG. 4



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5 Claims. (Cl. 206—56)

This invention pertains in general to commodity packaging and specifically relates to a form of combined cover and package structure.

One of the objects of my invention consists in providing a package construction of sheets of different size for producing a package having a cover and/or indicia sheet.

Another object of my invention comprises producing a package structure fabricated of sheets of differing material.

A further object consists in providing a composite package structure having a flexible extending cover portion contiguous with separably attached sealed commodity enclosure portions.

These and other objects will be apparent from the following, reference being had to the accompanying drawing in which like reference numerals designate corresponding parts throughout, and in which:

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of one embodiment of the package structure of my invention in an extended position with the cover open;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged side view of the representation of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the representation of Fig. 1 with the cover closed; and

Fig. 4 is a side view of the representation of Fig. 3.

My invention contemplates the provision of a commodity-containing package structure particularly characterized in ease of fabrication and inexpensive construction. This package consists of a plurality of sealed commodity-containing enclosures and an accompanying indicia instruction and cover sheet embraced in a compact and unitary package structure composed of a minimum amount of package material and made with a minimum of manufacturing operations. In the construction of a preferred embodiment of this package, I provide a pair of sheets of packaging material, one sheet being substantially twice the area of the other. These two sheets are bound together in a single operation of packing and heat crimping processing to form a plurality of separate individually sealed commodity-containing enclosures retained by a common binding structure but separable therefrom for individual use. At the same time, an extending portion of one of the sheets serves as a cover and instruction sheet which is permanently associated with the binding structure to be retained until the package as a whole is completely used and discarded. One of the features resides in that the cover sheet which forms part of the package structure proper is composed of a material especially suited to

printing and differs from the material used in the remainder of the package. Although I show only two sheets in my present disclosure, it will be recognized that this is merely for purposes of illustration and that various numbers of sheets of various or similar materials can be employed without departing from the intended scope of my invention.

Referring to the drawing in detail, and particularly to Figs. 1 and 2, there is provided a sheet of coated viscose material 1 and another sheet of coated material 2. The sheet of material 1 may be composed of what is commercially known as "cellophane", while the sheet 2 may be composed of transparent paper which may have a heat treatment coating thereon. This paper is especially adapted for receiving and retaining printed impressions. The sheets 1 and 2 are bonded together in an interdigitating heat treatment to form a plurality of squares each having centrally positioned circular commodity-containing recesses 4, 5, and 6. The coating on the sheets 1 and 2 is melted during the heat process and the structure of the sheets is changed in crimped areas to become embrittled and more susceptible to tearing than the areas which are not thus treated.

An area "C" of interdigitated heat treated bond is provided extending along and adjacent the squares having the recesses 4, 5, and 6, as will be apparent from the figures. This area serves as a permanent binding for the package as a whole. Between the area "C" and the squares having the recesses 4, 5, and 6, there is provided an area "d" in which no crimping occurs and which is co-extensive with the binding area "C". This area serves as a guide line to guide the tearing of the embrittled crimped areas in the removal of an article contained within one of the recesses 4, 5, or 6. Other guide line areas, one of which is designated at "f", extend perpendicular to the guide line represented by the area "d", and separate the squares having the recesses 4, 5, and 6 as will be apparent from Fig. 1. Further guide lines, represented by the areas "e", extend from the outside of each of the squares internally of the commodity-containing enclosures or recesses therein. In accordance with the principles of my invention, the two sheets 1 and 2 are perforated at points indicated at 8, 9, and 10 to form a separable connection for the squares so that they may be individually removed from the binding area "C" and from the package as a whole.

Referring to Fig. 2, it will be seen that after fabrication, the extent of the sheet 2 in one di-

rection, as represented by "B", is substantially twice that of the extent of the article enclosing area, represented by "A", plus the binding area represented by "C". The extending portion 12 of the sheet 2 is folded along the line "G" and serves as a cover for the package as well as for indicia purposes. Figs. 3 and 4 show the appearance of the package when the extending portion 12 of sheet 1 is folded over to serve as a cover indicia sheet. Upon this extending portion 12 of sheet 1 various printed instructions and/or advertisements can be placed inasmuch as the material of this sheet is particularly adapted for receiving and retaining such printed indicia.

15 Various articles may be placed within the commodity-containing recesses. For example, the recesses 4, 5, and 6 may each be supplied with a pharmaceutical article such as a pill, and the extended portion 12 of the sheet 2 provided with dosage instructions for the use of these pills. The consumer may then remove the individual squares and the individual pills from each recess from time to time as required by the instructions on the extending cover portion 12 of the sheet 1. It will be seen therefore that the package as a whole retains its identity and form while the individual articles may be separately removed with great ease. It will be recognized that this form of package structure is particularly well adapted for high speed package manufacturing since the entire packaging operation can be accomplished in a continuous strip-feeding process.

Although I have shown a single line of squares for commodity-containing recesses therein, it will be recognized that several lines of such squares can be provided as well as additional sheets without departing from the intended scope of my invention. Further, various forms of material may be used for the sheet 2, such as metal foils and the like. When the sheet 2 is composed of a metal foil the package has a striking appearance and the enclosed articles are still visible through the transparent sheet 1. Such forms of package structure are clearly within the intended scope of my invention. I do not therefore desire to limit

myself to any special details except as pointed out in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A package structure composed of opposed layers of sheet material of unequal width interdigitated to form a plurality of commodity-containing separably inter-joined envelope portions, and having an area of the wider sheet extending beyond that occupied by said commodity-containing envelope portions to form a cover for said commodity-containing envelope portions, said envelope portions being individually detachable without mutilation of said cover.

2. A package structure in accordance with claim 1 including a common binding ridge extending between said cover and said envelope portions and to which said commodity-containing envelope portions are separably joined for individual removal therefrom.

3. A package structure in accordance with claim 1 in which said opposed layers are of different materials, the narrower of which is transparent and the other of which is especially adapted for receiving and retaining printed indicia.

4. As a new article of manufacture, a package structure composed of opposed layers of coated viscose material, one of said layers being substantially twice the width of the other layer, the narrower of said layers being interdigitated with the other of said layers to form a series of commodity-containing envelope portions as well as an interdigitated bonding ridge extending along said commodity-containing envelope portions and between said portions and the extending area of said wider layer to serve as a binding and fold-over ridge portion centrally disposed of said wider layer whereby said extending area may serve as a cover and indicia sheet for said commodity-containing envelope portions.

5. A package structure in accordance with claim 4 in which said commodity-containing envelope portions are bounded by perforated areas and guide lines for facilitating the directed tearing of the interdigitated areas of said material.

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