May 2, 1933. E. H. JOHNSON 1,906,611

TEMPLATE FOR DOORLOCKS

Filed March 14, 1930

Fig. 1

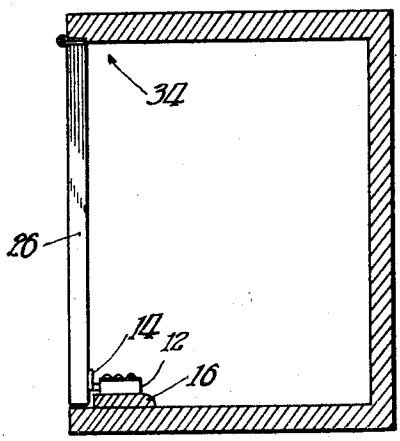


Fig. 2

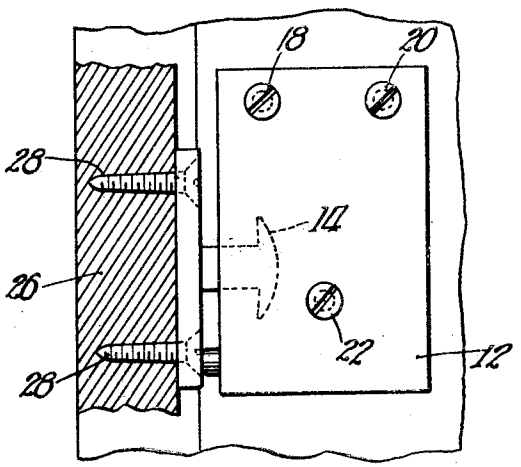


Fig. 3

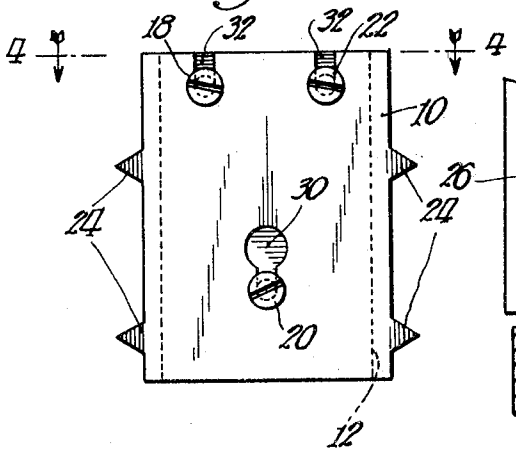
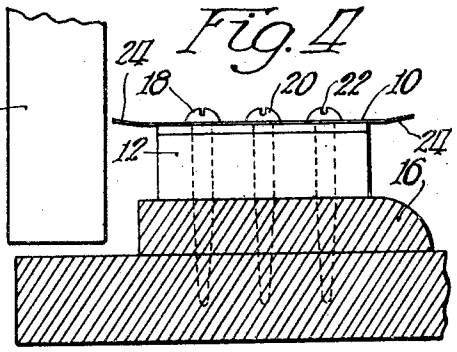


Fig. 4



Inventor

Elwin H. Johnson

By Freeman and Sweet Attys.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ELVIN H. JOHNSON, OF WINNETKA, ILLINOIS

TEMPLATE FOR DOORLOCKS

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My invention relates to builders' hardware and includes among its objects and advantages improved convenience and facility in the correct installation of secret door latches.

A secret door latch comprises cooperating means carried by a fixed member, such as a box or cabinet, and a movable member, such as a pivoted panel or door, for holding the door or panel in closed position and for releasing the same without any means of acuating the parts to effect release other than a predetermined movement of the movable member itself. In recent years storage means of this sort have become increasingly popular.

In the assembly of such a device, after one of the portions of the device itself has been fastened in place on the fixed member, it is necessary to fasten the other portion on the movable member in position to register accurately with the previously mounted portion when the movable member is fastened. Often the inside surface of the movable member is only accessible when the member is open, and it becomes a difficult and, except to an experienced cabinet maker, an almost impossible task to find the correct position for fastening the other portion of the device.

In the accompanying drawing, Fig. 1 is a horizontal section through a box or cabinet equipped with a secret door latch. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the parts carried by the door and cabinet when the door is in closed position. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the housing and a template applied thereto, and Fig. 4 is a view, as on horizontal line 4—4 of Fig. 3, indicating the use of the template.

In the selected embodiment of apparatus according to the invention, there is provided a template 10 by means of which the housing 12 and the hook 14 can both be located with convenience and accuracy.

In proceeding according to the invention, I first locate the housing 12 in place on the stop strip 16. In doing this, the only dimension that need be at all accurately measured is the distance from the front of the housing to the front edge of the stop strip. The template 10 is placed with one vertical edge flush with the edge of the stop strip and the holes in the template indicate the positions for the screws to mount the housing 12, which is held in place by three wood screws 18, 20 and 22. The template is now laid over the housing, and the template and housing are mounted together as indicated in Figs. 3 and 4. In this position the prongs 24 of the template are correctly positioned to indicate the positions for the screws for mounting the hook 14.

The movable element 26 may now be closed lightly against the template to form marks or indentations on its surface as a guide for mounting the hook 14. If the inner surface of the door happens to be too rough for ready identification of the indentations formed by the prongs 24, it may readily be smoothed with sandpaper or a plane, or a bit of paper may be pasted over it to receive the impressions of the prongs. After the impressions are formed, it is a simple matter to open the door and put in the fastening screws 28 at the points indicated by the indentations. The template is removed and discarded and the assembly is complete.

I have illustrated a keyhole slot at 30 for the lower central screw 20, and open-ended slots 32 for the upper screws 18 and 22 so that the template can be removed by merely loosening the screws without removing them.

While the latching mechanism in the housing 12 is capable of functioning either end up, I prefer to mount it with the screw 20 lowermost in all instances. If the door 26 were hinged at the other side, the housing 12 would need to be located in the corner indicated by the arrow 34 and would be mounted with its other face against the fixed structure 16. By providing the template with duplicate prongs 24 on opposite sides, a single template may be packaged with each complete device and will serve its purpose in installing the device in any desired position.

Without further elaboration, the foregoing will so fully explain my invention that others may, by applying knowledge current at the time of application, readily adapt the

same for use under various conditions of service.

I claim:

1. A template for use in installing a latching device, comprising a body provided with openings to locate the fastening means for one portion of a latching device, the body being adapted to be superposed on said portion and to be secured thereto by the same fastening means entering said openings, said body having means projecting from one of its edges for locating the fastening means for the other portion of the latching device.

2. A template for use in installing a latching device, comprising a body provided with openings to locate the fastening means for one portion of a latching device, the body being adapted to be superposed on said portion and to be secured thereto by the same fastening means entering said openings, said body having points projecting from one of its edges for locating the fastening means for the other portion of the latching device, said points being duplicated symmetrically on the opposite edge of the body.

3. A template for use in installing a latching device, comprising a body having slots therethrough arranged to locate fastening screws for one portion of a latching device and an edge arranged to register with a predetermined line for spacing said slots a predetermined distance from said line, said body being shaped to be thereafter superposed on said portion and secured thereto by the same fastening screws entering said slots, said body having a pointed edge for locating the fastening means for the other portion of the latching device when said body is superposed on said first portion.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

ELVIN H. JOHNSON.