

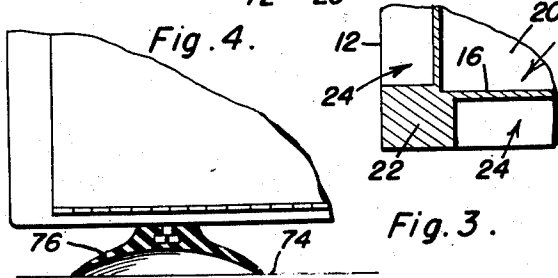
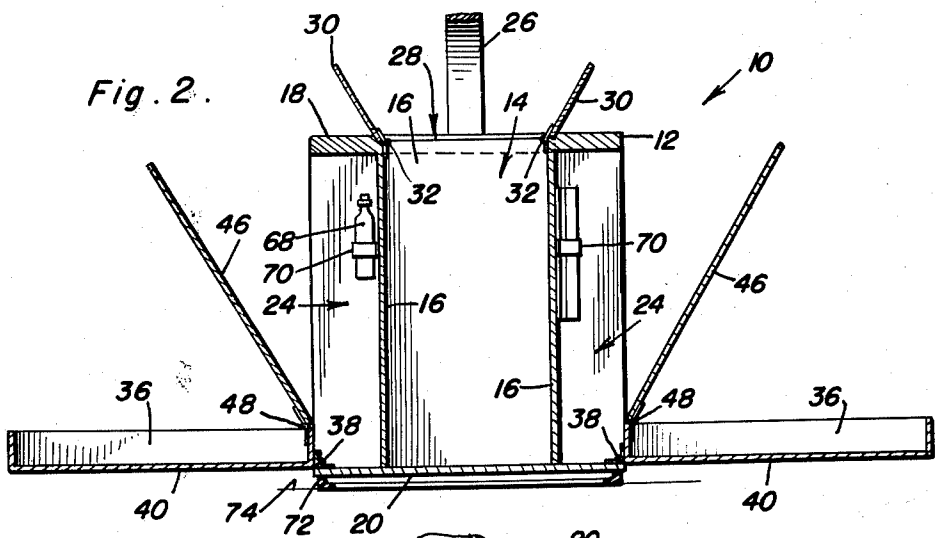
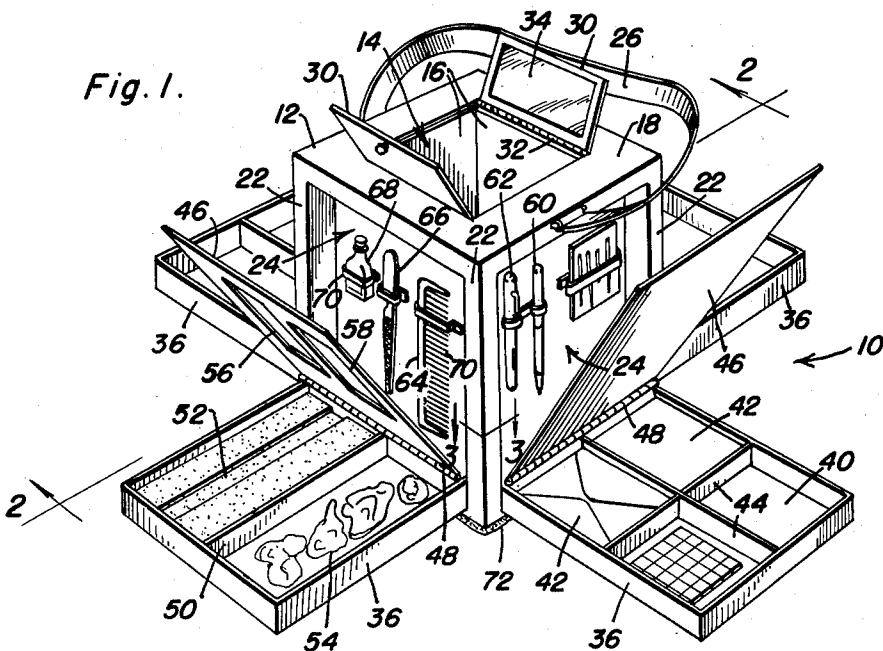
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CABINET

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CABINET

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1 Claim. (Cl. 312—285)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements and structural refinements in handbags, and the principal object of the invention is to facilitate convenient and unobtrusive carrying of various personal articles, stationary, garments, etc., while travelling.

This object is achieved by the provision of the instant handbag assuming the form of a case fitted with suitably proportioned receptacles or containers so that they are well adapted for the reception of the various articles as above outlined.

An important feature of the invention, therefore, resides in the particular structural arrangement of the handbag, and another feature of the invention involves the provision of means for securing the handbag to a suitable supporting surface while the bag is being used.

Some of the advantages of the invention reside in its simplicity of construction, pleasing appearance, convenient use, and in its adaptability to economical manufacture.

With the above more important objects and features in view and such other objects and features as may become apparent as this specification proceeds, the invention consists essentially of the arrangement and construction of parts as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the invention;

Figure 2 is a cross sectional view, taken substantially in the plane of the line 2—2 in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a cross sectional view, taken substantially in the plane of the line 3—3 in Figure 1, and

Figure 4 is a fragmentary elevational view showing a modified embodiment of the invention.

Like characters of reference are employed to designate like parts in the specification and throughout the several views.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings in detail, the invention consists of a handbag designated generally by the reference character 10, the same embodying in its construction a box-like housing or case 12 having a hollow center portion defining what may be called a receptacle 14. This receptacle is bordered by the side walls 16 which are set in from the perimetric edges of the housing and are suitably secured to the top and bottom 18, 20 respectively, of the housing, as will be clearly apparent. It will be also noted that the top 18 and the bottom 20 are connected together by suitable corner posts 22, this combined structure resulting in the formation of rectangular recesses 24 in the sides of the housing, as is best shown in Figure 1.

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The entire handbag may be conveniently carried by means of a suitable shoulder strap 26 having its ends secured to the upper portion of the housing 12, and it will be noted that the top 18 is formed with a rectangular opening 28 (see Figure 2) so that access may be had to the receptacle 14. A pair of coacting doors 30 are hinged as at 32 to the top 18 and constitute closure means for the receptacle 14, and if desired, the inner surfaces of the doors 30 may be equipped with suitable mirrors, one of which is indicated at 34 in Figure 1. The receptacle 14 is intended to accommodate easily foldable garments such as lingerie, hose, etc., and may also be employed to receive small packages while shopping, and the like.

A plurality of tray-shaped containers 36 are hinged at one edge thereof as at 38 to the bottom 20 of the housing 12, these containers being swingable in and out of the recesses 24 in such manner that when they are disposed in the recesses, the bottoms 40 of the containers constitute outside walls of the housing 12. The various containers 36 are intended to accommodate relatively flat articles, such as for example, stationery as indicated at 42 in the right hand portion of Figure 1. To this end, the containers may be fitted with suitable partitions 44 so as to provide a plurality of compartments, substantially as shown.

Moreover, the containers 36 may be provided with flat covers 46 which are hinged at one edge to the containers as at 48, and it will be noted that in addition to their primary purpose of providing closures for the containers 36 when the latter are disposed in the recesses 24, the covers 46 may also be used in the nature of a "table top" for writing purposes etc.

If desired, one of the containers 36 may be partitioned as indicated at 50 in the left hand portion of Figure 1, so as to provide a compartment for a stack of interfolded, disposable tissues 52, and a further compartment for used tissues, indicated at 54. The cover 46 of this particular container may be formed with a pair of elongated openings or slots 56, 58, the former functioning as a tissue dispensing slot while the latter facilitates insertion of used tissues into the appropriate compartment. When the supply of tissues 52 becomes exhausted, a new stack may be inserted in the appropriate compartment by simply opening the associated cover. Needless to say, the stack of tissues should first be removed from the usual container in which they are supplied to the purchaser.

The "thickness" of the containers 36 is some-

what less than the "depth" of the recesses 24, so that when the containers are disposed in the recesses, a space will exist between the containers and adjacent walls 16. This space may be utilized for the reception of various small personal articles as exemplified at 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, etc., these articles being removably receivable in suitable clamps 70 secured or provided on the walls 16.

If desired, one of the containers 36 may be compartmented for the storage of cigarettes, matches, etc. and for the reception of cigarette butts, ashes, and other waste, thus rendering the invention of convenience when smoking where usual smoking facilities are not available.

In order to prevent the handbag from becoming accidentally or unintentionally displaced while it is being used, the bottom 20 thereof may be provided at its perimetric edges with a rim of resiliently compressible material such as rubber, or the like, indicated at 72. When the handbag so equipped is positioned upon a flat supporting surface 74 this rim will define what may be called a suction chamber, whereby the handbag will be securely retained on the surface 74 by atmospheric pressure. Needless to say, in order to facilitate such retention, downward pressure should be exerted upon the handbag so as to compress the rim 72 and thereafter permit it to expand.

The modified embodiment of the invention illustrated fragmentarily in the accompanying Figure 4 is substantially the same as the embodiment already described, with exception that a plurality of conventional suction cups 76 are used on the bottom of the handbag in place of the aforementioned rim 72.

It is believed that the advantages and use of the invention will be clearly apparent from the foregoing disclosure and accordingly, further description thereof at this point is deemed unnecessary.

While in the foregoing there has been shown and described the preferred embodiment of this invention, it is to be understood that minor changes in the details of construction, combination and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

An article storage cabinet comprising a rectangular housing including a bottom wall, a top wall provided with a rectangular opening spaced inwardly from the edges of the top wall, and a set of vertical partitions extending between the top and bottom walls at the edges of said opening whereby to separate the interior of the housing into a central receptacle open at the top thereof and a plurality open sided recesses around said receptacle, closure means provided for and coextensive with said opening, tray-shaped containers hinged at their lower edges to marginal edges of said bottom and receivable in the respective recesses, said containers having bottom panels constituting side walls of said housing when the containers are in their closed positions, and covers hingedly connected to the respective containers and swingable upwardly toward said housing when the containers are swung outwardly and downwardly from said recesses.

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