

July 30, 1940.

B. F. CALDWELL

2,209,318

CLIP

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Fig. 1.

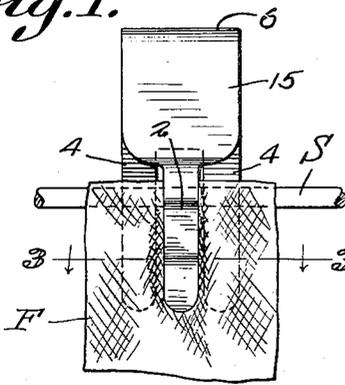


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

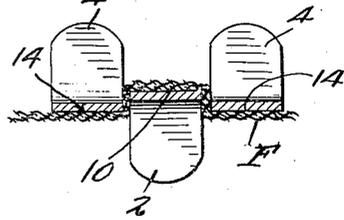


Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.

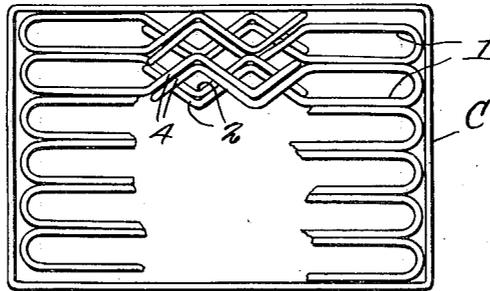


Fig. 6.

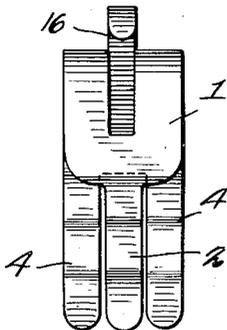


Fig. 7.

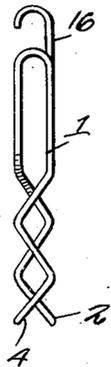
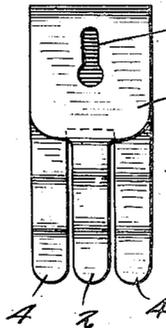


Fig. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,209,318

CLIP

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Application May 17, 1938, Serial No. 208,478

1 Claim. (Cl. 24—259)

This invention relates to a clip designed for holding articles to be displayed from a supporting wire, rod or the like, for fastening clothing to supporting lines, and for like purposes, one of the objects being to provide a simple and inexpensive device of this character adapted to be produced from a ribbon of resilient metal without undesirable waste of material, the resultant article being compact, easily nested for packing purposes and having no parts likely to injure the fabrics or the like engaged thereby.

It is a further object to provide a clip of this type which, when mounted on a supporting line or rod, can swing freely thereon and at the same time firmly grip the engaged object so that it cannot be pulled therefrom without first being released from the gripping action of the clip.

A still further object is to provide an article of this character which does not require the use of supplemental springs and, being made in one piece, avoids the use of rivets or the like, welding, etc.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists of certain novel details of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter more fully described and pointed out in the claim, it being understood that changes may be made in the construction and arrangement of parts without departing from the spirit of the invention as claimed.

In the accompanying drawing the preferred forms of the invention have been shown.

In said drawing:

Figure 1 is a front elevation showing the clip in use for holding a fabric to a supporting line.

Figure 2 is a side elevation thereof, the line being shown in section.

Figure 3 is a section on line 3—3, Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a plan view of the blank from which one of the clips is formed.

Figure 5 is a plan view of a box or other container and showing clips nested therein, some of the clips being broken away.

Figure 6 is a front elevation of a modified form of clip.

Figure 7 is a side elevation thereof.

Figure 8 is an elevation of another modified form.

In manufacturing the clip herein described it is preferred to stamp the blanks from a ribbon of resilient metal, the metal being preferably of such a nature as not to stain or otherwise discolor fabrics when placed in contact therewith.

In Figure 4 a portion of this ribbon has been indicated by broken lines at R.

In forming a blank it is intended to cut it longitudinally of the ribbon as indicated in Figure 4, the body 1 being of the same width as the ribbon while from the center of the body at one end is extended a tongue 2. The formation of this tongue produces an elongated slot in one end of the next adjoining blank and this slot in the clip has been indicated at 3. It is intended to round the ends of the members 4 formed at the sides of the slot and also to round the free end of tongue 2 as well as the shoulders 5 at the base of the tongue.

Following the formation of the blank the same is folded transversely at the center to form an intermediate arch 6 and tongue 2 thus will be supported adjacent to the slot 3 as shown in Figure 1. This tongue is provided with two angular offsets 7 and 8 extending in opposite directions respectively, the offset 7 providing an angular seat 9 while the angle portion of the offset 8 forms a convex seat 10. The arms 4 at the sides of slot 3 are formed with transversely aligned angular offsets 11 and 12 extended in opposite directions respectively, the inner sides of the offset 11 providing concave seats 13 for cooperation with the concave seat 7 while the offset portions 12 provide convex seats 14 at the outer surfaces of their angles. The parts are so shaped that the offset portions 7 and 8 of tongue 2 extend through the slot 3 between the offset portions of the members 4. Thus the offset portions 7 and 11 cooperate to form a diamond-shaped opening designed to embrace a supporting line or rod while the offset portions 8 and 12 cooperate to form a smaller diamond-shaped opening across which the engaged fabric F or the like to be supported is adapted to be crimped by the gripping surfaces 10 and 14. Obviously the free ends of the members 4 and tongue 2 diverge so that when the clip is placed on a supporting line or the like, these diverging portions will straddle it and will cooperate with said line to spread apart the members of the clip when said clip is thrust downwardly onto the supporting element S.

Those portions of the clip between the offsets 7 and 11 and the arch 6 constitute the handle portion of the clip, the members of this handle portion being indicated at 15.

Should it be desired to fasten a fabric or other material to the support S, said fabric, F, after being placed over the support, can be quickly engaged and held by first pressing the sides 15

of the clip toward each other. This causes the offset portion of the tongue 2 and members 4 to move apart so as to provide a clearance between them by shifting the angle portions 8 and 10 away from each other. Thus the clip can be readily placed astride the support S and the supported article until the support is brought into position between the offsets 9 and 11. The clip is then released and the members 4 and tongue 2 will spring back to normal positions. Portions of the engaged article would be pressed in opposite directions respectively by the bearing surfaces 10 and 14 so that the article thus will be crimped as shown particularly in Figures 2 and 3 and as the two thicknesses of the article are thus crimped, it is impossible to pull the article from the support and the clip. Furthermore, as the support S and that portion of the fabric engaging the support are not gripped by the clip, said clip and the engaged article are free to rotate about the support as, for example, when subjected to the action of strong air currents.

Importance is attached to the locking action resulting from the three-point contact between the clip and the engaged article. The gripping action has been found to be so effective that it is not only possible to properly support fabrics by means of these clips but also heavier flexible articles, such as felt hats, and the like, can be properly engaged and supported for display purposes, etc.

Obviously the clip can be made of any desired size and materials to meet the requirements.

By shaping the clip as described, it becomes possible to nest a number of them in a comparatively small space, as shown in Figure 5. This

is particularly important because of the reduction in the cost of packing, storing, and shipping large quantities. In Figure 5 a container for holding nested clips has been indicated at C.

Under some conditions it might be desirable to suspend the clips from supports without placing them astride thereof. For this purpose a hook 16 could be struck from the body portion of the clip as shown in Figures 6 and 7 or, if desired, a slot 17 for receiving a supporting nail or the like could be formed in one side of the clip as in Figure 8.

What is claimed is:

A one-piece clip comprising a length of flat resilient metal folded transversely between its ends to provide an elongated compressible handle having flat sides, one end of said strip having a central longitudinal slot provided with side members, a tongue extending from the other end of the strip supported adjacent to and longitudinally of the slot, said tongue and the members each having oppositely extending angular offsets, the offset portions of the tongue being extended through those portions of the slot between the offset portions of the side members, each offset in the tongue being disposed oppositely to the corresponding offset in the side members and all of the offsets cooperating normally to form transverse angular openings between the tongue and members, said clip being so proportioned that when two or more similar clips are assembled therewith side by side, the offset portions of one clip will fit back of the corresponding offset portions of the next adjoining clip and the flat faces of the adjoining clip will fit together.

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