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(54) **SELF-APPLICABLE INTEGRATED HAIR ADDITION**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

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This version of the invention is concerned with the field of devices and that provide the appearance of longer or thicker hair and more specifically, a self-applicable integrated hair addition having a central opening therethrough which is adapted to be intermingled with the natural hair of a wearer to supplement it in those areas which ordinarily are thin or thinning due to hair loss or other causes. A foundation having a substantially elliptical configuration is structured to fit in overlying relation adjacent a frontal portion of the head of the wearer and an extension portion formed of light, flexible material structured for ventilation of the natural hair of the wearer therethrough extends rearwardly of the foundation into the central opening to add additional body to the natural styling of hair and versatility by providing additional hair capable of extending over a greater portion of the natural hair of the wearer. Supplemental hair, either natural or artificial, of selected color, texture, length and style are attached to the wefts of the construction.

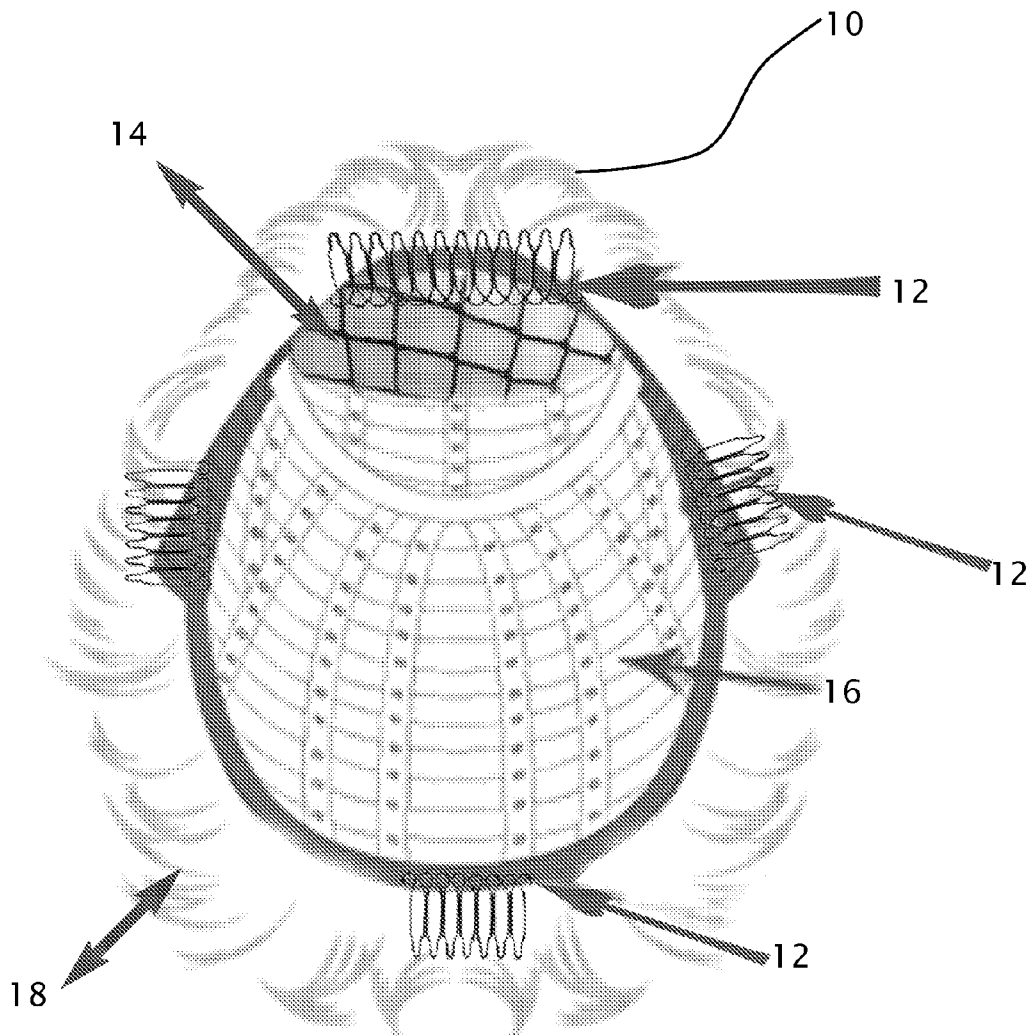


FIG. 1

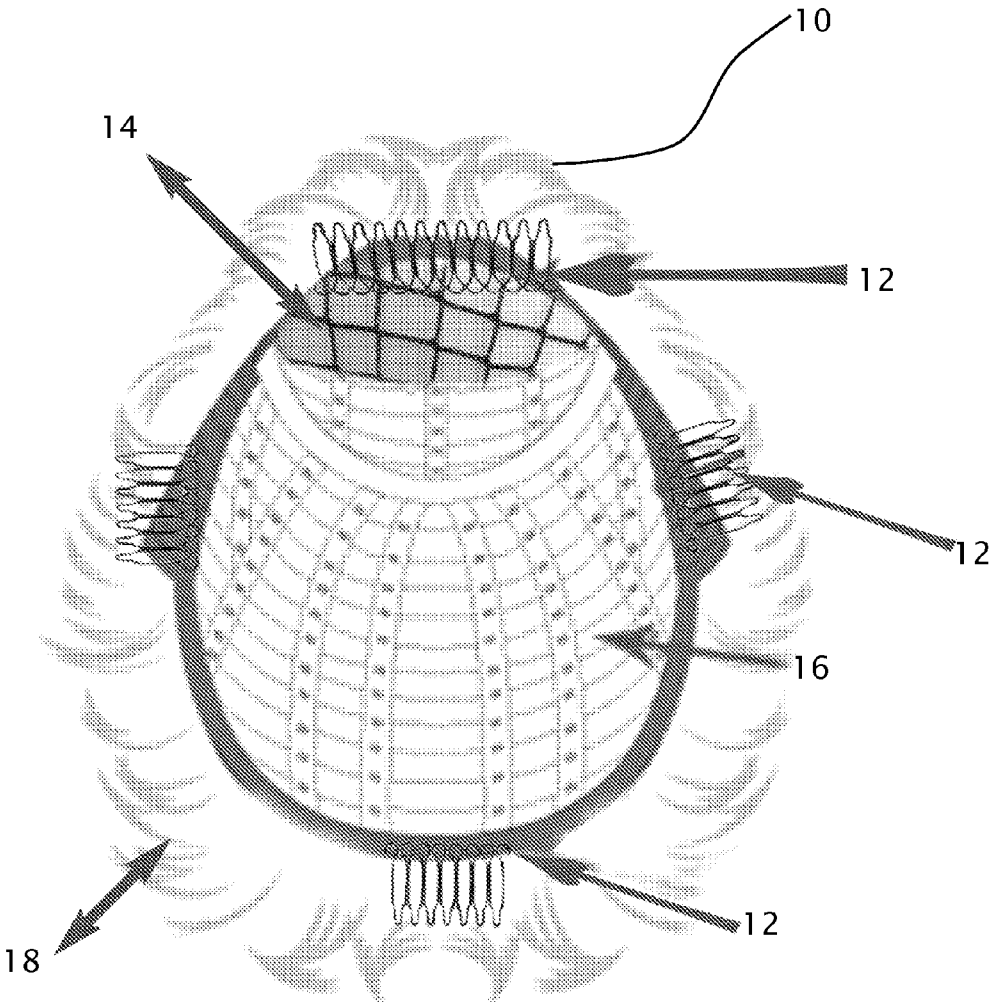


FIG. 2



SELF-APPLICABLE INTEGRATED HAIR ADDITION

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0001] 1. Field of the Invention

[0002] My invention relates to a partial self applicable integrated hair addition of the type specifically structured to position attached hair on top of the head of a wearer in such a manner that it can be intermingled with the natural hair of the wearer, thereby allowing for greater versatility of hair styling or for covering thin hair portions of the scalp of the wearer.

[0003] It is a common desire among many people to acquire hair that is longer and thicker than that which they poses for a variety of reasons. As hair grows at the rate of approximately less than one inch per month, many people find that it is exceedingly difficult to acquire a contemporary hairstyle in a reasonable time. Even when someone poses hair of substantial length, the hair may lack thickness or overall volume to achieve a desirable hairstyle. Various devices and techniques are available in the prior art and in the marketplace that attempt to satisfy the need and desire for longer and thicker hair. A common well known is a wig. Although wigs provide a quick and simple means to achieve longer hair, they do not present a fully natural appearance, a condition that leads to their recognition when they are being worn. More recently, a variety of more natural hair enhancement techniques have become popular with a variety of users. These consists of hair weaves, hair extensions, hair braiding and the like, whereby natural or synthetic hair is attached to the scalp or existing hair of a wearer by a variety of techniques in order to provide the appearance of longer, thicker hair without the noticeable artifice of a wig.

[0004] These techniques and systems, which overcome the obvious disadvantage of a wig, also suffer from several many drawbacks as they are relatively expensive and time consuming to acquire and frequently discomfit the wearer during application as well as it may be difficult to maintain. Many other hair additions or enhancements require the assistance of a hair stylists to apply such as where my invention is self applicable.

[0005] 2. Description of the Prior Art

[0006] Numerous designs, devices, and methods for lengthening and enhancement have been provided in the prior art. Even though these designs may be suitable for the specific individual purposes to which they address, they would not be suitable for the purposes of the present version of the invention as they involve relatively elaborate and time consuming techniques and methods as referenced earlier. These techniques are exemplified by U.S. Pat. No. 5,072,745, Hair Extension Process, issued to Cheh on Dec. 17, 1991; U.S. Pat. No. 5,107,867, Process for Extending Human Hair, issued to Barrington on Apr. 28, 1999. U.S. Pat. No. 5,868,145, Hair Extension and Thickening process, issued to Spann on Feb. 9, 1999. U.S. Pat. No. 5,010,914, Wig, issued to Merges on Apr. 30, 1991, describes a device defining a plurality of plastic rods radiating outwardly from a central piece at the crown of the head. The prior art hair replacement devices described, while generally more comfortable than a full wig, have disadvantages. The materials used to construct the devices, in combination with the open frame work designs, typically cannot maintain their shape over time. Elastic materials sag because of the weight of the attached hair thereby preventing the device from fitting closely to the contour of the head.

[0007] As such, it may be appreciated that there is a continuing need for a new and improved method and device for providing the appearance of longer and thicker hair in a manner that is relatively simple and inexpensive to achieve. In these respects, the present version of the invention substantially departs from the conventional concepts and designs of the prior art, and in so doing provides an apparatus that substantially fulfills this need. Additionally, the prior patents and commercial techniques do not suggest the present inventive combination of component elements arranged and configured as disclosed herein.

[0008] The present invention achieves its intended purposes, objects, and advantages through a new, useful and unobvious combination of method steps and component elements, with the use of a minimum number of functioning parts, at a reasonable cost to manufacture and with the use of readily available materials.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0009] The present version of the invention, which will be described in greater detail hereinafter, relates to the field of devices and methods that provide the appearance of longer, thicker or highlighted hair. More specifically, this version of the invention is concerned with a hair attachment comprised of natural or synthetic hair that is releasably attached directly to the hair of a wearer to provide the wearer with the appearance of longer, thicker or highlighted hair. My version of the invention overcomes all of the shortcomings listed previously, in addition to novel aspects that will be described in detail hereinafter.

[0010] Described briefly, according to a typical embodiment, the invention presents a hair attachment device or hair addition that is releasably attached to the hair of a wearer in order to provide the appearance of longer, thicker fuller and or highlighted hair with out the use of chemicals that will cause damage to the wearers hair and or scalp. The self applicable hair addition thus allows the wearer to change the appearance of their hair without chemical damage in order to achieve fashion styles that use longer hair or simply to enhance their appearance by achieving particular hair designs heretofore impossible with out the aid of hair extension and or damaging chemicals. The self applicable integrated hair addition that is the subject of the instant invention consists of a quantity of natural or synthetic hair strands that are attached or secured at one end to a foundation constructed of coarsely woven and stiffened, relatively dense fabric material and which is adapted to be shaped so as to engage the frontal crown portion of the persons head with the sides extending downwardly and rearwardly adjacent the ears of the human head in a path which generally follows that of the hair line.

[0011] My invention, therefore, resides not in any one of these features perse, but rather in the particular combination of all of them herein disclosed. It is distinguished from the prior art in this particular combination of all of its structures for the functions specified as follows; can be used on those wearers who have sensitive scalps; for those wanting to achieve fuller, thicker hair with out the use of damaging solutions; for those whose crown hair line has receded due to age and or other factors, as well as for those who simply desire longer and or thicker hair.

[0012] In as much as the foregoing has outlined rather broadly the more pertinent and important features of the present invention in order that the detailed description of the invention that follows maybe better understood so that the

present contribution to the art can be more fully appreciated. Additional features of the invention will be described hereinafter. It should be appreciated by those skilled in the art that the conception and the disclosed specific method and structures may be readily utilized as a basis for modifying or designing other structures for carrying out the same purposes of the present invention. It should be realized by those skilled in the art that such equivalent methods and structures do not depart from the spirit and scope of the invention.

[0013] In this respect, before explaining at least one embodiment of the invention in detail, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited in its application to the details of construction and to the arrangements of the components set forth in the following description or illustrated in the drawings. The invention is capable of other embodiments and of being practiced and carried out in various ways. Also, it is to be understood that the phraseology and terminology employed herein are for the purpose of description and should not be regarded as limiting.

[0014] As such, those skilled in the art will appreciate that the conception, upon which this disclosure is based, may readily be utilized as a basis for the designing of other structures, methods and systems for carrying out the several purposes of the present invention.

[0015] Further, the purpose of the foregoing abstract is to enable the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the public generally, and especially the scientists, engineers and practitioners in the art who are not familiar with patent or legal terms or phraseology, to determine quickly from a cursory inspection the nature and essence of the technical disclosure of the application. The abstract is neither intended to define the invention of the application nor is it intended to be limiting as to the scope of the invention in any way.

[0016] Accordingly, it is an object of my version of the invention to provide an easy to use, comfortable to wear, no tension causing to the scalp or the wearers hair self applicable integrated hair addition.

[0017] A significant object of the invention is to provide a self applicable hair addition, where the wearers natural hair may be integrated thru the provided openings, therefore further securing the hair addition without the use of chemicals, glues or assistance of a hair stylists.

[0018] A another very significant object of the invention is to provide a self applicable integrated hair addition that provides the appearance of longer, thicker hair by overcoming the disadvantages of conventional hair enhancing and supplementing devices and techniques, such as wigs, hair weaves and braids.

[0019] A final but very important aspect of my invention is it designed to be placed on the crown of the wearers head therefore allowing the wearers natural hair line to appear, thus providing a realistic look and not that of a wig. In addition it is easily applied and removed by the wearer with the use of the tooth comb clips

[0020] For a better understanding of the invention, its operating advantages and the specific objects attained by its uses, reference should be made to the accompanying drawings and descriptive matter in which they are illustrated as preferred embodiment of the invention

[0021] The foregoing has outlined some of the more pertinent objects of the invention. These objects should be construed to be merely illustrative of some of the more prominent features and application of the present invention.

[0022] Accordingly, other objects and a fuller understanding of the invention may be had by referring to the summary of the invention and the detailed description of the preferred embodiment in addition to the scope of the invention illustrated by the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0023] The foregoing and other objects, feature and advantages of the invention will become more fully understood from the following description of the preferred embodiment of the invention as illustrated in the accompanying black and white illustrations in which like reference characters refer to the same parts throughout different views.

[0024] FIG. 1 is a detailed view illustration the various components of the Self applicable integrated hair addition.

[0025] FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the instant invention in position on the head of a wearer.

DRAWING REFERENCE NUMERALS

- [0026] 10 Self-Applicable Integrated Hair Addition
- [0027] 12 Securing Tooth Comb
- [0028] 14 Integration Openings at Crown Area
- [0029] 16 Supplemental Hair Wefts
- [0030] 18 Supplemental Hair
- [0031] 20 Wearers Natural Hair

I claim:

1. A self-applicable integrated hair addition designed to be partially integrated with the natural hair of a wearer comprising:
 - a construction which is at least primarily formed of adjacent wefts having openings therebetween, the openings being sufficient to form a pattern of openings over the crown of the foundation, at least most of which openings are of sufficient size to permit a cluster of the wearers natural hair which is to be integrated to be pulled there-through and having supplemental hair wefts attached to the rest of the foundation with little to no openings;
 - said construction having a perimeter, with at least one element on said perimeter which allows the foundation to be fitted onto the crown of the wearers head by the wearer and to be maintained on the wearers head; and supplemental hair of selected color, texture, length and style attached to the wefts of said foundation.
2. A self-applicable integrated hair addition as claimed in claim 1 wherein said at least one element includes a securing comb attached to at least a rear portion of said perimeter.
3. A self-applicable integrated hair addition as claimed in claim 1 wherein said openings in the crown construction of the foundation are of substantially uniform size over said crown construction.
4. A self-applicable integrated hair addition as claimed in claim 1 wherein said openings in the crown construction are larger in the crown areas of the construction and having little to no openings in the second and/or rest of the foundation.
5. A self-applicable integrated hair addition as claimed in claim 1 wherein each said opening has an area in a range of approximately 0.5 square inches to 2 square inches.
6. A self-applicable integrated hair addition as claimed in claim 4 wherein said crown areas of the construction are areas

at a top of the construction and/or foundation and wherein second areas are areas at a back and sides of the construction and/or foundation.

7. A self-applicable integrated hair addition as claimed in claim 1 wherein said second areas having supplemental hair wefts attached at one end with little to no openings.

8. A self-applicable integrated hair addition as claimed in claim 7 wherein said second areas having supplemental hair wefts attached being that of natural or synthetic hair fibers.

9. A self-applicable integrated hair addition as claimed in claim 1 wherein the wearer positions the said hair addition onto the crown of the head.

10. A self-applicable integrated hair addition as claimed in claim 1 wherein the integrated crown area of the construction is 2 square inches to 4 square inches.

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