

April 27, 1954

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RULING AND LETTERING GUIDE

2,676,410

Filed May 25, 1953

Fig. 1

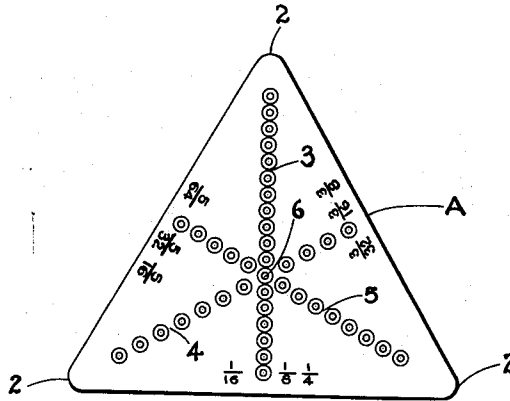
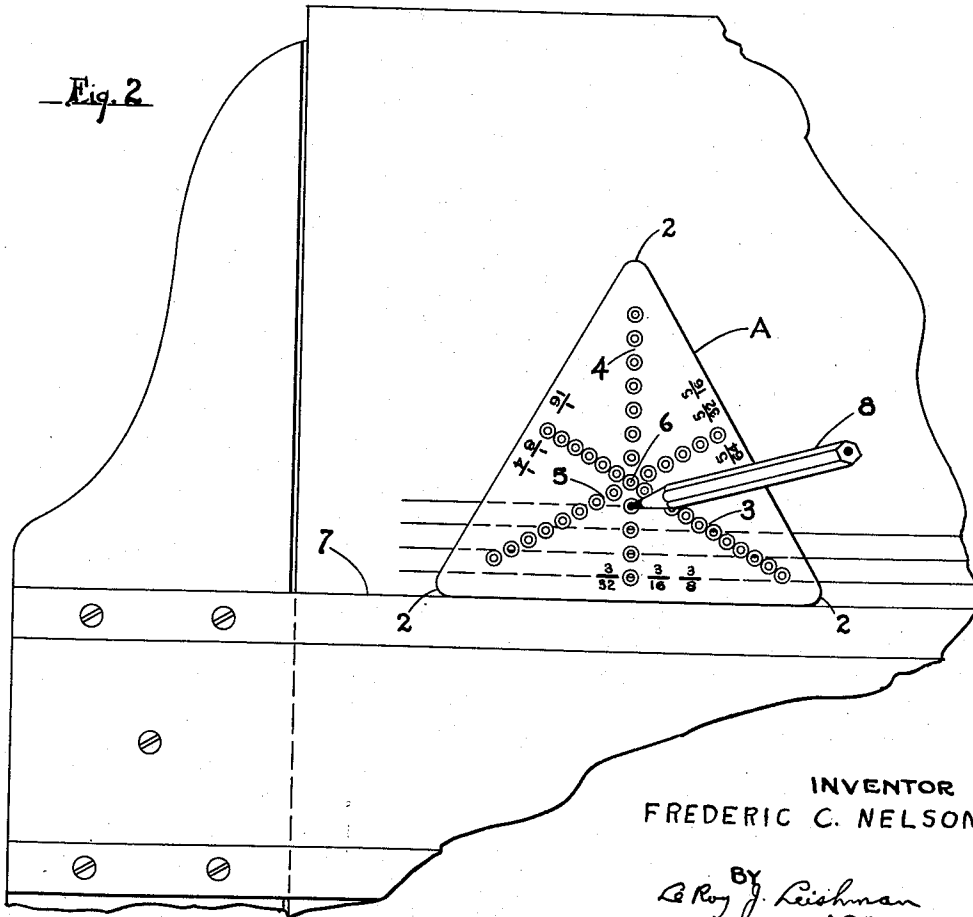


Fig. 2



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2,676,410

RULING AND LETTERING GUIDE

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Application May 25, 1953, Serial No. 357,333

1 Claim. (Cl. 33—104)

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The invention herein described pertains to drawing instruments and more particularly to an instrument to be used with a pencil or other scribing device chiefly for drawing parallel lines of predetermined spacing.

One of the objects of the present invention is to provide an instrument of the type described that will produce a relatively large number of equally spaced lines, whose separation may vary over a range of provided spacings, without the necessity of moving the straight edge or other guide with which the instrument is to cooperate.

Another object is to provide an instrument of the type described that will be relatively small and yet enable the user to select any of several different spacings and permit him to draw a relatively large number of lines of the selected separation without moving the cooperating straight edge.

Another object is the provision of an instrument having the aforementioned advantages that will be symmetrical and pleasing in appearance.

An additional object is to make it comparatively easy for the user to adjust the instrument for drawing lines of whatever spacing he may select within the range of spacings for which the instrument is designed.

A further object of my invention is to provide a lettering guide that may readily be adjusted for letters of any desired height within the range of the instrument.

Still another object is the provision of a small device that may readily be used for drawing 60° and 30° angles. Yet other objects will appear as the specification proceeds.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of my device.

Fig. 2 shows my device being used in connection with a T-square and a pencil for the drawing of uniformly spaced lines.

My invention may conveniently be embodied in a sheet-like form of uniform thickness having three or more sides or edges; and such embodiment may be constructed of pyroxyline, wood, metal, fibre, hard rubber, Lucite or other synthetic resin, or any other approved material such as is used for making triangles, irregular curves and templates for engineers and draftsmen.

The embodiment that I presently prefer is shown in the figures and is of triangular form, the triangle A being equilateral with rounded corners. In this preferred form, three rows of holes 2, 3, 4 and 5 are provided, the holes in each row having a spacing different from the spacing of

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the holes in the other rows. Each row of holes is disposed along one of the altitudes of the triangle and each of the rows is thus perpendicular to one of the sides. The three rows of holes intersect at a hole 6 that is common to each of the three rows, and it will consequently be clear that the spacing of the holes, in the initial design of the instrument, must be laid out from this center or common hole. The holes are tapered in order to conform roughly to the taper of the point of a pencil or other scribing device.

In the embodiment that I prefer, one series of holes has spacings of $\frac{1}{8}$ ", another $\frac{1}{16}$ ", and another $\frac{1}{32}$ ". By inserting a scriber such as the pencil 8 in every other hole in one of these series and then moving the instrument along a straight edge, it will be clear that lines may be drawn that are spaced $\frac{1}{4}$ ", $\frac{3}{8}$ ", or $\frac{5}{8}$ ". If lines of $\frac{1}{16}$ ", $\frac{3}{32}$ " or $\frac{1}{4}$ " are to be drawn, the user draws a series of lines having a spacing twice as great as desired, that is, conforming to the spacing provided by the apertures in one of the series. He then moves the guiding straight-edge or T-square a distance equal to half the distance between adjacent holes and draws additional lines between those that were drawn before the T-square or straight edge was shifted.

In using the instrument as a lettering guide, any of the spacings provided by the instrument may be used for the top and bottom lines of a row of letters or numerals, and the straight edge may then be shifted slightly to draw an intermediate line that will provide a suitable guide for the tops of the lower case letters. My instrument is much more satisfactory as a lettering guide than other devices that are available, because most other lettering guides provide for a fixed relationship between the height of capital and lower case letters, whereas my instrument allows the user to select any desired relationship.

The equilateral triangle device shown in the figures may readily be used to draw lines that will form angles of 60° with a base line, or with respect to each other. These angles may be bisected by holding the instrument in the position used for drawing one of the 60° lines and then making a dot by placing the scribing device in the central hole 6 or in one of the holes in the row of apertures that is disposed between the base line and the previously drawn 60° line. A line drawn through the point thus made and through the point of intersection of the two 60° spaced lines, will bisect the 60° angle, thus forming two angles of 30°.

In order to facilitate the use of my device, I

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prefer to stamp on the face of the instrument, at the side of each row of apertures, a numerical indication of the spacings between the apertures in the said row, and also to stamp adjacent the first described marking a fraction corresponding to half that of the hole spacings and another fraction corresponding to double the spacing between the holes.

My invention should not be considered as being confined to a triangular shaped instrument, as the novel features hereinbefore described may be embodied in still other forms. If the rows of apertures are to intersect in a common central hole, and if the instrument is to be symmetrical in structure, it is desirable that there be an uneven number of sides. In an instrument having an even number of sides, and in which rows of apertures are arranged perpendicularly to the sides, it is not possible to have the rows of holes proceed perpendicularly from the centers of opposite sides, as two such series of holes each extending from an opposite side could not extend past the general center of the instrument, for the reason that they would be on a common line. It is possible, however, for rows of holes proceeding perpendicularly from opposite sides to cross rows of holes that are perpendicular to other sides, if the rows from the said opposite sides are arranged in perpendicular lines that do not proceed from the centers of the said sides. If such rows are offset, they may extend over, across and beyond other rows of holes, each of the two parallel rows thus formed having one hole in common with the intersecting rows of holes.

It should also be pointed out that the sides of my instrument need not necessarily be straight. It is important, however, that there be at least

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two spaced points on each side that will engage a straight edge or other guiding device so that the instrument may be slid therealong. It will be clear that these considerations can be met if the sides are concave, or even if they are irregular in form, providing the sides of the instrument will engage the straight edge or other guiding device in such a way that contact will be maintained during the ruling process.

Still other modifications may be made from the form shown without departing from the scope and spirit of the appended claim.

My claim is:

An instrument to facilitate the drawing of certain angles and of parallel lines of predetermined spacing, said instrument comprising a flat sheet-like body in the form of an equilateral triangle, said body having a plurality of intersecting rows of spaced apertures therein, each of said rows bisecting one of the angles of the triangle, the apertures in any one row being separated by an equal distance which is different from the spacing of the apertures in the other rows, there being indicia adjacent each of said rows indicating the spacing of the apertures therein.

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