

July 14, 1953

J. E. SMITH

2,644,994

BELT GUIDE

Filed Nov. 27, 1951

Fig. 1.

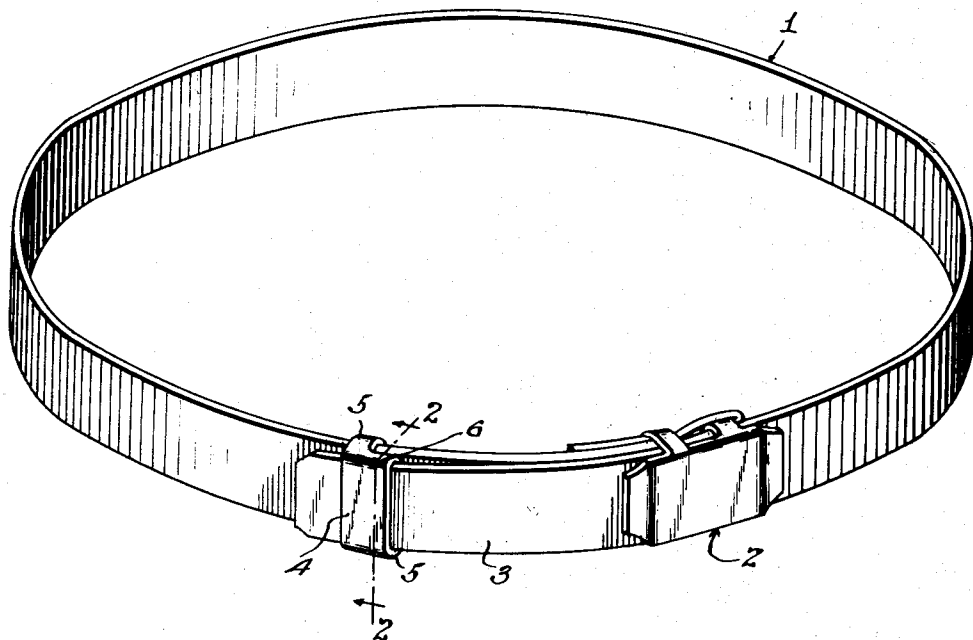


Fig. 2.

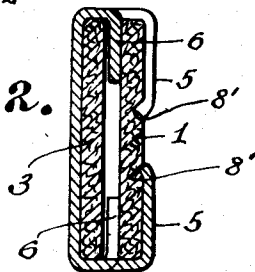
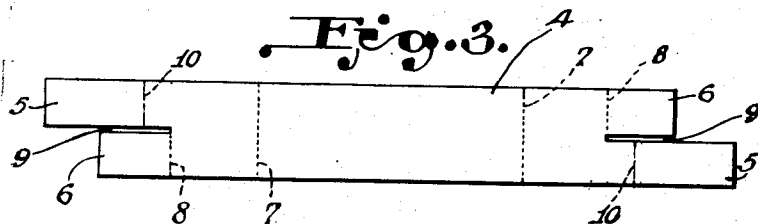


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,644,994

BELT GUIDE

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Application November 27, 1951, Serial No. 258,367

1 Claim. (Cl. 24-182)

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This invention relates to a belt guide for holding the loose end of the belt in a satisfactory condition.

An object of this invention is the production of a belt guide which eliminates sewing, riveting, or holes in a belt.

Another object of this invention is the construction of a belt guide from a sheet-like blank piece of material, the belt guide including a flat body provided at its end with two lips of varying lengths, whereby when the blank is folded, a very efficient belt guide is produced that will be held satisfactorily upon the body of the belt and which will also hold the loose end that projects beyond the buckle.

A still further object is to provide an efficient belt guide by stamping same from a blank sheet or strip, whereby the belt guide can be manufactured in large quantities at a minimum of expense.

A third important object of this invention is to provide, for a belt guide, a novel form of blank which may be made by subjecting a strip of metal of uniform width and thickness to a series of spaced severing operations each of which forms one end of one blank and the opposite end of the adjacent blank whereby waste due to scrap material is eliminated.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, this invention comprises certain novel constructions, combinations, and arrangements of parts as will be hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a belt that is to be worn by human beings, showing my belt guide in position thereon.

Figure 2 is an enlarged sectional view, taken on line 2-2, Fig. 1, and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 3 is a plan view of a blank prior to it being formed into the finished product, as shown in Figures 1 and 2.

Referring to the drawings, in which the preferred embodiment of this invention is illustrated, 1 designates the usual belt, on which is mounted a buckle 2 that is described in my Patent No. 2,603,847, issued July 22, 1952.

The belt 1 is provided with a flap 3, as is usual. To hold this flap snugly in position against the body of the belt, I have provided a unique belt guide. This belt guide is formed from a single piece of material and comprises a flat body 4, which has at each of its two ends a primary lip

5 and an auxiliary lip 6. These lips are parallel and they vary in length. These lips are separated at each end of the blank, one from the other by a slit 9 extending along the median line of the strip from which the blank is severed, this strip being of equal width and thickness throughout its entire length. Furthermore, the ends of the lips lie at right angles to the side edges of the strip. The longer lip 5 is bent at right angles along a line 10.

Blanks of this character may be severed successively from a long strip of material without waste, by using a knife having an X-shaped edge with the ends of one arm being offset from each other along the other arm and extending at right angles thereto, the offset ends forming severing means and the straight arm forming the slit 9 for adjacent blanks.

In forming the belt guide, the blank is first folded along the two lines 7, 7, which produces parallel portions, as seen in Fig. 2. Then, the blank is further folded on lines 8, 8 and 10, 10 to place the lips in the positions shown in Fig. 2. This folding produces what can be styled as two compartments. The main part of the belt runs through the inner or lower compartment, under the auxiliary lips 6. The flap 3 is positioned in the outer compartment that is formed between the auxiliary lips and the primary lips.

From actual experience, it has been found that this belt guide can be satisfactorily adjusted on the body of the belt to enable the belt guide to receive the flap 3 in a satisfactory manner. Further, the belt guide not only clamps the flap 3, but it also fits snugly on the body of the belt so that it does not easily shift its position.

As shown in Fig. 2, the primary lips 5 may be bent in as at 8' to slightly grip the belt flap.

While I have described the preferred embodiment of the invention and illustrated the same in the accompanying drawings, certain minor changes or alterations may appear to one skilled in the art to which this invention relates during the extensive manufacture of the same, and I, therefore, reserve the right to make such changes or alterations as shall fairly fall within the scope of the appended claim.

What I claim is:

A belt guide formed from an elongated blank having two parallel side edges, each of the two ends of said blank being provided with a longitudinal slit dividing the end into two spaced portions, said spaced portions having their end edges at different distances from the transverse

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axis of the blank, whereby two lips of different length are formed at each end of the blank, said blank being bent at equal longitudinal distances from the transverse axis thereof to form a vertical body portion and two parallel upper and lower portions, the shorter lip at each end being bent at right angles from one of the said upper and lower portions at the line which passes through the closed end of the end slit transversely of the blank, to lie parallel with said body portion, and the longer lip being bent at right angles at a line which passes transversely of the said longer lip and is spaced outwardly of said line which passes transversely through the closed end of the end slit, to form an end portion par-

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allel to and spaced from said shorter lip and from said body portion.

JOSEPH E. SMITH.

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