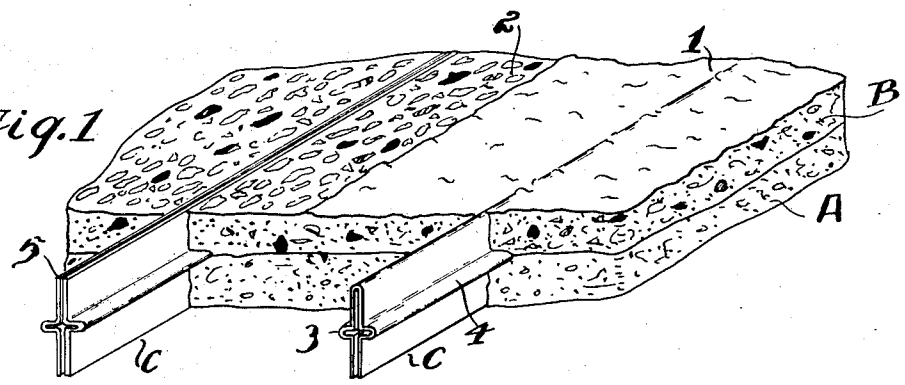
Dec. 29, 1925. 1,568,012

E. V. WALSH

TERRAZZO FLOORING STRIP

Filed July 14, 1924

Fig. 1



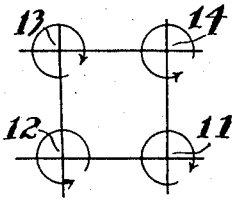


Fig. 5

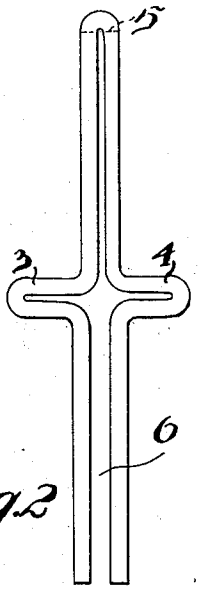


Fig. 2

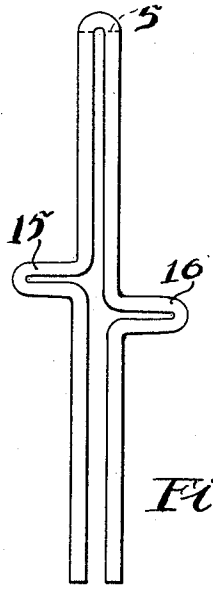


Fig. 3

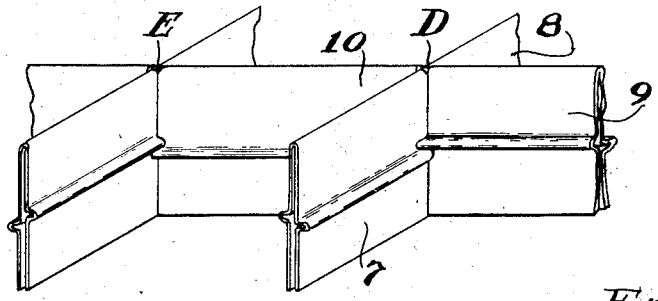


Fig. 4

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ERNEST V. WALSH, OF ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA.

TERRAZZO FLOORING STRIP.

Application filed July 14, 1924. Serial No. 725,809.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERNEST V. WALSH, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Paul, in the county of Ramsey and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Terrazzo Flooring Strips, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to a division strip for terrazzo and similar flooring.

In the laying of terrazzo, mastic, or similar floorings, a base of concrete, or similar material, is first laid on a sub-floor to be covered, and allowed to harden. Upon this base the material forming the terrazzo floor is laid, and also allowed to harden. A terrazzo flooring mixture, in an ordinary form, comprises a magma of cementitious material in which are embedded irregularly shaped chips of rock or marble. After the terrazzo has hardened, the top thereof is ground off to form a smooth surface, thereby exposing the chips embedded therein in the form of an irregular design. The chips embedded in the cementitious magma may be of various colors, if desired, to give the appearance of a mosaic flooring.

A sub-floor, upon which a concrete base and terrazzo flooring is laid, frequently has a different coefficient of expansion from that of the concrete base and terrazzo surfacing material, and alternate heating and cooling of the entire floor for this reason may cause a section of the floor to crack. If such cracks are not checked, they may spread entirely across a floor.

An object of the present invention is to make a strip, which, when embedded in a terrazzo floor, will form a division between adjacent sections thereof.

A further object is to provide a combined expansion and division strip for a terrazzo floor and a base thereof.

Another object is to improve a division strip for terrazzo flooring.

In order to attain these objects, there is provided, in accordance with one feature of the invention, a strip of folded, sheet-like material, having projections upon the sides thereof made by bending the material forming the strip.

Referring to the drawings:

Figure 1, is a view in isometric projection of a portion of terrazzo flooring, with strips made in accordance with the present invention embedded therein. A portion of the surface of the floor is shown in the condition in which it is first laid, while another portion thereof is shown ground down to a finished surface.

Figure 2, is an enlarged view in end elevation of a division strip made in accordance with the present invention.

Figure 3, is an enlarged view of a modified form of the invention showing the beads on the side of the strip vertically offset from each other for interlocking with an abutting strip.

Figure 4, shows a fragmentary view of several such interlocking strips set up and ready to receive flooring material; and

Figure 5, is a schematic sketch of several intersections of such strips.

Referring to the drawings in detail:

A is a concrete or cementitious base upon which a terrazzo floor B is laid. The right hand portion 1 thereof is shown as in the rough condition in which it is laid and the left hand portion 2 thereof is shown as ground down to a finished surface. Division strips C, preferably made from brass or aluminum, or an alloy thereof, are shown extending entirely through the cementitious or concrete base portion A and the terrazzo upper portion B. Beads 3 and 4 formed by folds in the strips may be positioned at the division point between the concrete base and the terrazzo flooring, and are embedded in, and gripped by, the flooring material. The rounded upper portion of the division strip is at the height of the upper surface of the rough, unfinished, terrazzo floor; and, when the floor is ground down to a finished state, as shown at 2, the rounded upper portion of the strip is ground simultaneously off with it to the line 5, thereby dividing the strip into two oppositely disposed sections.

In one form of the invention the lower parallel portions of the strip below the beads are slightly separated as at 6, to provide an expansion area for the concrete base. This allows for a slightly greater separation of the concrete base portion than of the terrazzo surfacing portion and makes for a closer and more uniform joint in said surfacing portion. The beads 3 and 4 serve to anchor the oppositely disposed strip portions firmly in position, and, when the terrazzo or other surfacing material is laid, and the floor ground down to a finished surface, any contraction which takes place in the material will cause a slight separation

of the two divided portions of the strip. If a crack should appear in any section of the terrazzo, it would continue only to the division strip and would be there stopped and prevented from spreading to adjacent sections of the flooring. Where marble or similar strips are used, in accordance with a well known practice in the art, to divide adjacent sections of terrazzo flooring, a crack, starting in one section, might continue across the marble division strip and extend into an adjacent section of the flooring. This is due to the fact that the marble itself is brittle and is in intimate engagement with both adjoining sections.

In applying division strips made in accordance with the present invention to a floor under construction, a section of concrete base may be laid and smoothed off to a thickness equal to the height of a bead 3 from the bottom of a division strip C to be employed. The section of concrete base thus laid is then surrounded with division strips cut and shaped as desired to define a pattern which such strips are desired to make in the finished floor. Other sections of concrete base are then laid, division strips placed, and the process repeated until the entire floor is covered, when the concrete base is allowed to harden.

The portions of division strips extending above the concrete base form a pattern of supplemental units. Each of these units is then filled in with a desired flooring mixture, such as mastic or terrazzo, and is smoothed off evenly with the tops of the division strips. This mixture also is allowed to harden, and the surface thereof is ground smooth, in a manner well known to the art. The grinding process removes the top portion of each division strip as hereinbefore mentioned to split the division strips into pairs of oppositely disposed edging strips, each edging strip being firmly secured to the edge of the section which it adjoins by means of a bead 3 or 4 which is embedded in, and gripped by, the flooring material, in a manner clearly apparent from Figure 1 of the drawings.

A modified form of flooring strip is shown in Figures 3 and 4. In this form beads 15 and 16 on opposite sides of a strip are offset vertically, so that the bottom edge of one bead is at the same height as the top edge of the other bead. Such a strip is preferable in cases where it is desired to form a pattern in a floor which necessitates the abutting of an end of one strip against a side of another strip. If strips similar to those illustrated in Figures 1 and 2 were used for this purpose, the beads of an abutting strip would be at the same height as those on a strip against which it abutted. By using strips having the beads offset as in Figure 2, however, and by assembling the strips in the following described manner, the beads of the abutting strips will fit together in overlapping relation and be locked together by the cementitious flooring material in which they are embedded.

In Figure 4, intersection D is assembled as follows: A strip 7 is positioned with its low bead on the right, and its high bead on the left hand side. A strip 8, similar in structure to strip 7, is positioned in a reverse manner, namely, with its high bead (not shown) on the right and its low bead (not shown) on the left hand side. Right hand cross strip 9 is laid with its high bead on the near side to fit over the low bead on strip 7, and its low bead on the far side to fit under the high bead on strip 8. Strip 10 is laid in a reverse manner from strip 9, namely, with its low bead on the near side and its high bead on the far side, which beads will fit under the high bead on strip 7 and over the low bead on strip 8, respectively.

An adjoining intersection E is assembled in a reverse manner from intersection D; that is, each strip in intersection E is reversed end for end, from the strip occupying a similar position in intersection D.

A schematic sketch is shown in Figure 5 to illustrate how the intersections would work out in a floor having a plurality of such intersections. Each intersection in this figure will be considered as having the high bead of each intersecting strip thereof on the side in which the curved arrow, surrounding it, points. Thus, intersections 11 and 13 would be similar to intersection D, and intersections 12 and 14 would be similar to intersection E.

The advantages offered by a flooring strip such as is herein described will be apparent to one skilled in the art, since, in using a strip having projections on each side thereof, it would be necessary to mitre the corners of such projections in order to secure a fit at an intersection of abutting strips, which is unnecessary with the present strip. Furthermore, there is no interlocking of such mitred strips, such as is afforded by the overlapping beads of the present strip.

What I claim is:

1. A floor structure comprising a base, a top layer, a strip vertically dividing said structure into sections and extending above the finished surface thereof, said strip being folded upon itself to form a pair of substantially parallel portions, a bead on the exterior face of each parallel portion to form an anchoring means therefor, said strip being divided at the fold thereof by a finishing operation on the floor to form a pair of oppositely disposed edging strips thereof.

2. A floor structure comprising a base, a top layer, a strip vertically dividing said

structure in sections, said strip being of sheet metal folded upon itself to form a pair of substantially parallel, oppositely disposed portions coextensive throughout their height, a bend in each of said portions to form an anchoring bead thereon, said strip being divided, by a finishing operation performed upon the floor, to form a pair of oppositely disposed edging strips thereof.

3. A floor structure comprising a base, a metal strip inserted in said base, and extending above the top surface thereof, said strip being formed of metal folded upon itself with a beaded portion extending from each side thereof, said bead being formed of a bent portion of the metal strip, a surfacing material of cementitious material adjacent the portion of the metal strip extending above the top surface of the base, a portion of the top surface of the surfacing material being ground off together with a portion of the metal strip at a fold therein to divide the strip into a pair of oppositely disposed edging strips.

4. In a floor structure of cementitious material, a folded metal strip inserted in said base, and a beaded portion extending from each side thereof, said beads being formed of a bent portion of the metal strip, the bead on one side of the strip being vertically offset from the bead on the other side of the strip.

5. A floor structure comprising a base, a metal strip inserted in said base and extending above the top surface thereof, said strip being formed of metal folded upon itself, a bead on each side of the folded strip, each bead being formed of a bent portion of the metal strip, the beads being vertically offset from each other, surfacing material of cementitious material adjacent the metal strip extending above the top surface of the base, a portion of the top of said surfacing material being removed to divide the metal strip at a fold therein to form oppositely disposed edging strips thereof.

6. In a floor structure of cementitious material in which the surface thereof is removed in a grinding operation, a plurality of angularly intersecting folded metal strips embedded therein, the folds of which are above the level of the finished surface thereof, and a bead on each side of the metal strip to be embedded in and retained by the cementitious flooring material, the bead on one side of each intersecting strip being vertically offset from the bead on the other side of each intersecting strip, said beads overlapping at an angular intersection of a plurality of the folded metal strips to interlock said intersecting strips.

7. In a floor structure of cementitious material in which the surface thereof is removed in a grinding operation, a plurality of angularly intersecting folded metal strips embedded therein, the folds of which are above the level of the finished surface thereof, and a bead on each side of each metal strip to be embedded in and retained by the cementitious flooring material, the bead on one side of each intersecting strip being vertically offset from the bead on the other side of each intersecting strip, said beads overlapping at an angular intersection of a plurality of the folded metal strips to interlock said intersecting strips, said grinding operation removing a fold in each metal strip to divide it into a pair of oppositely disposed edging strips.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ERNEST V. WALSH.