Feb. 2, 1960 L. D. HOKERK 2,923,451

SEWING ACCESSORY

Filed Oct. 7, 1955 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

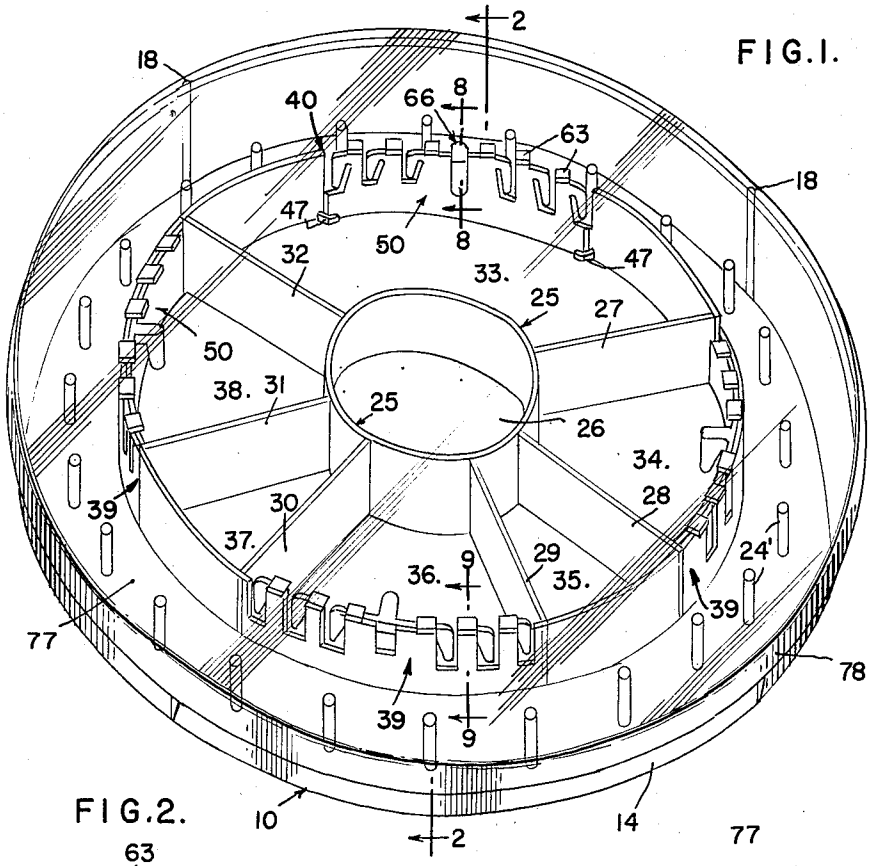


FIG. 2.

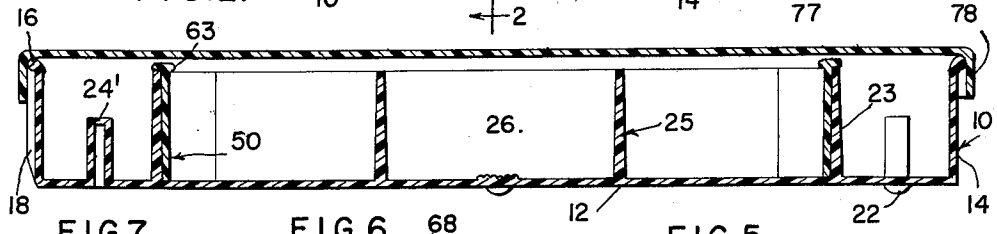


FIG. 7.

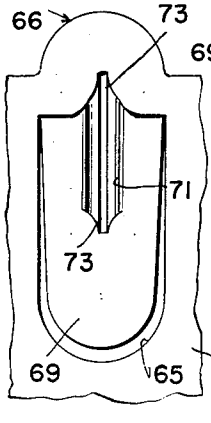


FIG. 6.

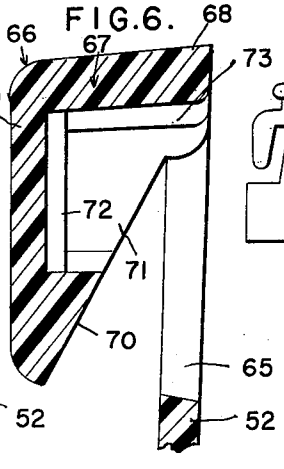
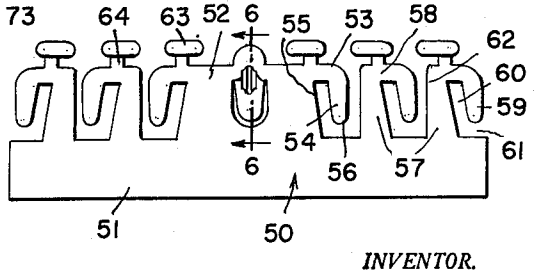


FIG. 5.



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SEWING ACCESSORY

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FIG.3.

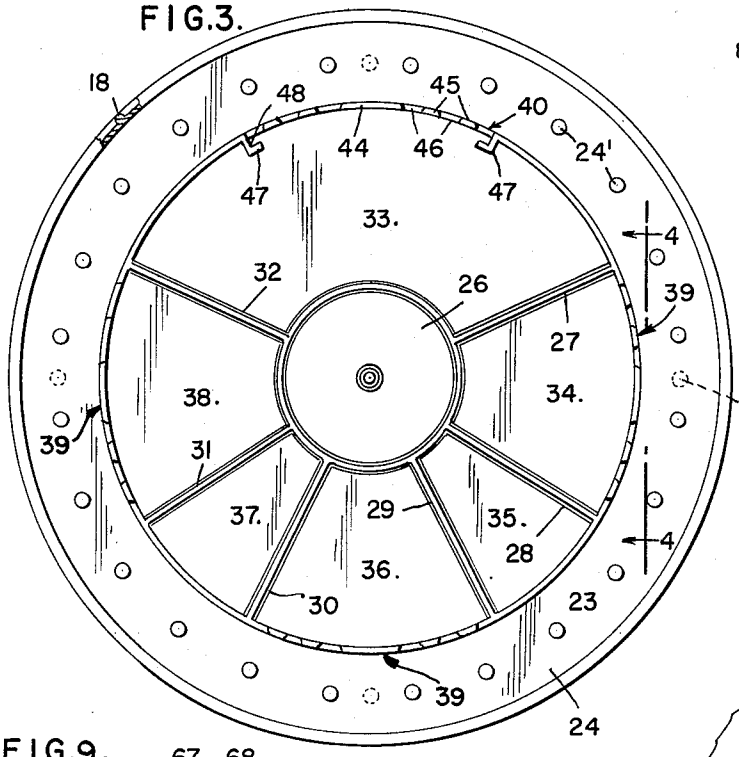


FIG.12.

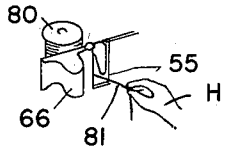


FIG.13.

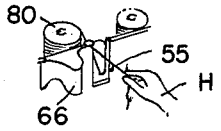


FIG.14.

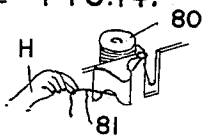


FIG.15.

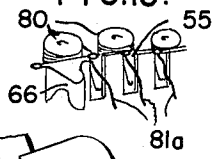


FIG.9.

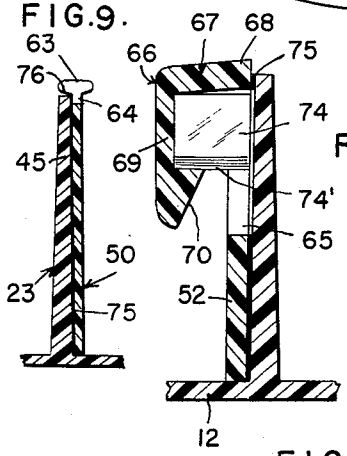
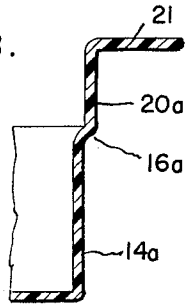


FIG.8.

FIG.11.



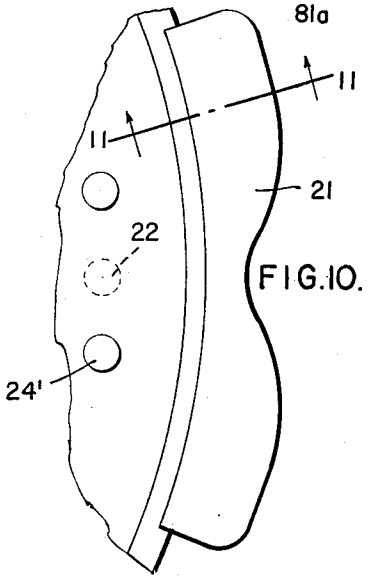
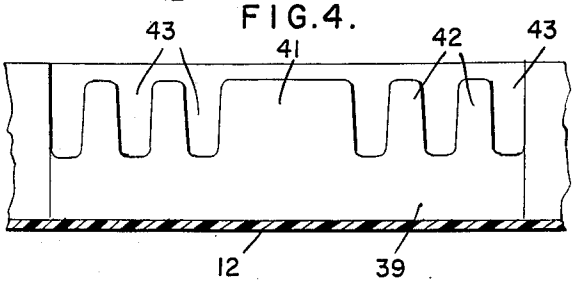


FIG.10.

FIG.4.



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Patented Feb. 2, 1960

2,923,451

SEWING ACCESSORY

Lynde D. Hokerk, Utica, N.Y.

Application October 7, 1955, Serial No. 539,066
15 Claims. (Cl. 225—37)

This invention relates to improvements in devices for use by seamstresses in connection with sewing jobs and is directed particularly to an improved accessory in the form of a box within which to keep all of the various items which are required in sewing.

It is well known, of course, that sewing boxes have long been in use, in which to keep scissors, needles, pins, spools of thread, measuring tapes and all of the many other items which are needed in connection with sewing. Such devices, however, are not designed with any particular idea of keeping the various articles in a prescribed or prearranged manner therein so as to be easily accessible to the sewer. This applies particularly to the matter of keeping spools of thread in such boxes or receptacles. Ordinarily these spools of thread are dropped in in a more or less careless manner and when a thread of a particular size or threads of desired colors are required, the sewer usually has to hunt through a mess of spools and other articles until the desired spool is found. Also it is difficult in keeping spools of thread in ordinary sewing boxes so as to prevent the thread from becoming unwound. Thread spools are usually formed of wood and it is customary to form in the flange on one end a notch or slit in which the free end of the thread should be caught so as to prevent the thread from unwinding but this is not always done or convenient for the sewer or, if it is done, the movement of the various items around in the box will cause the thread to become detached and the whole box becomes very disorderly and disorganized.

A particular object of the present invention, in view of the foregoing, is to provide a new and novel sewing accessory in the form of a box or receptacle which is so designed that the various and numerous items required for use by a sewer or steamstress may be kept arranged in orderly fashion so that no difficulty will be encountered or time be lost in finding the articles as they are required for use.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved sewing box or sewing accessory wherein a means is provided for maintaining a relatively large number of spools of thread in spaced orderly relation whereby any one of the spools may be easily and quickly identified and the thread of the identified or selected spool can be readily grasped and drawn off to the length desired for use.

Still another object of the invention is to provide in a sewing accessory of the character stated, a means for maintaining a number of spools of thread in a spaced orderly arrangement together with a novel means associated with each spool whereby the thread thereof will have its free end held in position where the sewer can easily and quickly pick it up and draw off through a guide means the length desired and then effect the separation of the selected length from that remaining on the spool.

Yet another object of the invention is to provide a sewing accessory or sewing box having a compartment

in which to keep a number of spools of thread with means in the compartment for rotatably supporting the spools in upright position and for also providing in association with each spool of thread on a support, a guide means through which the end of the thread can be drawn, with a novel device for attaching the thread after the desired length has been drawn off from the spool so that after such selected or desired length has been obtained and severed from the remaining part on the spool a free or tail end piece will be retained in a position where it can be conveniently grasped when more thread is desired.

Still another object of the invention is to provide in connection with an accessory or sewing box having supporting means therein for spools of thread a novel unit associated with a wall of the box which provides for each of a number of adjacent spools of thread, a thread guide, a means for temporarily securing the thread after a selected portion has been drawn off from the spool through the guide and a means for severing the drawn off or selected length of thread, the said securing means being positioned between the severing means and the guide so that after the selected length of thread has been cut or severed a free end portion will remain attached to the securing means to facilitate the ready selection of the desired thread and grasping of the same when next required for use.

The invention has for another object to provide a novel sewing box which may be readily formed of a suitable moldable material such as a clear plastic or the like and having a number of conveniently arranged compartments in which various items for use in sewing may be kept, together with a new and novel means for supporting the spools of thread and facilitating a selection, drawing off and cutting of desired lengths of thread from the spools.

The invention will be best understood from a consideration of the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings with the understanding that the invention is not confined to a strict conformity with the drawings but may be changed or modified in minor details so long as such changes or modifications mark no material departure from the salient features of the invention as expressed in the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a top perspective view of a circular sewing box and lid therefor, constructed in accordance with one embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 2 is a transverse section taken substantially on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the box, without the cover and before the thread guide, holder and cutter units are placed therein.

Fig. 4 is a detail section taken substantially on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a view in elevation of the thread guide, holder and cutter unit per se, viewed from the inner side.

Fig. 6 is a section taken, on an enlarged scale, substantially on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5, without the cutter blade in place.

Fig. 7 is a view looking at the structure of Fig. 6 from the outer side of the unit.

Fig. 8 is a detail section, on an enlarged scale, taken substantially on the line 8—8 of Fig. 1, below the lid, showing the cutter blade in place.

Fig. 9 is a detail section, on an enlarged scale, taken substantially on the line 9—9 of Fig. 1, below the lid, showing the thread binding groove formed between the holding button and a tongue.

Fig. 10 is a detail showing in top plan one of a pair of handles with which the box may be formed.

Fig. 11 is a section taken on the line 11—11 of Fig. 10.

Figs. 12, 13, 14 and 15 are single line illustrations of the successive steps in drawing a thread through a guide slot (Fig. 12), securing the thread below a holding button (Fig. 13), drawing the thread across the cutter blade edge to sever it (Fig. 14), and finally showing the retention of a tail end of the thread ready to be grasped, when another length of thread is required for use.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, the numeral **10** generally designates the sewing accessory or box constructed in accordance with one embodiment thereof. In this embodiment of the invention the same is shown as being of circular form but it is to be understood that the invention is not confined to this particular form but may be of elliptical or oval outline if desired. Accordingly, while the description will be applied to a receptacle or box of circular construction or form, it will be apparent that there is no intention of limiting the invention to this form as above stated.

The receptacle or box **10** may be formed of any suitable moldable material, preference being had for a suitable weight of plastic preferably a clear or transparent plastic such as Lucite or the like.

The numeral **12** designates the bottom of the box or receptacle which is circumscribed by the upstanding integrally formed side wall **14**, the top edge of which is turned out slightly forming the thickened lip **16**. At intervals around the side wall **14** vertical reinforcing ribs **18** are formed extending from the under side of the rib **16** downwardly and tapering off to a thin lower end as shown in Fig. 2.

The wall **14** is slightly inclined outwardly so that the inside diameter of the receptacle is slightly less at the bottom than at the top. This facilitates the removal of the receptacle from the mold when the receptacle is formed of plastic or other suitable moldable material.

At suitable spaced intervals along a circular path the under side of the bottom **12** is provided with the shallow projections or buttons which form supporting feet for the receptacle as indicated at **22**.

Within the circular area defined by the wall **14** there is formed integral with the bottom **12** the upstanding inner wall **23** which, as shown, is slightly tapered from the bottom to the top to facilitate removal of the device from the mold. This inner wall **23** forms with the outer wall, in the circular form or embodiment of the invention, a circular spool chamber **24**.

Positioned in a circular row centrally between the walls **14** and **23** is a plurality of upstanding spindles or posts **24'**. The height of these posts is materially less than the height of the walls between which they are located and each of these posts is of circular form and of a suitable diameter to engage in the longitudinal opening which is formed through a thread spool. In the circular form of the invention here illustrated, twenty-four of these posts or spindles are provided and they are suitable spaced so that the spools of thread when placed thereon will not interfere with one another or, in other words, will have some clearance between them.

The numeral **25** designates a second circular wall which lies within the wall **23** and which is of materially less diameter than the wall **23**. This innermost wall forms a well **26** in which may be placed a pin cushion or it may be used for holding some other article or a number of small articles which may be required in sewing operations.

Extending radially outwardly from the innermost wall **23** are a number of radial walls which connect the wall **25** with the wall **23**. While any number of these radial walls may be provided, six thereof are here illustrated and are designated **27**, **28**, **29**, **30**, **31** and **32**. These spaced radial walls provide a number of individual compartments designated **33**, **34**, **35**, **36**, **37** and **38** in which various sewing items such as pins, needles, tape measure, scissors and the like may be kept.

The wall **23** is formed with four modified portions or areas, three of which are each designated **39** while a fourth is designated **40**. The modified portions or areas **39** each lies between the outer ends of a pair of radial walls. For example, the radial walls **27** and **28** are spanned at their outer ends by a modified portion **39** of the wall **23**. The radial walls **29** and **30** are also spanned at their outer ends by a modified wall portion **39** and the radial walls **31** and **32** are spanned at their outer ends by a modified portion **39** of the wall **23**.

The spacing between the two radial walls **27** and **32** is materially greater than the spacing between the other adjacent ones of the radial walls so that the compartment **33** is the largest of the compartments and the modified portion **40** of the wall **23** is located midway between the outer ends of the radial walls **27** and **32** as shown. These modified wall portions **39** and **40** are of a prescribed length whereby the hereinafter described structure which is associated with each of the modified wall portions serves six spools of thread mounted on the six adjacent spindles **24'**, in the manner hereinafter described.

Each of the modified wall portions **39** is formed, as shown in Fig. 4, by shaping the wall **23** to produce a central relatively wide upstanding tongue **41** and two narrow spaced upstanding tongues **42** at each side thereof. Thus there are provided by this construction the three upwardly opening slots **43** at each side of the wide central tongue **41**. The height of the wall **23** in the modified portions **39** is slightly less than the height of the adjacent portion of wall **23** of the box, and the slots extend downwardly through approximately half the height of the modified portions of the wall **23**.

The modified portion **40** of the wall **23** is also formed with the upstanding relatively wide central tongue **44** and the two upstanding side tongues **45** of materially narrower or less width than the tongue **44** thereby also providing the three slots **46** corresponding to the slots **43**. These slots **46** also are of the same depth as the slots **43** and the top ends of the tongues **44** and **45** terminate short of the maximum height of the side wall **14** and the adjacent parts of the inner wall **23**.

The modified portion **40** of the wall **23** differs from the modified wall portions **39** in that there is formed on the bottom **12** against the inner side of the wall **23** and below the outer side of each of the outermost slots **46**, an angled lug **47**. These two angled lugs provide slots **48** which are directed toward one another as shown in the top plan view forming Fig. 3 and function to receive and hold in place against the inner side of the modified portion **40** of the wall **23** the hereinafter described thread guide, fastener and cutter unit.

Each of the modified portions of the wall **23** has associated therewith a thread guide, securing means and a cutter unit which is generally designated **50**. This unit is the same for each of the modified portions of the wall **23** and, therefore, a description of one will be seen to apply to all.

The unit **50**, as shown in Fig. 5, comprises a molded strip of material such as the plastic from which the box may be molded or of any other material suitable for the purpose intended. This strip comprises an elongate lower body portion **51** having the central upwardly extending panel **52** from opposite edges of which extend, at the top, the arm portions **53** each of which terminates in the downwardly extending bill **54**. This bill **54** is spaced from the adjacent edge of the panel **52** forming a thread guide slot **55** and the lower end of the bill terminates short of the top edge of the integral bottom portion **51** forming an entrance **56** to the slot **55**.

Positioned outwardly from each of the thread guide bills **54** are the two upstanding posts **57** which, as shown, form an integral continuation of the top edge of the portion **51** of the unit. Each of these posts at its upper end joins an arm portion **58** corresponding to the arm portion **53** and each of these arm portions **58** terminates in a depending bill **59** and these bills **59** are spaced from the adjacent edges of the respective posts to form the thread

guide slots 60 and the lower end of each bill 59 terminates short of the top edge of the strip portion 51 forming an entrance 61 to the adjacent slot 60. As is shown in Fig. 5 the back of each post 57 is in spaced relation with a bill 54, the post 57 nearest to the central panel 52 being spaced from the bill 54 and the next and outermost post being spaced from the next inner bill 59, thus providing the entrance spaces 62 leading to the entrances 61 and 56 respectively.

The top edge of the unit 50 carries above each of the thread guide slots 55 and 60 a means for securing a thread after the same has been drawn through a slot from an adjacent spool mounted on a spindle 24' in the manner as hereinafter described. Each of these thread securing means comprises a button 63 which is connected to the top edge of the unit by a short neck portion 64.

The panel 52 has formed centrally therein an opening 65 and formed integral with the panel at the top of this opening is a cutter holder which is generally designated 66. This cutter holder comprises a generally triangular body 67 having a thickness approximating the width of the opening 65 which, as shown in Fig. 7, is in the form of an elongated ellipse and comprises the substantially horizontal top portion 68 and the vertically disposed side portion 69. The top portion 68 extends outwardly from the panel 52 and the side portion 69 depends in spaced relation to the panel, while the part of the body adjacent to the opening 65 is cut to provide or form the inclined face 70.

The inclined face 70 of the cutter holder body extends from the top of the opening 65 downwardly and outwardly away from the panel portion 52 and at the upper end of this inclined face 70 there is formed a recess or cavity 71, see Figs. 6 and 7, the inner end of which is in the form of a relatively narrow slot 72. The opposing side walls of the recess or cavity, which is more or less rectangular in form, are relatively widely spaced and these side walls at the top and bottom of the cavity converge slightly as indicated at 73, to a reduced width which is the same as the width of the slot 72 at the back of the cavity. This cavity 71 is of the proper dimensions to snugly receive a cutting blade 74, see Fig. 8, which is inserted into the cavity through the opening 65.

The cutting blade is steel and is of the same rectangular form or outline as the cavity or recess into which it is inserted, such insertion being effected through the opening 65. The thickness of the blade approximates the width of the slot 72 and of the narrowest part of the space between the convergent portions 73 at the top and bottom of the slot so that the back and top edges particularly of the blade when it is inserted will be snugly engaged and the blade firmly held. When so inserted, as shown in Fig. 8, a portion of the cutting edge will extend across the space between the inclined face 70 and the adjacent side of the panel 52. This exposed edge portion of the blade is designated 74' and it will be seen that when a thread is inserted into the space between the face 70 of the body 67 and the panel 52 it will engage across the cutting edge of the blade and be severed thereby.

Each of the units 50 positions against the inner side of a modified portion of the wall 23 and is of the proper length to span such modified portion. When a unit 50 is fitted against the inner side of a modified portion 39 of the wall 23 its two ends, that is the ends of the continuous bottom portion 51 will engage in the corners formed between the radial partitions at their outer ends and the wall 23 and the unit is made of such size that it is flexed or bowed to assume this position and when in such position, each of the tongues 42 will be disposed against the outer face of a post 57 of the unit and the central wide tongue 41 will position against the outer face of the panel 52. The side of the panel 52 opposite from the cutter holder 66 is located against the wide tongue 41 so that the cutter is thus disposed in the adjacent compartment. Also it will be seen that the tongue 41 covers the opening 65 so that there is no possibility of the cutting blade escaping from the recess 71.

When the unit 50 is positioned against the inner side of the modified portion 40 of the wall 23, the posts 57 and the central panel 52 will likewise be disposed against the inner sides of the tongues 44 and 45 as will be readily apparent but in this location, the ends of the continuous bottom portion 51 of the unit will be engaged in the slots 48 provided by the lugs 47. Here also the cutter will be extended inwardly or will be located within the adjacent compartment 33.

In order to maintain the units 50 in the described set positions on the inner sides of the modified portions of the wall 23 a suitable cement or other bonding material 75 may be employed to secure the tongues against the upstanding posts 57 and panel 52. Obviously the tongues will be of such width with respect to the posts 57 as not to interfere with the openings or passages 62, whereby to prevent the introduction of a thread into the thread guide. The tongues 42 and 45 in the modified portions of the wall 23 are of such height with respect to the height of the unit 50 which is secured against the inner sides thereof that when the unit is fixed in position the top edge of a tongue will abut the under side of a knob or button 63 and there will thus be formed a groove 76 in which a thread may be wedged when the holding means is employed in the use of the box as hereinafter described.

A suitable type of lid or cover, generally designated 77 may be provided for the box having a flange portion 78 which will slide down around the lip 16 of the box when the cover is in position thereon.

Where the box may be provided without a cover it is contemplated to form a wall with suitable oppositely positioned handles as shown in Figs. 10 and 11. In these figures, the side wall is designated 14*a* and the out turned lip at the top edge thereof is designated 16*a*. The handles referred to may be formed integral with the lip 16*a* by extending a vertical web 20 therefrom and providing an out turned flange portion 21 as illustrated.

In the use of the present sewing box, the spindles 24' will have placed thereon spools of thread as hereinbefore stated and it will be noted upon reference to Fig. 1 that each of the units 50 has six spindles adjacent thereto and each unit is provided with six guide slots, one for each of the adjacent spools. This construction will, of course, be adopted where the box is designed to support twenty-four spools or, in other words, is provided with twenty-four spindles in the spool chamber. Obviously the box may be made of larger or smaller size and the units 50 will be modified accordingly as to the number of thread guides for use with the spools of thread.

As has been previously pointed out, while the illustration and description of the invention has been directed particularly to a box of circular form, boxes of other contour are contemplated such as boxes of elliptical form, for example, and the arrangement for the compartments may be also changed in such elliptically formed boxes and the number of spool holders and thread guiding, holding and cutting units may be reduced if desired.

Referring particularly to the showing of the circular box, the different compartments 34, 35, 36, 37 and 38 may be used to contain pins, needles, measuring tapes or any other of the numerous small items which are required for use in sewing. The central well 26 may be employed for holding a conventional circular pin cushion such as seamstresses use and the larger compartment 33 may be used for scissors, tweezers or other long implements.

Figs. 12, 13, 14 and 15 illustrate the manner of using the units 50. In these figures, there is shown one spool of thread 80 from which is shown being drawn the thread 81. This thread is shown as being drawn through a guide slot 55 adjacent to the cutter 66 which, as previously stated, is on the inner side of the circular inner

wall 23 and, therefore, is located in one of the compartments such, for example, as the compartment 34. In removing the thread desired, the user draws off a substantial length of the same through the guide slot and then, as shown in Fig. 12, the thread is carried up to and around the neck portion 64 of the overlying button 63. One or two loops of the thread are made around the neck and the thread is thus wedged in the groove 76.

As shown in the third figure, after the thread has been secured it is carried across the under side of the cutter unit 66 and drawn up between the inclined face 70 and the adjacent side of the panel 52 into contact with the cutting edge 74' of the cutter blade 74. The thread is therefore cut between the hand H of the person drawing off the thread and the button 63 to which the thread is secured and after being so cut there will be left a short tail portion hanging from the holding button, which is designated 81*a* in Fig. 15, which hangs down in the compartment thereby facilitating the grasping of the thread when another length is desired for use. Because of the novel and efficient thread catch groove 76, in which the thread loop is wedged the thread will be firmly held while it is being drawn against the cutting edge of the blade and therefore a sharp clean cut of the thread will always be obtained. No frayed cuts or thread ends will be obtained.

As will be readily seen from the foregoing, there is provided by the present invention a new and novel sewing box or sewing accessory which not only provides a number of storage compartments for various items but also provides a means for holding a plurality of spools of thread in a neat orderly arrangement and also provides a means whereby the thread of any one of the spools can be easily identified or selected for use and conveniently drawn off to the length desired and severed without having to use scissors or other cutting implements. Also after the thread has been cut in the manner described, a small portion is retained in full view and in a convenient position to be grasped so that an additional length of the thread can be easily and quickly drawn off and cut for continuing a sewing operation.

The box or receptacle is preferably made of plastic as previously stated and it will be seen that the same with the thread holding and cutting units can be readily molded and the box may also be formed of either clear plastic or colored plastic so as to form an attractive article.

I claim:

1. A sewing accessory comprising a receptable body having a bottom and a side wall, an inner wall on said bottom and spaced from the side wall forming an inner compartment and an outer chamber, means in the outer chamber for supporting a plurality of spools of thread in a position for withdrawal of thread therefrom, means forming a part of said inner wall providing a number of substantially vertical thread guide slots each having a thread entrance adjacent to the lower end thereof, means at the top end of each slot for securing a thread drawn through the respective slot from a spool, and means adjacent to the slots for cutting a thread, said cutting means being spaced inwardly and laterally of said slots.

2. The invention according to claim 1, wherein said cutting means is positioned a substantial distance from the slots and securing means, said cutting means including a downwardly extending cutting edge whereby a thread may be cut at a distance from the securing means to leave a portion dependent from the securing means to be conveniently picked-up when more thread is required.

3. A sewing accessory comprising a receptacle having a bottom and a side wall, an inner wall on said bottom in spaced relation with the side wall forming a spool chamber, means in the chamber for supporting a plurality of spools in a position for withdrawal of thread therefrom, said inner wall having a section thereof formed to provide a number of upstanding tongues, a thread guide, holder and cutter unit comprising a strip of material secured against and along the inner sides of said tongues, said strip of material being formed to provide a relatively wide upstanding panel and an upstanding post at one side edge thereof, an arm extending from said side edge of the panel toward the post and terminating in a downwardly extending bill spaced from the post, an arm extending from the top of the post away from the first arm and terminating in a downwardly extending bill, said bills forming with the adjacent edge of the panel and the adjacent post respectively thread guide slots, a button joined to the top edge of the strip of material by a short neck portion adjacent each guide slot providing the thread holder, and means for supporting a cutting blade upon the side of said panel opposite from said tongues.

4. The invention according to claim 3, wherein the last means comprises a body secured to the said side of the panel and having a face portion spaced from the said side of the panel and inclined upwardly in acute angular relation therewith, said panel having an opening confronting said face portion, said inclined face portion having a slot therein to receive a cutting blade through said opening, and a cutting blade in said slot and having an edge portion lying across the angular space between the said face portion and the panel.

5. A thread guiding, holding and cutting unit for use in a sewing box, said unit comprising an elongate flat strip body having a continuous bottom portion and an upper portion formed to provide a plurality of transversely directed slots, means for introducing a thread into each slot at the end thereof adjacent to the longitudinal center of the body, a button joined by a short neck to the longitudinal edge of the strip body remote from said bottom portion and adjacent to each slot, and a cutter element mounted on the inner side of the body adjacent to said longitudinal edge and spaced laterally from said slots.

6. A thread guiding, holding and cutting unit for use on a sewing box, said unit comprising an elongate flat strip body having a continuous longitudinal bottom portion approximately half the width of the strip body, the other longitudinal half of the strip body being formed to provide a center panel and at least one transversely directed post spaced from each side edge of the panel, said panel having a short arm extending from each side edge in the longitudinal direction of the strip, a bill extending from each arm in a transverse direction in spaced relation to the adjacent side edge of the panel forming a thread guide slot and terminating short of the said continuous portion forming an entrance to the slot, the bill being spaced from the adjacent post providing a passage leading to said entrance, each of said posts having a short arm extending therefrom in the same direction as the adjacent first mentioned arm, a bill extending from each post carried arm in spaced relation to the adjacent post and forming therewith a thread guide slot and terminating short of the said continuous portion forming an entrance to the guide slot, means carried on the edge of the strip body in each arm portion thereof for facilitating securement of a thread, and means mounted on one side of the panel for cutting a thread.

7. The invention according to claim 6 wherein the last stated means comprises an elongate body member secured at one end to the said side of the panel and having an inclined inner side face facing and forming an acute angle with the said side of the panel, the panel having an opening therein opposite to said inclined face, said body member having a recess opening through said inclined face in line with said opening and a cutting blade in said recess and having a cutting edge extending across said angle between the inclined face and said opening in the panel.

8. A sewing accessory comprising a structure formed to provide a receptacle embodying a bottom and spaced

outer and inner wall portions, means for supporting a spool of thread between said wall portions, means adjacent the plane of the inner wall providing a thread guide, a thread cutting means supported by said last mentioned means and disposed inwardly and laterally of said thread guide, and securing means adjacent said thread guide for securing a length of thread drawn from a spool through the guide while being cut by the cutting means.

9. A sewing accessory comprising a box having a bottom and an upstanding side wall, an upstanding inner wall spaced from said side wall forming an open top thread spool chamber, means in said chamber for supporting a series of spools of thread in upright position, a thread guide means having a plurality of thread guides disposed inwardly of said spool supporting means and adjacent said inner wall, cutting means supported by said thread guide means disposed inwardly thereof and laterally of said thread guides for cutting a thread drawn from a spool through a thread guide, and securing means adjacent said thread guide and supported by said thread guide means for securing a thread drawn through a thread guide while being cut.

10. A sewing accessory comprising a receptacle embodying a bottom and a side wall, an upright inner wall in spaced relation with said side wall forming an inner top chamber for receiving spools of thread, means in said chamber for retaining a number of spools of thread in upright position for easy withdrawal of thread therefrom, a thread cutter supported adjacent to and below the top of said inner wall on the side of the inner wall remote from the outer wall, a plurality of thread guides disposed laterally of said thread cutter, and means for retaining in a conveniently graspable position a terminal portion of thread drawn from a spool after severance of a drawn off length by the cutter.

11. A sewing accessory comprising a receptacle body having a bottom and a side wall, an upstanding inner wall in spaced relation with the side wall forming an open top thread spool chamber, upright pivot pins in said chamber for rotatably maintaining thread spools in upright position, means joined to said inner wall forming a number of open top compartments, and guide means on the inner side of said inner wall in one of said compartments providing a thread guide for each spool and a means for securing an end of the thread after being drawn through its guide, and a cutting means on the inner side of said guide means and means for cutting a thread after connecting the same to said securing means.

12. Apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said thread cutting means is disposed below the top edge of the inner wall.

13. Apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said thread securing means comprises an integral button and neck portion about which the thread may be wound.

14. A sewing accessory comprising a receptacle having a bottom and a side wall, an inner wall on said bottom in spaced relation with the side wall forming an outer chamber and an inner compartment, means in the chamber for supporting a plurality of spools of thread in a position for withdrawal of thread therefrom, said inner wall having a modified portion of reduced height, an elongate flat strip of material disposed against and secured to said modified wall portion, said strip having a number of guide slots therein, means facilitating introduction of a thread into the slots, securing means comprising a button mounted on the top edge of the strip adjacent to each slot, and cutting means including a blade supported on the inner side of said strip and spaced laterally from said slots in a position to facilitate cutting a thread attached to the holder.

15. Apparatus as defined in claim 14 wherein said blade includes a downwardly extending cutting edge.

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