



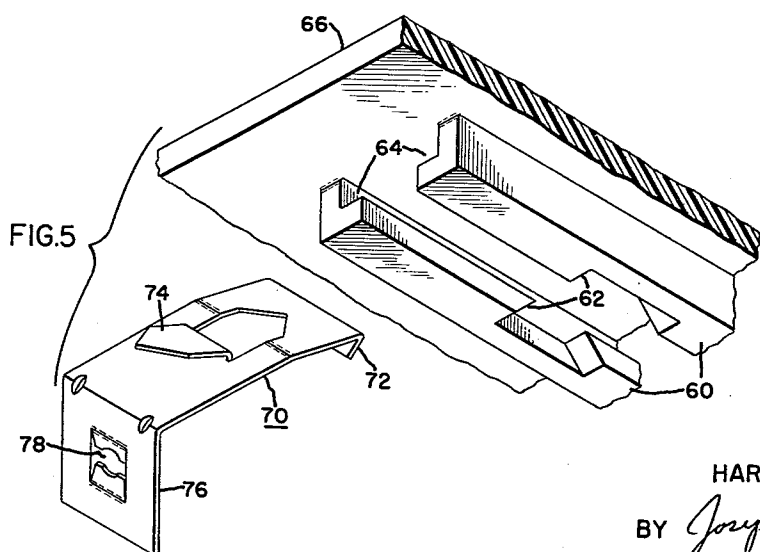
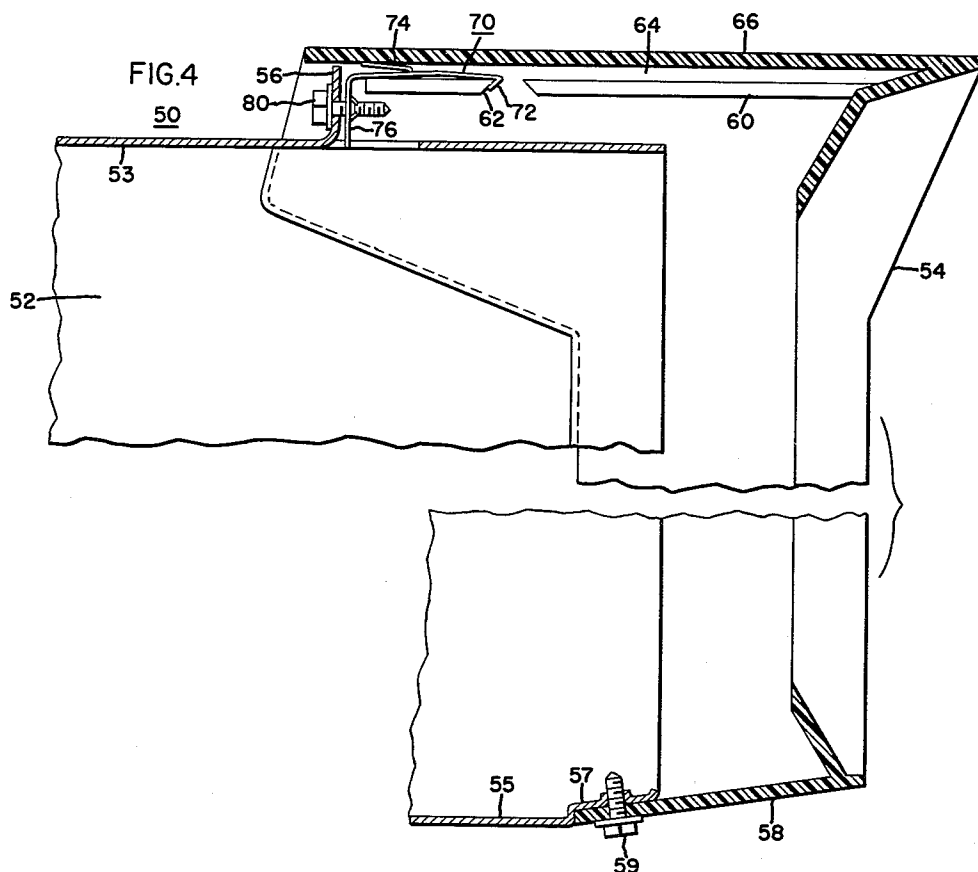
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CABINET STRUCTURE

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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## CABINET STRUCTURE

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This invention relates to a cabinet structure and more particularly to a means for fastening a molded cabinet front to a cabinet body.

In housing various forms of equipment, it is often desirable to provide a decorative cabinet front for the housing structure which may be readily removed in order to gain access to the equipment. This type of cabinet would be desirable for housing a television receiver, for example, because both appearance and accessibility are pre-requisites for encasing such equipment. The decorative cabinet front may take the form of a plastic or other material which may easily be molded into the decorative shapes desired. With this type of material, which is not too strong, a problem arises in providing a strong, positive connection between the molded cabinet front and the cabinet body.

Accordingly, it is an object of this invention to provide means for making a strong, positive connection between a molded cabinet front and a cabinet body.

A further object of this invention is to provide an inexpensive means for securing a molded cabinet front to a cabinet body which is easy to assemble and yet readily removable in order to provide convenient access to the interior of the cabinet.

A still further object of this invention is to provide a novel means for attaching a molded cabinet front to a cabinet body which resists loosening or movement.

In carrying out this invention a cabinet structure is provided having a cabinet body and a decorative molded cabinet front which is to be mounted on the cabinet body member. The molded cabinet front is provided with a molded boss having a channel therein adapted to receive a spring clip. The spring clip is provided with a hook and a tab which are adapted to secure the clip in the channel of the molded boss. The clip is then hooked or screw-fastened to the cabinet body, thus providing a sturdy and positive means for securing the molded front to the cabinet body.

These and other advantages of this invention will be more clearly understood from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and its scope will be apparent from the appended claims.

In the drawings,

Fig. 1 shows a cross-sectional view of the cabinet structure embodied in this invention,

Fig. 2 is an exploded view of the molded boss and spring clip elements utilized in the embodiment of Fig. 1,

Fig. 3 is an enlarged view of the means for fastening the molded cabinet front to the cabinet body shown in Fig. 1,

Fig. 4 is a partial cross-sectional view of an alternative embodiment of this invention, and

Fig. 5 is an enlarged exploded view of the molded boss and spring clip utilized in the embodiment of Fig. 4.

Referring now to Fig. 1, one form of the cabinet structure embodied in this invention is shown with the cabinet designated generally with the character 10. The cabinet

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10 consists of a cabinet body 12 and a molded cabinet front 14. The cabinet body 12 is provided with a top side 16 having a flange 18 thereon and a bottom side 20 having a flange 22 thereon. The molded cabinet front 14 has a top side 24 and a bottom side 44. The flange 22 of bottom side 20 is secured to bottom side 44 by a screw 46. The top side 24 is provided with a molded boss 26 having a channel 28 therein, best shown on Fig. 2. The molded boss 26 is also provided with a notch 30.

A spring clip 32 is provided for securing the top side 24 of molded front 14 to top side 16 of body member 12. As is shown in Fig. 2, spring clip 32 is provided with a hook 34 on one end portion thereof, a tab 36 on a central portion thereof, and stops 38 and a flange 40 on the other end portion thereof.

The manner in which the spring clip 32 is utilized for fastening the cabinet front 14 to cabinet body 12 will best be seen in Fig. 3. Spring clip 32 is adapted to be received in the channel 28 of molded boss 26 with hook 34 being adapted to drop into notch 30. With hook 34 in place, tab 36 engages the upper portion of channel 28 to exert a pressure thereon. A slot 42 is provided in flange 18 of top side 16 for receiving the flange 40 of clip 32.

In assembling the clip 32 and the cabinet front 14, clip 32 is pushed into the channel 28 of boss 26 until the hook 34 drops into relief notch 30, thus, retaining the clip in place. The tab 36 exerts a sufficient pressure on side 24 to keep the clip in place and prevent it from vibrating loose. To remove the clip 32 from the cabinet front 14, the clip 32 is pushed forward in the channel 28, and the hook 34 is raised to clear the lower shelf of the notch 30, and the clip is thus removed.

The entire cabinet front 14 is assembled to cabinet body 12 by hooking flange 40 into slot 42, and then allowing front 14 to seat on cabinet body 12. The screw 46 secures side 44 to the flange 22 of side 20. To remove the cabinet front 14, screw 46 is removed and cabinet front 14 is rotated to unhook flange 40 from slot 42.

Fig. 4 shows an alternative embodiment of the cabinet structure of this invention in which the cabinet is designated generally with reference character 50. Cabinet 50 has a body portion 52 and a molded cabinet front 54. The body member 52 has a top side 53 having a flange 56 thereon and a bottom side 55 having a flange 57 thereon. The molded cabinet front 54 has a top side 66 and a bottom side 58. The bottom side 58 is adapted to be secured to the bottom side 55 of body member 52 by a screw 59. Top side 66 of the molded cabinet front 54 is provided with a molded boss 60 best seen in Fig. 5. The molded boss 60 has a channel 64 therein and a relief notch 62 thereon.

In the embodiment of Fig. 4, a spring clip 70 is utilized to secure the molded cabinet front 54 to the cabinet body 50 on the upper portion thereof. Clip 70 has a hook 72 on one end portion thereof, a tab 74 on the central portion thereof and a flange 76 having a hole 78 therein on the other end portion thereof. In this embodiment, clip 70 is attached to the flange 56 of side 53 by a screw 80 which engages the hole 78 of flange 76 and spring clip 70. As in the previous embodiment, hook 72 is adapted to drop into relief notch 62 of the molded boss 60 with the tab 74 exerting pressure on side 66 to hold the clip in place. The clip may be inserted and removed in the manner described in connection with the embodiment of Fig. 1.

The spring clip, which is utilized in both embodiments of this invention, provides a strong flange to an essentially weak molded front allowing the molded front to be hooked on or screw fastened to the cabinet body. Thus, the clip provides a strong, positive connection between the

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molded cabinet front and the cabinet body which resists loosening or movement of the molded cabinet front with respect to the cabinet. The cabinet in utilizing the clip embodied in this invention is easy to assemble and easy to remove allowing replacement and ready access to the internal portion of the cabinet. These advantages are attained without sacrificing the neat appearance of the cabinet structure.

Since other modifications varied to fit particular operating requirements and environments will be apparent to those skilled in the art, this invention is not considered limited to the examples chosen for purposes of disclosure and covers all modifications and changes which do not constitute departure from the true spirit and scope of this invention.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A television cabinet structure comprising a cabinet body and a molded cabinet front to be mounted thereto, said cabinet front having a projecting side, an integral boss molded on the inside of said side, said boss providing a channel between it and the side, said boss also having a notch on its inside surface communicating with said channel, a spring clip inserted in said channel, said clip being in the form of a metal strip having a hook at one end engaging said notch, said strip also having a tab extending outwardly and toward said cabinet body from an intermediate portion of the strip so as to resiliently engage the inside of said projecting side of said cabinet front and maintaining the engagement of said hook with

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said notch, and means for securing the other end of said spring clip to said cabinet body.

2. A television receiver cabinet structure comprising a cabinet body, a molded cabinet front having a front member and sides rearwardly projecting therefrom, said front member and said sides being of generally weak mechanical strength, a boss on the inside of one of said sides, said boss extending to and adjoining with said front member, said boss defining a channel adjacent said rearwardly projecting side, a notch in the side of said boss parallel to said rearwardly projecting side, a spring clip mounted in said channel, one end of said clip having a hook engaging said notch, a tab intermediate the ends of said clip pressing against said rearwardly projecting side to maintain the engagement of said hook with said notch, and means for securing the other end of said clip to said cabinet body.

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