

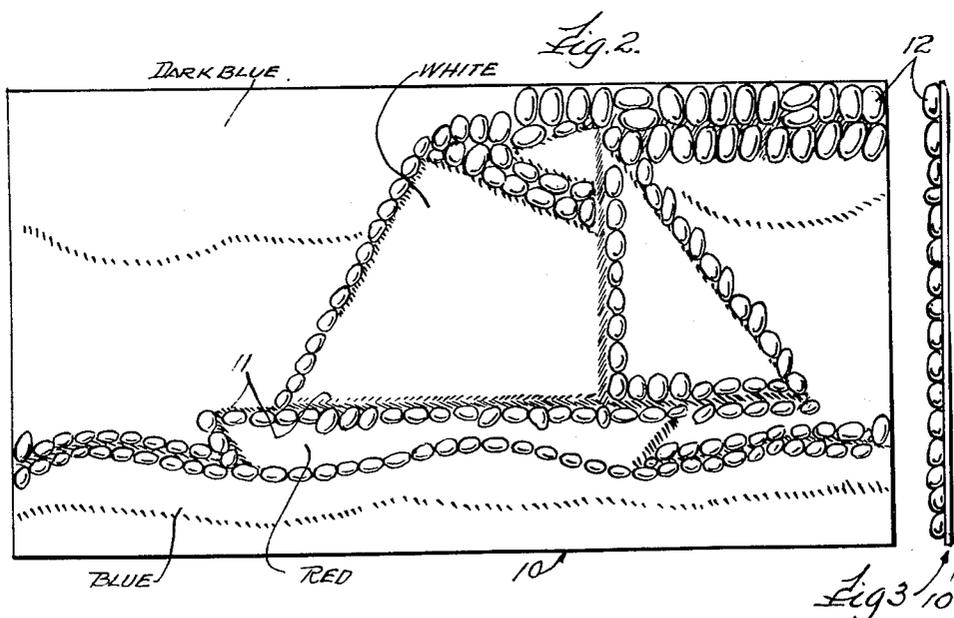
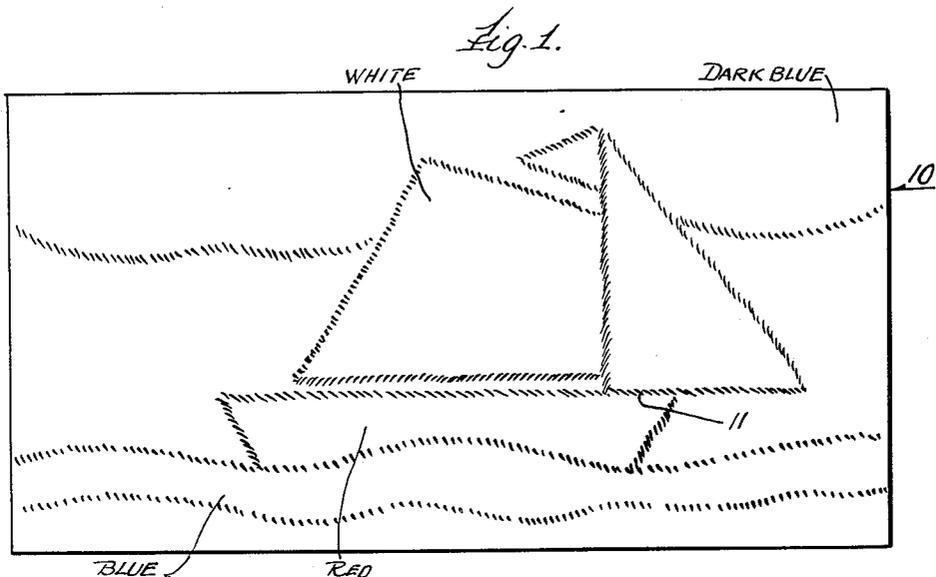
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VISUAL DISPLAY AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME

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**VISUAL DISPLAY AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME**

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1 Claim. (Cl. 41—34)

My invention relates to a visual display using beans, and to the method for making such a visual display.

Among the objects of my invention is to provide a method of making a visual display in which I use beans and attach them to a background. Another object is to create a visual display in which beans are used as the primary means. My method is particularly adapted to children and keep them beneficially occupied. It is also useful in hospitals in therapy.

My invention also comprises such other objects, advantages and capabilities as will later more fully appear and which are inherently possessed by my invention.

While I have shown in the accompanying drawings a preferred embodiment of my invention, yet it is to be understood that the same is susceptible of modification and change without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Referring to the drawings, Fig. 1 is an elevational view of my cardboard with a typical sketch; Fig. 2 is an elevational view of the same with color indicated and partly filled with beans; and Fig. 3 is an edge view of my visual display.

The preferred embodiment of my method comprises taking a plurality of navy beans, just as they come from the store. They are dry and hard. I apply a harmless vegetable coloring to the beans. Preferably I use only one color on each bean, but do not want to be limited to this practice. When I finish my coloring step, I have beans of all the usual colors such as red, blue, yellow, green, purple, brown, white, black, et cetera. Then I apply a color fastener or water proofing such as a plastic, or lacquer coating, or the like, so that the color on the bean will not run if it should be contacted by moisture.

I then take a base or background preferably in the form of a heavy sheet of cardboard, and sketch in pencil or the like the outlines of the designs or picture which is to be created. In some instances, I will use colored pencil to indicate color areas, but I often just indicate the color to be used by a word.

I follow this step by placing glue or the like on the drawn areas. I place beans of desired colors in each of these areas, move them as desired to fill the areas, and press them against the glue so that they become affixed to the base.

In some instances, where the display is large, I may work only on certain areas at one sitting or time. In this situation, I will apply glue only to the specific area and affix the beans to the glue in these areas. At later times, I will apply glue to other areas in this display and affix beans to these areas.

My article of manufacture comprises a base or background 10. This base 10 is preferably a sheet of cardboard. However, I may use a sheet of wood, or plastic, or any other suitable light material.

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The base 10 has markings 11 thereon forming an outline to indicate the design or picture to be made. These markings may also indicate color, either in the outlines themselves, or by words directing the color to be used.

5 Glue is applied to the areas on the base to be used, and while the glue is wet, a plurality of beans 12 of desired colors to meet the color requested on the areas are placed on top of the glue, moved into desired position and held in place by said glue.

10 The article is allowed to dry and in final form may be hung on the wall, or otherwise used as a decoration.

While I have specified beans, I prefer to use navy beans. Their shape is small enough for use in delicate work and yet large enough for easy handling. In the event a large element is desired, I may use lima beans or kidney beans. They are particularly desirable when a large area is to be covered and where their natural green and red colors respectively are needed. They may be used in all or part of a display without coloring.

20 I ordinarily provide my beans with color so as to have beans of all desired colors. They may be waterproofed with plastic or lacquer spray or any other suitable means.

While I prefer to use actual, natural navy beans, I may use normal lima beans, kidney beans or other beans.

25 However, my invention includes the use of simulations of such beans.

The navy beans may be used with their eyes up or down. They may be placed in even rows or just helter skelter. Their positioning provides a great variety of effects to be obtained in the finished visual display.

30 Because my navy beans are rounded and substantially oval, they provide a third dimensional effect which greatly increases the visibility and attractiveness of the visual display. In some instances, such as sea scapes, the navy beans create a rippling effect that is very pleasing.

35 At any event, because of the third dimensional characteristics of my navy beans, the monotony of a flat picture is avoided. This third dimensional effect stimulates interest and attracts attention.

40 My method is particularly pleasing to children. In using my method they learn color, design and neatness.

In hospitals for those recovering from serious illness who need to be taught to move, my method is of great therapeutic value. It teaches the convalescent to move and by its simplicity provides successful accomplishment resulting in encouragement to the weak and depressed at a time when it is vital to their recovery.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

45 A visual display comprising a base formed of a sheet of cardboard, said base having a sketch with color indications for certain areas of the sketch, glue on said areas, and a plurality of dry, hard, opaque beans held on said areas by said glue, said beans each having applied there-  
50 to a harmless vegetable color, and a color fastening and water proof coating over said color, the color of said beans following the color indications of said sketch, said beans each having eyes, and being rounded and oval in  
55 contour, said beans being so positioned with their eyes up or down, or placed in even rows or helter skelter so as to provide a third dimensional effect and avoid the monotony of a flat display.

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