

Sept. 20, 1938.

B. B. ENOS

2,130,794

VAMP LINING FOR A BOOT OR SHOE AND METHOD OF MAKING A BOOT OR SHOE

Filed June 16, 1937

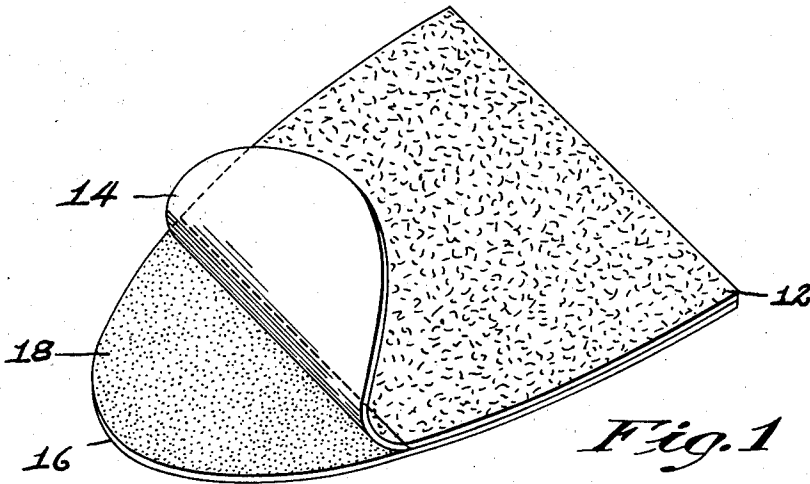


Fig. 1



Fig. 2

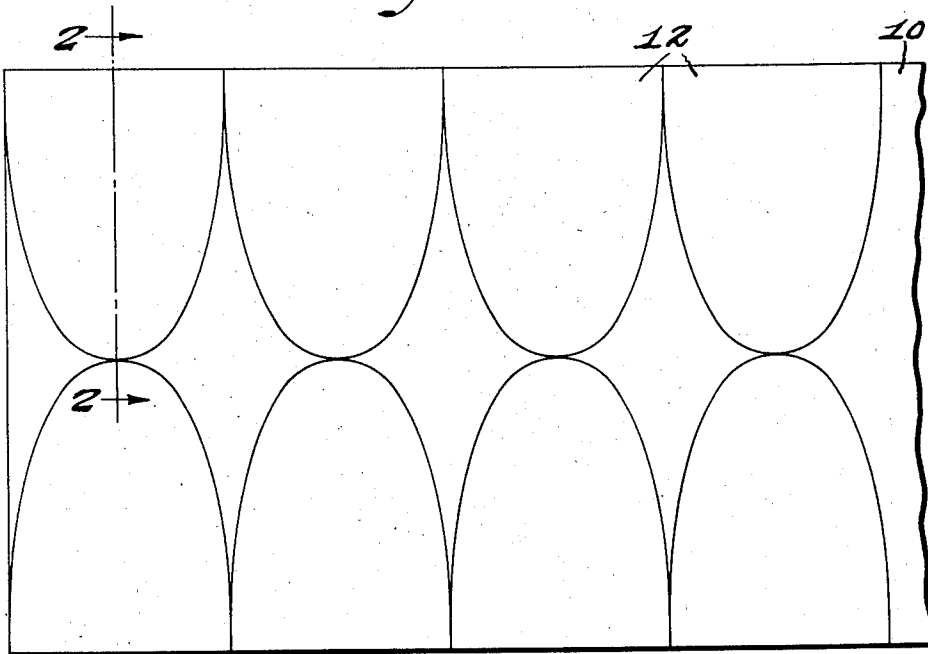


Fig. 3

INVENTOR
Benjamin B. Enos
BY J. Stanley Churchill
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,130,794

VAMP LINING FOR A BOOT OR SHOE AND METHOD OF MAKING A BOOT OR SHOE

Benjamin B. Enos, Salem, Mass.

Application June 16, 1937, Serial No. 148,481

8 Claims. (Cl. 12-146)

This invention relates to a boot or shoe, and more particularly to a vamp lining therefor and to certain novel steps in the method of making the boot or shoe.

One object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved vamp lining of a construction such that the lining may be handled as a one-piece lining and which at the same time is such as to enable the box toe blank to be readily inserted between component parts of the toe portion of the vamp lining, whereby to obtain the advantages of a two-piece lining in the boot or shoe.

A further and more specific object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved vamp lining comprising a sheet of twill or similar hard twisted fabric and a sheet of relatively soft material adhesively secured together to comprise a one-piece vamp lining, and in which the adhesive is selected to be capable of permitting the toe portion of said component parts of the vamp lining to be conveniently separated by the operator, as by the use of heat or solvents, to permit the operator to readily insert the box toe blank between the toe portions of component parts of the lining.

A further object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved method of making a boot or shoe, and more particularly in certain novel steps thereof comprising the formation of a one-piece vamp lining blank, the separation of the toe portion thereof and the introduction of the box toe blank between the separated toe portions of the component parts of the lining blank whereby the shoe may be manufactured at minimum expense and in a simple and more efficient manner.

With these general objects in view, and such others as may hereinafter appear, the invention consists in the vamp lining and in the steps in the method of making the boot or shoe hereinafter described and particularly defined in the claims at the end of this specification.

In the drawing illustrating the preferred embodiment of the invention, Fig. 1 is a perspective of the improved vamp lining with the toe portions thereof separated in position to receive the box toe blank; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the one-piece vamp lining blank prior to the separation of the toe portions thereof; and Fig. 3 illustrates a composite sheet from which a plurality of the novel vamp lining blanks may be cut.

In its broader aspects, the invention contemplates a one-piece lining blank of a structure capable of enabling the toe portions thereof to be separated into two components for the reception therebetween of a box toe blank.

In the manufacture of the boot or shoe, the toe portions of the improved lining blank are separated prior to the lasting operation, either in the stitching room, in the lasting room, or at any other suitable time, to enable the box toe blank to be conveniently inserted between the component toe portions and the lasting operation to be performed.

In the preferred embodiment of the invention, the improved vamp lining comprises a composite structure formed of an underlying foundation member of relatively hard fabric, preferably in the nature of a twill or similar hard twisted fabric and an overlying sheet of flannel or similar relatively soft material secured to the underlying foundation member to form a one-piece vamp lining. The individual vamp lining blanks may be cut or otherwise formed from a sheet of such composite material in accordance with the usual practice of producing one-piece vamp linings. The overlying flannel or similar sheet is preferably adhesively secured to the underlying foundation member by the use of an adhesive selected to be capable of being rendered soft by heat or the use of solvents in order to permit the toe portion of the flannel component to be detached from the toe portion of the underlying foundation member so that in the manufacture of a boot or shoe the toe portion of the vamp lining blank may be readily separated, as by the operator in the stitching or lasting rooms, and in the manner described, and the usual box toe blank may be conveniently inserted between the separated toe portions of the component parts of the one-piece lining, and thereafter the box toe blank and lining may be lasted in accordance with the usual practice.

Referring now to the drawing, 10 represents the composite material from which a plurality of individual one-piece linings 12 may be died out or otherwise formed in accordance with the usual practice. Preferably the composite sheet 10 comprises an overlying layer or sheet of flannel 14 or similar relatively soft material and an underlying foundation member 16 preferably in the nature of a twill or similar hard twisted fabric. The sheets 14, 16 are combined into a one-piece sheet by an interposed layer of adhesive 18 and the adhesive 18 is selected to be capable of being softened by heat or by solvents or in any other suitable manner, for example, by subjecting the blank to impact to destroy the adhesive bond between the components of the toe portion of the blank. In addition, if found of advantage, the toe portions of the blank may be separated by

suitable mechanical methods, as by cutting or slicing the toe portion of the blank.

In the manufacture of a boot or shoe in accordance with the present invention, the one-piece vamp lining of the construction above described may be treated by the operator in the stitching room to render the toe portions of the component members 14, 16 of the one-piece vamp lining to be capable of being separated into a position such as is shown in Fig. 1. This may be conveniently accomplished in various ways as hereinafter described, such for example, as by subjecting the toe portion to heat as by dipping the same in hot water, or exposure to steam, if the adhesive is one which is capable of being softened by heat, or by dipping the toe portion of the vamp lining into a solvent, if the character of the adhesive requires a solvent to soften the same, or as above set forth, by suitable mechanical operations. In any event, the lining may be separated at the toe portion with minimum effort and at minimum expense and the usual box toe blank readily inserted between the portions of the vamp lining. Thereafter the lining may be incorporated in the shoe in accordance with the usual practice, preferably with the flannel or similar member 14 adjacent the upper and the usual lasting operations performed.

In practice different forms of water soluble pastes may be used as the adhesive, and when such form of adhesive is used the vamp lining blank may be dipped in hot water or exposed to steam in order to soften the paste between the toe portions of the component members of the lining blank to thereby enable the toe portions to be readily separated. If desired, other adhesives may be used including known forms of thermoplastic cements such as gums, adhesive gutta percha, latex, or rubber compositions. If found of advantage, solvents for the rubber or gums may be used in order to effect softening thereof to enable the toe portions of the vamp lining blank to be separated instead of heat, or such solvents may be used in conjunction with heat. When Celluloid and similar organic adhesives are used, suitable organic solvents such as acetone may be required to effect the softening of the adhesive.

From the description thus far, it will be observed that the present vamp lining blank possesses important practical advantages over any lining blanks of the prior art of which I am aware, and among which may be mentioned the fact that the one-piece lining blank enables all of the advantages of a two-piece lining blank to be secured, while at the same time permitting the material to be handled as one fabric instead of two; to be cut in one operation instead of two; to be "put up" or cased as one type instead of two; and because of the fact that the combination of the component parts of the lining blank occur before introduction of the blank into the shoe the production of wrinkles is eliminated, enabling in some instances the necessity for cementing the flannel component to the leather vamp to be eliminated. In practice the toe portions of the lining blank are opened back to a predetermined depth thereby enabling much better registration of the box toe blank within the component portions of the lining blank to be secured.

While the preferred embodiment of the invention has been herein illustrated and described, it will be understood that the invention may be embodied in other forms within the scope of the following claims.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:

1. A multi-ply vamp lining for a boot or shoe comprising a foundation member in the nature of a twill and an overlying member in the nature of a flannel, a layer of adhesive between said members securing them together to form a unitary structure, said adhesive being of a character capable of being treated to enable the toe portions of the members to be separated for the reception of a box toe blank.

2. A multi-ply vamp lining for a boot or shoe comprising a foundation member in the nature of a twill and an overlying member in the nature of a flannel, said members being adhesively secured together with the exception of the toe portions thereof, whereby to permit a box toe blank to be inserted between the toe portions of said members.

3. In the method of making a boot or shoe, the steps comprising forming a laminated lining blank capable of being handled as a unitary lining blank, separating with the aid of heat the toe portions thereof into two components, introducing a box toe blank in between said components and then embodying the assembled lining and box toe blank in a boot or shoe.

4. In the method of making a boot or shoe, the steps comprising forming a laminated lining blank capable of being handled as a unitary lining blank, separating with the aid of a solvent the toe portions thereof into two components, introducing a box toe blank in between said components and then embodying the assembled lining and box toe blank in a boot or shoe.

5. In the method of making a boot or shoe, the steps comprising adhesively securing together two component members to form a unitary lining blank, then subjecting the toe portions only of said unitary vamp lining blank to treatment to soften the adhesive, then separating the toe portions of said members and introducing a box toe blank between the separated toe portions thereof.

6. A vamp lining for a boot or shoe comprising a foundation member in the nature of a twill and an overlying member in the nature of a flannel, a layer of adhesive between said members securing them together to form a unitary structure, said adhesive being of a character to permit the layers being pulled apart to enable the toe portions of the members to be separated for the reception of a box toe blank.

7. A multi-ply vamp lining for a boot or shoe, comprising a foundation member and a contiguous overlying member substantially coextensive in area with said foundation member and adhesively secured thereto with the exception of the toe portions thereof and being free of securement in said toe portions, whereby to permit a box toe blank to be inserted between the toe portions of said members.

8. A multi-ply vamp lining for a boot or shoe, comprising a foundation member and a contiguous overlying member substantially coextensive in area with said foundation member, a layer of adhesive between said members securing them together to form a unitary structure, said adhesive being of a character to permit of the layers being pulled apart to enable the toe portions of the members to be separated for the reception of a box toe blank.

BENJAMIN B. ENOS.