May 14, 1940. P. SCHECHTER 2,201,127

KEY AND KEYHOLE ILLUMINATION

Filed March 8, 1939

Fig. 1

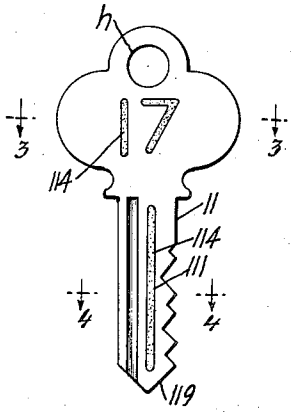


Fig. 2

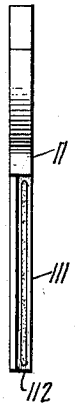


Fig. 3

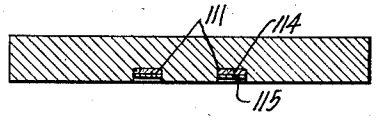


Fig. 4

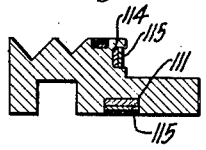


Fig. 5

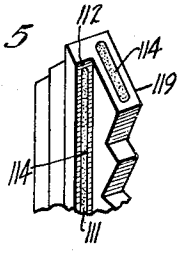


Fig. 6

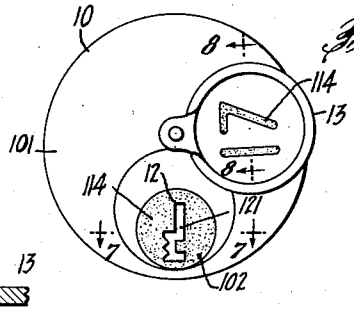


Fig. 8



Fig. 8A

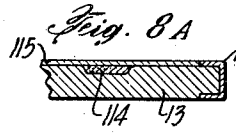


Fig. 7

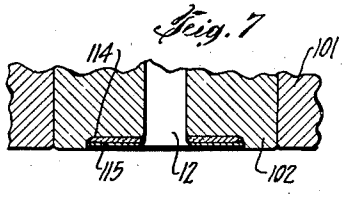


Fig. 9

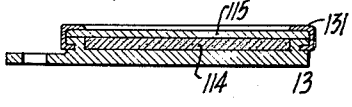


Fig. 10

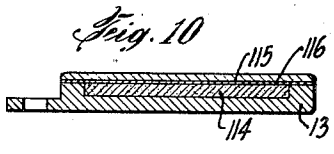


Fig. 11

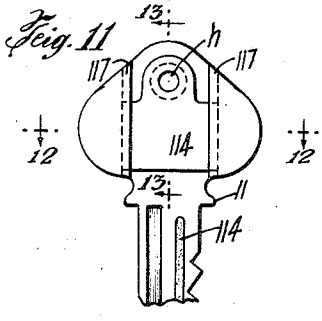


Fig. 12

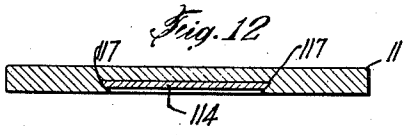
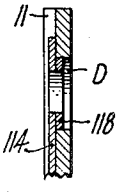


Fig. 13



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KEY AND KEYHOLE ILLUMINATION

Philip Schechter, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Application March 8, 1939, Serial No. 260,486

1 Claim. (Cl. 250—74)

This invention relates generally to doors and more particularly to keys and their cooperative locks therefor and it is the purpose of this invention to provide means by which the key and keyhole and/or keyhole guard of a lock can be illuminated to render them clearly visible in the dark, whereby to obviate the delay and annoyance attendant the effort of searching for the keyhole in a darkened location.

Further objects are to so designate a key and keyhole with indicia that the correct corresponding operative positions thereof for insertion of the key in the juxtaposed hole are instantly obvious; to additionally mark a key or identification tag thereof with indicia to render the designation illuminated for identity when the key may be on a key board in a darkened location, etc.; to protect said illuminated indicia from wearing off as caused by use in handling the key and keyhole; to provide means for removably fastening said indicia to said parts; and to provide a device of the class hereinafter referred to which is simple in its construction and arrangement, strong, durable, economical and easy to manufacture.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following detailed description and accompanying drawing forming part thereof.

In the drawing,

Fig. 1 is an elevation view of a key showing illuminated indicia thereon.

Fig. 2 is a side view of the device of Fig. 1, showing indicia on the edge thereof.

Fig. 3 is a cross section view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a cross section view taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the forward end part of a key.

Fig. 6 is a plan view of a lock showing a tumbler cylinder and guard therefor.

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary section view, taken on line 7—7 of Fig. 6, of a tumbler showing the key slot.

Fig. 8 is a section view taken on line 8—8 of Fig. 6.

Fig. 8a is a section view taken on line 8—8 of an embodiment showing a cover protector for the illuminated paint and means for fastening same on a guard.

Fig. 9 is a cross section view of a guard having removable indicia and cover therefor.

Fig. 10 is a cross section view of a guard having removable indicia and transparent cover glued thereon.

Fig. 11 is a fragmentary view of the end of a key handle having indicia and cover and means for removably fastening same to the key.

Fig. 12 is a section view taken on line 12—12 of Fig. 11.

Fig. 13 is a section view taken on line 13—13 of Fig. 11, showing a method of removably fastening the removable indicia.

In the drawing this invention is shown for the purpose of illustration associated with a conventional cylinder lock 10, and key 11 therefor. A keyhole 12 and shield guard 13 therefor is also conventionally illustrated. The lock 10 may have an outer plate 101, or escutcheon plate and may also have an outer tumbler plate 102, in any of which the outer keyhole slot portion may be formed.

I prefer to carve into said key 11, certain marks or indicia 111, which may generally correspond, if desired, with similar carved marks on the keyhole plate placed in close proximity with the keyhole. For example, I prefer to place an elongated groove 111 (see Figs. 2 and 5) as shown in shoulder face 112, or other part of said key which groove may be partially filled with an illuminating paint 114, or the like, which may be covered with a protective coat of transparent plastic or the like 115, having properties resisting wear thereof. It is seen that such groove is arranged to not interfere with the function of said shoulder 112, in operating the key in the keyhole, the groove being beneath and occupying a small part of the lateral area of said upper shoulder face. It is noted that said upper face 112 enters only the upper cooperating portion 121, of the slot 12 and thus this illumination is seen only from above by the operator when correctly inserting the key in the slot. The key is thus marked to aid in its correct and instant guidance into the slot. Particularly is this true if only the upper edge portion of the keyhole slot is correspondingly marked. This will tell the operator to place the illuminated edge or point of the key to abut the illuminated edge of the keyhole.

The markings may be of any kind and may be on any face or edge or part of the key as for instance shown in Fig. 4.

In Fig. 8a, is shown a guard 13, having a ring 131, which may house a removable protecting cover 115, over the removable or non-removable illuminated paint 114. Fig. 9 shows such a ring, rousing a removable cover and removable indicia on a guard. Fig. 10 shows a method of gluing a transparent cover over a removable disc of indicia.

Fig. 11 shows a method of marking a key by mounting a removable sheet of indicia in a slot 117 in the key, the sheet 114, being greater in cross width than the distance between the slots 117, so as to flexibly hold itself in place as is understood by one skilled in the art. A washer 118, may be inserted in counterbore D to hold said indicia in place, the washer being of the split type to flexibly expand to fit the wall of the counterbore. (See Fig. 13.)

A ring such as 131 may itself be so illuminated and removably affixed to 13, 102, or 10, or the outer circumferential edge of said members may be impressed with illuminating matter.

Parts may be used without others and it is intended the disclosure is illustrative rather than limitative.

I claim:

In a key and a door lock having a key slot therefor, the combination of a lock plate on said door lock having a groove in the outer face thereof formed as indicia, said indicia being located adjacent the key slot edge to define a particular slot portion, said key having a groove formed as indicia in the key slot engaging end, illuminating paint or the like in said grooves, said paint being covered with a transparent material and said paint and covering materials being confined in said grooves, said indicia being marginal joining marks adapted to register with corresponding marks on the respective parts only when the parts are in correct relative position for entry of the key into the slot.

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