# United States Patent

[11] **3,542,263**


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[45] Patented **Nov. 24, 1970**


[54] **SAFETY WALLET FOR WAIST BELT**
**7 Claims, 12 Drawing Figs.**


[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **224/26,** 150/38
[51] **Int. Cl.** ..... **A45c 1/06**
[50] **Field of Search** ..... 224/26.3, 26, 5.21, 5, 26.5, 26.7, 17, 21; 150/38, 39, 37, 47



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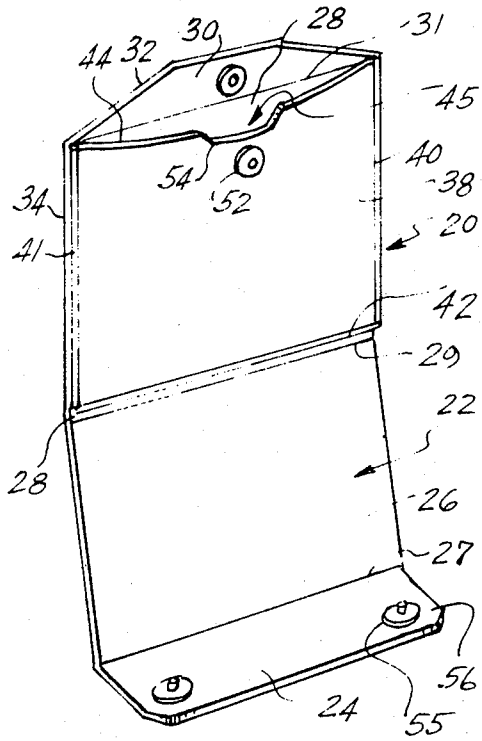
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**ABSTRACT:** A safety wallet or purse for money, keys and other small articles is formed with a plurality of panels so that it can be folded around a waist belt. Snap fasteners detachably engage the panels together to keep a compartment in the wallet doubly locked. The waist belt may have snap fasteners engaging mating snap fasteners on the wallet to prevent lateral movement of the wallet on the belt and to provide a third lock for the compartment.

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Fig. 1.

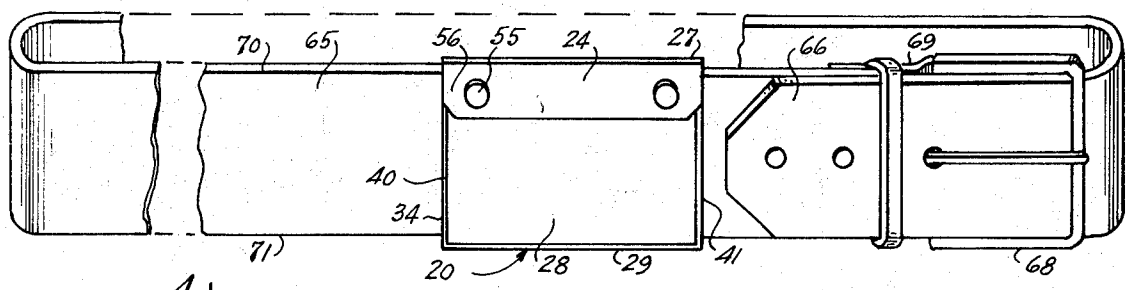



Fig. 3.

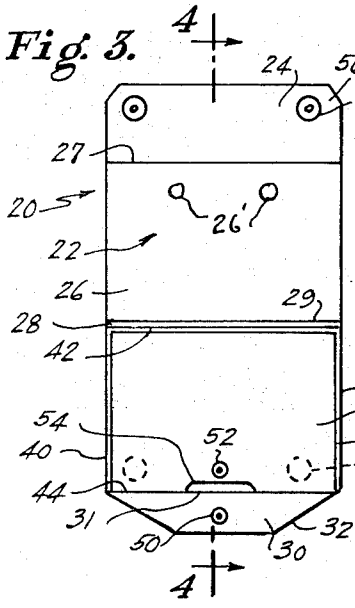



Fig. 4.

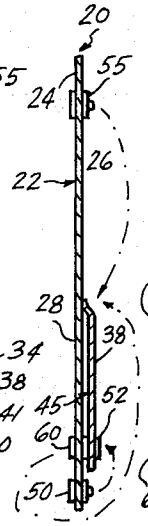



Fig. 5.

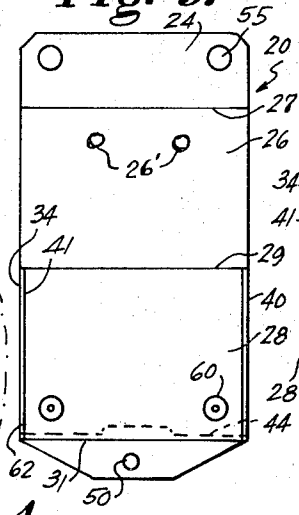
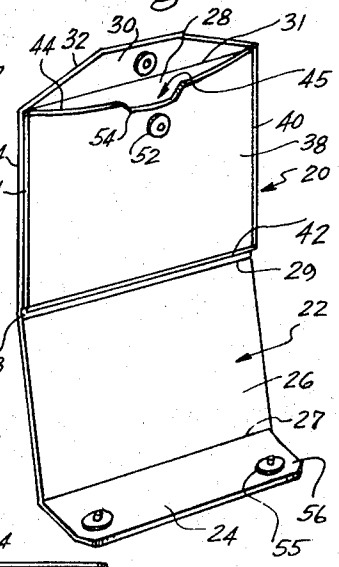



Fig. 2.



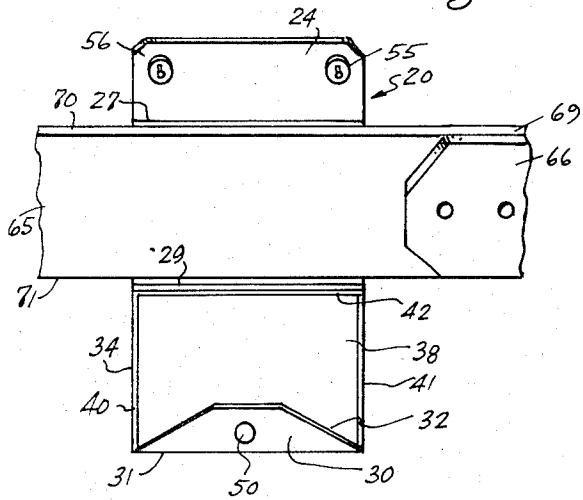




Fig. 6.

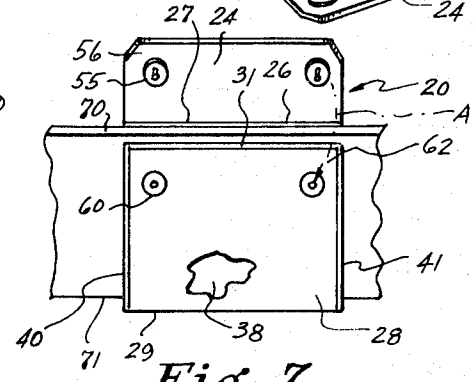



Fig. 7.

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Fig. 8.

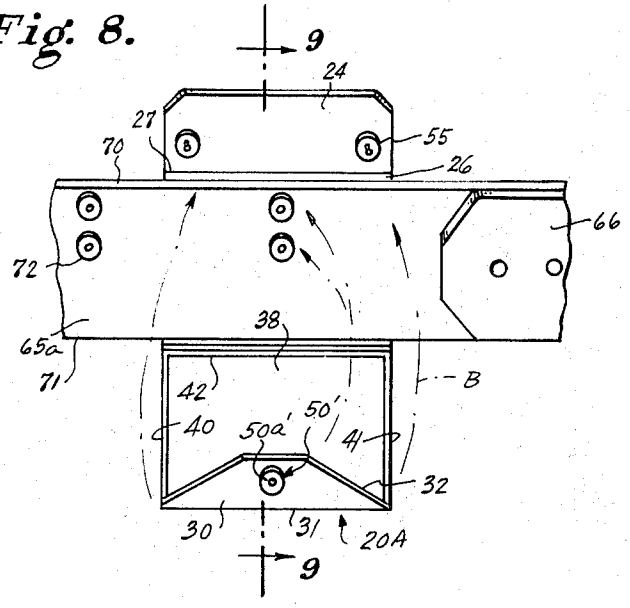
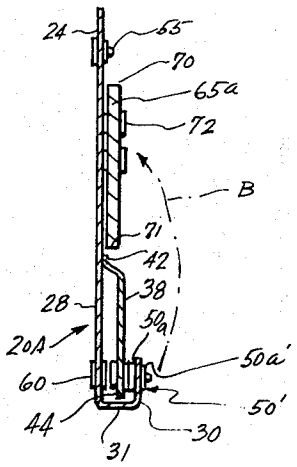



Fig. 9.



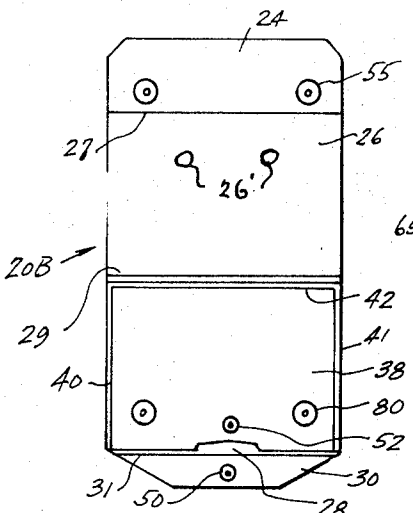




Fig. 10.

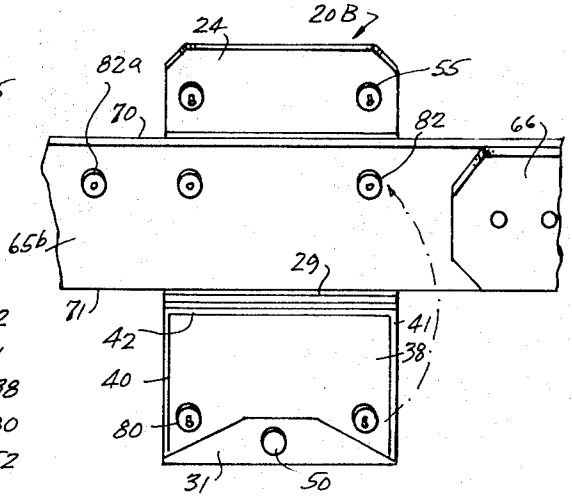



Fig. 11.

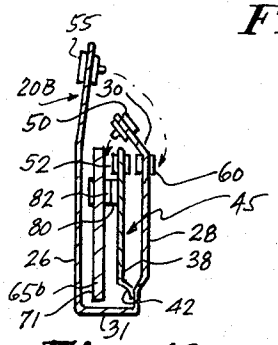



Fig. 12.

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# SAFETY WALLET FOR WAIST BELT

The invention relates to the art of wallets, purses and similar holders of small personal articles.

Heretofore persons engaged in strenuous activities such as sports played in uniform, swimmers in bathing suits and others wearing garments in which it is not practical to install pockets have lacked in a convenient way of carrying a small wallet or purse. It has been proposed heretofore to provide a belt with a built-in money compartment. Such a compartment generally has a single flap engaged over the top of the compartment. If the flap accidentally opens, the contents of the compartment are free to spill out. A further objection to a belt with a built-in money compartment is that the compartment cannot be detached for use apart from the belt and the belt cannot be worn without the attached built-in money compartment.

The present invention overcomes the above and other difficulties and disadvantages by providing a safety wallet or purse which can be slipped on a closed waist belt and which can be detached from the closed belt having to open the belt. The wallet has a plurality of foldable panels engaged by snap fasteners so that a locked compartment for small articles is locked a second time when the wallet is engaged on the belt. When snap fasteners are provided on the belt and a panel of the wallet, the compartment is in effect locked a third time. This insures security of articles in the wallet which cannot open accidentally even though the wearer engages in strenuous sports while wearing the wallet on a waist belt.

Various objects, features and advantages of the invention will become apparent upon reading the following specification together with the drawing forming a part thereof.

Referring to the drawing:

FIG. 1 is an elevational view of a wallet embodying the invention shown mounted on a belt, parts of which are broken away.

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the wallet in an open position.

FIG. 3 is an elevational view of the wallet in open position.

FIG. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view taken on line 4–4 of FIG. 3.

FIG. 5 is an elevational view similar to FIG. 3 showing the reverse side of the wallet.

FIG. 6 is an elevational view of the wallet with compartment closed shown at a stage in the procedure for mounting the wallet on a belt.

FIG. 7 is a further elevational view of the wallet shown at a further stage in the procedure for mounting on the belt.

FIG. 8 is a view similar to FIG. 7 showing another wallet at a stage in mounting on another belt.

FIG. 9 is a sectional view taken on line 9–9 of FIG. 8.

FIG. 10 is an elevational view similar to FIG. 3 showing still another wallet.

FIG. 11 is a view similar to FIGS. 6 and 8, showing the wallet of FIG. 10 at a stage in mounting on still another belt.

FIG. 12 is a sectional view of the wallet and belt of FIG. 11 with wallet shown in a further stage in mounting on a belt.

Referring first to FIGS. 1—7, there is shown a wallet **20** having a generally rectangular form when open. It is made of flexible sheet material such as plastic, leather, cloth or the like. It has a flexible wall **22** formed with a first narrow rectangular flap **24** at one end, a first rectangular panel **26** joined to flap **24** by fold **27**, a second panel **28** joined to panel **26** by fold **29**, and an end flap **30** which may have oblique corners **32**. The second flap **30** is secured by fold **31** to panel **28**. Secured to lateral edges of panel **28** and along transverse fold **29** between panels **26** and **28**, is a rectangular panel **38**. Panel **38** is secured to panel **28** at its lateral edges **34** and near fold **29** to form three seams **40**, **41** and **42**. The seams are formed by stitching, cementing, heat sealing or the like. Edge **44** of panel **38** is free from panel **28** to provide an opening into compartment **45** defined between panels **28** and **38**. In this compartment can be stored money, keys or other small personal articles.



Compartment **45** can be closed by folding flap **30** on fold **31** over panel **38**. A centrally located snap fastener stud **50** secured to flap **30** will engage with a mating snap fastener socket **52** secured to panel **38** near edge **44**. A notch **54** can be provided in edge **44** to facilitate separating panels **28**, **38** to open the compartment.

A pair of snap fastener studs **55** are provided near corners **56** of panel **24**. The studs face forwardly when the wallet is open and face inwardly when the wallet is closed. Studs **55** engage with mating snap fastener sockets **60** located near corners **62** of the outer side of panel **28** near fold **31** and flap **30**.

FIG. **6** shows the wallet placed behind a waist belt **65**. The belt can be closed by engaging apertured free end **66** on buckle **68** at the other end **69** of the belt. The wallet can be mounted on the belt while it is closed as shown and worn on the body of a person. The wallet is disposed with flap or panel **24** uppermost above top edge **70** of the belt. Panel **26** is behind the belt. Folds **27**, **28** and **29** are parallel to top and bottom edges **70**, **71** of the belt. Panels **28** and **38** are below the belt and the compartment **45** is closed by flap **30** which is held engaged on panel **38** by the engaged snap fastener members **50**, **52**.

FIG. **7** shows the panels **28**, **38** folded up on fold **29** in front of the belt to disposed sockets **60** in forwardly facing position. Flap **24** is ready to be folded down on fold **27** as indicated by arrows A. This will form a loop over the belt. The snap fastener members **55** and **60** will be engaged together to complete the mounting of the wallet on the belt as shown in FIG. **1**.

It will be understood from an examination of the drawing that compartment **45** is locked closed a first time by flap **30** and then is closed a second time since flap **24** extends over fold **31**. Thus, even if flap **30** opens accidentally, the compartment **45** will still stay closed.

FIGS. **8** and **9** show another wallet **20** A in which parts corresponding to those of wallet **20** are identically numbered. Wallet **20** A has a double snap fastener member **50'** on flap **30**. This snap fastener member has stud **50***a* on the inner side of the flap as in wallet **30** and another stud **50***a'* on the outer side of the flap. Stud **50***a'* can engage with either one of two snap fastener sockets **72** located one below the other on belt **65***a* near its upper edge **70**.

It will be apparent from an inspection of FIGS. **8** and **9**, that stud **50***a'* will engage with one of sockets **72** when the panels **28**, **38** closed by flap **30** are folded up as indicated by arrows. This will locate fastener members **60** on the outer side of panel **28** in a forward position for engagement by fastener members **55** on flap **24** when this flap is folded down over panel **28**. The engagement of fastener stud **50***a'* with one of sockets **72** provides a safety lock or hold for the wallet so that even if flap **24** opens the wallet will not slip off the belt and the compartment **45** will not open. While fastener members **50***a'* and **72** are engaged, the compartment **45** will remain closed even if fastener members **50**, **52** accidentally open behind flap **30**.

FIGS. **10**, **11** and **12** show another wallet **20B** in which parts corresponding to those of wallets **20** and **20A** are identically numbered. Wallet **20B** is provided with a pair of snap fastener studs **80** on panel **38**. They are located near flap **30** and face forwardly when the wallet is open as shown in FIGS. **10** and **11**. Belt **65***b* is provided with a pair of spaced snap fastener sockets **82** near upper edge **70** of the belt. These sockets are engaged by studs **80** when the panels **28**, **38** are folded up on fold **31** at the bottom edge **71** of the belt. As in wallet **20A** the compartment **45** is triply locked or closed since flap **30** forms the first closure. Then by engagement of studs **80** to sockets **82** flap **30** is closed between panel **28** and the front side of the belt to form a second closure. Finally, the engagement of flap **24** to panel **28** by attaching snap fastener members **55** and **60** together forms a third safety closure for compartment **45**.

If desired, additional pairs of snap fastener sockets **72'** can be mounted on the belt **65***a* and spaced from sockets **72** so that the wallet **20A** can be secured in different positions along the belt. Similarly, further pairs of snap fastener sockets **82***a*

can be provided along belt **65***b* in positions spaced from sockets **82** for securing wallet **20B** in other positions along the belt.

An important feature of the invention is the facility for mounting a wallet with snap closed compartment to a belt which is closed around the waist of a wearer. Similarly, the wallet can be removed while the belt is closed. For rapid removable of the closed wallet **20**, the belt **65** can be opened at buckle **68** and the belt can be pulled out of the passage defined between the panels **26** and **38**.

The wallet will fulfill a long felt need for a simple, foolproof way of keeping small personal articles safely on the person while engaged in strenuous activities. Instead of snap fasteners, other types of self-engaging fasteners, such as tabs of bands and loops known as "velcro" fasteners, or other pressure sensitive self-adhering members can be used.

As shown in FIGS. **3**, **5** and **10**, there are provided spaced holes **26'** through which a safety pin can be easily extended to attach the wallet directly to the clothing of the wearer.

While I have shown and described what I believe to be the best embodiment of my invention, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various changes and modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

**1**. A wallet for carrying small articles safely on a waist belt, comprising a flat rectangular flexible sheet having a narrow rectangular flap at one end, a first rectangular panel joined by a first fold to said flap, a second rectangular panel joined by a second fold to the first panel, and a second narrow flap joined by a third fold to the second rectangular panel; a third rectangular panel joined at its lateral edges to lateral edges of the second panel and joined at one end edge to the second panel near the second fold, said third panel having a free other end edge at the third fold and second flap to provide an opening into a compartment defined between the second and third panels; first fastener means on the first flap, second fastener means on the second panel, third fastener means on the third panel and fourth fastener means on the second flap, whereby folding the second flap over the second panel and engaging the third and fourth fastener means together effects a first closure of the compartment, and whereby the wallet can then be engaged on said belt by abutting one side of the first panel to one side of the belt, then folding the second panel and third panel upwardly on the second fold to abut the other side of the belt, then folding the first flap down over the second panel and engaging the first and second fastener means together to effect a second closure of the compartment, and a fifth fastener means on one of the flap and panel members, engageable with a mating sixth fastener means on the belt to keep the wallet from shifting along the belt and to define a third closure for the compartment.

**2**. A wallet as defined by claim **1**, wherein the first and second fastener means are pairs of snap fastener members, and wherein the third fastener means is an individual snap fastener member, and wherein the fourth and fifth fastener means is a snap fastener member with double stud.

**3**. A wallet as defined by claim **1**, said fifth fastener means being mounted on said third panel.

**4**. A wallet as defined by claim **3**, wherein the first, second and fifth fastener means are pairs of snap fastener members, and wherein the third and fourth fastener means are individual mating snap fastener members.

**5**. A wallet as defined by claim **1**, wherein the sixth fastener means on the belt are spaced along the belt for selectively locating the wallet at different positions along the belt.

**6**. A wallet as defined by claim **3**, wherein the sixth fastener means on the belt are spaced along the belt for selectively locating the wallet at different positions along the belt.

**7**. A wallet as defined by claim **1**, wherein said sixth fastener means is a pair of snap fastener members spaced transversely across the belt for adjustably engaging the fifth fastener means with one of the last named snap fastener members.