

June 23, 1970

A. INWOOD

3,516,585

TOOL MOUNT

Filed Nov. 12, 1968

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FIG. 1

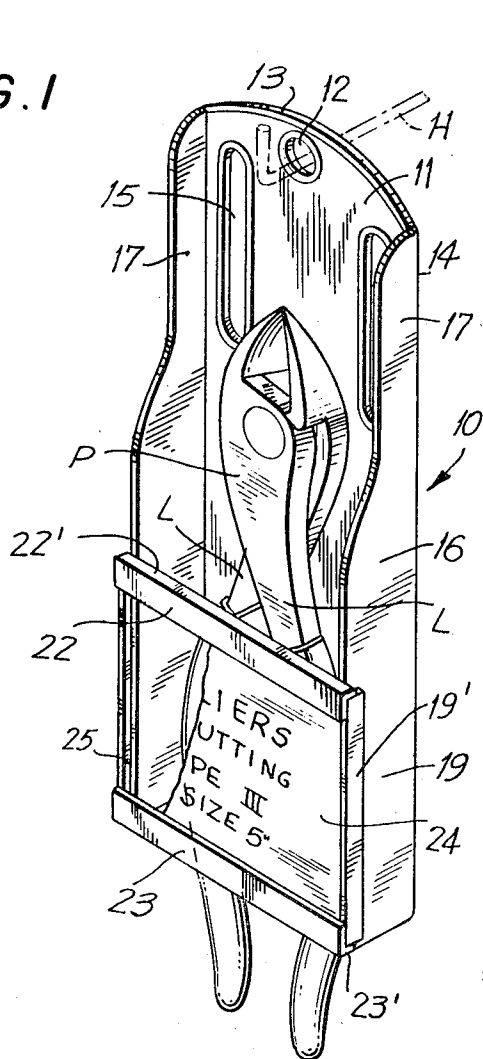
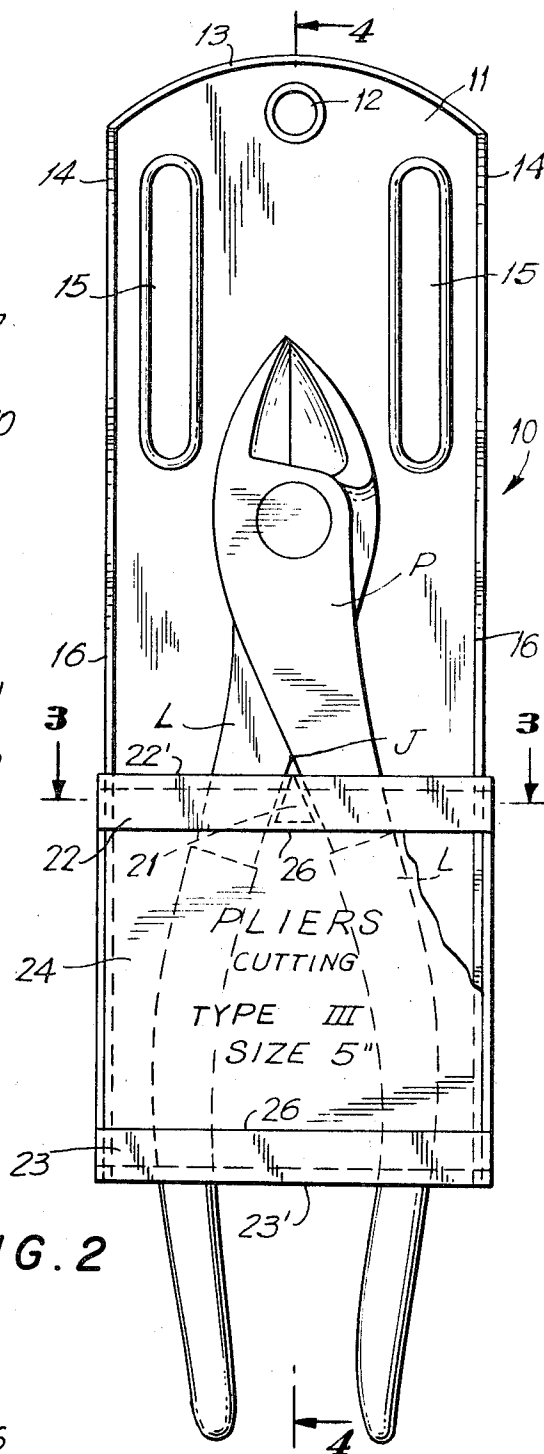


FIG. 2

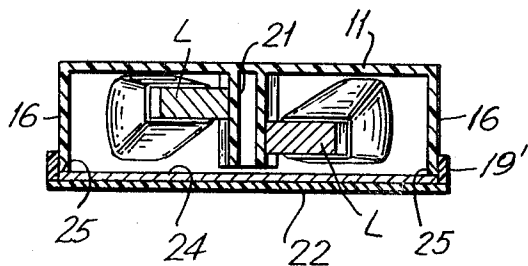


FIG. 3

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FIG. 4

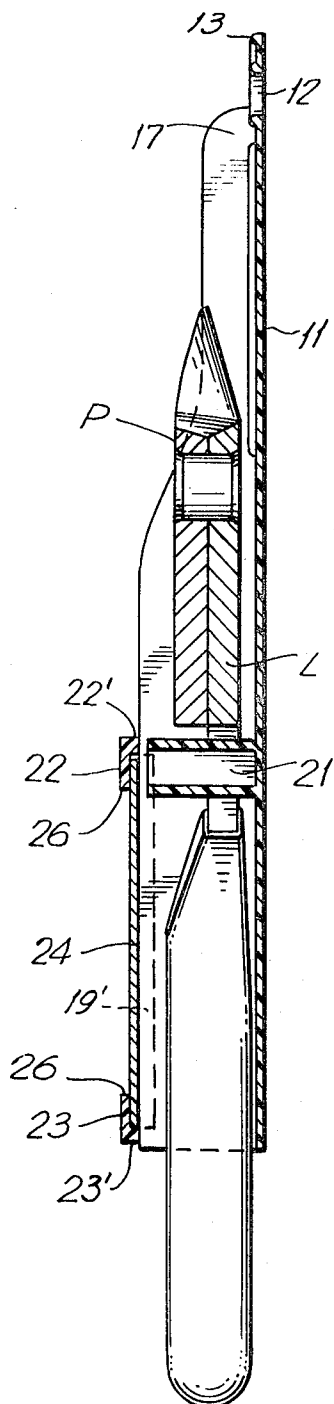
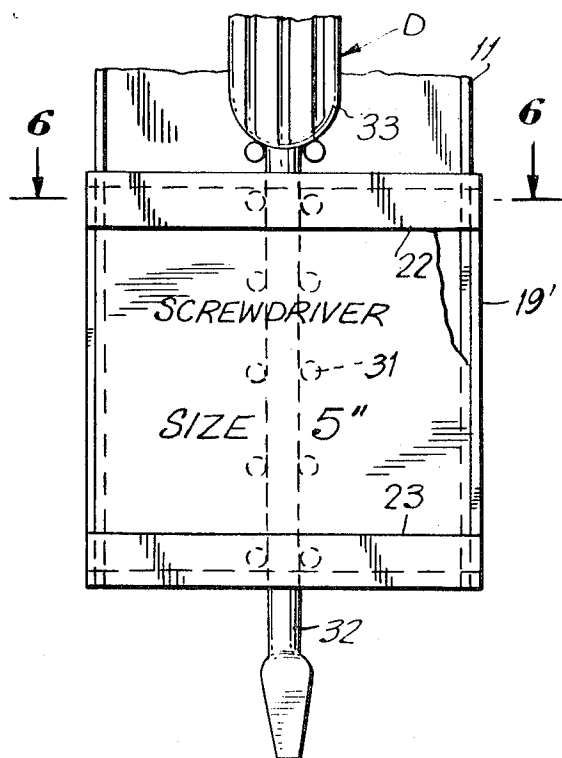
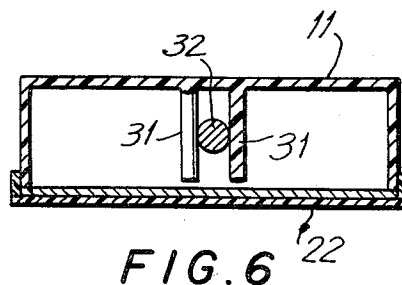


FIG. 5



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TOOL MOUNT

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Filed Nov. 12, 1968, Ser. No. 774,637
Int. Cl. A45f 5/02

U.S. Cl. 224—5

10 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention relates to the art of tool mounts and more particularly to a tool mount preferably formed from plastic material which serves as the container in which the tool is sold and which can be carried on the belt of a user, which mount includes an elongated supporting plate having abutment means extending outwardly from the mid-portion of the plate adjacent its lower end against which a portion of the tool to be carried by the mount may abut, with retaining means extending transversely over the lower end of the tool, said mount including a removable identification card.

As conducive to an understanding of the invention, it is to be noted that it is well known in the art to have a mount for a tool such as a pair of pliers that is to be carried on the belt of the user. The mount and the associated tool are generally sold as separate items and it is consequently necessary for a package containing the tool itself to be labeled with the size and type of the tool.

It is accordingly among the objects of the invention to provide a tool mount that may readily be fabricated at relatively low cost from inexpensive materials such as molded plastic and which will permit ready replacement of a card as an integral part of the mount so that the type and size of the tool accommodated therein will be readily available to facilitate merchandising as a single item of the tool and the mount in which it is carried.

According to the invention, these objects are accomplished by the arrangement and combination of elements hereinafter described and more particularly described in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings in which are shown one or more of various possible embodiments of the several features of the invention,

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of one embodiment of the invention designed for use as a mount for a pair of pliers;

FIG. 2 is a front elevational view of the tool mount;

FIG. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken along line 3—3 of FIG. 2;

FIG. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view taken along line 4—4 of FIG. 2;

FIG. 5 is a fragmentary front elevational view of another embodiment of the invention, and

FIG. 6 is a transverse sectional view taken along line 6—6 of FIG. 5.

Referring to FIGS. 1 to 4 of the drawings, the mount 10 which is illustratively designed for use with a pair of pliers P, is preferably formed from molded plastic and comprises a substantially rectangular back plate 11 which has a central aperture 12 adjacent its upper curved edge 13, midway between the side edges 14 of the plate, said aperture 12 serving to receive a mounting hook H on which the mount may be supported for selling purposes.

The plate 11 has two vertical slots 15 adjacent its upper edge near each of the side edges 14 thereof, which slots are for the purpose of permitting the belt of a user to be passed therethrough so that the tool P carried by the mount is readily available for use.

Extending outwardly at right angles from each of the

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side edges of the plate 11 is a side wall or flange 16 which illustratively extends the entire length of each of said side edges 14. As is shown in FIG. 1, the upper portion 17 of each of the side walls 16 is of reduced width and the lower end of such reduced portion 17 tapers outwardly as at 18 to the lower portion 19 of said side wall 16.

Extending outwardly from said plate 11 below the center line thereof is an abutment stud 21 which illustratively is triangular in cross section as shown, having its apex directed upwardly.

Extending transversely across the plate 11 and secured to the outer edges of the side walls 16 is a supporting strip 22, illustratively L-shaped in cross section, which also illustratively extends over the top of the abutment 21. In addition, a similar strip 23 extends transversely across the plate 11 at its lower edge and is also secured at its ends to the outer edges of said side walls 16.

A rectangular card 24 on which suitable indicia may be printed, is releasably supported in the rectangular area defined between the parallel strips 22 and 23 and the included portions of the side walls 16.

To this end, the inner edge of each of the side walls 16 adjacent the lower portion 19 thereof is conformed to define a shoulder 25 to support the associated edge of the card 24. This may be accomplished by connecting a strip 19' to the outer surface of each of the lower portions 19, the outer edge of said strip extending beyond the outer edge of each of the side wall portions 19.

The card is of vertical dimension as to exceed the distance between the adjacent inner edges 26 of the parallel strips 22, 23. The thickness of each of the lips 22', 23' of each strip is such that the lip will rest on the shoulders 25. Consequently, when the card is flexed, the ends thereof may be moved beneath the inner edges 26 of the strips 22, 23 as shown in FIG. 4. Thus, the card will be securely, yet releasably retained in position, the lower lip 23' preventing downward movement of the card.

In use of the unit, the pliers is placed on the backplate 11 and moved downwardly so that the post or stud will abut against the junction J of the legs L of the pliers in which position such legs will be restrained by the cross strips 22, 23, with the free ends of the legs L extending outwardly beyond the lower strip 23. The card will have printed thereon suitable indicia including the type and size of tool that is accommodated in the mount.

The mount above described can be used for sales in hardware stores, supermarkets and the like by merely hanging the same in accordance with modern merchandising methods which involves the use of a pin board or rack which has a plurality of outstanding hooks H on which various articles to be sold are mounted. Thus, by reason of the central aperture 12, the unit can readily be supported by such hook and displayed to customers, the indicia on the card 24 indicating to the customer the type and size tool carried by the mount. The customer purchasing the tool utilizes the same mount by means of which the tool is displaced for sale, in actual use of the tool in the field. Thus, the customer need merely insert his belt in the plate 11 so that the tool can be conveniently carried from place to place.

Thus, one and the same unit is utilized both for selling purpose and actual use in the field.

It is of course within the scope of the invention to utilize the device above described with other types of tools, for instance a screwdriver D may also be carried by a similar device according to the invention. Thus, as shown in FIG. 5 and FIG. 6, in such application, instead of the post 21, the backplate would carry say, a series of longitudinally spaced transversely aligned pins 31 which could extend along the center line of the backplate between the transverse strips 22 and 23 so that the

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shaft 32 of the screwdriver D could be inserted through the channel defined by the pins with the handle 33 of the screwdriver D being supported by the uppermost pair of pins 31, the cross strips preventing outward movement of the screwdriver from the unit.

As many changes could be made in the above constructions, and many apparently widely different embodiments of this invention could be made without departing from the scope of the claims, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying drawings shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A tool mount comprising an elongated substantially rectangular backplate having a pair of spaced parallel longitudinal slots therethrough adjacent its upper end, spaced parallel retaining means at the lower portion of said backplate releasably to retain a rectangular card in fixed position with said card extending parallel to and being spaced from the opposed surface of said backplate, and supporting means associated with said backplate to restrain downward movement of a tool positioned between the card and the backplate yet permitting free upward movement of said tool.

2. The combination set forth in claim 1 in which said backplate has a mounting aperture therethrough adjacent its upper edge midway between the side edges of said backplate.

3. The combination set forth in claim 1 in which said backplate has a pair of parallel side walls extending outwardly from the side edges thereof at right angles to said backplate, a pair of spaced parallel strips secured at their ends to the outer edges of said side walls adjacent its lower portion and extending transversely across the backplate, said strips and the included portions of said side walls defining a rectangular area in which said card is releasably accommodated.

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4. The combination set forth in claim 3 in which the free edge of each of the included portions of said side walls between said parallel strips is conformed to define a longitudinal shoulder to receive the side edges of said card, said card being of vertical dimension greater than the distance between the opposed edges of said parallel strips whereby the ends of said card may be located beneath said strips.

5. The combination set forth in claim 4 in which at least the lowermost strip has a portion thereof L-shaped in cross section defining a lip at the edge of the strip remote from its inner edge.

6. The combination set forth in claim 5 in which the inner surface of said lip lies in a plane that is substantially the same as the plane of said longitudinal shoulders.

7. The combination set forth in claim 1 in which said supporting means comprises a post extending outwardly from the backplate midway between the side edges thereof.

8. The combination set forth in claim 7 in which said post is aligned with the uppermost transverse strip.

9. The combination set forth in claim 1 in which said supporting means comprises a pair of spaced parallel studs extending outwardly from said backplate on each side respectively of a central line extending longitudinally of said backplate.

10. The combination set forth in claim 9 in which a plurality of pairs of spaced parallel studs are provided.

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ROBERT G. SHERIDAN, Primary Examiner
U.S. Cl. X.R.

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