Aug. 16, 1938. J. DAVIS 2,127,163

TOOL HANDLE

Filed April 26, 1938

Fig. 1

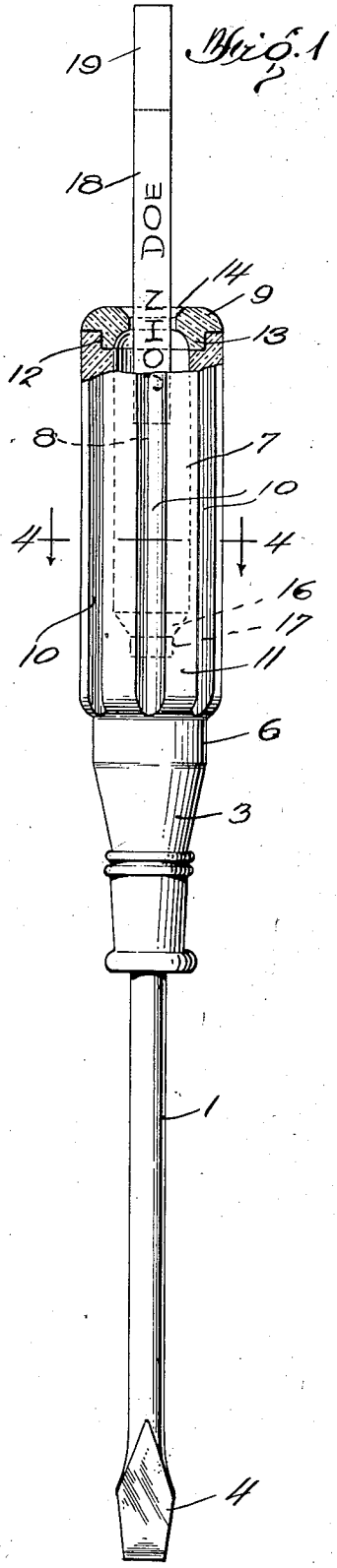


Fig. 3

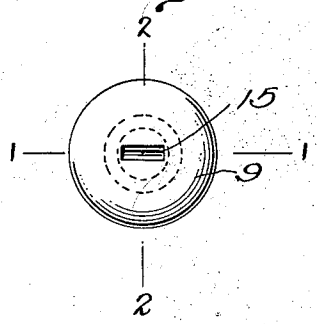


Fig. 4

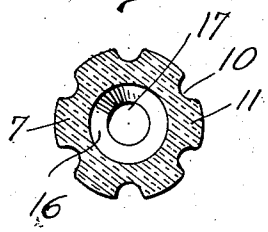


Fig. 2

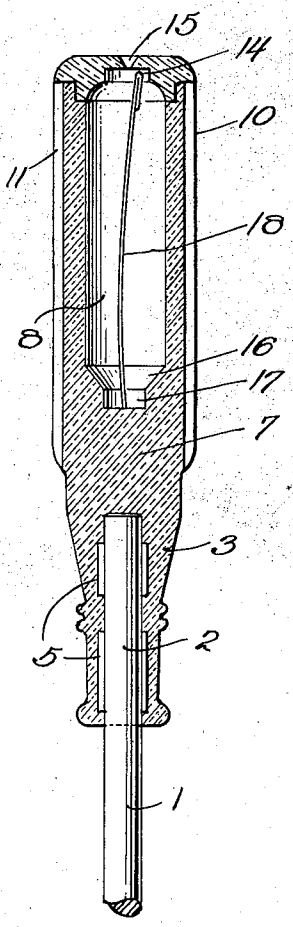


Fig. 5

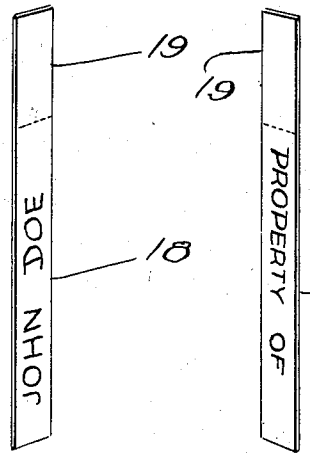


Fig. 6

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TOOL HANDLE

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6 Claims. (Cl. 40—19)

My invention relates to new and useful improvements in tools provided with handles, and more particularly to the handles of such tools.

Heretofore, a name, initials, or other identifying indicia have been either stamped, painted, or engraved on the handle of the tool. This method has been found to be unsatisfactory due to the fact that the identifying indicia may be scraped off or, after considerable use, became obliterated from wear. A handle formed according to my invention is so constructed that any amount of handling will not affect the identifying indicia, thus providing a permanent means of identification.

The primary object is to provide such a tool with a transparent handle and to provide a simple, inexpensive, and practical means for applying a name or other identifying label in the transparent handle in order that the owner may readily identify his tool.

Another object of my invention is to provide means for securing the name or identifying label in the handle so that the name or label cannot be removed or changed without causing readily noticeable damage to the handle, which damage defaces the handle and is not readily reparable.

Another object of my invention is to construct the handle in such a manner that upon the sale of a tool of this type either the merchant or the purchaser may quickly and easily insert the identifying label in the handle, so that it will remain as a permanent identification means.

A further object of the invention is to provide, in conjunction with a hollow transparent handle for a tool, an identifying slip so proportioned that it may be inserted in the handle temporarily, and when desired may be removed, cut down to a size and shape which will be entirely contained within the handle and prevent subsequent removal.

A still further object of my invention is the provision of a hollow handle having a transparent side panel and a permanently attached end capable of admitting a label slip but satisfactorily preventing its subsequent removal.

Another object of my invention is to form a tool handle of a transparent thermoplastic material which is cast on the tool and thus provide a strong and permanent connection between the handle and the tool, and which is formed with a recess adapted to receive the identifying means.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, my invention consists in the novel features hereinafter described in detail, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims. My invention, as illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawing, is shown applied to a screw driver; but it is apparent that it is equally applicable to other tools having handles. Moreover, it will be understood that the invention is not limited to the details disclosed but includes all such variations and modifications as fall within the spirit of my invention and the scope of the appended claims.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a side view partly in section on the line 1—1 of Fig. 3 showing a screw driver having a transparent handle, and the identifying means shown partially inserted in the handle;

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view through the handle portion of the screw driver, the section being taken along line 2—2 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 3 is an end view of the handle;

Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view taken substantially along the line 4—4 of Fig. 1 in the direction of the arrows; and

Figs. 5 and 6 are perspective views of the opposite sides of the identifying means.

As shown in detail in the drawing, the improved screw driver includes a shank 1 comprising an inner end portion 2 disposed in a portion of handle 3, and an outer end portion flattened and shaped at its extreme end to provide a bit 4. The end portion 2 of the shank is formed with ribs 5, providing a fast nonrotatable and secure connection between the shank covering portion 3 and the shank itself. The complete handle 6, including shank covering portion 3, main portion 7, and cap 9, is cast of clear or colored transparent electrical insulating material, with the usual series of longitudinally extending grooves 10 on the main portion 7 providing ribs 11. The portion 3 is cast around the shank 2 instead of a common method of driving the shank into the said shank-covering portions. The main portion 7 must be transparent, at least over some of its surface while the shank covering portion 3 and the cap 9 may be cast of nontransparent material or enameled. In order to match the shank covering portion with the cap it is preferable to use the same color of enamel on both.

The handle portion 7 has a central cavity 8. The outer end of the cavity 8 has a peripheral groove 12 forming a seat for the cap 9.

The inner face of the cap 9 has a circular rib 13 which fits tightly within the groove 12 and may be attached permanently by cement or other means. Centrally the inner face of the cap is concave and at the center provided with a cylin-

drical recess 14. A narrow slot 15 connects the recess 14 with the outer surface of the cap. This slot flares outwardly, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3 to facilitate introduction of the label slip but prevent its removal. The slot is in a plane parallel to opposite ribs 11 which constitute transparent windows serving as lenses through which the label slip is visible and they may serve to magnify the latter.

At the opposite inner end of the central cavity 8 there is a tapering recess 16, extending in diminishing cross-section therefrom, which recess 16 terminates in an extreme cylindrical recess 17 adapted to center the inserted label slip. The slot 15 is very narrow, but sufficient to permit the paper label 18 to be inserted into cavity 8 and preventing the paper label from falling out easily. One end of the paper label comes to rest in the cylindrical recess 17 and the other end rests in the cylindrical recess 14. The cavity 8 being much larger than the paper label, allows the label to bend and float or turn freely within recess 8, making the label more attractive and ornamental.

I provide a paper label or slip 18. Originally, this is long enough to extend all the way through the cavity 8 with its inner end in the recess 17 but the opposite end outside of the cap 9. After the main portion of the slip has been appropriately marked the slip is inserted as indicated above and the operator then observes whether the marking is satisfactory. If so the slip is removed and tab 19 cut off or bent backward leaving the slip with a length shorter than the length of the cavity 8. When the slip is next inserted it passes completely within the cavity and is prevented from inadvertent removal by the form and size of the slot 15. As an indication of the proper length, the slip is marked or perforated as shown at 20 on Figs. 5 and 6.

This arrangement is an effective way of providing suitable identifying marks permanently in the handle of a tool or the like and may obviously be varied within the scope of the following claims.

What I claim is:

1. A handle for a tool or the like comprising a body portion having a transparent side wall, a cavity within said portion, a cap for the cavity, said cap having a restricted opening and an identifying member insertable through said restricted opening.

2. A handle for a tool or the like comprising a body portion having a transparent ribbed side wall, a cavity within said portion, a cap for the cavity, said cap having a restricted opening and an identifying member insertable through said restricted opening.

3. A handle for a tool or the like comprising a body portion having a transparent side wall of electrical insulating material, a cavity within said portion, a cap for the cavity, said cap having a restricted opening and an identifying member insertable through said opening.

4. A thermoplastic handle for a tool or the like comprising a body portion having a transparent side wall, a cavity within said portion, a cap for the cavity, said cap having a restricted opening and an identifying member insertable through said restricted opening.

5. A handle for a tool or the like comprising a body portion having a transparent side wall, a cavity within said portion, a central tapering recess in the inner end of said cavity, a cap for the cavity, a central tapering recess in said cap, a restricted opening through the cap, and a slip or label insertable in the cavity with its ends in said recesses.

6. In combination, a handle for a tool or the like comprising a body portion having a transparent side wall and a cavity within said portion, a slotted closure for the cavity and an identifying slip of greater length than the cavity, said excess length being removable or bendable to permit the passage of the slip completely inward of the slotted closure.

JOSEPH DAVIS.