Sept. 20, 1932. A. H. KERNGOOD 1,877,885

GARMENT BUCKLE

Filed Sept. 3, 1930

Fig. 1.

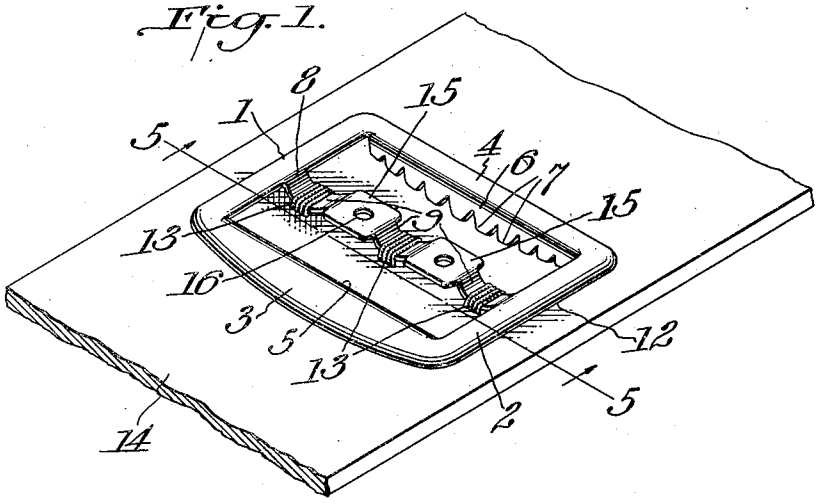


Fig. 2.

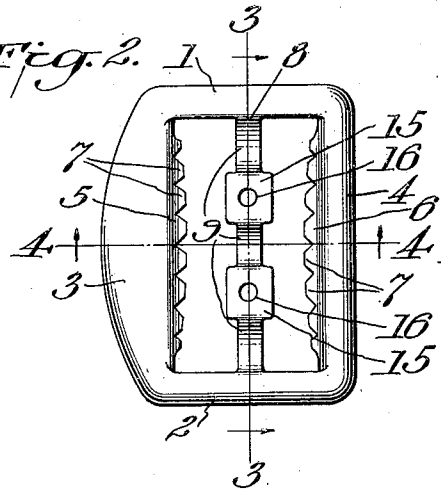
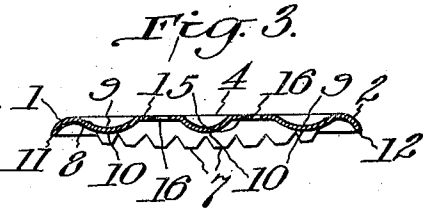


Fig. 3.



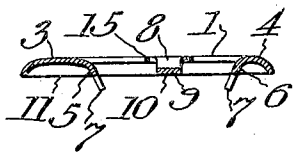


Fig. 4.

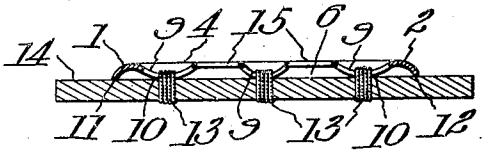


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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GARMENT BUCKLE

Application filed September 3, 1930. Serial No. 479,570.

This invention relates to buckles such as are used upon clothing, and particularly to buckles of the center-bar type adapted primarily to be sewed upon the parts to which they are applied.

One object of the invention is to provide a buckle of strong construction and neat appearance which will function well in use, and which lends itself readily to the sewing-on operation whether such operation is performed by hand or by machine.

A further object is to provide a buckle which will not pucker the material to which it is applied.

The invention contemplates a buckle the frame of which includes side and end bars all of which are preferably of concavo-convex cross-section, and a center bar. The end bars are provided with gripping means, preferably in the form of blunt teeth which, in the form shown in the drawing, extend at opposite angles toward each other, and the center bar is provided with a plurality of offsets the under faces of which lie preferably in a plane coincident with the outer edges of the side bars and which provide means for receiving and centering the buckle-attaching stitches and for preventing puckering of the material to which the buckle is applied by such stitches, all as will be hereinafter more particularly explained and finally claimed.

In the accompanying drawing illustrating the invention, in the several figures of which like parts are similarly designated, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a buckle, embodying the features of the invention, applied to an article such as a cloth band or strap. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the buckle. Fig. 3 is a section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig 2. Fig. 5 is a sectional elevation taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1.

The buckle has a frame comprising similar side bars 1 and 2 and end bars 3 and 4, and is of ornamental contour whereby it is given a neat and attractive appearance. The side and end bars are preferably of concavo-convex cross-section, as shown in Figs. 3, 4 and 5, thus giving the frame marked strength and rigidity and making possible its fabrication from relatively thin stock.

The end bars 3 and 4 are provided on their inner edges with lips 5 and 6, respectively, off-standing therefrom at opposite angles toward each other, and preferably provided with blunt or rounded gripping teeth 7, as shown, whereby a strap may be gripped, without tearing, when passed through the buckle in engagement therewith.

Carried by the side bars 1 and 2 intermediate the end bars 3 and 4 is the center bar 8. This center bar is provided with a plurality of offsets 9 the under faces 10 of which have portions which lie in a plane coincident with the outer downturned edges 11 and 12, respectively, of the side bars 1 and 2, as will be apparent from an inspection of Figs. 3, 4 and 5. These offsets 9 in the center bar serve as a means for receiving the buckle attaching stitches indicated at 13 in Figs. 1 and 5, and their conformation, or curvature, as shown, will have a tendency to guide the stitches into intimate relation with each other at the lowest portions of the offsets.

In stitched-on buckles of the types with which I am familiar and wherein the center bar is utilized as the means over which the attaching stitches are applied, notches are ordinarily provided in the opposite edges of the center bar for assembling the stitches in appropriate bunched relation and for maintaining the buckle in fixed position by preventing it from sliding relatively to the attaching stitches. Such notches present no stitching difficulties when the sewing on of the buckle is performed by hand, but when a stitching machine is used, it is difficult to so control the application of the stitches by the machine that they will all engage with the notches as desired.

By providing the offsets 9 in the center bar, in accordance with the present invention, it will be apparent that the stitches will be self locating relatively to the center bar, whether applied by hand or by machine, as they will all, when drawn tight, tend to slide down to the lowest portions of the offsets 9 and will be thus bunched together in the several offsets and will not only be thus neatly arranged

relatively to the center bar, but will prevent movement of the buckle relatively to them.

Moreover, by so forming the offsets 9 that portions of the lower faces 10 thereof lie in a plane coincident with the outer downturned edges 11 and 12, respectively, of the side bars 1 and 2, it will be apparent that the buckle is supported upon the material to which it is to be applied, or is applied, at a plurality of points throughout its width, and thus during the stitching-on operation, or thereafter, particularly when laundered, the tendency of the material of the article to which the buckle is applied, especially when it is a band or strap of cloth, such as that indicated at 14 in Figs. 1 and 5, to pucker or gather, will be offset.

If desired, the portions 15 of the center bar which lie between the offsets 9, may be provided with openings 16 furnishing a means whereby the buckle may be riveted or eyeleted or otherwise attached to the material or article.

Obviously, the buckle is utilized, when attached to an article, by passing a strap end, not shown, beneath the end bar 3, over the center bar 8 and under the end bar 4, in such position that it will be engaged in a bight by the lips 5 and 6 of the end bars as it passes over the center bar.

Although the buckle of the invention has been described as having the lips 5 and 6 of the end bars provided with blunt or rounded teeth, it is obvious that these lips may have plain edges for engagement with the strap which is inserted through the buckle.

Also, the buckle has been described as being provided with a center bar having three offsets 9, but it is to be understood that more or fewer of these offsets may be used, as desired, and their contour may be changed from that shown in the drawing to other appropriate shape. Furthermore, the side and end bars of the buckle are described as of concavo-convex cross-section, and the offsets 9 as having portions of their under faces 10 lying in a plane coincident with the outer downturned edges 11 and 12 of the side bars 1 and 2. Obviously, these features also may be modified, and the buckle made with a flat frame, if desired.

The main feature of the invention, as hereinbefore particularly emphasized, is the provision of offsets in the center bar, whereby the attaching stitches are located, and the buckle located relatively to the attaching stitches, and the puckering of the material to which the buckle is applied prevented.

Various changes and modifications other than and in addition to those specifically mentioned are considered to be within the spirit of the invention and the scope of the following claims.

What I claim is:—

1. A buckle, having a frame including side bars and end bars, and a center bar carried by said side bars intermediate said end bars, said center bar being bent throughout its width to provide spaced apart depressed inclined offsets extending out of the plane of the buckle frame and each serving as a means for receiving a plurality of attaching stitches spanning said center bar, the contour of said offsets serving to bunch said stitches and thus position said buckle relatively to said stitches, and serving also to position said stitches relatively to said center bar.

2. A buckle, having a frame including side bars and end bars, and a center bar carried by said side bars intermediate said end bars, said side bars having downturned outer edges, and said center bar bent throughout its width to provide spaced apart depressed inclined offsets having portions lying in a plane coincident with said downturned outer edges whereby said center bar is supported upon an article, each of said offsets serving to receive a plurality of stitches spanning said center bar for attaching said buckle to said article, the depressed inclined conformation of said offsets serving to bunch said stitches thus locating said stitches relatively to said center bar.

3. A buckle, having a frame including side bars and end bars, and a center bar carried by said side bars intermediate said end bars, the outer edges of said side bars being downturned, said center bar being bent throughout its width to provide a plurality of concave offsets extending outside of the plane of said frame and having the lowest portions of their concavity lying in a plane coincident with the downturned edges of said side bars, said downturned edges and offsets serving to support said buckle upon an article, and each of said offsets adapted to receive a plurality of attaching stitches spanning said center bar and to bunch said stitches in their lowest portions to thus position the stitches relatively to said center bar and to prevent movement of said buckle longitudinally of said center bar relatively to the article to which it is attached.

4. A buckle, having a frame including side bars and end bars, and a center bar intermediate said end bars, said center bar provided with offsets for receiving one type of means for attaching the buckle to an article, and the portions of said center bar intermediate said offsets provided with means for attaching said buckle to an article by another type of attaching means, the offsets and intermediate portions lying in different planes relatively to the article-adjacent portions of said side bars.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this second day of September A. D. 1930.

ALLEN H. KERNGOOD.