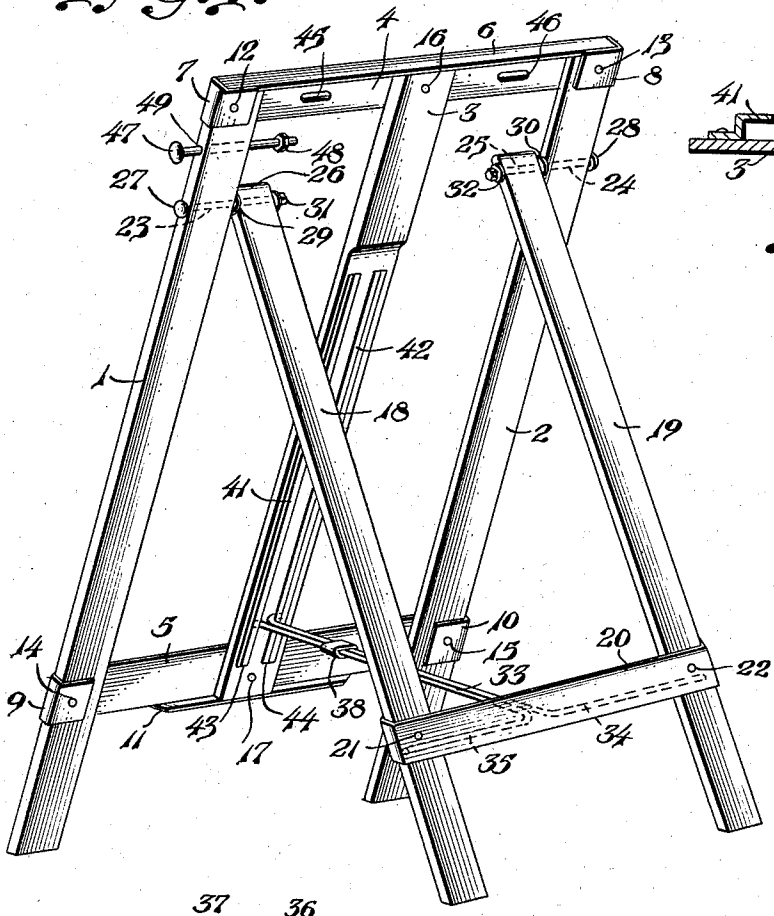
Jan. 10, 1939. F. A. BINDER 2,143,368

DISPLAY EASEL

Filed Nov. 6, 1937

Fig. 1.



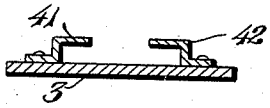


Fig. 2.

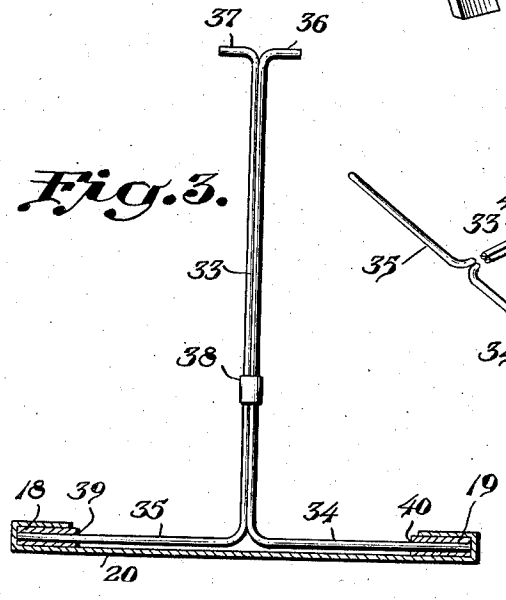


Fig. 3.

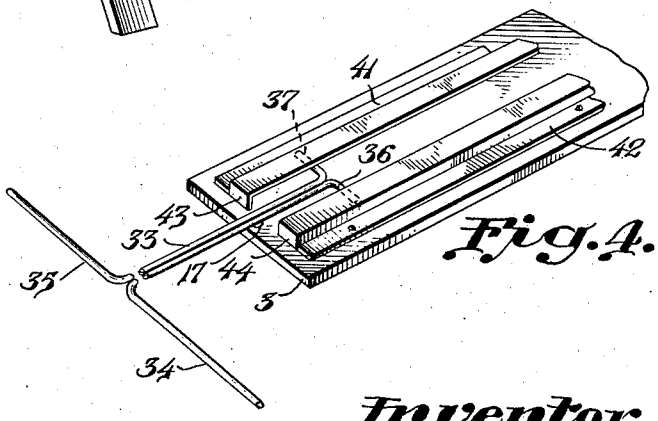


Fig. 4.

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Patented Jan. 10, 1939 2,143,368

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,143,368

DISPLAY EASEL

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Application November 6, 1937, Serial No. 173,064

4 Claims. (Cl. 248—197)

Reference is hereinafter made to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, and to the reference numerals marked thereon.

My present invention relates to display easels, particularly for the display of wall papers. It is my object to provide a practical, inexpensive display easel that is simple in construction, light in weight, neat in appearance, and one that will not fold together or collapse when in use.

A further object is to fit the easel with a bracket for the purpose of holding objects or materials that are to be shown in conjunction with samples displayed on the easel. This is attained by the parts illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which: Fig. 1 is a perspective view from the back of the device, Fig. 2 is an enlarged cross section of the guide, Fig. 3 is a plan view of the separator showing the connection with the easel legs, and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the separator fitted to the guide. When the easel is used for the display of wall papers it stands on the floor and the various samples are turned down from a sample book attached to the easel, as will further be explained.

I have found that for lightness in weight, rigid construction and neat appearance the combined use of metal and wood, shaped and constructed as shown, to be very satisfactory. Referring to Fig. 1, the part of the easel I call the front comprises a side piece 1, a like opposite side piece 2, and a center piece 3, these being preferably of wood, and same being joined together by a top cross piece 4 and a lower cross piece 5, said cross pieces being preferably of metal. The top cross piece 4 is flanged at 6 to finish off the top of the easel and give added strength to same. It will be noted that the top cross piece 4 is shaped at the ends 7 and 8 to fit around the side pieces 1 and 2. The lower cross piece 5 is also provided with similar shaped ends 9 and 10, and for added strength a flanged strip 11. These parts are connected and attached together, preferably with rivets, as indicated at points 12 to 17. This combination of parts and construction makes a firm and substantial front.

Further reference is had to Fig. 1. The front is provided with supporting legs 18 and 19, held in position by leg cross piece 20, also shaped at the ends to fit around said legs and attached thereto with rivets 21 and 22.

To join the front and legs I provide the side pieces 1 and 2 with drilled apertures 23 and 24, and the legs with similar apertures 25 and 26. Into the apertures of the front and legs I fit rivets 27 and 28. Separating washers 29 and 30 and finishing washers 31 and 32 are provided to permit easy movable action of the legs and the front. This is a simple form of hinging arrangement. See Fig. 1.

To maintain the front and legs in proper relative position when the easel is in open position for use, I provide a separator 33, made in its present form of two rods of identical size and shape, and bent to form arms 34 and 35 and bent at the opposite ends to form tips 36 and 37. The two bent rods comprising the separator 33 are held together to make a unit by a clamp 38. See Figs. 1, 3 and 4.

The arms 34 and 35 of the separator 33 are fitted movably into drilled apertures 39 and 40 in the legs 18 and 19, see Fig. 1 and Fig. 3, this also being a simple hinging arrangement for said separator. By referring to Fig. 1 it will be noted that the center piece 3 is about the same thickness at the top as side pieces 1 and 2, however said center piece is thinned down to about ½ thickness along approximately ⅔ of its length. Into this thinned portion of the center piece 3 I attach firmly to said center piece a guide made in its present form of two angle strips 41 and 42, see Figs. 1, 2 and 4. These angle strips may be riveted to the center piece. The tips 36 and 37 of the separator 33 fit into the guide between the angle strips 41 and 42 so as to be movable up and down along the length of said guide when the easel is opened or closed. The lower ends of the angle strips are cut in slightly and bent downward. 43 and 44, Fig. 1 and Fig. 4, to form stops to limit the downward movement of the separator so that same will not slide out of the guide when the easel is in open position.

I wish to point out that when the easel is open, the separator being rigid, the front and legs are held in firm and fixed relation as the weight from the top serves to lock these parts tightly; in fact it is necessary to move the separator up to beyond ½ the length of the guide to close up the easel, thus eliminating the possibility that the easel will fold together and fall when goods are being displayed.

Slots 45 and 46, Fig. 1, in the top cross piece 4 are for the purpose of receiving bolts when a sample book is attached to the easel by the bolt and nut method, which I prefer. I also find it of advantage to provide the easel with a bracket which in its present form is a bolt 47, Fig. 1, fitted at the end with a nut 48, said bracket being movably fitted into a drilled aperture 49 near the top of the side piece 1. When this bracket

is not in use it may be pushed in out of the way, otherwise it is pulled out and a piece of moulding, drapery or other materials may be placed on or against said bracket when it is desired to match or show such materials with wall papers shown on the easel.

An advantage of my arrangement of parts and form of construction is that the easel folds together flat, the legs being designed to fit between the front structure, and the separator to fit between the guide strips; which in turn are set into the thin part of center piece 3; thus maintaining a uniform compact thickness. This is of advantage when the easel is folded together for shipment, either in quantity or singly as it reduces the possibility of breakage.

The simplicity of construction and design of my easel enables the parts to be easily and readily assembled, thus reducing the cost of manufacture. I have described the preferred form of construction of my invention, however, it will be understood that various changes may be made in size, shape, and materials used without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim:—

1. In a display easel, the combination of a front structure; legs attached to said front structure and adapted to support same; a rigid separator provided with bent tips, hinged between said legs; and a guide fitted to the front structure, same being adapted to receive the tips of the separator in sliding engagement.

2. In a display easel, the combination of a front structure provided with guide strips; legs pivoted to said front structure and adapted to support same; and a separator pivotally mounted on said legs, said separator being shaped to fit the guide strips of the front structure in vertical sliding engagement.

3. In a display easel, the combination of a front structure; legs hinged thereto and adapted to support same; a rigid separator provided with bent tips, hinged between said legs; and a guide attached to the front structure, same being adapted to receive the bent tips of the said separator so that the separator will move up or down along the guide; and stops formed at the end of said guide to limit the downward movement of the separator.

4. In a display easel, the combination of a front structure; legs hinged thereto and adapted to support same; a rigid separator provided with bent tips, hinged between said legs; a guide attached to the front structure, same being adapted to receive the bent tips of the separator in sliding engagement; stops formed at the end of said guide to limit the downward movement of the separator; and attaching slots provided at the top of the front structure for the purpose as shown.

FRANK A. BINDER.