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ABSORBENT COASTER

Edgar B. Davis, Tangerine, Fla.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 65—53)

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This invention relates to a coaster for supporting a receptacle therein, and more particularly to an absorbent coaster for supporting a drinking glass.

An object of this invention is to provide a coaster having a surface which contacts the receptacle to be supported therein provided with an absorbent material.

Another object of this invention is to provide an absorbent coaster which will embracingly engage the receptacle to be supported therein, and be carried by the latter when the receptacle is held in the hand of a user.

A further object of this invention is to provide an absorbent coaster which will absorb the condensed moisture on the receptacle supported therein, and which, when detached from the receptacle, will be restored to its original absorptive condition.

A still further object of this invention is to provide an absorbent coaster which will be constructed of at least two dissimilar paper stocks that may be partially or completely assembled by mechanical means.

A still further object of this invention is to provide an absorbent coaster which is simple as an article of manufacture and is fabricated of cheap materials.

Other objects of this invention will become apparent upon consulting the specification in conjunction with the drawings.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of the absorbent coaster of the present invention supporting a drinking glass;

Figure 2 is a bottom plan view taken along the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the absorbent coaster of the present invention, as partially assembled;

Figure 4 is a plan view of the foldable blank for forming the outer liner of the coaster of the present invention;

Figure 5 is a plan view of the foldable blank for forming the inner liner of the coaster of the present invention;

Figure 6 is a plan view of a modification of the foldable blank for forming the outer liner of the coaster of the present invention;

Figure 7 is a bottom plan view of the coaster of the present invention employing the foldable blank for forming the outer liner of Figure 6.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, wherein like reference numerals have been used throughout the several views to designate

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like parts, there is shown the absorbent coaster of the present invention, designated by the reference numeral 10, embracingly engaging the bottom of a drinking glass 11. The coaster 10 includes a first or outer liner 12 and a second or inner liner 13 arranged in abutting, concentric relation with respect to the first or outer liner 12 and secured thereto.

The first or outer liner 12 is formed from a foldable blank, as shown in Figure 4, said blank being fabricated of flat paper stock of sufficient thickness such that it is relatively rigid and will maintain its configuration when folded. The outer liner of blank 12 embodies a longitudinally extending continuous section 15 and a longitudinally extending incised section 16 arranged in side-by-side, abutting relation with respect to the continuous section 15 and connected to the latter by a longitudinal scored fold line 17. The incised section 16 embodies a plurality of separated tabs 18 extending transversely thereof. The continuous section 15 is provided with a flap 19 which projects from one end thereof and is connected thereto by a transverse scored line 20. One face of the flap 19 is provided with a tacky substance, as indicated by the numeral 21, which is adapted to be adhesively secured to a block portion 22 which extends inwardly from the other end of the continuous section 15 on the other face thereof, and is defined by a transverse, scored line 23.

The second or inner liner 13 is formed from a foldable blank, as shown in Figure 5, said blank being fabricated of an absorbent paper which is soft and flexible, such that it will yield when the drinking glass 11 is forced into the coaster 10. The inner liner blank 13 embodies a longitudinally extending, continuous section 25 and a longitudinally extending incised section 26 arranged in side-by-side, abutting relation with respect to the inner continuous section 25 and connected to the latter by a longitudinally extending, scored, fold line 27. The incised section 26 embodies a plurality of separated tabs 28 extending transversely thereof. One face of the continuous section 25 is provided with a tacky substance, as indicated by the numeral 29, which is adapted to be adhesively secured to the abutting face of the continuous section 15 of the outer liner blank 12.

To assemble the outer and inner liner blanks 12 and 13, respectively, to form the coaster 10, each of the liner blanks 12 and 13 are folded along their respective longitudinally extending, scored, fold lines 17, 27, such that the continuous

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sections 15, 25 will be disposed at right angles with respect to the incised sections 16, 26, respectively. The inner liner blank 13 is then disposed within the outer liner blank 12, such that the continuous section 25 of the inner liner blank 13 is in abutting relation with respect to the continuous section 15 of the outer liner blank 12, whereupon the continuous sections 15, 25 are pressed together to cause the tacky substance 29, preferably a water repellant glue, to adhesively secure the liner blanks in assembled relation with respect to each other. The flap 19 projecting from one end of the continuous section 15 of the assembled liner blanks is then brought around to overlie and abut the block portion 22, whereupon the flap 19 and the block portion 22 are pressed together to cause the tacky substance 21 to adhesively secure the opposed ends of the assembled liner blanks together to form a coaster. The flap 19, the tacky substance 21 and the block portion 22 cooperate to form an interengaging means. As the opposed ends of the assembled blanks 12, 13 are brought together, the respective tabs 18, 28 of the blanks will partially overlie and abut each other to form a scalloped flange which forms a supporting surface for the bottom of the drinking glass 11. The lengths of the liner blanks 12, 13 are selected, such that the inner diameter of the coaster 10 will be slightly less than the outer diameter of the drinking glass 11. Accordingly, the coaster 10, as clearly shown in Figure 3, can be forced onto the drinking glass 11 due to the flexibility of the inner liner 13, which, as previously pointed out, is formed of a relatively soft and flexible material. Since the inner liner 13 abuts the drinking glass 11 adjacent the bottom thereof, the coaster 10 will absorb the condensed moisture as it flows downwardly along the exterior surface of the drinking glass 11.

In place of the liner 12 being formed of the foldable blank of Figure 4, such liner can be formed of a foldable blank 34, as shown in Figure 6. The blank 34 is fabricated of a metallic or plastic sheet stock and includes a longitudinally extending, outer, continuous section 35 and a plurality of separated tabs 36 arranged transversely of the continuous section 35 and projecting from a side edge thereof. The tabs 36 are arranged in parallel spaced relation with respect to each other and connected to the continuous section 35 by a longitudinally extending, scored fold line 37. One face of the continuous section 35 is provided with a tacky substance, not shown, such that it may be adhesively secured to the inner liner blank 13.

To assemble the inner line blank 13 with the modification of the outer liner blank 34 to form the coaster 10, the inner line blank 13 is bent along its fold line 27, as previously described. The outer liner blank 34 is bent along its fold line 37, such that the continuous section 35 is disposed at right angles with respect to the tabs 36. The blanks 13, 34 are then arranged in assembled relation with respect to each other, as previously described. The opposed ends of the assembled liner blank 13, 34 are then brought together and secured to each other by any suitable interengaging means, such as a seamless weld, as indicated by the numeral 39 in Figure 7. Either of the foldable blanks 12, 34 forming the

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outer liner may be provided with advertising, pictorial or other printed matter, such that the coaster 10 of the present invention will be enhanced in appearance.

While only two embodiments of the present invention have been disclosed, it is to be understood that numerous modifications can be made without departing from the spirit of the invention as set forth in the appended claim.

What I claim is:

An article of manufacture forming a coaster for embracingly supporting a receptacle comprising a folded structure, said structure embodying a first blank having a longitudinally extending continuous section and a longitudinally extending incised section arranged in side-by-side abutting relation with respect to said continuous section and connected to the latter by a scored fold line, said first blank being folded along its fold line such that said continuous section is disposed at right angles with respect to said incised section, a second blank including a longitudinally extending continuous section and a plurality of spaced tabs arranged transversely of said second-named continuous section and connected to a side edge thereof by a fold line, said second-named blank being foldable along its fold line such that said second-named continuous section is disposed at right angles with respect to said plurality of tabs, the continuous section of said second-named blank being arranged in surrounding abutting relation with respect to the continuous section of said first-named blank with the spaced tabs of said second-named blank underlying and supporting the incised section of said first-named blank, securing means interposed on the abutting faces of said continuous sections for securing said sections together, and means on the opposed ends of said assembled continuous sections securing the latter together to thereby form a circular coaster.

EDGAR B. DAVIS.

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