Jan. 6, 1942. J. C. NOFZIGER 2,268,992

ATHLETIC SHOE CLEAT

Filed Aug. 6, 1940

FIG. 1

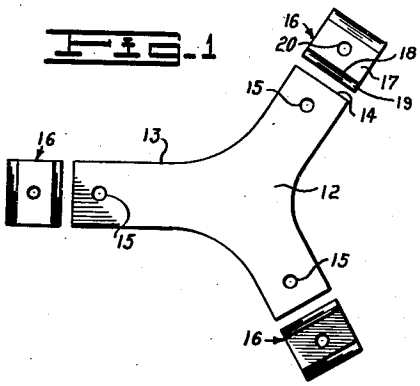


FIG. 3

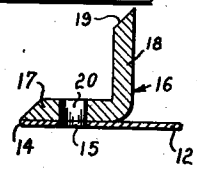


FIG. 4

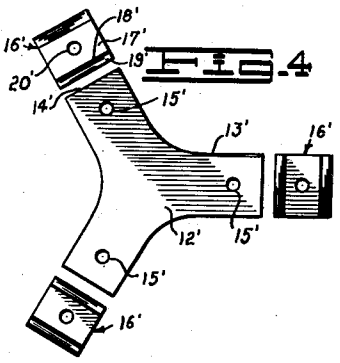


FIG. 6

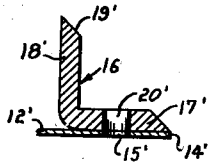


FIG. 2

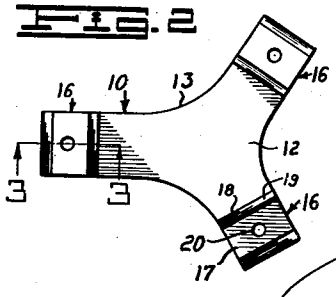


FIG. 5

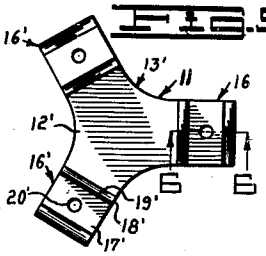


FIG. 7

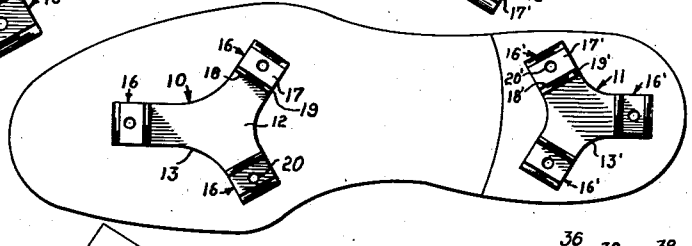


FIG. 8

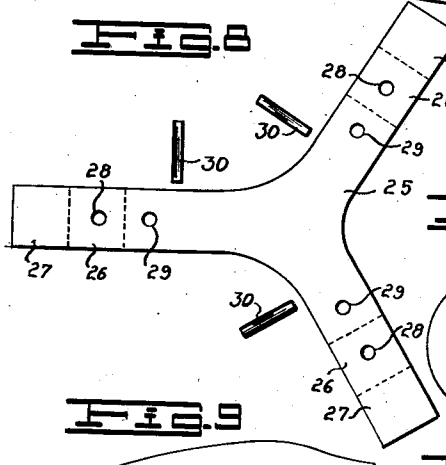


FIG. 11

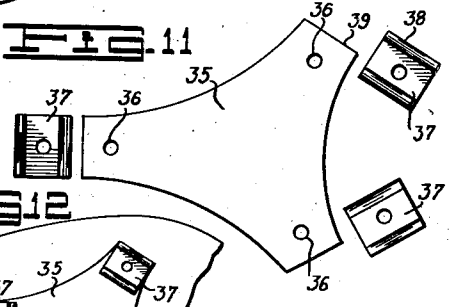


FIG. 12

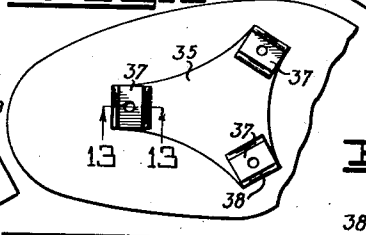


FIG. 9

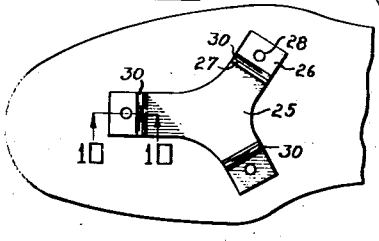


FIG. 10

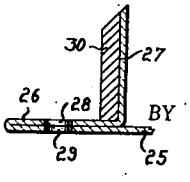
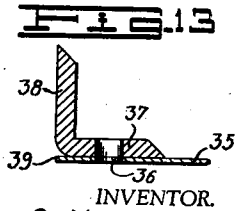


FIG. 13



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2,268,992

ATHLETIC SHOE CLEAT

Jay C. Nofziger, Los Angeles, Calif.

Application August 6, 1940, Serial No. 351,582

4 Claims. (Cl. 36—59)

This invention relates to athletic shoe cleats.

The general object of the invention is to provide an improved cleat for a baseball or other athletic shoe.

A further object of the invention is to provide a cleat including a resilient base having rigid gripping members secured thereto.

Another object of the invention is to provide a cleat including a base made of spring steel and having sharpened, hardened, gripping members secured thereto.

Another object of the invention is to provide a cleat including a flexible base and an angular gripping member and wherein the gripping member is mounted in the base in a novel manner.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a plan view showing my cleat disassembled;

Fig. 2 is a plan view showing the cleat assembled and completed;

Fig. 3 is a section taken in line 3—3, Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a plan view showing another form of cleat in the act of being assembled;

Fig. 5 is a plan view of the cleat shown in Fig. 4 assembled;

Fig. 6 is a section taken in line 6—6, Fig. 5;

Fig. 7 is a bottom plan view of a shoe showing my invention applied thereto;

Fig. 8 is a plan view showing a modified cleat extended;

Fig. 9 is a fragmentary bottom plan view of a shoe sole showing the modified cleat assembled;

Fig. 10 is a section taken on line 10—10, Fig. 9;

Fig. 11 is a plan view showing a further modified cleat disassembled;

Fig. 12 is a plan view showing the further modified cleat assembled; and

Fig. 13 is a section taken on line 13—13, Fig. 12.

Referring to the drawing by reference characters I have shown my invention as embodied in a toe cleat indicated generally at 10, and in a heel cleat indicated generally at 11. The general construction and arrangement of the two cleats 10 and 11 is identical except for the shape of the base members.

The toe cleat 10 comprises a base 12 which is made of flexible spring steel or other suitable material and having edges 13 and 14. The base is provided with a plurality of apertures 15.

The gripping or anti-slipping members are indicated at 16, are L-shaped in cross-section. Each member is made of hardened metal and includes a base 17 having an upstanding portion 18 which is preferably sharpened or beveled as at 19. The base 17 is provided with an aperture 20.

In the preferred method of manufacture the gripping members 16 are arranged on the base as shown in Fig. 2 with the base outwardly directed and with the portion 18 spaced from the end of the base. The members 16 are then spot-welded or otherwise secured to the base with the apertures 15 in alignment with the apertures 20.

After this is done the entire cleat may be heat treated if desired and may be rust proofed if desired.

In Figs. 4, 5, and 6 the base 12' has sides 13', ends 14', and apertures 15' which are similar in all respects to the corresponding parts shown in Fig. 1, except that the shape of the base is shortened and narrowed to more closely approximate the shape and size of the heel of a shoe.

The gripping members 16 have upstanding portions 18' which are beveled as at 19' and the bases of the gripping members are apertured as at 20'.

The members 16 are secured to the base 12' in the manner already described in connection with the cleats shown in Figs. 1 to 3.

In Figs. 8 and 9 I show a modification wherein the base 25 includes extended portions 26 and 27 which in the blank are integral with the base and which are formed into the position shown in Figs. 9 and 10 during manufacture. The portions 26 each include an aperture 28 which align with aperture 29 in the base. A hardened gripping member 30 is welded to the portion 27 to complete the cleat.

In Figs. 11, 12, and 13 the base 35 has apertures 36 therein. Mounted upon the base 35 I arrange gripping members 37 which are similar to the gripping members 16 previously described but which are arranged with the upstanding portion 38 substantially aligned with the outer ends 39 of the base as clearly shown in Fig. 13

As the base of the cleats is flexible there is no interference with the stride of the runner and furthermore the elasticity enables the wearer of the shoe, for instance a baseball player, to start more quickly.

From the foregoing description it will be apparent that I have invented a novel cleat or anti-slipping device for athletic shoes which is

highly efficient in use and which can be economically manufactured.

Having thus described my invention I claim:

1. In combination with an athletic shoe having an upper and a sole, a flexible steel spring plate directly engaging the sole, said flexible steel plate including an imperforate body portion and end portions, gripping members each of which includes a base which directly engages and is spot welded one to each of said end portions, each gripping member having a single sharpened portion projecting therefrom, said gripping member and end portions having aligned apertures therein and fastening means extending through said apertures and secured to the sole of the shoe.

2. In an athletic shoe cleat, a flexible steel spring plate including a body portion and diverging end portion, a gripping member on each end portion, each gripping member being L-shaped in cross-section and including a base having a sharpened portion projecting therefrom, said base being outwardly directed and said sharpened portions being disposed remote from the ends of the end portions.

3. In combination with an athletic shoe including an upper and a flexible, metallic plate directly engaging the sole of the shoe, means on said plate to prevent rusting, said plate having a plurality of spaced gripping members thereon, each of said gripping members being L-shaped in cross-section and including an outwardly directed base spot-welded to said plate and a single sharpened portion projecting from the base, said gripping member and said plate each having aligned apertures therein and fastening means to secure the plate to the sole of the shoe.

4. In combination with an athletic shoe including an upper and a flexible plate directly engaging the sole of the shoe, means on said plate to prevent rusting, said plate having a plurality of spaced gripping members thereon, each of said gripping members including a base which is inwardly directed and which is spot-welded to the plate, and a single sharpened portion projecting from the base, said gripping members and said plate each having aligned apertures therein and fastening means extending through said aligned apertures and secured to the sole of the shoe.

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