

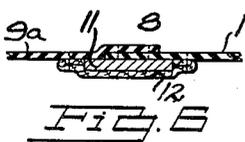
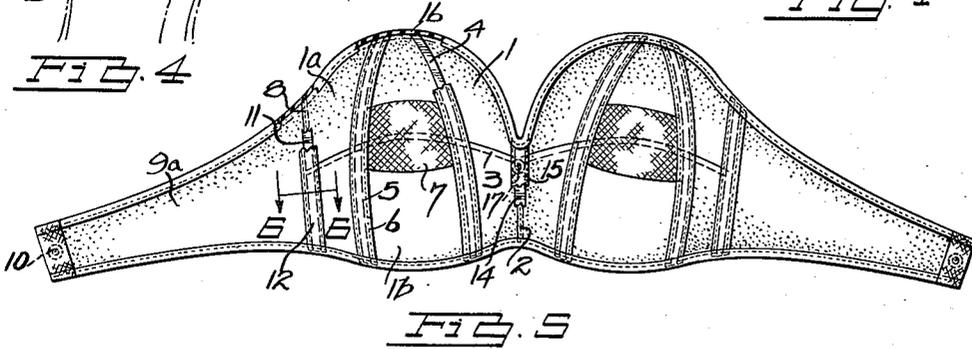
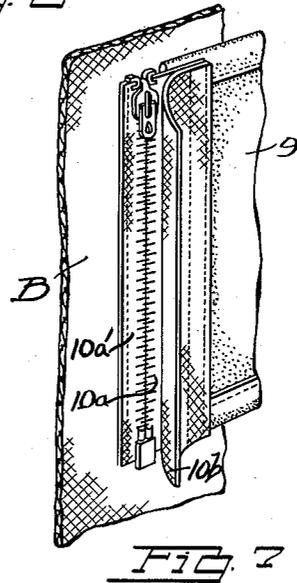
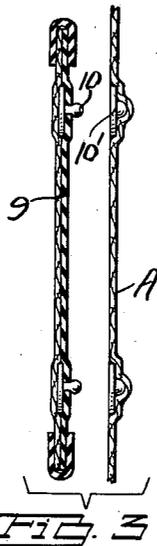
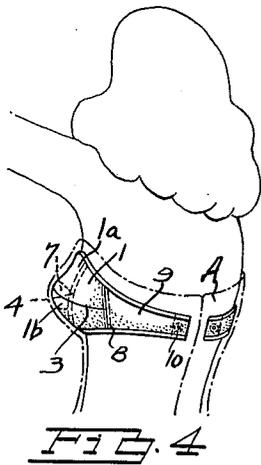
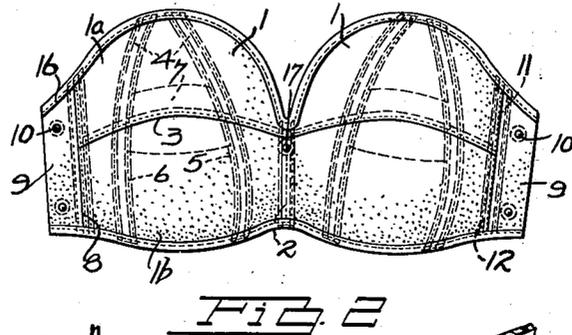
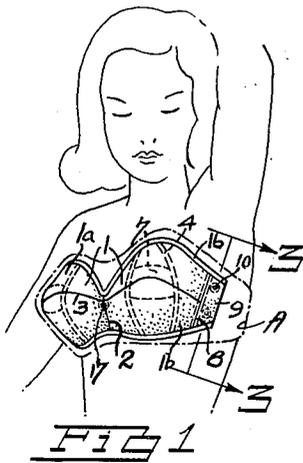
April 8, 1952

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2,592,265

BRASSIERE

Filed April 18, 1949



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,592,265

BRASSIÈRE

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Application April 18, 1949, Serial No. 88,159

1 Claim. (Cl. 2—42)

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This invention relates to improvements in brassières, and aims, among other things, to provide a brassière which does not completely encircle the body, thereby permitting the wearer greater freedom of movement.

Another object of the invention is to provide a brassière the lateral margins of which may be easily and quickly attached to, or detached from, the inner side of the garment beneath which it is worn so that the brassière is completely concealed by the garment, even when the latter consists of a backless dress or the halter of a bathing suit.

A further object of the invention is to provide a brassière which may be strapless so that it is entirely invisible when worn beneath a strapless dress or halter.

Another object of the invention is to provide a brassière which may be made of waterproof material so that it retains its shape and affords equal support whether wet or dry; and which, after detachment from a bathing suit, may be wiped dry and, if desired, attached to the inner side of a sunsuit or other dry garment; moreover the brassière may be made of elastic material, such as rubber, so that it affords clinging support irrespective of whether it is wet or dry.

Yet another object of the invention is to provide a brassière wherein means are provided between the cups, for ready attachment to, or detachment from, the garment beneath which it is worn to prevent any material movement of the front of the garment relative to the brassière beneath it; this is particularly advantageous when the brassière is worn beneath a strapless halter for swimming.

Having thus stated some of the objects and advantages of the invention I will now describe some preferred embodiments thereof with the aid of the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the invention in use.

Figure 2 is an enlarged view of the invention looking upon its outer side.

Figure 3 is a further enlarged view on the line 3—3 of Figure 1 showing one band and the fastening means thereon disengaged from other fastening means attached to the garment to be worn thereover.

Figure 4 is a perspective view showing a somewhat modified form of the invention in use.

Figure 5 is an enlarged view looking onto the inner side of the brassière shown in Figure 4.

Figure 6 is a further enlarged section on the line 6—6 of Figure 5.

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Figure 7 is an enlarged detail showing a modified means for securing one band to the garment to be worn thereover.

Referring to the drawing, 1 designates two cups vertically secured to one another along their adjacent margins by a seam 2 which extends vertically between the wearer's breasts. Each cup 1 consists of an upper portion 1a and a lower portion 1b which are sewn or otherwise secured to one another along a seam 3 extending substantially horizontally across it. Secured against the inner faces of the cups 1, and extending throughout the height of the latter broadly speaking in a downwardly and outwardly inclined direction are feather bones 4, which are held in position by tapes 5 the vertical margins of which are sewn or otherwise secured to their respective cups as indicated at 6.

Since one of the objects of the invention is to provide a brassière which may be used in water and then dried off, the cups are often made of rubber or other material which might irritate the wearer's nipples, particularly when the latter are wet, I therefore provide a thin fabric 7, usually cotton fabric, across the inner face of each cup and secure its lateral margins between the adjacent margins of the tapes 5 and the cup to which the tapes are secured.

Extending laterally from the outer side of each cup 1 and secured thereto by a vertical seam 8 is a band 9, or 9a, having suitable fastening means 10 or 10a thereon adjacent its outer margin. Secured to the inner face of the brassière adjacent and preferably beneath each vertical seam 8 is another feather bone 11 also held in position by a tape 12 the opposite margins of which are usually sewn, or otherwise secured, to the cup 1 and band 9 respectively, thereby reinforcing the joint between these two parts.

The bands may either be quite short or relatively long; comparatively short bands 9 are shown in Figures 1 and 2, and considerably longer ones are depicted at 9a in Figures 4 and 5. The length of the bands depends in part upon the choice of the wearer, and also upon the garment beneath which the brassière is to be worn, since for backless sport dresses, for instance, the bands must be short enough to remain concealed. If longer bands 9a are used, due to the greater distance between their extremities, it is advisable to stiffen the central portion of the brassière with another feather bone 14 extending vertically beneath and across the seam 2 and held in position by a tape 15. While this bone 14 may also be used with short bands 9 it is often unnecessary

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because the distance between the extremities of the two bands is so much less. This is particularly true when the bands 9 are so short that the spacing between the fastening means 10 on the two bands is substantially no greater than the distance between the outer margins of the two cups. Folded binding 16 extending throughout the width of the brassière over its upper and lower margins retains the feather bones 4, 11 and 14 against longitudinal displacement and reinforces the edges of the garment.

The fastening means shown at 10 consists of snap fasteners which are intended to cooperate with corresponding snaps 10' suitably secured to the garment A beneath which the brassière is worn. Figure 7 shows a modified arrangement wherein a zipper portion 10a is provided on the band 9 for coaction with a corresponding zipper portion 10a' secured to a covering garment B. In the latter case a suitable flap 10b is provided on the brassière to extend over the inner side of the zipper to protect the wearer from contact therewith.

In order to prevent slippage of a halter or other garment relative to the brassière beneath it, it is preferable to provide a suitable fastening means, such as a snap fastener 17, on or adjacent the outer face of the seam 2 toward the top thereof for attachment to a corresponding fastener upon the covering garment.

The fastening means 10' and 10a' are so spaced on the outer garment A or B on which they are attached that when the cooperating fastening means 10, or 10a, on the brassière are in engagement with them, the brassière is held taut across the wearer's bust in spite of the fact that the outer extremities of the bands 9, or 9a, remain spaced and are not secured to one another.

The drawing indicates that the brassière is made of rubber which is highly satisfactory for my purpose, because it is elastic and hugs the body, and also gives equal support either when it is wet or dry; and too, it may be quickly dried and put on again beneath dry clothing. However certain plastic materials, though largely devoid of elasticity, possess the other advantages above referred to; or again my brassière may be made of plain or rubberized fabric, in which event it

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is equally satisfactory so long as it is not used while swimming, for when wet ordinary fabric does not afford adequate support, and rubberized fabric takes a long time to dry.

While in the foregoing the preferred embodiments of the invention have been described and shown, it is understood that alterations and modifications may be made thereto provided the said alterations and modifications fall within the scope of the appended claim.

What I claim is:

A brassière comprising two cups made of flexible waterproof material having their adjacent margins joined to one another, each cup consisting of an upper portion and a lower portion secured to each other by a seam extending substantially horizontally across the cup, upwardly and inwardly curved resilient reinforcing members extending the full height of each cup to maintain the true shape of the breasts of the wearer, means holding each reinforcing member in position, a relatively narrow fabric strip in each cup extending across the horizontal seam and held at its ends by the holding means for said reinforcing members to protect the wearer's nipples, a band secured to the outer side edge of each cup, and fastening means on each band for engagement with corresponding fastening means on a garment worn over the brassière.

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