

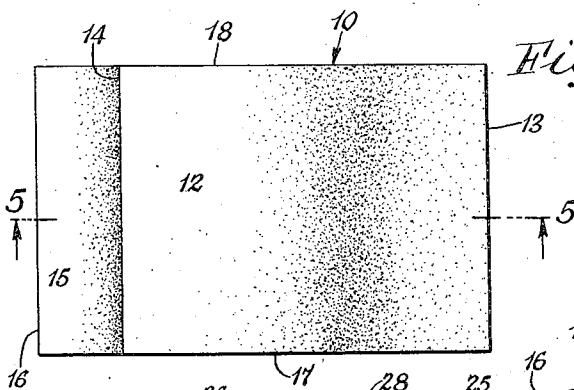
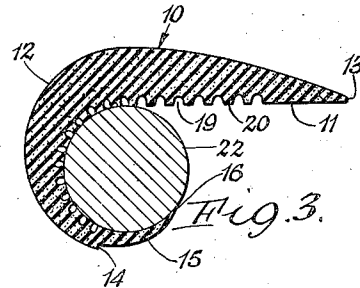
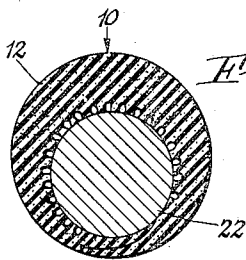
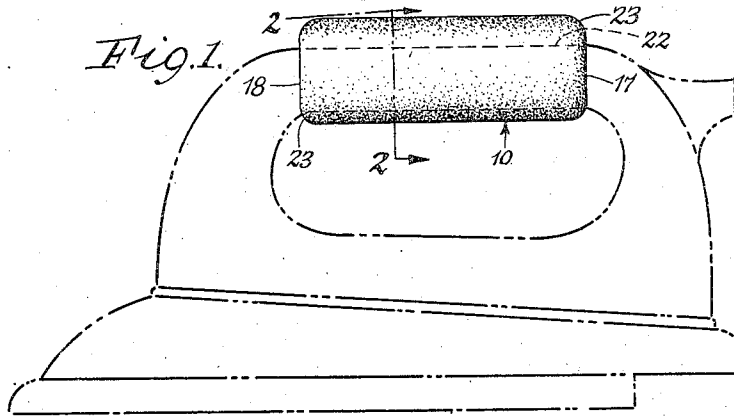
April 12, 1949.

J. C. MacKEARNIN

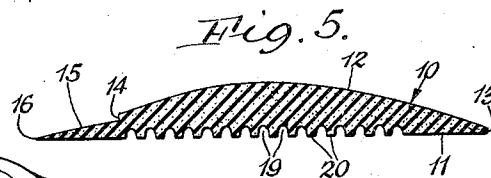
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HANDLE PAD

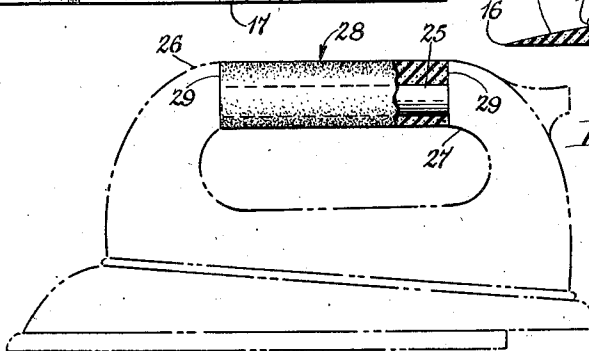
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*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 5.*



*Fig. 6.*

INVENTOR  
*James C. MacKearnin*  
BY *Popp and Popp*  
ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## HANDLE PAD

James C. MacKearnin, Buffalo, N. Y.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 38—95)

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This invention relates to pads for the handles of flat irons, tools, appliances, utensils and the like.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a pad of soft resilient material for the handle of a flat iron or similar handle which can be comfortably grasped by and is conformable to the hand of the user.

Another important object is to provide such a comfortably graspable handle pad with a salient portion of substantial thickness which may be located at any desired place on the circumference of the handle to which the pad is applied, this salient portion providing a thick cushion at the place where the user's hand is in most intimate contact with the handle.

Another object is to provide such a handle pad which while varying in thickness can be wrapped around a handle in a single convolution to provide an even continuous and substantially cylindrical peripheral surface.

A further object is to provide such a handle pad which can be wrapped around the handle without causing the material of the pad to bunch or wrinkle.

Other objects are to provide such a handle pad which is extremely simple in construction, inexpensive to manufacture and easy to apply.

In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a handle pad embodying the present invention and shown as applied to the handle of a flat iron.

Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section thereof taken on line 2—2, Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view similar to Fig. 2 and showing the manner in which the pad is applied to the handle.

Fig. 4 is a top plan view of the handle pad in its straightened out condition before application to the handle.

Fig. 5 is a vertical sectional view thereof taken on line 5—5, Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a side elevation of a modified form of a handle pad and shown as applied to the handle of a flat iron with the exterior surface of the handle pad flush with the adjacent portions of the handle of the flat iron.

The pad forming the subject of the present invention is a one piece article and is shown as being rectangular in outline as viewed in Fig. 4. The body 10 of the pad is made of soft, resilient material such as sponge rubber and the like and is shown as having a flat bottom face 11 and an upwardly rounded or convexly curved top face 12. One side of the convex top face 12 tapers toward

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one edge of the bottom face 11 and terminates short of joining the bottom face to provide the vertical end face 13. On the side of the body 10 opposite the end face 13 the top face 12 is stepped or recessed downwardly toward the bottom face 11 to provide a shoulder 14 and a flat face 15, the latter extending toward the bottom face 11 and joining the same in a feathered edge 16. The flat face 15 is of uniform width and extends across the full width of the body 10 from one side 17 to the opposite side 18, as shown in Fig. 4.

The central portion of the bottom face 11 of the body 10 is corrugated or provided with a series of parallel spaced grooves 19 and ribs 20. The grooves 19 and ribs 20 extend across the full width of the body from the side 17 to the side 18 and parallel to the edge 17, shoulder 14 and end face 13. The purpose of the corrugated bottom is to permit the pad to be smoothly applied to the exterior of a handle and to avoid the material of the pad from wrinkling or bunching.

Referring to Fig. 3, the pad is shown as being partially applied to the cylindrical handle 22 of the flat iron shown in Fig. 1. To accomplish this the bottom face 11 of the pad is provided with an adhesive material or cement (not shown), or the adhesive material or cement is applied to the peripheral surface of the handle 22 which receives the pad. The end of the pad having the feathered edge 16 is first pressed to the bottom of the handle 22. Then, in a clockwise direction, the pad is wrapped around the handle 22 so that the inner side or bottom face 11 of the pad is adhesively fastened to the periphery of the handle. In wrapping the pad around the handle 22 it will be noted that the grooves 19 change their cross sectional shape and become smaller, this being caused by the ribs 20 between adjacent grooves being more closely spaced to one another when the pad is wrapped around the handle. Without such grooves 19 the material on the inner side of the pad would tend to wrinkle or bunch as the pad is wrapped around the handle.

The pad is continued to be wrapped around the handle in a clockwise direction as shown in Fig. 3 until the flat bottom portion at the extreme right of the pad overlaps the top face 15 provided on the opposite end of the pad with the end face 13 of the pad opposing the shoulder 14. Adhesive material or cement (not shown) holds the free end of the pad to the top face 15. In this manner the ends of the pad are joined together to provide a smooth exterior surface, as shown in Fig. 2.

By reference to Fig. 2, it will be noted that the pad 10 is applied to the handle 22 with its salient

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portion on top of the handle. When the pad is applied to the handle of a flat iron it is generally desired to have the thickest cushion on the top of the handle for the hand of the user when pressure is applied downwardly on the iron. However, the pad can be arranged on the handle in any desired manner so that the salient portion of the pad is in the circumferential position desired by the user.

As shown at 23 in Fig. 1, the outer corners or edges formed by the top face 12 and the sides 17 and 18 are preferably rounded.

In Fig. 6, there is shown a slightly modified form of pad which is adapted to be wrapped around the core 25 of the handle structure of the flat iron shown in this figure. It will be noted that the core 25 is offset downwardly with respect to the adjacent parts of fore and aft supports 26, 27 respectively, for the ends of the core 25 so that when the pad 28 is applied to the core 25 the exposed surface or periphery of the pad 22 will be a continuation of the exterior surface of the adjacent parts of the supports 26, 27. The exposed outer edges of the pad 28 are rectangular so as to fit flush against the end faces 29 of the supports 26, 27 and is otherwise similar to the pad 10.

While the pad forming the subject of the present invention is shown in conjunction with the handle of a flat iron, it will be understood that the pad can be equally useful when applied to the handles of other devices to provide a comfortable hand grip. In connection with the use of the pad on the handle of a flat iron, the pad has the further advantage of acting as an insulator to prevent heat conducted through the handle of the flat iron from being transmitted to the hand of the user.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the present invention provides a very simple, inexpensive, cushioned pad for handles of various devices which can be readily applied to the handles and which when applied provides a pad for the hand of the user which is not bulky and which will not slip around the handle in use. Further, the handle pad is provided with a thick

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part which can be arranged at any point on the circumference of the handle to provide a greater cushion at the point desired by the user.

I claim as my invention:

- 5 A handle pad, comprising a sponge rubber body of generally rectangular form in outline and having two opposite parallel sides, the bottom face of said body being flat and provided with a plurality of spaced and parallel grooves extending parallel to said sides, the top face of said body being convexly rounded and tapering toward said sides and terminating above said flat bottom face at one of said sides to provide a narrow flat end face, a flat surface along the 10 other of said sides on the top of said body and recessed from said top face to provide a shoulder extending parallel with said sides and having a height approximately equal to the width of said end face, said flat surface being at an angle to said flat bottom face and merging therewith to provide said other side with a feathered edge, said body being wrappable around a round handle with said flat bottom face adhesively fastened to the periphery of said handle and the marginal 15 portion of said flat bottom face along said end face overlying said flat surface and adhesively fastened thereto with said end face opposing said shoulder whereby the handle pad envelopes the handle in a single convolution and the external periphery of the pad is continuous and generally 20 eccentric with respect to the periphery of the handle.

JAMES C. MACKEARNIN.

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