**A46B**

**BRUSHES (handles not integral with brushware B25G)**

**Definition statement**

*This place covers:*

Apparatus with brushes in general

**Relationships with other classification places**

Subclass **A45D** covers hairdressing or shaving equipment; manicuring or other cosmetic treatments

Subclass **A47L** covers domestic washing or cleaning; suction cleaner in general

Subclass **A61C** covers oral or dental hygiene

Subclass **A61H** covers physical therapy apparatus e.g. skin or gum massage

Subclass **B05C** covers apparatus for applying liquids to surfaces in general

Subclass **B05D** covers process for applying liquids to surfaces in general

Subclass **B08B** covers cleaning in general or prevention of fouling in general

Subclass **B24B** covers machine and process for grinding or polishing

Subclass **B25G** covers handles for hand implements

Subclass **B43K** covers writing implements e.g. pen or pencil

Subclass **B44D** covers artistic painting

Subclass **B60S** covers cleaning of vehicles

Subclass **E01H** covers street cleaning

**References**

**Limiting references**

*This place does not cover:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>CPC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Body washing implements</td>
<td>A47K 7/00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handle constructions</td>
<td>B25G 1/00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attaching handles to the implements</td>
<td>B25G 3/00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle cleaning apparatus not integral with vehicles</td>
<td>B60S 3/06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street cleaning</td>
<td>E01H 1/00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>CPC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Handles for hand implements</td>
<td>B25G</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Special rules of classification
Illustrative example of subject matter classified in A46B

Glossary of terms
In this place, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuft</td>
<td>a group of bristles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A46B 1/00
Brush bodies and bristles moulded as a unit

Definition statement
This place covers:
The brush body or brush carrier and the bristles are moulded in one piece

EP0474934

A46B 3/04
by mouldable materials, e.g. metals, cellulose derivatives, plastics (A46B 1/00 takes precedence)

References
Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Bristles and carrier or body moulded in one piece | A46B 1/00 |

A46B 3/06
by welding together bristles made of metal wires or plastic materials

References
Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Machines for fusing or gluing bristle to body | A46D 3/045 |

A46B 3/12
specially adapted for paint-brushes

References
Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Brushes used for painting | A46B 2200/202 |
A46B 3/14
specially adapted for street-cleaning or rail-cleaning brooms

References

Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Brushes for street cleaning | A46B 2200/3066 |
| Street cleaning apparatus with brush | E01H 1/02 |

A46B 3/22
rubber bristles being fixed in or on brush bodies

References

Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Bristles and body moulded in on piece | A46B 1/00 |

Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Brush material not made of bristles | A46B 9/005 |
| Mixed Bristles | A46B 9/06 |
| Bristle material | A46D 1/0207 |

A46B 5/00
Brush bodies; Handles integral with brushware

References

Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Bristles carrier | A46B 7/00 |
| Attaching handles to implements | B25G 3/00 |

A46B 5/0025
{Brushes with elastically deformable heads that change shape during use}

References

Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Brushing action causing brush movements | A46B 13/08 |
A46B 5/0033
{bending or stretching or collapsing (A46B 7/023 takes precedence)}

References
Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Bristle carrier retracts or collapse | A46B 7/023 |

A46B 5/0062
{being flexible or resilient during use}

Definition statement
This place covers:
Brush head being articulated with the handle during use.

A46B 5/0075
{being adjustable and stable during use}

Definition statement
This place covers:
Brush head fixed in one position relative to the handle during use.

A46B 5/0095
{Removable or interchangeable brush heads}

References
Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Interchangeably bristle carrier | A46B 7/04 |

A46B 5/02
specially shaped for holding by the hand

References
Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Handle shape facilitating handling | B25G 1/102 |
| Gripping portion for writing implement | B43K 23/00 |
A46B 7/00
Bristle carriers arranged in the brush body

Definition statement
This place covers:
Brushes for which the bristles are not directly joined/attached to the brush body but through an intermediate bristle carrier.

A46B 7/02
in an expanding or articulating manner

References
Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Brush body with joints | A46B 5/002 |

A46B 7/023
{where the bristle carrier retracts or collapses, i.e. for storage}

References
Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Folding or collapsing brush body | A46B 5/0033 |

A46B 7/04
 interchangeably {removable bristle carriers}

References
Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Removable brush head | A46B 5/0095 |

A46B 7/044
{Sliding connections for bristle carriers}

References
Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Folding collapsing body | A46B 5/0033 |
| Articulated bristle carrier | A46B 7/02 |
A46B 9/00
Arrangements of the bristles in the brush body

References
Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Fixation of the bristle in the body or carrier | A46B 3/00 |
| Powered brushes with cylindrical, annular or disk shape | A46B 13/00 - A46B 13/008 |
| Bristle form or shape itself | A46D 1/00 |

A46B 9/005
{where the brushing material is not made of bristles, e.g. sponge, rubber or paper}

References
Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Fixation of rubber bristles on body | A46B 3/22 |
| Bristles surrounded with an other material | A46B 9/065 |
| Bristle material | A46D 1/0207 |

A46B 9/021
{arranged like in cosmetics brushes, e.g. mascara, nail polish, eye shadow}

References
Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Brushes characterized by their function, i.e. cosmetic brushes | A46B 2200/1046 |

A46B 9/04
{Arranged like in or} for toothbrushes

References
Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Brushes characterized by their function, i.e. toothbrushes | A46B 2200/1066 |
A46B 9/06
Arrangement of mixed bristles or tufts of bristles, e.g. wire, fibre, rubber

References

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Brushes characterized by their function, i.e. cosmetic brushes | A46B 2200/1046 |

A46B 11/00
Brushes with reservoir or other means for applying substances, e.g. paints, pastes, water (driven brush bodies A46B 13/00; {massage apparatus with liquid delivery A61H 7/002, A61H 2201/105}; applying liquids or other fluent materials to surfaces by liquid carrying members in general, e.g. by pads B05C 1/00, B05D 1/28)

Relationships with other classification places

Subclass B05C covers apparatus for applying liquids to a surface in general.
Subclass A61M covers device for introducing medical product onto the human body.
Subclass B05R covers spraying apparatus in general

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

| Driven brush bodies | A46B 13/00 |
| Massage apparatus with liquid delivery | A61H 7/00 |

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Cosmetic container with brush applicator | A45D 34/042 |
| Cleaning devices with liquid supply arrangements | A47L 13/26 |
| Applying liquids to surfaces by liquid carrying members in general, e.g. by pads | B05C 1/00, B05D 1/28 |
| Container with brush applicator | B65D 51/32 |
A46B 11/0041

{Flexible or deformable reservoirs, e.g. resilient bulbs, compressible tubes}

References

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Device for squeezing flexible tubes | B65D 35/28 |

A46B 11/06

connected to supply pipe {or to other external supply means (A46B 11/0003 and A46B 11/0006 take precedence)}

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

| Brush with a single dose substance | A46B 11/0003 |
| Specially adapted to feed bristles upper surface | A46B 11/0006 |

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Implement for cleaning floors or furniture connected to the water supply | A46L13/23 |
| Domestic water supply line with means to add soap, disinfectant | E03C 1/046 |

A46B 13/00

Brushes with driven brush bodies {or carriers} (power-driven toothbrushes A61C 17/16)

References

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Machines for cleaning floors, carpet furniture, walls or wall coverings | A47L 11/00 |
| Power driven tooth cleaning device | A61C 17/16 |
A46B 13/001
{Cylindrical or annular brush bodies}

References

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Street cleaning devices | E01H 1/02 |

A46B 13/008
{Disc-shaped brush bodies}

Definition statement

This place covers:
The bristle carrier or body forms a disk and the bristles are positioned on a face of said disk.

A46B 13/02
power-driven {carriers}

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

| Manually actuated mechanism for generating the movement of the brush | A46B 11/08 |

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Power driven toothbrush | A61C 17/16 |

A46B 13/04
with reservoir or other means for supplying substances

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

| Brush with reservoir | A46B 11/00 |
A46B 13/06
with brush driven by the supplied medium

References

Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Bathing device water-flow operated | A47K 7/046 |

A46B 13/08
hand-driven

References

Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Simple flexion or deformation of the brush head | A46B 5/0025 |

A46B 15/0022
{with an electrical means}

References

Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Powered brushes | A46B 13/02 |
| Electric toothbrushes | A61C 17/16 |

A46B 15/0032
{with protrusion for polishing teeth}

References

Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Brush for polishing | A46B 2200/30 |
A46B 15/0036
{with a lighting means, e.g. laser, bulb (A46B 15/0034 takes precedence)}

References
Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Brush with a radiation source                  | A46B 15/0034 |

A46B 15/0053
{Brushes fitted with ventilation suction, e.g. for removing dust (vacuum cleaner A47L 7/00)}

References
Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Structural features of vacuum cleaners          | A47L 5/00  |
| Vacuum cleaners adapted for additional purposes | A47L 7/00  |
| Details or accessories of vacuum cleaners       | A47L 9/00  |

A46B 15/0069
{Brushes fitted with a interdental devices, e.g. toothpick (A46B 2200/108 takes precedence)}

References
Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Inter-dental brushes                           | A46B 2200/108 |

Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Additional brush head                          | A46B 5/0004 |

A46B 15/0071
{Toothbrushes with flossing arrangements (A61C 15/04 takes precedence)}

References
Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Flossing tools                                 | A61C 15/04 |
A46B 15/0091
{Container, e.g. bag or box with a collection of various devices}

**Definition statement**

This place covers:
For example a kit with a brush and other products in a bag.

A46B 15/0093
{Magazines or sets of brushes components, e.g. plurality of brushes linked as a package}

**Definition statement**

This place covers:
For example a blister or package containing two or more brushes.

A46B 15/0097
{Self supporting, e.g. brushes that stand upright or in other particular ways}

**References**

**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

- Storing of cleaning tools

A46B 17/00
Accessories for brushes

**References**

**Informative references**

**Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:**

- Accessories for toilet tables (bathroom)

A46B 17/02
Devices for holding brushes in use

**References**

**Informative references**

**Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:**

- Toothbrush holders
- Paintbrush holders
A46B 17/04
Protective covers for the bristles

References
Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Closure for brush with reservoir | A46B 11/0086 |

A46B 17/08
Other accessories, e.g. scrapers, rubber buffers for preventing damage to furniture

References
Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Brush combined with other articles | A46B 11/001 |

Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Implement for cleaning floors, furniture, walls | A47L 13/00 |

A46B 2200/01
Disposable brush (A46B 11/0003, A46B 5/0004 take precedence)

References
Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Additional brush head | A46B 5/0004 |
| Brush containing a single dose substance | A46B 11/0003 |

Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Removable bristle carrier | A46B 7/04 |
A46B 2200/10
For human or animal care

References

Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Body washing cleaning equipment | A47K 7/00 |

A46B 2200/102
Brush specifically designed for massaging the skin or scalp (A46B 2200/1026 takes precedence)

Definition statement
This place covers:
Brushes where the principal function is massage.

Relationships with other classification places
Subclass A67H covers physical therapy apparatus e.g. skin or gum massage

References

Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Additional massage device                  | A46B 15/0075 |
| Gum massage                               | A46B 2200/1026 |

A46B 2200/1033
Brush for applying or spreading shaving foam or soap

References

Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Shaving accessories                       | A45D 27/00 |

A46B 2200/104
Hair brush (bristles arrangements for hair brushes A46B 9/023)

References

Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Hair drying accessories                  | A45D 20/00 |
A46B 2200/1046

Brush used for applying cosmetics (bristles arrangements for cosmetic brushes A46B 9/021)

Definition statement
This place covers:
Cosmetic applicators where the brush aspect is important

Relationships with other classification places
Subclass A45D covers cosmetic applicators in general

A46B 2200/1066

Toothbrush for cleaning the teeth or dentures (A61C 17/16 takes precedence; bristles arrangements for toothbrushes A46B 9/04)

References
Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Power driven toothbrushes | A61C 17/16 |

A46B 2200/1073

Denture toothbrush, i.e. used for dentures specifically

References
Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Cleaning device for prostheses removed from oral cavity | A61C 17/036 |

A46B 2200/108

Inter-dental toothbrush, i.e. for cleaning interdental spaces specifically

Definition statement
This place covers:
Brushes where inter-dental cleaning is principal function

References
Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Additional inter-dental device | A46B 15/0069 |
A46B 2200/1086
Toothbrush for cleaning animal teeth specifically

References
Informative references
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

| Instruments for treating animals’ teeth | A61D 5/00 |

A46B 2200/20
Brushes for applying products to surfaces in general (A46B 2200/10 takes precedence)

Relationships with other classification places
Subclass B05C covers apparatus for applying liquids to surfaces in general
Subclass B43K covers writing implements e.g. pen or pencil

A46B 2200/30
Brushes for cleaning or polishing

Relationships with other classification places
Subclass A47L covers domestic washing or cleaning; suction cleaner in general.
Subclass B08B covers cleaning in general or prevention of fouling in general.
Subclass E01H covers street cleaning.

References
Limiting references
This place does not cover:

| Body washing implements | A47K 7/00 |
| Vehicle cleaning apparatus not integral with vehicles | B60S 3/06 |

A46B 2200/40
Other application

Definition statement
This place covers:
Brush where the brushing function is not the principal purpose