

A44B

BUTTONS, PINS, BUCKLES, SLIDE FASTENERS, OR THE LIKE (fastenings specially adapted for footwear [A43C](#))

Definition statement

This place covers:

The following fasteners or their essential parts:

- Buttons;
- Pins;
- Buckles or strap fasteners that are actuated or operated directly by hand and intended to releasably connect either (1) the ends of a single web or strap, or (2) the ends of two or more webs or straps together (e.g. safety belt buckles);
- Slide fasteners;
- "Other types" of fasteners that are actuated or operated directly by hand and frequently utilized or associated with accoutrements, garments, or haberdashery (e.g. snap fasteners, collar-studs). Appropriate 'other types' of fasteners must also be readily reusable and their normal securing or releasing operation not destructive or damaging to either the fastener itself or the structure it secures.

Making slide fasteners, touch-and-close fasteners (e.g. hook-and-loop or barb-and-pile fabrics) and other fasteners of this subclass.

Accessories or ancillary devices for the fasteners of this subclass when they are used exclusively with one of the varieties of fasteners (e.g. button cards) or have their operations either influencing or being influenced by the operation of the fastener (e.g. slide fastener pulling cords).

The following additional devices associated with either the fasteners of this class or accoutrements, garments, and haberdashery:

- key rings;
- clamping or holding devices; and
- mock-fastening devices that merely look like the fasteners, or one of their essential parts, of this subclass but do not function as fasteners (e.g. ornamental buttons on coats, fake zippers on clothing).

Note

The only "other types" of fasteners appropriate for this subclass are those that are capable of use with or actually used with accoutrements, garments, or haberdashery. Therefore, it must be either a commonly known practice to use a particular type of fastener with accoutrements, garments, or haberdashery (e.g., snap fasteners) or the patent documents for a particular type of fastener must frequently disclose their use with accoutrements, garments, or haberdashery. However, it is not required that all, or even the majority, of the fasteners covered by a particular category of fastener be specially adapted for use, or disclose their intended use, with accoutrements, garments, or haberdashery.

Relationships with other classification places

General relationship of [A44B](#) with [F16B](#)

Fasteners per se that either (a) require a tool for completing their normal fastening (e.g. screws, nails, stitches) or (b) are destroyed or destructively deformed to fasten or unfasten (e.g. staples, rivets) are excluded from [A44B](#).

Relationships with other classification places

However, when [F16B](#) types of fasteners or other tool driven or deformed fasteners are used to mount fasteners or fastener components appropriate for [A44B](#), and are attached to or cooperate with at least one of their components, they are properly classified within [A44B](#) as an additional feature of the fasteners with which they are utilized.

General relationship of [A44B](#) with subclasses for accoutrements, garments, or haberdashery.

Fasteners appropriately classified within [A44B](#) are often broadly claimed or disclosed in combination with the structure they secure or fasten. If the detail of the structure they secure or fasten specifies only the portion of the structure (e.g. dress belt tip or holes) necessary for either completing the fastening operation or mounting the fastening means, the combinations are proper for [A44B](#).

If the details of the accoutrements, garments, or haberdashery being secured are more than that needed to complete the fastening operation or mount the fastener, then the combination is appropriate for the accoutrements, garments, or haberdashery subclasses (e.g. [A41D](#), [A41F](#)).

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Fastening devices specially adapted for specific types of garments	A41F
Buttonholes or eyelets for buttonholes	A41F 1/02
Corset fasteners	A41F 1/04
Glove fasteners	A41F 1/06
Garter fasteners	A41F 1/08
Belts, girdles or waistbands for trousers or skirts	A41F 9/00
Thumbtacks	B43M 15/00
Devices for fastening or securing constructional elements or machine parts together	F16B
Hand-manipulated hooks or eyes (e.g. swivel hook for dog leash)	F16B 45/00

Application-oriented references

Examples of places where the subject matter of this place is covered when specially adapted, used for a particular purpose, or incorporated in a larger system:

Places covering apparatus or methods for making, or for positioning on the structure being fastened, fasteners or components of fasteners appropriate for this subclass

Appliances or methods for marking-out, perforating, or making buttonholes	A41H 25/00
Appliances or methods for setting fasteners on garments	A41H 37/00
Processing sheet metal, tubes or profiles to make haberdashery	B21D 53/46
Processing sheet metal, tubes or profiles to make buttons	B21D 53/48
Processing sheet metal, tubes or profiles to make metal slide fasteners parts	B21D 53/50
Wire-working to produce devices for fastening (e.g. slide fastener elements, buttons)	B21F 45/16
Pressure or injection die casting of slide fasteners and slide fastener parts	B22D 17/16

Producing slide fastener elements from plastic or other substances in a plastic state	B29D 5/00
Producing buttons or semi-finished button parts from plastic or other substances in a plastic state	B29D 19/00

Informative references

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

For garments in general	A41D
For protective aprons having fastening devices	A41D 13/04
For neckties having fastening or holding devices associated with the knot or collar	A41D 25/00
For hats having fastening devices	A42B 1/00
For head covering fastening means other than hatpins	A42B 7/00
For laces in general and for footwear having fastening devices	A43C
For machines, tools, equipment or methods for setting fasteners on footwear	A43D 100/00
For brooches or clips having decorative or ornamental aspects	A44C 1/00
For medals or badges having pin fastening devices	A44C 3/00
For hair-holding devices	A45D 8/00
For work bench type holding clamps	B25B 5/00
For paper clips or like paper fasteners for temporarily attaching sheets together	B42F 1/02
For elements specially adapted for fastening, fixing or finishing upholstery	B68G 7/12
For sewing apparatus or machines with mechanism for lateral movement of the needle or the work or both for making ornamental pattern seams, for sewing buttonholes, for reinforcing openings or for fastening articles (e.g. buttons) by sewing	D05B 3/00
For sewing needles	D05B 85/00
For hand operated latches or bolts for doors or windows (e.g. door hooks)	E05C

Special rules of classification

This subclass covers buckles, hook-and-loop or slide fasteners whether used as haberdashery (i.e. for clothing) or otherwise only if there's no other class for the specific application.

Please note that there are also additional symbols in [A44D](#) other than the ones relating to Indexing Code mirror.

For classification of additional functions or features the non-Mirror Indexing Code symbols of [A44D](#) should be used.

Decorative mock-fastening devices that do not function as fasteners (e.g. ornamental buttons on coats, fake zippers on clothing), but that look like the fasteners or one of their essential parts covered by [A44B](#), are classified within the main groups of this subclass that provide for the fasteners they are intended to resemble.

Reference [A43C](#) is non-limiting in the subclass [A43B](#). CPC will be corrected once this inconsistency is resolved in IPC.

Glossary of terms

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

Button	A hand manipulated fastener that includes a rigid or semirigid portion (i.e. button) which is attached (e.g. sewn) to the structure it is intended to fasten or secure (e.g. clothing) in a manner that allows its reorientation by either movement about its attachment or movement of the structure it secures. A button is intended to be used with a complementary opening having a flaccid portion (e.g. buttonholes, looped cords) that forms the second essential part of the fastener.
Buckle	A hand manipulated fastener including engaging or holding means and structure for guiding during fastening, which can selectively hold a cooperating strap or belt that is either the structure secured (e.g. end of a dress belt) or a second portion of the fastener (e.g. securing strap of a backpack flap).
Pin	A hand manipulated fastener that includes both (1) a portion specifically shaped (e.g. pointed) to facilitate impaling of and penetration into the structure fastened or secured and (2) a remaining portion (e.g. head) intended to be manually pushed on that does not penetrate the structure fastened or secured.
Slide fastener	A hand manipulated fastener that includes (1) two, opposed, elongated, configured surfaces that are each attached by mounting means to a secured structure and are intended to directly contact and interlock with each other when fastened and (2) a sliding device that is much shorter in length than the surfaces and which travels along their length to forcibly shift them into or out of interlocking engagement

Synonyms and Keywords

In patent documents, the following words/expressions are often used as synonyms:

- "slide fastener" and "zipper"
- "cufflink" and "sleeve-link"

A44B 1/00

Buttons

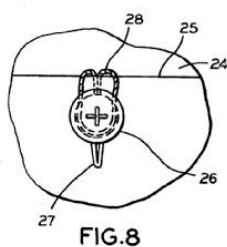
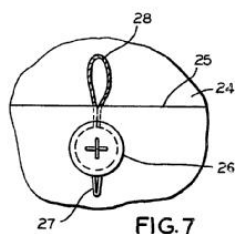
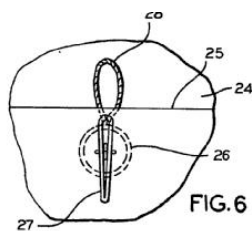
Definition statement

This place covers:

Buttons, and variations including, for example, buttons containing perfume or buttons with further safety means avoiding unbuttoning.

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group:

1.



References

Informative references

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

Brooches with a safety pin fastening	A44B 9/16
Setting on garments	A41H 37/10
Setting on footwear	A43D 100/08
Brooches in their decorative aspect	A44C 1/00
Badges	A44C 3/001
Processing sheet metal, tubes or profiles to make buttons	B21D 53/48
Producing buttons or semi-finished parts of buttons from plastic or other substances in a plastic state	B29D 19/00
Special machines for making cotton buttons	D05C 7/12

Special rules of classification

In American English "button" is used for "badge". The correct group for badges is [A44C 3/001](#).

For removable buttons that look like badges but are used as a fastener, classify in [A44B 1/18](#) and in [A44C 3/001](#).

Glossary of terms

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

Button	A knob or stud of metal or other material sewn or fixed by a shank or neck to articles of dress, usually for the purpose of fastening one part of the dress to another by passing through a button-hole, but often merely for ornament.
Badge	Any distinctive device, emblem, or mark worn to indicate a person's affiliation, rank, office, name, etc., or membership of an organization or support for a cause; also a small piece of metal, card, plastic, etc., bearing a distinguishing design or words and often worn purely for ornament.

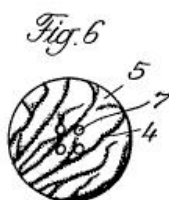
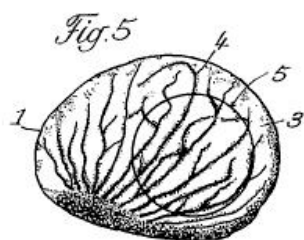
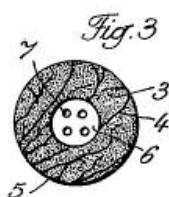
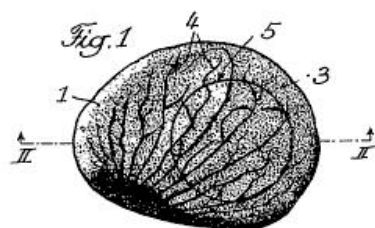
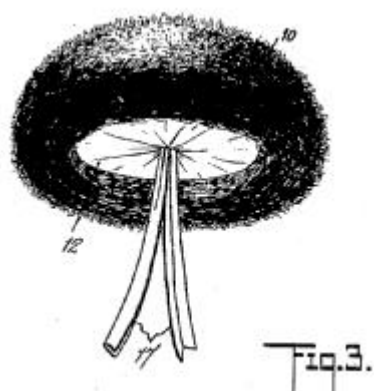
A44B 1/02

characterised by their material

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



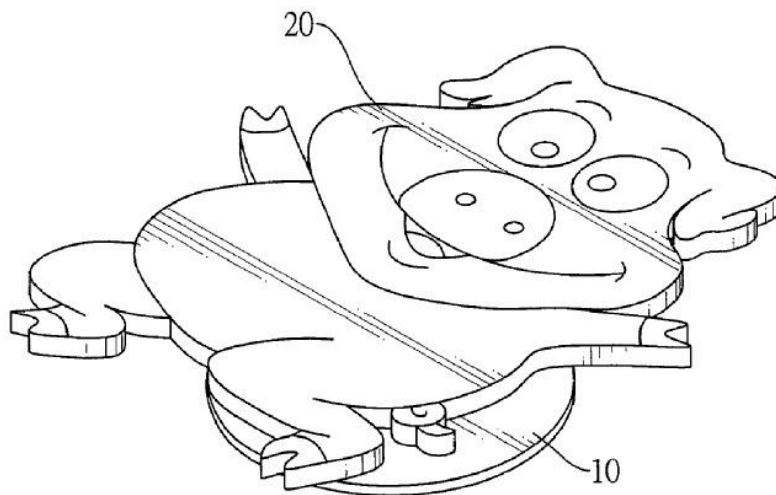
A44B 1/04

Ornamental buttons

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Badges	A44C 3/001
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Special rules of classification

In American English "Button" is used for "Badge", correct class for Badges is [A44C 3/001](#).

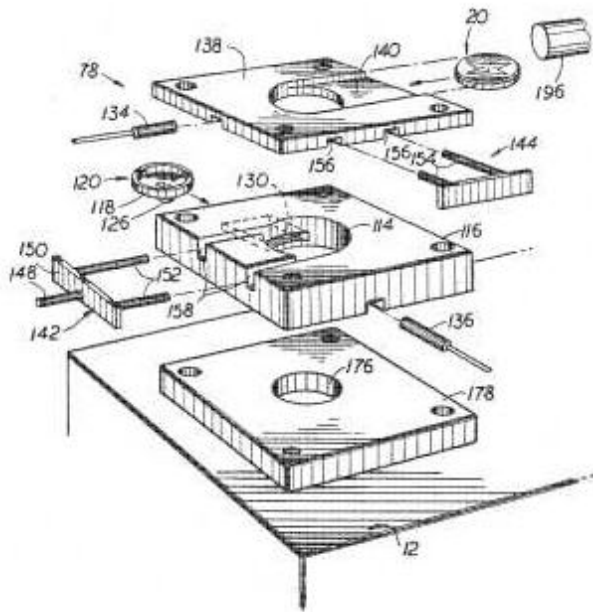
For removable buttons that look like badges but are used as a fastener, class in [A44B 1/18](#) and in [A44C 3/001](#).

A44B 1/06**Assembling of buttons (covering by braiding [D04D](#))****Definition statement**

This place covers:

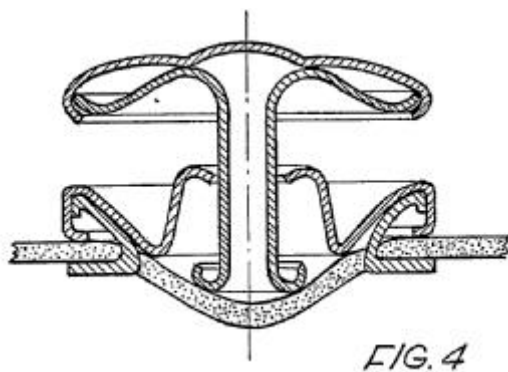
Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

□ 37. [US5113572](#) - Machine and method for automatically assembling buttons

**A44B 1/08****Constructional characteristics****Definition statement**

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 1/10**washable****References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

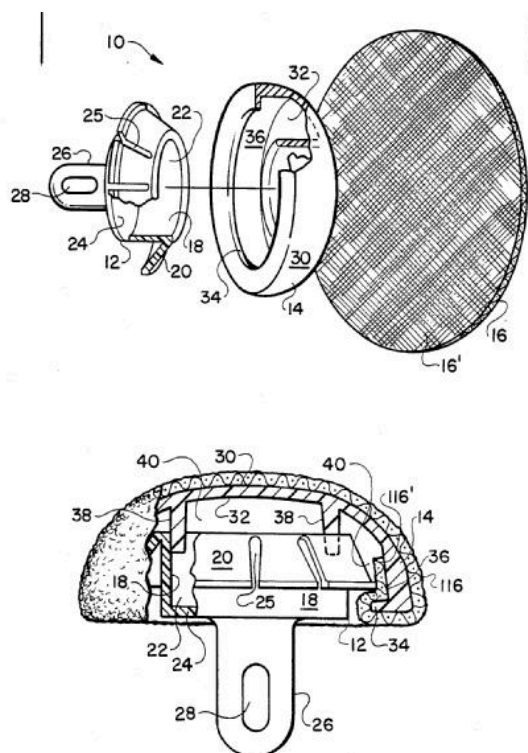
Laundry button protectors	D06F 95/008
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Special rules of classification

Classification is done here only if the document specifically mentions constructional characteristics in the context of promoting the washing or laundry ability.

A44B 1/12**covered by fabric****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



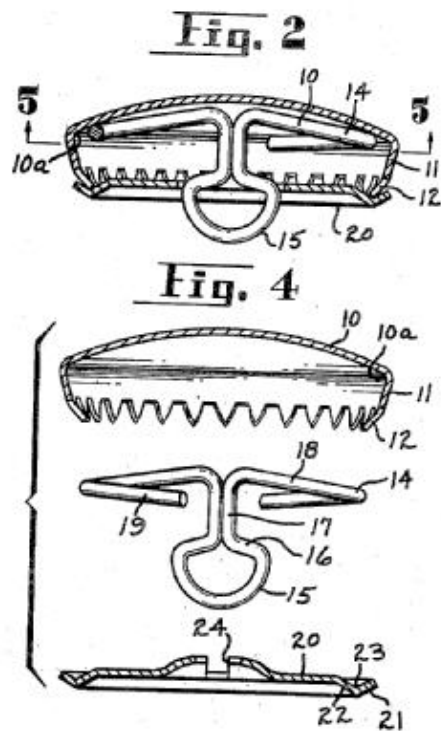
A44B 1/123

{with a removable fabric covering}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 1/126

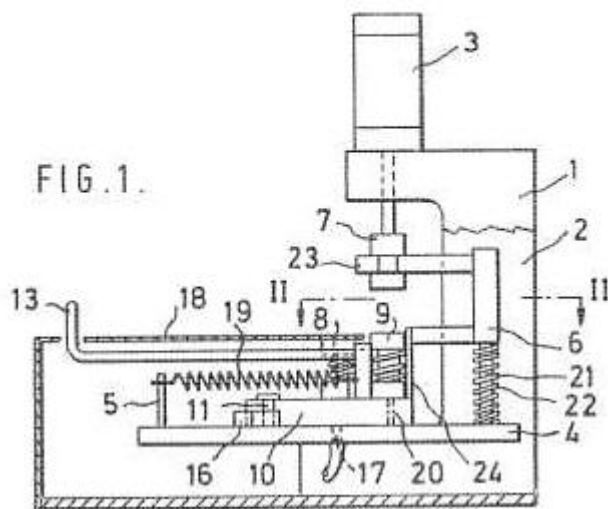
{Manufacture not otherwise provided for}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

☐ 11. [GB2095095](#) - (A B) Button covering press



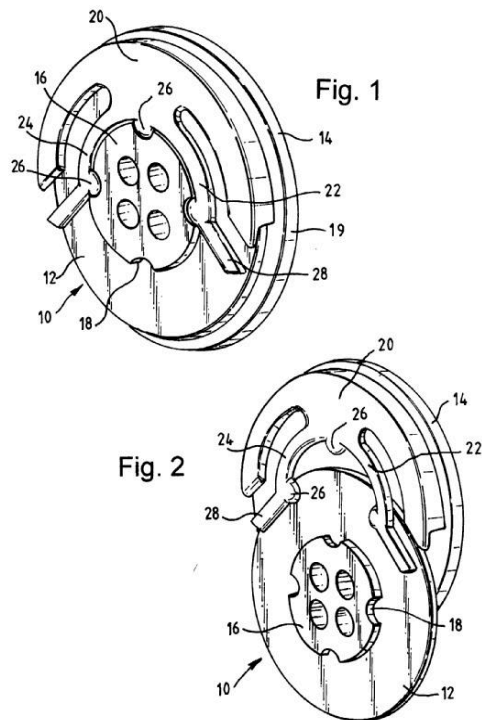
A44B 1/14

with replaceable {or protective} coverings {(removable fabric coverings [A44B 1/123](#); sleeve-links concealing a sewed-on button [A44B 5/007](#))}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

**A44B 1/18**

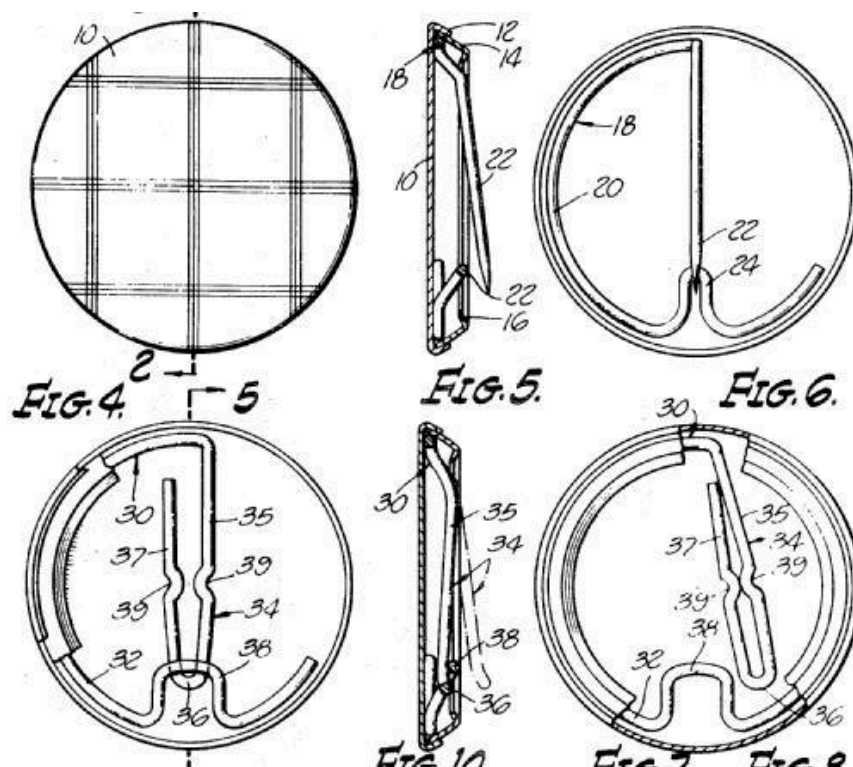
adapted for special ways of fastening

Definition statement

This place covers:

Removable buttons that look like badges but are used as a fastener.

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Badges	A44C 3/001
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Special rules of classification

In American English "Button" is used for "Badge", correct class for Badges is [A44C 3/001](#).

For removable buttons that look like badges but are used as a fastener, class in [A44B 1/18](#) and in [A44C 3/001](#).

If they fasten through a safety pin, it should also be classed in [A44B 9/16](#).

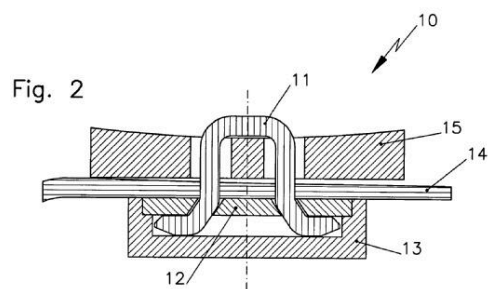
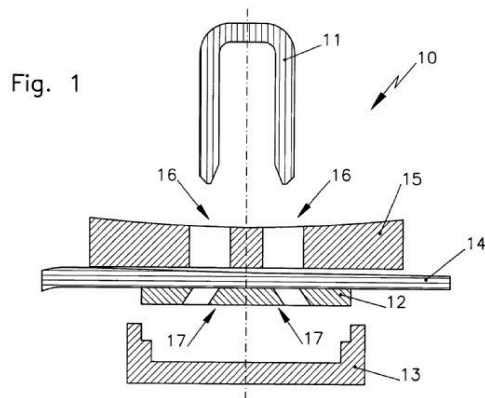
A44B 1/185

{with quick, thread-like, anchoring means avoiding the use of a separate needle and thread}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



Glossary of terms

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

Thread-like	Filiform, used as an alternative to textile threads.
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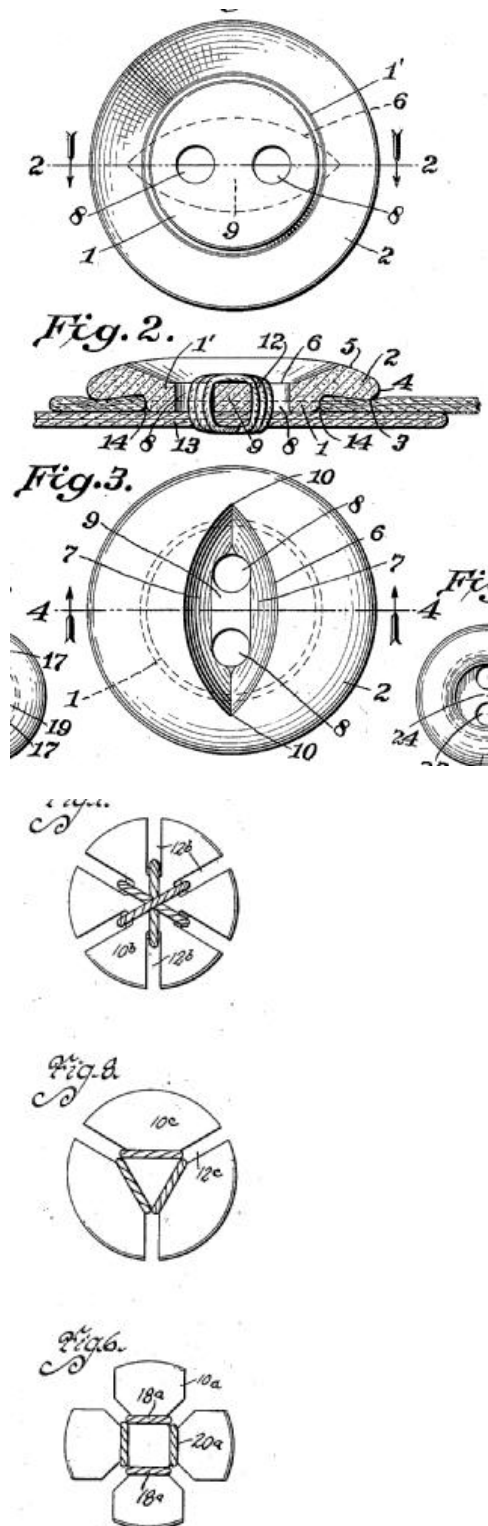
A44B 1/20

attached by thread visible to the front {(A44B 1/185 takes precedence)}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



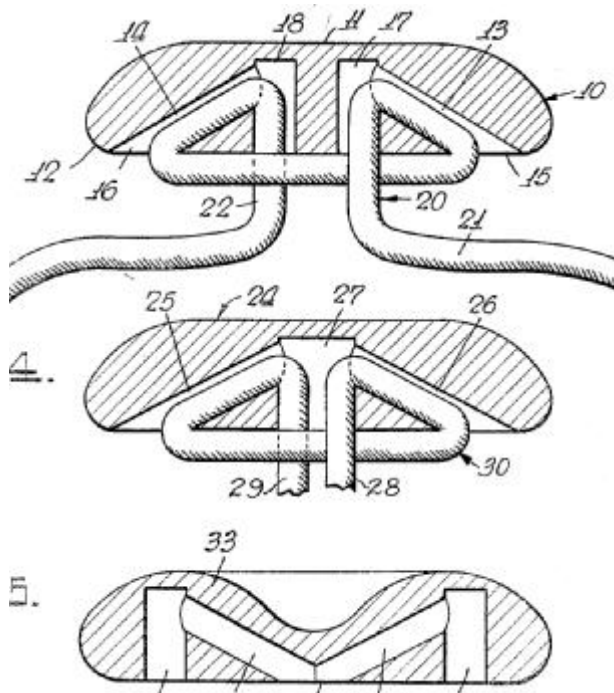
A44B 1/22

attached by thread not visible to the front {(A44B 1/185 takes precedence)}

Definition statement

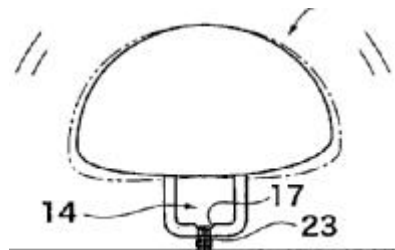
This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

**A44B 1/24****Eye-buttons****Definition statement**

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

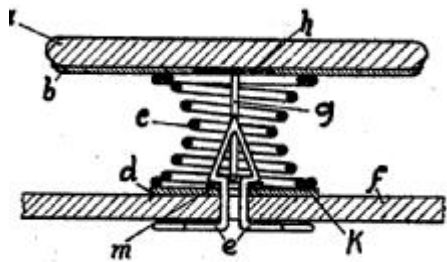
**References****Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

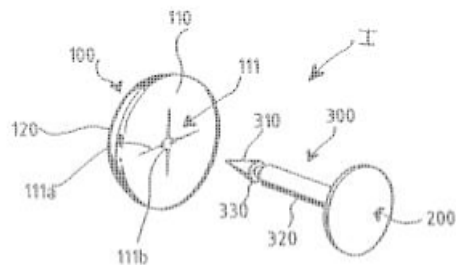
Capitoné furniture upholstery buttons	B68G 7/08 , A47C 31/026
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A44B 1/26**with resilient shank****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

**A44B 1/28****with shank and counterpiece****Definition statement***This place covers:*

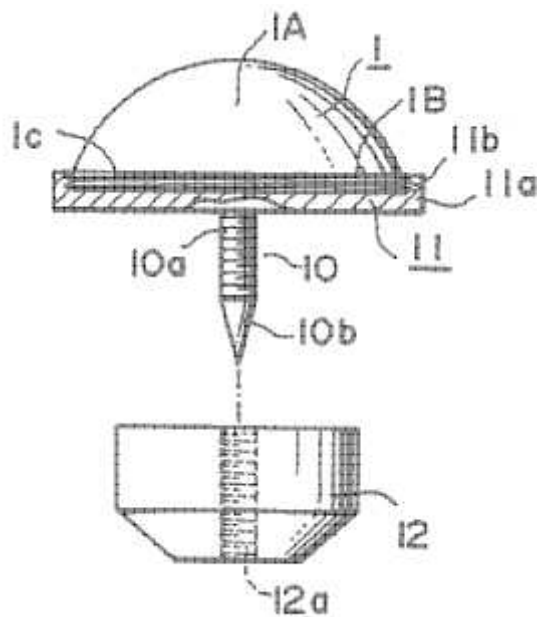
Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 1/30**Screw-buttons****Definition statement**

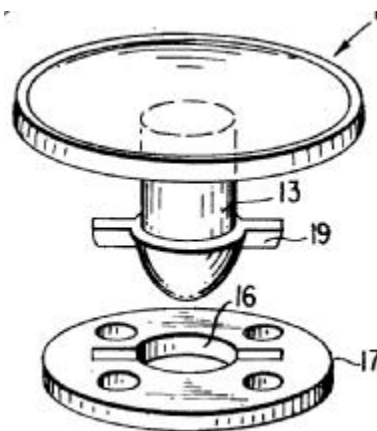
This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

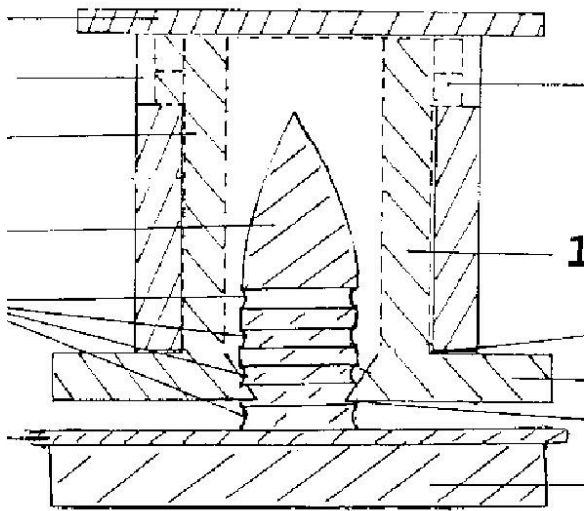
**A44B 1/32****Shank inserted into counterpiece and locked by sliding or rotating****Definition statement**

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

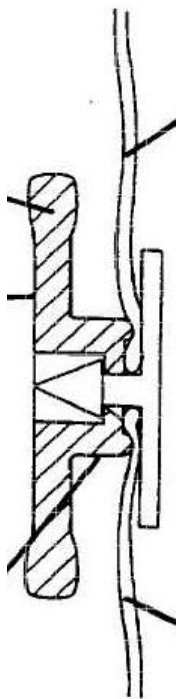


Definition statement

**A44B 1/34****with snap-action counterpiece****Definition statement**

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

**Special rules of classification**

Difference between buttons fixed to material, i.e. textile, with snap-action counterpiece [A44B 1/34](#) and snap-fasteners [A44B 17/00](#) is that the snap-fastener fastens two pieces of material, i.e. textile, by snap-fastening; while the button is fixed to one piece of material, i.e. textile by snap-fastening but does not use snap fastening to fasten two pieces of material, i.e. textile.

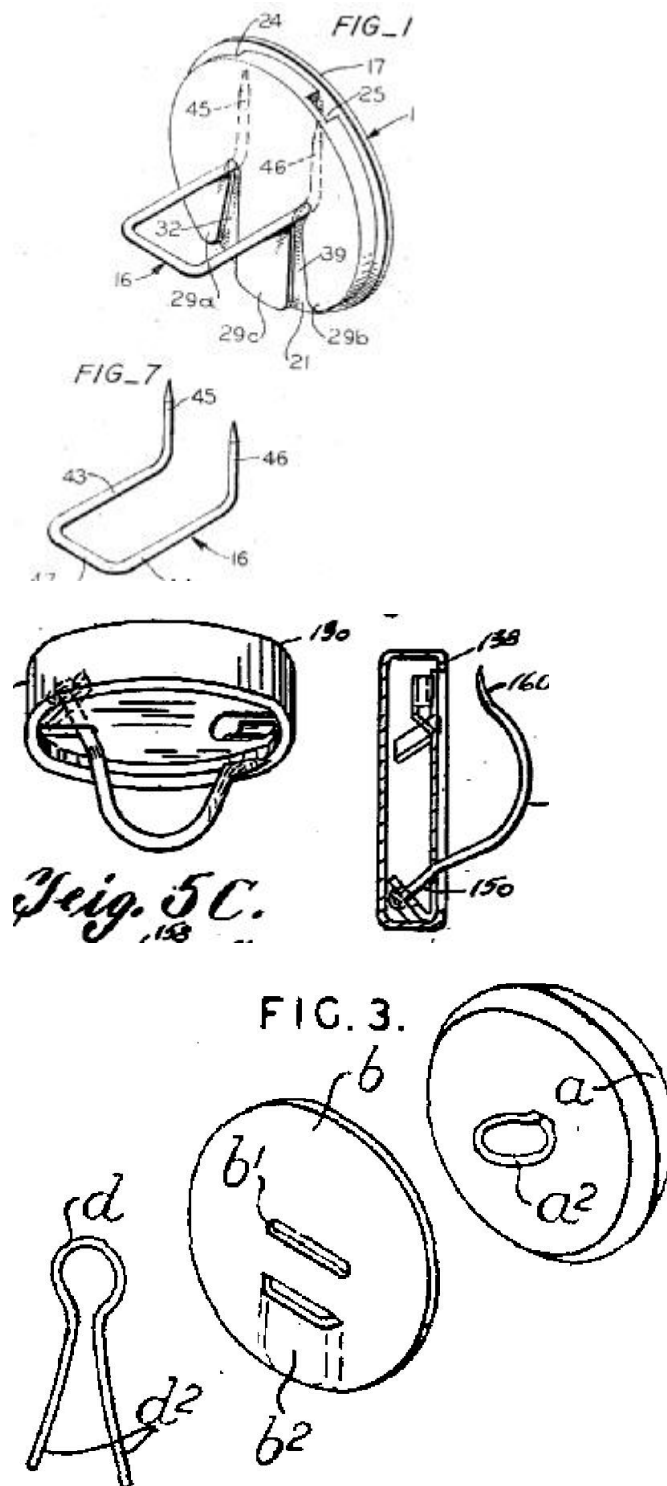
A44B 1/36

with counterpiece in the form of cotter, split-pin, or the like

Definition statement

This place covers:

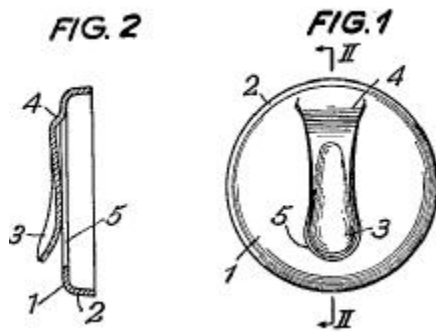
Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 1/38**Clamping by spring action****Definition statement**

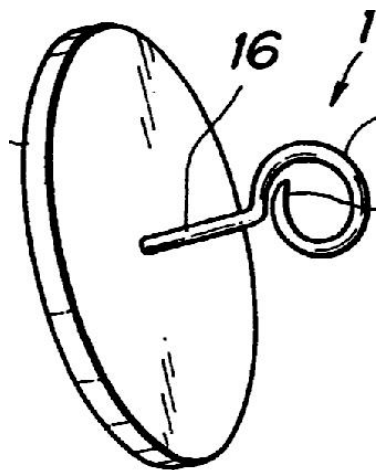
This place covers:

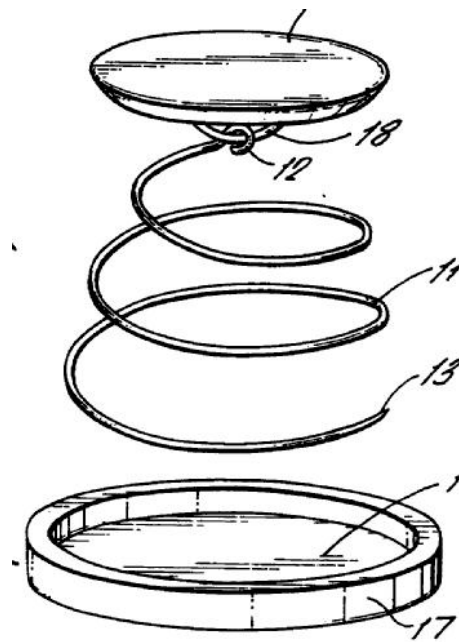
Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

**A44B 1/40****with helical wire-shank screwed into material****Definition statement**

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.





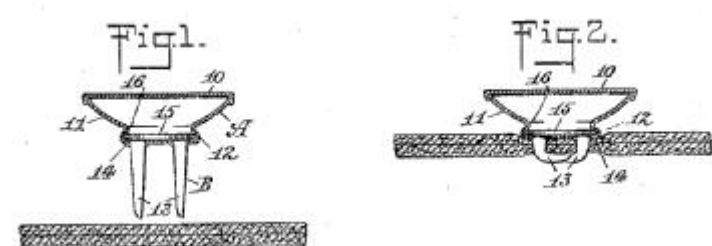
A44B 1/42

with deformable prongs

Definition statement

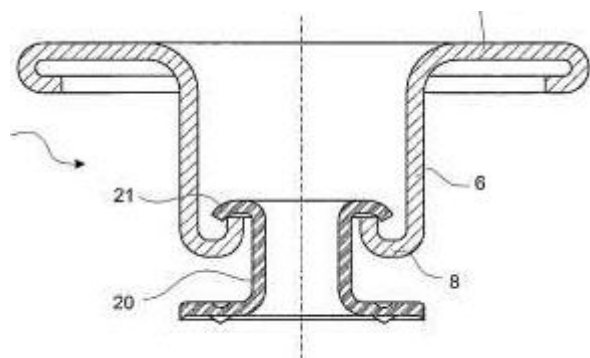
This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 1/44**with deformable counterpiece****Definition statement***This place covers:*

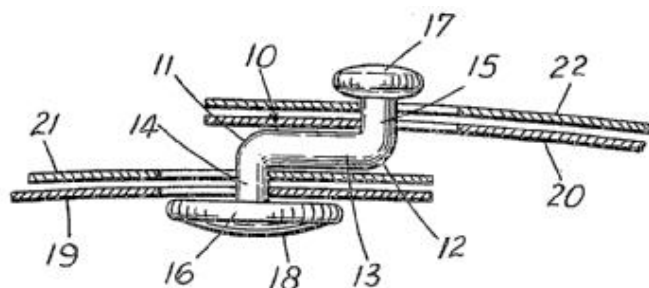
Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

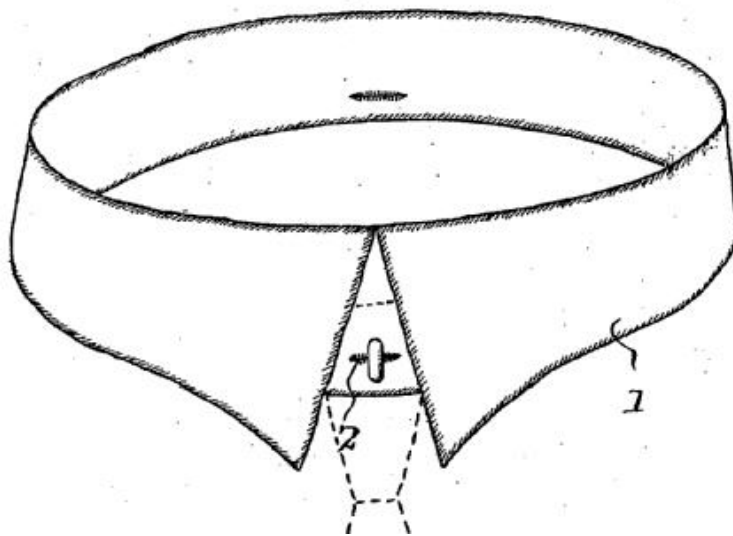
**A44B 3/00****Collar-studs****Glossary of terms***In this place, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:*

Collar-stud	A stud used to fasten a collar to a shirt
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A44B 3/02**completely rigid****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.





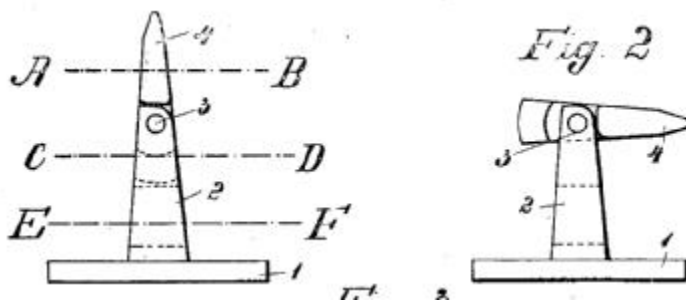
A44B 3/04

with head tiltable as a whole

Definition statement

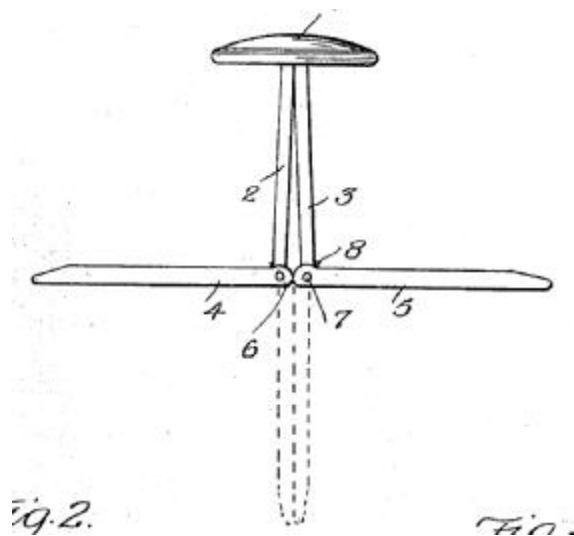
This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

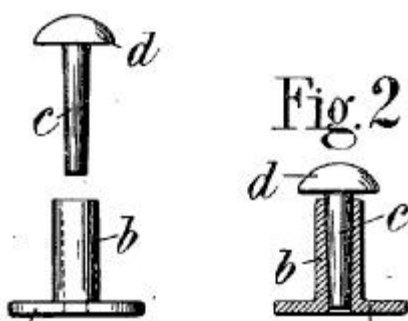


A44B 3/06**with head formed as two tiltable flaps****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

**A44B 3/08****with head and base separable****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

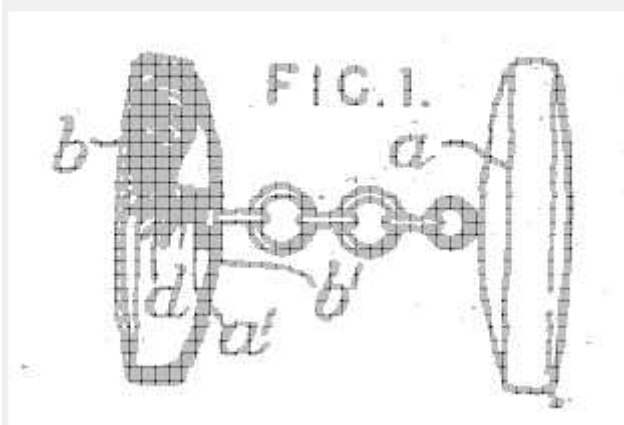


A44B 5/00**Sleeve-links****Definition statement**

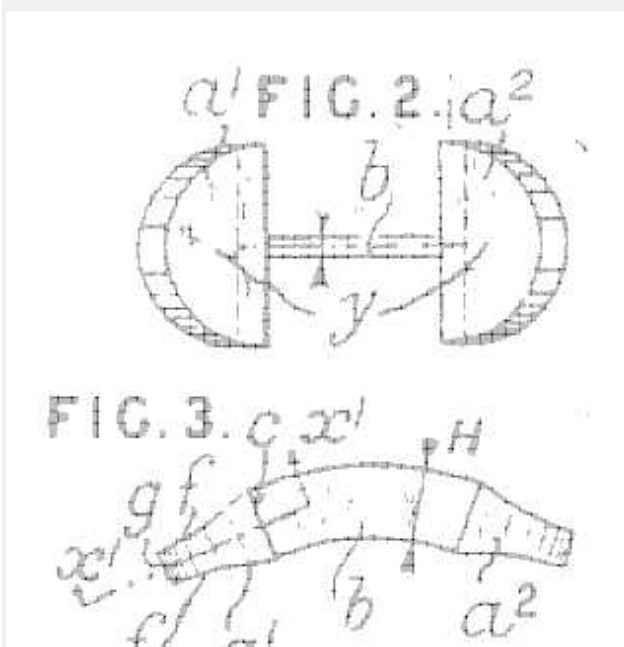
This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

□ 177. [GB670528](#) - Improvements connected with cuff links



□ 199. [GB614234](#) - Improvements in or relating to cuff-links

**Glossary of terms**

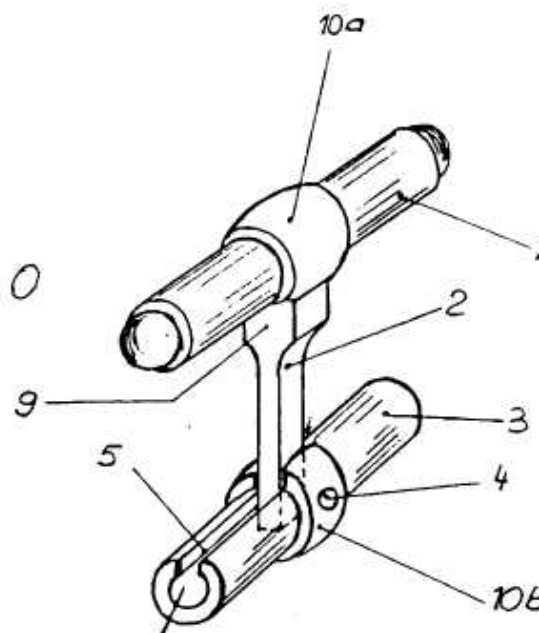
In this place, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:

Sleeve-link	A link used for fastening the loose sides of a wristband or cuff, esp. the cuff of a shirt-sleeve.
-------------	--

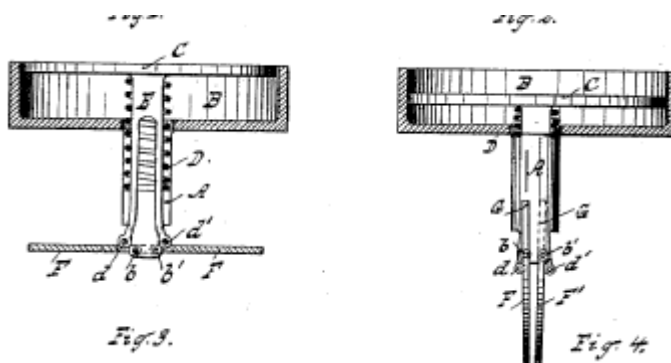
A44B 5/002**{with head tiltable as a whole}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

□ 13. [DE4024113](#) - Decorative cufflink with pivot - has connection bar hinged in slot in pivot part

**A44B 5/005****{formed as two tiltable flaps}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 5/007

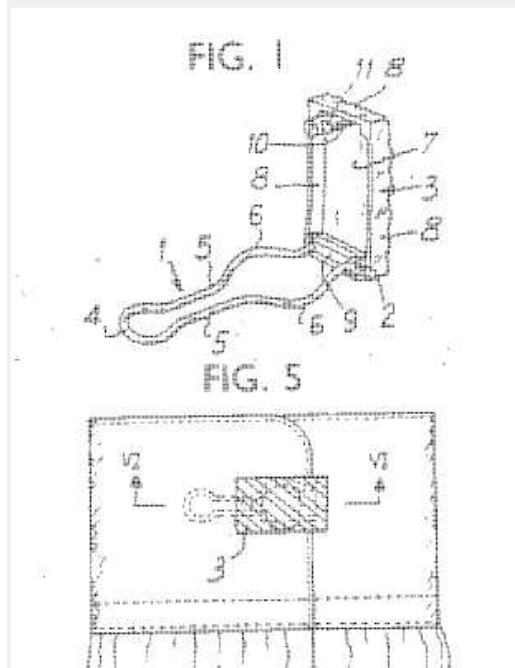
{concealing a sewed-on button (buttons with replaceable coverings
[A44B 1/14](#))}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

□ 34. [GB1450554](#) - CUFF-BUTTON CONCEALING MEANS



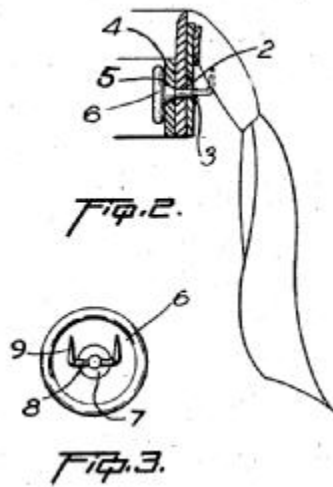
A44B 6/00

Retainers or tethers for neckties, cravats, neckerchiefs, or the like, e.g. tie-clips, spring clips with attached tie-tethers, woggles, pins with associated sheathing members tetherable to clothing (tie-pins [A44B 9/08](#); decorative or ornamental aspects [A44C](#))

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

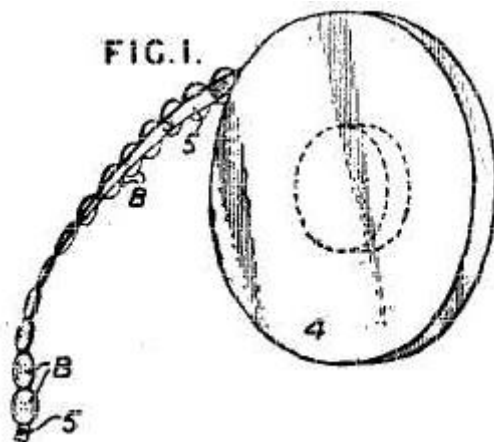
**A44B 7/00**

Cards for buttons, collar-studs, or sleeve-links

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Packaging, articles attached to webs	B65D 73/02
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A44B 9/02

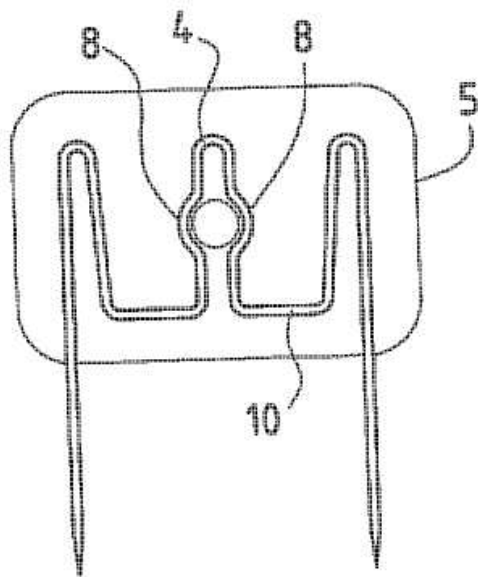
Simple pins

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

□ 1. [FR2845575](#) - (A1) Pin, for use in clothing industry, has two pointed arms joined by W-shaped top, central section of this, which faces upwards, fitting over stud on decoration to hold it temporarily while it is sewn on



A44B 9/04

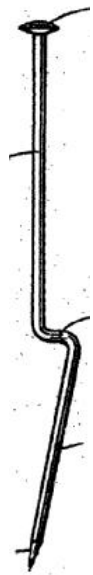
Ordinary pins

Definition statement

This place covers:

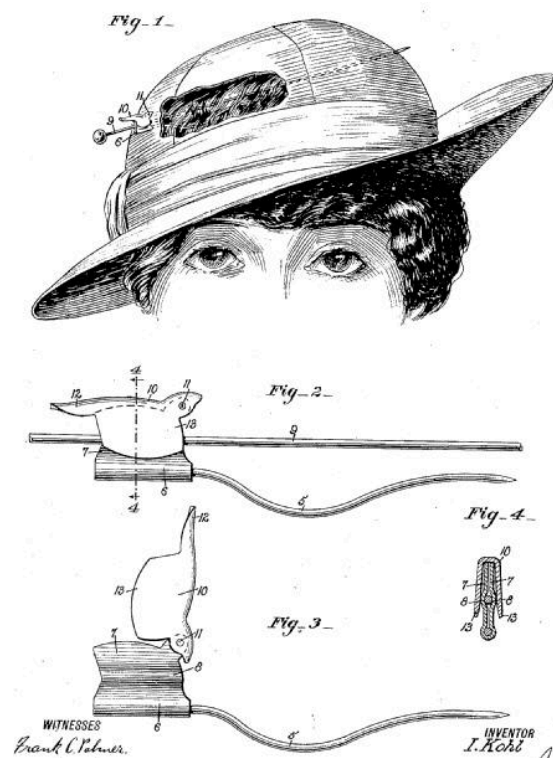
Pin for general purpose without specific use.

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 9/06**Hat-pins (other fastening means for head coverings [A42B 7/00](#))****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 9/14

Ordinary safety-pins

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



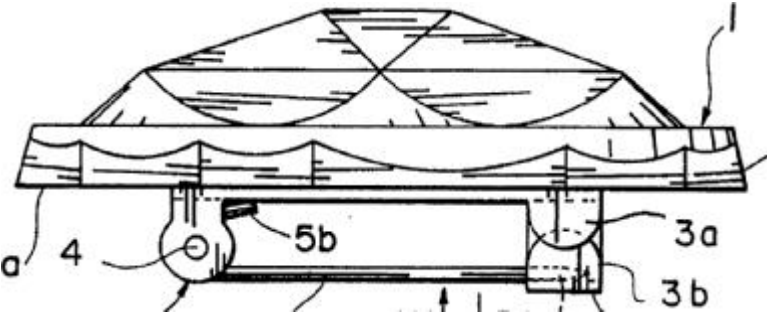
A44B 9/16

Brooches; Breast-pins

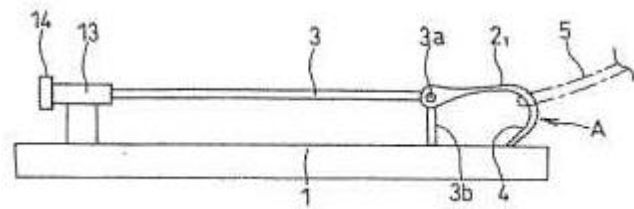
Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



□ 3. [US2005044676](#) - (A1 B2) Clasp for use with both a brooch and pendant



References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Buttons for fastening	A44B 1/00
Brooches in their decorative aspect	A44C 1/00
Badges	A44C 3/001

Special rules of classification

Comprises brooches with a safety pin fastening. For brooches in their decorative aspect class in [A44C 1/00](#).

Safety pins also to be found in button & badges fastenings [A44B 1/18](#), [A44C 3/001](#).

In American English "Button" is used for "Badge", correct class for Badges is [A44C 3/001](#).

For removable buttons that look like badges but are used as a fastener, class in [A44B 1/18](#) and in [A44C 3/001](#).

If they fasten through a safety pin, it should also be classed in [A44B 9/16](#).

Synonyms and Keywords

In patent documents, the following words/expressions are often used as synonyms:

- "brooch" and "breast pin"

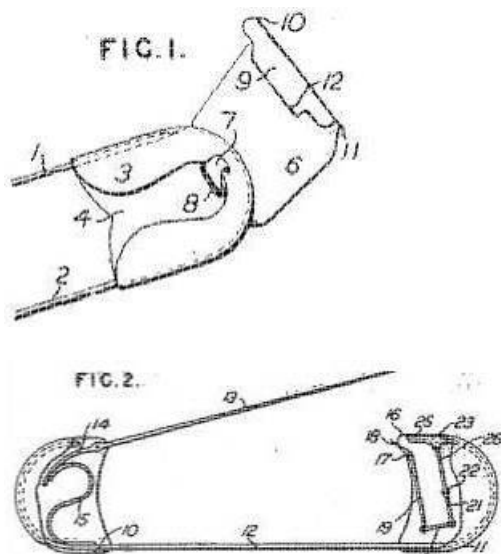
A44B 9/18

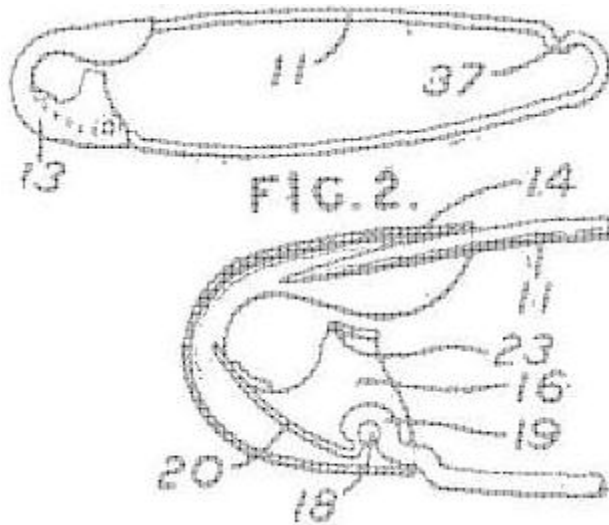
Hinges; Locking devices

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.





A44B 9/20

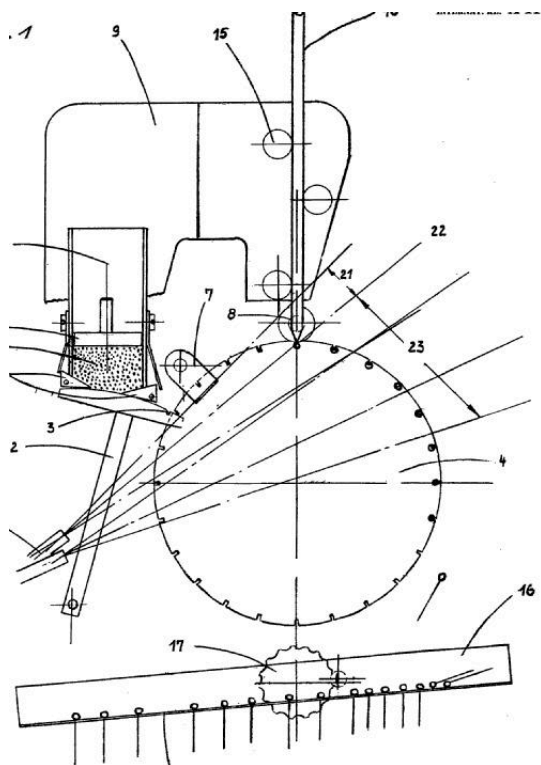
Attaching heads of glass or the like to pin shafts

Definition statement

This place covers:

Methods for attaching heads of glass or the like to pin shafts. May also comprise machines for attaching if it is not the main subject of the invention

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



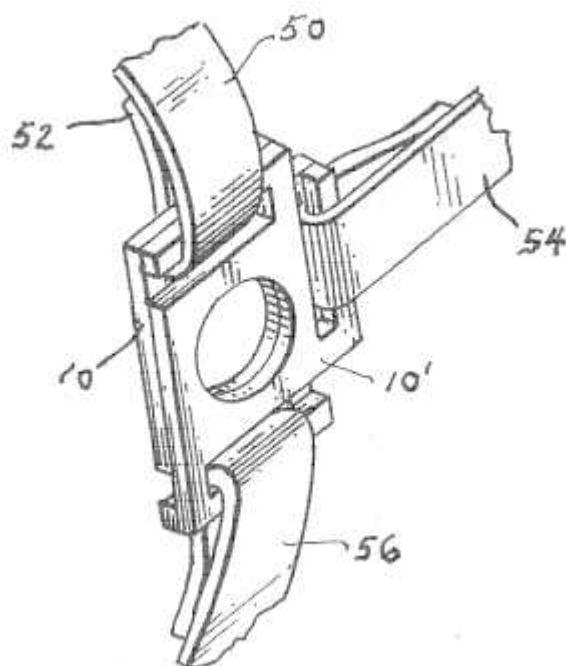
A44B 11/00

Buckles; Similar fasteners for interconnecting straps or the like, e.g. for safety belts

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group:



References

Informative references

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

Dogs collars couplings	A01K 27/005
Buckles to reduce size in caps / hats	A42B 1/22
Buckles to reduce size in helmets	A42B 3/145
Magnetic coupling in handbags, accessories	A45C 13/1069
Hangers for hanging articles	A47F 5/0006
Supports, holders for household use	A47G 29/00
Tourniquets	A61B 17/1327
Buckles for goggles/lenses	A61F 9/027
Swimming fins	A63B 31/11
Swimming goggles	A63B 33/008
Hand-tools for fastening wire or strip	B25B 25/00
Sheet fastening	B42F 1/00
Tighteners for securing of load on vehicles	B60P 7/0823

Securing luggage on cycle carriers	B62J 7/08
Diving masks	B63C 2011/128
Ratchet type straps (for bundling or identification), that cannot be opened	E05B 75/00 , G09F 3/03 , B65B 13/027 , B65D 63/1072 , F16L 3/2334
Carabiner hooks	F16B 45/02
Cord stoppers (buckle for every round strap)	F16G 11/10 , F16G 11/12
Chain coupling, swivels	F16G 15/08
Means for preventing, limiting movements of parts of a control mechanism by a locking member	G05G 5/18

Special rules of classification

This subclass covers buckles whether used as haberdashery (i.e. for clothing) or otherwise only if there's no other class for the specific application.

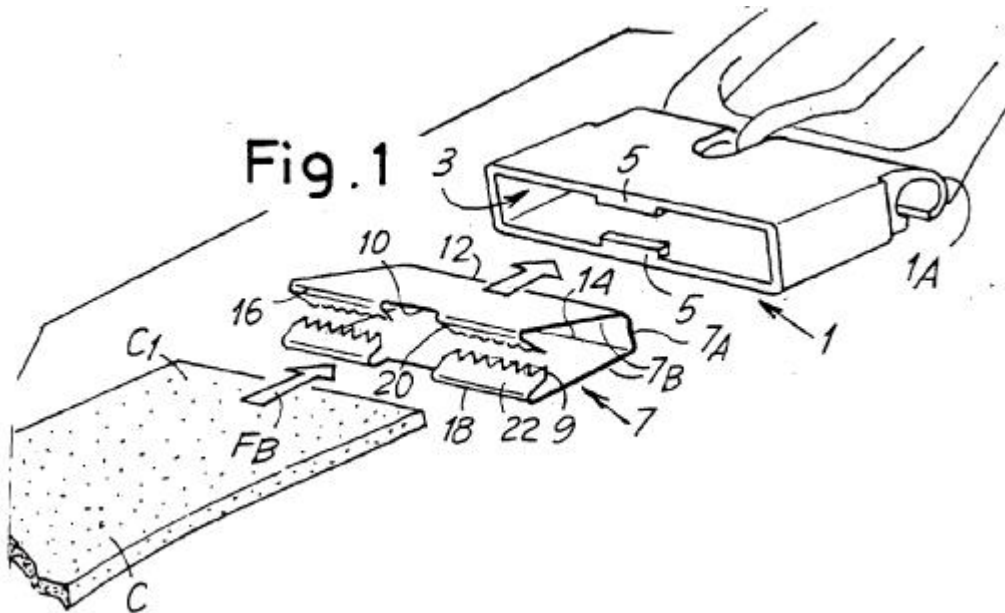
A44B 11/006

{Attachment of buckle to strap (for safety buckles [A44B 11/2553](#))}

Definition statement

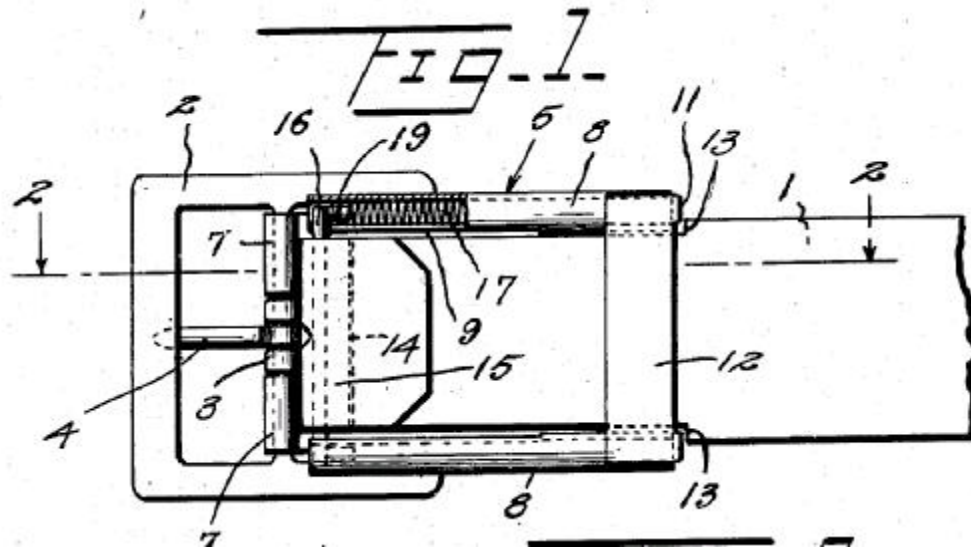
This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 11/008**{extensible}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

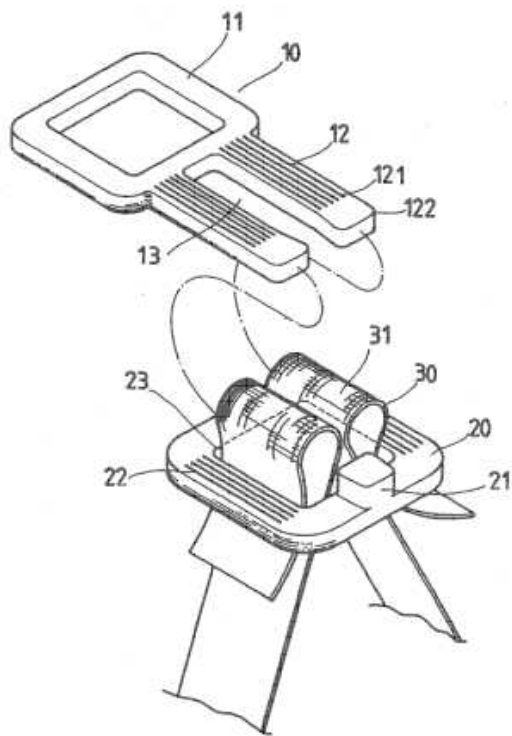
Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 11/02**frictionally engaging surface of straps****Definition statement**

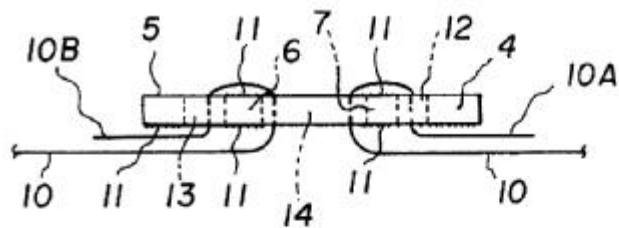
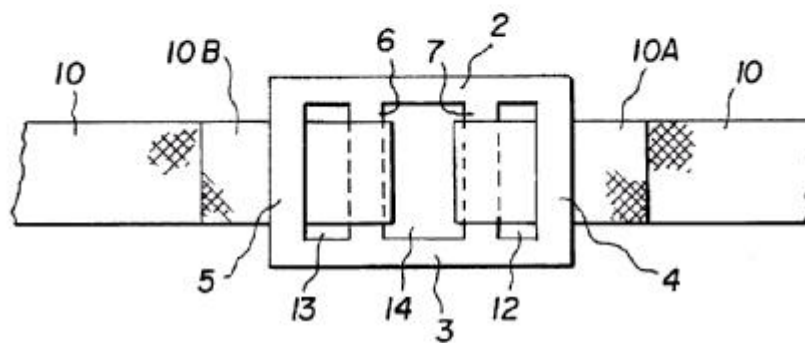
This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 11/04**without movable parts****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

**FIG. 6**

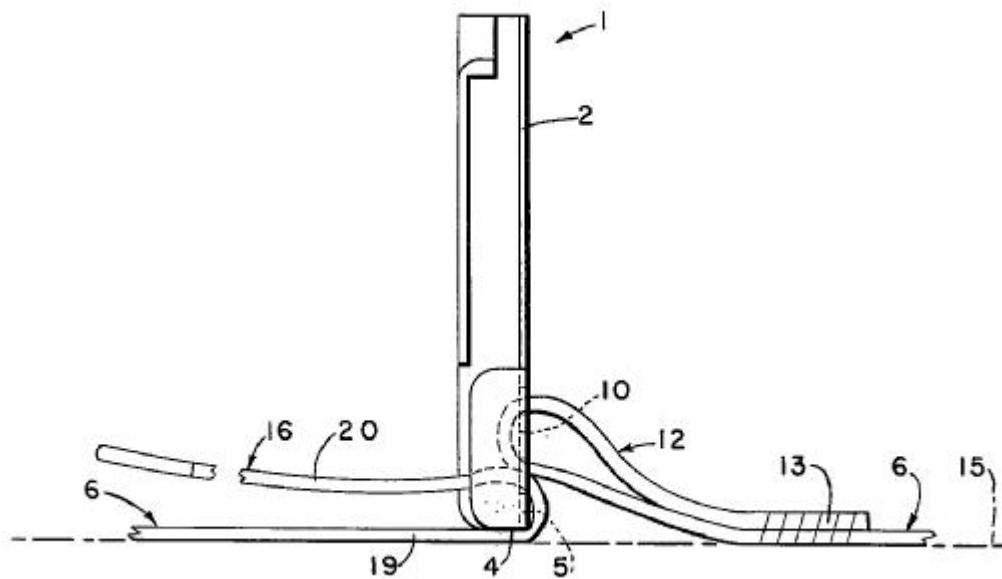
A44B 11/065

{with strap tightening means ([A44B 11/125](#) takes precedence; tighteners for securing of load on vehicles [B60P 7/0823](#); buckles attached to the end of a strap for bundling articles [B65D 63/16](#))}

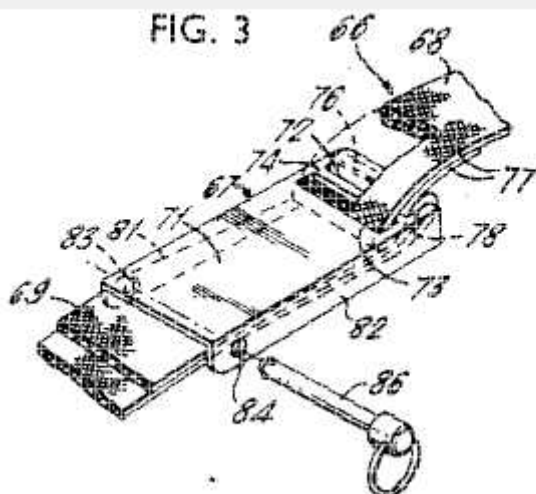
Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

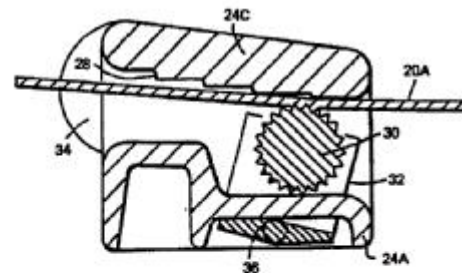
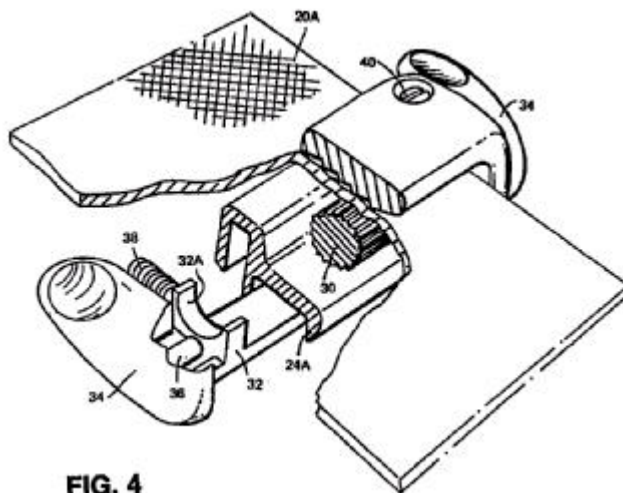


□ 38. [GB1502091](#) - STRAP TENSIONING APPARATUS

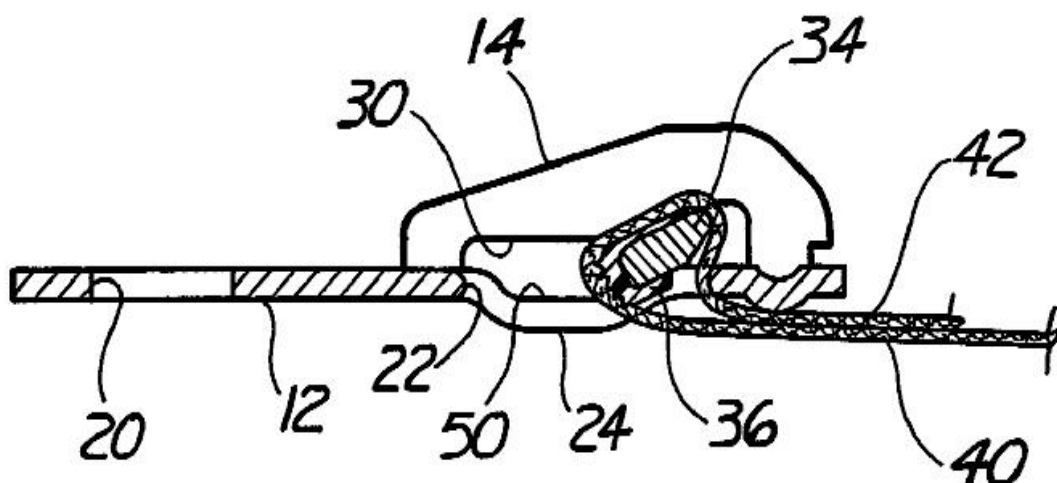


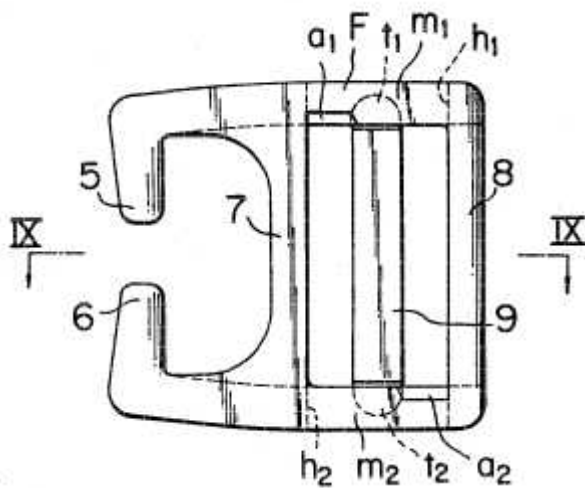
A44B 11/08**roller displaceable in wedge-shaped slot****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

**A44B 11/10****sliding wedge****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.





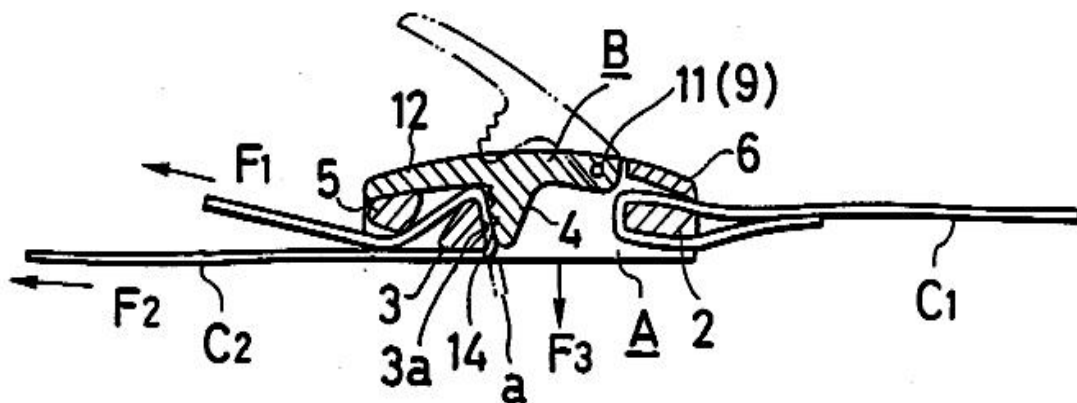
A44B 11/12

turnable clamp

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 11/125

{with strap tightening means}

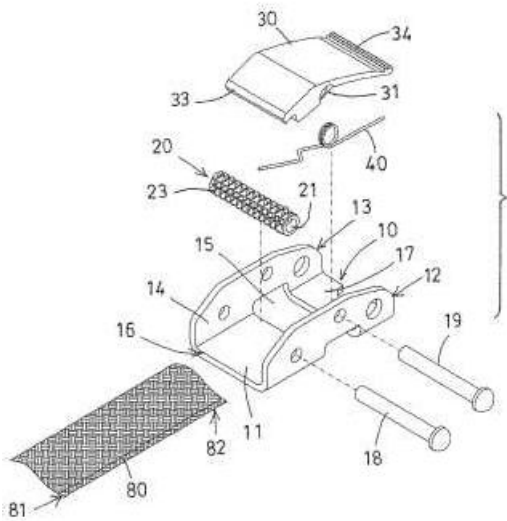
Definition statement

This place covers:

Strap tightening means incorporated in buckles which frictionally engage the surface of straps using turnable clamps.

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

6. [US2011041301](#) - Strap tensioner or tightener



References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Tighteners for securing of load on vehicles	B60P 7/0823
Securing luggage straps	B62J 7/08

Special rules of classification

This subclass covers buckles frictionally engaging surface of straps with a turnable clamp and strap tightening means whether used as haberdashery (i.e. for clothing) or otherwise only if there's no other class for the specific application.

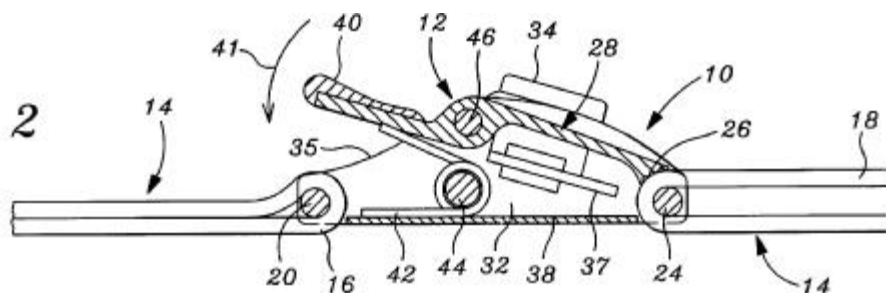
A44B 11/14

with snap-action

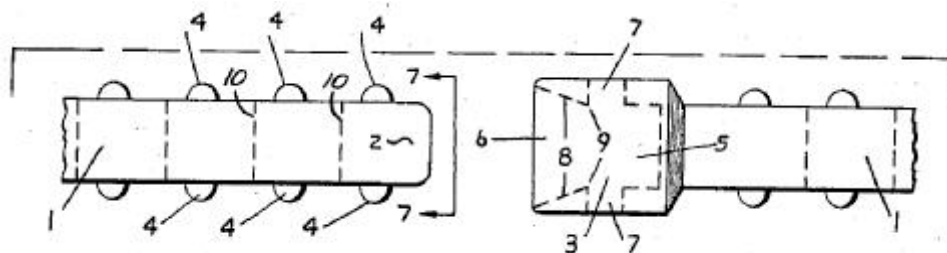
Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Dogs collars	A01K 27/00
Buckles to reduce size in caps / hats	A42B 1/22
Buckles to reduce size in helmets	A42B 3/145
Buckles for goggles/lenses (A. Espuch is stock manager)	A61F 9/025
Straps, buckles, attachment of headbands in goggles	A61F 9/027
Breathing masks	A62B 18/00
Swimming fins	A63B 31/11
Swimming goggles	A63B 33/002
Swimming goggles with means covering the nostrils	B63C 11/12
Diving masks	B63C 11/12
Ratchet type straps (for bundling or identification), that cannot be opened	E05B 75/00 (Handcuffs), G09F 3/03 , G07C 9/20 , B65B 13/027 , B65D 63/1072 , F16L 3/2334

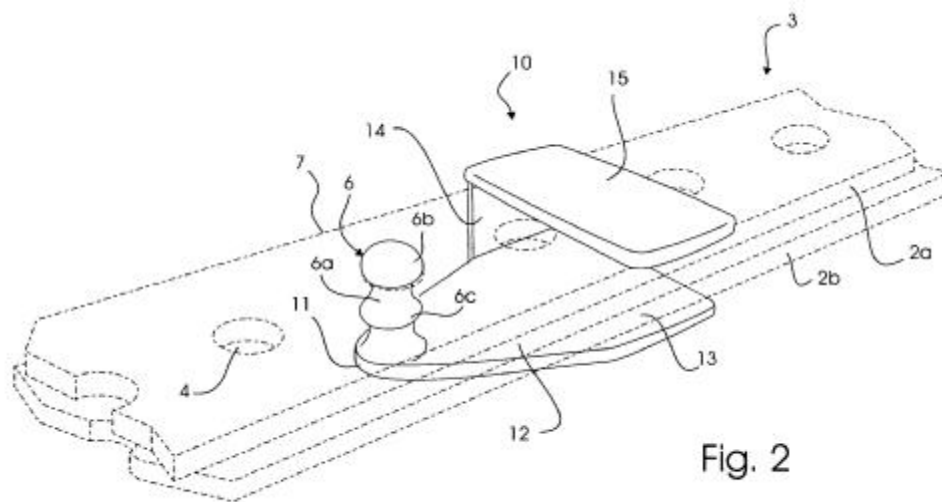
Special rules of classification

For straps locking head gear, forward to [A42B 3/145](#) or [A42B 1/22](#).

A44B 11/22**Buckle with fixed prong****Definition statement**

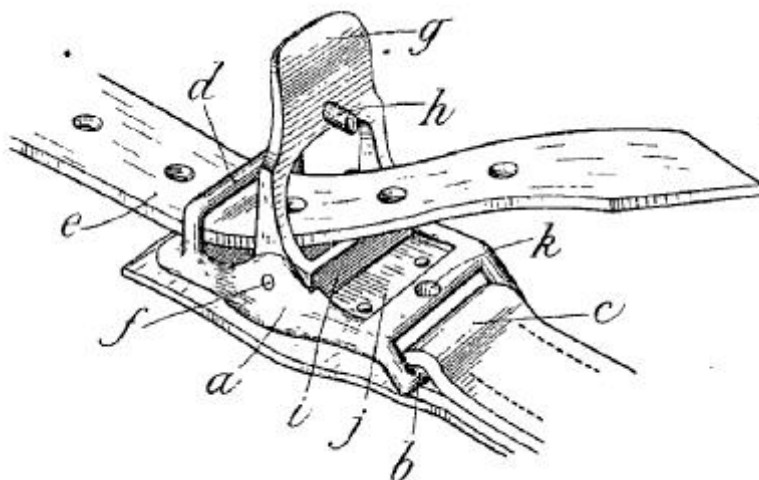
This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

**A44B 11/223****{fixed on a movable element}****Definition statement**

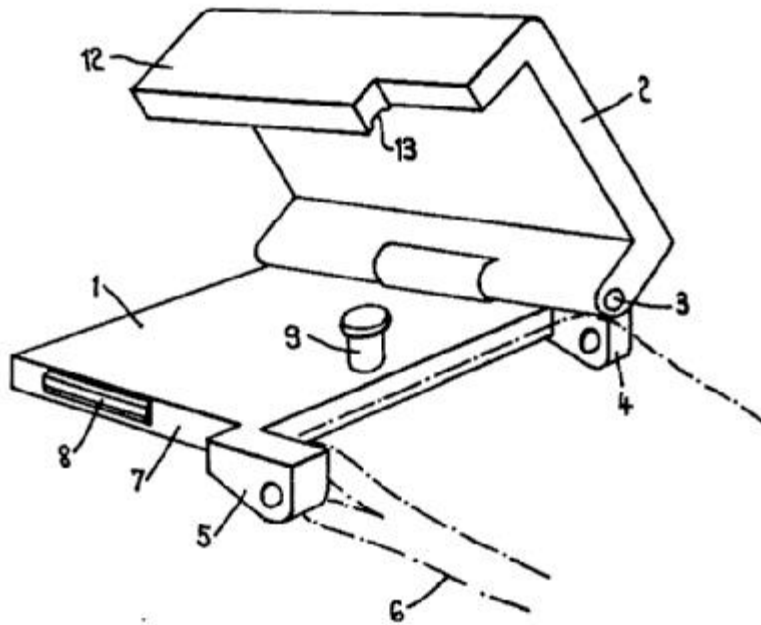
This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 11/226**{with cover plate}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

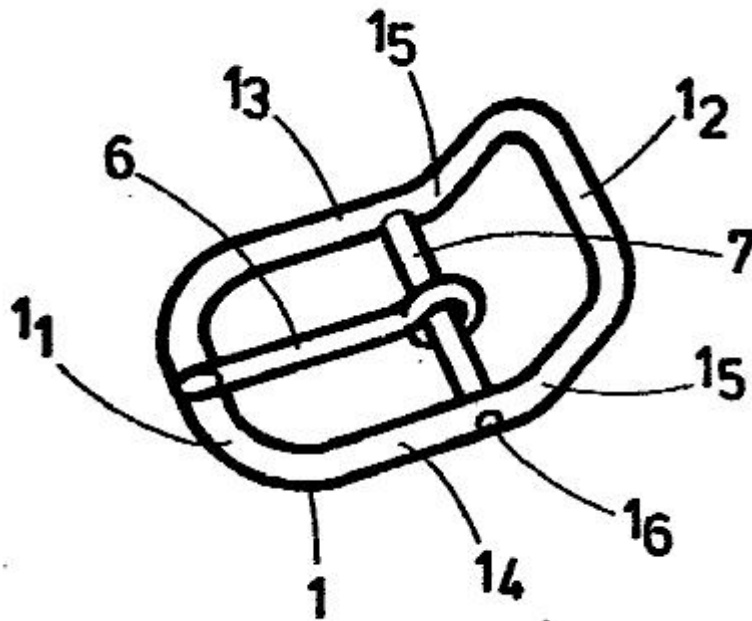
Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 11/24**Buckle with movable prong****Definition statement**

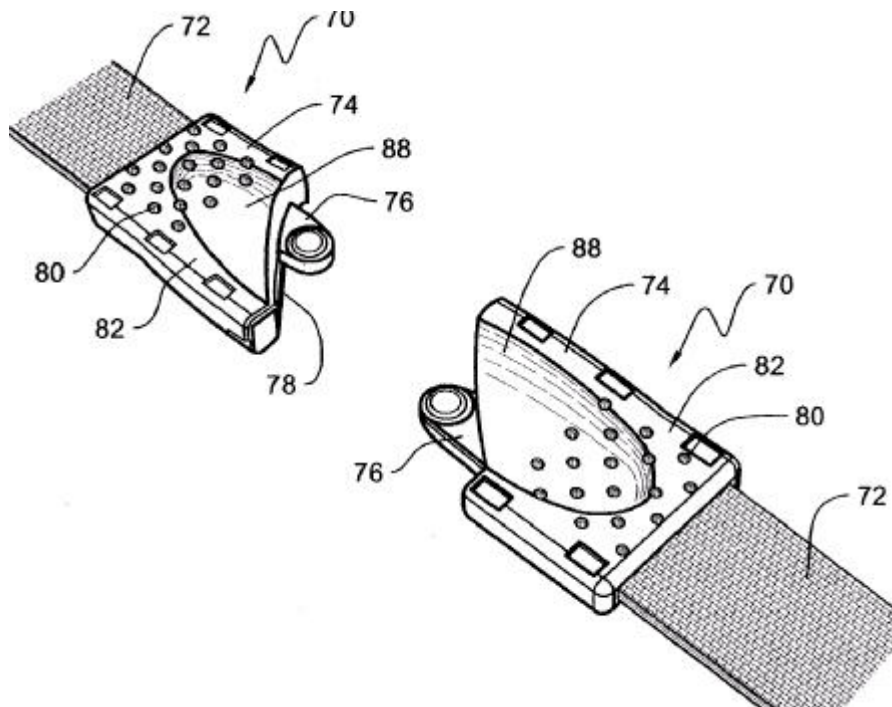
This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 11/25**with two or more separable parts****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

**A44B 11/2503**

{Safety buckles (safety belts in vehicles [B60R 22/00](#); safety belts for aircraft [B64D 25/02](#))}

Special rules of classification

Usually in metallic material.

Comprises safety buckles used in safety belts for vehicles or aircraft.

Does not comprise the safety belts for vehicles or aircraft.

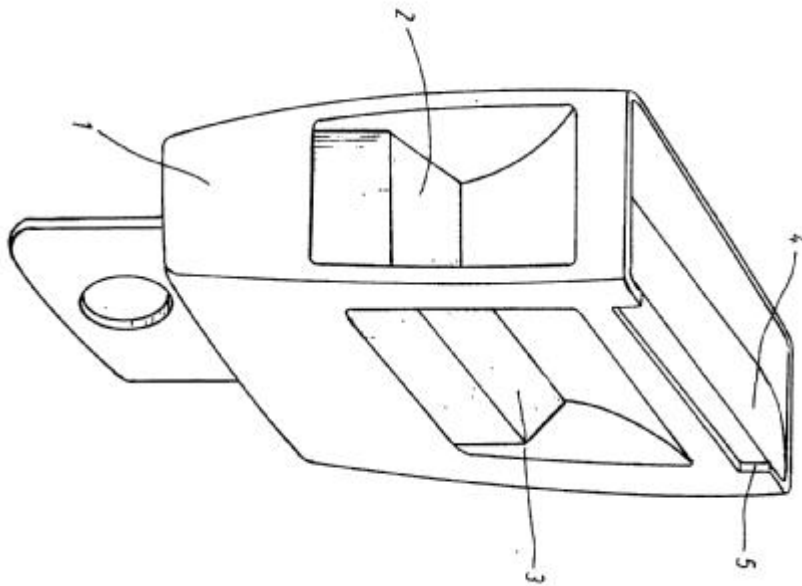
A44B 11/2507

{actuated by a push-button}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



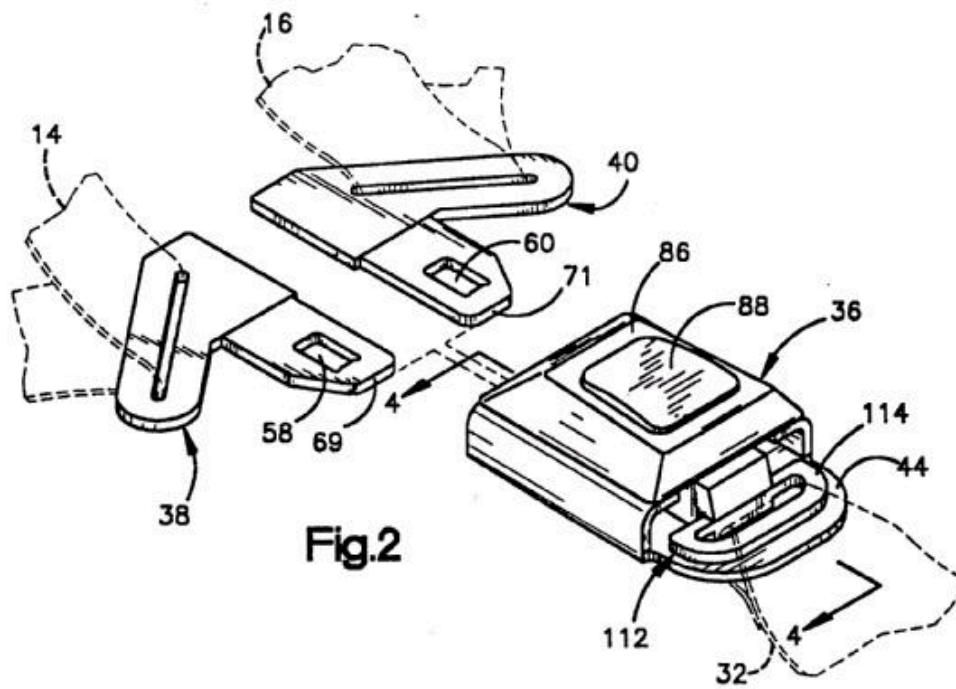
A44B 11/2511

{acting perpendicularly to the main plane of the buckle, e.g. placed on the front face of the buckle}

Definition statement

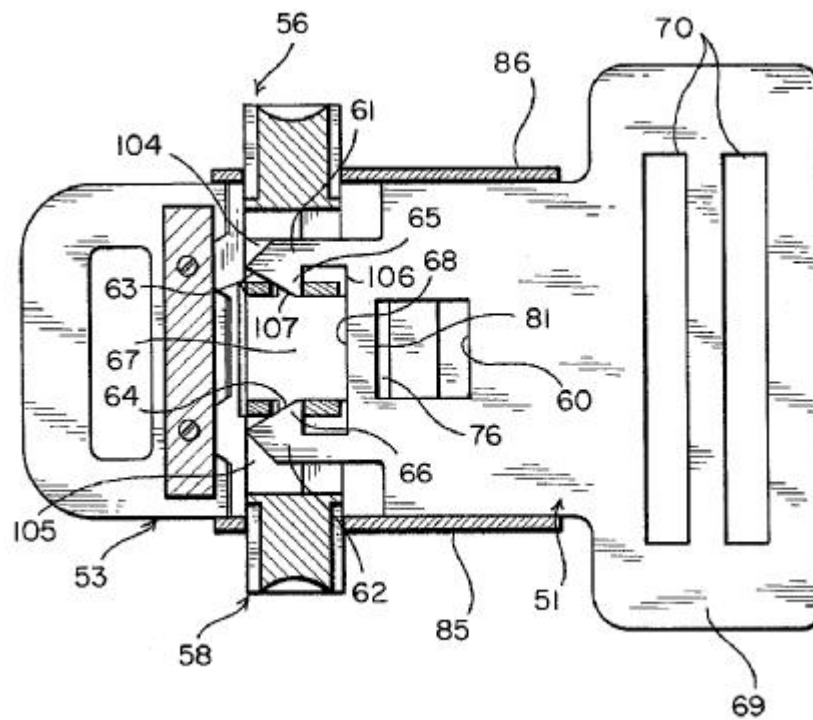
This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 11/2519**{with two buttons acting in opposite directions}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



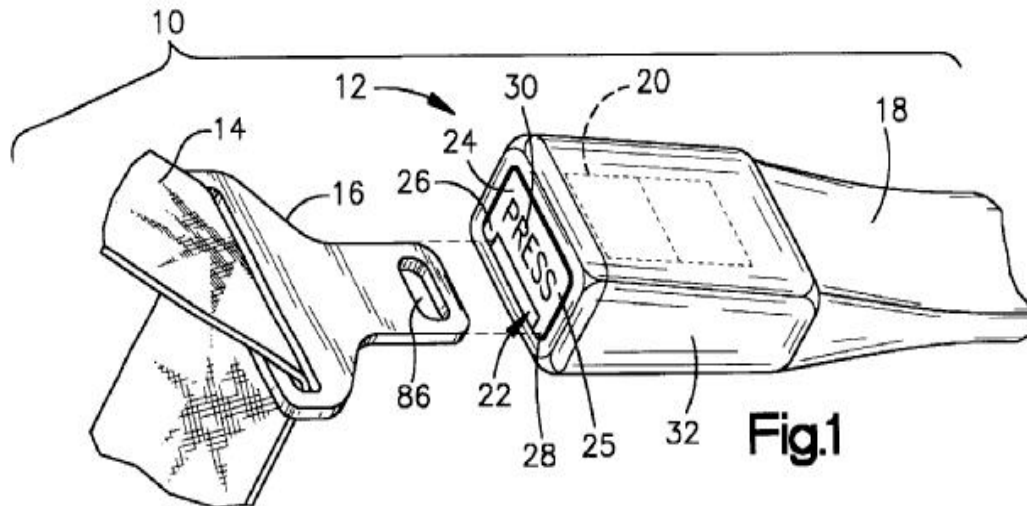
A44B 11/2523

{acting parallel to the main plane of the buckle and in the same direction as the fastening action}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



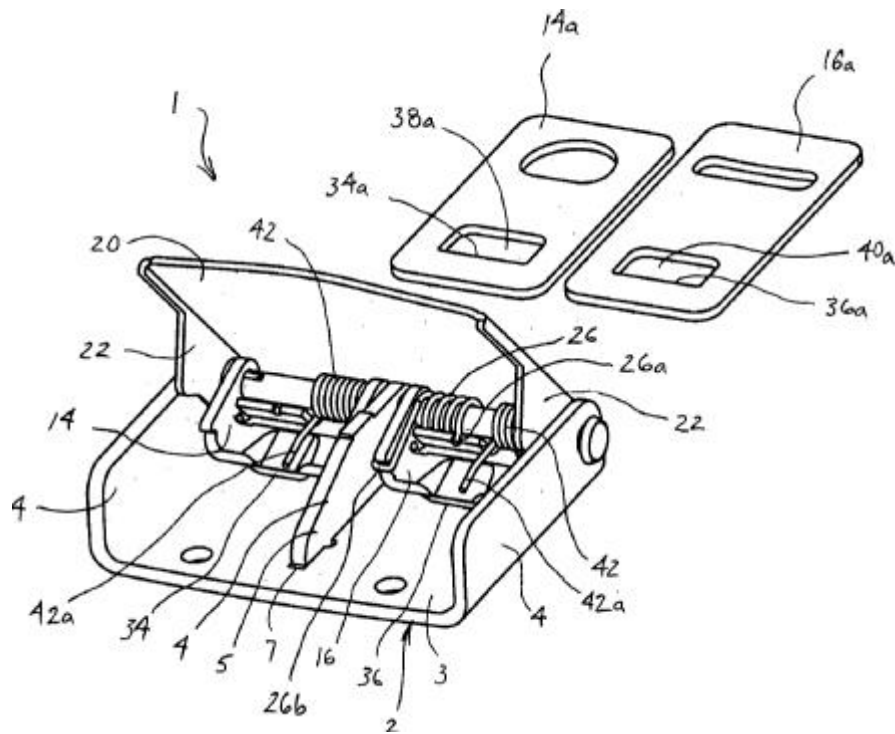
A44B 11/2526

{with an operating lever}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



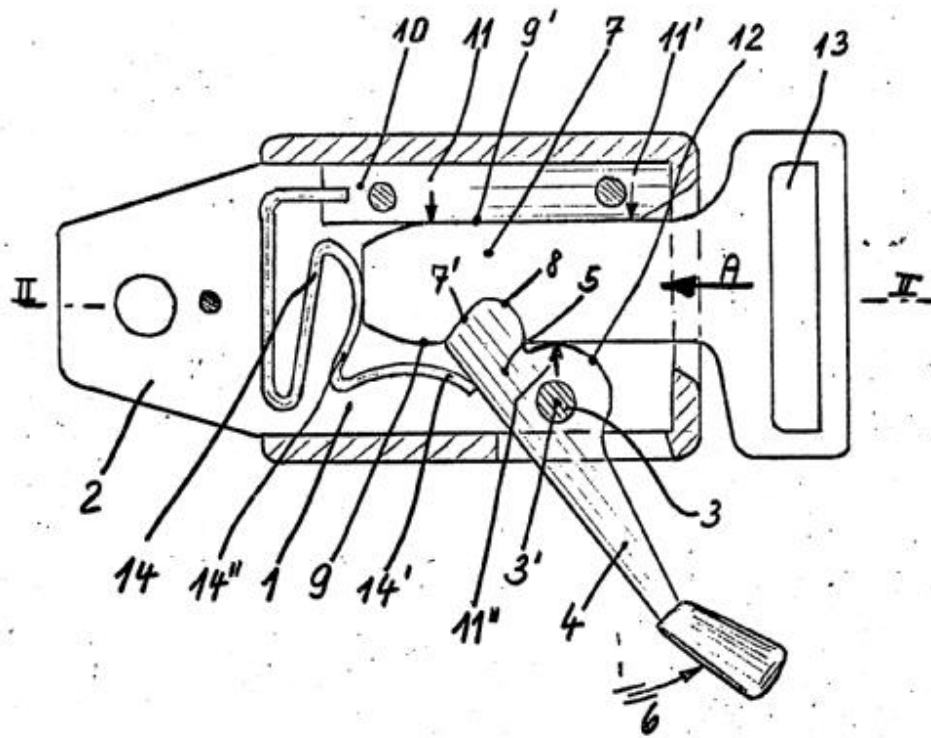
A44B 11/253

{acting in the same plane or in a plane parallel to the main plane of the buckle}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



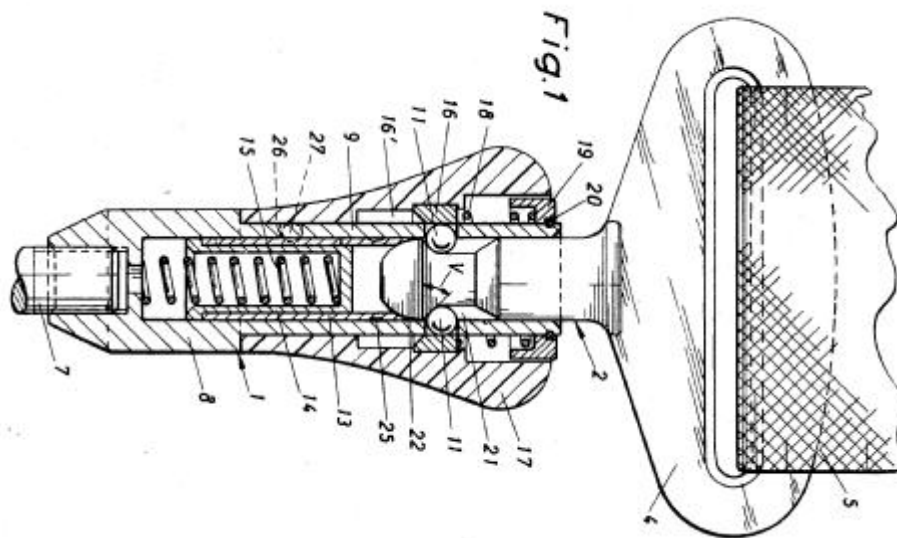
A44B 11/2534

{with the sliding motion of the buckle providing the opening or closing action}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



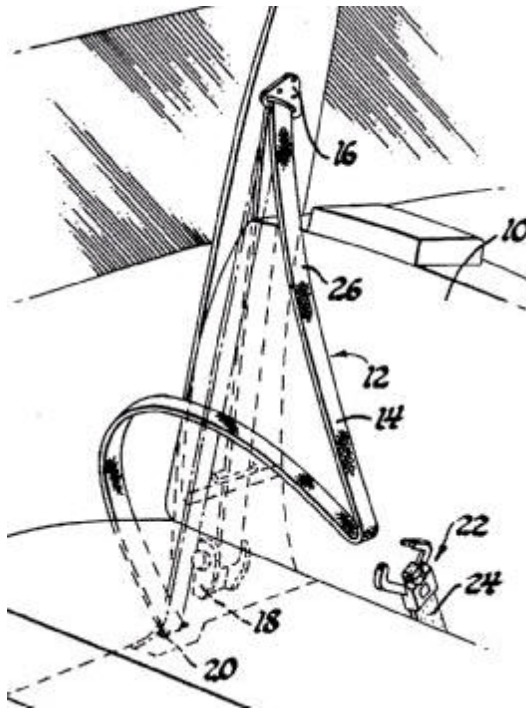
A44B 11/2538

{with a pivoting bar retaining a loop of the strap itself}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



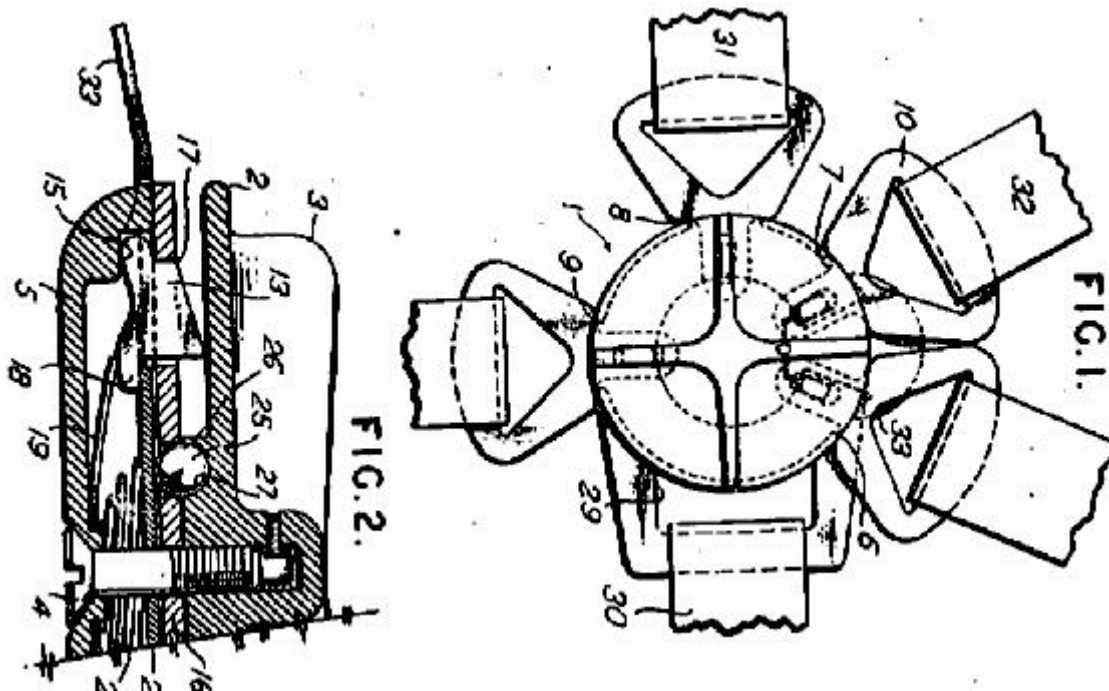
A44B 11/2542

{actuated by a rotatable element, e.g. combined with other actuating means}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

**References****Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Winding devices for storing or regulating straps	B65H 75/34
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A44B 11/2546

{Details}

References**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Bulletproof vest	F41H 1/02
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Special rules of classification

Single action to release simultaneously multiple buckles are in [F41H 1/02](#), in (gc180811 and [A44B](#)) and also some in [A44B 11/266](#).

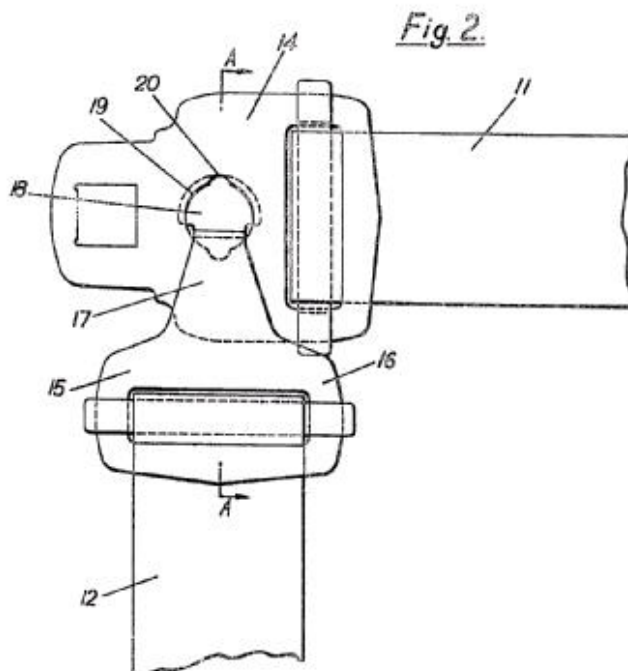
A44B 11/2549

{Fastening of other buckle elements to the main buckle (buckles with several tongues released by the same mechanism [A44B 11/2507](#) - [A44B 11/2542](#))}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

**References****Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Three-point seat belt anchoring for children	B60R 22/024
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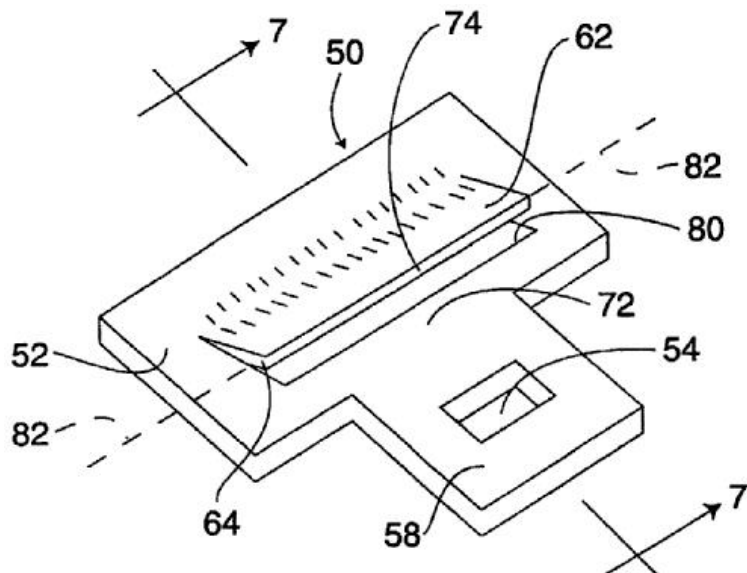
A44B 11/2553

{Attachment of buckle to strap}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



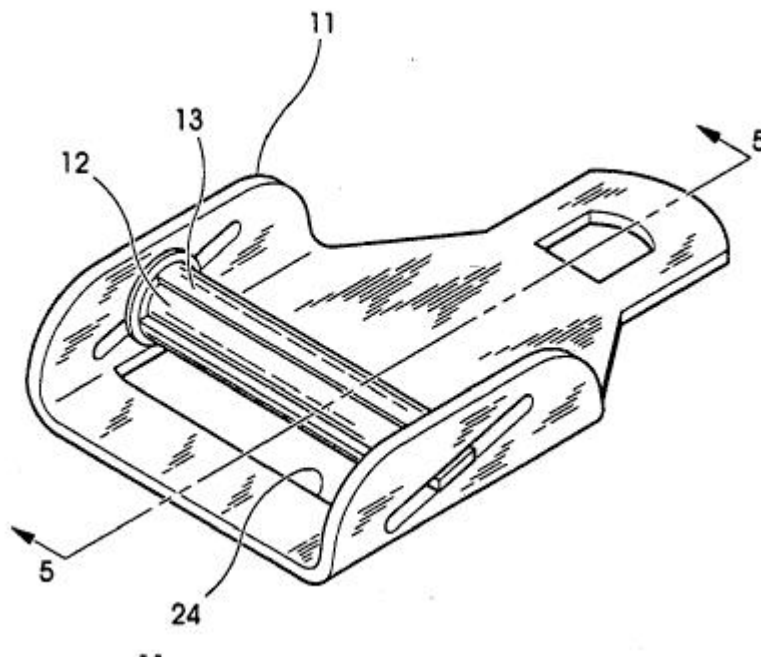
A44B 11/2557

{with strap length adjustment}

Definition statement

This place covers:

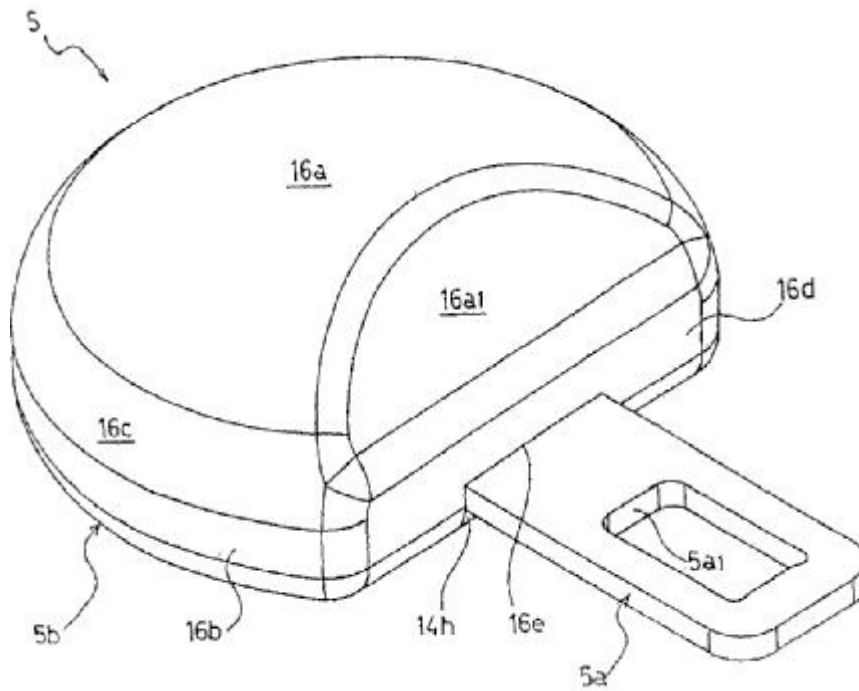
Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 11/2561**{Tongue elements}****Definition statement**

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



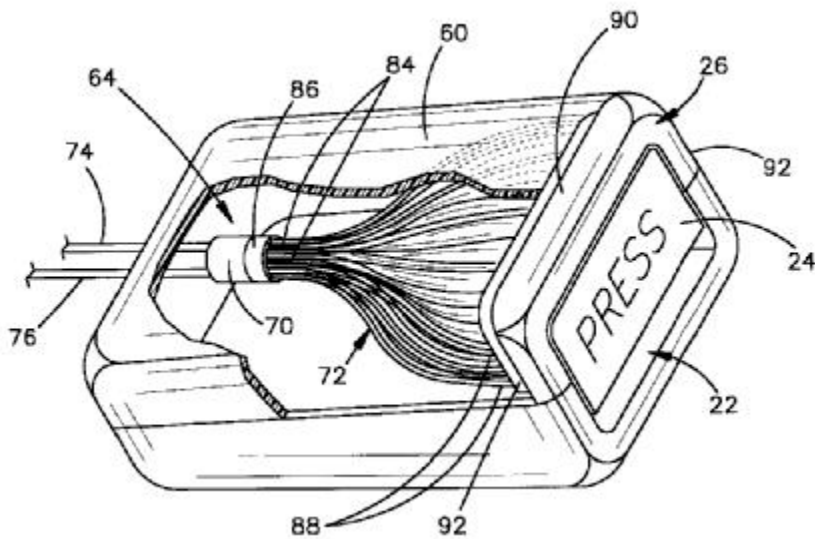
A44B 11/2565

{Illuminated buckles}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



Special rules of classification

If illumination only in the buckle, class in [A44B 11/2565](#)

If illumination in the webbing of the belt but no change in the webbing construction, forward to [B60Q 3/20](#)

If illumination in the webbing & webbing being constructionally changed, forward to [B60Q 3/20](#) and [B60R 22/12](#)

A44B 11/2569

{Safety measures (buckles for releasing in a vehicle emergency [B60R 22/32](#); control, alarm, or interlock systems for the correct application of safety belt buckles in vehicles [B60R 22/48](#))}

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Illumination in the webbing of the belt	B60Q 3/20
Bulletproof vest	F41H 1/02

Special rules of classification

Single action to release simultaneously multiple buckles are in [F41H 1/02](#), in (gc180811 and [A44B](#)) and also some in [A44B 11/266](#).

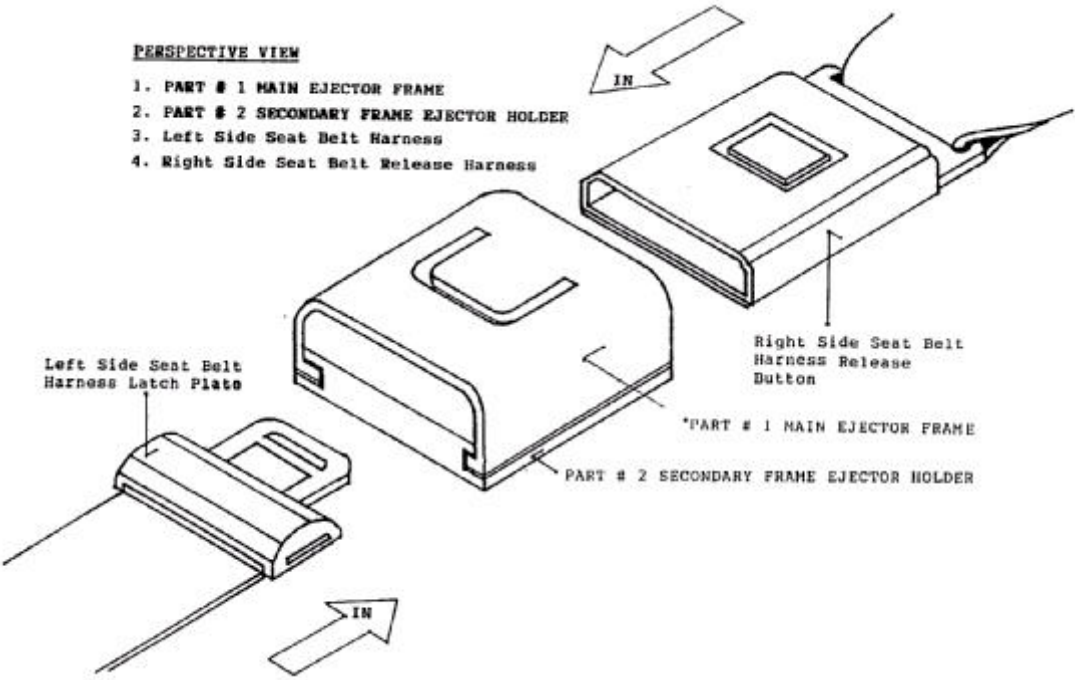
A44B 11/2573

{Locking means preventing an unauthorised opening, e.g. by children}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Operating or controlling locks or other fastening devices by electric of magnetic means	E05B 47/00
Locks	E05B 65/00

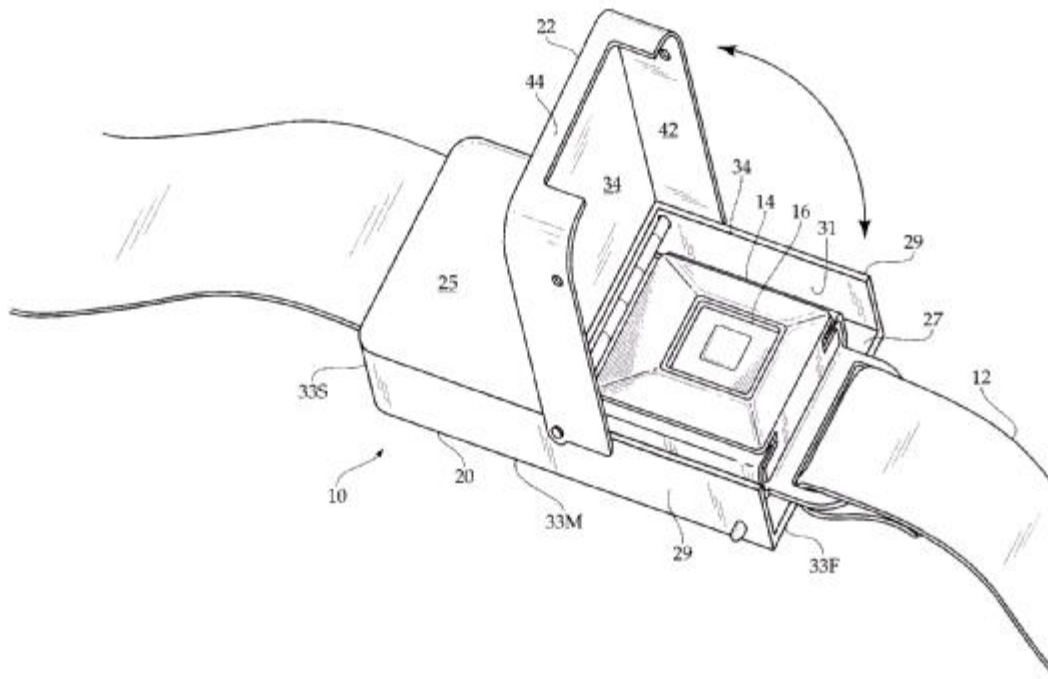
A44B 11/2576

{Buckle covers}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



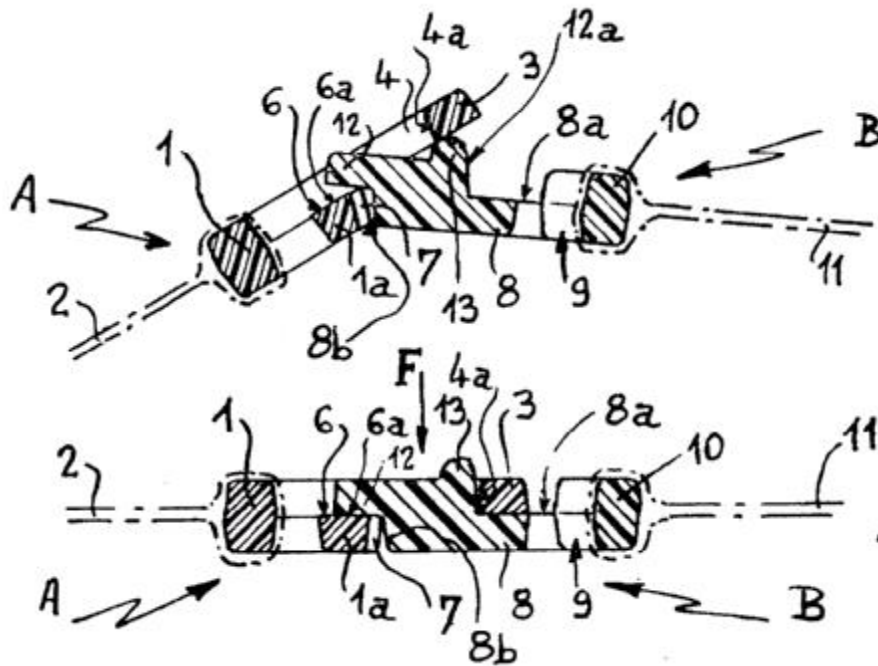
A44B 11/2588

{combined with one buckle element rotating or pivoting}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

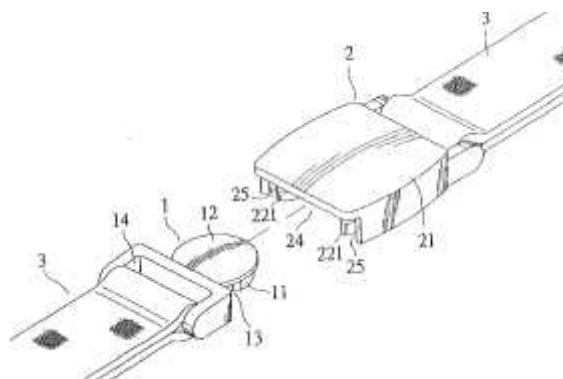
**A44B 11/2592**

{fastening by sliding in the main plane or a plane parallel to the main plane of the buckle ([A44B 11/2503](#), [A44B 11/2584](#) take precedence)}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



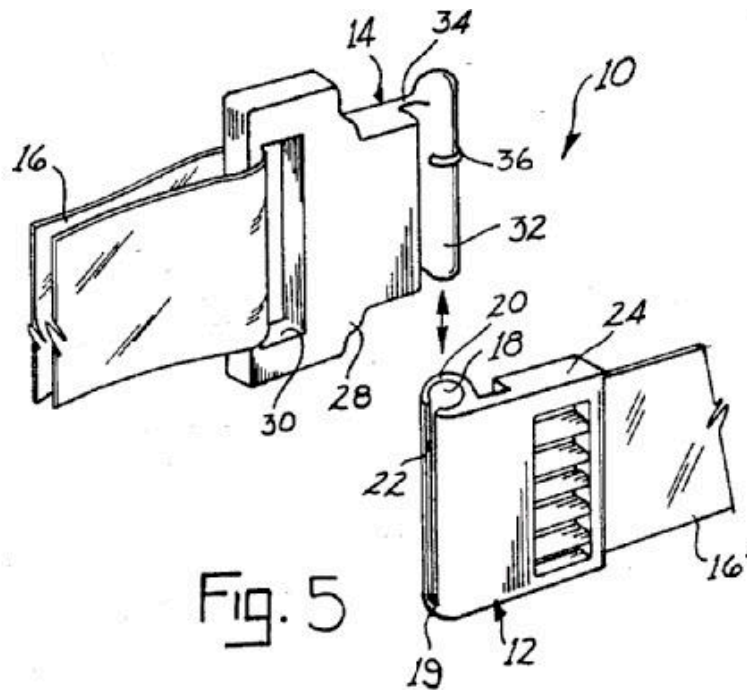
A44B 11/2596

{the movement being transverse to the longitudinal direction of the strap or chain}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



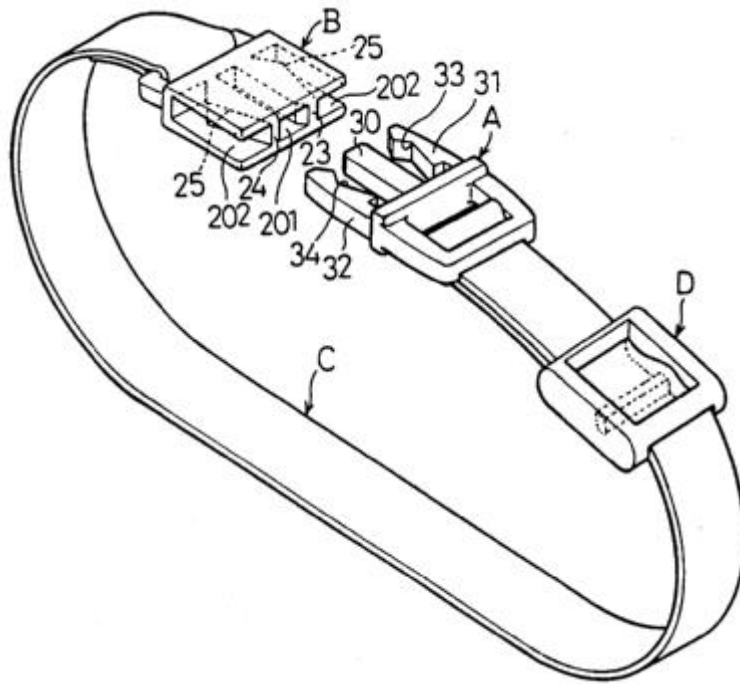
A44B 11/26

with push-button fastenings {(A44B 11/2507 takes precedence; press-button fasteners A44B 17/00)}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

**Special rules of classification**

Usually in plastic material.

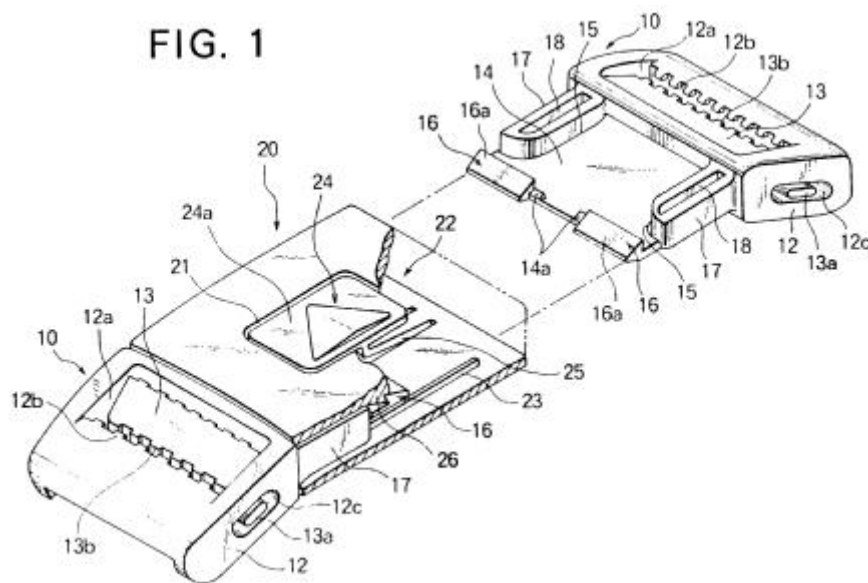
A44B 11/263

{with a push-button acting perpendicularly to the main plane of the buckle}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



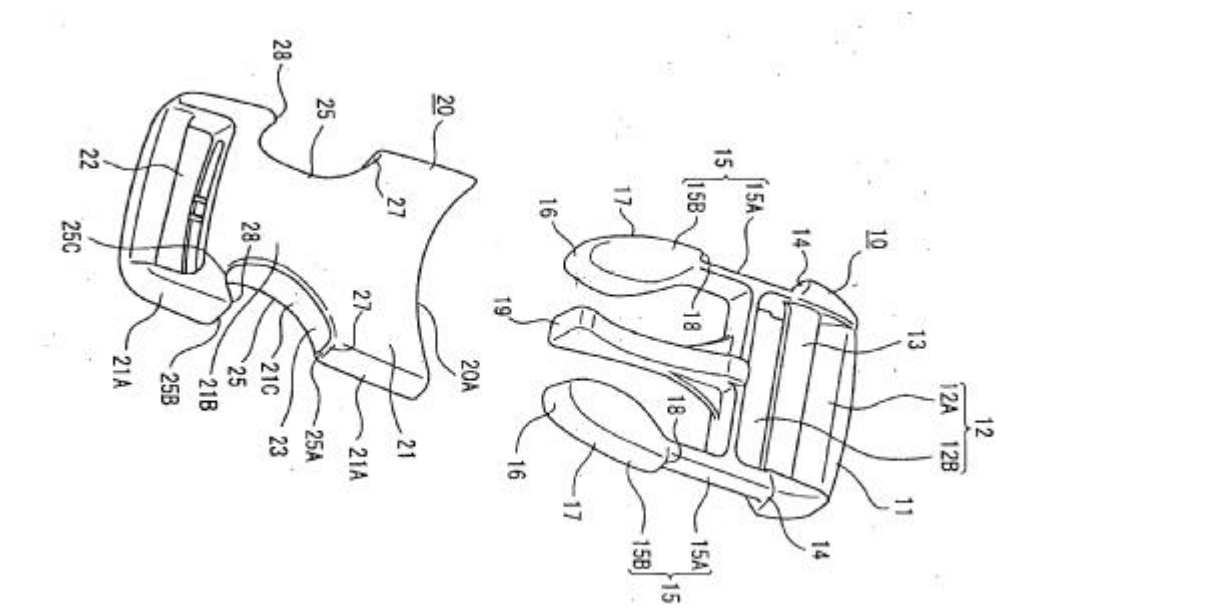
A44B 11/266

{with at least one push-button acting parallel to the main plane of the buckle and perpendicularly to the direction of the fastening action}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Bulletproof vest	F41H 1/02
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Special rules of classification

Single action to release simultaneously multiple buckles are in [F41H 1/02](#), in (gc180811 and [A44B](#)) and also some in [A44B 11/266](#).

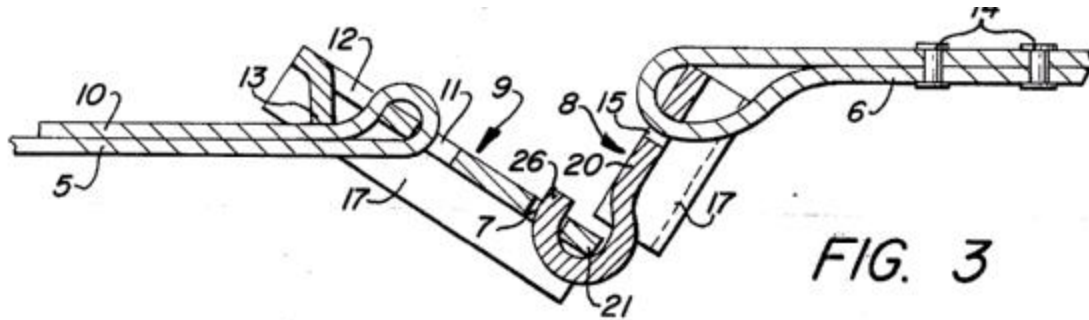
A44B 11/28

with hooks engaging end-pieces on the strap {(A44B 11/2503 takes precedence)}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

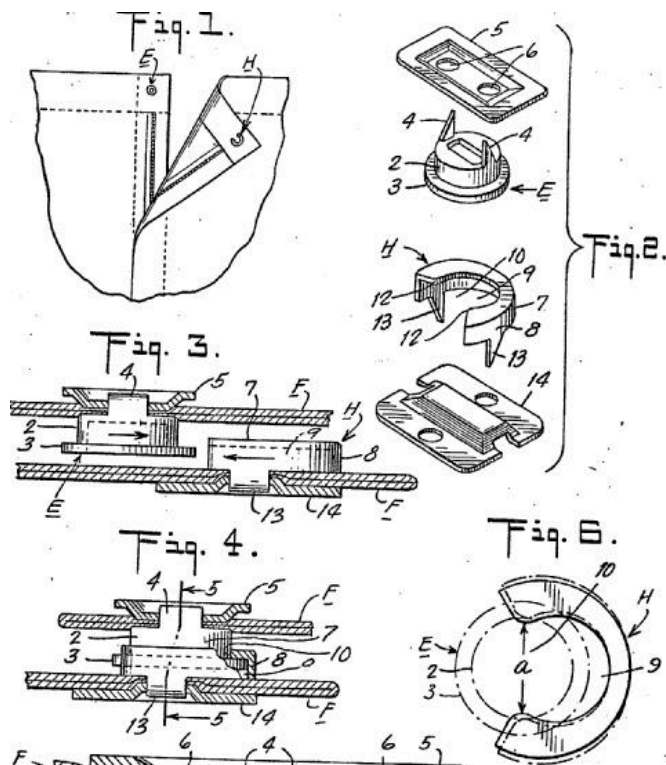
**A44B 13/00**

Hook or eye fasteners

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Dogs collars couplings	A01K 27/002
Carabiner hook	F16B 45/02

Special rules of classification

This subclass covers hook or eye fasteners used as haberdashery (i.e. for clothing). For other specific applications see References.

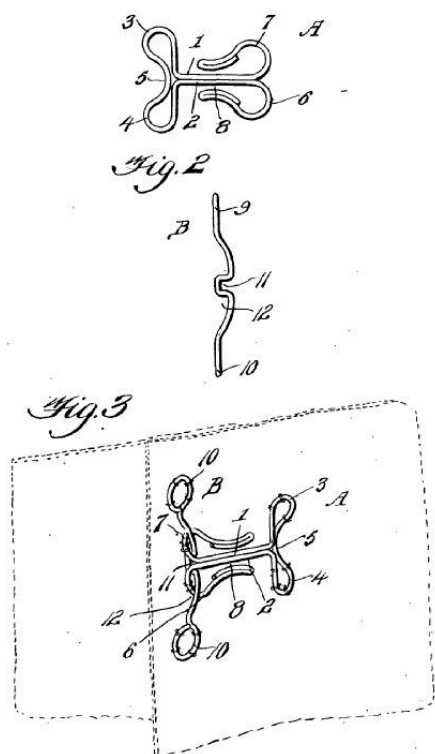
A44B 13/0011

{made of wire}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 13/0017

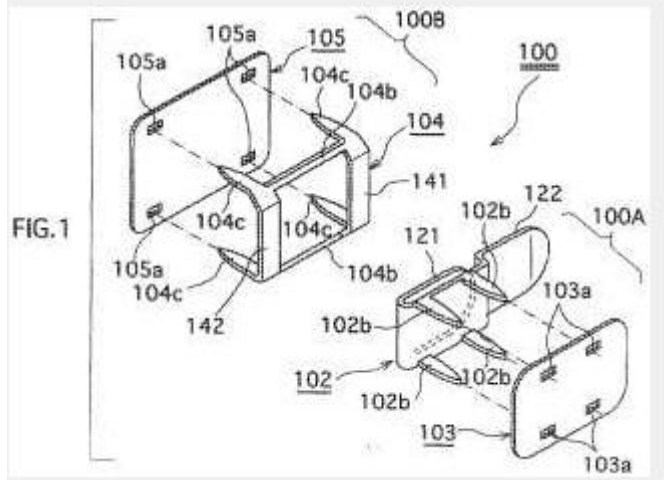
{made of metal plate}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

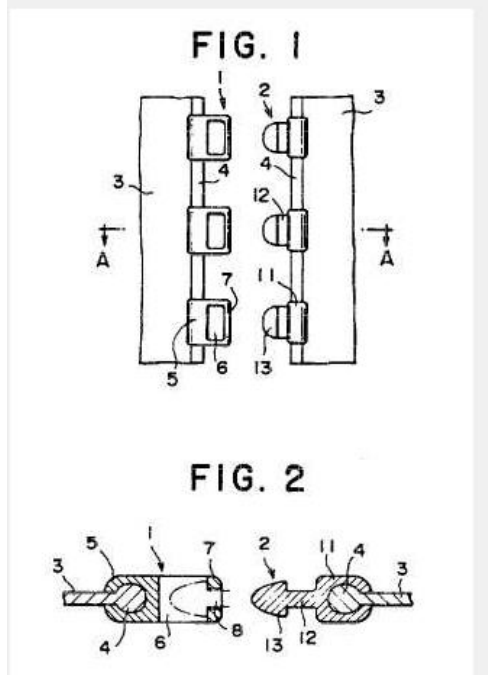
☐ 18. [EP1129638](#) - (A2 A3) Hook assembly used for waist-adjusting mechanism of garment and garment having waist-adjusting mechanism



A44B 13/0023**{made of plastics}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

□ 37. [GB2333802](#) - (A) Tapes with engaging devices -
 (B) Female-male engaging device with tapes



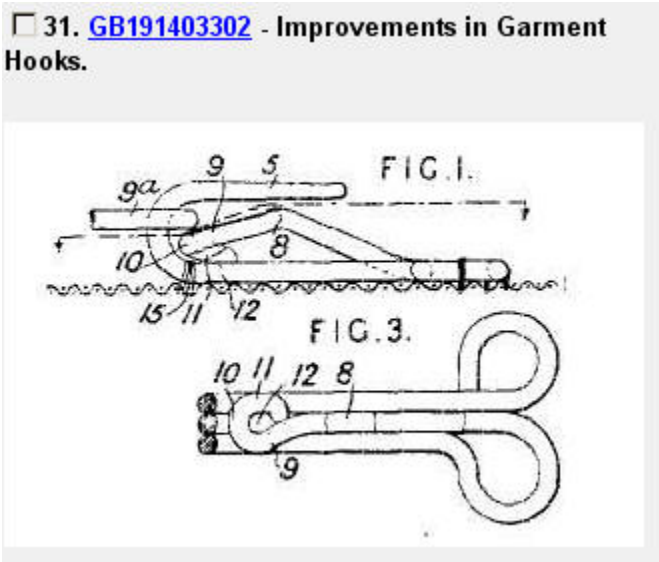
A44B 13/02

with spring closure of hook

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Dogs collars couplings	A01K 27/002
Carabiner hook	F16B 45/02

Special rules of classification

This subclass covers hook or eye fasteners used as haberdashery (i.e. for clothing). For other specific applications see References.

A44B 15/00

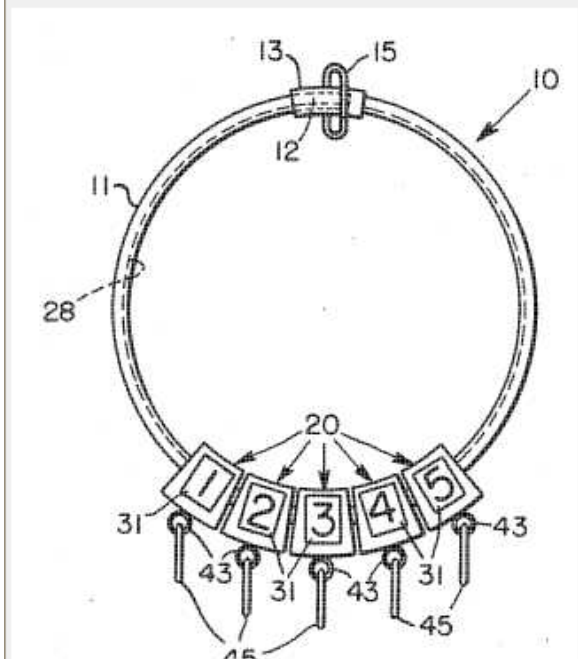
Key-rings

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

□ 543. [US4133195](#) - Device for managing keys and locks



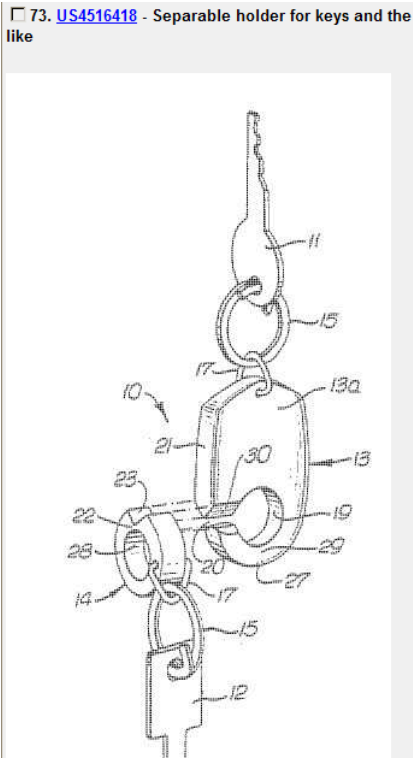
A44B 15/002

{Separable rings}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 15/005

{Fobs}

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Bags/wallets for holding keys	A45C 11/32
Bags/wallets for holding keys, combined with other articles	A45C 11/321
Bags/wallets for holding keys, stored pivotably (when key has head)	A45C 11/324
Fastening keys inside bags	A45C 13/023
Fastening keys with spring reel	A45F 5/004
Fastening keys to garments	A45F 5/1558
Key holders/boards	A47G 29/10
Screwdrivers	B25B 15/00
Hand tools (for disengaging key-rings)	B25B33/10
Multi-hand tool	B25F 1/00

Limiting references

Pocket knives	B26B 11/00
Combination of writing implements with other articles	B43K 29/00
Bottle opener	B67B 7/16
Illuminated devices for locks or keys	E05B 17/10
Keys stored pivotably (when keys don't have head)	E05B 19/043
Dummy/simulated locks	E05B 63/0043
Rope/chain adjustment buckle	F16G 11/14
Light	F21L 4/027 , F21V 21/0885 , F21V 33/00
Electronically operated keys	G07C 9/00174
Coin holders	G07D 9/002
Coins for coin free mechanism	G07F 1/06
Cart coin free mechanism	G07F 7/0618
Anti-loss alarms	G08B 21/24
Id tags for keys	G09F 3/00

A44B 17/00**Press-button or snap fasteners****References****Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Joining sheets by rivets	F16B 5/04
Press-fasteners in general	F16B 21/186
Resilient clamping means for holding electric components to structure	H05K 7/12

Special rules of classification

Difference between buttons fixed to material, i.e. textile, with snap-action counterpiece [A44B 1/34](#) and snap-fasteners [A44B 17/00](#) is that the snap-fastener fastens two pieces of material, i.e. textile, by snap-fastening; while the button is fixed to one piece of material, i.e. textile by snap-fastening but does not use snap fastening to fasten two pieces of material, i.e. textile.

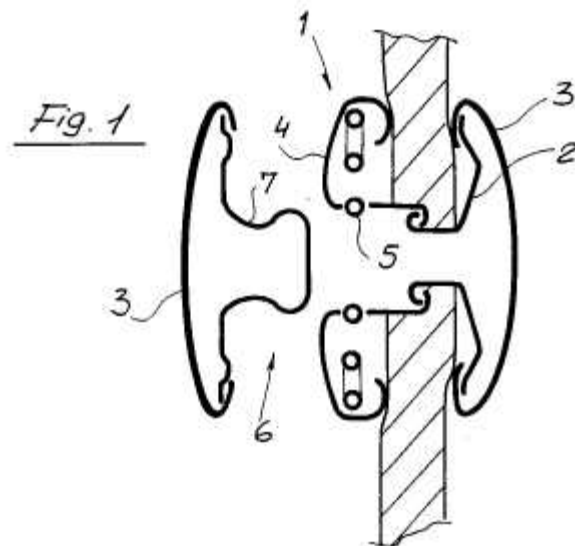
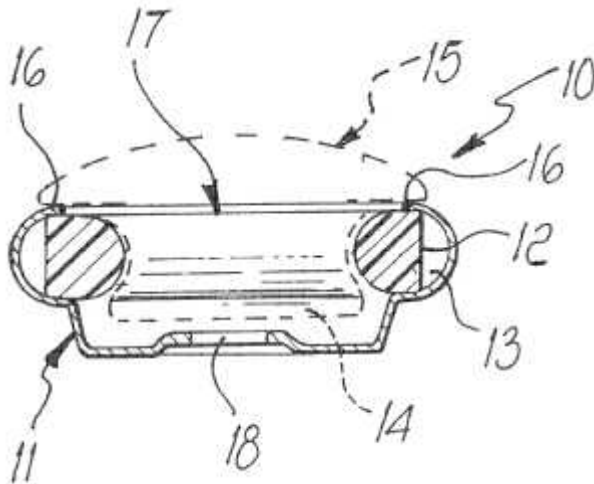
A44B 17/0011

{Press-button fasteners in which the elastic retaining action is obtained by a spring working in the plane of the fastener}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



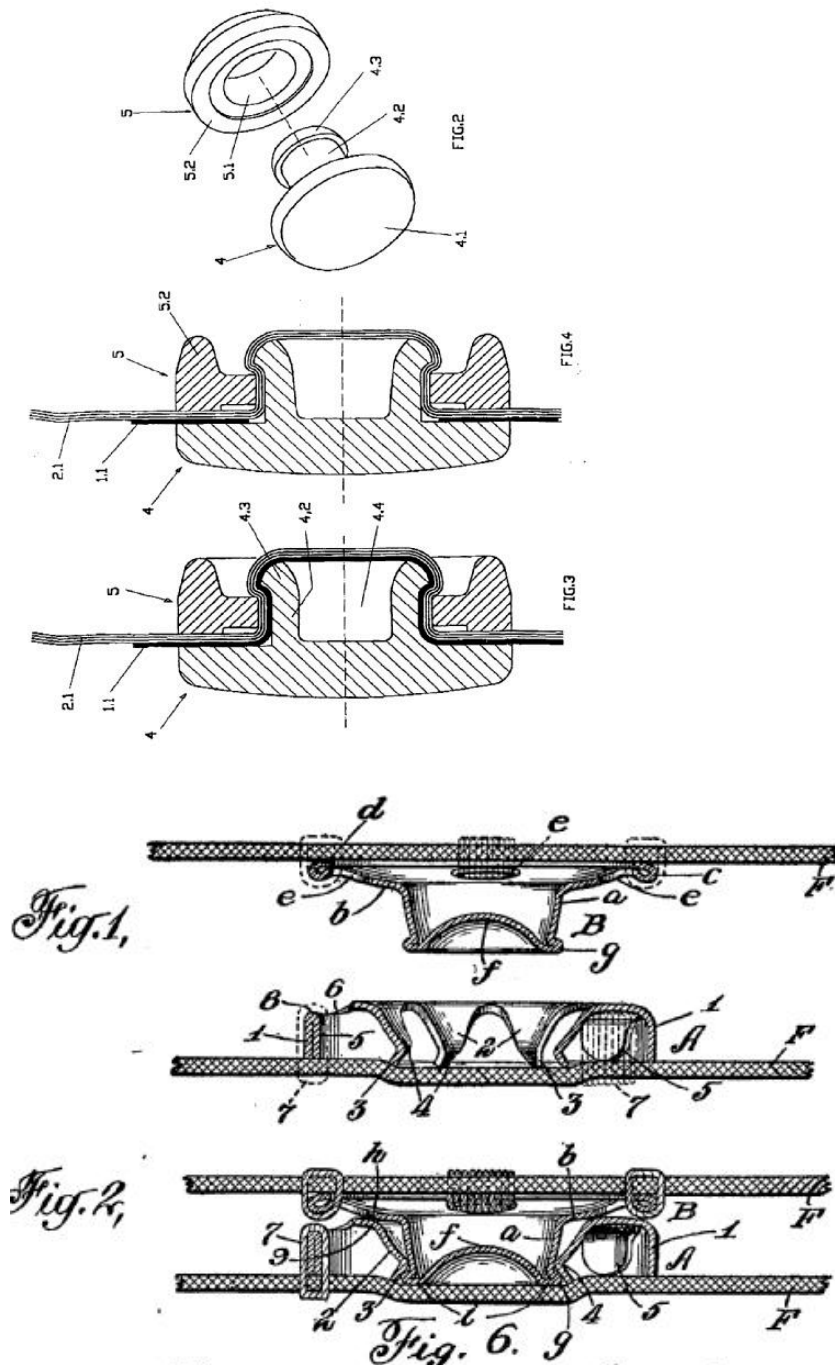
A44B 17/0041

{Press-button fasteners consisting of two parts ([A44B 17/0029](#) takes precedence)}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



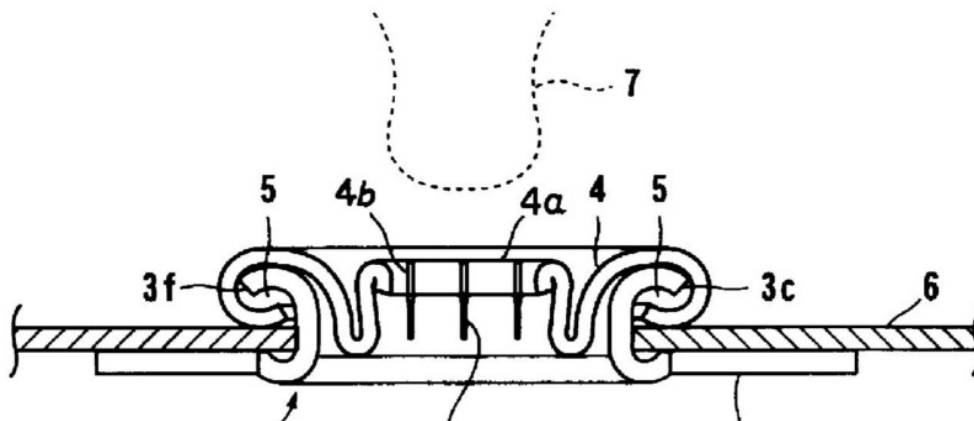
A44B 17/0047

{Press-button fasteners consisting of three parts ([A44B 17/0029](#) takes precedence)}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



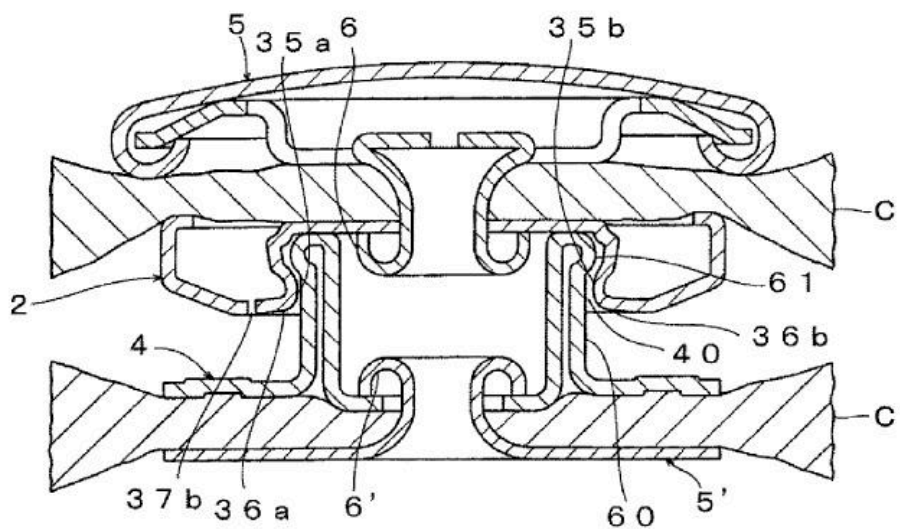
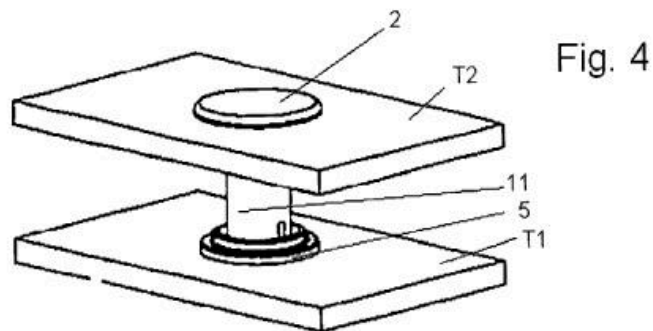
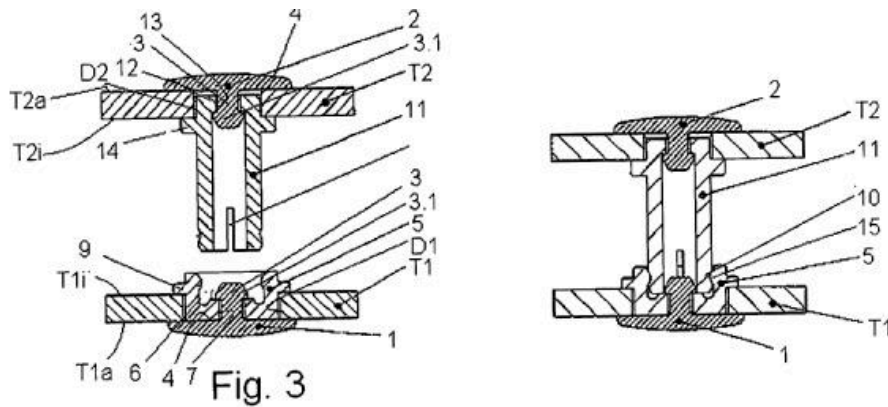
A44B 17/0052

{Press-button fasteners consisting of four parts ([A44B 17/0029](#) takes precedence)}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



Special rules of classification

Comprises press-button fasteners consisting of four parts or more.

A44B 18/00**Fasteners of the touch-and-close type; Making such fasteners****References****Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Method of manufacturing hook-and-loop fasteners for absorbing pads	A61F 13/15756
Hook-and-loop fasteners for absorbing pads, diapers	A61F 13/62
Cleaning, use of a film provided with piles of nanorange to prevent fouling or dust deposits	B08B
Bundling articles with straps	B65B 13/027
Delivering devices	B65H 35/00
Basic microstructures	B81B 2203/00 , B81B 3/0005
Manufacturing micro- or nanostructures	B81C
Arrays of nanoscale structures	B81C 1/00031
Nanostructures	B82B 1/00 , B82B 3/00
Nanofibers	B82Y 30/00
Adhesive with protrusions	C09J
Adhesive in form of film/foils	C09J 7/00
Joining sheets by hook-and-loop	F16B 5/07
Suction cups for attachment and equivalent means using adhesives	F16B 47/00

Special rules of classification

This subclass covers hook-and-loop fasteners whether used as haberdashery (i.e. for clothing) or otherwise only if there's no other class for the specific application (see Informative References).

This subclass does not cover piles with nanometer dimension (also called "dry adhesive", surface treatment, van de Waals force), it's not a hook-and-loop fastener as there's no counterpart for fastening.

Adhesive in form of film/foils	C09J 7/00
Adhesive with protrusions	C09J
Nanofibers	B82Y 30/00

A44B 18/0007

{in which each part has similar elements}

Special rules of classification

Comprises mixed, hermaphrodite elements.

A44B 18/0023**{Woven or knitted fasteners}****References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Woven pile fabrics	D03D 27/00
Knitted pile fabrics	D04B 21/04

A44B 18/0069**{Details}****References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Joining sheets by hook-and-loop fasteners	F16B 5/07
---	---------------------------

A44B 18/0076**{Adaptations for being fixed to a moulded article during moulding}****References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Moulding rigid plastic, sealing-off parts of inserts	B29C 33/0044
Fixed in mould by magnetic means	B29C 33/16
Moulding by foaming, avoiding impregnation of a preformed part	B29C 44/1261

A44B 19/00**Slide fasteners****References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Zipper in suitcases	A45C 13/103
Production of slide fasteners, continuous profiled strip	B29D 5/10
Machines placing fasteners on bags	B31B 70/81
Filling of bags, packaging	B65B 9/20
Application of profiled strips to bags	B65B 61/188
Tamper evident device for packaging	B65D 33/25

For bags, packaging	B65D 33/2508
Locks for suitcases	E05B 65/52
Theft alarm actuated by tampering fastening	G08B 13/06
Status alarms	G08B 21/18
Switches in zippers	H01H 1/00 , zippers (H01H)
Connections in zippers	H01R 4/58 , zippers (H01R)

Special rules of classification

This subclass covers slide fasteners whether used as haberdashery (i.e. for clothing) or otherwise only if there's no other class for the specific application (see Informative References).

Does not comprise slide fasteners for packaging or plastic bags, even when this application is not claimed but it appears in the figures or in the description.

A44B 19/04

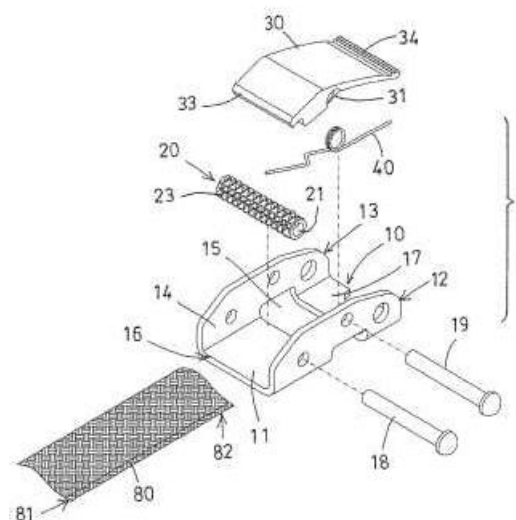
Stringers arranged edge-to-edge when fastened {, e.g. abutting stringers}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

☐ 6. [US2011041301](#) - Strap tensioner or tightener



A44B 19/06

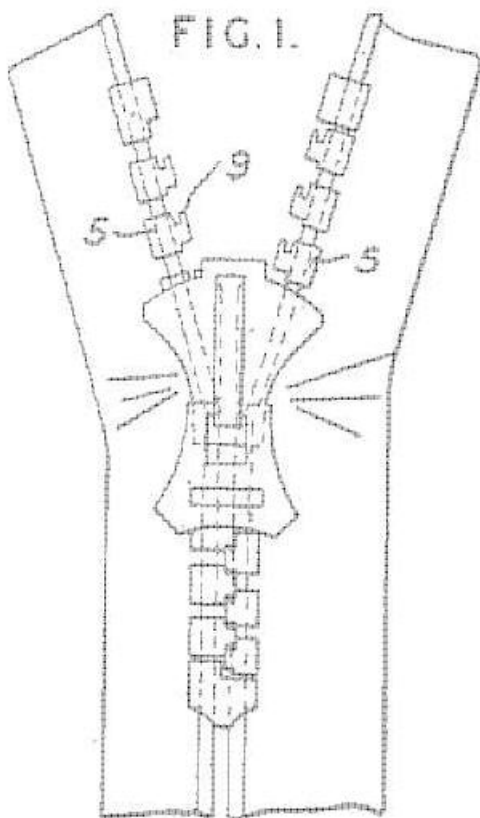
with substantially rectangular members having interlocking projections and pieces

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

256. [GB454995](#) - Improvements in sliding clasp fasteners



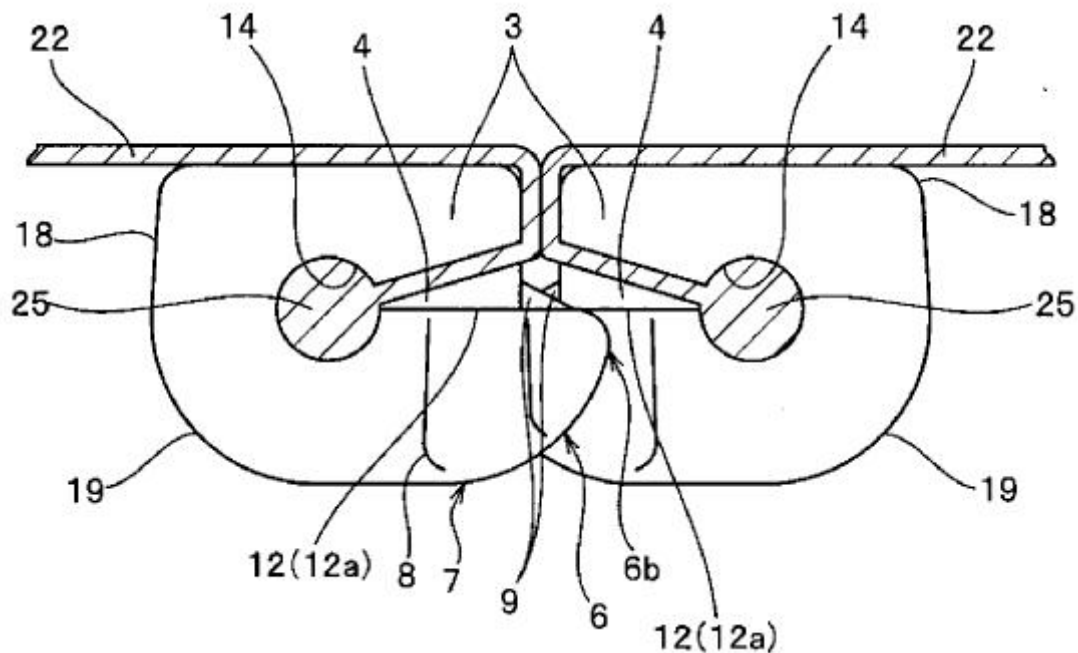
A44B 19/08

Stringers arranged side-by-side when fastened, e.g. at least partially superposed stringers

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

**Special rules of classification**

Comprises hidden teeth.

A44B 19/12

Interlocking member in the shape of a continuous helix

References**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Production of slide fasteners, continuous helix	B29D 5/06
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A44B 19/16

Interlocking member having uniform section throughout the length of the stringer {(for sacks or bags [B65D 33/2508](#))}

References**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Production of slide fasteners, continuous profiled strip	B29D 5/10
Machines placing fasteners on bags	B31B 70/81
Filling of bags, packaging	B65B 9/20
Application of profiled strips to bags	B65B 61/188
For bags, packaging	B65D 33/2508

Special rules of classification

Does not comprise slide fasteners for packaging or plastic bags, even when this application is not claimed but it appears in the figures or in the description.

A44B 19/24**Details****References****Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Zipper in suitcases	A45C 13/103
Tamper evident device for packaging	B65D 33/25
Locks for suitcases	E05B 65/52
Theft alarm actuated by tampering fastening	G08B 13/06
Status alarms	G08B 21/18
Switches in zippers	H01H 1/00 , zippers (H01H)
Connections in zippers	H01R 4/58 , zippers (H01R)

A44B 19/267

{for slide fasteners with edges of stringers having uniform section throughout the length thereof (for sacks or bags [B65D 33/2508](#))}

References**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Production of slide fasteners, continuous profiled strip	B29D 5/10
--	---------------------------

Machines placing fasteners on bags	B31B 70/81
Filling of bags, packaging	B65B 9/20
Application of profiled strips to bags	B65B 61/188
For bags, packaging	B65D 33/2508

Special rules of classification

Does not comprise slide fasteners for packaging or plastic bags, even when this application is not claimed but it appears in the figures or in the description.

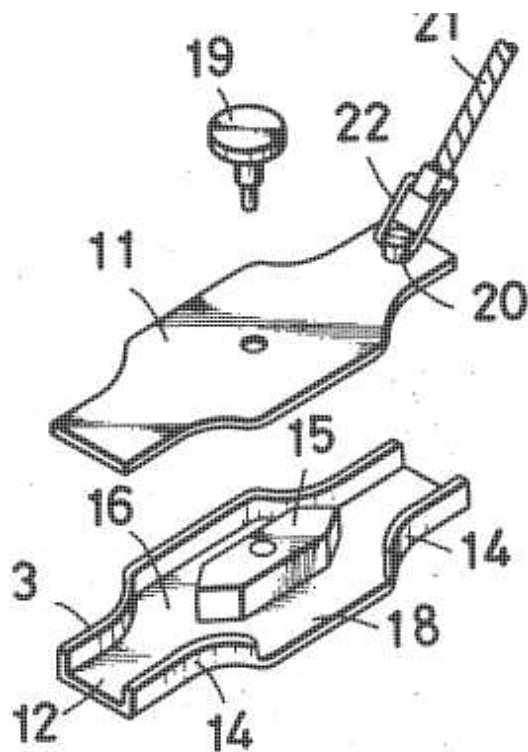
A44B 19/28

constructed to be removable from at least one stringer {; Sliders with movable parts to permit releasing of the slider in the event of jamming or obstruction}

Definition statement

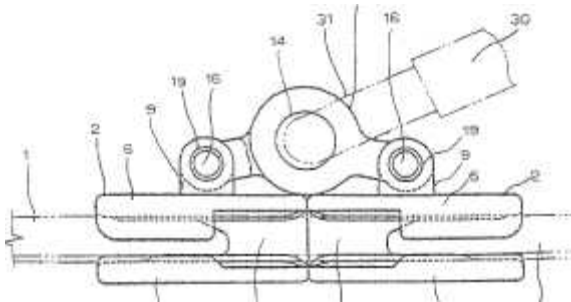
This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 19/30**with means for locking in position****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

**References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Zippers in suitcases	A45C 13/103
Locks for suitcases	E05B 65/52

A44B 19/32**Means for making slide fasteners gas or watertight****References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Tamper evident device for packaging	B65D 33/25
For bags, packaging	B65D 33/2508

A44B 19/36**Means for permanently uniting the stringers at the end; Means for stopping movement of slider at the end****References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Production of slide fasteners, continuous profiled strip	B29D 5/10
Machines placing fasteners on bags	B31B 70/81
Application of profiled strips to bags	B65B 61/188
For bags, packaging	B65D 33/2508

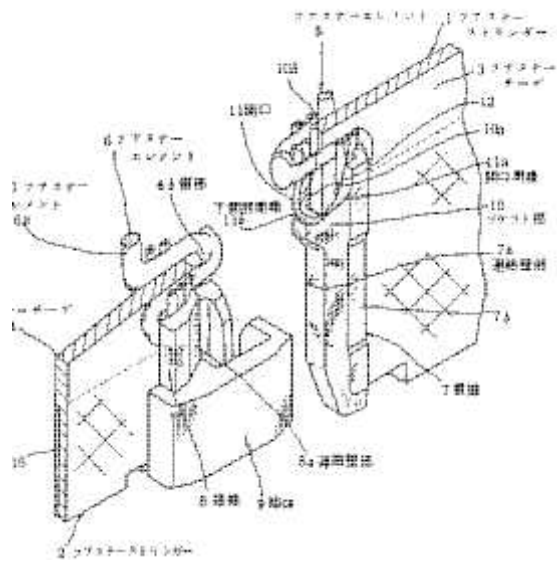
A44B 19/38

Means at the end of stringer by which the slider can be freed from one stringer, e.g. stringers can be completely separated from each other

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



A44B 19/382

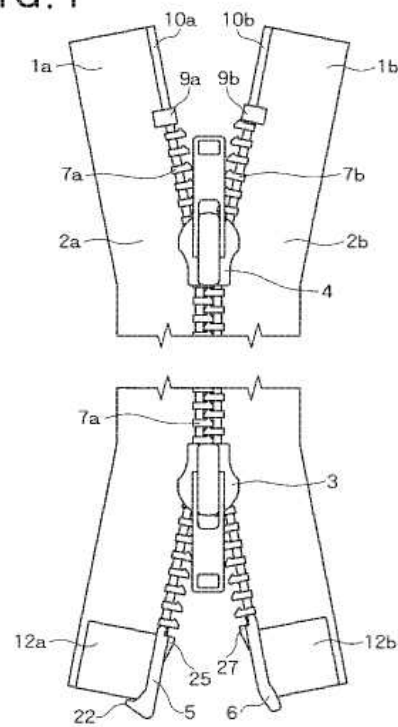
{"Two-way" or "double-acting" separable slide fasteners}

Definition statement

This place covers:

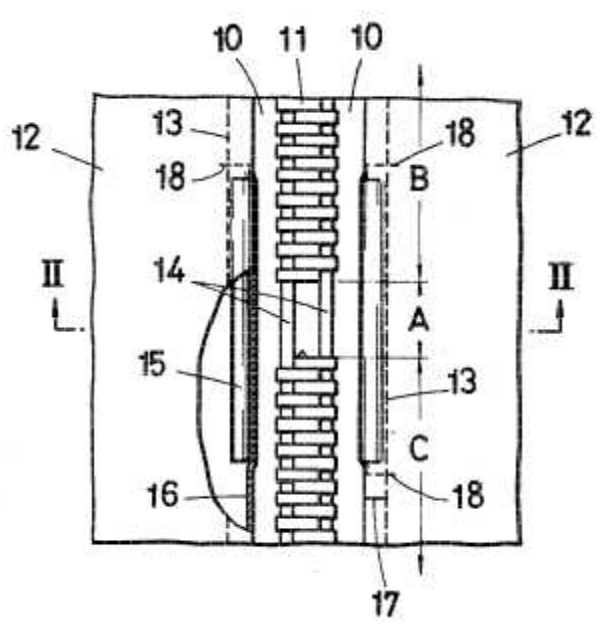
Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

FIG. 1

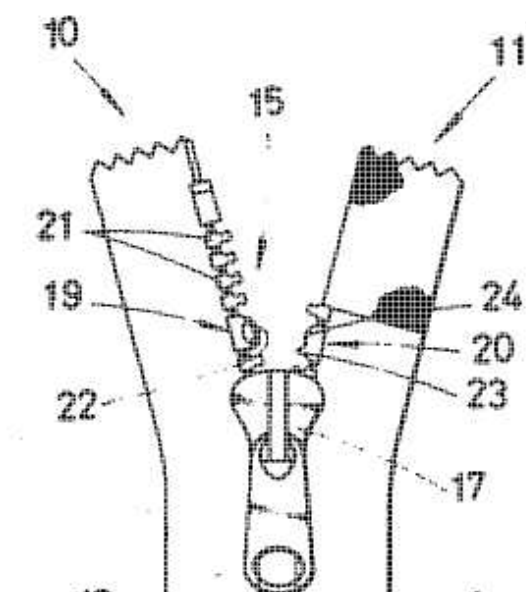


A44B 19/384**{Separable slide fasteners with quick opening devices}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

**Relationships with other classification places**

□ 41. [US3977051](#) - Reusable slide fastener with emergency opening means



A44B 19/386

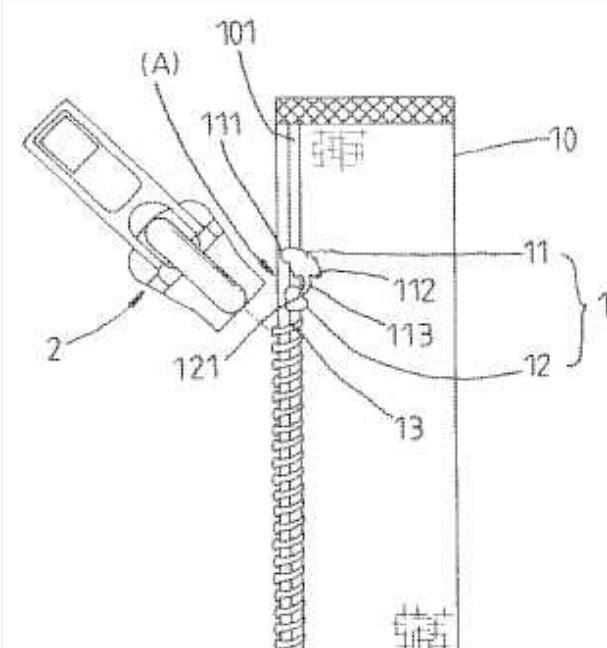
{Top end stop means for quick opening slide fasteners}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

□ 38. [US6715187](#) - Zip fastener top-end piece arrangement



A44B 19/403

{Connection of separate interlocking members}

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Machines and feeders for fitting together or separating metal parts	B23P 19/001
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A44B 19/406

{Connection of one-piece interlocking members}

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Production of slide fasteners, continuous profiled strip	B29D 5/10
Filling of bags, packaging	B65B 9/20

Application of profiled strips to bags	B65B 61/188
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A44B 19/42

Making by processes not fully provided for in one other class, e.g. [B21D 53/50](#), [B21F 45/18](#), [B22D 17/16](#), [B29D 5/00](#) {(attaching closure devices, e.g. slide fasteners, to bags [B31B 70/813](#); making package opening by applying or incorporating profile strips, e.g. for reclosable bags [B65B 61/188](#))}

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Methods of stamping metal to manufacture teeth, only from metal sheets	B21D 53/50
Machines and feeders for fitting together or separating metal parts	B23P 19/001
Production of slide fasteners, continuous profiled strip	B29D 5/10
Machines placing fasteners on bags, packaging	B31B 70/81
Filling of bags, packaging	B65B 9/20
Application of profiled strips to bags	B65B 61/188

A44B 19/44

Securing metal interlocking members to ready-made stringer tapes (making metal slide fastener parts combined with attaching [B21D 53/52](#))

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Making metal fastener parts combined with attaching, only from metal sheets	B21D 53/52
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A44B 99/00

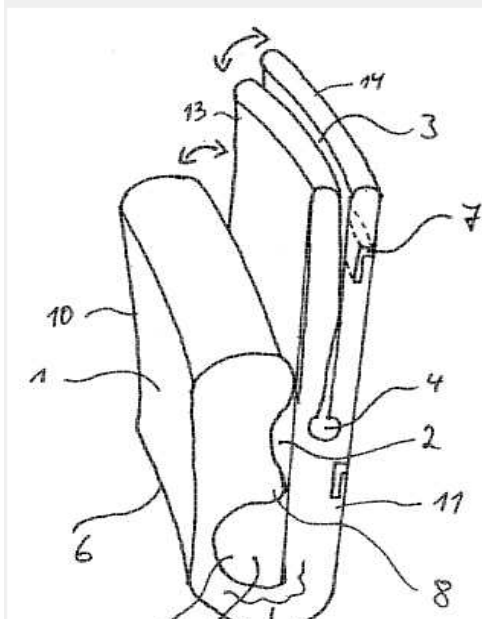
Subject matter not provided for in other groups of this subclass

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

□ 45. [DE102005047836](#) - Clothes clamping element has two parallel limbs, and connecting limb, and is formed as protective edge for clothing piece and limbs are so formed that they are clampable under elastic spring tension in clothing piece range



References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Fixing of plants to supports, e.g. using clips	A01G 9/128
Clamps for shoes drawn tight by laces	A43C 7/08
Credit card holders	A45C 11/182
Fastening articles to the garment	A45F 5/02
Show stands, hangers shelves	A47F 7/00
Means for holding napkins to clothes	A47G 21/165
Hangers with clamps	A47G 25/48
Clamps for holding towels	A47K 10/14
Fastening means for diapers/absorbent articles	A61F 13/5622
Baby-comforters	A61J 17/001
Clamps for tools, workshop equipment	B25B 5/06
Stationary clamps for paper sheets	B42F 1/006
Drawing pins, thumb-tacks	B43M 15/00

Limiting references

Arrangements for holding or mounting articles in vehicles	B60R 11/00
Clamps for packaging use, i.e. for packaging clothes, for closing a chips bag	B65D 67/02 , B65D 33/1675
Clothes pegs with pivoted clamp (for hanging to dry)	D06F 55/02
Tent fastenings	E04H 15/64
Friction grip releasable fastening, pivoting jaws for constructional machines	F16B 2/10
Friction grip releasable fastening, sliding jaws for constructional machines	F16B 2/12
Joining sheets by riveting	F16B 5/04
Hooks with pivoting closing members	F16B 45/02
Clamps for fastening cables or ropes	F16G 11/10
Mounting stands as support for apparatus	F16M 11/00
Internal mounting of support for computer equipment	G06F 1/183
Fastening for a badge label	G09F 3/207
Mounting arrangement of contructional parts	G11B 33/123
Mounting structure of assembly printed circuits with electric components	H05K 3/301
Securing means for mounting electric apparatus	H05K 7/1417

Special rules of classification

This subclass covers clamp fasteners or other holding devices used as haberdashery (i.e. for clothing). For other applications, see Informative References.