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**Using the USPTO Web Site to Answer
Commonly Asked Patent Questions
&
How to Conduct a Preliminary Patent Search**

Tom Turner
Patent & Trademark Depository Library Program
GPO Interagency
July 30, 2010



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The screenshot shows the USPTO Home Page with the following elements:

- Header:** United States Patent and Trademark Office, An Agency of the Department of Commerce. Navigation links: Home | Help | Site Index | Contact Us.
- Search:** SEARCH: [input field] GO. HOW DO I: [- Select an Option -] GO.
- Navigation Menu:** About USPTO | Patents | Trademarks | IP Law & Policy | Products & Services | Careers | Inventors | News & Notices | eBusiness/Alerts | FAQs | For Kids.
- Main Content:**
 - USPTO Launches Ombudsman Pilot Program:** New one-year pilot program provides assistance with application-specific issues, saving applicants and the agency time and resources. [Read More]
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- Patents Section:**
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All patents accessible by U.S. Patent Classification or Patent Number

AppFT (Published Patent Applications Full-Text)

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PatFT and AppFT: Interfaces

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Term 2: in Field 2:

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PatFT: Results List

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PAT. NO.	Title
1	7,425,369 High-impact, transparent, distortion-free polymeric sheet and windshield
2	6,919,536 Vehicle window with ice removal structure thereon
3	6,713,178 Highly tetrahedral amorphous carbon coating on glass
4	6,582,799 Laminated transparency
5	6,495,261 Glazing panels
6	6,391,400 Thermal control films suitable for use in glazing
7	6,190,776 Heat treatable coated glass
8	6,180,247 Thermally-insulating coating system

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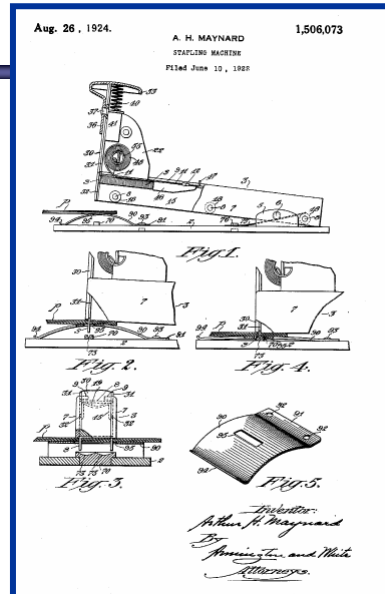
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Images

Tiff images of all U.S. Patents (to 1790)
 Tiff images of all U.S. Published Patent Applications (to March 2001)

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Patents: View Files

Public PAIR
 (Patent Application Information Retrieval)

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The screenshot shows the USPTO Public PAIR interface. The left sidebar contains navigation links for Patent eBusiness, Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR), Patent Information, Patent Searches, and Other. The main content area displays details for application 11/007,213, titled 'MOUNTING APPARATUS'. It lists 'Available Documents' with columns for 'Mail Room Date' and 'Document'. The right pane shows a PDF viewer displaying the 'EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT' for this application, including the examiner's observations and amendments to the claims.

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Patents: File Electronically

EFS Unregistered

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Welcome to Electronic Patent Filing for UNREGISTERED eFILERS
 A submission has not been filed officially at the USPTO until the e-filer executes the Submit function and the documents are received at the USPTO Eastern Time. The Acknowledgement Receipt is evidence of this submission. All items denoted by * are required.

Advisory (16JAN09): Advisory (16JAN09): Effective Jan 21 at 9:00AM, Eastern Time, SSL v2.0 will be disabled to comply with Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards. See [Announcements](#) for more information.

IMPORTANT: Please read [Legal Framework for using EFS-Web](#).

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* Main Functions

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(This includes new filings of continuation (RCE) and continued registered eFiler.)

Existing application/patent

User Authentication

Select Digital Certificate:

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Reel/Frame Number:

Patent Number:

Publication Number:

Assignor Name:

Assignor Index:

Assignee Name:

Assignee Index:

Assignor/Assignee Name:

The database contains all recorded Patent Assignment information from August 1980 to current week.

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Patents: View Guides/Manuals

Manual of Classification online

A. Access Classification Info by Class/Subclass [HELP](#)

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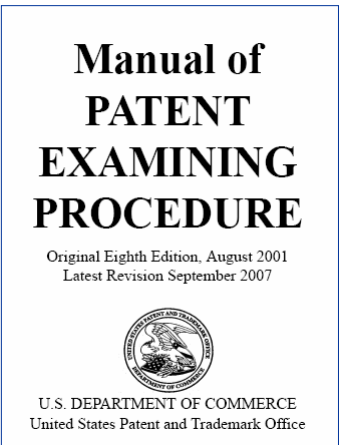
/

Class (required)/Subclass (optional)
e.g., 704/1 or 482/1

2. Select what you want...

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3.



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Federal Register Notices
 Proposed Rule Changes
 Federal Laws (U.S. Code)
 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)
 Final Decisions of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences



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“What information can be found in different parts of a U.S. patent?”

Search for U.S. patent 6276059.

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Enter the patent numbers you are searching for in the box below.

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6276059


All patent numbers must be seven characters in length, excluding commas, which are optional.

Utility -- 5,146,634 6923014 0000001
 Design -- D339,456 D321987 D000152
 Plant -- PP08,901 PP07514 PP00003
 Reissue -- RE35,312 RE12345 RE00007
 Defensive Publication -- T109,201 T855019 T100001

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(1 of 1)

United States Patent 6,276,059
 Kan August 21, 2001

Opener for packaging film

Abstract

An opener (100) for cutting open a packaging film of a box containing a CD, CD-ROM, VCD or DVD disc or the like, which opener (100) has a body (10) providing a gap (18) for receiving a part of a narrow side of the box. Inside the body (10), the opener (100) includes a cutter (29) and an operating member (20) for operation to move the cutter (29) into the gap (18) for cutting open the packaging film. The operating member (20) has a knob (24) for operation, which is resiliently biased by a spring (40) to be accessible in the gap (18).

Inventors: **Kan; Elvin Man Kit** (Wanchai, HK)
 Appl. No.: **09/542,950**
 Filed: **April 4, 2000**

HTML full-text version of patent 6276059.

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Publication Number: 06276059 Section: Front Page 1 of 6 pages Help

Full Text
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Front Page
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 Specifications
 Claims



US06276059B1

(12) **United States Patent** (10) Patent No.: **US 6,276,059 B1**
 Kan (45) Date of Patent: **Aug. 21, 2001**

(54) **OPENER FOR PACKAGING FILM** 5,617,635 * 4,1997 Brev 30/2 X
 (76) Inventor: **Elvin Man Kit Kan**, Room 1105, 19/F, Tai Sang Commercial Bldg., 24-34 Hennessy Road, Wanchai (HK) * cited by examiner

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

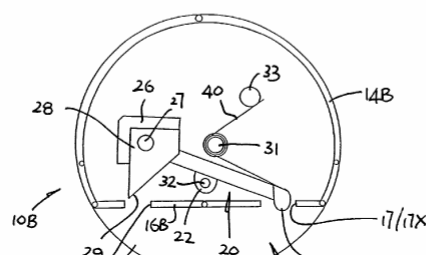
(21) Appl. No.: **09/542,950**
 (22) Filed: **Apr. 4, 2000**
 (31) Int. Cl.7: **B26B 1/06**
 (52) U.S. Cl. **302, 30/293**
 (58) Field of Search **302, DFG. 3, 293, 30/294**

(56) **References Cited**
 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS
 2,649,656 * 8/1953 Redick 30/DFG. 3 10 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets

Primary Examiner—Douglas D. Waits
 (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Rabin & Champagne, P.C.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An opener (100) for cutting open a packaging film of a box containing a CD, CD-ROM, VCD or DVD disc or the like, which opener (100) has a body (10) providing a gap (18) for receiving a part of a narrow side of the box. Inside the body (10), the opener (100) includes a cutter (29) and an operating member (20) for operation to move the cutter (29) into the gap (18) for cutting open the packaging film. The operating member (20) has a knob (24) for operation, which is resiliently biased by a spring (40) to be accessible in the gap (18).



Tiff format
 image of
 the front
 page of
 U.S.
 patent
 6276059



Parts of the Patent

- Front page
 - Bibliographic data
- Drawing(s)
- Specification
 - Background, statement of problem
 - Description, mode of use
 - Claims

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1. Who is/are the inventor(s)?
2. Was this invention assigned to a company?
3. What kind of information is found on the Front Page of a U.S. patent?
4. What date did the inventor apply for a patent? What date did it issue?

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INID Codes

(10) or (11) patent no.	(51) IPC classification
(12) or (19) country ID	(52) domestic classification
(21) application number	(54) title of the invention
(22) date of application	(56) list of prior art documents (references)
(31) Priority app. number	(57) abstract or claim
(32) Priority date	(58) field of search
(33) Priority country	(75) inventor(s)
(45) date of patent	


Internationally agreed Numbers for the Identification of (bibliographic) Data – See WIPO Standard ST.9 .

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“Can you find the Title in this Foreign Patent?”



Sverige

(12) **Patentskrift** (10) **SE 527 789 C2**

(21) Patentansökningsnummer	0402719-9	(62) Internationell klass:	
(45) Patent meddelat:	2006-06-07	<i>F02K 1/28</i> (2006.01)	
(41) Ansökan allmänt tillgänglig:	2006-05-06	<i>B05B 1/26</i> (2006.01)	
(22) Patentansökan inkom:	2004-11-05	<i>F02K 1/38</i> (2006.01)	
(24) Löpdag:	2004-11-05		
(83) Deposition av mikroorganism:	---		
(30) Prioritetsuppgifter:	---		

(73) Patenthavare: Volvo Aero Corp, , 461 81 Trollhättan SE

(72) Uppfinnare: Bernhard Gustafsson, Göteborg SE

(74) Ombud: Volvo Technology Corp

(54) Benämning: Utloppsanordning för styrning av ett gasflöde från en jetmotor

(56) Anförda publikationer: GB A 750 616, GB A 750 618

(47) Sammandrag:

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“Can you find out if there is a Patent on a product? All I have is the Brand Name.”

If this was sold in stores under the brand name “Fast ‘n Easy” CD Cutter could we find in the PatFT (Patents Full-Text) database?



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“How Can I find the Patents by a Certain Inventor?”

Is the inventor listed in patent 6276059, Elvin Man Hit Kan, credited as the inventor on other U.S. patents?

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Quick Search Form--Inventor Name

Search Format: Lastname-Firstinitial\$

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Term 1: in Field 1:

Term 2: in Field 2:

Select years [\[Help\]](#)

This will only search inventor names back to 1976; remember, full-text searching stops at 1976 in PatFT. \$ is a truncation symbol.

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Inventor Name Search Results

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PAT. NO.	Title
1 7,629,639	Nanotube- and nanocrystal-based non-volatile memory
2 D591,025	Ox shaped coin bank
3 7,304,555	Permalloy loaded transmission lines for high-speed interconnect applications
4 7,262,991	Nanotube- and nanocrystal-based non-volatile memory
5 7,259,984	Multibit metal nanocrystal memories and fabrication
6 7,053,439	Chemoreceptive semiconductor structure
7 6,743,709	Embedded metal nanocrystals
8 6,646,302	Embedded metal nanocrystals
9 D479,650	Ball holder
10 6,597,048	Electrostatically charged microstructures
11 D476,805	Combined key ring and torch
12 D468,986	Opener for packaging film
13 6,466,489	Use of source/drain asymmetry MOSFET devices in dynamic and analog circuits
14 D463,824	Adjustable clip with mirror
15 6,276,059	Opener for packaging film
16 6,257,246	Hair care device
17 D440,148	Clip

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Which of these did Elvin Man Kit Kan of Hong Kong invent?

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“What’s the difference between a Design Patent and a Utility Patent?”

Compare US patents 4831735 and D302929.

How do they differ?

How are they similar?

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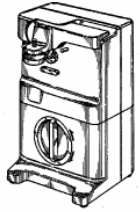
United States Patent [19] [11] Patent Number: **Des. 302,929**
Thomas [45] Date of Patent: **Aug. 22, 1989**

[54] CAN OPENER [56] **References Cited**
 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS
 D. 248,700 7/1978 Scott et al. D4/25
 3,892,313 1/1976 Yonemochi D4/36 X
Primary Examiner—Bernard Amher
Assistant Examiner—Terry A. Pfeiffer
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Neil M. Rose

[71] Assignee: Sunbeam Corporation, Downers Grove, Ill.
 [72] Inventor: Richard K. Thomas, Elk Grove Village, Ill.
 [73] Assignee: Sunbeam Corporation, Downers Grove, Ill.
 [74] Term: 14 Years
 [21] Appl. No.: 34,318
 [22] Filed: Apr. 3, 1987
 [51] Int. Cl. D4/25, D4/36
 [52] U.S. Cl. D4/36, 33-35
 [56] Field of Search: 30/400, 410, 416, 421-426

[37] **CLAIM**
 The ornamental design for a can opener, as shown and described.

DESCRIPTION
 FIG. 1 is a front, top, right side perspective view of a can opener showing my new design.
 FIG. 2 is a right side elevational view thereof.
 FIG. 3 is a left side elevational view thereof.
 FIG. 4 is a rear, top, left side perspective view thereof.
 FIG. 5 is a top plan view thereof; and
 FIG. 6 is a bottom plan view thereof.

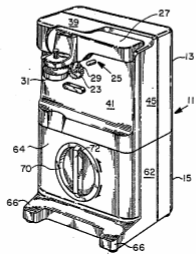


United States Patent [19] [11] Patent Number: **4,831,735**
Bast et al. [45] Date of Patent: **May 23, 1989**

[54] ADJUSTMENT HEIGHT CAN OPENER
 [75] Inventors: Eleanor A. Bast, West Chicago; Richard K. Thomas, Elk Grove Village, both of Ill.
 [73] Assignee: Sunbeam Corporation, Downers Grove, Ill.
 [21] Appl. No.: 93,428
 [22] Filed: Sep. 4, 1987
 [51] Int. Cl. B67B 7/76; B67B 7/82
 [52] U.S. Cl. 30/433; 30/443; 30/410; 30/419; 30/424; 30/426; 30/400, 408, 410, 416, 30/433, 434, 436, 448, 424, 426
 [56] References Cited
 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS
 524,371 10/1984 Keller 30/433
 778,112 12/1984 Church et al. 30/433
 2,579,189 12/1951 Jenness 30/410
 3,278,913 12/1965 Drouilly 30/448
 3,002,274 10/1961 Ijzema et al. 30/410
 3,348,209 10/1967 Bickel 30/410
 4,561,182 12/1985 Yamamoto et al. 30/433
Primary Examiner—Frank T. Yost
Assistant Examiner—Michael D. Folkerts
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Neil M. Rose

[57] **ABSTRACT**
 An electrically operated portable can opener being adjustable in height to enable opening various size cans, the can opener having a primary housing which is partially received within a secondary base housing with a rotary cam serving to control the raising and lowering of the primary housing with respect to the base housing.

11 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets





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 - February 2008 [Hobbs](#)
 - March 2010 [Gawrilow](#)
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 - February 2008 [Szajna](#)
 - March 2010 [Caraballo](#)
 - March 2010 [Davrell](#)
- Davison Design & Development
 - March 2010 [Barton](#)
- Davison Inventegration
 - June 2007 [Rigsby](#)
 - February 2008 [Ferro](#)
 - February 2008 [Mason](#)
 - March 2008 [Elmore](#)
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 - July 2008 [Pickette](#)
 - March 2010 [Berg](#)
- Invent Help

What is your Complaint?

Name of mass media invention promoter advertised in: over the world wide web/Internet

Invention promotion service offered to be performed: Invent prototypes, review market, sell, and license.

Explanation of complaint between customer and invention promoter: I, Jeffery A. Barton, paid Davison & Design & Development to create my invention, cherry flavored filters, but once I paid the plus \$8,000 they called all the time. I was excited! Next, they stopped calling. I became scared. Then I finally got a hold of Jeff Bailly and he said the product was complete. So, they sent me the picture and a simple design! And solicited Imperial Tobacco Company for its first review. They said no! They started on the next submission, only to ask for \$340.00 for each submission to the next company. I got tired of sending money so I quit and they did also I never received the product, just a picture and bogus contract for over \$8,000 paid to those crooks. I was ripped off. This started in 2005-2009 I have had no contact from Davison. P.S. I gave them free money.

Signed: /s/ Jeffery A. Barton
Date: March 3, 2009

“I never received the product, just a picture and a bogus contract for over \$8000 paid to those crooks.”

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“How Do I Search Patents?”

Inventions that are new, useful, non-obvious, and accompanied by a written description disclosing how to make and use the invention may be patented.

But how do you know if an invention is new and non-obvious?

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Prior Art

Prior art consists of information disclosed to the public including:

U.S. Patents and published patent applications;
Foreign Patents and published patent applications;
Journal and magazine articles;
Books, manuals, and catalogs;
Websites;
Conference proceedings.



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Keyword Search Problems

Vague or inconsistent terminology:

Toy and Process of Use (Patent 2,415,012)

Obsolete names and terms:

“LP”... “hi-fi”... “laser disc”... “water closet”

Different meanings in different fields:

“Mouse” the Animal v.
Computer “Mouse”

Synonyms:

Rodent Extermination Device
(Patent 5,185,953)



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And the Biggest Problem with Keyword Searching...

USPTO patent web databases limit keyword searching to no further back than 1976.



But searching by U.S. Patent Classification can cover patents issued prior to 1976—all the way to 1790 if needed.

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U.S. Patent Classification

There are currently >450 classes and >150,000 subclasses in the U.S. Patent Classification System (USPC).

Fortunately, there is an online Index to USPC.

Class Number and Title
Go 002 Apparel
Go 004 Baths, closets, sinks, and spittoons
Go 005 Beds
Go 007 Compound tools
Go 008 Bleaching and dyeing; fluid treatment and chemical modification of fibers
Go 012 Boot and shoe making
Go 014 Bridges
Go 015 Brushing, scrubbing, and general cleaning
Go 016 Miscellaneous hardware
Go 019 Textiles: fiber preparation
Go 023 Chemistry: physical processes

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7 Step Preliminary Patent Search Strategy Overview

- Searchers need to do as thorough a search as possible to ensure that their invention has never before been patented.
- All it takes is one patent to refute the novelty of one's invention.
- The USPTO has developed a **7 Step Patent Search Strategy** to increase the likelihood of novice searchers doing a thorough job of a preliminary patent search.

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STEP 1: Description of Invention

What does it do?

Essential function of the invention

What's the end result?

**Essential effect or basic product resulting
from the invention**

What is it made of?

Physical structure of the invention

What is it used for?

Intended use for the invention

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Search Example

(We'll use a simple example to show the search tools in involved in a preliminary patent search.)

The invention is an improvement upon current shoe racks with an adjustable feature that allows for different sizes of shoes. It mounts on a wall or door.

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STEP 2: Determine Initial Classification

United States Patent and Trademark Office
An Agency of the Department of Commerce

SEARCH: GO

HOW DO I: **Search for a patent?**

Home | Help | Site Index | Contact Us

About USPTO Patents Trademarks IP Law & Policy Products & Services Careers Inventors News For Kids

USPTO Seeks Comments on 2010-2015 Draft Strategic Plan

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has posted its draft Strategic Plan for fiscal years (FY) 2010-2015 and is inviting comments from employees, stakeholders and the public. Comments may be submitted until August 2nd.

USPTO

Info

- Register a trademark?
- Learn about Intellectual Property basics?
- Access patent forms?
- Access trademark forms?
- Access the current fee schedule?
- Pay maintenance fees?
- View payments made to the USPTO?
- Renew a trademark?
- Get copies of patents and trademarks?

On USPTO home page, in “How Do I” Drop Down Menu, Select “Search for a Patent?”

United States Patent and Trademark Office
Department of Commerce

Seven Step Strategy

Quick Start

Patent and Trademark Depository Library (PTDL) staff are available to provide training on U.S. patent search processes and research tools including the [Cassis DVD-ROM](#) system, the [PubWEST](#) database, and the [USPTO website](#).

Classification

1. Brainstorm keywords related to the purpose, use and composition of the invention.
2. Look up the words in **Index to the U.S. Patent Classification** to find potential class/subclasses.
3. Verify the relevancy of the class/subclasses by using the [Classification Schedule](#) in the [Manual of Classification](#).
4. Read the [Classification Definitions](#) to verify the scope of the subclasses and note "see also" references.

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Click on Step 2 link to the “Index to U.S. Patent Classification.”



Index to USPC

Index to the United States Patent Classification (USPC) System

Select the format and section (by letter) ...

Index in HTML A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R **S** T U V W X Y Z
Index in PDF A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Go to "S" in HTML Index to look up first keywords, "shoe" and "shoe rack." Is it also listed under "R" for racks?

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S - Index to the U.S. Patent Classification System - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by USPTO

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Surgical instruments	606 / 32+
Therapy, medical	607 / 149
Harvester	56 / 401+
Shoe	
Animal wear	36 / 111
Design	D30 / 146+
Farriery	168
Making	59 / 36+
Oxshoe making	59 / 70
Apparel	36
Accessory	36 / 136+
Anti-slipping devices	36 / 59 R+
Athletic	36 / 114+
Bathing	36 / 8.1
Bowling	36 / 130
Box	206 / 278
Buttoners	24 / 40
Cement	36 / DIG 1
Cleaning type	15 / 227
Cleat	36 / 134
Design	D02 / 896+
Foot elevators	36 / 81
Football	36 / 128
Heels	36 / 34 R+
Insoles	36 / 43+
Jumping	36 / 7.8
Lacing devices	24 / 712
Light thermal and electrical	607 / 1+
Making see boot making	12
Non-leather	36 / 84+
Occupation specialized	36 / 113
Ornaments	2 / 245
Patterns	33 / 3 R+
Plastic	36 / DIG 2
Pricking soles	83 / 866+
Putting on and removing aids	223 / 113+
Rack	211 / 34+
Risks	36 / 431
Rubber	36 / 4

From "Index to U.S. Patent Classification"

**Shoe-
Apparel-
-Rack
211/34+**

STEP 3: Scan the Classification Schedule.

Class 211 SUPPORTS: RACKS

- 13.1 SPECIAL ARTICLE
- 85.1 . Eyeglasses
- 85.2 . Jewelry
- 85.3 . Apparel
- 85.4 . Food
- 85.5 . Spool type
- 85.6 . Musical instrument
- 85.7 . Recreational equipment
- 85.8 . Mobile
- 85.9 . Key
- 85.11 . Horse saddle
- 85.12 . Soap
- 85.13 . Medical implement
- 85.14 . Lamp shade
- 14 . Ball or egg type
- 15 .. With discharge mechanism
- 16 . Towel service type
- 17 . Velocipede type
- 18 .. Wall mounted
- 19 ... Tire or wheel
- 20 ... Tire or wheel
- 21 ... Foldable
- 22 ... Stands
- 23 . Tire or wheel type
- 24 .. Stands
- 26 . Electrically powered
- 26.1 .. Remote control unit
- 26.2 .. Supporting part of an article
- 27 . Furniture type
- 28 . Mattress type
- 29 . Shock type
- 30 . Hat type
- 31 .. Ceiling or seat mounted
- 32 .. Wall mounted
- 33 .. Stands
- 34 . Shoe or boot type

Note: subclass numbers are not necessarily listed in sequential order. They are subclass identifiers and shift position when that subclass is moved within a schedule.

		34	. Shoe or boot type
		35	.. Wall mounted
		36	.. With shelves
		37	.. Stands
		38	.. Foldable

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Click on Subclass Title to See Subclass Relationships

In the schedule subclass 35 appears to be a good choice for the subclass. Clicking on the subclass title creates a popup showing subclass 35 in relation to higher indent level subclasses and the overall class.

Print This Page
Show Definition View
Close

CLASS 211, SUPPORTS: RACKS

13.1 SPECIAL ARTICLE:

34 . Shoe or boot type:

35 .. Wall mounted:

Print This Page
Show Definition View
Close

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Either by clicking on “Show Definition View” in the pop-up window.



Or by clicking on the subclass number in the class schedule, you link to the Classification Definition for the subclass.

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STEP 4: Read Classification Definition

CLASS 211, SUPPORTS: RACKS

- 13.1 **SPECIAL ARTICLE:**
This subclass is indented under the class definition. Device having a structure which is designed to support a particular item.
- SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:
- 24, Buckles, Buttons, Clasps, etc., particularly subclasses 457+ for a mounted clasp.
- 34 **. Shoe or boot type:**
This subclass is indented under subclass 13.1. Devices designed for supporting articles of footwear, as shoes.
- 35 **.. Wall mounted:**
This subclass is indented under subclass 34. Devices designed to be mounted in or on a wall surface.

Reading the Classification Definitions will help you determine if you have selected the correct subclass.

Note the definitions have Cross-References to other subclasses that may be more appropriate to your search.

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STEP 5: Search Issued Patents

-			34	• Shoe or boot type
			35	.. Wall mounted
			36	.. With shelves
			37	.. Stands
			38	.. Foldable

Click on "P" icon by the subclass number in the class schedule to retrieve all patents in the given subclass in PatFT Database.

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Search Results in PatFT

Results of Search in US Patent Collection db for:

CCL/211/35: 45 patents.

Hits 1 through 45 out of 45









Jump To

Refine Search

PAT. NO.	Title
1	7,445,127 Universal shoe rack
2	7,293,662 Hanging shoe rack with improved structural features
3	RE39,638 Hanging shoe rack
4	7,025,214 Over-door shoe racks
5	7,021,475 Over-door shoe racks
6	6,926,157 Over-door shoe racks



STEP 5: Also, Search Published Patent Applications

		34	• Shoe or boot type
		35	.. Wall mounted
		36	.. With shelves
		37	.. Stands
		38	.. Foldable

Click on "A" icon by the subclass number in the class schedule to retrieve all published patent applications in the given subclass in AppFT Database.

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Search Results in AppFT

Results of Search in AppFT Database for:
CCL/211/35: 16 applications.
Hits 1 through 16 out of 16

Jump To

Refine Search

	PUB. APP. NO.	Title
1	20090184067	Adjustable boot racking assembly
2	20090065454	PRODUCT DISPLAY SYSTEM
3	20090008345	Shoe rack
4	20070138113	Angled rack for supporting footwear
5	20070080121	Universal shoe rack



STEP 6: Review Patent Documents with Focus on Claims

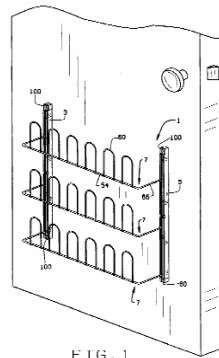
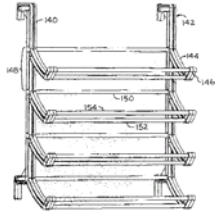


FIG. 1

What is claimed is:

1. A suspended shoe rack comprising:

at least two side supporting rods, said side supporting rods being in vertical orientation, and having an upper part and a lower part, said supporting rods being parallel with respect to one another;

means towards the upper part of said side supporting rods for engaging a preexisting horizontally disposed support;

Do any of these patents disclose an invention with claims similar to our invention?

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STEP 7: Check References...

Inventors: Klein; Richard B. (Overland Park, KS); Serslev; Chris (Leawood, MO)
Assignee: Lynk, Inc. (Lenexa, KS)
Appl. No.: 944914
Filed: October 6, 1997

Current U.S. Class:
Intern'l Class:
Field of Search:

Forward citation search links patents that cite the displayed patent.

211/35; 211/87.01; 211/113; 248/214; 248/300
A47F 005/00

211/113,87.01,35 248/300,301,214,215

References Cited [\[Referenced By\]](#)

U.S. Patent Documents

D287550	Jan., 1987	Tocci.
D354412	Jan., 1995	Emery.
D377728	Feb., 1997	Klein et al.
D382434	Aug., 1997	Klein et al.
953130	Mar., 1910	Fellows.
1377444	May., 1921	Shoemaker.
1570451	Jan., 1926	Simoneau.
1733487	Oct., 1929	Hackley.
1733487	Oct., 1929	Hackley.

References provided by the applicant and patent examiner.

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...and Field of (Classification) Search

Inventors: Klein; Richard B. (Overland
Assignee: Lynk, Inc. (Lenexa, KS)
Appl. No.: 944914
Filed: October 6, 1997

Class/Subclass listed in the Field of Search can provide valuable clues to other classifications that the Patent Examiner searched.

Current U.S. Class: 211/33; 211/87.01; 211/113; 248/214; 248/300
Intern'l Class: A47F 005/00
Field of Search: 211/113;87.01,35 248/300,301,214,215

References Cited [\[Referenced By\]](#)

		U.S. Patent Documents
D287550	Jan., 1987	Tocci.
D354412	Jan., 1995	Emery.
D377728	Feb., 1997	Klein et al.
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1377444	May., 1921	Shoemaker.
1570451	Jan., 1926	Simoneau.
1733487	Oct., 1929	Hackley.
	7/23/2010	

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7-STEP Preliminary Patent Search Overview

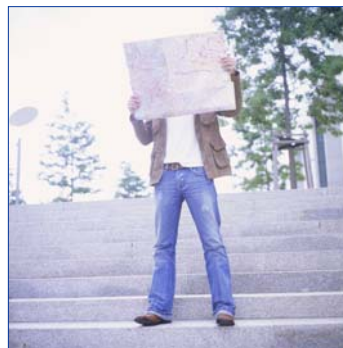
1. Brainstorm keywords to describe the invention
2. Use keywords to find initial class/subclass
Index to the U.S. Patent Classification
3. Verify the relevancy of class/subclasses using the
Classification Schedule
4. Confirm scope of subclass
Classification Definitions
5. Access complete **patent documents** and **published applications** by classification
6. Review the **claims, specifications and drawings** of documents retrieved
7. Retrieve and review **cited references and "Field of Classification Search"**

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What if the Searcher Can't Find an Appropriate Classification?

Try a keyword search; find relevant patents and jot down the class / subclass(es). Rerun the search using classification. Ask the PTDL librarian for a U.S. Patent Classification Suggestion form.



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Don't Exclude Keyword Searches

- Keyword searches should supplement U.S. Patent Classification searches to be as thorough as possible.
- Group together synonyms to increase chances of finding relevant patents e.g., (car or automobile or auto or "land motor vehicle")
- Use truncation symbols to get singular and plural versions of a word (car\$).
- Use quotes to group search phrases where words are adjacent ("image viewer").

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Web Tutorial on Patent Searching

www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ido/ptdl/tutorials.html



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Questions?

Tom Turner (tom.turner@uspto.gov)
Librarian
Patent and Trademark Depository Library Program
Office of the Chief Information Officer
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

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