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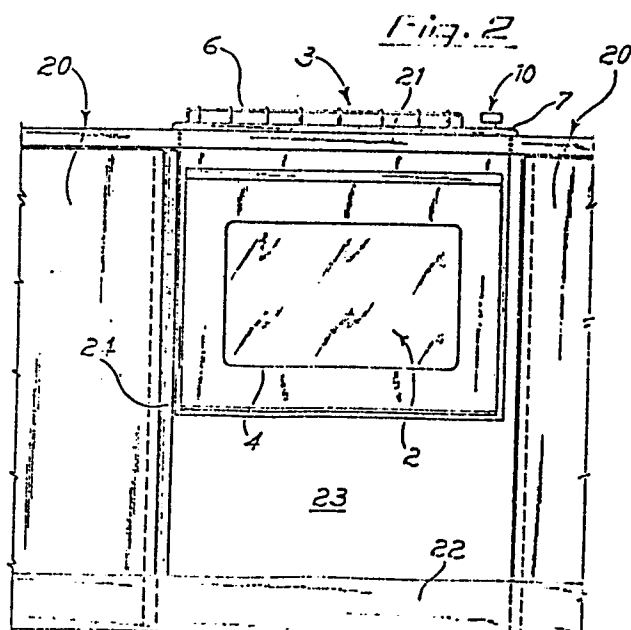
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54 **Cooking implement assembly with built-in oven and hob.**

57 An oven and hob assembly, suitable to a built-in construction inside a top plane of a kitchen furniture, includes an edge projecting all around the hob for bearing upon said top plane.

The knobs and the other control and alarm devices, are located on the hob itself, the overall height of the assembly being smaller than the difference in level between said top surface and the floor supporting the kitchen.



"OVEN AND COOKER TOP (HOB) ASSEMBLY FOR A BUILT-IN
CONSTRUCTION"

5 This invention concerns an oven and hob assembly
for a built-in construction in a modern, modular
type kitchen.

10 As it is known, in the so-called "modular" type
kitchens care is presently being taken to recess the
household appliances so that the overall outer appearance
of the assembly shows the highest smoothness
and uniformity as possible, with profiles and surfaces
aligned with the walls of kitchen portions having
the sole purpose of containing objects, such as hinged
door cabinets, chests of drawers, and so on. However,
15 the outer detail features of the household appliances
often make it difficult to recess them completely
within the furniture, and involve certain difficulties
for the manufacturer who will provide the workmanship.
In particular, an oven and hob assembly shows certain
difficulties in fitting the same to the other household
20 appliances and to the surrounding furniture, in particular
when said assembly is embodied as a so-called
"self-contained cooker", the latter having a well
defined independently usable appliance configuration
which renders it less suitable to a built-in construction.
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In this latter case the problem resides mainly
in the so-called "front panel" where all the controls
are located, both for the cooker top or hob as well
as for the oven. In fact said controls project from

the front outwards compared to the other surfaces,
and in any case they have to be accessible to the
user, whereby the hiding door possibly provided for
the oven should necessarily be limited in height,
5 and it should end below said "front panel", thus
giving rise to a line of discontinuity compared to
the adjacent doors. On the other hand it is of advantage,
not only for appearance reasons, but for safety reasons
as well, that the oven be recessed so that during
10 operation, such a hot surface as the oven door itself
is prevented from coming into occasional contact
with people, particularly children, who happen to be
running around.

Therefore, the object of this invention is to
15 provide an oven and hob assembly forming a single
block adapted to be recessed from above in a hollow
piece of furniture provided at least with a front
door, said block having all the control knobs, the
possible monitoring lamps, a timer and/or program
20 setting device mounted on the cooker top or hob, on
the side of the grate, in order not to hinder the
recessing operations from above.

Therefore, the assembly according to this invention differs from a conventional floor supported self-
25 contained cooker assembly not only because all the
controls thereof are provided on its top, but also
because of the lack of the full height supporting
side walls, with associated savings in metal materials.
Moreover, since the oven is designed to be hidden by
30 doors, it will not be required to be built in different
colours to be adapted to the remaining kitchen furni-

ture, and this means a further cost advantage. The furniture maker will have an even further important cost advantage in that he will be in a position to manufacture all the kitchen doors equal to each other without having to interrupt the furniture line uniformity, for example to take into account the height difference normally found between the dishwasher control panel and that of a conventional electric or gas cooker with oven.

Besides said appearance and cost advantages, the oven and hob assembly according to this invention has also an important safety feature as well, since it can operate with closed doors, whereby the surrounding people, including children in particular, are prevented from a free occasional contact with such a hot surface as the oven door, which during operation can reach a 100-120° temperature.

These features and advantages of the assembly according to this invention will become apparent from the following detailed description of a preferred embodiment thereof, shown in the attached drawings, in which:

FIGURE 1 is a front view of cooker top or hob and oven assembly for a built-in construction, according to this invention;

FIGURE 2 shows the same assembly recessed in a piece of kitchen furniture, with an open door;

FIGURE 3 shows a top plan view of the same assembly of Figure 2; and

FIGURE 4 shows the same view of Figure 2, with doors closed. .

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Referring now to the drawings, assembly 1 according to this invention comprises a metal case including oven 2, provided with its own door 4, and upper cooker plane or hob 3 provided with burners 5 and grate 6.

5 The hob 3 is shown here as a gas cooker, provided with four burners, but it is understood that it could as well comprise any combination of gas burners and electric plates, or even four electric plates only.

10 As it will be also appreciated, the grate 6 could be of any general pattern, and in particular the hob could be of the completely built-in type, such as with the burners and the supporting grate reaching at the most the level of the furniture top plane edge 7, as it is shown and claimed in the applicant's
15 Italian Patent Application No.21794 A/84, whereby the cover (which is not shown here) comes to rest, when closed, at a position flush with said edge 7.

According to this invention, on the hob 3 and on the side of grate 6 there are mounted the controls
20 10, including gas-taps and electric knobs both for the hob and for the oven, as well as possible monitoring lamps, the oven timer and/or programming device. The oven can be of a conventional type, or a ventilation type or a multiple programmable function oven and
25 the door 4 thereof can be of the downwards opening or side opening type, from left to right, or viceversa.

It is understood that inside the case 1 the necessary gas ducts are provided, and/or the electrical connections between controls 10 and burners or hot
30 plates of the hob, or with the burners (not shown) of oven 2. Means can further be provided to exhaust

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at the outside the vapours generated within the oven, by cutting suitable openings on the hob 3, whereby said vapours are then evacuated through the suction hood.

5 Referring now to Figures 2 to 4, an example is shown of how assembly 1 of Figure 1 can be embedded in a modular piece of furniture including two side modules or "base pieces" 20, 20', spaced apart of a length at least equal to the width of assembly 1, and joined at the top thereof by a top plane 21 which is a continuation of the upper flat surface of the piece of furniture, and at the bottom by means of a base-board 22 of the same height of the adjacent base-boards. Through the top surface 21 an opening is provided of a size sufficient to allow entering of assembly 1 from above, i.e. equal to the overall size of oven 2, but smaller than the size of hob 3 whose edge 7 will come to rest all around on the top surface 21 while keeping assembly 1 into position. As it is understood, said top plane will be strong enough to be able to bear the total weight of the oven-hob assembly as well as of the cooking ware laying thereupon and/or introduced inside the oven. If that were not so, supports can be provided underneath the oven, which could even completely rest on a underlying shelf under which there remains still some room 23, usable for example for a sliding drawer.

 The enclosure taken by the oven is hidden by means of a door 24, which is shown in Figures 2 and 3 in the open position, while being shown in the closed position in Figure 4, said door being supported

on inner hinges hidden to the sight. In the closed position, the door remains flush with the adjacent pieces of furniture 20, 20' without any discontinuity in the assembly whose appearance is perfectly linear, both in the height direction and along the front plane thereof. It will be understood that instead of a single door 24 two doors can be provided, each of half width, but this feature, like many other arrangements relating only to the appearance can be freely chosen by the furniture maker, without any constraint due to the presence of household appliances.

Possible additions and/or modifications can be implemented by those skilled in the art with reference to the embodiment of the assembly according to this invention as described and illustrated, without exceeding the scope of the invention. In particular, the assembly can comprise hob and oven separate from each other, which can be assembled as shown above, provided all the controls, including the oven controls, are always located on the hob or cooker top. In this case the connections will have to be made during assembly operation, since they cannot be provided previously. While the hob will be embedded as mentioned above, the oven will have to be introduced from the front part, while a bearing means has to be provided thereunder.

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CLAIMS

1. Oven and hob assembly for a built-in construction in a modular kitchen piece of furniture, to be embedded therein by lowering the assembly from above through an opening provided in a top plane (21) of said piece of furniture, characterized by having an edge (7) projecting outwardly at the upper part thereof, all around the hob (3) for resting on said top plane, the control knob and all other monitoring, control and alarm devices (10) relating to the oven (2) and to the hob (3) being located on said hob (3), the overall height of said assembly being smaller than the difference in level between said top plane (21) and the floor supporting said piece of furniture.

2. Assembly according to claim 1, characterized by said knobs and additional control devices (10) being located within the perimeter of the hob (3).

3. Assembly according to claim 2, characterized by being adapted to be introduced from above through said opening in the top surface (21), having a smaller size than the overall size of said hob upper edge (7).

4. Assembly according to claims 1 and 2, characterized by having the oven (2) separated from the hob (3) and adapted to be embedded through the front part of said piece of furniture, means being further provided for making the connections between the oven (2) and said control knobs (10) located on the hob (3).

Fig. 1

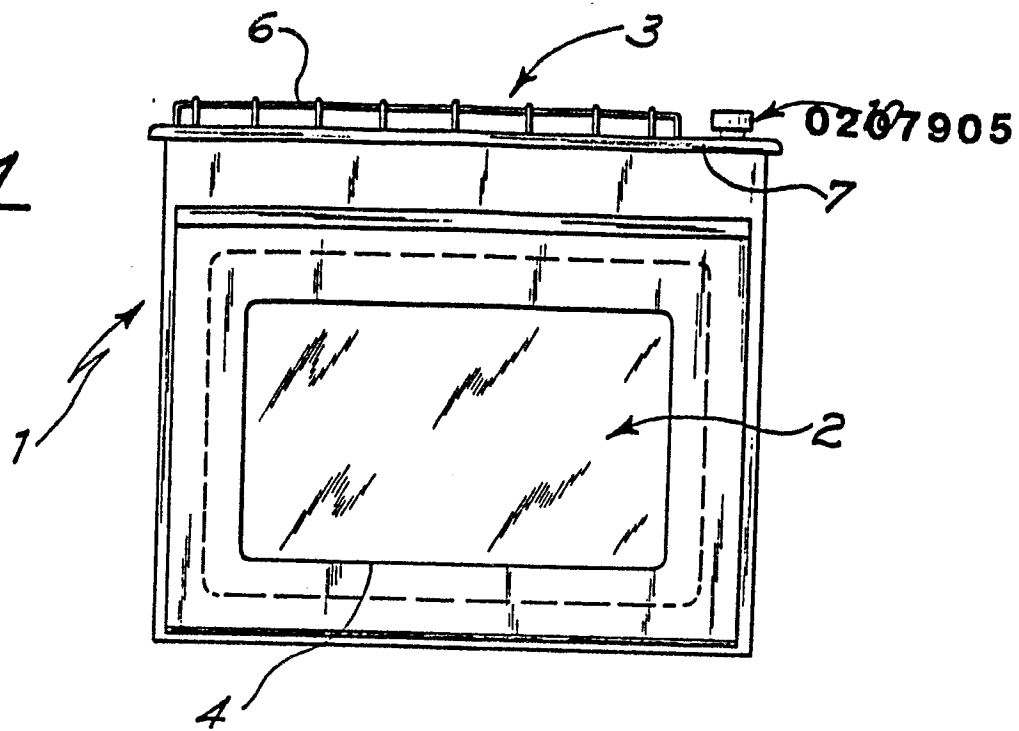
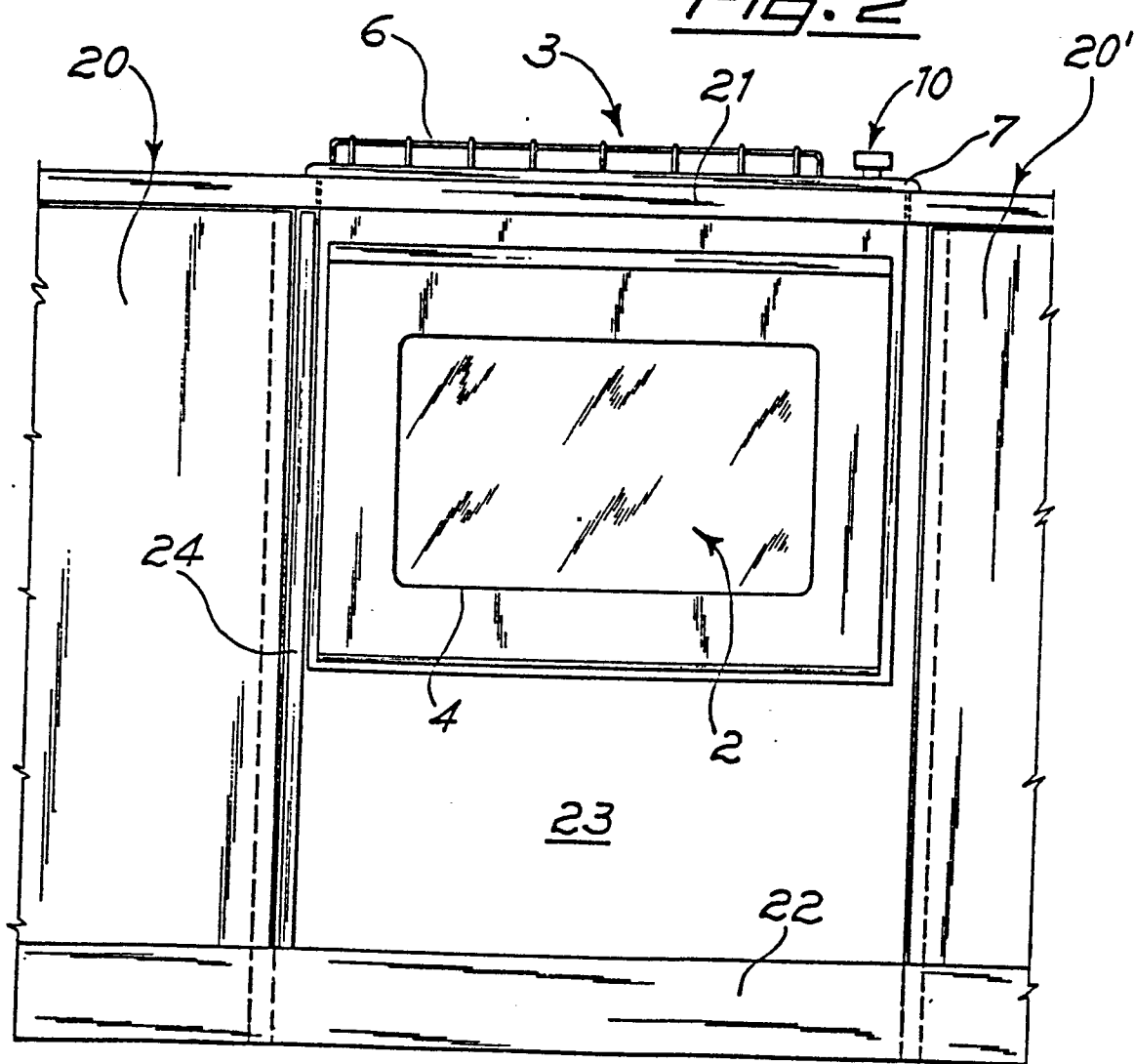


Fig. 2



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Fig. 3

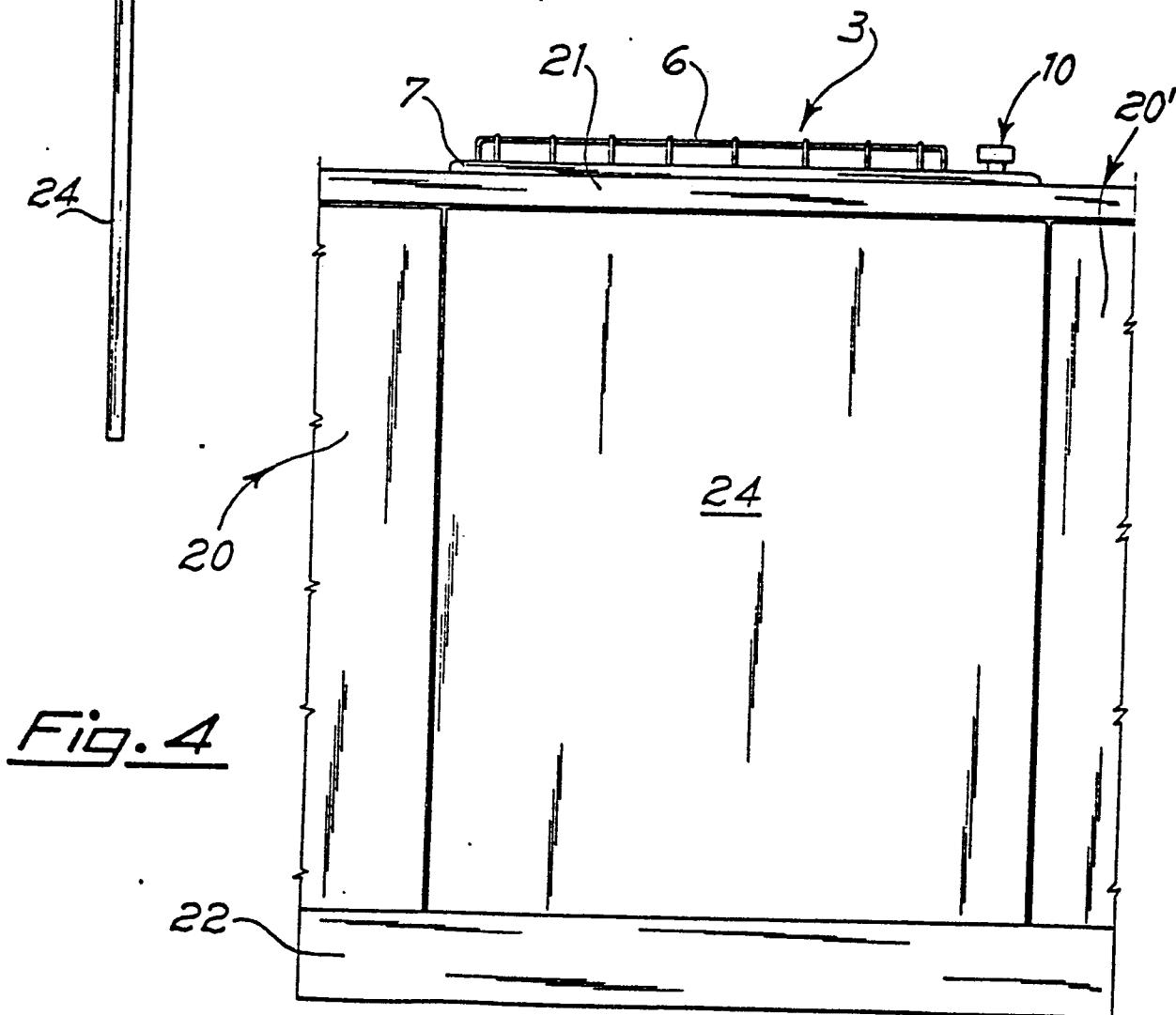
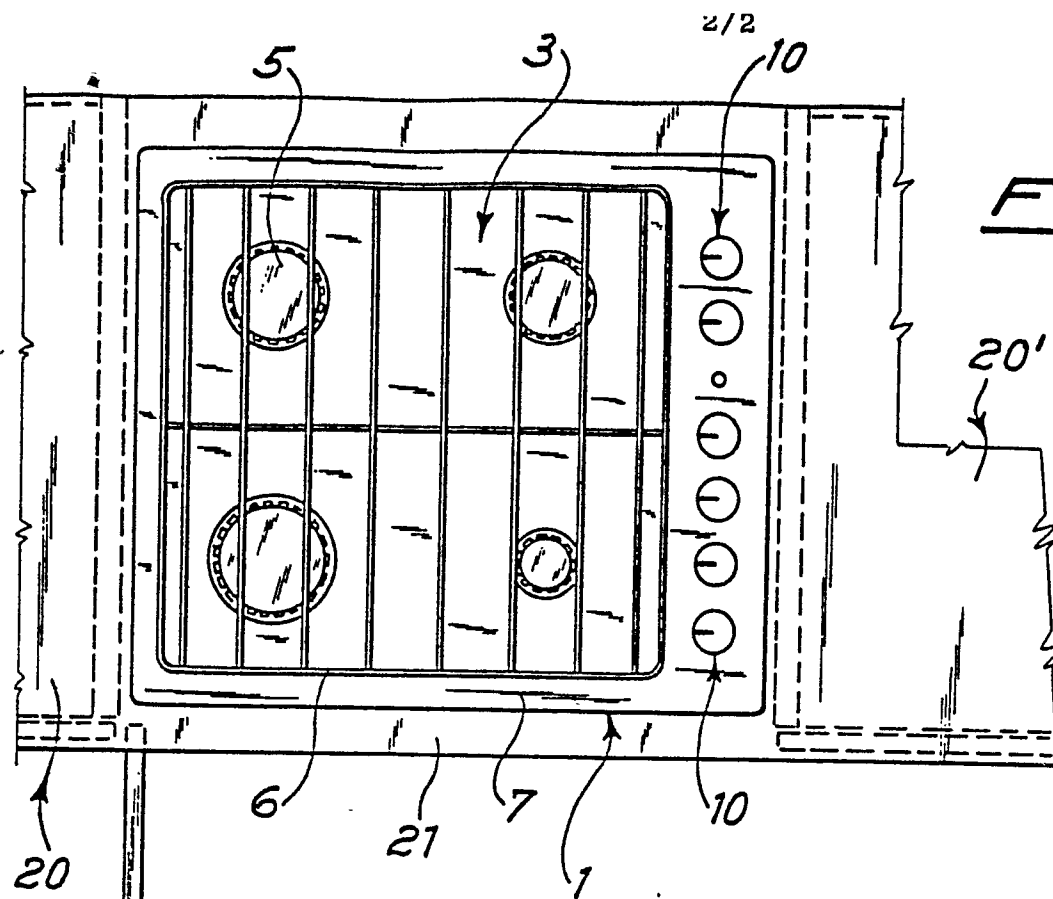


Fig. 4