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(54) **Dividing sheet for spiral notebook or ring binder**

(57) A dividing sheet for a spiral notebook or a ring binder includes a first number of barbs (32) extending from one edge for engaging the dividing sheet (30) with a spiral (35) of a spiral notebook (40) so as to divide the

spiral notebook into different divisions. The dividing sheet (30) further includes a second number of holes (33) formed close to the one edge for being adapted to a ring binder (50) so as to divide the spiral notebook (40) into different divisions.

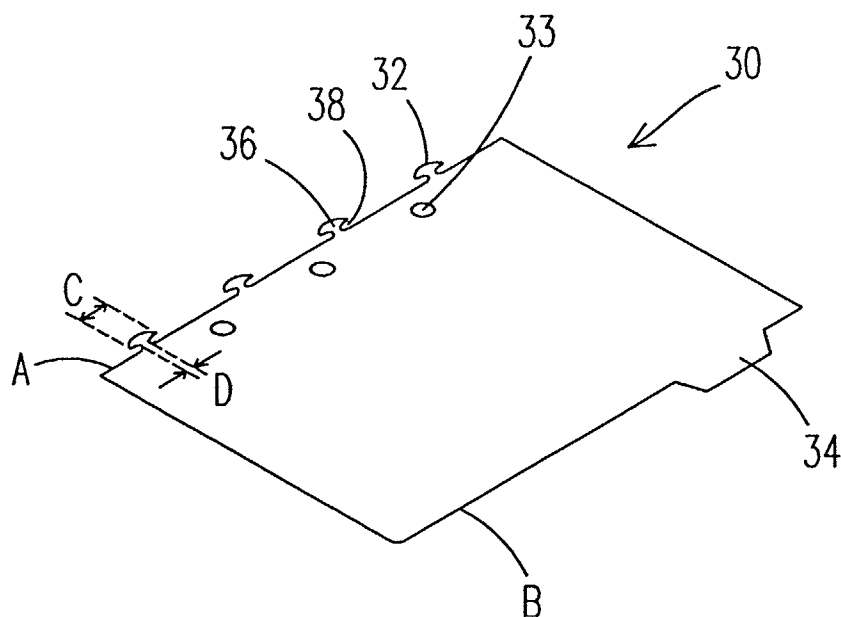


Fig. 1

Description

[0001] The present invention is related to a dividing sheet for a spiral notebook or a ring binder, and more particularly, to a dividing sheet for dividing the spiral notebook or the ring binder into different divisions.

[0002] Almost, every one has ever owned a spiral notebook. A spiral notebook has a limited number of pages. If the spiral notebook is thick, it means that users can write a different category of contents in the thick spiral notebook. Accordingly, the users generally desire to divide the spiral notebook into different divisions for different categories of contents. However, the conventional spiral notebook can not allow users to insert any dividing sheet for dividing the spiral notebook into different divisions. Therefore, it is tried to rectify this drawback by the present application.

[0003] It is therefore a primary objective of the present invention to provide a dividing sheet for a spiral notebook or a ring binder which allows users to insert dividing sheets for dividing the spiral notebook or a ring binder into different divisions so as to accommodate different categories of contents.

[0004] According to the present invention, the dividing sheet includes a first number of barbs extending from one edge of the dividing sheet for engaging the dividing sheet with the spiral of a spiral notebook so as to divide the spiral notebook into different divisions.

[0005] Preferably, the dividing sheet comprises a second number of holes formed close to the one edge for being adapted to a ring binder.

[0006] Preferably, the dividing sheet further comprises a tab portion extending from the edge opposing to the one edge to indicate a particular division.

[0007] Preferably, the barbs are double-hook portions.

[0008] Preferably, the double-hook portion has a head portion with a width greater than a pitch of the spiral.

[0009] Preferably, the double-hook portion has a neck portion with a width less than the pitch of the spiral.

[0010] The present invention may best be understood through the following description with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a dividing sheet according to the present invention;

Fig. 2 shows that a dividing sheet divides a spiral notebook into two divisions;

Fig. 3 shows that a dividing sheet divides a three-hole ring binder into two divisions; and

Fig. 4 shows how a dividing sheet is inserted into the spiral of a spiral notebook.

[0011] Please refer to Fig. 1. Fig. 1 shows a dividing sheet 30 according to the present invention. The dividing sheet 30 includes a first number of barbs 32 extending from edge A of the dividing sheet 30 for engaging the dividing sheet 30 with a spiral 35 of a spiral notebook

40 so as to divide the spiral notebook 40 into different divisions as shown in Fig. 2; a tab portion 34 extending from the edge B opposing to the edge A to indicate a particular division.

[0012] The dividing sheet 30 further comprises a second number of holes 33 formed close to the edge A for being adapted to a ring binder 50 as shown in Fig. 3.

[0013] Please refer to Fig. 1 again. Moreover, the barb 32 is a double-hook portion and has a head portion 36 with a width C greater than a pitch P of the spiral 35, and the double-hook portion has a neck portion 38 with a width D less than the pitch P of the spiral.

[0014] Please refer to Fig. 4. Fig. 4 shows a dividing sheet 30 is inserted into a thick spiral notebook 40. For inserting the dividing sheet 30 into the spiral 35 of the spiral notebook, the user applies his finger to widen a pair of loops of the spiral 35 at a proper position, then, inserts one of the barbs 32 between the pair of loops. After the user releases the pair of loops, the barbs 32 will be prevented from being drawn out from the pair of loops. By using the same step, the other barbs 32 can be inserted into the spiral 35 in order.

Claims

1. A dividing sheet (30) comprising a first number of barbs (32) extending from one edge of the dividing sheet (30) for engaging the dividing sheet with a spiral (35) of a spiral notebook (40) so as to divide the spiral notebook (40) into different divisions.
2. The dividing sheet (30) as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a second number of holes (33) formed close to the one edge for being adapted to a ring binder (50).
3. The dividing sheet (30) as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a tab portion (34) extending from the edge opposing to the one edge to indicate a particular division.
4. The dividing sheet (30) as claimed in claim 1, **characterized in that** the barbs (32) are double-hook portions.
5. The dividing sheet (30) as claimed in claim 1, **characterized in that** the double-hook portion has a head portion with a width greater than a pitch of the spiral.
6. The dividing sheet (30) as claimed in claim 4, **characterized in that** the double-hook portion has a neck portion (38) with a width less than the pitch of the spiral.
7. A spiral bound book comprising a plurality of superposed, e.g. substantially rectangular, sheets of pa-

per or the like, adjacent one edge of which a linear array of holes is formed, the sheets being retained in the shape of a book by the coils of a spiral (35) accommodated in the holes, and at least one dividing sheet (30) sandwiched between a respective pair of adjacent sheets of paper or the like, the dividing sheet (30) having two or more projections (32) formed on one side edge, each projection (32) having a neck portion (38), with a width (D) in the plane of the dividing sheet less than the pitch (P) of the spiral, and a head portion (36), with a width (C) greater than the pitch (P) of the spiral, each head portion (36) being accommodated within the space defined by the spiral (35) and each neck portion (38) being accommodated in the space between a respective adjacent pair of coils of the spiral.

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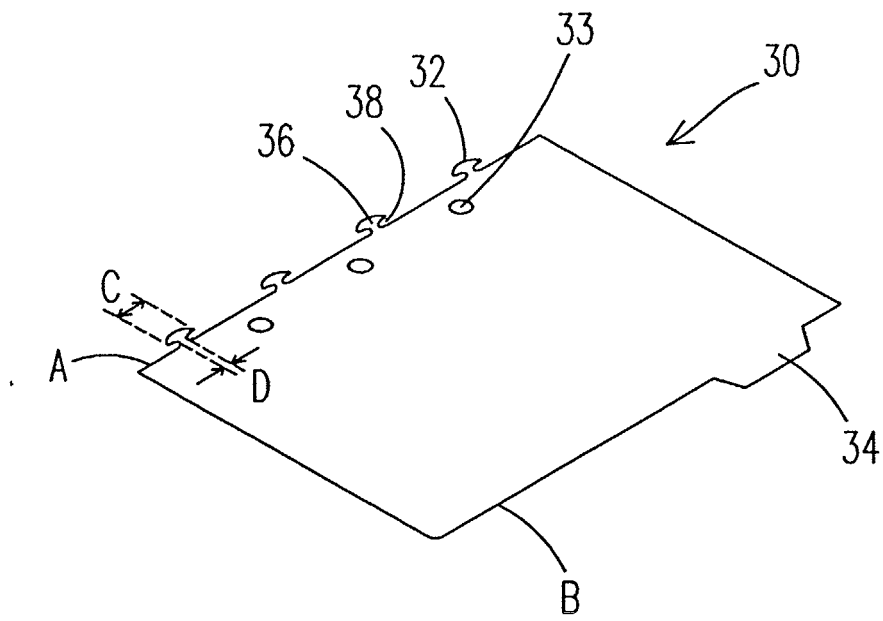


Fig. 1

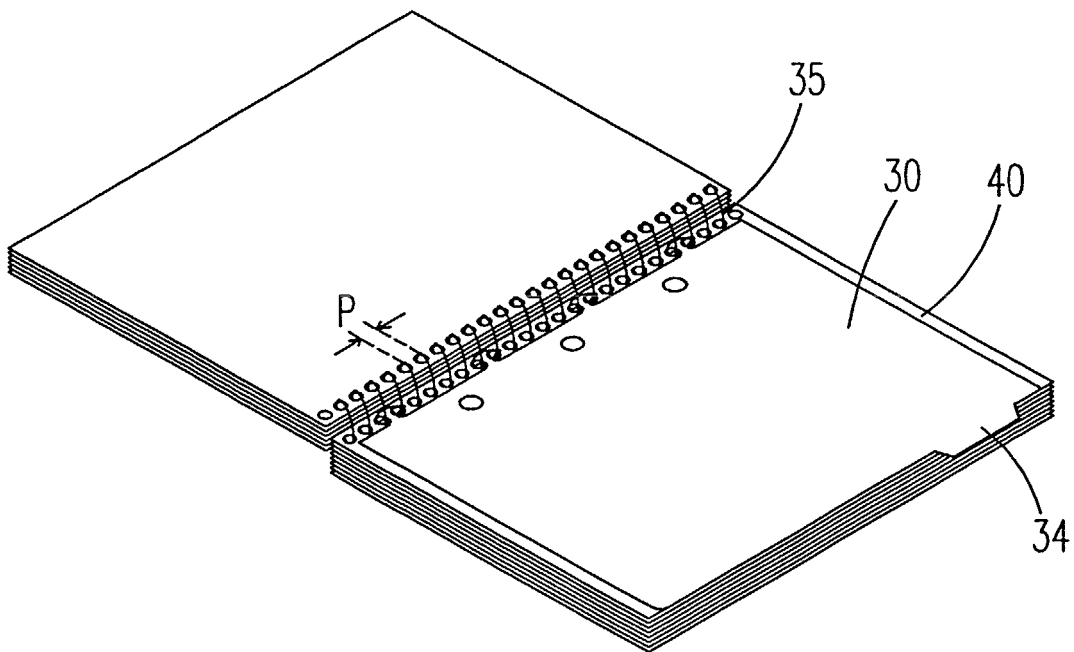


Fig. 2

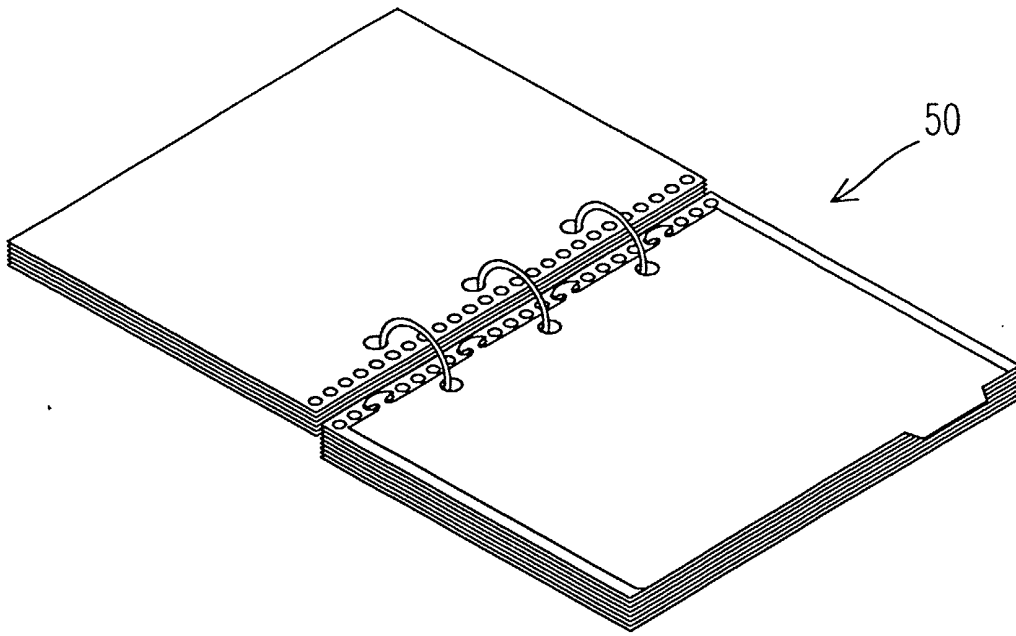


Fig. 3

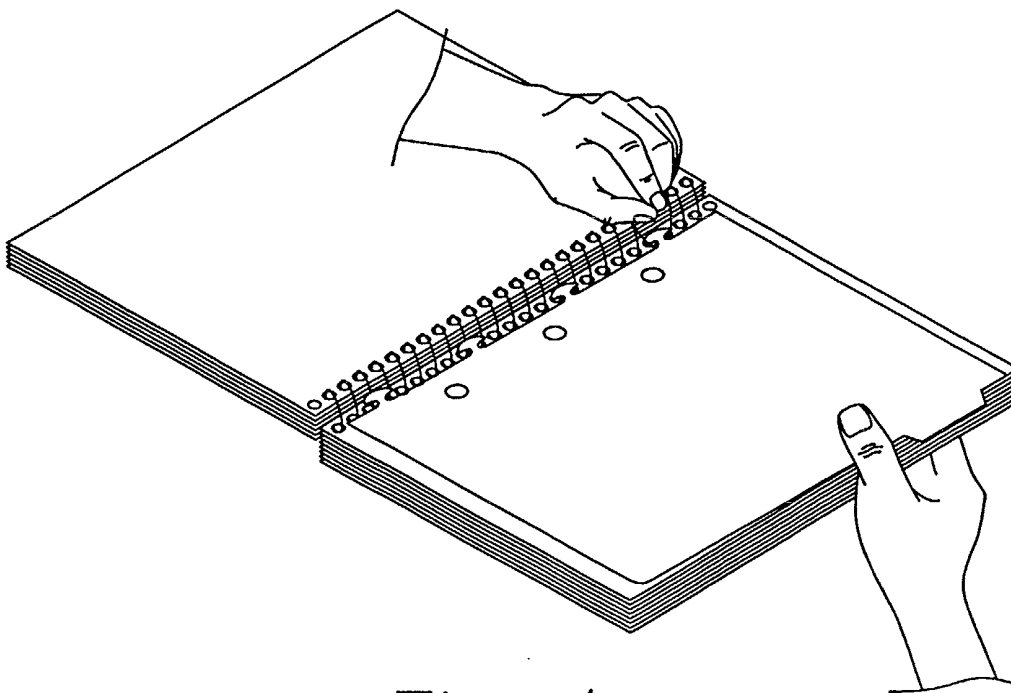


Fig. 4



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 02 25 1963

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
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E	US 6 390 713 B1 (MOOR MARC L ET AL) 21 May 2002 (2002-05-21) * column 1, line 50 - column 4, line 15; figures 1-5 *	1,3-7	
A	FR 2 749 218 A (ROULINA JEAN CLAUDE) 5 December 1997 (1997-12-05) * page 3, line 14 - page 5, line 12; figures 1-3 *	1	
A	US 4 058 327 A (SULLIVAN PETER ET AL) 15 November 1977 (1977-11-15) * column 2, line 38 - line 40; figure 1 *	1	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) B42F B42B B42D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 28 August 2002	Examiner Evans, A
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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