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(54) **Multifunctional clothes hanger**

(57) The assembly end of the clothes hanger is designed as a conical round stick (A), getting thicker in the course of the clothes hanger, which causes it to be universally mountable in current shower head holders and, therefore, fit for use in any bathroom without rigid mounting with separate fittings. As it is mounted without using tools, the clothes hanger may be used by everybody. Furthermore, change of the look of the bathroom by rigidly mounted devices of disfiguring appearance is avoided.

The mounting of the clothes hanger in the shower

head holder will automatically place it in the middle of the shower unit, by means of which the wet clothes, which are hung up to dry, only drip within the shower unit itself and not half-way out on the floor of the bathroom.

The clothes hanger is **characterised in that** it may be used as a shaft for a bathing brush/scratching stick merely by mounting a brush head/"scratching hand" at the outer end (D) of the clothes hanger. The gentle arching of the clothes hanger gives it the design as an ergonomically correct bathing brush.

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Description

Field of application

[0001] The present invention relates to a clothes hanger for indoor drying of wet clothes dripping on the floor. The present clothes hanger is designed in such a way that it may be mounted in all current shower head holders without using tools. On the upper part of the clothes hanger grooves are provided, in which hangers may be hung. The mounting place of the shower head holder causes the clothes hanger to be placed in the middle of the shower unit, by means of which the wet clothes do not drip on the floor of the bathroom, but only within the shower unit itself.

State of the art

[0002] Hand washed clothes, wet rainwear or winter clothes are normally hung up to dry in the shower unit, where it can drip off without water running out onto the floor. But as there are no good solutions for clotheshorses in shower units, the clothes are often hung on a hanger, which is hung onto the rod of the shower curtain, which still causes water to drip onto the floor of the bathroom both to irritation and at the risk of people sliding on the wet floor. Several shower units are also provided with glass doors instead of shower curtains, for which reason it is not even possible to hang hangers on the rod of the shower curtain. Clotheslines may be bought for rigid mounting in the shower unit, but this is often tiresome and often disfiguring to the look of recently repaired bathrooms.

[0003] However, a right-angled drying stick for mounting in the shower head holder is known, having the same properties as the present invention (DE22018322 U1 (NEY FRITZ OTTO PAUL) 22 March 2001). However, this drying stick has not been marketed in Denmark and only has this single function.

Objects achieved by the invention

[0004] Drying clothes in the middle of the shower unit so that water is avoided on the bathroom floor is achieved by the present clothes hanger. At the same time the clothes hanger may be mounted easily and quickly without using tools and may as well easily be removed again. It takes up almost no room and may, therefore, be kept everywhere. It is simply designed and is, therefore, inexpensive to produce and subsequently to acquire and may further be made from different materials and colours. Because of its small size it may easily be brought along on holiday, where there might be a special need for hand washing clothes, which subsequently must drip dry. Because of its universal mounting it may be mounted in the shower head holder in the bathroom in both houses and hotels.

[0005] The drying stick according to the present inven-

tion is **characterised in that** by mounting a bathing brush head at the outer end it may be used as the shaft of a bathing brush, which again minimizes the amount of equipment for the bathroom. With the same principle the clothes hanger may also be used as the shaft of a scratching stick by mounting a "scratching hand". The soft arching of the drying stick after the assembly component in shower head holders, being used as a handle in connection with the mounting of a bathing brush head, causes the shaft of the bathing brush to have an ergonomically correct design.

New technical means

[0006] The new technical means of the clothes hanger are that it is designed in such a way that it fits in all current shower head holders. With its conical round stick form ((A) in Figures 1-6) the clothes hanger has the same dimensions as the part of the hand shower head, which is mounted in the holder on the wall. The conical form causes the clothes hanger to fit in generally speaking all holders despite their possible varying diameter. Thus, the clothes hanger is universal and may be used in all bathrooms and to be mounted/removed easily and without using tools.

[0007] On the upper side of the clothes hanger a number of grooves ((C) in Figures 1-6) is formed, which are used for hanging up hangers. That the clothes are hung up to dry on hangers brings about a quicker drying thereof, as they are unfolded, than when hanging on for example a hook. However, the clothes hanger may also be designed in such a way that the clothes may be hung directly on it without using hangers.

[0008] The arched form and length of the clothes hanger also makes it fitted as the shaft of a bathing brush by mounting a brush head at the outer end ((D) in Figures 1-6) of the clothes hanger. The assembly component for the shower head holder ((A) in Figures 1-6) is now used as a well-formed handle and the subsequent arching of the clothes hanger gives it an ergonomically correct design as a bathing brush, especially when washing the back. The same principle applies in connection with the mounting of a small "scratching hand" instead of the brush head so that the clothes hanger may now be used as a scratching stick.

Technical effect

[0009] By using the present clothes hanger the fittings on the wall of the shower unit, which are to be used to attach the clothes hanger to the wall, viz. the shower head holder, are already available. It is not necessary to change the bathroom and to use tools for mounting. At the same time the clothes hanger will automatically be placed in the middle of the shower unit, for which reason the clothes do not drip out on the floor of the bathroom. Furthermore, the clothes will be hung up to dry on hangers which are hung onto the clothes hanger, which gives

a quicker drying of the clothes and fewer creases in the clothes.

[0010] Furthermore, the clothes hanger may be used as an ergonomically correct bathing brush or scratching stick, merely by mounting a brush head or "scratching hand".

Brief description of the drawings

[0011]

Figure 1 shows a side view of the clothes hanger with the following letter references: A is the universal assembly component for mounting in the shower head holder, B is the shaft of the clothes hanger, C are grooves in the shaft for hangers (as an example four, but the number is not fixed), and D is the end of the shaft for mounting of a bathing brush head or "scratching hand". A-D applies to all Figures 1-6.

Figure 2 shows a bottom view of the clothes hanger

Figure 3 shows a top view of the clothes hanger

Figure 4 shows an oblique side view of the clothes hanger

Figure 5 shows an oblique front view of the clothes hanger

Figure 6 shows an oblique bottom view of the clothes hanger

Embodiments

[0012] Figure 1 shows an embodiment of the clothes hanger. A side view of the clothes hanger is shown and from the left the universal assembly component (A) is shown, being a conically formed round stick, getting thicker inwards in the course of the clothes hanger. This causes it to be pushed down in any shower head holder, where it will become wedged when the diameter of the clothes hanger fits into the diameter of the holder. The clothes hanger is mounted as a hand shower in the holder, accordingly at an angle of 30-60 degrees. Therefore, further on in the course of the clothes hanger an arching is seen, which causes the rest of the clothes hanger (B) to be in a more horizontal course. C indicates a number of grooves in the clothes hanger, which may be used for hanging up hangers with clothes on. At the outer end (D) it is possible to mount a bathing brush head or a "scratching hand" so that the clothes hanger now has the function as a bathing brush or a scratching stick, respectively.

[0013] A three-dimensional prototype is shown on request.

causes the clothes hanger to fit in all current shower head holders irrespective of their diameter. Further on in the course of the clothes hanger a number of grooves/holes/hooks ((C) in Figures 1-6) are provided, being used for hanging up clothes directly or on clothes hangers. The clothes hanger is **characterised in that** a bathing brush head or a "scratching hand" may be mounted at the outer end, by means of which the drying stick may be used as the shaft of a bathing brush or a scratching stick. The arching of the drying stick gives it an ergonomically correct design for the purpose as a bathing brush.

The length of the clothes hanger is variable and, apart from this, so is the form. It may be designed in materials from for example wood, metal to plastic and may be coloured in all imaginable colours.

Claims

1. Multifunctional clothes hanger for drying wet clothes hung up directly or on clothes hangers in the shower unit of the bathroom. The clothes hanger is designed as a conical round stick ((A) in Figures 1-6), which

Figure 1.

Side view of the clothing hanger. **A** is the universal assembly component for mounting in the shower head holder, **B** is the shaft of the clothes hanger, **C** are grooves in the shaft for hangers (as an example four, but the number is not fixed), and **D** is the end of the shaft for mounting a bathing brush head or "scratching hand". A-D applies to all figures.

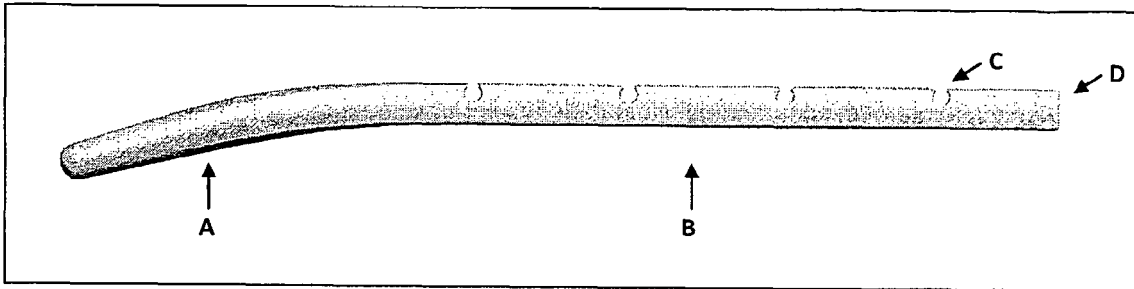


Figure 2.

Bottom view of the clothes hanger.

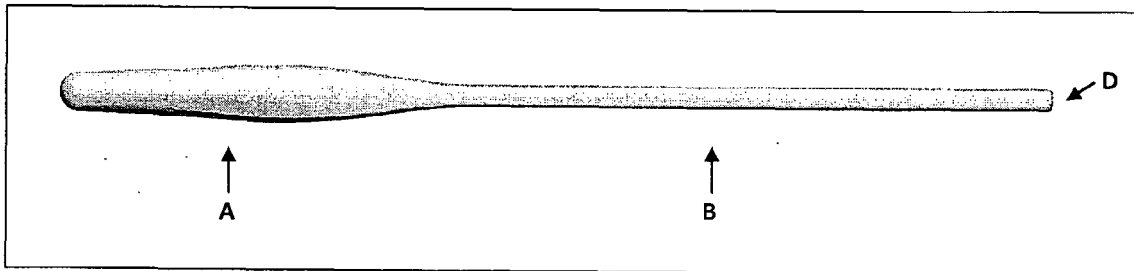


Figure 3.

Top view of the clothes hanger.

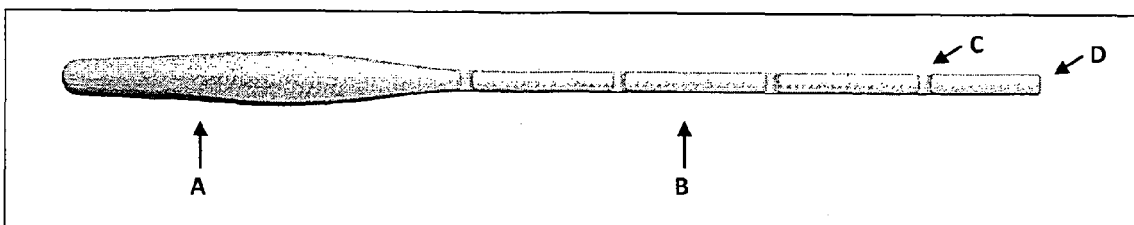


Figure 4.

Oblique side view of the clothes hanger.

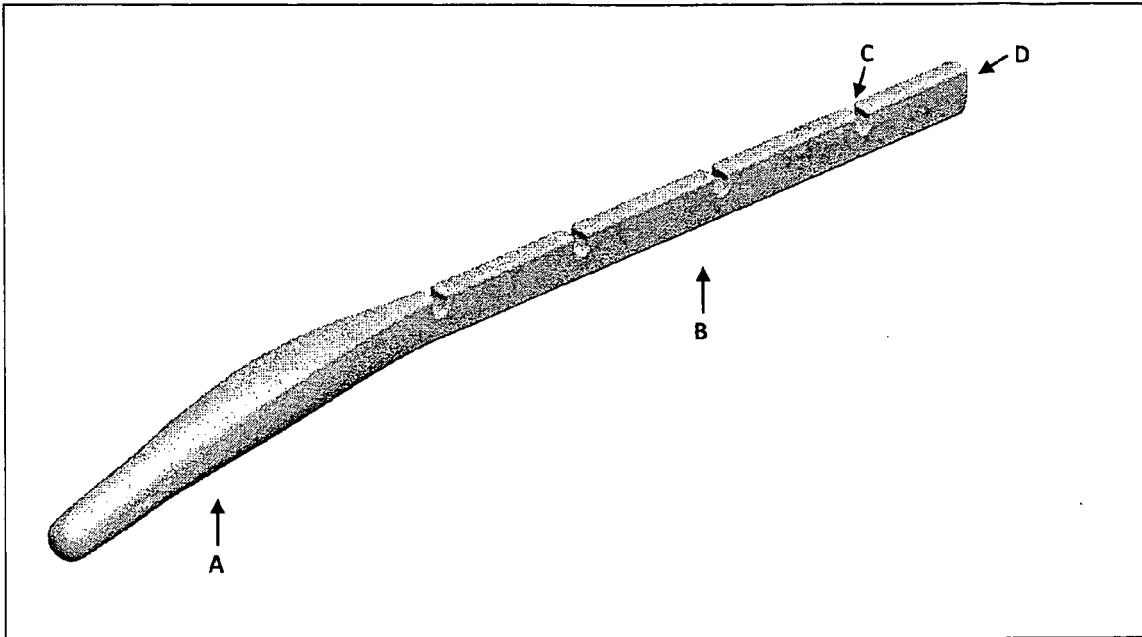


Figure 5.

Oblique front view of the clothes hanger.

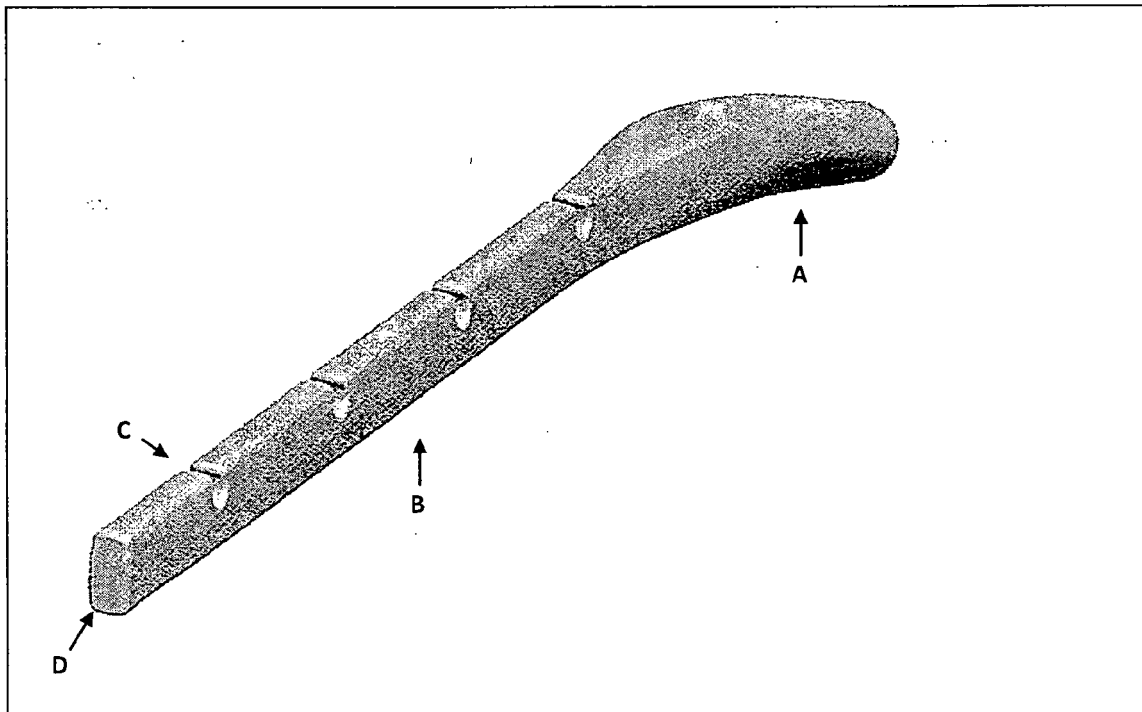
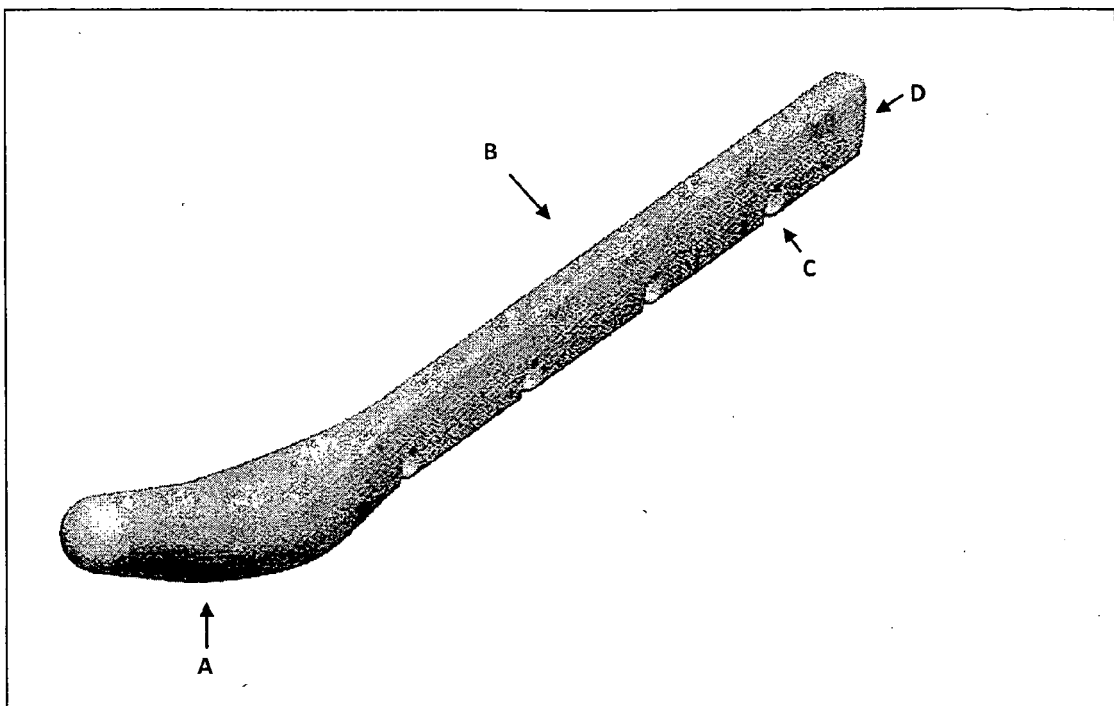


Figure 6.

Oblique bottom view of the clothes hanger.





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 09 17 3527

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	DE 20 2006 010723 U1 (GRAPHIC AUTOMOBIL & DESIGN [DE]) 23 November 2006 (2006-11-23) * paragraphs [0023], [0037], [0040], [0041]; figures *	1	INV. D06F57/12
D,A	DE 200 18 322 U1 (NEY FRITZ OTTO PAUL [DE]) 22 March 2001 (2001-03-22) * the whole document *	1	
A	EP 1 079 031 A (VEITH RUDOLF [DE]) 28 February 2001 (2001-02-28) * the whole document *	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			D06F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 2 February 2010	Examiner Stroppa, Giovanni
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS 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 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			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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02-02-2010

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DE 20018322 U1	22-03-2001	NONE	
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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- DE 22018322 U1, NEY FRITZ OTTO PAUL [0003]