CLAIMS

1. An injection moulded article suitable for strain orientation, the article comprising:

a plurality of first elongate moulded straps formed in a first layer;

a plurality of second elongate moulded straps formed in a second layer, so that at least some of the first elongate straps overlap with at least some of the second elongate straps; and

a plurality of moulded joiner members that are integrally injection moulded with the first elongate straps and with the second elongate straps, and that connect between the first elongate straps and the second elongate straps in the regions in which the first elongate straps and the second elongate straps overlap.

2. An injection moulded article according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the first elongate straps, at least a portion of the second elongate straps, and at least a portion of the joiner members are suitable for strain orientation.

3. An injection moulded article according to claim 2, wherein substantially the entire first elongate straps, substantially the entire second elongate straps, and substantially the entire joiner members are suitable for strain orientation.

4. An injection moulded article according to claim 1, wherein the first elongate straps comprise necked regions adjacent the joiner members, to compensate for a reduction in strain orientation due to the additional material of the joiner members.

5. An injection moulded article according to claim 4, wherein the necked regions are formed by notches or recesses extending into sides of the first elongate straps.

6. An injection moulded article according to claim 5, wherein the notches or recesses are configured such that post-strain orientation, the sides of the first elongate straps are substantially parallel along substantially their entire lengths.

7. An injection moulded article according to claim 4 , wherein the second elongate straps comprise necked regions adjacent the joiner members, to compensate for a reduction in strain orientation due to the additional material of the joiner members.

8. An injection moulded article according to claim 7, wherein the necked regions are formed by notches or recesses extending into sides of the second elongate straps.

9. An injection moulded article according to claim 8, wherein the notches or recesses are configured such that post-strain orientation, the sides of the second elongate straps are substantially parallel along substantially their entire lengths.

10. An injection moulded article according to claim 1, wherein the first elongate straps comprise generally longitudinally extending straps, and wherein the second elongate straps comprise generally transversely extending straps.

11. An injection moulded article according to claim 1, wherein the injection moulded article is substantially flat.

12. An injection moulded article according to claim 1, wherein the injection moulded article is moulded from a resin comprising a thermoplastic polyester elastomer.

13. An injection moulded article according to claim 12, wherein the thermoplastic polyester elastomer comprises a block copolymer.

14. An injection moulded article according to claim 13, wherein the thermoplastic polyester elastomer is a block copolymer of polybutylene terephthalate and polyether.

15. An injection moulded article according to claim 12, wherein the resin is selected such that the injection moulded article has a hardness in the range of about 30D to 55D when tested in accordance with ASTM D2240.

16. An injection moulded article according to claim 1, wherein at least part of the article is capable of being stretched to at least about 400% of an initial dimension without failure, such that strain orientation occurs.

17. A method of assembling a support, comprising:

providing a frame;

providing an injection moulded article according to any one of claims 1 to 16, wherein at least part of the injection moulded article has an as-moulded dimension less than a corresponding dimension of the frame;

stretching said at least part of the injection moulded article so as to have a stretched dimension greater than the corresponding dimension of the frame and such that strain orientation of at least a portion of the first elongate straps and at least a portion of the second elongate straps occurs;

relaxing said at least part of the article so as to have a post-relaxation dimension between the as-moulded dimension and the stretched dimension;

and supporting the article from the frame.

18. A method according to claim 17, wherein the frame comprises an opening that is at least partly bounded by frame members, and the method comprises supporting the article from the frame with part of the article extending across the opening, to form a compliant suspended support surface.

19. A method according to claim 17, wherein the first elongate straps comprise generally longitudinally extending straps, and wherein the second elongate straps comprise generally transversely extending straps.

20. A method according to claim 19, comprising stretching and relaxing the generally longitudinally extending straps before stretching and relaxing the generally transversely extending straps.

21. A method according to claim 19, comprising stretching and relaxing the generally transversely extending straps before stretching and relaxing the generally longitudinally extending straps.

22. A method according to claim 19, comprising stretching and relaxing the generally transversely extending straps concurrently with stretching and relaxing the generally longitudinally extending straps.

23. A method according to claim 17, wherein the step of stretching at least part of the article results in stretching of the joiner members such that strain orientation of the joiner members occurs.

24. A method according to claim 23, wherein the joiner members are strain oriented in both a longitudinal direction and a transverse direction.

25. A method according to claim 17, wherein the first elongate straps comprise necked regions adjacent the joiner members to compensate for a reduction in strain orientation due to the additional material of the joiner members.

26. A method according to claim 25, wherein the necked regions are formed by notches or recesses extending into sides of the first elongate straps, and wherein the sides of the first elongate straps in the relaxed article are substantially parallel along substantially their entire lengths.

27. A method according to claim 25, wherein the second elongate straps comprise necked regions adjacent the joiner members to compensate for a reduction in strain orientation due to the additional material of the joiner members.

28. A method according to claim 27, wherein the necked regions are formed by notches or recesses extending into sides of the second elongate straps in the relaxed article adjacent the joiner members, and wherein the sides of the second elongate straps are substantially parallel along substantially their entire lengths.

29. A back portion for a chair when assembled using the method of claim 17.

30. A seat portion for a chair when assembled using the method of claim 17.