

(21) Application Nos. 48003/76 (22) Filed 18 Nov. 1976 (19)
52983/76 18 Dec. 1976

(23) Complete Specification filed 18 Nov. 1977

(44) Complete Specification published 4 June 1980

(51) INT. CL.⁸ H05B 1/02 A47G 1/00 H08B 3/20

(52) Index at acceptance

H5H 109 111 113 131 211 231 233 250 260 275 AH
A4V 26



(54) IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING TO MIRROR ASSEMBLIES

(71) I, CHARLES KEITH HOY, a British subject of Basement Flat, 2, St. Anne's Road, London, W.11, formerly of 181, Church Street, London N.9, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

According to the present invention, there is provided a mirror assembly incorporating a heating element disposed behind the mirrored surface to heat the mirror to prevent condensation from forming on the mirror, there being a moisture sensing device to control operation of said heating element.

For a better understanding of the invention and to show how the same may be carried into effect, reference will now be made, by way of example, to the accompanying drawing, in which the single Figure is a diagrammatic plan view of mirror assembly.

It is well known that bathroom mirrors, for example, easily mist over when warm water vapour from a bath, for example, condenses on the comparatively cool surface of the mirror.

The present assembly includes a rear holding plate 1, which can be mounted on a wall, and a mirror 2, which can be mounted on the plate 1.

A heating element 3, which can be of an insulated, resistance-wire type, is disposed behind the mirrored surface and, in the present case, it is disposed between the mirror itself and the plate 1. The element 3 is disposed in meander form behind the mirror so that the element extends substantially evenly over the whole area of the mirror 2. The element 3 may be clipped or stuck to the rear plate 1 or to the rear surface of the mirror. In the former case, it is ensured that the mirror 2 contacts the element 3 when the mirror 2 is mounted on the plate 1. The element 3 need only be of a low wattage type, since it is only necessary to heat the glass of the mirror sufficiently to prevent condensation from forming on the mirror.

The assembly can also include illumina-

tion means such as a fluorescent tube mounted in a housing 4 and a razor socket 5.

The heating element 3 may be incorporated in the same electrical circuit as that of the illumination means so that both the heating element 3 and the illumination means can be switched on together by means of a cord switch 6.

The assembly incorporates a moisture sensing device (not shown) for controlling the heating element 3 and, if the illumination means is also provided, then it can be arranged for the heating element 3 to be operable only when the illumination means is switched on.

The holding plate 1 can be formed as a plastics frame, as shown, and can be provided with a decorative and protective cover (not shown) or the mirror assembly can be so formed as to be able to cover all or part of the walls of a room or cabinets in a room. Of course, it would be possible to provide several mirror assemblies which can be mounted adjacent one another to cover a complete wall of a room.

Instead of using a resistance wire, it is envisaged that the mirror could carry a foil or coated electrical heating element behind the mirrored surface.

WHAT I CLAIM IS:—

1. A mirror assembly incorporating a heating element disposed behind the mirrored surface to heat the mirror to prevent condensation from forming on the mirror, there being a moisture sensing device to control operation of said heating element.

2. An assembly as claimed in claim 1 and further comprising illumination means.

3. An assembly as claimed in claim 2, wherein said heating element is in the same electrical circuit as said illumination means so that the heating element and the illumination means are operated together.

4. An assembly as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3 and further comprising a socket for an electric razor.

5. An assembly as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein said heating element is formed from resistance wire.

PATENT SPECIFICATION (11)

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2. An assembly as claimed in claim 1 and further comprising illumination means.

3. An assembly as claimed in claim 2, wherein said heating element is in the same electrical circuit as said illumination means so that the heating element and the illumination means are operated together.

4. An assembly as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3 and further comprising a socket for an electric razor.

5. An assembly as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein said heating element is formed from resistance wire.



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6. An assembly as claimed in claim 5, wherein said wire is sinusously arranged behind the mirrored surface so as to extend substantially evenly over the whole surface area of the mirror.
7. An assembly as claimed in claim 6, wherein said wire is stuck or clipped to the rear surface of the mirror.
8. An assembly as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said heating element is a foil or coated electrical heating element on the rear of the mirror.
9. An assembly as claimed in any one of the preceding claims and further comprising a holding plate upon which said mirror is mountable, said heating element being disposed between the mirror and the plate when the mirror is mounted on the plate.
10. An assembly as claimed in claim 9, wherein said plate is made of plastics material.
11. An assembly as claimed in claim 5 and claim 9 or 10 but not claims 7 and 8,

- wherein said wire is stuck or clipped to said plate.
12. A mirror assembly, substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawing.
13. A wall of a room or a cabinet incorporating a mirror assembly as claimed in any preceding claim.

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Printed for Her Majesty's Stationery Office by Burgess & Son (Abingdon), Ltd.—1980.
Published at The Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London, WC2A 1AY,
from which copies may be obtained.



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