CLAIMS

1. A leg massage device comprising:

a right insertion recess and a left insertion recess, taken as a pair, capable of insertion of user's legs; and

a leg massage mechanism disposed inside the insertion recess to massage an inserted leg,

said leg massage mechanism having a pair of right and left first air bags arranged on an inner wall of the insertion recess, and a pair of right and left second air bags arranged on the inner wall of the insertion recess so as to be located between said paired right and left first air bags,

said paired right and left first air bags being arranged along lateral sides of user's leg inserted in the insertion recess,

said paired right and left second air bags being arranged along a back side of user's leg inserted in the insertion recess,

said second air bags being arranged in a truncated "V" shape so that their forward edges are spaced apart more widely than their rear edges.

2. The leg massage device according to claim 1,

wherein the inner wall of said insertion recess comprises a pair of right and left sidewall parts opposed to each other in a right-left direction, and a bottom-wall part which provides

connection between rear edges of the paired right and left sidewall parts in the right-left direction,

wherein the paired right and left first air bags are arranged on the sidewall parts, respectively, of said insertion recess along a vertical direction,

and wherein the paired right and left second air bags are arranged on the bottom-wall part of said insertion recess along the vertical direction.

3. The leg massage device according to claim 2,

wherein a vertically-extending projected strip portion is disposed between said paired right and left second air bags.

4. The leg massage device according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said second air bag is attached, at its one side, to the bottom-wall part of the insertion recess in a hinge structure, and the paired right and left second air bags are so arranged that hinge portions of said hinge structures thereof face each other in the right-left direction.

5. The leg massage device according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the inner wall of said insertion recess has a protruding wall portion formed so as to protrude forward from a lower part of the insertion recess,

and wherein said protruding wall portion is provided with a pair of right and left third air bags arranged along a front-rear

direction in positions corresponding to user's foot inserted in the insertion recess.

6. The leg massage device according to claim 5, wherein a fourth air bag is disposed between said paired right and left third air bags in a position corresponding to a bottom of user's foot inserted in the insertion recess.

7. A method for controlling a leg massage device according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein said method for controlling a leg massage device is intended to effect inflation and deflation of air bags in accordance with Step A and Step B as set forth hereunder:

(Step A) while keeping the first air bag inflated, air in the second air bag is released for deflation; and

(Step B) while keeping the second air bag inflated, air in the first air bag is released for deflation.

8. A method for controlling a leg massage device according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein said method for controlling a leg massage device is intended to effect inflation and deflation of air bags in accordance with Step 1 to Step 4 as set forth hereunder:

(Step 1) air is admitted into the first air bag and the second air bag to inflate the first air bag and the second air bag;

(Step 2) air is admitted into the first air bag for inflation, and air in the second air bag is released for deflation;

(Step 3) air in the first air bag is released for deflation, and air is admitted into the second air bag for inflation; and

(Step 4) air in the first air bag is released for deflation, and air in the second air bag is released for deflation.

9. The method for controlling a leg massage device according to claim 8, wherein inflation and deflation of the air bags are effected by following (Step 1), (Step 2), (Step 3), (Step 2), and (Step 4) in the order presented, and then returning to (Step 1).

CLAIMS

1. A leg massage device comprising:

a right insertion recess and a left insertion recess, taken as a pair, capable of insertion of user’s legs; and

a leg massage mechanism disposed inside the insertion recess to massage an inserted leg,

said leg massage mechanism having a pair of right and left first air bags arranged on an inner wall of the insertion recess, and a pair of right and left second air bags arranged on the inner wall of the insertion recess so as to be located between said paired right and left first air bags,

said paired right and left first air bags being arranged along lateral sides of user’s leg inserted in the insertion recess,

said paired right and left second air bags being arranged along a back side of user’s leg inserted in the insertion recess,

said paired right and left second air bags being arranged in a truncated “V” shape so that their forward edges are spaced apart more widely than their rear edges.

2. The leg massage device according to claim 1,

wherein the inner wall of said insertion recess comprises a pair of right and left sidewall parts opposed to each other in a right-left direction, and a bottom-wall part which provides connection between rear edges of the paired right and left

sidewall parts in the right-left direction,

wherein the paired right and left first air bags are arranged on the sidewall parts, respectively, of said insertion recess along a vertical direction,

and wherein the paired right and left second air bags are arranged on the bottom-wall part of said insertion recess along the vertical direction.

3. The leg massage device according to claim 2,

wherein a vertically-extending projected strip portion is disposed between said paired right and left second air bags.

4. The leg massage device according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said second air bag is attached, at its one side, to the bottom-wall part of the insertion recess in a hinge structure, and the paired right and left second air bags are so arranged that hinge portions of said hinge structures thereof face each other in the right-left direction.

5. The leg massage device according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the inner wall of said insertion recess has a protruding wall portion formed so as to protrude forward from a lower part of the insertion recess,

and wherein said protruding wall portion is provided with a pair of right and left third air bags arranged along a front-rear direction in positions corresponding to user’s foot inserted

in the insertion recess.

6. The leg massage device according to claim 5, wherein a fourth air bag is disposed between said paired right and left third air bags in a position corresponding to a bottom of user’s foot inserted in the insertion recess.

7. A method for controlling a leg massage device according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein said method for controlling a leg massage device is intended to effect inflation and deflation of air bags in accordance with Step A and Step B as set forth hereunder:

(Step A) while keeping a first air bag inflated, air in a second air bag is released for deflation; and

(Step B) while keeping the second air bag inflated, air in the first air bag is released for deflation.

8. A method for controlling a leg massage device according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein said method for controlling a leg massage device is intended to effect inflation and deflation of air bags in accordance with Step 1 to Step 4 as set forth hereunder:

(Step 1) air is admitted into a first air bag and a second air bag to inflate the first air bag and the second air bag;

(Step 2) air is admitted into the first air bag for inflation, and air in the second air bag is released for deflation;

(Step 3) air in the first air bag is released for deflation, and air is admitted into the second air bag for inflation; and

(Step 4) air in the first air bag is released for deflation, and air in the second air bag is released for deflation.

9. The method for controlling a leg massage device according to claim 8, wherein inflation and deflation of the air bags are effected by following (Step 1), (Step 2), (Step 3), (Step 2), and (Step 4) in the order presented, and then returning to (Step 1).