

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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(21) Application No. 56176/74 (22) Filed 31 Dec. 1974

(44) Complete Specification published 12 Oct. 1977

(51) INT. CL.² A47G 9/00

(52) Index at acceptance

A4M 1D2



(54) IMPROVEMENTS RELATING TO PILLOWS

(71) I, HARUO ISHIZUKA, a Japanese citizen of 2043-19, Bingo, Kasukabe-shi, Saitama-ken, Japan, 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:—

This invention relates to pillows.

A healthy adult may use any pillow to sleep on. However, in the case of a baby sleeping almost all day, or a bed-ridden patient, a pillow moistened with sweat due to the body temperature or to hot weather, if left undried, will become very wet. Even if the cover is often replaced, such a pillow, when in contact with the head for a long time, will soon get wet again, thereby causing prickly heat and other skin irritation on the part of skin contacting the pillow.

When it comes to replacement of the pillow itself to avoid skin irritation, the common practice is to let the wet pillow dry of itself and washing of the whole pillow is seldom carried out. This is because the pillow is in the first place not designed to be wholly washed, and a pillow when wholly washed takes a long time to dry, which is troublesome.

According to the invention there is provided a pillow comprising a resilient body having upper and lower surfaces and enclosed within a cover, the cover, on at least one surface of the body, having an outer surface layer of a first fabric which is water permeable but substantially non-absorbent and an inner layer of an absorbent fabric, the cover on the upper surface and the cover on the lower surface being joined together at a point within the perimeter of the pillow so as to form a hollow.

An embodiment of the invention with now be described by way of example and

with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a first embodiment of a pillow according to the invention, designed for babies; and

Figure 2 is a medial sectional view of the pillow of Fig. 1.

As shown in Figs. 1 and 2, a cover 1 on one surface of the pillow is of pile cloth which carries a nearly circular pattern representing a bear's face. On the other surface is a cover A of about the same shape as the cover 1, which comprises a laminate of an absorbent fabric in the form of an inside gauze 2 and a water-permeable but substantially non-absorbent outer surface layer of fabric 3, made of tricotine. The two fabrics 2 and 3 are sewn together at the perimeter and at the central circle to make them into a single piece. A resilient body 4 of synthetic fibre fills the space between said covers 1 and A, thereby providing a pillow for babies.

The ears 5 of the bear's head are applique work of pile cloth, while the eyes 6, the nose 7 and the mouth 8 are all applique works of felt cloth.

The pillow is used with the cover 1 underneath and the cover A on top, the back of the baby's head resting in the central recess in the cover A. Such use makes it possible to absorb the sweat of a feverish baby in the cover A in which the capillary action of the tricotine 3 takes up sweat from the skin surface, which sweat is then absorbed in the underlying gauze 2. In the case of profuse perspiration which is beyond the absorbing capacity of the gauze 2 the sweat in the over-saturated gauze will be taken up by the mass 4 of synthetic fibres forming the pillow body. In either case any residual sweat on the tricotine 3 in contact with the skin will be evaporated by the baby's body temperature. Thus the contact surface of the

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pillow with the head will be kept dry.

In winter or in the case of a healthy baby when there is no abnormal perspiration the pillow may be used as an ordinary one with the cover 1 on top.

In this embodiment the sweat-absorbing cover A is only provided on one side of the pillow, but such a cover could be provided on both sides if desired.

Even when the perspiration extends over half of the top side of the pillow, the sweat in the pillow cannot transfer to the skin because of the user's body heat as well as the effect of the tricotage contacting the skin which acts as a separator of the skin from the sweat absorbed in the pillow.

Thus in the illustrated pillow the combined effect of the capillary action of the water-permeable fabric, the swift absorption of sweat by the coarse water-absorbent fabric, the great sweat-absorbing capacity of the synthetic fibre body, and the user's body heat always combine to ensure the dry state of the pillow surface. Even if the pillow surface becomes wet with the user's perspiration, it quickly dries out. Thus babies or patients who keep most of the time to their bed, or others who are compelled to keep to their bed for a long period, can be protected from the possibility of being affected with various troubles due to sweating such as skin inflammations.

Since the illustrated pillow consists of a water-permeable fabric, synthetic fibre and a coarse water-absorbent gauze, it can be washed wholly and then dried in a very short time, which is a great convenience.

WHAT I CLAIM IS:

1. A pillow comprising a resilient body having upper and lower surfaces and enclosed within a cover, the cover, on at least one surface of the body, having an outer surface layer of a first fabric which

is water permeable but substantially non-absorbent and an inner layer of an absorbent fabric, the cover on the upper surface and the cover on the lower surface being joined together at a point within the perimeter of the pillow so as to form a hollow.

2. A pillow as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first fabric is a close-knitted fabric.

3. A pillow as claimed in claim 2, wherein said first fabric is tricotine.

4. A pillow as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, wherein said absorbent fabric is gauze.

5. A pillow as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein said resilient body is absorbent.

6. A pillow as claimed in claim 5, wherein said resilient body is made of synthetic fibres.

7. A pillow as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein said cover is formed of the specified fabrics on only one surface of said resilient body.

8. A pillow as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6, wherein said cover is formed of the specified fabrics on both surfaces of said resilient body.

9. A pillow as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the pillow is substantially circular.

10. A pillow as claimed in claim 9, which is formed on one surface to represent an animal's face.

11. A pillow substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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pillow with the head will be kept dry.

In winter or in the case of a healthy baby when there is no abnormal perspiration the pillow may be used as an ordinary one with the cover 1 on top.

In this embodiment the sweat-absorbing cover A is only provided on one side of the pillow, but such a cover could be provided on both sides if desired.

Even when the perspiration extends over half of the top side of the pillow, the sweat in the pillow cannot transfer to the skin because of the user's body heat as well as the effect of the tricotage contacting the skin which acts as a separator of the skin from the sweat absorbed in the pillow.

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Since the illustrated pillow consists of a water-permeable fabric, synthetic fibre and a coarse water-absorbent gauze, it can be washed wholly and then dried in a very short time, which is a great convenience.

WHAT I CLAIM IS:

1. A pillow comprising a resilient body having upper and lower surfaces and enclosed within a cover, the cover, on at least one surface of the body, having an outer surface layer of a first fabric which

is water permeable but substantially non-absorbent and an inner layer of an absorbent fabric, the cover on the upper surface and the cover on the lower surface being joined together at a point within the perimeter of the pillow so as to form a hollow.

2. A pillow as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first fabric is a close-knitted fabric.

3. A pillow as claimed in claim 2, wherein said first fabric is tricotine.

4. A pillow as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, wherein said absorbent fabric is gauze.

5. A pillow as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein said resilient body is absorbent.

6. A pillow as claimed in claim 5, wherein said resilient body is made of synthetic fibres.

7. A pillow as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein said cover is formed of the specified fabrics on only one surface of said resilient body.

8. A pillow as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6, wherein said cover is formed of the specified fabrics on both surfaces of said resilient body.

9. A pillow as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the pillow is substantially circular.

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