

CLAIMS

1. A vacuum cleaning appliance comprising a body having a longitudinal axis, a
5 motor unit located in the body for creating an airflow through the appliance, a handle
having a first end connected to the body and a free, second end, the handle extending
along the longitudinal axis, and a filter assembly detachably connected to the body
proximate to the first end of the handle, the filter assembly defining a bore running
through the filter assembly along the longitudinal axis, the bore being shaped to allow
10 the filter assembly to slide along the handle towards the second end thereof following
detachment from the body.
2. An appliance according to claim 1, wherein the filter assembly is annular in
shape.
- 15 3. An appliance according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein, when connected to the
body, at least part of the filter assembly extends about the handle.
4. An appliance according to any preceding claim, wherein, when connected to the
20 body, at least part of the filter assembly extends about the motor unit.
5. An appliance according to any preceding claim, wherein the handle houses a
battery pack for supplying energy to the motor unit.
- 25 6. An appliance according to claim 5, wherein the battery pack is removable from
the handle.
7. An appliance according to claim 6, wherein the battery pack is removable
through the second end of the handle.

8. An appliance according to any of claims 5 to 7, wherein part of the battery pack protrudes from the second end of the handle.

9. An appliance according to any preceding claim, comprising a user-operable power switch mounted on the handle.

10. An appliance according to claim 9, wherein the power switch is located adjacent the first end of the handle.

10 11. An appliance according to any preceding claim, wherein an external casing of the filter assembly comprises an air outlet of the appliance.

12. An appliance according to claim 11, wherein the air outlet extends at least partially about the longitudinal axis.

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13. An appliance according to claim 11 or claim 12, wherein the air outlet is arranged to emit the airflow in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis.