CLAIMS:

1. A mattress which includes

a base component;

a pillow component attached to an operatively upper surface of the base component, the pillow component comprising

a pillow core in the form of a laminate of layers of materials providing at least two differing degrees of firmness; and

an envelope removably enclosing the core;

a cover removably covering the pillow component, the cover and the base component carrying complementary fastener elements to facilitate removable attachment of the pillow component to the base component; and

an auxiliary firmness-imparting arrangement interposed between the base component and the pillow component, the auxiliary firmness-imparting arrangement being removably attachable to the upper surface of the base component.

2. The mattress of claim 1 in which the auxiliary firmness-imparting arrangement comprises a plurality of strips of resiliently flexible material extending across the base component.

3. The mattress of any one of the preceding claims in which the base component comprises a peripheral wall defining a cavity and a base core received in the cavity, the cavity being closed by a cover member.

4. The mattress of claim 3 in which the cover member is removably attached to the peripheral wall of the base component.

5. The mattress of claim 3 or claim 4 in which the base core comprises an innerspring assembly and in which the cover member comprises a part of the innerspring assembly.

6. The mattress of claim 3 or claim 4 in which the innerspring assembly is free of the cover member so that the cover member is able to move at least laterally relative to the innerspring assembly.

7. The mattress of any one of the preceding claims in which the pillow core comprises a laminate of at least two layers of material, the firmness of the materials differing from each other, the pillow core being removably received in the envelope to be replaced by a different pillow core with a laminate of which at least one layer has a different firmness from the layers of the laminate of the pillow core that has been replaced.

8. The mattress of any one of the preceding claims in which the envelope carries indicia related to the firmness of each laminate of the core.

9. The mattress of claim 8 in which the envelope comprises a pair of panels secured together about their peripheries by a fastener and in which the indicia comprise the panels being of different colours to each other to differentiate the firmness of each of the layers of the laminate of the pillow core contained within the envelope.

10. The mattress of any one of the preceding claims in which the cover covers the pillow component and defines a pair of opposed surfaces, at least one of the surfaces having a heating arrangement associated with it.

11. A mattress which includes

a base component;

a pillow component attached to an operatively upper surface of the base component, the pillow component comprising

a pillow core in the form of a laminate of layers of materials providing at least two differing degrees of firmness; and

an envelope removably enclosing the core; and

an auxiliary firmness-imparting arrangement interposed between the base component and the pillow component, the auxiliary firmness-imparting arrangement being removably attachable to the upper surface of the base component.