Claims

1. A substantially U-shaped travel pillow, comprising:

a first side portion comprising a first inner surface;

a second side portion comprising a second inner surface, said second inner surface facing said first inner surface; and

a rear portion between said first and second side portions, said rear portion comprising a third inner surface and a rear surface;

wherein said rear surface is substantially flat.

2. The pillow of claim 1, wherein said rear portion is thinner than each of said two leg portions.

3. The pillow of claim 1, wherein said pillow defines a base cushion and a raised cushion.

4. The pillow of claim 1, further comprising a filler material between said third inner surface and said rear surface.

5. The pillow of claim 1, wherein said travel pillow is substantially U-shaped such that each of said first and second side portions is approximately at a right angle with said rear portion.

6. The pillow of claim 1, wherein said pillow comprises an adjustment feature such that said first and second side portions may be brought into mutual contact.

7. The pillow of claim 1, further comprising a heating element.

8. The pillow of claim 1, further comprising a removable cover.

9. The pillow of claim 1, wherein at least one of said first and second side portions comprises a pocket.

10. The pillow of claim 1, wherein said rear portion is shaped to define a chin support when said pillow is used in a 180-degrees rotated position.

11. A pillow comprising:

a substantially U-shaped base cushion comprising a base inner peripheral wall, one or more base outer peripheral walls, and a base rear wall; and

a substantially U-shaped raised cushion on a top side of said base cushion, said raised cushion comprising a raised inner peripheral wall, one or more raised outer peripheral walls, and a raised rear wall;

wherein said base rear wall and said raised rear wall are mutually flush and substantially flat.

12. The pillow of claim 11, wherein said raised cushion is integral with said base cushion.

13. The pillow of claim 11, wherein said base inner peripheral wall and said raised inner peripheral wall are mutually flush.

14. The pillow of claim 11, wherein said raised cushion defines two cut-outs in said raised inner peripheral wall.

15. The pillow of claim 11, wherein said raised inner peripheral wall and said raised rear wall collectively at least partially define a raised rear portion;

wherein said raised inner peripheral wall and said one or more raised outer peripheral walls collectively at least partially define one or more raised side portions; and

wherein said raised rear portion is thinner than each of said one or more raised side portions.

16. The pillow of claim 11, wherein said raised cushion is on less than all of said top side of said base cushion.

17. A pillow, comprising:

a substantially U-shaped base cushion comprising a base rear portion and first and second base side portions; and

a substantially U-shaped raised cushion comprising a raised rear portion and first and second raised side portions;

wherein said raised rear portion is thinner than each of said first and second raised side portions.

18. The pillow of claim 17, wherein said base rear portion is thinner than each of said first and second base side portions.

19. The pillow of claim 17, wherein said base rear portion comprises a base rear wall and said raised rear portion comprises a raised rear wall;

wherein said base rear wall and said raised rear wall are mutually flush.

20. The pillow of claim 17, wherein said base rear wall and said raised rear wall are substantially flat.

While several travel pillows exist in the prior art, few provide adequate support for alternative head positions. Furthermore, travel pillows are notorious for forcing the head forward, causing neck strain. Finally, current travel pillows do not adequately support a front position due to the gap of the "U" shape. Therefore, there is a need for a travel pillow that can provide adequate neck support for all head positions without causing undue strain. Furthermore, a need exists for a travel pillow that will not force the head forward in a rearward position. The present invention accomplishes these objectives.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

According to the first aspect, the invention provides a substantially U-shaped travel pillow, comprising: a first side portion comprising a first inner surface; a second side portion comprising a second inner surface, said second inner surface facing said first inner surface; and a rear portion between said first and second side portions, said rear portion comprising a third inner surface and a rear surface; wherein said rear surface is substantially flat.

According to the second aspect, the invention provides a pillow comprising: a substantially U-shaped base cushion comprising a base inner peripheral wall, one or more base outer peripheral walls, and a base rear wall; and a substantially U-shaped raised cushion on a top side of said base cushion, said raised cushion comprising a raised inner peripheral wall, one or more raised outer peripheral walls, and a raised rear wall; wherein said base rear wall and said raised rear wall are mutually flush and substantially flat.

According to the third aspect, the invention provides a pillow, comprising: a substantially U-shaped base cushion comprising a base rear portion and first and second base side portions; and a substantially U-shaped raised cushion comprising a raised rear portion and first and second raised side portions; wherein said raised rear portion is thinner than each of said first and second raised side portions.

The present invention discloses a travel pillow comprising a U-shaped, pliable base cushion with a second U-shaped raised cushion fixed to the top side of the base cushion. The inner peripheral walls of the base and raised cushions are mutually flush, providing a comfortable surface for the neck. Furthermore, the rear walls of the base and raised cushions are mutually flush and substantially flat for better contact with flat surfaces, such as a headrest, seat, or chair. The rear wall of the raised cushion is thinner than each side portion of the raised cushion, providing more liberty to adjust head position by easily adapting to the shape of the headrest, seat or chair. A removable cover is adapted to cover the base and raised cushions.

The cover may further be reversible, where the outside of the cover has a contrasting appearance to the inside of the cover. The pillow is ergonomically designed to fit behind the neck

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Claims

1. A substantially U-shaped travel pillow (10), comprising:

a first side portion comprising a first inner surface (21,31);

a second side portion comprising a second inner surface (21,31), said second inner surface facing said first inner surface; and

a rear portion (37) between said first and second side portions, said rear portion (37) comprising a third inner surface and a rear surface (27,34);

wherein said rear surface (27,34) is substantially flat.

2. The pillow of claim 1, wherein said rear portion (37) is thinner than each of said two side portions.

3. The pillow of claim 1, wherein said pillow (10) defines a base cushion (20) and a raised cushion (30).

4. The pillow of claim 1, further comprising a filler material (110) between said third inner surface and said rear surface (27,34).

5. The pillow of claim 1, wherein said travel pillow (10) is substantially U-shaped such that each of said first and second side portions is approximately at a right angle with said rear portion (37).

6. The pillow of claim 1, wherein said pillow (10) comprises an adjustment feature (70) such that said first and second side portions may be brought into mutual contact.

7. The pillow of claim 1, further comprising a heating element.

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8. The pillow of claim 1, further comprising a removable cover (40).

9. The pillow of claim 1, wherein at least one of said first and second side portions comprises a pocket (100).

10. The pillow of claim 1, wherein said rear portion (37) is shaped to define a chin support (170) when said pillow (10) is used in a 180-degrees rotated position.

11. A pillow (10) comprising:

a substantially U-shaped base cushion (20) comprising a base inner peripheral wall (21), one or more base outer peripheral walls (29), and a base rear wall (27); and

a substantially U-shaped raised cushion (30) on a top side (28) of said base cushion (20), said raised cushion (30) comprising a raised inner peripheral wall (31), one or more raised outer peripheral walls (39), and a raised rear wall (34);

wherein said base rear wall (27) and said raised rear wall (34) are mutually flush and substantially flat.

12. The pillow of claim 11, wherein said raised cushion (30) is integral with said base cushion (20).

13. The pillow of claim 11, wherein said base inner peripheral wall (21) and said raised inner peripheral wall (31) are mutually flush.

14. The pillow of claim 11, wherein said raised cushion (30) defines two cut-outs (90) in said raised inner peripheral wall (31).

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15. The pillow of claim 11, wherein said raised inner peripheral wall (31) and said raised rear wall (34) collectively at least partially define a raised rear portion (37);

wherein said raised inner peripheral wall (31) and said one or more raised outer peripheral walls (39) collectively at least partially define one or more raised side portions (35); and

wherein said raised rear portion (37) is thinner than each of said one or more raised side portions (35).

16. The pillow of claim 11, wherein said raised cushion (30) is on less than all of said top side (28) of said base cushion (20).

17. A pillow (10), comprising:

a substantially U-shaped base cushion (20) comprising a base rear portion and first and second base side portions; and

a substantially U-shaped raised cushion (30) comprising a raised rear portion and first and second raised side portions (35);

wherein said raised rear portion (37) is thinner than each of said first and second raised side portions (35).

18. The pillow of claim 17, wherein said base rear portion is thinner than each of said first and second base side portions.

19. The pillow of claim 17, wherein said base rear portion comprises a base rear wall (27) and said raised rear portion (37) comprises a raised rear wall (34);

wherein said base rear wall (27) and said raised rear wall (34) are mutually flush.

20. The pillow of claim 17, wherein said base rear wall (27) and said raised rear wall (34) are substantially flat.

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