

Description

This invention relates in general to refuse receptacles and in particular to ashtrays.

For smokers in public establishments such as bars, restaurants, hotels, conference centers and offices, it is desirable to have available ashtrays which are lightweight, safe and easy to handle. For those who own and operate such public establishments, the cost and inconvenience of providing and cleaning ashtrays, and the cost of replacing stolen ashtrays frequently inhibit them from providing adequate numbers of ashtrays to meet smoker's needs.

People who enjoy outdoor activities such as camping, fishing, and people who travel in vehicles have also experienced the need for safe and convenient ashtrays. It is thus desirable to provide ashtrays that are easy to use, carry and dispose. Collapsible and disposable ashtrays are particularly desirable.

A number of disposable ashtrays have been proposed. See, for example, U.S. Patent Nos. 1,364,556; 1,430,720; 2,071,394; 2,432,656; 3,342,317; 3,372,724; 3,561,670; and 4,349,036. Of particular interest is patent 2,071,394 to Douglas which discloses an ashtray constructed similarly to a paperbox. A flat piece of material is creased at several places, and end pieces are lapped together and fastened by gluing. When assembled, the ashtray is in a shape of a cup with an inverted triangular cross-section. The ashtray has two legs, one on each side to support the ashtray in an upright position. The ashtray may be folded to make a flat assembly and has cut out holes forming rests for cigarettes. Although compact and generally suitable for its intended purpose, the Douglas ashtray is inherently unstable as it tends to tilt about the inverted-triangular base. The legs only partly overcome this instability since they will tend to fold outward, particularly when a cigarette is placed on the ashtray. To further overcome the instability, a modified design having leg portions with interlocking extension to form a more rigid structure is disclosed. While the latter design cures the instability, it is much less convenient since it requires that the ashtray be assembled. Although the assembly required is minimal, even the simplest assembly will require time and effort by the unfamiliar user. Thus, it would be desirable to provide a foldable ashtray which requires virtually no assembly whatsoever.

U.S. Patent 1,364,556 to Hurff discloses a foldable ashtray having generally the same shape as that of Douglas. An inverted triangular cup is supported by foldable members on two sides which are in turn supported by a flat base formed by foldable sections. Thus, when the base is folded upwards along the center line the two support members for the cup and the cup itself are all folded into a flat package. It is the flat base which prevents the foldable members from collapsing. The need to provide a flat base, however, greatly increases the difficulty of assembling the

ashtray and results in a relatively bulk structure when folded. Moreover, the Hurff ashtray construction requires flexible strip members to serve as the hinge connecting the two sections of the base and a pivoted clip member to keep the whole assembly in position so that the receiver may be expensive to manufacture.

A more relevant disclosure is that to be found in DE-A-2613449, the prior document teaching a collapsible ashtray including a pair of panels and means extending therebetween for expandably securing the same together for movement between opened and closed configurations. The means extending between the panels include pleated sheets which, in the open condition of the ashtray, define a receptacle to receive ashes.

No provision is made in this known structure for satisfactorily receiving and supporting a cigarette or cigar.

The object of the present invention is to provide an ashtray which avoids, in whole or in part, the shortcomings of the above-described prior art.

Summary of the Invention

According to the present invention there is proposed a collapsible ashtray comprising a pair of panels and means extending between the panels for expandably securing the panels together to allow the panels to assume an opened and closed configuration, said means including a pleated sheet having a plurality of pleats which in the opened position defines a receptacle for receiving ashes, characterised in that the pleated sheet further defines a ledge adjacent the receptacle adapted to hold a cigar or cigarette.

The collapsible ashtray of the present invention is particularly convenient to use as it is highly compact when folded, yet is made ready for use by simply pulling apart two side panels. The resulting unfolded structure is very stable and is not prone to collapse during use. Moreover, the ashtray is simple and economic to manufacture, and overcomes the shortcomings of the prior art described above.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of an ashtray in an open or unfolded position illustrating a first embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the ashtray of Fig. 1 in the closed or folded position with the two side panels folded adjacent to each other.

Fig. 3 is a side view of the ashtray of Fig. 1 in the closed or folded position illustrating the different levels of the pleated sheet inside the two side panels.

Fig. 4 is an exploded perspective view of the ashtray of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a side view of an ashtray of the present invention having a fold-over type flap with adhesive for locking purposes.

Fig. 6 is an end view of the ashtray of Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 is a side view of an ashtray of the present invention having a fold-over type flap with a clasp for locking purposes.

Fig. 8 is an end view of the ashtray of Fig. 7.

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of an ashtray of the present invention having a hood positioned over the ash receptacle.

Fig. 10 is a side view of the ashtray of the present invention whose side panel has been modified in shapes desirable for advertising and decoration together with a closure flap with decorative design.

Fig. 11 is a side view of the ashtray of the present invention in the folded or closed position and having two tongue-and-slot fold-over flaps in the unfolded, unlocked position.

Fig. 12 is a side view of the ashtray of Fig. 11 with the slot fold-over flap in the folded position and the tongue fold-over flap in the unfolded position.

Fig. 13 is a perspective view of the ashtray of Figs. 11 and 12 showing the tongue and slot flaps in the folded and nearly locked position.

Fig. 14 is a perspective view of an ashtray of the present invention modified to include perforated fold-over tabs.

Figs. 15-18 illustrate a second embodiment of the foldable ashtray of the present invention where the side panels are not directly joined together.

Description of the Preferred Embodiment

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of an ashtray illustrating a first preferred embodiment of the invention. As shown in Fig. 1, ashtray 20 comprises a folded member 22 which includes two side panels 22a and 22b having a common edge 22c. Folded member 22 is such that the two side panels are moveable towards or away from each other about their common edge 22c. Two adjoining edges 22d, 22e of the two side panels contiguous with the common side 22c are shaped to contact a supporting surface to support the two side panels in upright positions as shown in Fig. 1. The edges 22d and 22e are straight which allows them to be placed on flat supporting surfaces such as table tops or counter tops. Edges 22d and 22e of the panels define the bottom side of the ashtray. The two side panels include and define an angular space 24 between them. Angular space 24 has an apical portion 24' near the common side 22c of the two panels.

Ashtray 20 further includes an inside assembly extending between the two panels 22a and 22b to form the ashtray 20. The inside assembly includes an upper member 32 connected to the opposing faces of the two panels. The upper member is connected to the two panels at such a position so that when the two panels are in the upright positions, the upper member supports cigarette or cigars thereon in substantially horizontal positions. In the preferred embodiment, member 32 itself is substantially horizontal when the two panels are in the upright positions. The upper member, however, is connected to the two panels 22a and 22b at such a position that it is spaced away from the common edge 22c of the panels. Positioned in this manner the lighted ends of

cigars or cigarettes (not shown) may protrude into the apical portion 24' of the angular space between the panels. Ashes (not shown) from such lighted ends will fall through the apical portion towards the bottom side of the ashtray.

Ashtray 20 also includes a lower member 34 connected to the opposing faces of the two panels 22a and 22b to hold ashes and refuse. Usually, ashtray 20 further includes a wall member 36 extending between the opposing faces of the two panels 22a and 22b and the upper and lower members 32 and 34. The wall and lower members 36, 34 are of such shape that they, together with the two panels, form a receptacle to securely contain any ash and refuse on the lower member. The opposing faces of the two panels inside the receptacle, the upper, lower and side members are either made of or lined with a fire resistant material.

The upper, lower and wall members 32, 34, 36 are made of a material which is collapsible when the panels 22a, 22b are folded together so that ashtray 20 is collapsible into a flat compact package as shown in Fig. 15. Conveniently, members may be formed from a single pleated sheet which is folded to define a stepped-structure having a first horizontal segment 32 defining the upper member, a second horizontal segment 34 defining the lower member 34, and a vertical segment 36 defining the wall 36. The pleated sheet 70 and its relation to the folded member 22 is best illustrated in Fig. 4.

From the above description, it will be evident that ashtray 20 offers many advantages not available with conventional ashtrays such as those described above. Thus, it is found that the folded member 22 with the two side panels having a V-shaped cross-section offers strong and adequate support on supporting surfaces such as table or counter tops. The upper member 32 and the two side panels together allow cigars or cigarettes to be supported in substantially horizontal positions. No additional support members are required. In its folded or closed position as shown in Fig. 15, ashtray 20 is compact and may be conveniently slipped or carried in pockets or purses. When the folded or closed ashtray is ready to be used all one has to do is to move the side panels 22a, 22b away from each other to the position shown in Fig. 1 or in Fig. 2. No complicated or time consuming steps are required. This is particularly advantageous since a considerable number of smokers may have lighted a cigarette before getting an ashtray or making it ready for use so that only one hand may be available to manipulate the ashtray. Furthermore, when a user wishes to extinguish a lighted cigarette, cigar or other articles, all that needs to be done is to push the smoldering or burning article onto the lower member 34 and then squeeze the side panels together thereby squashing and snuffing out the smoldering or burning article. In the preferred embodiment the upper, lower and side members are made of a metal foil, such as aluminum or tin foil. The side panels are made of paper and lined

with such a metal foil. Constructed in such manner it has been found that users can snuff out lighted cigarettes or cigars with no safety concerns. Constructed in this manner, the ashtray is inexpensive and is disposable.

In the preferred embodiment the lower member 34 is connected to the two side panels at such a position that it is above the bottom sides 22d, 22e as shown in Fig. 3. With the lower member located in such a manner, smoldering or burning articles on top of lower member 34 are spaced apart from the bottom edge 22d, 22e so that a heat insulating layer of air is spaced therebetween. It has been found that where lower member 34 is so located, the bottom edges 22d and 22e may be held by a user by the palm of his or her hand without causing the user to experience any discomfort.

With minor modifications as described below, ashes and refuse in ashtray 20 may be securely contained for convenient disposal or for transportation in pockets or purses so that the ashtray can be reused. Such minor modifications are illustrated in Figs. 5-9 and Figs. 11-14. Fig. 5 is a side view of the ashtray of Fig. 1 in the folded position modified to include an optional fold-over type flap with adhesive for locking purposes. Fig. 6 is an end view of the ashtray of Fig. 5. As shown in Figs. 5 and 6 side panel 22b is continued upward at its top side 22f into a fold-over flap 42 which has been folded over about the top side 22g of panel 22a to touch and enclose the top portion of side panel 22a. The open position of the flap 42 is shown in phantom in Figs. 5 and 6. The side of flap 42 for contacting side panel 22a is provided with adhesive 44 to glue flap 42 onto side panel 22a so as to prevent ashes or refuse in the ashtray from escaping.

Fig. 7 is a side view of the ashtray of Fig. 1 in the folded position modified to include an optional fold-over type flap with a traditional manila envelope type clasp for locking purposes. Fig. 8 is an end view of the ashtray of Fig. 7. As shown in Figs. 7 and 8, the top side 22f of side panel 22b is again extended upwards to form a fold-over flap 42. The embodiment of Figs. 7 and 8 differ from that of Figs. 5 and 6 in that instead of adhesive 44, flap 42 is provided with a hole 46. On the outside surface of side panel 22a is attached a traditional manila envelope type clasp 48 positioned to be inserted into hole 46 when flap 42 is folded over to contact side panel 22a. After such insertion, clasp 48 is bent over to bind flap 42 to panel 22a as shown in Figs. 7 and 8, thereby securely containing the ashes and refuse inside ashtray 20.

Fig. 9 shows yet another modification to the basic design to the ashtray of Fig. 1 to securely contain ashes and refuse. Instead of a flap, a fluted bellows-type hood 52 is connected to the opposing faces of the two side panels at such position that the hood is above the upper member 32 when the side panels are in the upright positions as shown in Fig. 9. Hood 52 helps to trap smoke inside the ashtray as well as trap the extinguished smoking material or refuse in the

event that the ashtray is closed and returned to a vest pocket, purse, or for safe and sanitary disposal.

Fig. 10 is the side view of the ashtray of Fig. 1 modified to include a decorative design for side panel 22a and an optional decorative flap 42 which is again an extension of side panel 22b. As shown in Fig. 10, the two side panels and the closure flap may be modified to include decorative designs for decoration or advertising purposes.

Fig. 11 is a side view of the ashtray of Fig. 1 in a closed position modified to include two optional tongue-and-slot fold-over flaps in the unfolded, unlocked position. As shown in Fig. 11, side panel 22b is extended in both the top and bottom directions into flaps 62 and 64. Flap 62 includes a tongue portion 62a and slot portion 64 includes a slot 64a. The tongue and slot portions are connected in reference to Figs. 12 and 13 to securely contain the ashes and refuse inside ashtray 20. Fig. 12 is a side view of the ashtray of Fig. 11 with the slot flap folded upwards. Tongue flap 62 remains unfolded. Fig. 13 is a perspective view of the ashtray of Figs. 11 and 12 with both the tongue-and-slot flaps in the folded and nearly locked position. After the two flaps are folded over to their positions as shown in Fig. 13, the tongue or locking portion 62a is then inserted along arrow 66 shown in dotted lines in Fig. 13 through slot 64a to connect the two flaps.

Fig. 14 is a perspective view of the ashtray of Fig. 1 in the folded position modified to include optional perforated fold-over tabs in the unlocked position. Thus, as shown in Fig. 14, the top sides 22f, 22g of the two side panels are both provided with two pairs of fold-over tabs 68a, 68b and 69a, 69b trapezoidal in shape. Each pair of tabs are substantially identical in shape so that they could be folded together over to one side to bind the top sides of the two panels together. One of more pairs of such tabs may be provided. As shown in Fig. 14, each panel has two such tabs.

Fig. 4 is an exploded perspective view of the folded member 22 and the upper, lower and side members, 32, 34, 36 of Fig. 1, illustrating a method of making ashtray 20. As shown in Fig. 16 the upper, lower and side members, 32, 34, 36 may be simply constructed from one sheet of aluminum or tin foil pressed in a conventional manner to form the stepped structure 70 of Fig. 4. Member 22 may be simply constructed from paper lined with aluminum or tin foil on the inside surface 22a' and 22b'. Structure 70 has sides 72 and 74, formed by the adjoining sides of the upper, side and lower members. Sides 72 and 74 are then attached by a conventional means such as gluing to the tin or aluminum lining on the inside surfaces 22a' and 22b' of the two side panels. The manufacture of ashtray 20 is then completed and may be used in the manner described above. Thus, the ashtray of this invention described above is also advantageous because of its simple method of manufacture. The entire ashtray is made of two separate members

each of which is simple and inexpensive to manufacture. The ashtray of this invention is also advantageous in that it is sturdy and retains its shape after being used for a number of times. Hence, while in the preferred embodiment the ashtray is designed to be disposable, it is sturdy enough to withstand repeated usages.

Referring now to Figs. 15-18, a second embodiment 100 of the present invention will be described. The second embodiment 100 is characterized by panels 102 and 104 which are not directly secured or joined to one another. Instead, the panels are joined only by a pleated sheet 106 defining a pair of upper horizontal segments 108, lower horizontal segment 110; and vertical wall segments 112. The construction of the second embodiment 100 is similar to that of the first embodiment 20, where the side panels 102 and 104 are typically made from cardboard lined with a fire-resistant material, such as a metal foil, and the pleated member 106 is formed from a metal foil which may or may not be reinforced with cardboard. The embodiment may employ virtually any of the clasp systems described in conjunction with the first embodiment, as well as other clasp systems.

The above description of method and construction used is merely illustrative thereof and various changes and shapes, sizes, materials, or other details of the method and constructions may be within the scope of the appended claims.

Claims

1. A collapsible ashtray, comprising a pair of panels (22a, 22b) and means (32, 34) extending between the panels (22a, 22b) for expandably securing the panels (22a, 22b) together to allow the panels (22a, 22b) to assume an opened and closed configuration, said means (32, 34) including a pleated sheet having a plurality of pleats which in the opened position defines a receptacle (34) for receiving ashes, characterised in that the pleated sheet further defines a ledge (32) adjacent the receptacle (34) adapted to hold a cigar or cigarette.

2. An ashtray as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pleated sheet (32, 34) is formed from a metal foil and the panels (22a, 22b) are formed from foil-covered cardboard.

3. An ashtray as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the pleated sheet (106) defines two ledges (108), a wall (112) depending from each ledge (108), and a bottom (110) extending between the walls (112).

4. An ashtray as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the panels (22a, 22b) are joined along a common edge (22c) so that the panels (22a, 22b) diverge from said common edge (22c) when separated.

5. An ashtray as claimed in claim 3, wherein the panels (102, 104) are joined only by said pleated sheet (106) so that the panels (102, 104) are generally parallel when separated.

6. A collapsible ashtray as claimed in claim 1,

wherein said pair of panels (22a, 22b) is joined along a common edge (22c) to define a hinge (22c) so that the panels (22a, 22b) may be opened and closed about said hinge (22c); and in that said means (32, 34) extending between the panels (22a, 22b) define a ledge (32) adjacent to and above the receptacle (34) when the ashtray is in an upright position, said ledge (32) being adapted to hold a cigar or cigarette.

7. An ashtray as claimed in claim 6, wherein said pleated sheet (32, 34) has a first horizontal segment (32) defining said ledge (32), a second horizontal segment (34) defining said receptacle (34), and a vertical segment (36) extending between said two horizontal segments (32, 34).

8. A collapsible ashtray as claimed in claim 6, wherein a folded member (22) is formed by said two panels (22a, 22b), wherein two adjoining edges (22d, 22e) of the two panels (22a, 22b) are adapted to support said panels (22a, 22b) on a supporting surface in an upright position; and said means (32, 34) extending between the panels comprises an upper member (32) for supporting cigarettes or cigars in substantially horizontal positions, said upper member (32) being spaced above the adjoining edges (22d, 22e) and remote from the common edge (22c) of the panels (22a, 22b); and a lower member (34) proximate the common edge (22c), at least a portion of said lower member (34) being at a lower elevation than the upper member (32) when the two panels (22a, 22b) are in the upright position.

9. An ashtray as claimed in claim 8, further including a wall member (36) extending between the two panels (22a, 22b) and the upper and lower members (32, 34), wherein the wall and lower members (36, 34) together with the two panels (22a, 22b) define a receptacle (34) to receive ash and refuse.

10. The ashtray as claimed in claim 9, wherein the upper (32), lower (34) and wall (36) members are pleated so that they are collapsible when folded and so that the entire ashtray (20) is collapsible into a substantially flat package when the two panels (22a, 22b) are folded towards each other about their common edge (22c).

Patentansprüche

1. Zusammenklappbarer Aschenbecher mit einem Plattenpaar (22a, 22b) und einem sich zwischen den Platten (22a, 22b) erstreckenden Verbindungsteil (32, 34), das die Platten (22a, 22b) zum Erreichen einer geöffneten und einer geschlossenen Anordnung expandierbar verbindet und eine gefaltete Lamelle aufweist, die in der Öffnungsstellung einen Behälter (34) für Asche bildet, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die Lamelle außerdem einen an den Behälter (34) angrenzenden Randbereich (32) zur Aufnahme einer Zigarre oder Zigarette bildet.

2. Aschenbecher nach Anspruch 1, bei dem die Lamelle (32, 34) aus einer Metallfolie besteht.

3. Aschenbecher nach Anspruch 1 oder 2, bei dem die gefaltete Lamelle (106) zwei Randberei-

each of which is simple and inexpensive to manufacture. The ashtray of this invention is also advantageous in that it is sturdy and retains its shape after being used for a number of times. Hence, while in the preferred embodiment the ashtray is designed to be disposable, it is sturdy enough to withstand repeated usages.

Referring now to Figs. 15-18, a second embodiment 100 of the present invention will be described. The second embodiment 100 is characterized by panels 102 and 104 which are not directly secured or joined to one another. Instead, the panels are joined only by a pleated sheet 106 defining a pair of upper horizontal segments 108, lower horizontal segment 110, and vertical wall segments 112. The construction of the second embodiment 100 is similar to that of the first embodiment 20, where the side panels 102 and 104 are typically made from cardboard lined with a fire-resistant material, such as a metal foil, and the pleated member 106 is formed from a metal foil which may or may not be reinforced with cardboard. The embodiment may employ virtually any of the clasp systems described in conjunction with the first embodiment, as well as other clasp systems.

The above description of method and construction used is merely illustrative thereof and various changes and shapes, sizes, materials, or other details of the method and constructions may be within the scope of the appended claims.

Claims

1. A collapsible ashtray, comprising a pair of panels (22a, 22b) and means (32, 34) extending between the panels (22a, 22b) for expandably securing the panels (22a, 22b) together to allow the panels (22a, 22b) to assume an opened and closed configuration, said means (32, 34) including a pleated sheet having a plurality of pleats which in the opened position defines a receptacle (34) for receiving ashes, characterised in that the pleated sheet further defines a ledge (32) adjacent the receptacle (34) adapted to hold a cigar or cigarette.

2. An ashtray as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pleated sheet (32, 34) is formed from a metal foil and the panels (22a, 22b) are formed from foil-covered cardboard.

3. An ashtray as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the pleated sheet (106) defines two ledges (108), a wall (112) depending from each ledge (108), and a bottom (110) extending between the walls (112).

4. An ashtray as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the panels (22a, 22b) are joined along a common edge (22c) so that the panels (22a, 22b) diverge from said common edge (22c) when separated.

5. An ashtray as claimed in claim 3, wherein the panels (102, 104) are joined only by said pleated sheet (106) so that the panels (102, 104) are generally parallel when separated.

6. A collapsible ashtray as claimed in claim 1,

wherein said pair of panels (22a, 22b) is joined along a common edge (22c) to define a hinge (22c) so that the panels (22a, 22b) may be opened and closed about said hinge (22c); and in that said means (32, 34) extending between the panels (22a, 22b) define a ledge (32) adjacent to and above the receptacle (34) when the ashtray is in an upright position, said ledge (32) being adapted to hold a cigar or cigarette.

7. An ashtray as claimed in claim 6, wherein said pleated sheet (32, 34) has a first horizontal segment (32) defining said ledge (32), a second horizontal segment (34) defining said receptacle (34), and a vertical segment (36) extending between said two horizontal segments (32, 34).

8. A collapsible ashtray as claimed in claim 6, wherein a folded member (22) is formed by said two panels (22a, 22b), wherein two adjoining edges (22d, 22e) of the two panels (22a, 22b) are adapted to support said panels (22a, 22b) on a supporting surface in an upright position; and said means (32, 34) extending between the panels comprises an upper member (32) for supporting cigarettes or cigars in substantially horizontal positions, said upper member (32) being spaced above the adjoining edges (22d, 22e) and remote from the common edge (22c) of the panels (22a, 22b); and a lower member (34) proximate the common edge (22c), at least a portion of said lower member (34) being at a lower elevation than the upper member (32) when the two panels (22a, 22b) are in the upright position.

9. An ashtray as claimed in claim 8, further including a wall member (36) extending between the two panels (22a, 22b) and the upper and lower members (32, 34), wherein the wall and lower members (36, 34) together with the two panels (22a, 22b) define a receptacle (34) to receive ash and refuse.

10. The ashtray as claimed in claim 9, wherein the upper (32), lower (34) and wall (36) members are pleated so that they are collapsible when folded and so that the entire ashtray (20) is collapsible into a substantially flat package when the two panels (22a, 22b) are folded towards each other about their common edge (22c).

Patentansprüche

1. Zusammenklappbarer Aschenbecher mit einem Plattenpaar (22a, 22b) und einem sich zwischen den Platten (22a, 22b) erstreckenden Verbindungsteil (32, 34), das die Platten (22a, 22b) zum Erreichen einer geöffneten und einer geschlossenen Anordnung expandierbar verbindet und eine gefaltete Lamelle aufweist, die in der Öffnungsstellung einen Behälter (34) für Asche bildet, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die Lamelle außerdem einen an den Behälter (34) angrenzenden Randbereich (32) zur Aufnahme einer Zigarre oder Zigarette bildet.

2. Aschenbecher nach Anspruch 1, bei dem die Lamelle (32, 34) aus einer Metallfolie besteht.

3. Aschenbecher nach Anspruch 1 oder 2, bei dem die gefaltete Lamelle (106) zwei Randberei-



che (108) mit je einer nach unten gerichteten Wand (112) sowie einem zwischen den Wänden (112) befindlichen Boden (110) bildet.

4. Aschenbecher nach Anspruch 1 oder 2, bei dem die Platten (22a, 22b) längs einer gemeinsamen Kante (22c) verbunden sind, von der aus die Platten (22a, 22b) in der Öffnungsstellung divergieren.

5. Aschenbecher nach Anspruch 3, bei dem die Platten (102, 104) nur durch die gefaltete Lamelle (106) verbunden sind, so daß sie in der Öffnungsstellung im wesentlichen parallel zueinander ausgerichtet sind.

6. Zusammenklappbarer Aschenbecher nach Anspruch 1, bei dem die beiden Platten (22a, 22b) längs einer gemeinsamen Kante (22c) verbunden sind und ein Gelenk bilden, so daß die Platten (22a, 22b) durch Schwenken um das Gelenk (22c) geöffnet und geschlossen werden können, und daß das Verbindungsteil (32, 34) zwischen den Platten in aufrechter Stellung des Aschenbechers einen höher als der Behälter (34) liegenden und an ihn angrenzenden Randbereich (32) bildet, der zur Aufnahme einer Zigarre oder Zigarette geeignet ist.

7. Aschenbecher nach Anspruch 6, bei dem die gefaltete Lamelle (32, 34) ein horizontales, den Randbereich bildendes Segment (32), ein weiteres horizontales, den Behälter (34) bildendes Segment und ein vertikales Segment (36) bildet, das sich zwischen den beiden horizontalen Segmenten (32, 34) erstreckt.

8. Zusammenklappbarer Aschenbecher nach Anspruch 6, bei dem die beiden Platten (22a, 22b) eine klappbare Einheit (22) bilden, wobei zwei benachbarte Kanten (22d, 22e) der beiden Platten (22a, 22b) so ausgebildet sind, daß sie die Platten (22a, 22b) auf einer Tragfläche in aufrechter Lage halten, und daß das zwischen den Platten befindliche Verbindungsteil (32, 34) ein oberes, die Zigaretten oder Zigarren in im wesentlichen horizontaler Lage haltendes Teil (32) aufweist, das mit Höhenabstand von den benachbarten Aufstandskanten (22d, 22e) und entfernt von der gemeinsamen Kante (22c) der beiden Platten (22a, 22b) liegt, und daß das Verbindungsteil (32, 34) außerdem ein unteres, nahe der gemeinsamen Kante (22c) der Platten liegendes Teil (34) aufweist, das bei aufrechter Stellung der beiden Platten (22a, 22b) mindestens teilweise tiefer liegt als das obere Teil (32).

9. Aschenbecher nach Anspruch 8, bei dem außerdem ein zwischen den beiden Platten (22a, 22b) und dem oberen und dem unteren Teil (32, 34) des Verbindungsteiles liegendes Wandteil (36) vorgesehen ist, wobei das Wandteil und untere Teile (36, 34) zusammen mit den beiden Platten (22a, 22b) einen Behälter (34) zur Aufnahme von Asche und Abfall bilden.

10. Aschenbecher nach Anspruch 9, bei dem das obere Teil (32), das untere Teil (34) und das Wandteil (36) derart gefaltet sind, daß sie zusammenfaltbar sind und der gesamte Aschenbecher (20) zu einem im wesentlichen flachen Etui zusammengeklappt werden kann, indem die bei-

den Platten (22a, 22b) gegeneinander um ihre gemeinsame Kante (22c) geklappt werden.

Revendications

1. Cendrier pliant comportant deux panneaux (22a, 22b) et des moyens (32, 34) s'étendant entre les panneaux (22a, 22b) pour relier de façon extensible les panneaux (22a, 22b) l'un à l'autre afin de permettre aux panneaux (22a, 22b) d'adapter une configuration ouverte et une configuration fermée, lesdits moyens (32, 34) comprenant une feuille munie de plusieurs plis qui dans sa position ouverte définit:

un récipient (34) destiné à recevoir des cendres, caractérisé en ce que la feuille munie de plis définit en outre:

un rebord (32) contigu au récipient (34) et adapté pour supporter un cigare ou une cigarette.

2. Cendrier suivant la revendication 1, dans lequel la feuille munie de plis (32, 34) est constituée par une feuille métallique.

3. Cendrier suivant la revendication 1 ou 2, dans lequel la feuille munie de plis (106) définit deux rebords (108), une paroi (112) suspendue à chaque rebord (108), et un fond (110) s'étendant entre les parois (112).

4. Cendrier suivant la revendication 1 ou 2, dans lequel les panneaux (22a, 22b) sont joints le long d'un bord commun (22c) de manière que les panneaux (22a, 22b) divergent à partir dudit bord commun (22c) lorsqu'ils sont séparés.

5. Cendrier suivant la revendication 3, dans lequel les panneaux (102, 104) sont joints exclusivement par ladite feuille munie de plis (106) de manière que les panneaux (102, 104) sont généralement parallèles lorsqu'ils sont séparés.

6. Cendrier pliant suivant la revendication 1, dans lequel lesdits deux panneaux (22a, 22b) sont joints le long d'un bord commun (22c) afin de définir une articulation (22c) de manière que les panneaux (22a, 22b) puissent être ouverts et fermés autour de ladite articulation (22c) et lesdits moyens (32, 34) s'étendant entre les panneaux (22a, 22b) définissent un rebord (32) contigu au récipient (34) et se trouvant au-dessus de celui-ci lorsque le cendrier est dans une position verticale, ledit rebord (32) étant adapté pour supporter un cigare ou une cigarette.

7. Cendrier suivant la revendication 6, dans lequel ladite feuille munie de plis (32, 34) est pourvue d'une première portion horizontale (32) définissant ledit rebord (32), une seconde portion horizontale (34) définissant ledit récipient (34), et une portion verticale (36) s'étendant entre lesdites deux portions horizontales (32, 34).

8. Cendrier pliant suivant la revendication 6, dans lequel un élément plié (22) est formé par lesdits deux panneaux (22a, 22b), deux bords contigus (22d, 22e) des deux panneaux (22a, 22b) étant adaptés pour supporter lesdits panneaux (22a, 22b) sur une surface de support dans une position verticale, lesdits moyens (32, 34) s'étendant entre les panneaux comprenant un élément supérieur (32) destiné à supporter des cigarettes

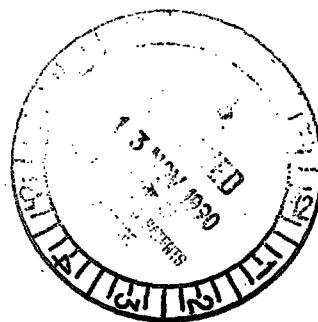


ou des cigares dans des positions pratiquement horizontales, ledit élément supérieur (32) étant disposé au-dessus des bords contigus (22d, 22e) séparé du bord commun (22c) des panneaux (22a, 22b), et un élément inférieur (34) à proximité du bord commun (22c), au moins une portion dudit élément inférieur (34) étant disposé plus bas que l'élément supérieur (32) lorsque les deux panneaux (22a, 22b) sont dans une position verticale.

9. Cendrier suivant la revendication 8, comprenant en outre un élément de paroi (36) s'étendant entre les deux panneaux (22a, 22b) et les éléments supérieur et inférieur (32, 34), dans lequel

l'élément de paroi et l'élément inférieur (36, 34) définissent ensemble avec les deux panneaux (22a, 22b) un récipient (34) destiné à recevoir cendre et déchets.

10. Cendrier suivant la revendication 9, dans lequel les éléments supérieur et inférieur (32, 34) ainsi que l'élément de paroi (36) sont munis de plis de manière qu'ils soient repliables lorsqu'ils sont pliés et de manière que le cendrier (20) dans son ensemble soit pliant dans une configuration pratiquement plate lorsque les deux panneaux (22a, 22b) sont rapprochés l'un vers l'autre autour de leur bord commun (22c).



* C L H S *