

COFFEE MAKER

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The invention relates to a coffee maker comprising a housing, a reservoir for water, a filter device and a flow heater for heating water from the reservoir and feeding it to the filter device, the housing comprising a platform and a wall which extends upwardly from the platform and is surmounted by the reservoir.

Such a coffee maker is disclosed in Dutch Patent Specification 8200176. In this known coffee maker the flow heater is U-shaped and is arranged around the filter device in the housing and the water reservoir is mounted on the top of the housing.

The invention aims to provide a coffee maker which is easier to assemble than the known coffee maker.

According to the invention there is provided a coffee maker comprising a housing, a reservoir for water, a filter device, and a flow heater for heating water from the reservoir and feeding it to the filter device, the housing comprising a platform and a wall which extends upwardly from the platform and is surmounted by the reservoir, wherein the housing and the reservoir are formed integrally with one another from a plastics material and the flow heater is secured to the rear side of the upright housing wall.

This construction considerably simplifies the assembly of the appliance and thereby reduces the manufacturing costs. The flow-heater unit, with electrical connections and wiring, can be manufactured, assembled and tested separately. Subsequently, the unit can be easily mounted against the rear side of the upright housing wall, after which the coffee maker is closed at the rear by a rear cover.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention the reservoir is substantially U-shaped in plan view and the filter device is accommodated between the limbs of the U. This results in a reduced overall height of the coffee maker.

An embodiment of the invention will now be described in more detail, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a coffee maker constructed in accordance with the invention,

Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the coffee maker of Fig. 1 with the rear cover removed and

Fig. 3 is a sectional plan view of the coffee maker taken on the line III-III in Fig. 1.

5 The coffee maker shown in the drawing comprises a housing 1 which comprises a horizontal base platform 2 and a wall 3 which extends upwardly from the platform perpendicularly thereto and on the top of which a reservoir 4 for water is supported. In accordance with the in-
10 vention the housing 1 and the water reservoir 4 are formed integrally with one another from a plastics materials. A flow heater 5 is secured to the rear side of the upright housing wall 3. The flow heater heats water from the reservoir and feeds it to a filter device 6.

15 The flow heater 5 comprises an aluminium casting 7 in which a water duct 8 is formed and in which a heating element 9 is mounted. The casting 8 is secured to a bracket 10. For this purpose lugs 11 and 12 are partly blanked out of the bracket and are subsequently bent up.
20 By means of these lugs the casting 7 is secured to the bracket. A thermal cut-out 13 is secured to the casting 7 so as to be in good thermally conductive contact therewith. An electrically insulated support 14 carrying electrical connection terminals 15 is secured to the bracket 10. When
25 assembled, the flow heater 5, including the electrical wiring and two flexible connecting tubes 16 and 17 connected to the ends of the water duct 8, can be mounted in the coffee maker as one unit. To mount the flow heater assembly the connecting tubes 16 and 17 are slid onto the ends of
30 an outlet pipe 18 from the reservoir 4 and an inlet pipe 19 to the filter device 6 respectively, after which the bracket 10 is secured to threaded posts 20 on the upright housing wall 3. The posts also serve for attaching a rear cover 21 of the coffee maker (see Fig. 1). This method of
35 mounting is very simple and minimizes the manufacturing costs. A plate 22 is arranged between the flow heater 5 and the upright housing wall 3 to shield the upright housing wall from the live parts in view of fire security.

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As can be seen in Fig. 3, the reservoir 4 is U-shaped in plan view and the filter device 6 is accommodated between the limbs 23 and 24 of the U. Thus, the overall height of the present coffee maker is reduced in comparison with known coffee makers, in which the water reservoir is arranged on or adjacent the top of the filter device. The filter device comprises a filter-tray holder 25 which can be slid into the housing between the limbs of the water reservoir and which can hold a filter tray 26. The filter-tray holder comprises two discharge openings 27 and 28 which are situated at a distance from each other such that as desired one cup may be placed beneath the two discharge openings or two cups may be placed adjacent one another, one beneath each discharge opening.

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CLAIMS:

1. A coffee maker comprising a housing, a reservoir for water, a filter device, and a flow heater for heating water from the reservoir and feeding it to the filter device, the housing comprising a platform and a wall which
5 extends upwardly from the platform and is surmounted by the reservoir, wherein the housing and the reservoir are formed integrally with one another from a plastics material and the flow heater is secured to the rear side of the upright housing wall.
- 10 2. A coffee maker as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the reservoir is substantially U-shaped in plan view and the filter device is accommodated between the limbs of the U.
- 15 3. A coffee maker substantially as herein described with reference to the accompanying drawings.
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