CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A container comprising:

a tub having an opening flange defining the opening of the tub, at least one collar mating protrusion extending from and located about the upper portion of the tub, and an anti-rotation element;

a collar having at least one aperture designed to engage the at least one protrusion of the tub thereby securing the collar to the tub;

a latch hingedly connected to the collar having a lid engaging flange; and

a lid hingedly attached to the collar having a latch engagement portion comprising an engagement recess, wherein the lid engaging flange of the latch securely engages the engagement recess of the lid when the container is closed.

2. The container of claim 1, wherein the tub comprises a plurality of collar mating protrusions and the collar comprises a plurality of apertures.

3. The container of claim 1, wherein the at least one protrusion further comprises a collar mating surface and the at least one aperture of the collar further comprises a tub mating surface such that the engagement of the collar mating surface to the tub mating surface securely attaches the collar to the tub.

4. The container of claim 1, further comprising a gasket.

5. The container of claim 5, wherein the collar comprises an outer sealing wall having one end in contact with the tub to create a sealing area C2 between the collar and the tub; and wherein the lid further comprises an outer sealing wall, a second lid sealing wall and an inner sealing wall, wherein one end of the outer sealing wall engages the collar thereby creating a seal C3 between the lid and collar, one end of the second lid sealing wall engages at least one surface of the gasket thereby creating a seal C4 between the lid and gasket, and at least one end of the inner sealing wall engages the opening flange of the tub thereby creating a seal C5 between the lid and tub.

6. The container of claim 1, further comprising a sealable membrane.

7. The container of claim 6, wherein the sealable membrane further comprises a tab to facilitate removal of the sealable membrane from the container.

8. The container of claim 1, further comprising a scoop.

9. A container comprising:

a tub having an opening flange defining the opening of the tub, at least one collar mating protrusion located in the upper portion of the tub, and a base having a recessed center portion;

a collar having at least one aperture designed to engage the at least one protrusion of the tub thereby securing the collar to the tub;
a lid hingedly attached to the collar having a top surface and an outer sealing wall; and
a latch attached to the collar designed to sealing engage the lid;
wherein the lid further comprises a raised center portion complimentary to the recessed center portion of the base, such that multiple containers may be stacked on top of one another.

10. The container of claim 9, wherein the lid is hingedly attached to the collar and further comprises a latch that is integrally molded to the collar.
11. The container of claim 9, wherein the lid further comprises a latch engagement recess portion comprising a first recess located on the top surface of the lid and second recess located on the outer sealing wall of the lid, wherein the first and second recess are designed to sealingly accommodate the latch.
12. The container of claim 11, wherein the latch engagement recess of the lid further comprises an engagement recess and the latch comprises a lid engaging flange that securely engages the engagement recess of the lid and makes an audible sealing noise when the latch is secured to the lid.
13. The container of claim 9, wherein the collar further comprises a gasket.
14. The container of claim 13, wherein the collar comprises an outer sealing wall having one end in contact with the tub to create a sealing area C2 between the collar and the tub; and wherein the lid further comprises an outer sealing wall, a second lid sealing wall and an inner sealing wall, wherein one end of the outer sealing wall engages the collar thereby creating a seal C3 between the lid and collar, one end of the second lid sealing wall engages at least one surface of the gasket thereby creating a seal C4 between the lid and gasket, and at least one end of the inner sealing wall engages the opening flange of the tub thereby creating a seal C5 between the lid and tub.
15. The container of claim 14, wherein the container further comprises a sealable membrane releaseably adhered to the opening flange of the tub, wherein the sealable membrane further comprises a tab extending beyond opening flange of the tub such that the tab can facilitate removal of the sealable membrane from the container.
16. The container of claim 15, wherein the tab is designed such that it is not depressed between sealing region C4.
17. A container comprising:

a tub having an opening flange defining the opening of the tub, at least one collar mating protrusion located in the upper portion of the tub, and a base having a recessed center portion;

a collar having at least one aperture designed to engage the at least one protrusion of the tub thereby securing the collar to the tub;

a lid hingedly attached to the collar having a top surface and an outer sealing wall, wherein the top surface comprises a raised center portion; and

a latch attached to the collar designed to sealing engage the lid.

18. The container of claim 17, wherein the container further comprises a scoop comprising a handle and a bowl, wherein the bowl has a radius R'.

19. The container of claim 17, wherein the lid further comprises a utensil attachment element wherein the utensil attachment element comprises at least one flexible tab extending from the raised center of the lid towards the interior of the container.

20. The container of claim 17, wherein the base of the container comprises a circumferential channel having a radius R and wherein the radius R' of the bowl is equal to or smaller than the radius R' of the circumferential channel such that the bowl of the scoop fits within the circumferential channel.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A container comprising:

a tub having an opening flange defining the opening of the tub, at least one collar mating protrusion extending from and located about the upper portion of the tub, and an anti-rotation element;

a collar having at least one aperture designed to engage the at least one protrusion of the tub thereby securing the collar to the tub;

a latch hingedly connected to the collar having a lid engaging flange; and

a lid hingedly attached to the collar having a latch engagement portion comprising an engagement recess, wherein the lid engaging flange of the latch securely engages the engagement recess of the lid when the container is closed;

wherein the collar comprises an outer sealing wall having one end in contact with the tub to create a sealing area C2 between the collar and the tub; and

wherein the lid further comprises an outer sealing wall, a second lid sealing wall and an inner sealing wall, wherein one end of the outer sealing wall engages the collar thereby creating a seal C3 between the lid and collar, one end of the second lid sealing wall engages at least one surface of the gasket thereby creating a seal C4 between the lid and gasket, and at least one end of the inner sealing wall engages the opening flange of the tub thereby creating a seal C5 between the lid and tub.

2. The container of claim 1, wherein the tub comprises a plurality of collar mating protrusions and the collar comprises a plurality of apertures.

3. The container of claim 1, wherein the at least one protrusion further comprises a collar mating surface and the at least one aperture of the collar further comprises a tub mating surface such that the engagement of the collar mating surface to the tub mating surface securely attaches the collar to the tub.

4. The container of claim 1, further comprising a gasket.

5. The container of claim 1, further comprising a sealable membrane.

6. The container of claim 5, wherein the sealable membrane further comprises a tab to facilitate removal of the sealable membrane from the container.

7. The container of claim 1, further comprising a scoop.

8. A container comprising:

a tub having an opening flange defining the opening of the tub, at least one collar mating protrusion located in the upper portion of the tub, and a base having a recessed center portion;

a collar having at least one aperture designed to engage the at least one protrusion of the tub thereby securing the collar to the tub;

a lid hingedly attached to the collar having a top surface and an outer sealing wall; and

a latch attached to the collar designed to sealing engage the lid;

wherein the lid further comprises a raised center portion complimentary to the recessed center portion of the base, such that multiple containers may be stacked on top of one another;

wherein the collar comprises an outer sealing wall having one end in contact with the tub to create a sealing area C2 between the collar and the tub; and

wherein the lid further comprises an outer sealing wall, a second lid sealing wall and an inner sealing wall, wherein one end of the outer sealing wall engages the collar thereby creating a seal C3 between the lid and collar, one end of the second lid sealing wall engages at least one surface of the gasket thereby creating a seal C4 between the lid and gasket, and at least one end of the inner sealing wall engages the opening flange of the tub thereby creating a seal C5 between the lid and tub.

9. The container of claim 8, wherein the lid is hingedly attached to the collar and further comprises a latch that is integrally molded to the collar.

10. The container of claim 8, wherein the lid further comprises a latch engagement recess portion comprising a first recess located on the top surface of the lid and second recess located on the outer sealing wall of the lid, wherein the first and second recess are designed to sealingly accommodate the latch.

11. The container of claim 10, wherein the latch engagement recess of the lid further comprises an engagement recess and the latch comprises a lid engaging flange that securely engages the engagement recess of the lid and makes an audible sealing noise when the latch is secured to the lid.

12. The container of claim 8, wherein the collar further comprises a gasket.

13. The container of claim 8, wherein the container further comprises a sealable membrane releaseably adhered to the opening flange of the tub, wherein the sealable membrane further comprises a tab extending beyond opening flange of the tub such that the tab can facilitate removal of the sealable membrane from the container.

14. The container of claim 13, wherein the tab is designed such that it is not depressed between sealing region C4.

15. A container comprising:

a tub having an opening flange defining the opening of the tub, at least one collar mating protrusion located in the upper portion of the tub, and a base having a recessed center portion;

a collar having at least one aperture designed to engage the at least one protrusion of the tub thereby securing the collar to the tub;

a lid hingedly attached to the collar having a top surface and an outer sealing wall, wherein the top surface comprises a raised center portion; and

a latch attached to the collar designed to sealing engage the lid;

wherein the collar comprises an outer sealing wall having one end in contact with the tub to create a sealing area C2 between the collar and the tub; and

wherein the lid further comprises an outer sealing wall, a second lid sealing wall and an inner sealing wall, wherein one end of the outer sealing wall engages the collar thereby creating a seal C3 between the lid and collar, one end of the second lid sealing wall engages at least one surface of the gasket thereby creating a seal C4 between the lid and gasket, and at least one end of the inner sealing wall engages the opening flange of the tub thereby creating a seal C5 between the lid and tub; and further

wherein the container comprises a scoop comprising a handle and a bowl, wherein the bowl has a radius R'.

16. The container of claim 15, wherein the lid further comprises a utensil attachment element wherein the utensil attachment element comprises at least one flexible tab extending from the raised center of the lid towards the interior of the container.

17. The container of claim 15, wherein the base of the container comprises a circumferential channel having a radius R and wherein the radius R' of the bowl is equal to or smaller than the radius R of the circumferential channel such that the bowl of the scoop fits within the circumferential channel.