[Name of Document] CLAIMS

[Claim 1]

A faucet device that allows a hot-and-cold water mixture containing hot water supplied from a hot-water supply source and cold water supplied from a cold-water supply source to be released and shut off, the faucet device comprising:

a base member for being fixed to an installation surface on which the faucet device is installed;

an outer shell member formed to have a shape according to a type of the faucet device and including a substantially-tubular columnar section attached to the base member;

a metallic casing member inserted into the columnar section of the outer shell member and having one end fixed to the base member wherein a wall thickness of a wall forming the metallic casing member is less than a wall thickness of a wall forming the outer shell member throughout from the one end to another end in an axial direction;

a hot-water supply channel and a cold-water supply channel provided inside the casing member and extending downstream from the base member to form primary channels that supply the hot water and the cold water;

a single lever cartridge provided inside another end of

the casing member and including an on-off valve and a single lever, the on-off valve adjusting a mixture ratio and flow of the hot-and-cold water mixture supplied from the hot-water supply channel and the cold-water supply channel, the single lever allowing the on-off valve to open and close;

a connecting member provided inside the casing member and connecting downstream ends of the hot-water supply channel and the cold-water supply channel to the single lever cartridge; and

a fixing member that fixes the single lever cartridge to the connecting member,

wherein the casing member is formed of a metallic plate or pipe with a size that allows the casing member to be insertable into the columnar section of the outer shell member, and is fixed to the base member, and

wherein the connecting member is retained by the casing member.

[Claim 2]

The faucet device according to Claim 1,

wherein the casing member includes an upper casing member having a bottom surface on which the single lever cartridge is disposed, and also includes a lower casing member provided below the upper casing member and at least having a semi-tubular shape.

[Claim 3]

The faucet device according to Claim 2,

wherein the lower casing member is substantially C-shaped in cross section.

[Claim 4]

The faucet device according to Claim 2 or 3,

wherein the connecting member includes a primary adapter section to which downstream connecting sections of a hot-water supply pipe that forms the hot-water supply channel and a cold-water supply pipe that forms the cold-water supply channel are each connected in a watertight manner in an axial direction, and also includes a valve seat section whose upstream side is connected to the primary adapter section and whose downstream side is connected in a watertight manner to the single lever cartridge, and

wherein an outer diameter of the primary adapter section is set to be larger than an outer diameter of the valve seat section.

[Claim 5]

The faucet device according to any one of Claims 1 to 4,

wherein the connecting member is composed of a resin material.

[Claim 6]

A faucet device that allows a hot-and-cold water mixture containing hot water supplied from a hot-water

supply source and cold water supplied from a cold-water supply source to be released and shut off, the faucet device comprising:

a base member for being fixed to an installation surface on which the faucet device is installed;

an outer shell member formed to have a shape according to a type of the faucet device and including a substantially-tubular columnar section attached to the base member;

a metallic casing member inserted into the columnar section of the outer shell member and having one end fixed to the base member;

a hot-water supply channel and a cold-water supply channel provided inside the casing member and extending downstream from the base member to form primary channels that supply the hot water and the cold water;

a single lever cartridge provided inside another end of the casing member and including an on-off valve and a single lever, the on-off valve adjusting a mixture ratio and flow of the hot-and-cold water mixture supplied from the hot-water supply channel and the cold-water supply channel, the single lever allowing the on-off valve to open and close;

a connecting member provided inside the casing member and connecting downstream ends of the hot-water supply channel and the cold-water supply channel to the single

lever cartridge;

a fixing member that fixes the single lever cartridge to the connecting member;

a functional unit that is inserted in the columnar section of the outer shell member and that performs water release and shut-off control and/or temperature control;

a hot-water supply channel and a cold-water supply channel extending to the functional unit and forming the primary channels for supplying the hot water and the cold water; and

a spout-channel forming member provided in a spout section and forming a spout channel extending to an outlet,

wherein the casing member is formed of a metallic plate or pipe with a size that allows the casing member to be insertable into the columnar section of the outer shell member, and is fixed to the base member, and

wherein the connecting member is retained by the casing member,

wherein the casing member has mechanical engagement means capable of retaining the connecting member in accordance with mechanical engagement,

wherein the connecting member is retained by the casing member in accordance with the mechanical engagement means,

wherein a substantially-tubular secondary adapter member is provided between the functional unit and the

columnar section, and

wherein the spout-channel forming member is in a fluid-communicating state with the secondary adapter member.

[Claim 7]

The faucet device according to Claim 6,

wherein a secondary channel sealed in a watertight manner is formed between an outer peripheral surface of the functional unit and an inner peripheral surface of the secondary adapter member,

wherein the outer peripheral surface of the functional unit is provided with an outflow hole that allows the hot-and-cold water mixture mixed in the secondary channel to flow out, and

wherein the spout-channel forming member is in a fluid-communicating state with the secondary channel.

[Claim 8]

The faucet device according to Claim 6,

wherein the outer shell member and the secondary adapter member are rotatable together relative to the functional unit.

[Claim 9]

A faucet device that allows a hot-and-cold water mixture containing hot water supplied from a hot-water supply source and cold water supplied from a cold-water supply source to be released and shut off, the faucet device

comprising:

a base member for being fixed to an installation surface on which the faucet device is installed;

an outer shell member formed to have a shape according to a type of the faucet device and including a substantially-tubular columnar section attached to the base member;

a metallic casing member inserted into the columnar section of the outer shell member and having one end fixed to the base member;

a hot-water supply channel and a cold-water supply channel provided inside the casing member and extending downstream from the base member to form primary channels that supply the hot water and the cold water;

a single lever cartridge provided inside another end of the casing member and including an on-off valve and a single lever, the on-off valve adjusting a mixture ratio and flow of the hot-and-cold water mixture supplied from the hot-water supply channel and the cold-water supply channel, the single lever allowing the on-off valve to open and close;

a connecting member provided inside the casing member and connecting downstream ends of the hot-water supply channel and the cold-water supply channel to the single lever cartridge;

a fixing member that fixes the single lever cartridge

to the connecting member;

a functional unit that is inserted in the columnar section of the outer shell member and that performs water release and shut-off control and/or temperature control;

a hot-water supply channel and a cold-water supply channel extending to the functional unit and forming the primary channels for supplying the hot water and the cold water; and

a spout-channel forming member provided in a spout section and forming a spout channel extending to an outlet,

wherein the casing member is formed of a metallic plate or pipe with a size that allows the casing member to be insertable into the columnar section of the outer shell member, and is fixed to the base member,

wherein the connecting member is retained by the casing member,

wherein the casing member has mechanical engagement means capable of retaining the connecting member in accordance with mechanical engagement,

wherein the connecting member is retained by the casing member in accordance with the mechanical engagement means,

wherein a substantially-tubular secondary adapter member is provided between the functional unit and the columnar section,

wherein the spout-channel forming member is in a fluid-

communicating state with the secondary adapter member

wherein the outer shell member and the secondary adapter member are rotatable together relative to the functional unit, and

wherein the outer shell member and the secondary adapter member are directly engaged with each other in a rotational direction with respect to the functional unit.

[Claim 10]

A faucet device that allows a hot-and-cold water mixture containing hot water supplied from a hot-water supply source and cold water supplied from a cold-water supply source to be released and shut off, the faucet device comprising:

a base member for being fixed to an installation surface on which the faucet device is installed;

an outer shell member formed to have a shape according to a type of the faucet device and including a substantially-tubular columnar section attached to the base member;

a metallic casing member inserted into the columnar section of the outer shell member and having one end fixed to the base member;

a hot-water supply channel and a cold-water supply channel provided inside the casing member and extending downstream from the base member to form primary channels

that supply the hot water and the cold water;

a single lever cartridge provided inside another end of the casing member and including an on-off valve and a single lever, the on-off valve adjusting a mixture ratio and flow of the hot-and-cold water mixture supplied from the hot-water supply channel and the cold-water supply channel, the single lever allowing the on-off valve to open and close;

a connecting member provided inside the casing member and connecting downstream ends of the hot-water supply channel and the cold-water supply channel to the single lever cartridge;

a fixing member that fixes the single lever cartridge to the connecting member;

a functional unit that is inserted in the columnar section of the outer shell member and that performs water release and shut-off control and/or temperature control;

a hot-water supply channel and a cold-water supply channel extending to the functional unit and forming the primary channels for supplying the hot water and the cold water; and

a spout-channel forming member provided in a spout section and forming a spout channel extending to an outlet,

wherein the casing member is formed of a metallic plate or pipe with a size that allows the casing member to be insertable into the columnar section of the outer shell

member, and is fixed to the base member, and

wherein the connecting member is retained by the casing member,

wherein the casing member has mechanical engagement means capable of retaining the connecting member in accordance with mechanical engagement,

wherein the connecting member is retained by the casing member in accordance with the mechanical engagement means,

wherein a substantially-tubular secondary adapter member is provided between the functional unit and the columnar section, and

wherein the spout-channel forming member is in a fluid-communicating state with the secondary adapter member,

wherein the functional unit is fixed to the base member,

wherein a lower end of the secondary adapter member is provided with a flange,

wherein the flange of the secondary adapter member is placed on the base member, and

wherein a lower end of the columnar section is placed on the flange of the secondary adapter member.

[Claim 11]

A faucet device that allows a hot-and-cold water mixture containing hot water supplied from a hot-water supply source

and cold water supplied from a cold-water supply source to be released and shut off, the faucet device comprising:

a base member for being fixed to an installation surface on which the faucet device is installed;

an outer shell member formed to have a shape according to a type of the faucet device and including a substantially-tubular columnar section attached to the base member;

a metallic casing member inserted into the columnar section of the outer shell member and having one end fixed to the base member;

a hot-water supply channel and a cold-water supply channel provided inside the casing member and extending downstream from the base member to form primary channels that supply the hot water and the cold water;

a single lever cartridge provided inside another end of the casing member and including an on-off valve and a single lever, the on-off valve adjusting a mixture ratio and flow of the hot-and-cold water mixture supplied from the hot-water supply channel and the cold-water supply channel, the single lever allowing the on-off valve to open and close;

a connecting member provided inside the casing member and connecting downstream ends of the hot-water supply channel and the cold-water supply channel to the single lever cartridge;

a fixing member that fixes the single lever cartridge to the connecting member;

a functional unit that is inserted in the columnar section of the outer shell member and that performs water release and shut-off control and/or temperature control;

a hot-water supply channel and a cold-water supply channel extending to the functional unit and forming the primary channels for supplying the hot water and the cold water; and

a spout-channel forming member provided in a spout section and forming a spout channel extending to an outlet,

wherein the casing member is formed of a metallic plate or pipe with a size that allows the casing member to be insertable into the columnar section of the outer shell member, and is fixed to the base member, and

wherein the connecting member is retained by the casing member,

wherein the casing member has mechanical engagement means capable of retaining the connecting member in accordance with mechanical engagement,

wherein the connecting member is retained by the casing member in accordance with the mechanical engagement means,

wherein a substantially-tubular secondary adapter member is provided between the functional unit and the columnar section, and

wherein the spout-channel forming member is in a fluid-communicating state with the secondary adapter member

wherein the secondary adapter member has an upper secondary adapter member and a lower secondary adapter member.

[Claim 12]

The faucet device according to Claim 11,

wherein a secondary channel sealed in a watertight manner is formed between an outer peripheral surface of the functional unit and an inner peripheral surface of the upper secondary adapter member,

wherein the outer peripheral surface of the functional unit is provided with an outflow hole that allows the hot-and-cold water mixture mixed in the secondary channel to flow out, and

wherein the spout-channel forming member is in a fluid-communicating state with the secondary channel.