

DESCRIPTION

FOOTWEAR

5 Technical field

[0001] The present invention relates to a footwear that keeps the foot below the ankle open, such as zoris (Japanese sandals) or sandals.

10 Background art

[0002] An open footwear that keeps the foot below the ankle open, such as zoris or sandals, is generally formed by attaching a belt or a strap to a flat plate-like sole having the shape of the bottom of a foot. Zoris or sandals
15 having a function beneficial to health, such as having protrusions on the sole to stimulate acupuncture points on the bottom of the foot while walking or laterally inclining the sole to correct bowlegs or knock knees are conventionally in widespread use.

20 [0003] As this type of conventional techniques, there is a technique described in Patent Literature 1. Patent Literature 1 discloses health sandals in each of which the position where the front thong of a strap is attached is set to two places to sandwich the second toe and the
25 remaining toes are positioned at a ratio of 1:3 to place the first toe and three toes of the third, fourth, and fifth toes across the second toe, and a top portion where the second toe is placed is heightened by about 2 to 5 millimeters (mm).

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Citation List

Patent Literature

[0004] Patent Literature 1: Japanese Utility Model Laid-

open Publication No. 3232282

Summary

Technical Problem

5 [0005] In recent years, providing relatively inexpensive footwear such as flip-flops with a function beneficial to health is also demanded. Particularly, development of footwear such as flip-flops having a function to correct bowlegs or postures is demanded.

10 [0006] In response to such demand, the present invention has an object to provide a footwear having a function to correct bowlegs and postures.

Solution to Problem

15 [0007] To achieve the object described above, the present invention has a configuration described below.

[1] An aspect of the present invention provides a footwear comprising a footbed, and a strap comprising a front strap part, an inner side strap part, and an outer side strap
20 part and attached to the footbed, wherein

the footbed has a two-layer structure including an upper layer and a lower layer,

the lower layer has a contour shaped like an outer circumference of a foot in a planar view,

25 the upper layer has an upper surface, a lower surface, and a plurality of peripheral wall surfaces, the peripheral wall surfaces include a first wall surface extending between an inside side surface and an outside side surface of the footbed on a heel side relative to a terminating end
30 of the strap, a second wall surface extending from an end of the footbed on a tiptoe side along a longitudinal direction and extending in an arc to the outside side surface of the footbed through an outer side than the front

strap part and further through a tiptoe side relative to a terminating end of the outer side strap part, and remaining wall surfaces, and the remaining wall surfaces overlap the contour of the lower layer in a planar view,

5 the upper layer has a horizontal part located on a heel side relative to a region on which an adductor hallucis transverse head abuts, and an inclined part inclined upward from a front edge of the horizontal part toward a tiptoe side, and the front strap part is arranged on the inclined
10 part, and

 a lower surface of the upper layer has a reverse-side inclined part gradually inclined downward toward a tiptoe side.

[0008] [2] In the footwear of the above aspect [1], the
15 lower layer is constituted of a plate material having a uniform thickness and a tiptoe part of the lower layer is inclined to follow the reverse-side inclined part of the upper layer.

[0009] [3] In the footwear of the above aspect [1], an
20 upper surface of the lower layer has an inclined surface inclined downward at a same gradient as that of the reverse-side inclined part of the upper layer, and a lower surface of the lower layer extends horizontally.

[0010] [4] In the above aspect [1], a height from an
25 upper surface of the horizontal part to a top of the inclined part is not less than 7 millimeters and not more than 22 millimeters.

[0011] [5] In the above aspect [1], the upper layer has a two-layer structure including an upper area including the
30 upper surface and having a uniform thickness, and a lower area fixed to a lower surface of the upper area, and

 the lower area has a lower-area horizontal part having a uniform thickness, and a lower-area inclined part having

a thickness gradually increased from a front edge of the lower-area horizontal part to a tiptoe side.

[0012] [6] In the above aspect [5], the upper area and the lower area are made of a same member and colored with colors different from each other.

[0013] According to the aspect [1], [2], or [3] of the present invention, with the upper layer of the footbed having the second wall surface of the shape described above, a region of the bottom of each foot on a tiptoe side and an outer side is separate from the upper surface of the footbed when a user walks with the footwear of the present invention. Therefore, the body weight of the user is concentrated on an inner side part of the bottom of each foot of the user. This enables the center of gravity of each leg of the user to be corrected toward the inner side. When the user has bowlegs, the distance between the knees of the user can be narrowed. Furthermore, with the upper layer of the footbed having the first wall surface of the shape described above, the user is brought to a position like tiptoeing. Accordingly, muscles of the calves and from the back of the thighs to the hip can be naturally trained by walking with the footwears.

[0014] When a user wears the footwear of the present invention, each heel is enabled to be put on the upper surface of the lower layer in a state where the foot is mounted on the footbed. Therefore, the heel side becomes lower than the tiptoe side and the center of gravity of the user can be shifted backward, so that the body weight is likely to be applied on the heel side. This enables correction of a forward-leaning posture and enables the user to move up and down each heel in a state where the foot is mounted on the footbed while walking. Therefore, muscles of the calves and from the back of the thighs to

the hip of the user can be efficiently trained.

[0015] Further, since the adductor hallucis transverse head is positioned on the horizontal part in the upper layer of the footbed and the first toe is positioned on the inclined part, the line of the backbone is made upright with respect to the ground when a user wears the footwear of the present invention. Besides, a state where the body weight is easily applied to the heel side can be obtained. Accordingly, muscles of the calves and from the back of the thighs to the hip of the user can be efficiently trained and a forward-leaning posture can be corrected.

[0016] Furthermore, since the front strap part is arranged on the inclined part, a state where the base parts of the first toe and the second toe of each foot are placed on the inclined part can be maintained.

[0017] Further, the thickness of the upper layer on the tiptoe side can be increased. As a result, the fact that a region on which the first toe is to be mounted in the footwear is higher can be visually impressed on the user more strongly.

[0018] According to the aspect [4] of the present invention, the height from the upper surface of the horizontal part to the top of the inclined part can be set to a height that easily provides actions and effects of the present invention.

[0019] According to the aspect [5] of the present invention, the inclined part is formed in the upper layer by fixing the lower surface of the upper area to the upper surface of the lower area in a state where the upper area of the upper layer is deformed to follow the lower-area inclined part. Therefore, by fixing the upper area to which processing of forming slip resistance such as asperities on a surface has been performed to the lower

area, a surface of the inclined part that has been subjected to predetermined processing can be easily created.

[0020] According to the aspect [6] of the present invention, since the upper area and the lower area of the upper layer are colored with different colors, the fact that the lower area is thickened toward the tiptoe side and a region where the first toe is to be mounted is higher can be impressed on the user.

Advantageous Effects of Invention

[0021] According to the present invention, it is possible to provide a footwear having a function to correct bowlegs and postures.

Brief Description of Drawings

[0022] Fig. 1 is a perspective view illustrating an exterior appearance of a footwear according to a first embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a side view of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a side view of a footwear according to a second embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 5A is a side view illustrating a modification of the footwear according to the second embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 5B is a side view illustrating a used state of the footwear in Fig. 5A.

Description of Embodiments

[0023] Embodiments of the present invention will be explained below in detail with reference to the drawings.

[0024] [First embodiment]

Fig. 1 is a perspective view illustrating an exterior appearance of a footwear 1 being an illustrative configuration of a first embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 2 is a plan view of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a side view of Fig. 1. The footwear 1 is a so-called flip-flop and includes a footbed 10 and a strap 20. Figs. 1 to 3 illustrate the footwear 1 to be worn on the left foot of a user. Since a footwear 1 to be worn on the right foot is bilaterally symmetrical to the footwear 1 to be worn on the left foot, detailed descriptions of the footwear 1 to be worn on the right foot are omitted. In the descriptions, the side of the first toe of the footwear 1 in the right-left direction is assumed as an inner side and the side of the fifth toe is assumed as an outer side.

[0025] The footbed 10 is made of a rubber material, an EVA (Ethylene-Vinyl Acetate) urethane material, or the like and has a two-layer structure including an upper layer 11 and a lower layer 12. The strap 20 includes a front strap part 21, an inner side strap part 22a, and an outer side strap part 22b and is attached to the footbed 10. A starting end of each of the inner side strap part 22a and the outer side strap part 22b is connected to the front strap part 21, a terminating end of the inner side strap part 22a is attached to a vicinity of an inside side surface 10a of the footbed 10, and a terminating end of the outer side strap part 22b is attached to a vicinity of an outside side surface 10b of the footbed 10.

[0026] The upper layer 11 is a plate-like member having a contour at least partially shaped like an outer circumference of a foot in a planar view and includes a heel missing part 11a, a mounting part 11b, and a fifth-toe-side missing part 11c. The lower layer 12 is a plate-like member having a contour shaped like the entire outer

circumference of the foot in a planar view.

[0027] The heel missing part 11a of the upper layer 11 is formed by removing a portion faced by a heel of a user. The mounting part 11b is a portion on which at least a part
5 of the foot of the user is to be mounted and has an inclined part 11d and a horizontal part 11e. The fifth-toe-side missing part 11c is formed by making a cut in the upper layer 11 from a substantial center of an end on the tiptoe side of the upper layer 11 along the longitudinal
10 direction of the upper layer 11, and cutting the upper layer 11 in a gentle arc to the outside side surface 10b of the footbed 10 through a region slightly outer than the front strap part 21 of the strap 20 and through a region slightly on the tiptoe side relative to the terminating end
15 of the outer side strap part 22b.

[0028] Therefore, parts of the bottom of the foot of the user other than a part facing the heel missing part 11a and a part facing the fifth-toe-side missing part 11c abut on the mounting part 11b.

20 [0029] Although the heel missing part 11a and the fifth-toe-side missing part 11c that are spaces where there are no substantive members are also regarded as constituent elements of the upper layer 11 for explanatory convenience, the substantive member of the upper layer 11 is the
25 mounting part 11b.

[0030] In other words, the plate-like member constituting the upper layer 11 has an upper surface, a lower surface, and a plurality of peripheral wall surfaces. An upper surface of the horizontal part 11e extends in a
30 horizontal plane and is located on the heel side relative to a region on which the adductor hallucis transverse head abuts. The region on which the adductor hallucis transverse head abuts is located slightly on the back side

relative to the front strap part 21. An upper surface of the inclined part 11d is inclined upward toward the tiptoe side from a front edge 11j of the horizontal part 11e.

While a border between the horizontal part 11e and the

5 inclined part 11d, that is, the front edge of the horizontal part 11e is denoted by reference sign 11j in the illustrated example, it is not necessary that the border is clear. The front edge 11j of the horizontal part 11e may extend in a curved line instead of a straight line.

10 [0031] The inclined part 11d is a part on which the first toe, the second toe, and portions near the bases thereof of the user abut and is formed to have a thickness gradually increasing from the horizontal part 11e in the mounting part 11b toward the tiptoes. Accordingly, the

15 upper surface of the inclined part 11d is an inclined surface inclined upward toward the tiptoes. In the present embodiment, a lower surface of the upper layer 11 extends in a horizontal plane. The front strap part 21 is arranged on the inclined part 11d.

20 [0032] One of the peripheral wall surfaces that define the contour of the upper layer 11 is a first wall surface 11f extending between the inside side surface 10a and the outside side surface 10b of the footbed 10 on the heel side relative to the terminating ends of the strap 20. The

25 first wall surface 11f marks off the mounting part 11b and the heel missing part 11a. The first wall surface 11f preferably extends in a concave curve toward the heel side in a planar view. This is a shape following the shape of a heel of the user.

30 [0033] Another one of the peripheral wall surfaces is a second wall surface 11g that marks off the mounting part 11b and the fifth-toe-side missing part 11c. The second wall surface 11g extends along the longitudinal direction

of the footbed 10 from the substantial center of the end of the footbed 10 on the tiptoe side and extends in an arc to the outside side surface 10b of the footbed 10 through the outer side than the front strap part 21 and further through the tiptoe side relative to the terminating end of the outer side strap part 22b.

[0034] Remaining two peripheral wall surfaces 11h and 11i are located between the first wall surface 11f and the second wall surface 11g. These remaining peripheral wall surfaces 11h and 11i overlap the contour of the lower layer 12 in a planar view. The peripheral wall surface 11h is a part of the inside side surface 10a of the footbed 10 and the peripheral wall surface 11i is a part of the outside side surface 10b of the footbed 10.

[0035] In the illustrated example, the upper layer 11 has a two-layer structure including an upper area 31 and a lower area 32. The upper area 31 and the lower area 32 are preferably constituted of the same member and has the same shape in a planar view. In the illustrated example, the upper area 31 is made of a plate-like member having a uniform thickness and the bottom of a foot of the user abuts on the upper surface of the upper area 31.

Preferably, the upper surface of the upper area 31 is formed in a rough surface including fine asperities.

Accordingly, the bottom of the foot of the user is less likely to slip on the upper surface of the upper area 31. An edge of the upper area 31 on the heel side, that is, an edge of the first wall surface 11f is chamfered. An edge of the upper area 31 on the fifth toe side, that is, an edge of the second wall surface 11g is also chamfered.

[0036] The lower area 32 is adhesively fixed to a lower surface of the upper area 31. The lower area 32 is constituted of a lower-area horizontal part 32a and a

lower-area inclined part 32b. The lower-area horizontal part 32a is a part opposed by a part from the region on which the adductor hallucis transverse head abuts to the heel side with the upper area 31 interposed therebetween.

5 The lower-area inclined part 32b has a thickness gradually increasing from the front edge of the lower-area horizontal part 32a toward the tiptoe side. The upper surface of the lower-area inclined part 32b is inclined upward from the front edge of the upper surface of the lower-area
10 horizontal part 32a.

[0037] According to the present embodiment, it is preferable to set a height H from the upper surface of the horizontal part 11e to the top of an inclined surface of the inclined part 11d in a range not less than 7 mm and not
15 more than 22 mm and is particularly more preferable to set the height H to be not less than 15 mm and not more than 20 mm.

[0038] Preferably, the upper area 31 and the lower area 32 are colored with colors different from each other. It
20 is desirable that the colors of the upper area 31 and the lower area 32 are colors that can be clearly distinguished from each other. As one example, it is possible to apply black to the upper area 31 and white to the lower area 32.

[0039] The lower layer 12 of the present embodiment is a
25 plate-like member having a contour shaped like the entire outer circumference of a foot in a planar view and being uniform in the thickness. The lower surface of the lower layer 12 is preferably formed in a rough surface with wavy asperities. Accordingly, the lower layer 12 is less likely
30 to slip on the ground.

[0040] The footbed 10 is formed by bonding the lower surface of the upper layer 11, that is, the lower surface of the lower area 32 to the upper surface of the lower

layer 12. A step between the upper surface of the upper layer 11 and the upper surface of the lower layer 12 is formed in each of regions of the heel missing part 11a and the fifth-toe-side missing part 11c. The first wall surface 11f and the second wall surface 11g are wall surfaces of these steps. As a result, the region of the heel missing part 11a and the region of the fifth-toe-side missing part 11c become thin parts in the footbed 10.

[0041] The upper layer 11 is fixed to the upper surface of the lower layer 12 in a state where the upper area 31 is deformed to follow the upper surface of the lower area 32 by adhesively fixing the lower surface of the upper area 31 of the upper layer 11 to the upper surface of the lower area 32. Accordingly, a state where the upper area 31 is inclined to follow the lower-area horizontal part 32a and the lower-area inclined part 32b of the lower area 32 is fixed in the upper layer 11, whereby the horizontal part 11e and the inclined part 11d are formed in the upper layer 11.

[0042] The strap 20 is made of cloth or synthetic resin and is constituted of a front strap part 21 and a side strap part 22. The front strap part 21 is a part extending upward from the plate surface of the footbed 10 and sandwiched by the first toe and the second toe of the user. The front strap part 21 is arranged on the inclined part 11d of the upper layer 11. The side strap part 22 is constituted of a string-like or band-like member made of cloth or synthetic resin. The side strap part 22 is divided into two parts of the inner side strap part 22a extending toward the inside side surface of the footbed 10 on the first toe side from the front strap part 21 as a base end, and the outer side strap part 22b extending toward the outside side surface thereof on the fifth toe

side from the front strap part 21 as the base end. A terminating end of the inner side strap part 22a is fixed to a corner part on the first toe side in a heel-side end part of the upper layer 11. The outer side strap part 22b
5 is fixed to a corner part on the fifth toe side in the heel-side end part of the upper layer 11.

[0043] A state where a user wears the footwears 1 is described next.

[0044] The user can wear each of the footwears 1 by
10 inserting a foot through the strap 20 and sandwiching the front strap part 21 between the first toe and the second toe of the foot of the user. At that time, the inner side strap part 22a runs on the base of the first toe of the user and the outer side strap part 22b runs on the instep
15 of the foot of the user, thereby causing each of the footwears 1 to be less likely to come off the user's foot. Since the front strap part 21 is arranged on the inclined part 11d, the first toe, the second toe, and the bases thereof of the user abut on the inclined surface of the inclined part 11d. Accordingly, only the first toe, the
20 second toe, and the base parts thereof in the bottom of each foot of the user are positioned higher than the upper surface of the horizontal part 11e.

[0045] In a state where the user wears the footwears 1,
25 the fifth-toe-missing part 11c faces the third toe, the fourth toe, the fifth toe, the base parts thereof of each foot of the user, a part of the adductor hallucis transverse head located nearer the heel than the base parts, and a part of flexor digiti minimi brevis lateral to
30 the arch of the foot. That is, when the bottom of the foot is divided near the arch of the foot into two parts of a tiptoe side and a heel side and the tiptoe side is further divided into a first toe side (the inner side) and a fifth

toe side (the outer side), a region corresponding to an outer half of the tiptoe side substantially faces the fifth-toe-side missing part 11c.

[0046] Therefore, when the user walks with the footwears 1, the region of an outer half of the bottom of each foot on the tiptoe side is separate from the upper surface of the lower layer 12. Accordingly, the body weight of the user is concentrated on an inner side part of the bottom of each foot of the user. Furthermore, the user has a consciousness of keeping the outer side part of the bottom of each foot facing the fifth-toe-side missing part 11c away from the upper surface of the lower layer 12 while standing erect or walking. Accordingly, the center of gravity of each leg of the user can be corrected toward the inner side. When the user has bowlegs, the distance between the knees of the user can be narrowed.

[0047] With the footwears 1 each having the heel missing part 11a, the whole of each heel of the user faces the heel missing part 11a. Therefore, when the user walks with the footwears 1, the user is brought to a position like tiptoeing and can naturally train muscles of the calves and from the back of the thighs to the hip by walking with the footwears 1. Since the heels of the user are in a state of being capable of moving up and down even in a standing posture, the user uses muscles of the back of each leg and the hip joints are tightened without spreading. In this way, the bowlegs can be corrected.

[0048] Furthermore, the user can also train muscles by walking starting with the heels. Specifically, when the user walks with the heel of each of the footwears 1 put first on the ground, the heel of the user is positioned on the upper surface of the lower layer 12, which is lower than the upper surface of the upper layer 11. Accordingly,

the center of gravity shifts backward and the body weight is likely to be applied backward. Particularly, since the tiptoe side of each foot of the user is mounted on the inclined part 11d and the first toe, the second toe, and the base parts thereof in the bottom of the foot are at a higher position than the remaining parts, the heel side is easily moved down and the user becomes less likely to slouch. Accordingly, the user can have a posture in which the line of the backbone follows a perpendicular direction to the ground because the parts of the bottom of each foot other than the first toe, the second toe, and the base parts thereof are normally mounted on the horizontal part 11e. Even when the line of the backbone is inclined forward with time and the user is about to slouch, the user is less likely to slouch because the first toe, the second toe, and the base parts thereof are mounted on the inclined part 11d. Even when the user slouches, the line of the backbone can be returned to follow the perpendicular direction to the ground.

[0049] In this way, the posture of the user can be corrected. Since the user is less likely to slouch, the time of a posture in which the gravity is applied to the face, such as a downward-facing posture, can be reduced. This can decrease occurrence of swollenness due to accumulation of water in the face and, consequently, a face sliming effect is also expected. Furthermore, the user is less likely to slouch and is corrected from a forward-leaning posture to a better posture, whereby the eyeballs are released from being pushed against fasciae and the eyestrain can be relieved. The correction from the forward-leaning posture to a better posture can provide other effects, such as improving the posture during walking, enabling the legs to be lifted easier, alleviating

shoulder stiffness, and improving the blood circulation at the back of the neck.

[0050] Particularly, according to the present embodiment, the height H from the upper surface of the horizontal part 11e to the top of the inclined surface of the inclined part 11d is set in the range not less than 7 mm and not more than 22 mm. The line of the backbone is difficult to be shifted backward if the height H is too small, and the line of the backbone has a risk of being shifted backward more than necessary in the normal posture if the height H is too large. Therefore, with the range not less than 7 mm and not more than 22 mm as in the present embodiment, the line of the backbone can be shifted backward to correct the posture to be in a state of being upright with respect to the ground when the user becomes in a forward-leaning posture and the line of the backbone is inclined forward. More preferably, with setting of the height H to be not less than 15 mm and not more than 20 mm, the posture of the user can be stably corrected when the user leans forward and the line of the backbone is inclined forward.

[0051] Furthermore, in a state where the heel of the user is in contact with the upper surface of the lower layer 12, the third toe, the fourth toe, the fifth toe, and the base parts thereof of the user are in a state of floating to face the fifth-toe-side missing part 11c. Therefore, the user stands firm with the first toe, the second toe, and the base parts thereof mounted on the upper layer 11 to maintain the balance. Accordingly, the third toe, the fourth toe, the fifth toe, and the base parts thereof are kept in the floating state. This enables the center of gravity of each leg of the user to be corrected to be shifted toward the inner side and the distance of the

knees of the user can be narrowed when the user has bowlegs.

[0052] Some users (so-called persons walking on heels) have a habit of walking while putting the center of gravity on the heel side and other users (so-called persons walking on tiptoes) have a habit of walking while putting the center of gravity on the tiptoe side. The users walking on heels can correct the center of gravity to be shifted forward by having a consciousness of walking in such a manner that the heel is kept away from the upper surface of the lower layer 12. The users walking on tiptoes can correct the center of gravity to be shifted backward by walking in such a manner that the heel is brought to contact with the upper surface of the lower layer 12. In this way, the footwears 1 can correct both the walking posture of the users walking on heels and the walking posture of the users walking on tiptoes.

[0053] Since the shape of the step portion (the first wall surface 11f) formed by the heel missing part 11a is an arc shape concave toward the heel side, a vicinity of the arch of each foot near the arc-shaped heel part can be stimulated while walking. Since a portion (near the wall surface 11i) of the upper layer 11 between the heel missing part 11a and the fifth-toe-side missing part 11c is formed as a narrow portion, the user can stimulate a part lateral to the arch of each foot by moving an outer side part of the bottom of each foot up and down. Accordingly, an effect beneficial to health due to stimulation of foot pressure points can be expected.

[0054] According to the first embodiment configured as described above, when a user wears the footwears 1, the body weight of the user is concentrated on the inner side part of the bottom of each foot, so that the center of

gravity of each leg of the user can be corrected to be put on the inner side and the distance between the knees of the user can be narrowed. Furthermore, muscles of the calves and from the back of thighs to the hip of the user can be efficiently trained. Accordingly, when in a swimsuit at the beach, the user can walk without caring so much about the bowlegs.

[0055] Furthermore, with the formation of the heel missing part 11a on the footbed 10, the user is brought to be a position like tiptoeing and can naturally train muscles of the calves and from the back of thighs to the hip by walking with the footwears 1. When the user wears the footwears 1, each of the heels is enabled to be put on the upper surface of the lower layer 12, which is located below the heel missing part 11a, in a state where the foot is mounted on the upper surface of the upper layer 11 and the center of gravity of the user can be shifted backward. Accordingly, the forward-leaning posture can be corrected and the user can move the heel up and down in the state where each foot is mounted on the upper layer 11 while walking. Accordingly, the body weight is more likely to be applied on the heel side and the muscles of the calves and from the back of the thighs to the hip of the user can be efficiently trained.

[0056] Furthermore, since the adductor hallucis transverse head of the user is positioned on the horizontal part 11e of the footbed 10 and the first toe, the second toe, and the base parts thereof are positioned on the inclined part 11d, the line of the backbone can be made upright with respect to the ground and a state in which the body weight is likely to be applied on the heel side can be obtained when the user wears the footwear of the present invention. Accordingly, the line of the backbone can be

shifted backward when the user has a forward-leaning posture, and the user can be corrected to have an appropriate posture.

[0057] The inclined part 11d is formed in the upper
5 layer 11 by adhesively fixing the lower surface of the upper area 31 to the upper surface of the lower area 32 in a state where the upper area 31 is deformed to follow the lower-area inclined part 32b. Accordingly, by adhesively fixing the upper area 31 where a surface (the upper
10 surface) of the upper area 31 has been processed to form slip resistance such as asperities to the lower area 32, the upper layer 11 having the slip resistance such as the asperities formed on a surface (the upper surface) of the inclined part 11d can be easily created.

15 [0058] Since the upper area 31 and the lower area 32 are colored with colors different from each other, it is possible to visually give the user an impression that the lower area 32 is thickened toward the tiptoe side and that an area where the first toe is to be placed is higher when
20 the footwear 1 is laterally viewed.

[0059] According to the first embodiment, when a salicylic acid plaster is put on a corn on an outer side of the bottom of a foot, the user can keep a region where the salicylic acid plaster is put away from the ground by
25 wearing the footwears 1. Therefore, an effect of preventing the salicylic acid plaster from slipping out of place or peeling while walking can also be expected.

[0060] While the first embodiment of the present invention has been described above, embodiments of the
30 present invention are not limited to the first embodiment described above. For example, while the first embodiment has been described with flip-flops as an example, the first embodiment is also applicable to zoris. While the foot

board is made of a rubber material, an EVA urethan material, or the like, the material of the footbed is not limited thereto. For example, the footbed may be made of wood.

5 [0061] Each of the upper layer 11 and the lower layer 12 may be constituted of a plurality of layers.

[0062] [Second embodiment]

Fig. 4 is a side view illustrating an exterior appearance of a footwear 2 according to a second embodiment of the present invention. In the footwear 2 of the second embodiment illustrated in Fig. 4, like members as the members constituting the footwear 1 of the first embodiment illustrated in Figs. 1 to 3 or members having like functions are denoted by the same reference signs to omit
10 detailed descriptions.

[0063] The footwear 2 of the second embodiment has a reverse-side inclined part 32c that is gradually inclined downward toward the tiptoe side on the lower surface of the lower-area inclined part 32b in the lower area 32 of the upper layer 11 as illustrated in Fig. 4.
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[0064] Accordingly, the thickness of the lower layer 12 at a tiptoe part in the second embodiment is smaller than that in the first embodiment. Therefore, the lower area 32 of the upper layer 11 increases in the thickness toward the
25 tiptoe side when the footwear 2 is laterally viewed. As a result, the fact that the area where the first toe is to be placed is higher in the footwear 2 can be visually impressed on the user more strongly.

[0065] An inclined surface inclined downward at the same
30 gradient as that of the reverse-side inclined part 32c is formed at a portion facing the reverse-side inclined part 32c in the upper surface of the lower layer 12. Therefore, the rear surface of the lower layer 12 in the footwear 2

can be made as a flat surface with no inclination.

[0066] Figs. 5A and 5B are side views illustrating a modification of the footwear 2 according to the second embodiment of the present invention. While an inclined surface is formed on the upper surface of the lower layer 12 on the tiptoe side in the second embodiment illustrated in Fig. 4, the lower layer 12 constituted of a plate material having a uniform thickness is applied to the modification of the second embodiment without forming an inclined surface on the upper surface of the lower layer 12 on the tiptoe side.

[0067] Accordingly, since the lower layer 12 is inclined to follow the reverse-side inclined part 32c, the tiptoe part of the lower layer 12 is slightly inclined downward as illustrated in Fig. 5A. However, when the user stands on the ground with the footwears 2 on, the tiptoe part of the lower layer 12 is elastically deformed by the inclination to raise the inclined part 11d as illustrated in Fig. 5B. This enables the first toe, the second toe, and the base parts thereof to be slightly raised upward.

[0068] As a modification of the second embodiment, the upper layer 11 may have a single-layer structure without the two-layer structure including the upper area 31 and the lower area 32. Also in this case, the same reverse-side inclined part gradually inclined downward toward the tiptoe side can be formed on the lower surface of the upper layer 11.

Reference Signs List

[0069] 1, 2 footwear
10 footbed
10a inside side surface
10b outside side surface

- 11 upper layer
 - 11a heel missing part
 - 11b mounting part
 - 11c fifth-toe-side missing part
 - 5 11d inclined part
 - 11e horizontal part
 - 11f first wall surface
 - 11g second wall surface
 - 11i, 11h remaining wall surface
- 10 12 lower layer
 - 20 strap
 - 21 front strap part
 - 22 side strap part
 - 22a inner side strap part
 - 15 22b outer side strap part
 - 31 upper area
 - 32 lower area
 - 32a lower-area horizontal part
 - 32b lower-area inclined part
 - 20 32c reverse-side inclined part

CLAIMS

[Claim 1] A footwear comprising a footbed (10), and a strap (20) comprising a front strap part (21), an inner side strap part (22a), and an outer side strap part (22b) and
5 attached to the footbed (10), wherein

the footbed (1) has a two-layer structure including an upper layer (11) and a lower layer (12),

the lower layer (12) has a contour shaped like an outer circumference of a foot in a planar view,

10 the upper layer (11) has an upper surface, a lower surface, and a plurality of peripheral wall surfaces, the peripheral wall surfaces include a first wall surface (11f) extending between an inside side surface (10a) and an outside side surface (10b) of the footbed (10) on a heel
15 side relative to a terminating end of the strap (20), a second wall surface (11g) extending from an end of the footbed (10) on a tiptoe side along a longitudinal direction and extending in an arc to the outside side surface (10b) of the footbed (10) through an outer side
20 than the front strap part (21) and further through a tiptoe side relative to a terminating end of the outer side strap part (22b), and remaining wall surfaces (11h, 11i), and the remaining wall surfaces (11h, 11i) overlap the contour of the lower layer (12) in a planar view,

25 the upper layer (11) has a horizontal part (11e) located on a heel side relative to a region on which an adductor hallucis transverse head abuts, and an inclined part (11d) inclined upward from a front edge (11j) of the horizontal part (11e) toward a tiptoe side, and the front
30 strap part (21) is arranged on the inclined part (11d), and

a lower surface of the upper layer (11) has a reverse-side inclined part (32c) gradually inclined downward toward a tiptoe side.

[Claim 2] The footwear according to claim 1, wherein
the lower layer (12) is constituted of a plate
material having a uniform thickness and a tiptoe part of
5 the lower layer (12) is inclined to follow the reverse-side
inclined part (32c) of the upper layer (11).

[Claim 3] The footwear according to claim 1, wherein
an upper surface of the lower layer (12) has an
10 inclined surface inclined downward at a same gradient as
that of the reverse-side inclined part (32c) of the upper
layer (11), and a lower surface of the lower layer (12)
extends horizontally.

15 [Claim 4] The footwear according to claim 1, wherein
a height (H) from an upper surface of the horizontal
part (11e) to a top of the inclined part (11d) is not less
than 7 millimeters and not more than 22 millimeters.

20 [Claim 5] The footwear according to claim 1, wherein
the upper layer (11) has a two-layer structure
including an upper area (31) including the upper surface
and having a uniform thickness, and a lower area (32) fixed
to a lower surface of the upper area (31), and
25 the lower area (32) has a lower-area horizontal part
(32a) having a uniform thickness, and a lower-area inclined
part (32b) having a thickness gradually increased from a
front edge of the lower-area horizontal part (32a) to a
tiptoe side.

30

[Claim 6] The footwear according to claim 5, wherein
the upper area (31) and the lower area (32) are made
of a same member and colored with colors different from

each other.