

DECORATIVE TAPE WINDING DEVICE

Field of the Invention

5 This invention relates to a decorative tape winding device that can wind decorative tape in a spiral on a cylindrical object such as a writing implement like a pencil and also such as drumsticks and the like.

Background Art

10 Hitherto, generally known technology whereby a desired decoration is put on a writing implement is, for example, that where a decorative sheet is wound round the outside circumference of a writing implement as shown in JP 2006-150622 and, in addition, by winding round on top of it a heat shrink film the writing implement is decorated with
15 such things as a favourite pattern, design or colour.

As stated above, with the conventional technology a decorative sheet was wound on the outside of the writing implement. One end of this winding was fixed by sticking it to the other end with paste or the like. Then the decorative sheet was covered with a heat
20 shrink film and it was mounted by heat shrinking. Therefore the work became complicated.

Furthermore, as the winding round of the decorative sheet and the heat shrink film was done by hand, good and bad workmanship resulted depending on the individual
25 differences in skill with the fingers. In particular, when children and the like were doing it, this difference was very apparent and it was very difficult to obtain an identical finish.

Summary of Invention

30 Therefore this invention is one that provides a decorative tape winding device with which the work of mounting can be done simply and, moreover, virtually the same finish can be achieved irrespective of the individual skill with the fingers.

The decorative tape winding device of this invention is principally characterised in that it is provided with a rotating and forwarding mechanism, which forwards and imparts a rotation in one direction to a cylindrical object through pushing the cylindrical object in the axial direction, and a decorative tape holding mechanism, which holds the decorative tape at an inclination to the axis line of the cylindrical object that is rotated and forwarded by the rotating and forwarding mechanism. In the state where the end of the decorative tape held in the decorative tape holding mechanism has been stuck on to the first part for winding the decorative tape onto the cylindrical object that is rotated and forwarded by the rotating and forwarding mechanism, the decorative tape that is held in the decorative tape holding mechanism is drawn out consequent upon the rotating and forwarding of the cylindrical object by the rotating and forwarding mechanism, and the decorative tape can be wound round in a spiral on the circumference of the cylindrical object.

When the cylindrical object is inserted into the rotating and forwarding mechanism, the cylindrical object is forwarded and given a rotation in one direction by the rotating and forwarding mechanism. Thus, by sticking the end of the decorative tape held by the decorative tape holding mechanism to the starting place for winding the tape onto the cylindrical object and rotating and forwarding the cylindrical object further and rotating it in one direction, the decorative tape held in the decorative tape holding mechanism is drawn out consequent upon the rotating and forwarding of the cylindrical object and it is wound round in a spiral on the circumference of the cylindrical object.

Consequently, after the operator has stuck the end of the decorative tape to the starting place for winding the decorative tape onto the cylindrical object as previously described, the decorative tape can be wound onto the circumference of the cylindrical object evenly simply by the operation of pushing the cylindrical object forward into the rotating and forwarding mechanism or pulling the cylindrical object from midway in the forwarding direction. The decorative tape can be mounted on the cylindrical object in a simple operation.

Moreover, because the cylindrical object is pushed or else pulled from midway, the decorative tape can be fitted on with a virtually identical finish irrespective of individual differences in skill with the fingers even with children and the like.

5 **Brief Description of the Drawings**

The invention will now be described by way of non-limiting example with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

10 Fig. 1 is an oblique view showing the form of a first practical embodiment of the decorative tape winding device relating to this invention;

Fig. 2 is an oblique view showing the state where the tape winding device shown in Fig. 1 is in use;

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Fig. 3 is a plan view of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is an expanded oblique view of part of the rotating and forwarding mechanism of Fig. 3;

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Fig. 5 is an explanatory abridged side view of the rotating and forwarding mechanism; and

Fig. 6 is a plan view showing the form of a second embodiment of this invention.

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Description of the Invention

A form of an embodiment of this invention together with diagrams is explained in detail.

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Decorative tape winding device 1 in the first form of embodiment shown in Fig. 1 to Fig. 5 is provided with a base section 2 and a rotating and forwarding mechanism 3 for

cylindrical object 11 and a decorative tape holding mechanism 4, which holds tape ring 12A of a decorative tape 12 upright.

The base section 2, the rotating and forwarding mechanism 3 and the decorative tape holding mechanism 4 are integrally formed of a suitable synthetic resin.

The base section 2 is made with a flat board shape, for example, a square shape, so that it can be put with stability on a desk or table or the like.

The rotating and forwarding mechanism 3 is fitted integrally with the desired thickness and width on the base section 2 and it is provided at cylindrical object holding walls 5, which hold the cylindrical object 11.

The rotating and forwarding mechanism 3 is provided with insertion hole 6, which runs through in the thickness width direction in the cylindrical object holding wall 5 and where the cylindrical object 11 is inserted. The rotating and forwarding mechanism 3 is also provided with a plurality of support points 7, for example three of them, which support the outer circumference of the cylindrical object 11 at roughly equal spacing and support the cylindrical object 11 roughly in a central position with the ability to rotate in the insertion hole 6.

At least one support point 7 out of the three support points 7 is formed by guide roller 7A, which is located at an inclination to axis O of the cylindrical object 11 as shown in Fig. 3 to Fig. 5 and rotates through the force of friction from pressing against the cylindrical object 11 and makes the cylindrical object 11 rotate in one direction.

In this form of embodiment, the three support points 7 are formed by guide rollers 7A, all positioned inclined at the same angle and in the same direction of inclination to axis O of the cylindrical object 11.

These guide rollers 7A are made of an elastic material such as soft rubber or synthetic resin and are supported with the ability to rotate inside the insertion hole 6. The guide

rollers 7A are positioned so that, when the cylindrical object 11 is inserted into the insertion hole 6, they are in elastic contact with the circumference of the cylindrical object 11 and a force of friction occurs in the place of contact.

- 5 Furthermore, at least one guide roller 7A out of the guide rollers 7A that form the three support points 7 is made able to move a little in radial direction of the cylindrical object 11. This is achieved by, for example, making the bearing hole, outside the diagram, where support shaft 7a of the guide roller 7A engages, slightly elongated.
- 10 The decorative tape holding mechanism 4 is mounted on the base section 2 at the side of cylindrical object 11 that is forwarded by the rotating and forwarding mechanism 3. As the tape ring 12A is kept at an inclination to axis line O of the cylindrical object 11 that is forwarded by the rotating and forwarding mechanism 3, the decorative tape holding mechanism 4 in this form of embodiment is fitted at the same inclination and the same
- 15 angle as the guide rollers 7A to axis line O of the cylindrical object 11 (cf. Fig. 3 and Fig. 4).

This decorative tape holding mechanism 4 is provided with a pair of supporting legs 8, which are fitted integrally at the required spacing on the base section 2, and a tape reel

20 9, which is carried with the ability to rotate between these supporting legs 8.

Shaft reception grooves 8a with a length to match the height of the position of insertion hole 6 on the cylindrical object holding wall 5 are formed facing each other in the sides of the supporting legs 8 from their upper edge. Support shaft 9a of the tape reel 9 is

25 formed so that the shaft can be supported with the ability to be inserted or removed in an up/down direction in these shaft reception grooves 8a.

The decorative tape 12 has printed on its surface a suitable colour, pattern or design or the like and it has an adhesive on the reverse side. Tape ring 12A is formed by winding

30 many layers round on the core of the ring.

A number of types of tape ring 12A of decorative tape 12 are prepared and used by inserting them in the axial direction on the tape reel 9 as desired.

In this form of embodiment, the cylindrical object holding walls 5 in which the rotating and forwarding mechanism 3 is formed are provided as a pair facing each other along the left and right side edges of the base section 2. The decorative tape holding mechanism 4 is positioned in the region between these left and right cylindrical object holding walls 5, that is, in the region between the rotating and forwarding mechanisms 3R, 3F.

Insertion guide 13, which guides the end of cylindrical object 11 to the central position of the rotating and forwarding mechanism 3R, is provided integrally around the insertion hole 6 on the side part. In more detail, it is provided on the side surface of the inner side of the cylindrical object holding wall 5, on the side where the cylindrical object 11 enters at least the rotating and forwarding mechanism 3R of the rotating and forwarding mechanism 3 which is positioned rearwardly, namely on the rear side in the direction in which the cylindrical object 11 is forwarded.

The insertion guide 13 is made in a tubular shape. Its inner circumference is formed in a taper widening towards the exterior. It is made so that, even if the end of the cylindrical object 11 which is rotated and forwarded from the front side of the rotating and forwarding mechanism 3F oscillates, it is captured by the insertion guide 13 and the entry (insertion) can be guided to the central position of the rearward rotating and forwarding mechanism 3R.

Furthermore, the projecting length of the insertion guide 13 is set to lie roughly on the extension of the side edge of the tape ring 12A, which is held in the decorative tape holding mechanism 4. The end part is cut at the same angle of inclination as the angle of inclination of the tape ring 12A and it is configured as tape winding guide edge 13a that can be in rubbing contact with one side edge of the decorative tape 12 that is wound onto the cylindrical object 11.

Next, a detailed explanation will be given for a case where, using the decorative tape winding device 1 configured as above, decorative tape 12 is wound round the circumference of cylindrical object 11, such as a pencil with a circular cross section, for example.

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First of all, the desired tape ring 12A is chosen from a number of tape rings 12A that have been prepared and this is put into and held by decorative tape holding mechanism 4. In concrete terms, shafts 9a of tape reel 9 are slid out upwards from shaft reception grooves 8a of a pair of support legs 8 and the tape reel 9 is taken out from the support
10 legs 8. The selected tape ring 12A is put onto the tape reel 9 and the tape ring 12A is fitted and held with the ability to rotate in the support legs 8 by the support shafts 9a and the shaft reception grooves 8a.

Next, the end of the cylindrical object 11 is inserted in the forwarding direction into
15 insertion hole 6 of front rotating and forwarding mechanism 3F.

Then, the three guide rollers 7A, which form the support point 7, ride on the circumference of cylindrical object 11 and the end of the cylindrical object 11 is supported roughly in the central position of the insertion hole 6.

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Next, when the cylindrical object 11 is inserted, the guide rollers 7A rotate because of the force of friction with the circumference of the cylindrical object 11 and a rotation in the opposite direction to that of the guide rollers 7A is imparted to the cylindrical object 11 (cf. Fig. 3). The cylindrical object 11 is rotated and forwarded at a virtually fixed
25 pitch corresponding to the angle of inclination of the guide rollers 7A.

The end part of the cylindrical object 11, which is forwarded while being rotated from front side rotating and forwarding mechanism 3F, draws out decorative tape 12 from the tape ring 12A that is held in the decorative tape stand 4 in a position where it reaches
30 the vicinity of the insertion guide 13 of the rearward rotating and forwarding mechanism 3R and its end is stuck on so as to be wound on a little onto the end circumference surface of the cylindrical object 11.

Then, when the cylindrical object 11 is again pushed in a forwarding direction, consequent on the rotating and forwarding of the cylindrical object 11, the decorative tape 12 is drawn out (dragged, pulled out) from the tape ring 12A. The decorative tape 12 is wound round the outer surface of the cylindrical object 11 evenly in a spiral and, in addition, the front end part of the cylindrical object 11 goes into the insertion guide 13. Oscillation of the front end part is controlled, and it goes into the insertion hole 6 of the rearward rotating and forwarding mechanism 3R and is guided to the central position of the rearward rotating and forwarding mechanism 3R.

When the end part of the cylindrical object 11 is thus inserted in the rearward rotating and forwarding mechanism 3R, the cylindrical object 11 is held and supported by both the front and rear rotating and forwarding mechanisms 3F and 3R, and stable rotating and forwarding can be carried out. In addition, one side edge of the decorative tape 12 is in rubbing contact with the tape winding guide edge 13a, where the end part of the insertion guide 13 is inclined at an angle, and winding of the decorative tape 12 in a spiral can be done so more evenly.

Then, when the rear end of the cylindrical object 11 has passed out from the front side of the rotating and forwarding mechanism 3F, the rotating and forwarding of the cylindrical object 11 is continued at a virtually fixed pitch by the rearward rotating and forwarding mechanism 3R by pushing the rear end that has come out in the direction of the rearward rotating and forwarding mechanism 3R or by pulling the front end part of the cylindrical object 11 that has passed in through the rearward rotating and forwarding mechanism 3R in the direction of forwarding of the cylindrical object 11.

In the position where the rear end of the cylindrical object 11 has reached the vicinity of the insertion guide 13 and the decorative tape 12 has been wound round up to the rear end of the cylindrical object 11, the decorative tape 12 is cut by a cutter (not shown in the diagram). If the cylindrical object 11 is drawn out while rotating from the rearward rotating and forwarding mechanism 3R, the winding of the decorative tape 12 onto the

surface of the cylindrical object 11 is completed and a cylindrical object 11 covered by the desired decorative tape 12 can be obtained.

Then, if a decorative seal (not shown in the diagram) for preventing winding is stuck
 5 onto (wound on) the end part of the winding of decorative tape 12 on the end part of the cylindrical object 11 as required, the end part of the winding of the decorative tape 12 can be prevented from peeling off.

As another example of mounting on the cylindrical object 11, a seal (omitted from the
 10 diagram) printed with a suitable pattern or message, for example, is stuck onto the decorative tape 12 that has been wound in a spiral onto the surface of the cylindrical object 11, as described above, and using the same decorative tape winding device 1, colourless and transparent or coloured and transparent decorative tape is wound in a spiral onto the whole length of the cylindrical object 11 or in the required region in front
 15 of and behind where the seal is stuck on.

Through this, the pattern or message of the seal can be mounted so as to appear to be floating on a background consisting of the decorative tape 12. Moreover, the seal can be prevented from peeling off by the transparent decorative tape and an artistic design
 20 effect and an original and high quality cylindrical object 11 can be obtained.

Through the decorative tape winding device 1 of this form of embodiment, as described above, when a cylindrical object 11 is inserted into insertion hole 6 of the rotating and forwarding mechanism 3, the cylindrical object 11 can be given a rotation in one
 25 direction and forwarded by the rotating and forwarding mechanism 3. Thus, if the end of the decorative tape 12 is drawn out from the tape ring 12A held in the decorative tape holding mechanism 4 and stuck to the starting part for tape winding on the cylindrical object 11 and the cylindrical object 11 is rotated and forwarded, the decorative tape 12 can be drawn out (pulled out, dragged) from the tape ring 12A consequent upon the
 30 rotating and forwarding of the cylindrical object 11 and wound around evenly in a spiral on the surface of the cylindrical object 11. Therefore, the cylindrical object 11 can have the desired colour, pattern or design and the like mounted on it.

Moreover, after the operator has stuck the end of decorative tape 12 to the starting part for winding onto the cylindrical object 11, as described above, the cylindrical object 11 is pushed into the rotating and forwarding mechanism 3, or the cylindrical object 11 is pulled from midway in the forwarding direction, and by this action alone, the decorative tape 12 can be wound round evenly in a spiral on the outside of the cylindrical object 11. Therefore, the cylindrical object 11 can have the desired decorative tape 12 mounted on it by a simple operation.

Accordingly, even children can fit a decorative tape 12 with an almost identical finish, irrespective of their individual skill with the fingers.

In particular, in this form of an embodiment, the rotating and forwarding mechanism 3 is provided with a plurality of support points 7, which support the cylindrical object 11 roughly in the central position inside the insertion hole 6 into which the cylindrical object 11 is pushed. At least one support point 7 is formed by a guide roller 7A, which is placed at an inclination to axis line O of the cylindrical object 11, rotates through the force of friction by being pressed by the cylindrical object 11 and makes the cylindrical object 11 rotate in one direction. Because of this, the rotating and forwarding of the cylindrical object 11 through rotation on account of friction with the guide roller 7A is done with a virtually fixed pitch. Through this, decorative tape 12 can be wound round evenly in a spiral at the angle of placement of the tape ring 12A irrespective of increases/decreases in the push force on the cylindrical object 11. In short, the cylindrical object 11 is rotated and forwarded while the guide roller 7A always keeps the cylindrical object 11 in the required position irrespective of the push force on the cylindrical object 11 and therefore, there are no failures even with children who are unable to control increases/decreases in the push force on the cylindrical object 11.

Furthermore, as at least one of the rollers 7A can move a little in radial direction of the cylindrical object 11, even if the cylindrical object 11, besides being formed with a circular cross section, is formed with a multilateral cross section such as a triangular shape or hexagonal shape with the same external radius, proper rotating and forwarding

of the cylindrical object 11 can still be done through the rollers 7A following in the radial direction along the peripheral surface.

5 As the rotating and forwarding mechanisms 3 are arranged in at least a pair in positions facing each other at the requisite spacing on the base section, in the process of rotating and forwarding the cylindrical object 11, it is held and supported by both of these and stable rotating and forwarding can be carried out.

10 Moreover, as the decorative tape holding mechanism 4 is situated in the region between the pair of rotating and forwarding mechanisms 3, the decorative tape 12, which is wound round in a spiral onto the cylindrical object 11, can be pressed by the rearward rotating and forwarding mechanism 3R onto the circumference of the cylindrical object 11 on which the decorative tape 12 is wound on in spiral in the forwarding direction of the cylindrical object 11 and the decorative tape 12 can be given an excellent finish.

15 Furthermore, as tubular insertion guide 13 is provided on the side part of the side where the cylindrical object 11 enters into the rearward rotating and forwarding mechanism 3R, even if the tip part of the cylindrical object 11 forwarded from the front side rotating and forwarding mechanism 3F oscillates somewhat, it is captured by the
20 insertion guide 13 and can be guided into the central position of the rearward rotating and forwarding mechanism 3R, and the cylindrical object 11 can be smoothly rotated and forwarded.

25 In addition, the tip part of the insertion guide 13 is formed at roughly the same angle of inclination as the angle of inclination of placement of the tape ring 12A held in the decorative tape holding mechanism 4 and forms tape winding guide 13a that can be in rubbing contact with one side edge of the decorative tape 12 that is wound onto the cylindrical object 11. Therefore, one side edge of the decorative tape 12, which is drawn out (dragged, pulled out) from the tape ring 12A consequent upon the rotating
30 and forwarding of the cylindrical object 11, is in rubbing contact with the tape winding guide 13a. Accordingly, the winding angle of the decorative tape 12 in the position

where it approaches the cylindrical object 11 is kept fixed, and winding of the decorative tape 12 in a spiral can be done so more evenly.

Fig. 6 shows a second form of an embodiment of this invention. In this embodiment, the angle of the decorative tape holding mechanism 4 can be moved on the base section 2 and its position can be adjusted.

As shown, the pair of supporting legs 8 of the decorative tape holding mechanism 4 is set on a moveable plate 10 and is formed as a separate body from the base section 2.

The moveable base plate 10 is connected with the ability to rotate and slide on the base section 2 via a support shaft 10a in a position in the centre of the pair of support legs 8.

The movement of this moveable plate 10 is restricted to the scope of angle θ between inclination position A of the decorative tape stand 4 in the first form of embodiment and inclination position B, the symmetrically opposite line to this by means (not shown in the diagram) of a stopper or a rotation limiting mechanism (click mechanism) that can maintain the stopped position by the engagement with each other of projections and recesses in the sliding surface and the base section 2.

Consequently, if the position of the decorative tape holding mechanism 4 is adjusted to the inclination position B, that is, the reverse of inclination position A in the first embodiment, the cylindrical object 11 can be inserted in the opposite direction to that in the first form of embodiment into the rotating and forwarding mechanism 3 and pushed. In this manner, the decorative tape 12 can be fitted on in a spiral in the reverse direction.

Through this, it can accommodate an operator who is either right handed or left handed and this can give increased convenience.

In this case, if insertion guide 13 is also put onto the front side rotating and forwarding mechanism 3F in a similar position to the insertion guide 13 on the rearward rotating and forwarding mechanism 3R, then oscillation of the front end part of the cylindrical

object 11 can be coped with, even with rotating and forwarding the cylindrical object 11 from the opposite side and control of the winding angle of the decorative tape 12 can be done by the tape winding guide edge 13a.

- 5 If the decorative tape holding mechanism 4 can have its position adjusted by moving the angle with the base section 2, as in this second embodiment, then, if the position can be adjusted in small units of angle by a click mechanism or the like, the winding angle of the decorative tape 12 can be adjusted at will, and the appearance of the spiral winding of the decorative tape 12 can be varied.

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In the embodiments, an example was shown where the rotating and forwarding mechanism 3 was provided as a pair of mechanisms 3F, 3R. However, in another arrangement, only one mechanism may be provided. In this case, the position for locating the decorative tape holding mechanism 4 may be either in front of or behind the
15 rotating and forwarding mechanism 3 in the direction of forwarding the cylindrical object 11.

Furthermore, any of the plurality of support points 7 for the rotating and forwarding mechanism 3 may consist of a guide roller 7A, which is in elastic contact with the
20 circumference of the cylindrical object 11 and rotates through friction resistance. However, one or two support points 7 may consist of guide roller 7A and the other support points 7 can be made as balls that rotate in elastic contact with the circumference of the cylindrical object 11 or projections that are fixed inside the insertion hole 6.

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In addition, the plurality of support points 7 can be positioned at either the front or the rear of the insertion hole 6 and can be made to increase the stability of support for the cylindrical object 11.

- 30 Furthermore, in practical embodiments of the invention, a cutter for the decorative tape 12 may be put in a position close to the insertion guide 13 for the cylindrical object 11

and the operation of cutting the tape on completion of winding on the decorative tape 12 can be made easy.

CLAIMS

1. A decorative tape winding device, characterised in that it is provided with:

5 a rotating and forwarding mechanism, which forwards and imparts a rotation in one direction to a cylindrical object through pushing the cylindrical object into an insertion hole in the axial direction or pulling the cylindrical objection from the insertion hole; and

10 a decorative tape holding mechanism, which holds decorative tape at an inclination to the axis line of the cylindrical object that is rotated and forwarded by the rotating and forwarding mechanism;

wherein the rotating and forwarding mechanism has a plurality of support points that support a cylindrical object roughly in a central position inside an insertion hole of the rotating and forwarding mechanism in which the cylindrical object is inserted; and at least one support point consists of a guide roller positioned at an inclination to the
15 axis line of the cylindrical object; and the guide roller rotates through the force of friction from pressing against or pulling the cylindrical object, and can forward and impart a rotation in one direction to the cylindrical object; and

the decorative tape may be held in said decorative tape holding mechanism such that, when it is stuck on to a starting part for the decorative tape winding on the
20 cylindrical object, the decorative tape is pulled out as a result of the rotating and forwarding of the cylindrical object and the decorative tape can be wound round in a spiral on the circumference of the cylindrical object.

2. The decorative tape winding device as claimed in Claim 1, characterised in that
25 at least one guide roller can move in a radial direction of the cylindrical object.

3. The decorative tape winding device as claimed in any one of Claims 1 or 2, characterised in that the decorative tape holding mechanism is positioned on a base section of the device such that it is at a side of a cylindrical object that is rotated and
30 forwarded by the rotating and forwarding mechanism, which is also positioned on said base section.

4. The decorative tape winding device as claimed in Claim 3, characterised in that the rotating and forwarding mechanism is composed of at least a pair of rotating and forwarding mechanisms that are set at a requisite spacing on said base section; and the decorative tape holding mechanism is positioned in the region between the pair of rotating and forwarding mechanisms.

5. The decorative tape winding device as claimed in Claim 4, characterised in that an insertion guide, which has a tubular shape and guides the tip of a cylindrical object to the central position of the rotating and forwarding mechanism, is provided on at least the one of the rotating and forwarding mechanisms that is positioned rearwardly relative to the direction of forwarding of the cylindrical object on the side part where a cylindrical object enters the rotating and forwarding mechanism.

6. The decorative tape winding mechanism as claimed in Claim 5, characterised in that an end part of said insertion guide is formed at an angle of inclination roughly the same as the angle of inclination of the placement of said decorative tape holding mechanism; and it is configured to provide a tape winding guide edge, with which one side edge of the decorative tape that is wound on a cylindrical object can be in rubbing contact with the tape winding guide edge.

7. The decorative tape winding device as claimed in any one of Claims 3 to 6, characterised in that said decorative tape holding mechanism is arranged such that its position may be adjusted in order to change its angle relative to the said base section.