

A CONTAINER FOR BAGS MADE OF PLASTICS
FILM

This invention relates to a container for bags made of plastics film, for use for example in kitchens, food shops, restaurants, and hospitals, and more particularly, to a plastics bag container which allows the bags, when picked up, to be released one by one without becoming tangled with the remaining bags.

In recent years plastics bags have become popular for wrapping foods, and almost taken the place of conventional paper pags because of the advantages of strength and impermeability. However, plastics film can be slippery on its surface, and entanglement is likely to happen when it is taken out of a container. In the known containers many sheets of bags are contained in layers, and when only one sheet is wanted, another sheet or sheets tend to follow the picked up sheet, thereby causing an entanglement in the container. In addition, when film bags are being laid in layers, the container must be large enough to fit the size of the film bag, thereby resulting in a large size and occupying a large space.

According to the present invention, a container for bags made of plastics film has a base, two side walls extending upwards from the edges of the base and inclined towards each other, a take-out opening region provided in the top of the container opposite the base, and a rack within the container, over which the bags are draped, the rack comprising one or more supporting flaps extending from the base towards the opening.

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

Figure 1 is a plan view, partly broken away, of a container embodying the present invention;

Figure 2 is a vertical cross-section taken along the line II-II in Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is a vertical cross-section through a modified version of the container.

Referring to Figure 2, reference numeral 2 designates a container in which a rack 3 is located for supporting thereon bags 4 of plastics film. The container has a trapezium-shaped cross-section with four sides 2a, 2b, 2c and 2d, among which the sides 2c and 2d will be hereinafter referred to as the bottom 2c and the ceiling 2d, the bottom 2c and the ceiling 2d being the parallel pair of sides in the trapezium cross-section. The two sides 2a and 2b extending upwards from the edges of the base 2c are equally inclined towards each other. The rack has three sides 3a, 3b and 3c, which will be hereinafter referred to as the supporting flaps 3a and 3b, and the bottom 3c, respectively. The two supporting flaps 3a and 3b are spaced so as to allow the bags hung thereon loosely to drape therebetween as shown in Figure 2. Each supporting flap is approximately parallel with one opposing side wall 2a or 2b of the container with a sufficient space interposed to allow bags to be located therebetween. The container 2 is provided with a take-out opening 1 in the ceiling 2d for enabling the user to pick up a bag therethrough.

The bags 4 made of plastics film are hung over the rack 3 with their central portions loosely draping between the supporting flaps 3a and 3b, wherein the draping portions rest on the bottom 3c of the rack. The container 2 and the rack 3 are made of a stiff paper such as cardboard.

In the embodiment referred to above the container 2 is substantially a trapezium in cross-section, but as shown in Figure 3, it can be triangular, wherein the rack 3 can be a triangular prism. When the rack 3 is a triangular prism, the bags 4 are placed over the triangular body without having draping portions.

In this case, both terminating end portions of the bags 4 are turned inwards along the bottom 2c of the container, thereby preventing the film bags from loose movement on the rack. The take-out opening 1 is again provided in the top vertex of the container. In either case, the take-out opening 1 can be produced by breaking along a needle punched periphery when the container is used.

The cross-section of the rack is not limited to a trapezium and a triangle, but it can be variously shaped, such as quadratic (rectangular), semi-circular or letter-L shaped. In common with these variations, when the supporting flaps have no space therebetween, the bags are placed thereon without having draping portions but with their terminating ends being turned inwards along the bottom of the container.

In operation, bags are hung on the supporting flaps of the rack, and the rack is housed in the container. A user breaks the take-out opening along a needle punched (scored) periphery, and picks up the first bag in the container through the take-out opening. When necessary, the bags are taken out one after another. The film bag can be easily picked up by the thumb and forefinger.

CLAIMS

1. A container for bags made of plastics film having a base, two side walls extending upwards from the edges of the base and inclined towards each other, a take-out opening region provided in the top of the container opposite the base, and a rack within
5 the container, over which the bags are draped, the rack comprising one or more supporting flaps extending from the base towards the opening.
2. A container as claimed in claim 1 in which the cross-
10 section of the container is generally triangular.
3. A container as claimed in claim 1 in which two supporting flaps are arranged substantially parallel with respective side walls of the container and spaced so that the bags can drape
15 therebetween.
4. A container as claimed in claim 1 or 2 in which the rack is a triangular prism.
- 20 5. A container as claimed in claim 1 or 2 in which the rack is semi-circular in cross-section.
6. A container as claimed in claim 1 or 2 in which the rack is L-shaped in cross-section.
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7. A container according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the take-out opening region has a needle punched periphery.
- 30 8. A container for bags made of plastics film, substantially as herein described with reference to Figs 1 and 2 or to Fig 3 of the accompanying drawings.

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