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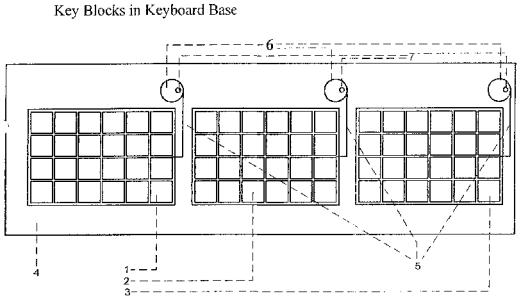
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(54) Title: KEYPADS FOR COMPUTERS AND TYPEWRITERS



(57) Abstract: A keystroke entry device for computers and typewriters is disclosed. The device is a 5 set of two keypads (35, 37) one for each hand, with casings (36, 38) for holding blocks of keys (1, 2 and 3). When not used in keypads, the key blocks are placed in a keyboard base (4) to become functioning parts of a keyboard. Each key block has a coiled extensible cord (5) connected to lire computer thus enabling keystroke entry at a distance. Each key block also has its own infrared beam projector system (17, I8) 10 that enables freestanding remote operation. The alphabet keys are organized, into six sequential strings headed by the vowels A, E, I, O, U, and Y (Fig. 4). This vowel based arrangement makes it easy to master the position of individual alphabet keys. Three consecutive strings are placed in one key block, and the other three in another key block (Fig. 4: 1, 2). Punctuation keys and essential typewriting function, keys are placed in unoccupied key sites in these key blocks. Single-handed typewriting is possible when these two key blocks are put together inside casings of a single keypad. They may nevertheless be put side by side for bi manual typewriting. With tile numeral keys and calculating operation keys specifically organized in a third key block (Fig. 4: 3), this device allows single handed calculating operations. With duplicate calculating operation keys placed in another key block (Fig. 4: 2), bimanual calculating operation is possible. Alternatively key blocks may be fixed to the two keypads without using casings, the keys being variously organized to suit (46, 47 and 48). As an option keys other than the ordinary ones may be organized as removable key blocks placed inside the keyboard base to be selectively included into the keypads (Fig. 6). Other variations of the device are also disclosed, including: alternative structuring of the keypad (Fig. 5) and adaptation to accommodate conventional layout of keys 35 into three blocks.

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