CLAIMS

1. A container for storing at least one personal care item, the container comprising:

a base plate defining an aperture, the base plate having top and bottom surfaces;

a well having an open top portion and a closed bottom portion, the top and bottom portions collectively defining a chamber accessible through the open top portion, the well having a seat abutting the base plate bottom surface, the well passing through the aperture and having a flange overlying a portion of the base plate; and

a cap removably secured atop the chamber, the cap abutting the flange such that the flange seals between the cap and the base plate when the cap is secured atop the chamber;

wherein the well has an uppermost point and a lowermost point and a height defined therebetween, the lowermost point being collapsible toward the uppermost point to a maximum distance of: at least forty percent of the height and no more than sixty percent of the height.

2. The container of claim 1, wherein:

the base plate has a wall portion extending above the top surface and encircling the aperture;

the flange overlies the wall portion;

the wall portion has threads; and

the cap has threads complementary to the wall portion threads for removably securing the cap atop the chamber.

3. The container of claim 2, wherein the closed bottom portion of the well has an exterior with a central flat portion and a curved portion extending from the central flat portion to the seat.

4. The container of claim 3, wherein:

the open top portion has a generally vertical tubular wall;

the seat extends inwardly from the curved portion to the tubular wall;

an external diameter of the tubular wall is between two two-thirds and three-fourths of an external diameter of the seat; and

the lowermost point of the well lies along the central flat portion.

5. The container of claim 1, wherein the open top portion has a generally vertical tubular wall and an external diameter of the tubular wall is between two two-thirds and three-fourths of an external diameter of the seat.

6. The container of claim 5, wherein an external diameter of the cap is generally equal to the external diameter of the seat.

7. The container of claim 1, wherein an external diameter of the cap is generally equal to the external diameter of the seat.

8. The container of claim 1, wherein the well has an upper seat abutting the base plate top surface.

9. The container of claim 1, wherein the base plate is rigid.

10. The container of claim 1, wherein:

the base plate defines a second aperture;

a second well passes through the second aperture and is coupled to the base plate; and

a second cap is removably secured atop a chamber of the second well.

11. A container for storing at least one personal care item, the container consisting essentially of:

a base plate defining a plurality of generally uniform apertures, the base plate having top and bottom surfaces;

a plurality of generally uniform wells, a number of the wells being the same as a number of the apertures, each well passing through a respective said aperture and having:

an open top portion and a closed bottom portion, the top and bottom portions collectively defining a chamber accessible through the open top portion;

a seat abutting the base plate bottom surface;

a flange overlying a portion of the base plate; and

an uppermost point and a lowermost point and a height defined therebetween; and

a plurality of generally uniform caps, a number of the caps being the same as the number of the wells, each cap removably secured atop a respective said chamber, each cap abutting a respective said flange such that the flanges seal between the caps and the base plate when the caps are secured atop the chambers.

12. The container of claim 11, wherein the base plate is generally rectangular and the apertures are arranged linearly along a longitudinal axis of the base plate.

13. The container of claim 11, wherein:

the base plate has a plurality of wall portions extending above the top surface, each wall portion encircling a respective said aperture; and

each flange overlies a respective said wall portion.

14. The container of claim 11, wherein the wells are secured to the base plate.

15. A container for storing at least one personal care item, the container consisting essentially of:

a base plate defining a plurality of apertures, the base plate having top and bottom surfaces;

a plurality of wells, a number of the wells being the same as a number of the apertures, each well passing through a respective said aperture and having:

an open top portion and a closed bottom portion, the top and bottom portions collectively defining a chamber accessible through the open top portion;

a seat abutting the base plate bottom surface; and

a flange overlying a portion of the base plate;

a plurality of caps, a number of the caps being the same as the number of the wells, each cap removably secured atop a respective said chamber, each cap abutting a respective said flange such that the flanges seal between the caps and the base plate when the caps are secured atop the chambers.

16. The container of claim 15, wherein each well has an uppermost point and a lowermost point and a height defined therebetween, the lowermost point being collapsible toward the uppermost point.

17. The container of claim 16, wherein:

the closed bottom portion of each well has an exterior with a central flat portion and a curved portion extending from the central flat portion to a respective said seat;

the open top portion of each well has a generally vertical tubular wall; and

the seat of each well extends inwardly from a respective said curved portion to a respective said tubular wall.

18. The container of claim 17, wherein:

an external diameter of each tubular wall is between two two-thirds and three-fourths of an external diameter of each seat; and

an external diameter of each cap is generally equal to the external diameter of each seat.

19. The container of claim 17, wherein:

the base plate is generally rectangular and the plurality of apertures are arranged generally linearly along a longitudinal axis of the base plate;

a width of the base plate measured generally perpendicularly to the longitudinal axis of the base plate is no more than two inches; and

a maximum extension of the wells below the bottom surface of the base plate is no more than three-quarters inch.

20. The container of claim 15, wherein:

the base plate is generally rectangular and the plurality of apertures are arranged generally linearly along a longitudinal axis of the base plate;

a width of the base plate measured generally perpendicularly to the longitudinal axis of the base plate is no more than two inches; and

a maximum extension of the wells below the bottom surface of the base plate is no more than three-quarters inch.

21. The container of claim 20, wherein each well has an uppermost point and a lowermost point and a height defined therebetween, the lowermost point being collapsible toward the uppermost point.

22. The container of claim 15, wherein the base plate and the closed bottom portions of the wells are sized such that when at least one of the closed bottom portions rests on a user's hand:

one side of a respective cap is accessible to a thumb of a user's first hand while an opposite side of the respective cap is accessible to another finger of the user's first hand, whereby the respective cap is removable and replaceable by the thumb and the another finger.

23. The container of claim 22, wherein each well has an uppermost point and a lowermost point and a height defined therebetween, the lowermost point being collapsible toward the uppermost point.

24. The container of claim 23, wherein the lowermost point is collapsible toward the uppermost point to a maximum distance of: at least forty percent of the height and no more than sixty percent of the height.

25. The container of claim 22, wherein:

the base plate has a plurality of wall portions extending above the top surface, each wall portion encircling a respective said aperture; and

each flange overlies a respective said wall portion.

26. The container of claim 15, wherein the base plate and the closed bottom portions of the wells are sized such that when at least one of the closed bottom portions rests on a support surface:

one side of a respective cap is accessible to a thumb of a user's first hand while an opposite side of the respective cap is accessible to another finger of the user's first hand, whereby the respective cap is removable and replaceable by the thumb and the another finger.