

Description

This invention pertains to a garment bag of the type used in traveling which is folded in half to a suitcase-like configuration. More particularly, the present invention relates to a garment bag having improvements that allow previously unused space to be used for packing items in the garment bag.

One recognized approach to achieving further packing capability in a traveling garment bag has been to provide exterior pockets within which small items can be packed. When shoes or other similarly sized items are placed in these exterior pockets, the bag can become somewhat lopsided and awkward to handle in its folded configuration. Items like shoes can be placed in the interior of the bag, but since there is no method of retaining them, they are free to move about and wrinkle and dislodge the clothes.

INVENTION SUMMARY

It has already been proposed in US-A-1.520.044 or in US-A-3.175.658 to provide a trunk or a bag with a corner compartment or pocket. But in both cases, the proposed arrangement is not of a convenient use since the user needs to open the front panel to access the contents of the compartment and thus can expose the hanging garments in the main packing interior space. The ventilation of the corner pocket or compartment can not be easily provided.

In accordance with the present invention there is provided a garment bag of the type adapted to fold into a suitcase-like configuration for traveling and having an interior space within which to pack garments, the interior space being formed essentially by an exterior panel, a left and a right vertical side gusset, a top gusset, a bottom gusset, and an interior panel flexibly connected to the bottom gusset and selectively removably connected to the top and side gussets, said garment bag comprising at least one corner compartment located at the upper corner of the garment bag, characterized in that this compartment is formed essentially by a divider panel connected to the exterior panel and outstanding between a side gusset and a middle location on the top gusset, and by an access flap which is operatively connected to the divider panel and to the portions of the side and top gussets between the ends of the divider panel and the corner of the bag at which the corner compartment is located, and in that the interior panel is also selectively removably connectable to the divider panel along the extension of the divider panel between the side and top gussets.

Articles like shoes can be packed in the corner

compartment and confined within the interior of the bag to avoid creating a lopsided or unwieldy condition in the folded garment bag.

The features and specific details of the present invention can be more completely understood by reference to the following description of the preferred embodiment taken in conjunction with the drawings, and from the appended claims.

Drawings

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a garment bag of the present invention illustrated in a vertical suspended position with a front panel disconnected or unzipped from and hanging below the bag, and with an interior flap of one of two corner compartments disconnected or unzipped to reveal the interior of the corner compartment, and with other portions broken out to reveal internal elements.

FIG. 2 is another perspective view of the garment bag shown in FIG. 1, but illustrating a stay bar and cross straps positioned above the bag, and a pair of garment connecting belts on a lower portion of the interior panel disconnected from one another, and a long coat positioned within the interior of the bag.

FIG. 3 is another perspective view of the garment bag and coat shown in FIG. 2, but with the stay bar and cross straps in an operative connected position across the upper portion of the coat and with the lower interior panel belts in an operative connected position across the lower portion of the coat.

FIG. 4 is another perspective view of the garment bag shown in FIG. 3 with the interior panel zipped or connected to the bag to confine the coat within the garment bag, and with a portion broken out to reveal the condition of the lower portion of the coat packed within the garment bag.

FIG. 5 is a perspective view of the garment bag shown in FIG. 4 folded into a suitcase-like configuration with a portion broken out to reveal the condition of the upper portion of the coat packed within the folded garment bag.

Preferred Embodiment

The garment bag 10 of the present invention is illustrated in FIG. 1 and comprises an interior panel 12, and exterior panel 14, a left and a right side gusset 16 and 18, respectively, a bottom gusset 20, and a top gusset 22. The garment bag 10 is suspended in a vertical position by an upper strap 24 and hook 26. The interior panel 12 is zipped away from the remaining portion of the bag by opening zippers 28 on opposite sides of the interior

panel 12. As shown in FIG. 1, the side of the interior panel 12 which normally faces the interior space of the bag 10 is revealed. The features of the garment bag 10 will generally be described and claimed in relation to the manner in which it is illustrated in FIG. 1. Nevertheless, it should be understood that the top gusset 22 is actually facing downward when the garment bag is folded into the suitcase-like configuration (FIG. 5). Other than the zippers and other elements specifically mentioned herein, the garment bag 10 is constructed entirely of flexible or fabric-type material. Portions of the fabric are fastened together by sewing or other conventional techniques.

In each upper corner of the garment bag 10 there is a corner compartment 30. Each corner compartment 30 is defined by a triangular shaped corner section 32 of the exterior panel 14, a triangularly shaped interior access flap 34, an interior divider panel 36, a portion 38 of the top gusset 22 extending from an exterior corner inward to a point near the middle of the top gusset 22, and a portion 40 of the appropriate side gusset 16 or 18 extending downward from the upper corner of the bag 10 to a location where the side gusset 16 or 18 and the divider panel 36 intersect. Each corner compartment 30 approximates the configuration of a right triangle. The divider panel 36 is connected at its upper end to the top gusset 22 and at its lower end to the appropriate side gusset 16 or 18. A zipper 42 connects the interior flap 34 to the edge of the side gusset portion 40 and the top gusset portion 38. Opening or unzipping the zipper 42 opens the interior of the corner compartment 30 for access. A rigid support 44 is connected to and extends across the top gusset 22 for the purpose of providing form and support for the bag 10 in the suspended position to hold its interior open for packing as shown in FIG. 1. A flap 46 extends from the support 44 down within the interior of the corner compartment along each side gusset portion 40. The flap 46 is formed of semi-flexible material and is employed for the purpose of adding protection and strength to the corner compartments 30. Eyelets 49 are formed into the interior flap 34 for the purpose of allowing air circulation between the interior and exterior of each corner compartment 30. Each corner compartment is of sufficient size to receive therein a shoe of an adult human (not shown).

Claims

1. An improved garment bag (10) of the type adapted to fold into a suitcase-like configuration for traveling and having an interior space

within which to pack garments, the interior space being formed essentially by an exterior panel (14), a left and a right vertical side gusset (16, 18), a top gusset (22), a bottom gusset (20), and an interior panel (12) flexibly connected to the bottom gusset (20) and selectively removably connected to the top (22) and side gussets (16, 18), said garment bag comprising at least one corner compartment (30) located at the upper corner of the garment bag, characterized in that this compartment is formed essentially by a divider panel (36) connected to the exterior panel (14) and outstanding between a side gusset (16, 18) and a middle location on the top gusset (22), and by an access flap (34) which is operatively connected to the divider panel (36) and to the portions of the side (16, 18) and top (22) gussets between the ends of the divider panel (36) and the corner of the bag at which the corner compartment is located, and in that the interior panel (12) is also selectively removably connectable to the divider panel (36) along the extension of the divider panel between the side (16, 18) and (22) top gussets.

2. An improved garment bag as defined in Claim 1 characterized in that the access flap (34) is selectively removably connected along an outer edge thereof to edges of the portions of the side (16, 18) and top (22) gussets between the location where the divider panel (36) intersects the side and top gussets.
3. An improved garment bag as defined in Claim 1 characterized in that the size of the corner compartment (30) is sufficient to accept therein a shoe of an adult human without substantially distorting the corner compartment.
4. An improved garment bag as defined in Claim 1 characterized in that the divider panel (36) extends substantially straight and creates a corner compartment (30) of a substantially triangularly shaped configuration.
5. An improved garment bag as defined in Claim 1 characterized in that it further comprises a pair of corner compartments (30), each located in an opposite upper corner of the garment bag (10).
6. An improved garment bag as defined in Claim 1 characterized in that at least one of the elements of the corner compartment (30) includes means for allowing air to circulate between the exterior and the interior of the corner compartment.

panel 12. As shown in FIG. 1, the side of the interior panel 12 which normally faces the interior space of the bag 10 is revealed. The features of the garment bag 10 will generally be described and claimed in relation to the manner in which it is illustrated in FIG. 1. Nevertheless, it should be understood that the top gusset 22 is actually facing downward when the garment bag is folded into the suitcase-like configuration (FIG. 5). Other than the zippers and other elements specifically mentioned herein, the garment bag 10 is constructed entirely of flexible or fabric-type material. Portions of the fabric are fastened together by sewing or other conventional techniques.

In each upper corner of the garment bag 10 there is a corner compartment 30. Each corner compartment 30 is defined by a triangular shaped corner section 32 of the exterior panel 14, a triangularly shaped interior access flap 34, an interior divider panel 36, a portion 38 of the top gusset 22 extending from an exterior corner inward to a point near the middle of the top gusset 22, and a portion 40 of the appropriate side gusset 16 or 18 extending downward from the upper corner of the bag 10 to a location where the side gusset 16 or 18 and the divider panel 36 intersect. Each corner compartment 30 approximates the configuration of a right triangle. The divider panel 36 is connected at its upper end to the top gusset 22 and at its lower end to the appropriate side gusset 16 or 18. A zipper 42 connects the interior flap 34 to the edge of the side gusset portion 40 and the top gusset portion 38. Opening or unzipping the zipper 42 opens the interior of the corner compartment 30 for access. A rigid support 44 is connected to and extends across the top gusset 22 for the purpose of providing form and support for the bag 10 in the suspended position to hold its interior open for packing as shown in FIG. 1. A flap 46 extends from the support 44 down within the interior of the corner compartment along each side gusset portion 40. The flap 46 is formed of semi-flexible material and is employed for the purpose of adding protection and strength to the corner compartments 30. Eyelets 49 are formed into the interior flap 34 for the purpose of allowing air circulation between the interior and exterior of each corner compartment 30. Each corner compartment is of sufficient size to receive therein a shoe of an adult human (not shown).

Claims

1. An improved garment bag (10) of the type adapted to fold into a suitcase-like configuration for traveling and having an interior space

within which to pack garments, the interior space being formed essentially by an exterior panel (14), a left and a right vertical side gusset (16, 18), a top gusset (22), a bottom gusset (20), and an interior panel (12) flexibly connected to the bottom gusset (20) and selectively removably connected to the top (22) and side gussets (16, 18), said garment bag comprising at least one corner compartment (30) located at the upper corner of the garment bag, characterized in that this compartment is formed essentially by a divider panel (36) connected to the exterior panel (14) and outstanding between a side gusset (16, 18) and a middle location on the top gusset (22), and by an access flap (34) which is operatively connected to the divider panel (36) and to the portions of the side (16, 18) and top (22) gussets between the ends of the divider panel (36) and the corner of the bag at which the corner compartment is located, and in that the interior panel (12) is also selectively removably connectable to the divider panel (36) along the extension of the divider panel between the side (16, 18) and (22) top gussets.

2. An improved garment bag as defined in Claim 1 characterized in that the access flap (34) is selectively removably connected along an outer edge thereof to edges of the portions of the side (16, 18) and top (22) gussets between the location where the divider panel (36) intersects the side and top gussets.
3. An improved garment bag as defined in Claim 1 characterized in that the size of the corner compartment (30) is sufficient to accept therein a shoe of an adult human without substantially distorting the corner compartment.
4. An improved garment bag as defined in Claim 1 characterized in that the divider panel (36) extends substantially straight and creates a corner compartment (30) of a substantially triangularly shaped configuration.
5. An improved garment bag as defined in Claim 1 characterized in that it further comprises a pair of corner compartments (30), each located in an opposite upper corner of the garment bag (10).
6. An improved garment bag as defined in Claim 1 characterized in that at least one of the elements of the corner compartment (30) includes means for allowing air to circulate between the exterior and the interior of the corner compartment.



7. An improved garment bag as defined in Claim 2 characterized in that each selectively removable connection of the interior panel (12) and each access flap (34) is achieved by means of a zipper.

Revendications

1. Sac à vêtements (10) perfectionné, du type qui est agencé de façon à pouvoir être plié, pour le voyage, suivant une forme analogue à celle d'une valise et qui comporte un volume intérieur à l'intérieur duquel on peut ranger des vêtements, ce volume intérieur étant délimité essentiellement par un panneau extérieur (14), une paroi latérale verticale gauche (16), une paroi latérale verticale droite (18), une paroi supérieure (22), une paroi inférieure (20) et un panneau intérieur (12) qui est rendu solidaire de la paroi inférieure (20) d'une manière pliable et qui est rendu solidaire de la paroi supérieure (22) et des parois latérales (16, 18) d'une manière séparable de façon sélective, ce sac à vêtements comprenant, disposé à son coin supérieur, au moins un compartiment de coin (30), caractérisé en ce que ce compartiment est délimité essentiellement par un panneau de séparation (36), solidaire du panneau extérieur (14) et se dressant entre une paroi latérale (16, 18) et un emplacement intermédiaire de la paroi supérieure (22), et par un volet d'accès (34) qui est relié, de façon à pouvoir remplir sa fonction, au panneau de séparation (36) et aux parties de la paroi latérale (16, 18) et de la paroi supérieure (22) qui sont situées entre les extrémités du panneau de séparation (36) et le coin du sac où est situé le compartiment de coin, et en ce que le panneau intérieur (12) est agencé aussi de façon à pouvoir être rendu solidaire du panneau de séparation (36), d'une manière amovible de façon sélective, le long du prolongement de ce panneau de séparation qui est situé entre la paroi latérale (16, 18) et la paroi supérieure (22).
2. Sac à vêtements perfectionné suivant la revendication 1, caractérisé en ce que le volet d'accès (34) est rendu solidaire, d'une manière amovible de façon sélective et le long d'un bord extérieur de ce volet, à des bords des parties de la paroi latérale (16, 18) et de la paroi supérieure (22) qui sont situées entre les emplacements où le panneau de séparation (36) rencontre cette paroi latérale et cette paroi supérieure.

3. Sac à vêtements perfectionné suivant la revendication 1, caractérisé en ce que la taille du compartiment de coin (30) est suffisante pour y loger une chaussure d'un être humain adulte sans déformer notablement ce compartiment de coin.
4. Sac à vêtements perfectionné suivant la revendication 1, caractérisé en ce que le panneau de séparation (36) s'étend d'une manière pratiquement rectiligne et détermine un compartiment de coin (30) d'une forme pratiquement triangulaire.
5. Sac à vêtements perfectionné suivant la revendication 1, caractérisé en ce qu'il comprend par ailleurs deux compartiments de coin (30), disposés chacun dans un coin supérieur opposé de ce sac à vêtements (10).
6. Sac à vêtements perfectionné suivant la revendication 1, caractérisé en ce qu'au moins l'un des éléments du compartiment de coin (30) comporte des moyens servant à permettre à l'air de circuler entre l'extérieur et l'intérieur du compartiment de coin.
7. Sac à vêtements perfectionné suivant la revendication 2, caractérisé en ce que chaque jonction du panneau intérieur (12) et de chaque volet d'accès (34) qui est séparable d'une façon sélective est obtenue à l'aide d'une fermeture à glissière.

Ansprüche

1. Verbesselter Kleidersack (10), der für das Reisen in eine Koffer-ähnliche Gestalt faltbar ist und einen Innenraum aufweist, der zur Aufnahme von Bekleidungsstücken bestimmt ist und im wesentlichen von einer Außenplatte (14), einem linken und einem rechten vertikalen Seitenrahmenteil (16, 18), einem oberen Rahmenteil (22), einem unteren Rahmenteil (20) und einer Innenplatte (12), die flexibel mit dem unteren Rahmenteil (20) verbunden ist und wahlweise lösbar mit den oberen und seitlichen Rahmenteilen (22, 16, 18) verbunden ist, ausgebildet wird, wobei der Kleidersack wenigstens ein Eckabteil (30) enthält, daß an der oberen Ecke des Kleidersacks gelegen ist, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß dieses Abteil im wesentlichen durch eine Teilerplatte (36), die mit der Außenplatte (14) verbunden ist und zwischen einem Seitenrahmenteil (16, 18) und einer mittleren Stelle des oberen Rahmentells (22) vorsteht, und einer Zugangsklappe (34),



die wirkungsmäßig mit der Teilerplatte (36) und mit Abschnitten der seitlichen und oberen Rahmentelle (16, 18, 22) zwischen den Enden der Teilerplatte (36) und der Ecke des Sacks, in der das Eckabteil liegt, verbunden ist, gebildet wird, und daß die innere Platte (12) wahlweise lösbar auch mit der Teilerplatte (36) längs der Ausdehnung der Teilerplatte zwischen den seitlichen und oberen Rahmentellen (16, 18, 22) verbindbar ist.

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2. Verbesserter Kleidersack nach Anspruch 1, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die Zugangs-
klappe (34) wahlweise lösbar längs einem äußeren Rand derselben mit den Rändern von
Abschnitten der seitlichen und oberen Rahmentelle (16, 18, 22) zwischen der Stelle, wo
die Teilerplatte (36) die seitlichen und oberen Rahmentelle schneidet, verbunden ist.

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3. Verbesserter Kleidersack nach Anspruch 1, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die Größe des
Eckabteils (30) ausreichend ist, darin einen Schuh eines Erwachsenen ohne wesentliche
Verformung des Eckabteils aufzunehmen.

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4. Verbesserter Kleidersack nach Anspruch 1, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die Teilerplatte (36) sich im wesentlichen geradlinig erstreckt und ein Eckabteil (30) von im wesentlichen dreieckiger Gestalt ausbildet.

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5. Verbesserter Kleidersack nach Anspruch 1, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß er weiterhin
zwei Eckabteile (30) enthält, die jeweils in gegenüberliegenden oberen Ecken des Kleidersacks (10) gelegen sind.

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6. Verbesserter Kleidersack nach Anspruch 1, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß wenigstens eines der Elemente des Eckabteils (30) Mittel enthält, die eine Luftzirkulation zwischen dem Innenraum des Eckabteils und der äußeren Umgebung ermöglichen.

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7. Verbesserter Kleidersack nach Anspruch 2, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß jede wahlweise lösbare Verbindung der inneren Platte (12) und jeder Zugangs-
klappe (34) mittels eines Reißverschlusses eingerichtet ist.

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