

PICTURE FRAME

This invention relates to a picture frame, and in particular, to a picture frame having a channel and a flexible decorative element receivable in the channel.

Heretofore, decorations for picture frames were usually integrated with the frame, so that it is difficult, even impossible, to change the decoration to match other interior decoration of the house or to match the background of the picture itself.

This invention has arisen from work in seeking to mitigate and/or obviate the above-described drawbacks of conventional picture frames.

This invention is intended to provide an improved picture frame of which the decoration is changeable.

This invention is further intended to provide a picture frame having a channel and a decorative element being deformable, so as to be receivable in the channel.

This invention is still further intended to provide a picture frame having a ferromagnetic element to which magnetic ornaments are attachable.

According to this invention, there is provided a picture frame comprising a border, a front glass, a backing plate, a support, and a flexible decorative element, characterized in that:

said border includes a front surface defining a channel extending along said border on said front surface and

comprising a first groove extending on a first side thereof and a second groove extending on a second side thereof; and

said decorative element includes a first edge being receivable in said first groove and a second edge being receivable in said second groove, thereby fitting said decorative element in said channel.

Other features and advantages of this invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art upon reading the following detailed description in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a picture frame in accordance with this invention;

FIG. 2 is the fragmentary view of the picture frame shown in FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a cross-sectional view taken along line 3-3 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 4 shows another embodiment of the picture frame in accordance with this invention; and

FIG. 5 shows yet another embodiment of the picture frame in accordance with this invention.

For the purpose of promoting an understanding of the invention, reference will be made to the embodiments illustrated in drawings. It will, nevertheless, be understood that no limitation of the scope of the invention is thereby intended, such alternatives and further modifications in the illustrated device and such further

application of the principles of the invention as illustrated herein being contemplated as would normally occur to one skilled in the art to which the invention relates.

With reference to the drawings and initially to FIGS. 1 and 2, a picture frame comprises a border 1 which is constituted by four members: a right member 11, a left member 12, a top member 13, and a bottom member 14. On the surface on the border 1, a channel 10 is formed parallel with the border members 11, 12, 13, and 14. On each side of the channel 10, a groove is formed. An outer groove is indicated by reference numeral 15 and an inner groove by 16.

Referring next to FIG. 3, it is noted that on the bottom of the channel 10, a trough 18 is formed. Disposed in the trough 18 is a ferromagnetic element 7. Further disposed on the ferromagnetic part 7 is a decorative element 2, which is made of flexible material and has a decorative pattern or design thereon. The inner and outer edges of the decorative element 2 are engageable with the grooves 15 and 16 by deformation, so as to be attached with the ferromagnetic element 7 on the frame border 1.

On the back side of the border 1, a glass 3, a picture 100, and a backing plate 4 can be integrated on the border 1 by any known manner. The drawings show one of the manners. Along the inner edge of the border 1, there is a recess 19 to serve as a seat for the glass 3. Proximate to the outer edge of the border 1, a groove 20 is formed therealong. The

groove 20 engages with an elongated projection 41 in the backing plate 4 so as to constitute the back cover of the frame. As shown in FIG. 2, it is also possible to add a support 5 on the backing plate 4 by means of a screw 6. Since these are all known, no further description will be necessary herein.

Referring to FIGS. 4 and 5, in which two different embodiments are shown, the decorative element 2 is cut into pieces 21. With his own will, a user can make any possible combination from the decoration pieces 21 to change the decorative pattern. Additionally, an ornament 22 with a magnet (now shown) integrated thereon can be attached to the frame, which has ferromagnetic element as described hereinbefore to provide further decoration.



CLAIMS

1. A picture frame comprising a border, a front glass, a backing plate, a support, and a flexible decorative element, characterized in that:

said border includes a front surface defining a channel extending along said border on said front surface and comprising a first groove extending on a first side thereof and a second groove extending on a second side thereof; and

said decorative element includes a first edge being receivable in said first groove and a second edge being receivable in said second groove, thereby fitting said decorative element in said channel.

2. A picture frame in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a ferromagnetic element being fittable in said channel behind said decorative element.

3. A picture frame in accordance with claim 2, further comprising small ornaments integrated with magnets, thereby being attachable thereto.

4. A picture frame as claimed in claim 1, wherein said decorative element is a combination of a plurality of small pieces.

5. A picture frame substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as shown in FIGS. 1 through 5 of the accompanying drawings.
