I/we claim:

1. A fan, comprising:
   (a) a rotatable hub;
   (b) a plurality of fan blades, each fan blade having:
      (i) an upper surface,
      (ii) a lower surface,
      (iii) a first end secured to the hub,
      (iv) a second end,
      (v) a leading edge, and
      (vi) a trailing edge; and
   (c) a plurality of air fences, wherein each air fence is secured to a corresponding fan blade of the plurality of fan blades at a location between the first end and the second end of the corresponding fan blade.

2. The fan of claim 1, wherein each air fence comprises a fin and a fan blade engagement portion.

3. The fan of claim 2, wherein the fin of at least some of the air fences extends downwardly relative to the lower surface of the corresponding fan blades.

4. The fan of claim 3, wherein each air fence further comprises a base, wherein the lower surface each fan blade has a contour, wherein the base substantially complements the contour of the lower surface of the corresponding fan blade.

5. The fan of claim 2, wherein the fan blade engagement portion comprises a pair of clip ends.

6. The fan of claim 5, wherein the pair of clip ends comprises a leading edge clip end and a trailing edge clip end, wherein the leading edge clip end is configured to engage the

leading edge of the corresponding fan blade, wherein the trailing edge clip end is configured to engage the trailing edge of the corresponding fan blade.

7. The fan of claim 6, wherein each air fence defines a gap spanning between the leading edge clip end and the trailing edge clip end.

8. The fan of claim 7, wherein each air fence is formed of a resilient material, allowing the size of the gap to be changed by bending the air fence.

9. The fan of claim 2, wherein the fin tapers toward the trailing edge of the corresponding fan blade.

10. The fan of claim 2, wherein the fan blades extend along a horizontal plane, wherein the fins extend substantially vertically.

11. The fan of claim 2, wherein the fan blade engagement portion defines an opening, wherein the corresponding fan blade is disposed through the opening.

12. The fan of claim 11, wherein each fan blade has a profile periphery defined by the corresponding upper surface, lower surface, leading edge, and trailing edge, wherein the fan blade engagement portion completely surrounds the profile periphery of the corresponding fan blade.

13. The fan of claim 1, wherein each air fence is coupled with the corresponding fan blade by a snap fitting.

14. The fan of claim 1, wherein each air fence is configured to resiliently grip the corresponding fan blade.

15. The fan of claim 1, wherein each air fence comprises:

(i) a body having a front region associated with the leading edge of the corresponding fan blade, a rear region associated with the trailing edge of the corresponding fan blade, and a pair of lateral edges extending between the front and rear regions, and

(ii) a fin extending from one of the lateral edges.

16. The fan of claim 1, wherein each fan blade defines an airfoil shape.

17. The fan of claim 16, wherein each air fence is configured to complement the airfoil shape of the corresponding fan blade.

18. The fan of claim 1, wherein each fan blade has more than one secured air fence of the plurality of air fences.

19. An air fence, comprising:

(a) a body, the body comprising:

(i) an upper surface, wherein the upper surface is configured to complement a lower surface of an airfoil-shaped fan blade,

(ii) a lower surface,

(iii) a leading edge engagement portion configured to engage a leading edge of the airfoil-shaped fan blade, and

(iv) a trailing edge engagement portion configured to engage a trailing edge of the airfoil-shaped fan blade; and

(b) a fin extending downwardly from the lower surface of the body.

20. An air fence, comprising:

(a) a body, the body comprising an upper surface and a lower surface, wherein the body defines an opening shaped to complement an airfoil shape of a fan blade for disposition of the fan blade in the opening; and

(b) a fin extending downwardly from the lower surface of the body.

CLAIMS

1. A fan, comprising:
(a) a rotatable hub;

(b) a plurality of fan blades, each fan blade having:
(i) an upper surface,

(ii) a lower surface,

(iii) a first end secured to the hub,

(iv) a second end,

(v) a leading edge, and

(vi) a trailing edge; and

(c) a plurality of air fences, wherein each air fence includes a fin and a fan blade engagement portion and is removably secured to a corresponding fan blade of the plurality of fan blades at a location between the first end and the second end of the corresponding fan blade and wherein the fan blade engagement portion defines an opening, wherein the corresponding fan blade is disposed through the opening.

2. The fan of claim 1, wherein the fin of at least some of the air fences extends downwardly relative to the lower surface of the corresponding fan blades.

3. The fan of claim 2, where each air fence further comprises a base, wherein the lower surface of each fan blade has a contour, wherein the base substantially complements the contour of the lower surface of the corresponding fan blade.

4. The fan of claim 1, wherein the fan blade engagement portion comprises a pair of clip ends.

5. The fan of claim 4, wherein the pair of clip ends comprises a leading edge clip end and a trailing edge clip end, wherein the leading edge clip end is configured to engage the leading edge of the corresponding fan blade, wherein the trailing edge clip end is configured to engage the trailing edge of the corresponding fan blade.

6. The fan of claim 5, wherein each air fence defines a gap spanning between the leading edge clip end and the trailing edge clip end.

7. The fan of claim 6, wherein each air fence is formed of a resilient material, allowing the size of the gap to be changed by bending the air fence.

8. The fan of claim 1, wherein the fin tapers toward the trailing edge of the corresponding fan blade.

9. The fan of claim 1, wherein the fan blades extend along a horizontal plane and wherein the fins extend substantially vertically.

10. The fan of claim 1, wherein each fan blade has a profile periphery defined by the corresponding upper surface, lower surface, leading edge, and trailing edge, wherein the fan blade engagement portion completely surrounds the profile periphery of the corresponding fan blade.

11. The fan of claim 1, wherein each air fence is coupled with the corresponding fan blade by a snap fitting.

12. The fan of claim 1, wherein each air fence is configured to resiliently grip the corresponding fan blade.

13. The fan of claim 1, wherein each air fence comprises:

(i) a body having a front region associated with the leading edge of the corresponding fan blade, a rear region associated with the trailing edge of the corresponding fan blade, and a pair of lateral edges extending between the front and rear regions, and

(ii) the fin extending from one of the lateral edges.

14. The fan of claim 1, wherein each fan blade defines an airfoil shape.

15. The fan of claim 14, wherein each air fence is configured to complement the airfoil shape of the corresponding fan blade.

16. The fan of claim 1, wherein each fan blade has more than one secured air fence of the plurality of air fences.

17. The fan of claim 1, further including an adhesive for securing at least one air fence to the corresponding fan blade.

18. An air fence, comprising:

(a) a body, the body comprising:

(i) an upper surface, wherein the upper surface is configured to complement a lower surface of an airfoil-shaped fan blade,

(ii) a lower surface,

(iii) a leading edge engagement portion configured to engage a leading edge of the airfoil-shaped fan blade, and

(iv) a trailing edge engagement portion configured to engage a trailing edge of the airfoil-shaped fan blade; and

(b) a fin extending downwardly from the lower surface of the body.

19. The air fence of claim 18, wherein the body comprises an opening having a first open end and a second open end.

20. An air fence, comprising:

(a) a body, the body comprising an upper surface and a lower surface, wherein the body defines an opening having a first open end and a second open end, said opening shaped to complement an airfoil shape of a fan blade for disposition of the fan blade through the first open end and the second open end of the opening; and

(b) a fin extending downwardly from the lower surface of the body.

21. A fan, comprising:

(a) a rotatable hub;

(b) a plurality of fan blades, each fan blade having:

(i) an upper surface,

(ii) a lower surface,

(iii) a first end secured to the hub,

(iv) a second end,

(v) a leading edge,

(vi) a trailing edge; and

(c) a plurality of air fences, wherein each air fence is secured to a corresponding fan blade of the plurality of fan blades at a location between the first end and the second end of the corresponding fan blade;

wherein each air fence comprises a fin and a fan blade engagement portion;

wherein the fan blade engagement portion defines an opening;

wherein the corresponding fan blade is disposed through the opening.

22. The fan of claim 21, wherein each fan blade has a profile periphery defined by the corresponding upper surface, lower surface, leading edge, and trailing edge.