

Abstract

An escalator (1) is described that is designed in an installation space-saving manner and can be operated with low wear. The escalator (1) has a plurality of treads (3) and a guide-rail assembly (55) to guide the treads (3), in particular during a return run. Each tread (3), on an end face (31) directed toward the front, a front intermeshing structure (33) and a rearward directed region (39) of a riser (25), a rear intermeshing structure (41), wherein the front and the rear intermeshing structures (33, 41) are complementarily designed in such a manner that they can meshably engage into one another in the forward run. The escalator is characterized in that, via a specific design of the guide-rail assembly (55), at least in the central region (11) of the return run moving at an incline, the intermeshing structures (33, 41) of adjacent treads (3) are meshably arranged with each other. As a result, the dimensions of the escalator can be reduced and adjacent treads (3) can mutually guide each other through the meshing engagement, whereby signs of wear are reduced. The meshing engagement of adjacent treads (3) in the return run can be made possible, for example, by the treads using the guide-rail assembly (55) being intentionally tilted with respect to one another during the process, so as to bring them closer together.

(Fig. 5)