

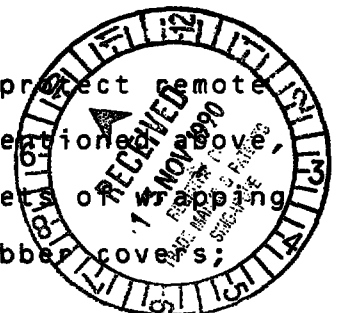
A SHOCKPROOF PROTECTIVE SHEATH for REMOTE CONTROLS,
in PARTICULAR THOSE of TELEVISION RECEIVERS

The invention relates to a shockproof protective sheath for remote controls, and in particular, those of television receivers.

05 Currently, the boxes or cases supplied with remote control appliances are either punched from cardboard or moulded in polystyrene, and designed simply to protect the appliance from knocks and scrapes when packaged for transit. In effect, once opened to permit removal of the control, such boxes are of no
10 further use, as there is no system incorporated in manufacture whereby they can be re-fastened; a box of this conventional type is therefore awkward, and to replace the remote control in such a container every time it is used is totally impractical.

15 Thus, when in general use, the remote control must remain without a protective casing that will shield it from accidental shocks, when dropped or knocked against other objects, or from external agents such as dust, damp or other contaminants that precipitate
20 onto it and foul the electrical contacts, so that smooth operation is jeopardized.

Tentative attempts have been made to protect remote control appliances from the hazards mentioned above, for example by enveloping them in sheets of rubbering material or inserting them in foam rubber covers;
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such expedients are inconvenient and impractical, however, and fail to afford complete protection. Accordingly, the object of the present invention is to overcome such drawbacks.

05 The stated object is achieved with a remote control container and holder element as described herein and as characterized in the appended claims. Such an element is fashioned hollow in a lightweight, low density shockproof material, substantially to match
10 the external shape of the remote control it encases, and is able to ensure efficient protection against shocks and contaminants while enabling unimpeded use of the control buttons.

One of the advantages of the sheath according to the
15 invention is that it is highly practical in use, both as a wrapping pure and simple, during transit, and as a protective casing during general service. A further advantage of the invention is that of its pleasing appearance; the sheath can be embodied in a
20 variety of colours, and thus blended in with those of the surrounding interior.

The invention will now be described in detail, by way of example, with the aid of the accompanying drawings, in which:

25 fig 1 is a perspective illustrating the protective sheath according to the invention, fitted over a remote control appliance;

figs 2a and 2b are full frontal views of the top and the bottom of the sheath illustrated in fig 1;

30 fig 3 is the section through III-III in fig 2a.

With reference to fig 1, the sheath according to the invention consists in an element 1, fashioned from low density, lightweight and shockproof material, that contains and holds a remote control appliance, denoted 2.

The container and holder element 1 is hollow, its internal shape substantially matching and hugging the outer profile of the remote control appliance it is designed to accommodate.

The element 1 exhibits at least two openings denoted 3 and 4 (figs 1 and 2a), which afford access to the remote control buttons 5, and allow passage of the control pulses, respectively. The embodiment shown in the drawings has an additional opening 6 (fig 2b) affording access to the compartment that houses the batteries supplying power to the appliance.

All of the openings mentioned are covered over by a window 7 of thin transparent film, by which a total protection is afforded to the appliance 2, even from external agents such as dust, moisture, and other contaminants. The film window 7 can be simply welded to the edges of each opening 3, 4 and 6, and might be floppy or semi-rigid in consistency.

Alternatively, the film window 7 might be provided along its outer edge 7a with an adhesive strip to permit of easy attachment and removal; thus, in the particular instance of the transparent window which covers the opening denoted 6, access to the battery compartment is gained without the need to remove the appliance 2 from the container and holder element 1.

Fig 3 clearly illustrates an alternative embodiment of the transparent film, in which the window 7 is moulded with sockets 8 designed to accommodate the corresponding remote control buttons 5; given that
05 the buttons 5 of typical remote control appliances are grouped close together, the sockets 8 will be embodied such, that when pressure is exerted on the window in depressing a given button 5, the adjacent buttons will remain unaffected.

10 The walls of the container and holder element 1 must be thick enough to absorb the effects of any shock occasioned when the remote control appliance 2 is dropped, or knocked accidentally against some other object; fig 1, in particular, shows how the depth L
15 of the top S of the element 1, which incorporates the opening 3 affording access to the buttons 5, will be greater than the height h of the buttons 5, or at very least, equal thereto.

20 The opening 4 through which remote control pulses are emitted will be of dimensions such as to permit insertion of the appliance 2 into the sheath; in the embodiment illustrated, this particular opening 4 is provided with an inwardly projecting raised bead 9
25 which extends in unbroken fashion around its entire periphery and serves to retain the appliance 2 in position once inserted into the element 1.

Claims

- 1) A shockproof protective sheath for remote controls, in particular those of television receivers, characterized
 - in that it consists in a container and holder element, fashioned hollow from a shockproof, low density material in a shape substantially matching and hugging that of the remote control appliance it-ensheaths, provided with at least two openings affording access to the control buttons and allowing passage of the control pulses emitted, respectively, and embodied with walls of thickness sufficient to absorb the shock occasioned when the appliance is dropped or knocked accidentally against other objects.
- 2) A sheath as in claim 1, wherein the openings are covered by windows fashioned from a transparent film material.
- 3) A sheath as in claim 2, wherein the windows are embodied in a floppy film material, and attached by means of a simple weld effected along the edges of the relative openings.
- 4) A sheath as in claims 2 and 3, wherein each window of film material is provided with an adhesive strip running around its periphery.



- 5) A sheath as in claim 2, wherein the windows are embodied in a semi-rigid film material.
- 6) A sheath as in claim 2, wherein the window of film material is moulded with a plurality of sockets, each one of which designed to accommodate a relative remote control button.
- 7) A sheath as in claim 1, wherein the container and holder element is provided with a further opening that affords access to the compartment housing the batteries by which the remote control appliance is powered.
- 8) A sheath as in claim 1, wherein the opening allowing passage of the control pulses is of dimensions such as enable insertion of the remote control appliance into the container and holder element.
- 9) A sheath as in claim 1, wherein the opening allowing passage of the control pulses is provided with inwardly projecting means that serve to retain the remote control appliance once inserted into the container and holder element.
- 10) A sheath as in claim 1, wherein the depth of the top of the container and holder element, which exhibits the opening affording access to the buttons, is greater than the height of the buttons, or equal thereto at the very least.



- 11) A sheath as in claim 9, wherein the retaining means consist in a raised bead extending unbroken around the periphery of the opening allowing passage of the control pulses.
- 12) A shockproof protective sheath for remote controls, in particular those of television receivers, as in the preceding claims, as described and illustrated with reference to the accompanying drawings, and as intended for the stated objects.
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