

CLAIMS:

1. A filter component for a smoking article comprising:
an upstream segment of filter material;
5 a downstream segment of filter material in a spaced apart relation to the upstream segment of filter material so as to define a cavity therebetween; and
a single crushable flavor capsule ~~flavor bead~~ disposed in the cavity, ~~the flavor bead comprising tobacco particles and water~~, wherein the flavor capsule bead has an outer diameter, which is at least 75% of the spaced apart relation of the upstream segment of filter material and
10 the downstream segment of filter material, and the outer diameter of the flavor capsule bead does not exceed an outer diameter of either the upstream segment or the downstream segment of filter material,
wherein the upstream segment of filter material has the lowest RTD (resistance to draw) of the segments of the filter component and wherein the upstream segment of filter material, the downstream segment of filter material and the flavor capsule are circumscribed by a filter wrapper, one or more rows of perforations being formed through the filter wrapper at an upstream end portion of the filter.
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2. A filter component according to claim 1, further comprising a recess segment on a downstream end of the downstream segment of filter material.
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3. A filter component according to claim 1, wherein the downstream segment of filter material has a length, which is at least twice a length of the upstream segment of filter material.
- 25 4. A filter component according to claim 1, wherein the upstream segment of filter material is between about 5 millimeters and about 10 millimeters in length.
5. A filter component according to claim 1, wherein the downstream segment of filter material is between about 5 millimeters and about 20 millimeters in length
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6. A filter component according to claim 1, wherein the cavity is between about 5 millimeters and about 7 millimeters in length.
7. A filter component according to claim 1, wherein the flavor capsule bead ~~is~~ is in the form of
35 a spheroid having a diameter of about 4.5 millimeters to about 5 millimeters.
8. A filter component according to claim 1, wherein the flavor capsule bead ~~is~~ is a polymer coated mentholated flavor capsule ~~tobacco bead~~.

~~9. A filter component according to claim 1, wherein the upstream segment of filter material, the downstream segment of filter material and the flavor bead are circumscribed by a filter wrapper.~~

5 ~~109.~~ A smoking article comprising:
a tobacco rod; and
a filter component according to any one of claims 1 to ~~98~~:

10 ~~1110.~~ A method of manufacturing a filter component comprising:
dispensing a downstream filter segment having a first length onto a filter rod forming portion of a filter rod forming apparatus;
dispensing an upstream filter segment having a second length in a spaced apart relationship to the downstream filter segment so as to define a cavity therebetween onto the filter rod forming portion; and
15 placing a single ~~crushable flavor capsule~~ ~~flavor bead comprising tobacco particles and water~~ within the cavity,
~~circumscribing the downstream filter segment, the upstream filter segment and the flavor capsule with a filter wrapper, thus obtaining a filter assembly;~~
wherein the flavor ~~capsule bead~~ has an outer diameter, which is at least 75% of the
20 spaced apart relation of the upstream segment of filter material and the downstream segment of filter material, wherein the outer diameter of the flavor ~~capsule bead~~ does not exceed an outer diameter of the upstream and downstream segments of filter material; and
wherein the upstream segment of filter material has the lowest RTD (resistance to draw) of the segments of the filter component.

25 ~~12. A method according to claim 11, further comprising circumscribing the downstream filter segment, the upstream filter segment and the flavor bead with a filter wrapper.~~

30 ~~1311.~~ A method according to claim ~~1110~~, comprising forming a filter rod comprising at least two segments of the downstream filter segment, at least two segments of the upstream filter segment, and at least two flavor ~~capsules beads~~ in the cavities formed between the downstream filter segments and the upstream filter segments.

35 ~~1412.~~ A method according to claim ~~1311~~, further comprising circumscribing the filter rod with a filter wrapper.

~~1513.~~ A method according to claim ~~1110~~, further comprising forming a recess segment adjacent to either the downstream filter segment or the upstream filter segment.