

FINGERPRINT INPUT APPARATUS

ABSTRACT

A fingerprint input apparatus includes a light source (2) for emitting light and a fiber optic plate (3) having a finger contact surface with which a finger (1) is brought into contact in order to pick up a fingerprint image of the finger (1). The light from the light source (2) is at first introduced into an inside of the finger (1), is scattered within the inside of the finger (1), and comes out of the finger through the surface of the finger (1) as outgoing light. By the use of the outgoing light, the fingerprint image is formed. The light source (2) is disposed so that the light from the light source (2) enters into a substantial center of a part of the finger (1) including a first joint on a palm side and that the light source (2) is contacted with the finger (1).

Fig. 10



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