No. 693,448. Patented Feb. 18, 1902.

G. V. SANBORN.

SPINNING TOP.

(Application filed Dec. 12, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1

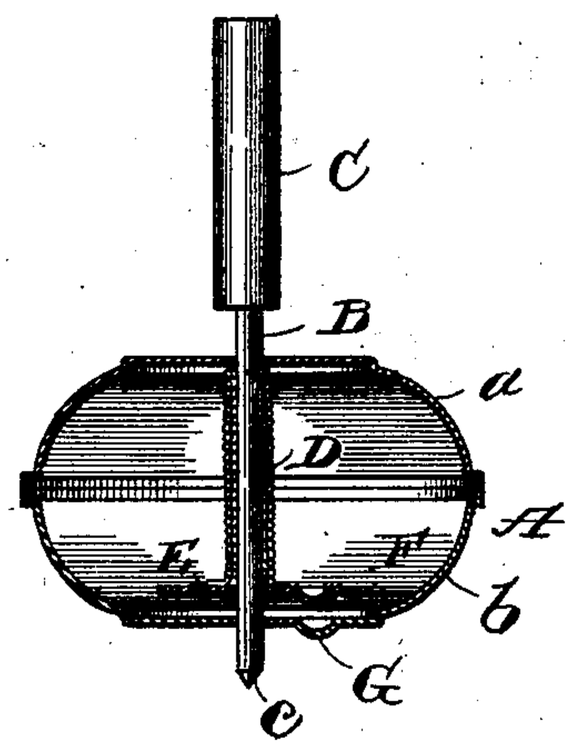


Fig. 2

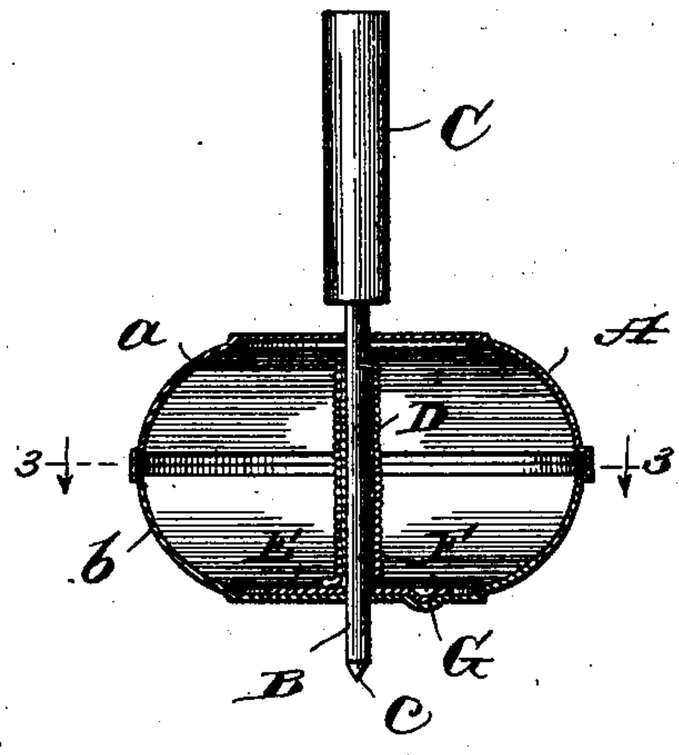


Fig. 3

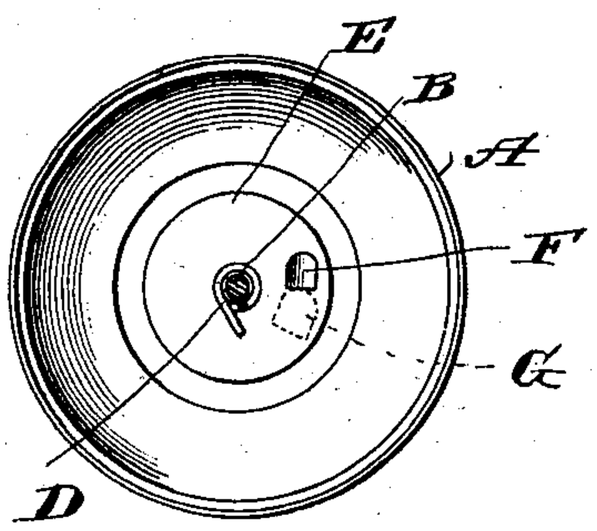
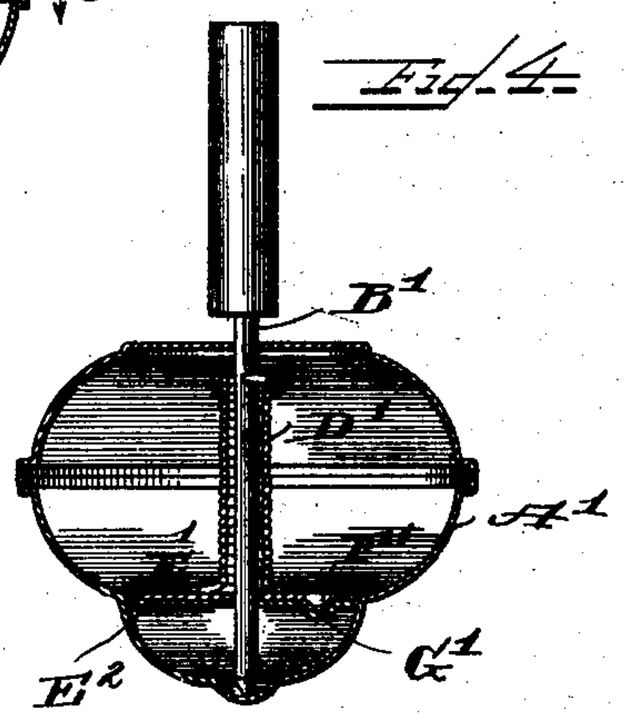


Fig. 4



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GERTRUDE V. SANBORN, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

SPINNING-TOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 693,448, dated February 18, 1902.

Application filed December 12, 1901. Serial No. 85,718. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GERTRUDE V. SANBORN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Spinning-Top, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to spinning-tops.

The object of the invention is to provide a construction of spinning-top which is simple, efficient, and inexpensive in manufacture.

The invention consists, substantially, in the construction, combination, location, and arrangement of parts, all as will be more fully hereinafter set forth, as shown in the accompanying drawings, and finally pointed out in the appended claims.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, and to the various views and reference-signs appearing thereon, Figure 1 is a view in central section of a spinning-top embodying my invention, showing the stem disengaged from the body of the top. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the engagement of the stem with the body of the top. Fig. 3 is a view in transverse section on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2 looking in the direction of the arrows. Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 1, showing a modified construction embodying the invention.

The same part is designated by the same reference-sign wherever it occurs throughout the several views.

Reference-sign A designates the body of the top, which may be of any suitable shape or configuration. In practice the most economical arrangement is to construct the body portion A in section by stamping the sections out of tin or other inexpensive sheet-metal material and assembling said sections in a usual and well-understood manner by soldering the sections together. In the form shown the sections *a b* (see Figs. 1 and 2) are made of cup shape and as counterparts of each other and are assembled by bringing their edges together and soldering or otherwise securing the same together, thereby forming a hollow spinning-body.

B designates the spinning-stem and is passed longitudinally through the body A, the end thereof projecting through the body and provided with a point *c*, upon which the top is to be spun, the opposite end of said stem being formed into a handle C, by which the spinning is effected.

D designates a spring, which in the particular form shown, but to which the invention is not limited, is coiled upon stem B or otherwise suitably arranged within the interior of the body A. In the form shown one end of spring D is connected to the stem B, and the other end of said spring is connected to a disk or plate E, said disk or plate being loosely mounted upon the stem B. The arrangement is such that by holding the body portion A of the top against rotation and rotating the stem B and at the same time preventing rotation of the disk or plate E a tension is imparted to the spring D, the tendency of which is to effect a rotation of the body A when said body is released and is detached from engagement with plate or disk E. The engagement of plate or disk E with the body portion A of the top may be effected in many different ways. In the form shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3 the plate or disk E is provided with a lug or projection F, which is arranged to engage with a coöperating lug or projection G, formed in the body portion of the top. A convenient arrangement is to stamp out the engaging lugs or projections F G from the body A and disk E, respectively. The stem B is permitted slight longitudinal movement in order to enable engagement and disengagement of lugs or projections F G to be effected.

In Fig. 4 I have shown a slightly-modified arrangement, wherein instead of the disk or plate E′, which is mounted upon the stem B′ and to which one end of the spring D′ is connected, the other end of said spring being connected, as above described, to stem B′, engaging the body portion A′ of the spinning-top through engaging lugs or projections F′ G′, said lug or projection F′ is arranged to engage a coöperating lug or projection G′ in a plate E^2, suitably soldered or otherwise fixed or connected to the body portion A′. It is obvious, however, that the operation is the same in this construction as in the other construction above described and shown in Figs. 1 and 2. It will also be seen that the point of the stem B or B′ need not extend through the body portion; but the body portion itself may be so shaped as to form a spinning-point.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that I provide an exceedingly simple inexpensive construction of spinning-top wherein the parts may be stamped out of metal or other suitable material and wherein, by effecting an engagement of the lugs or projections F G or F′ G′ and holding the body portion A or A′ against rotation and then imparting a rotative movement to the spinning-stem B′, a rotative tension is imparted to the body of the top, and hence by releasing the body portion the initial rotative movement imparted to said body portion effects a disengagement of said body from the disk or plate E or E′, and then by placing the top upon a suitable surface and releasing the handle C the top will continue to spin for a considerable time. It will also be seen that the parts may be very accurately proportioned, so as to secure a spinning of the top-body for a considerable period of time before it becomes exhausted.

Having now set forth the object and nature of my invention, what I claim as new and useful and of my own invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a spinning-top, a body portion, a stem suitably mounted therein, a plate or disk mounted on said stem, a spring suitably connected to said stem and plate respectively, and means for causing the engagement or disengagement of said plate and the body of the top, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a spinning-top, the combination with a body, a spinning-stem, a spring mounted on said stem, a disk or plate having a lug or projection formed therein, said spring being connected at one end to said stem and at the other end to said plate or disk, and a coöperating lug or projection connected to said body portion, all combined and arranged as and for the purpose set forth.

3. A spinning-top comprising a body portion having a lug or projection formed therein, a stem mounted in said body portion for slight longitudinal movement, a disk loosely mounted upon said stem and provided with a coöperating lug or projection, a spring mounted upon said stem and connected respectively to said stem and disk or plate, all combined and arranged as and for the purpose set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand, this 7th day of December, 1901, in the presence of the subscribing witnesses.

GERTRUDE V. SANBORN.

Witnesses:
SIDNEY C. SANBORN,
S. E. DARBY.