

No. 815,649.

PATENTED MAR. 20, 1906.

E. SMITH.
PUTTING MAT.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 15, 1905.

Fig. 1.

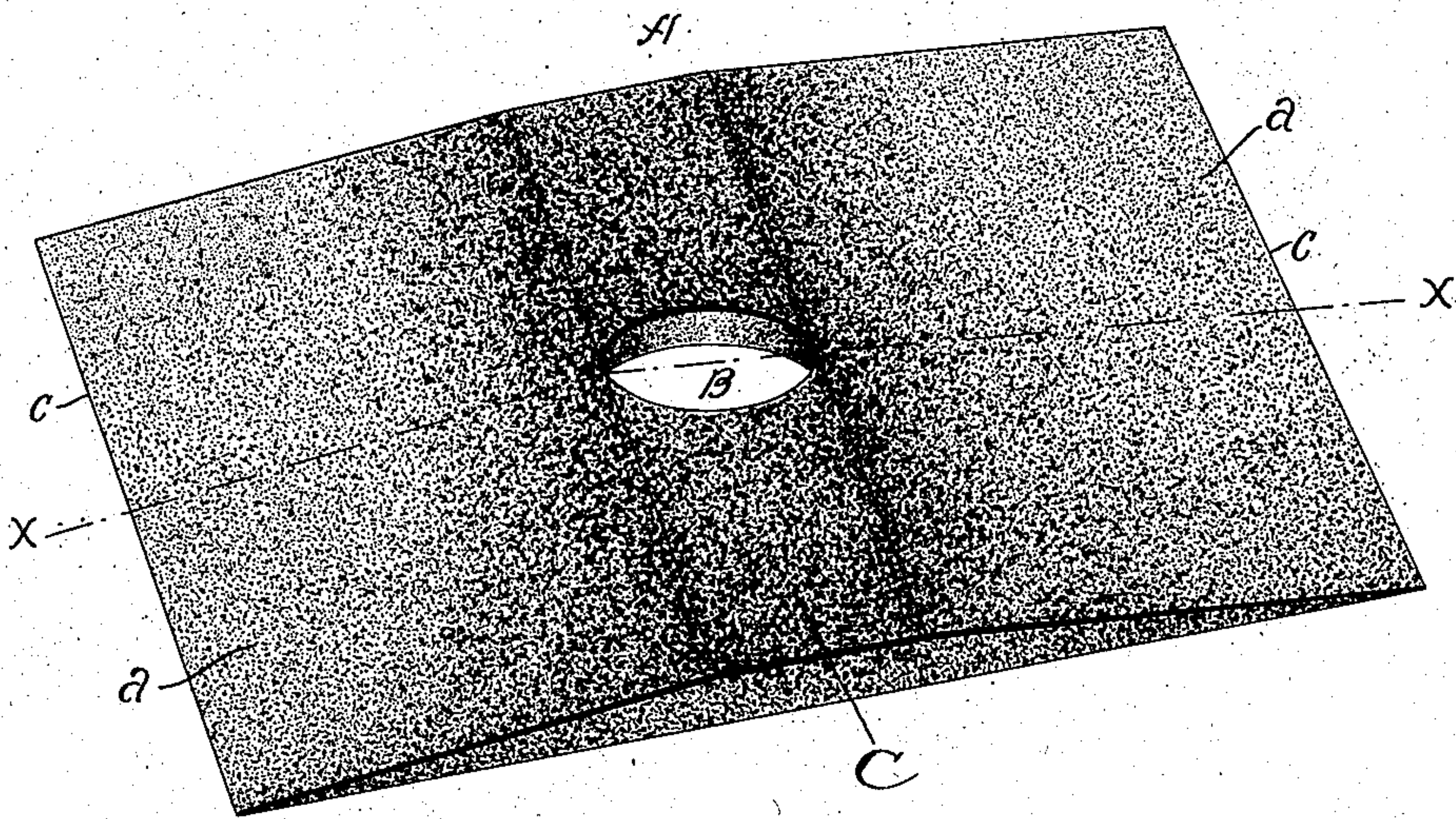
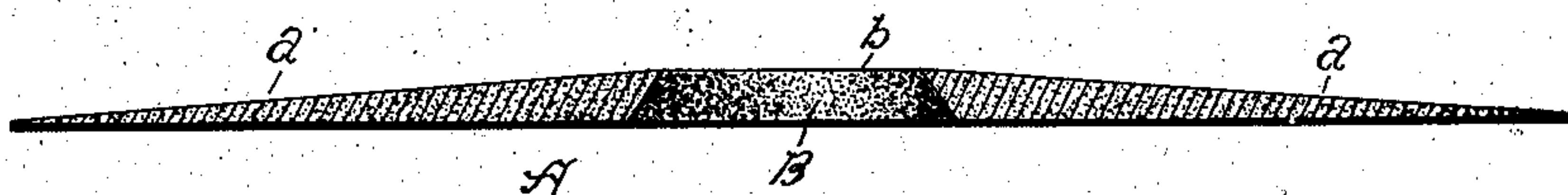


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EVERETT SMITH, OF SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK.

PUTTING-MAT.

No. 815,649.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 20, 1906.

Application filed April 16, 1905. Serial No. 255,705.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EVERETT SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Schenectady, county of Schenectady, State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Putting-Mats, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention relates to a device for playing the game of golf indoors, or rather to that part of the game called "putting."

Nearly if not quite one-half of the strokes in the game of golf are required in putting; and it is the object of my invention to provide a mat which will permit one to practice this branch of the game indoors in many respects under conditions closely approximating those actually found on golf-courses. To that end I construct my putting-mat of some soft flexible resilient material—such as felt, asbestos, sponge-rubber, or the like—the object being to provide a material which will present an irregular surface for a golf or other ball to traverse and yet one which will not present such irregularities as to deflect an object from its line of travel.

As the principal object of my invention is to afford an opportunity for serious practice at this branch of the game of golf, it is necessary that the mat be constructed of a material possessing considerable resilience in order that the conditions may be as natural as possible.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a view in perspective of my putting-mat; and Fig. 2, is a cross-section thereof, taken on line *x x* of Fig. 1.

In the drawings, A is a mat made of asbestos, felt, or like material having two inclined planes *a a* on opposite sides of flat portion C and an object-receiving trap or hole B. As shown, this trap or hole is so made as to gradually increase in diameter from top to bottom, so that the upper edge of the hole B presents a thin yielding striking-surface, which assists in trapping or retaining therein an object played to the hole. Of course a ball played with just the required power to reach

the trap is not materially assisted by this thin edge. On the other hand, where there has been so much power applied in the stroke as to force the ball against the farther side of the trap there is a tendency for the ball to bound out, and this tendency is largely overcome by the overhanging upper edge *b*.

With a mat thus constructed putting may be practiced under very favorable conditions by placing one of the thin edges *b* under a rug or carpet and forcing a ball from the rug or carpet to the trap B, or the mat may be placed on the floor and the game proceed, the edges *c* being so thin and of such yielding material that the ball will not be thereby deflected from its line of travel.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. As an article of manufacture, a putting-mat having one or more inclined planes, and an object-receiving trap of gradually-increasing diameter from top to bottom.

2. As an article of manufacture, a putting-mat of molded asbestos or other suitable material, having one or more inclined planes, and an object-receiving trap gradually increasing in diameter from top to bottom, substantially as shown and described.

3. A putting-mat of flexible, resilient material having an orifice located therein, the top portion of said orifice having a thin, yielding striking-surface, and inclined planes leading from the base of the mat to the orifice.

4. As a new article of manufacture, a putting-mat of flexible, resilient material having a part of its upper surface flat, an orifice located in said flat portion, and inclined planes leading from the base of the mat to the orifice and flat portion.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 14th day of April, 1905.

EVERETT SMITH.

Witnesses:

ALLEN W. JOHNSTON,
BENJAMIN B. HULL.