US00RE44504E

(19) **United States**

(12) **Reissued Patent**
Schultz

(10) **Patent Number: US RE44,504 E**

(45) **Date of Reissued Patent: *Sep. 24, 2013**

(54) **PICTURE LEVELING/POSITIONING TEMPLATE**

(76) Inventor: **Erich George Schultz**, San Rafael, CA (US)

(*) Notice: This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

(21) Appl. No.: **12/883,069**

(22) Filed: **Sep. 15, 2010**

Related U.S. Patent Documents

Reissue of:

(64) Patent No.: **6,880,259**
Issued: **Apr. 19, 2005**
Appl. No.: **10/735,682**
Filed: **Dec. 15, 2003**

U.S. Applications:

(63) Continuation of application No. 11/351,217, filed on Feb. 9, 2006, now Pat. No. Re. 42,649.

(51) **Int. Cl.**
G01D 21/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC ..... **33/613**; 33/1 G; 33/566

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC ..... 33/1 G, 562, 563, 566, 613, 645; 434/74, 75; 40/700, 713, 725, 729–733, 40/745, 746, 761
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

2,595,142	A	4/1952	Herck	
2,667,704	A	2/1954	Dunn	
3,057,073	A	10/1962	Swartz	
3,339,302	A	9/1967	Mallory	
3,523,382	A	8/1970	Dreyer	
4,100,681	A	7/1978	Hollander	
4,208,802	A	6/1980	Berndt	
4,443,949	A	4/1984	Newton	
4,457,485	A	7/1984	Landt	
4,580,352	A	4/1986	Wilson	
4,936,033	A	6/1990	Lacko	
4,976,055	A	12/1990	Kane	
5,063,679	A	11/1991	Schwandt	
5,076,612	A	12/1991	Nirmel	
5,195,249	A	3/1993	Jackson	
5,463,817	A	11/1995	Leeds	
6,317,996	B1 *	11/2001	Myers et al.	33/566
6,449,863	B1	9/2002	Voorhees	
6,473,984	B1	11/2002	Splain et al.	
6,553,683	B1	4/2003	Klass et al.	
6,618,955	B2	9/2003	Rice	
6,775,915	B2	8/2004	Stephens	
6,880,259	B1	4/2005	Schultz	

* cited by examiner

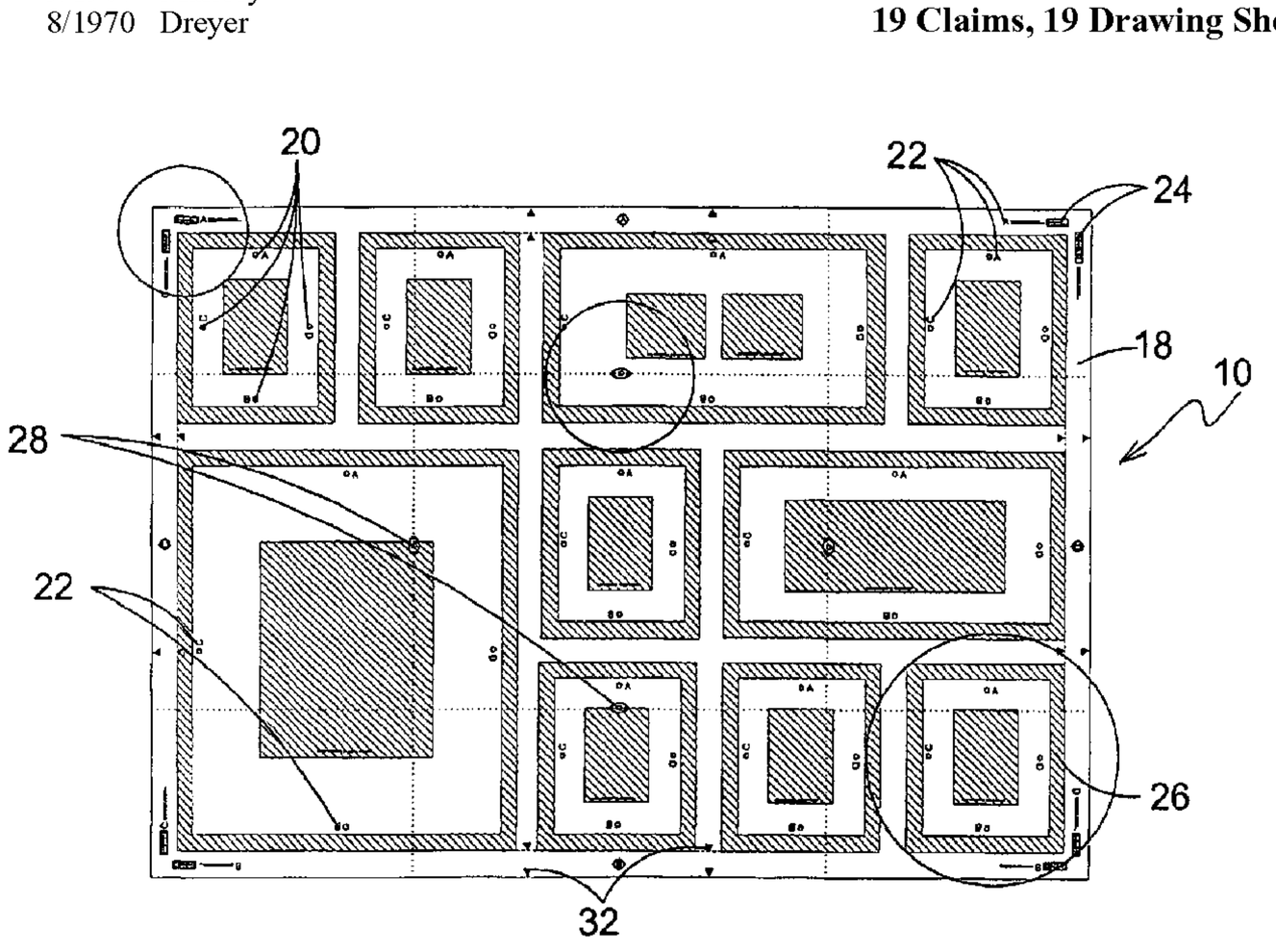
Primary Examiner — Christopher Fulton

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Matthew J. Lattig; Charter IP, LLC

(57) **ABSTRACT**

The present invention **10** discloses an inexpensive, reusable, and compact picture leveling template where the design of the device **10** would allow the user **12** to arrange picture frames **14**, shadow boxes **70**, shelving **77**, signage, or any objects with 2 or 3 dimensions that could be mounted on a wall **16** in a preferred arrangement in limitless aesthetic combinations on a vertical surface of any size or slope along with curved wall surfaces. The template **10** has multiple leveling guides **24**, **28**, **32** to assist the user **12** in leveling and spacing picture frames **14** horizontally and vertically on any vertical surface **16**. The present invention **10** may be a three-part, inexpensive compact kit comprised of a planar pliable material **18** with multiple leveling lines **34**, **36** inscribed thereon, a non-shear adhesive **38**, and bubble levels **40** for use with a non-shear adhesive.

19 Claims, 19 Drawing Sheets



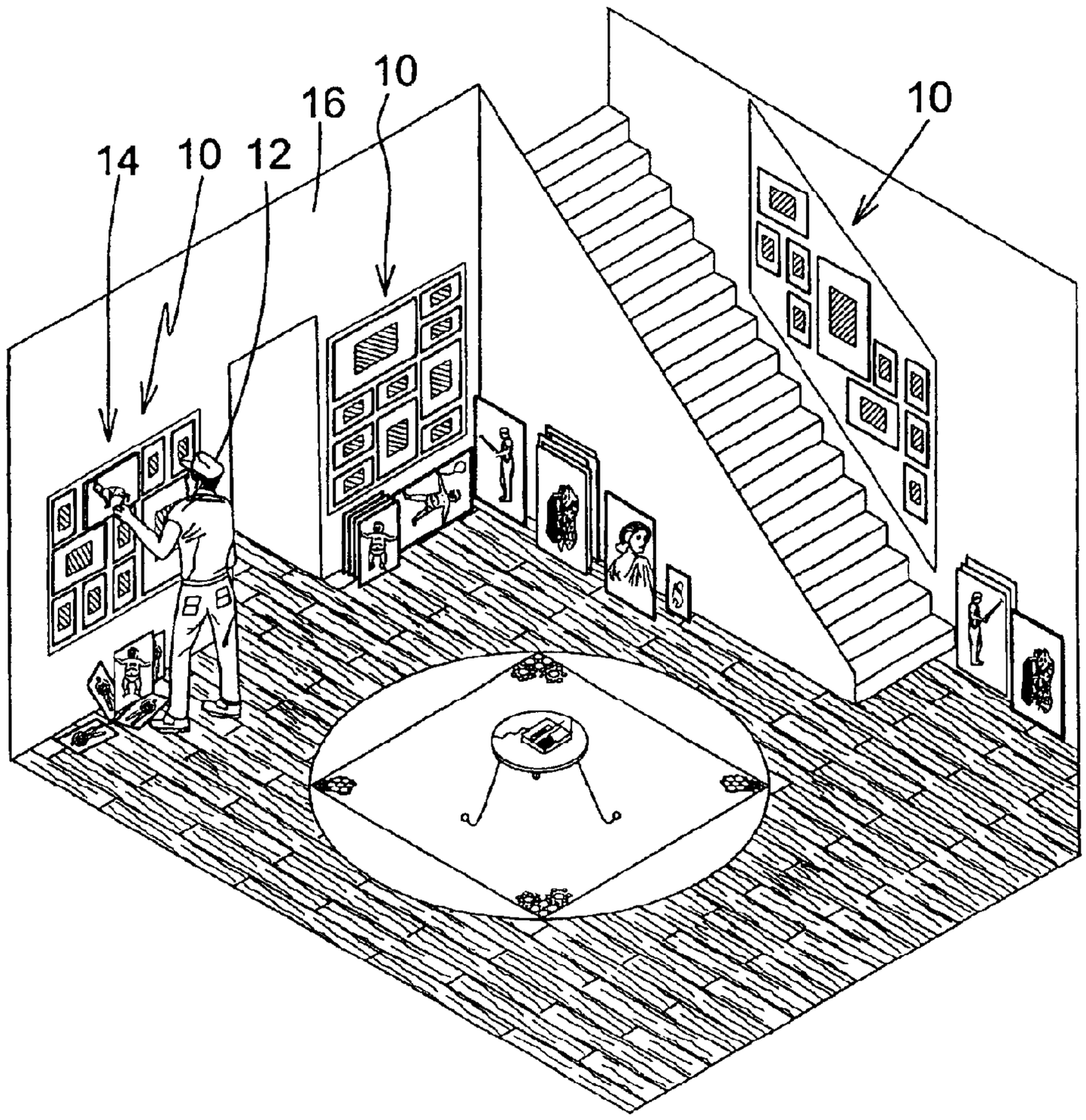


FIG. 1

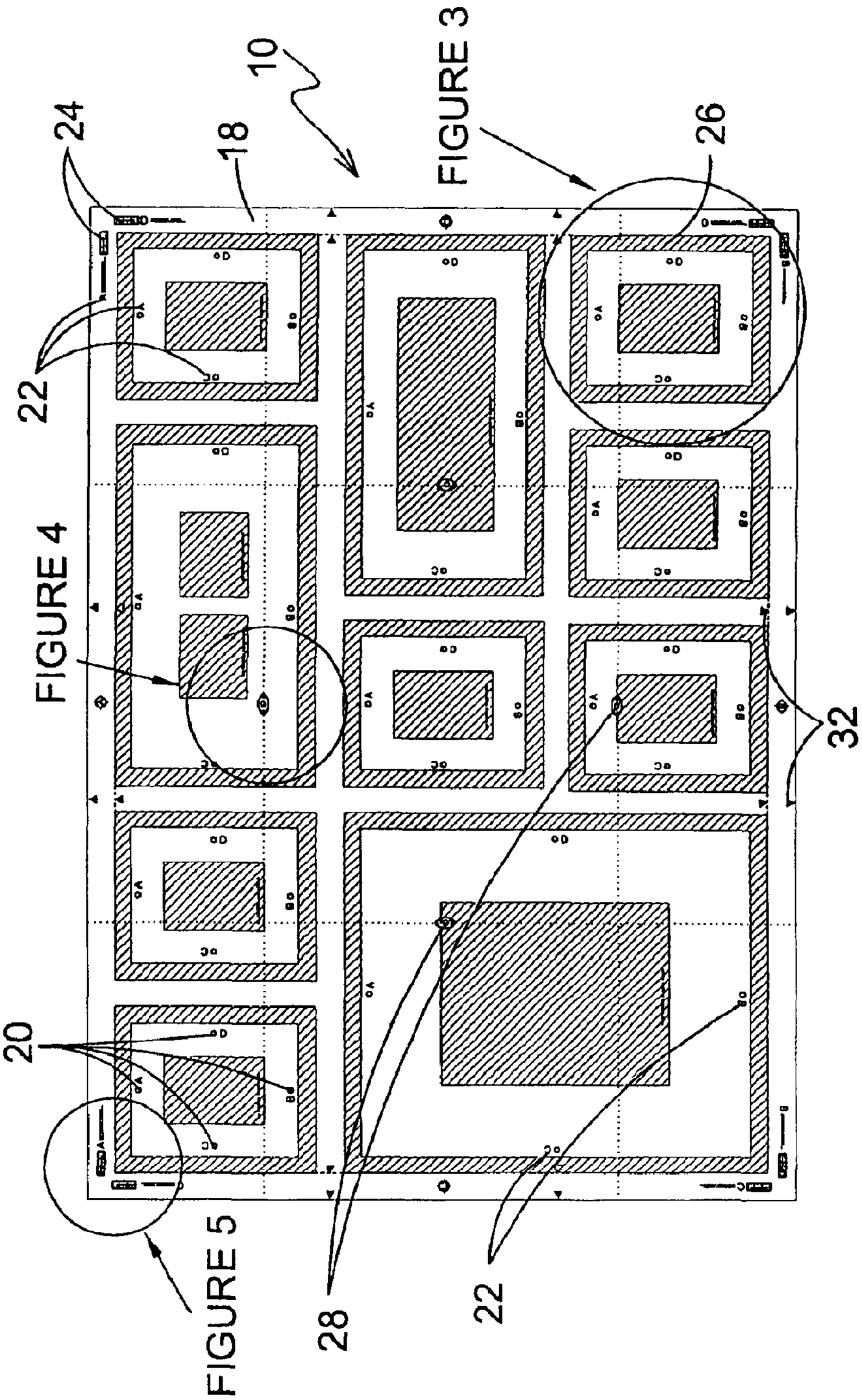


FIGURE 3

FIGURE 4

FIGURE 5

FIG. 2

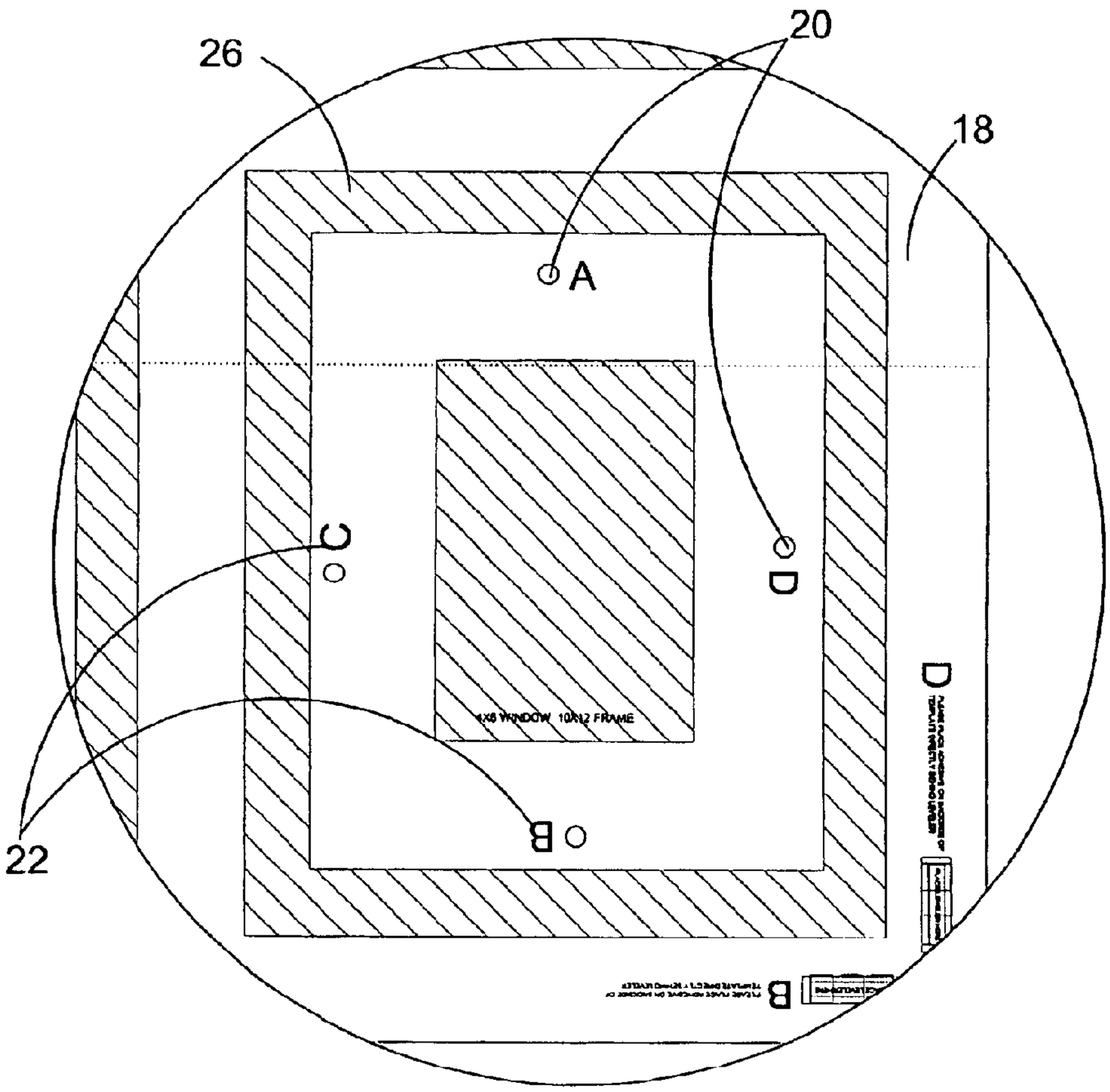


FIG. 3

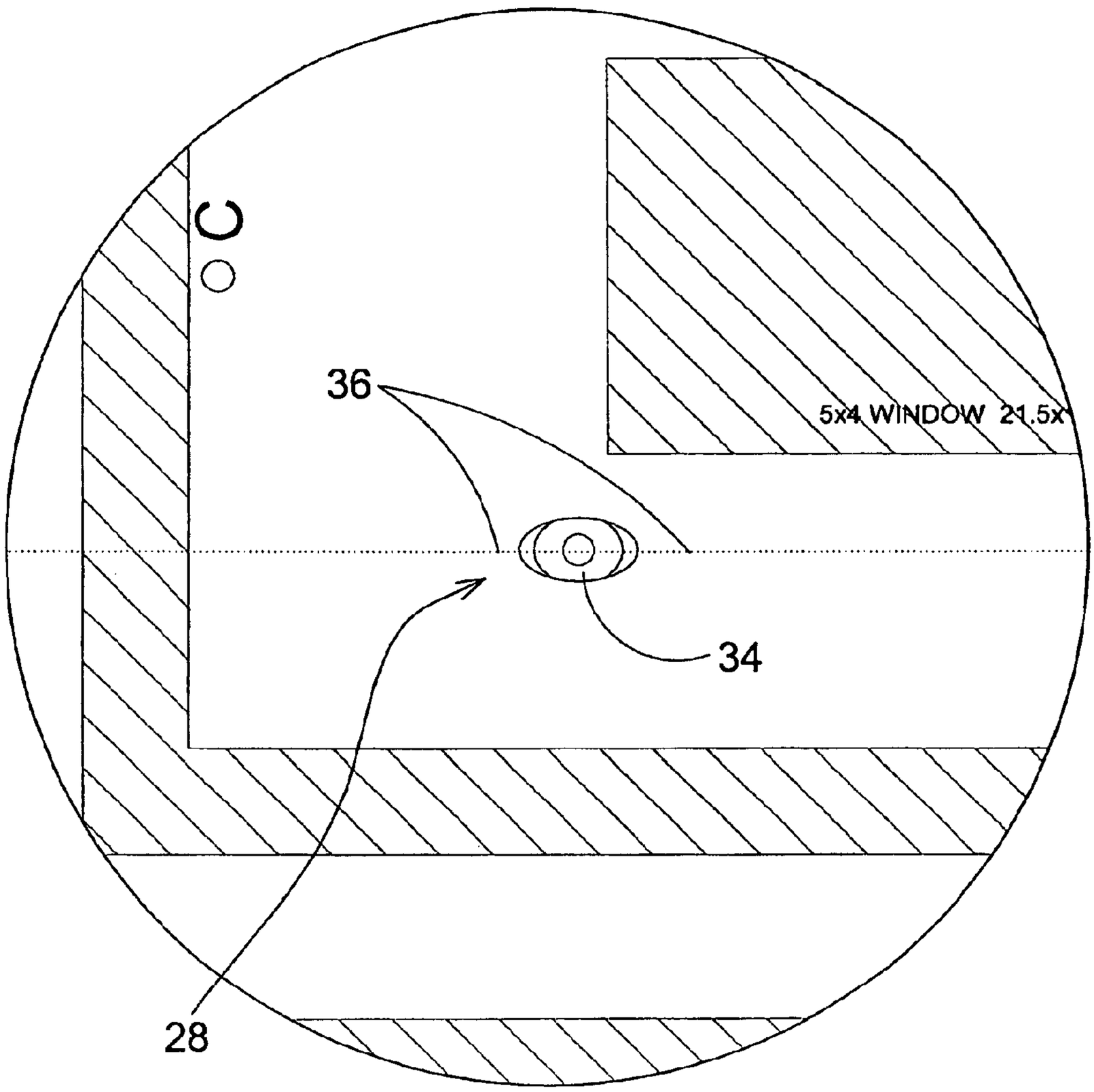


FIG. 4

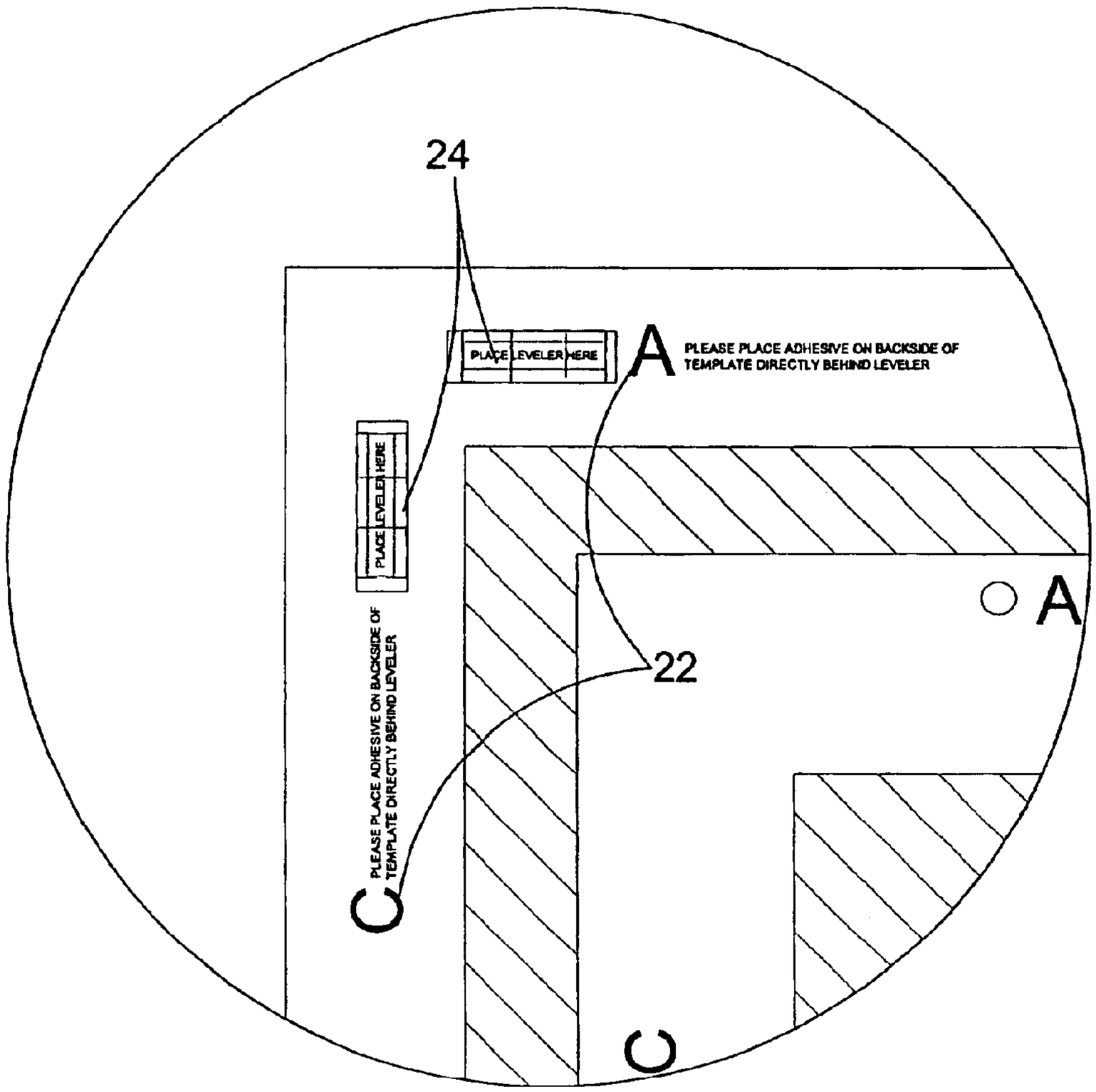

24
PLACE LEVELER HERE
A
PLEASE PLACE ADHESIVE ON BACKSIDE OF TEMPLATE DIRECTLY BEHIND LEVELER
PLACE LEVELER HERE
A
22
C
PLEASE PLACE ADHESIVE ON BACKSIDE OF TEMPLATE DIRECTLY BEHIND LEVELER
C

FIG. 5

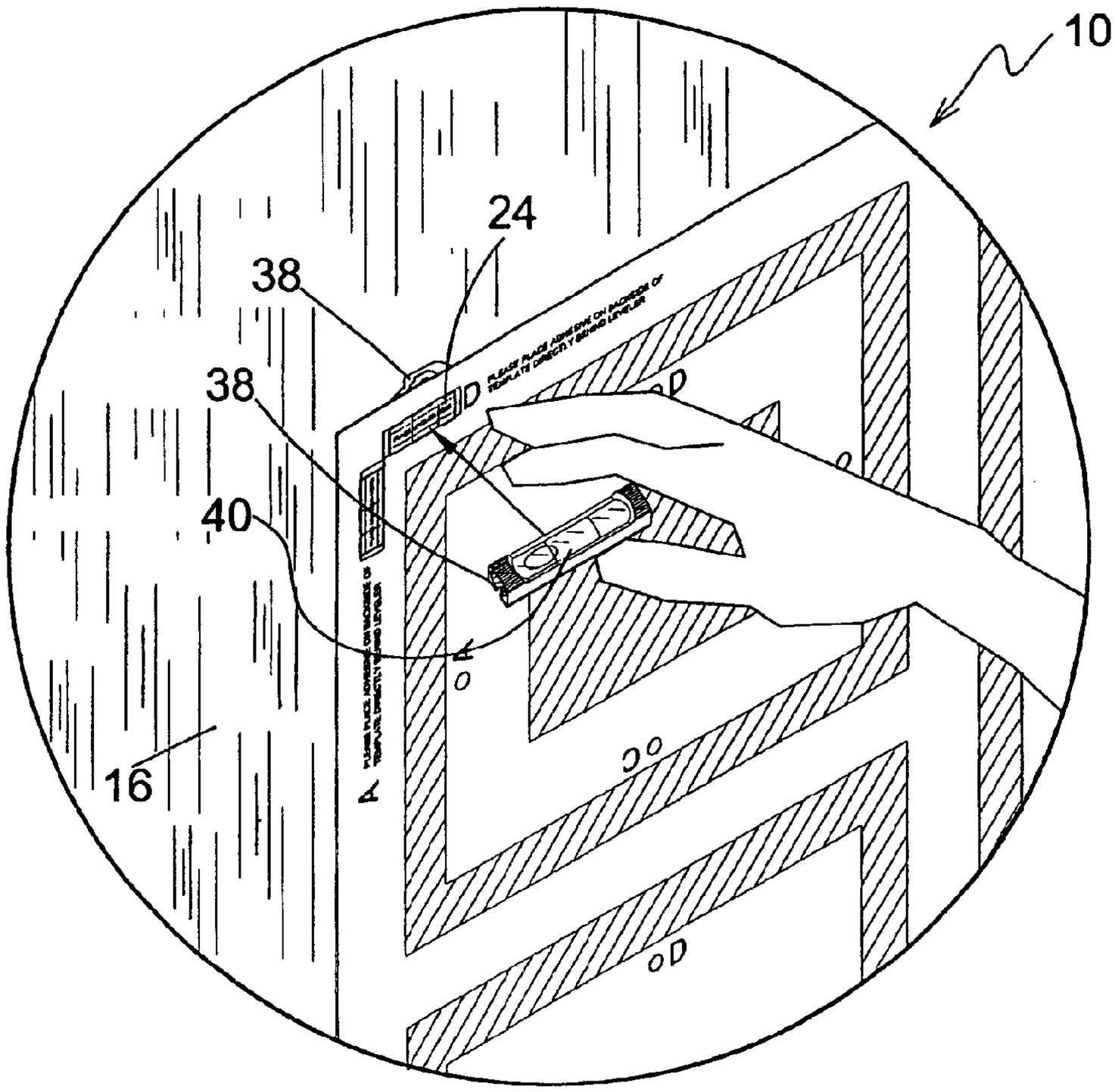


FIG. 6

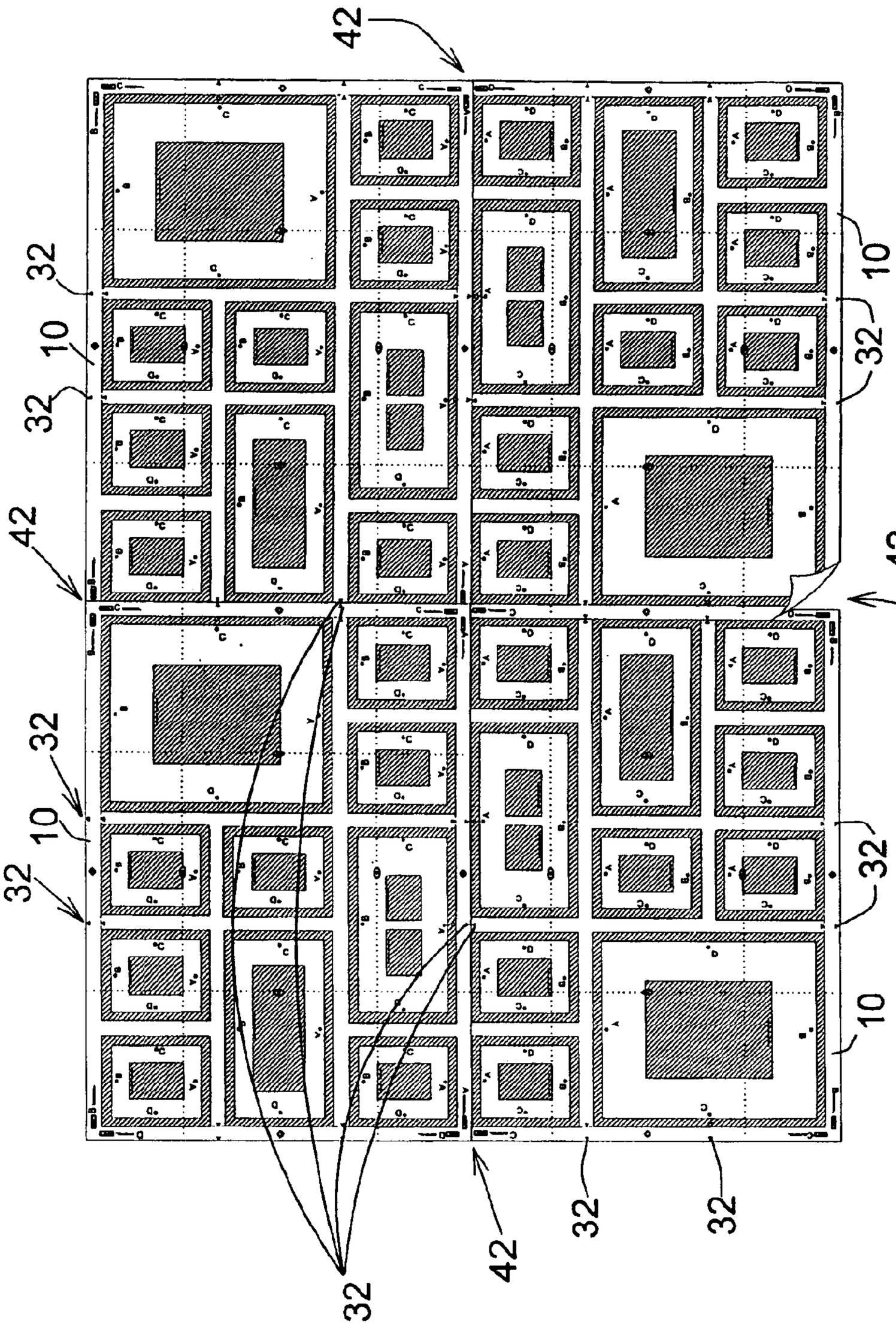


FIG. 7

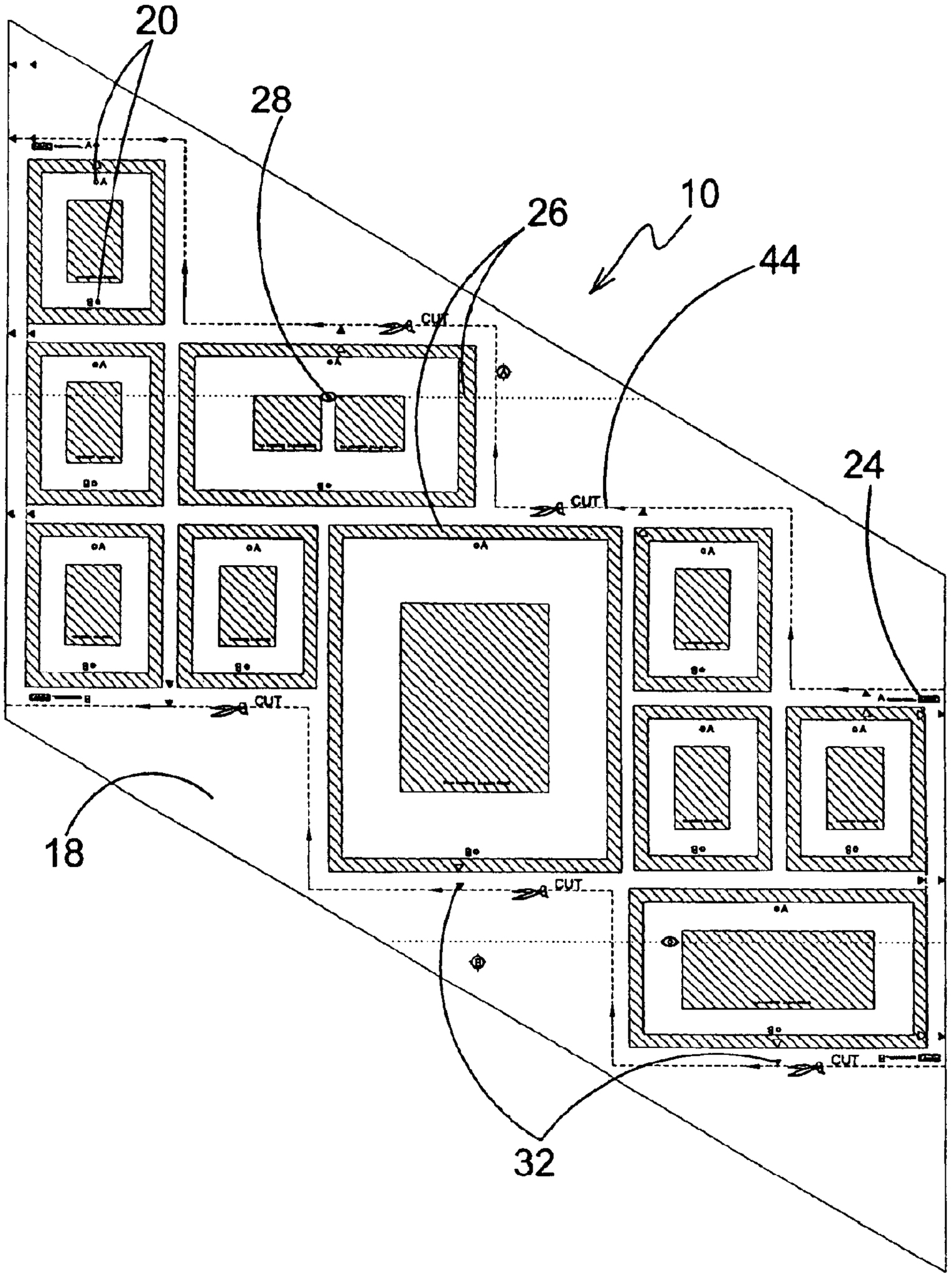


FIG. 8

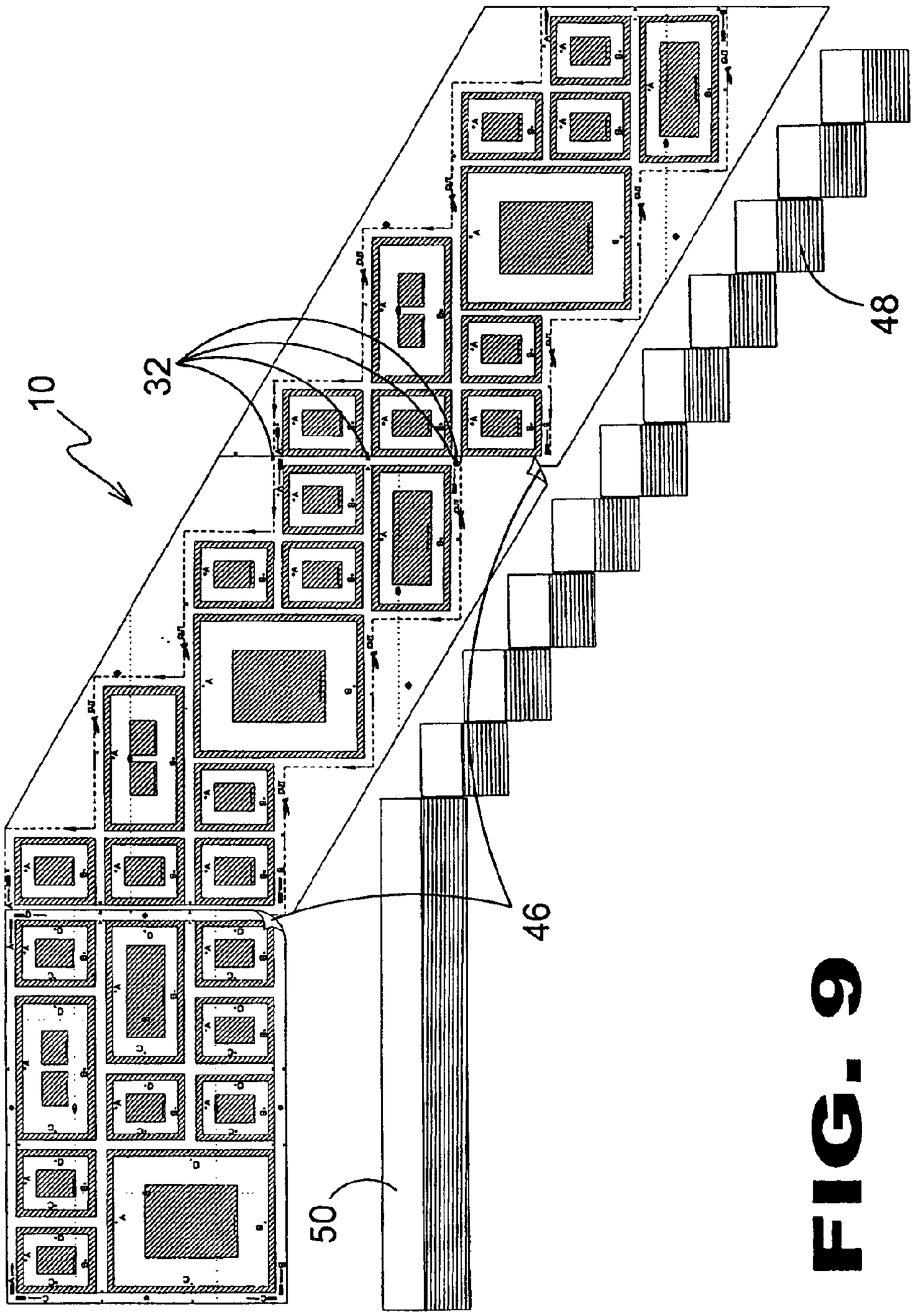


FIG. 9

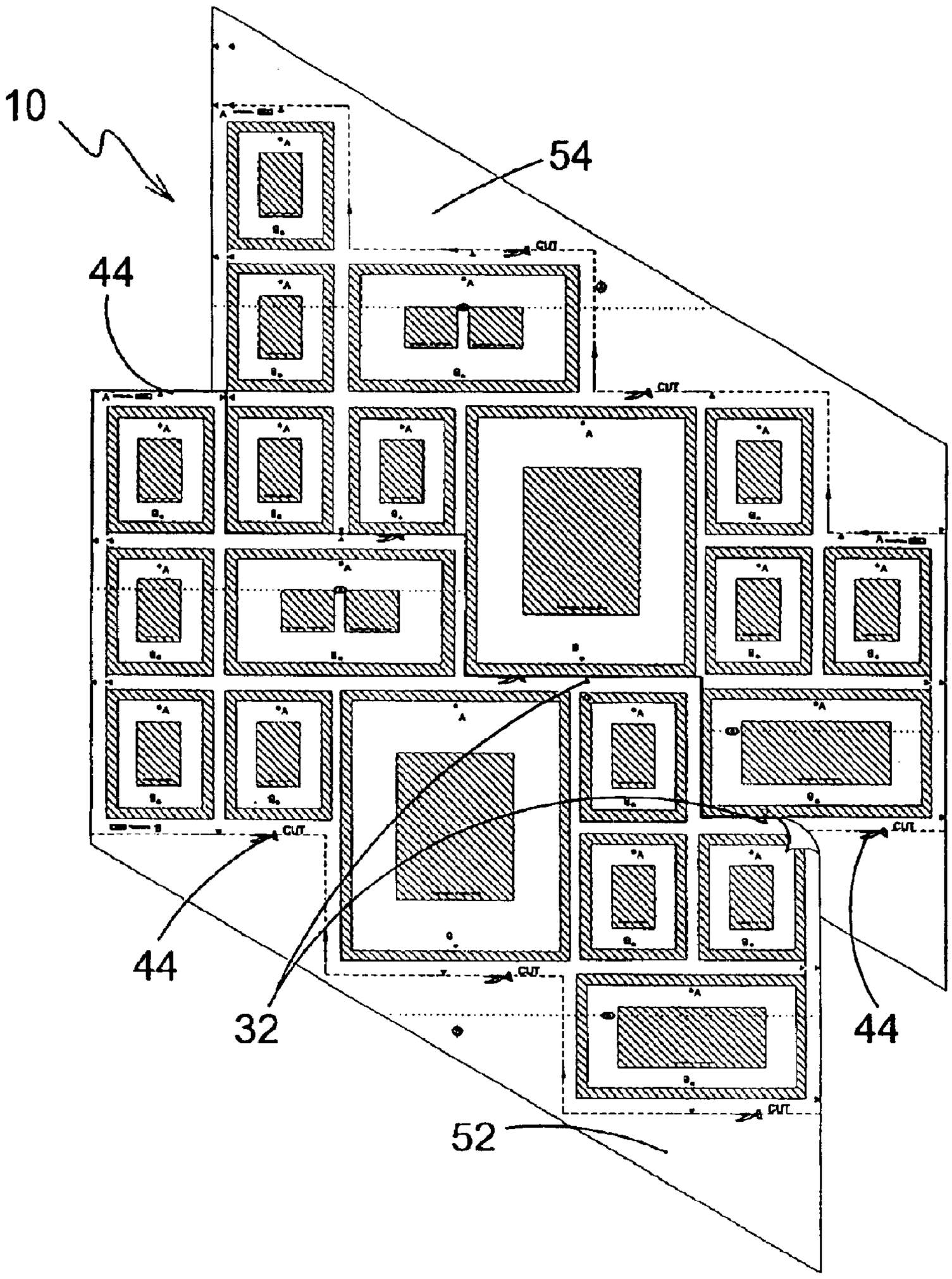


FIG. 10

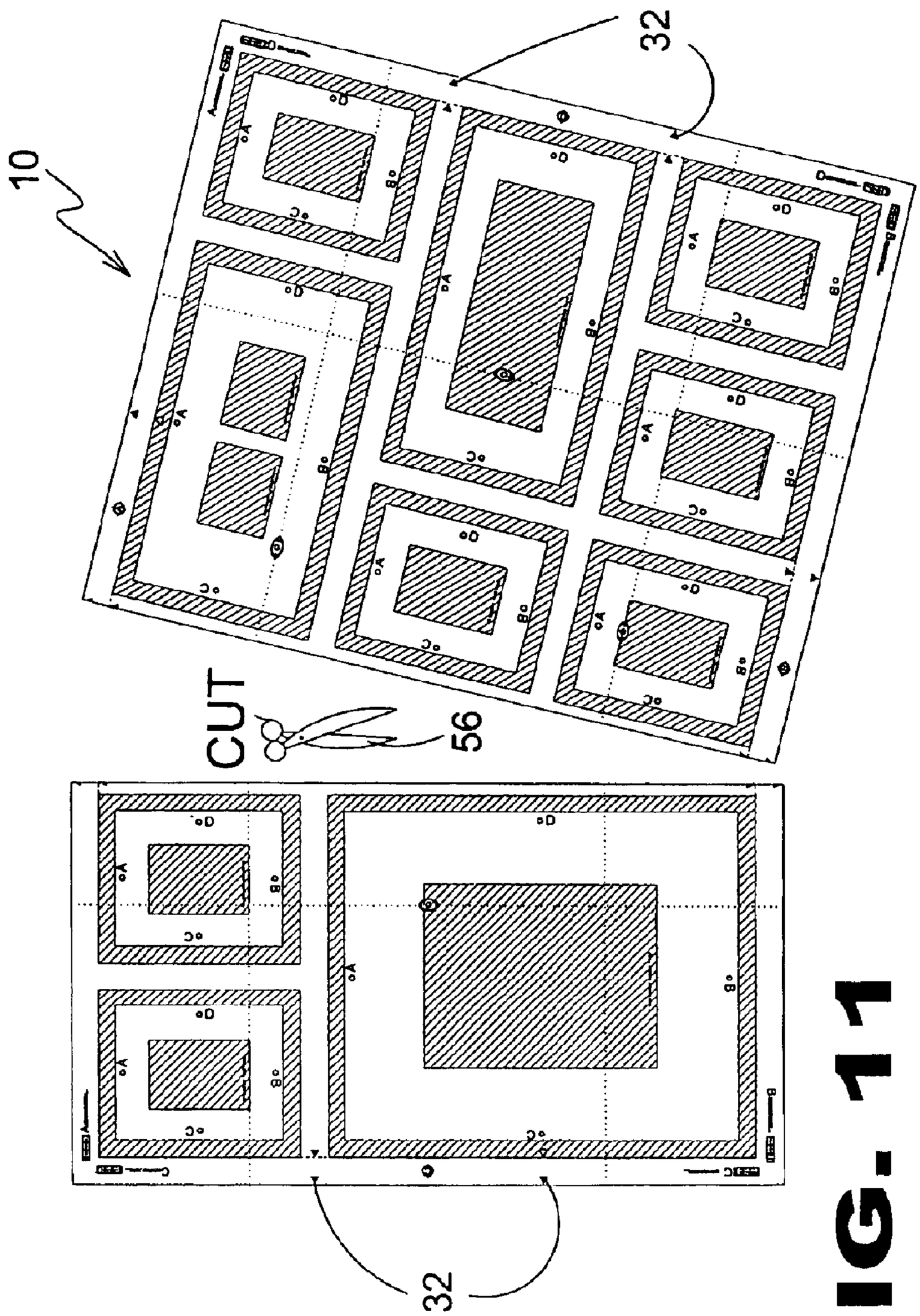


FIG. 11

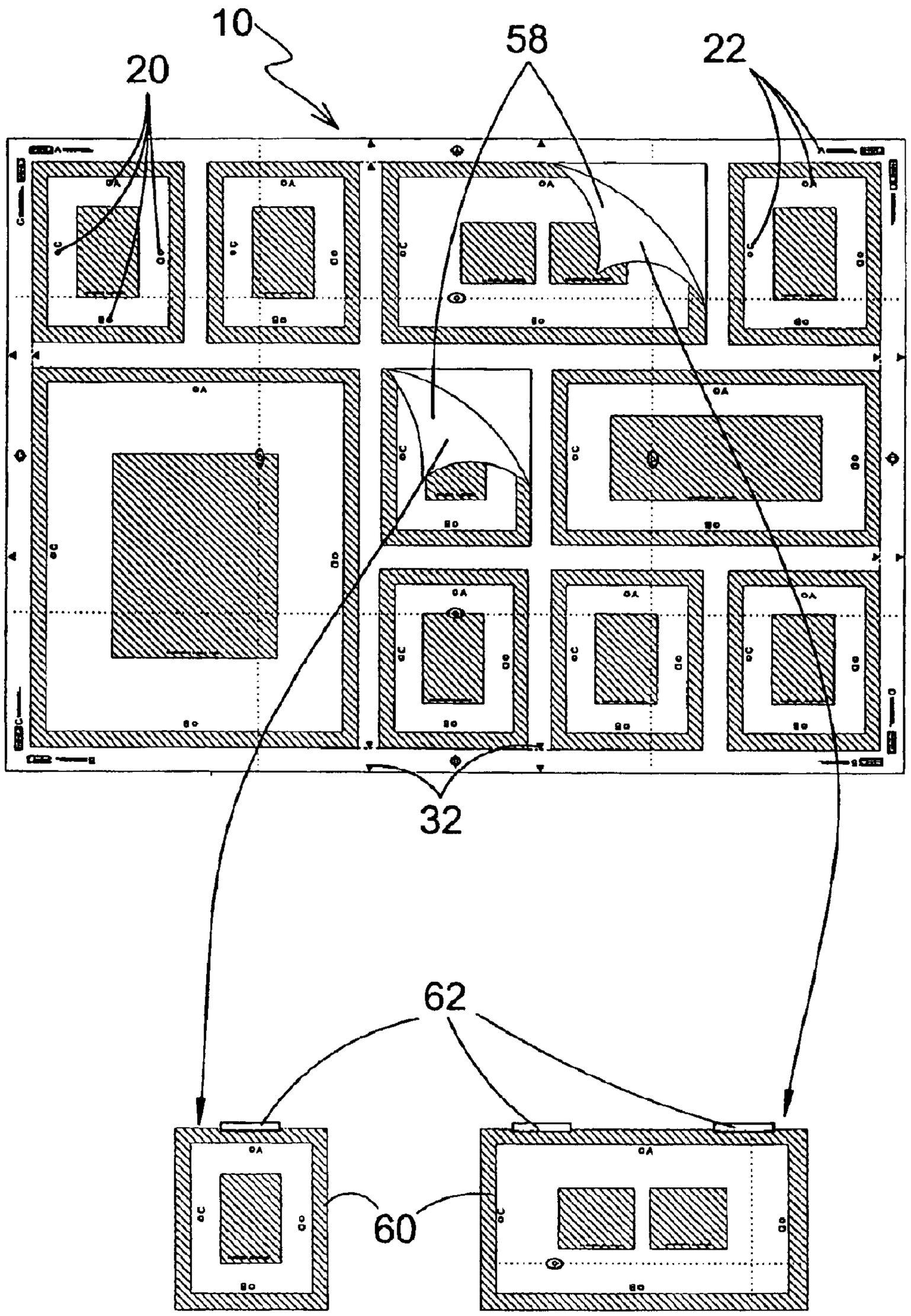


FIG. 12

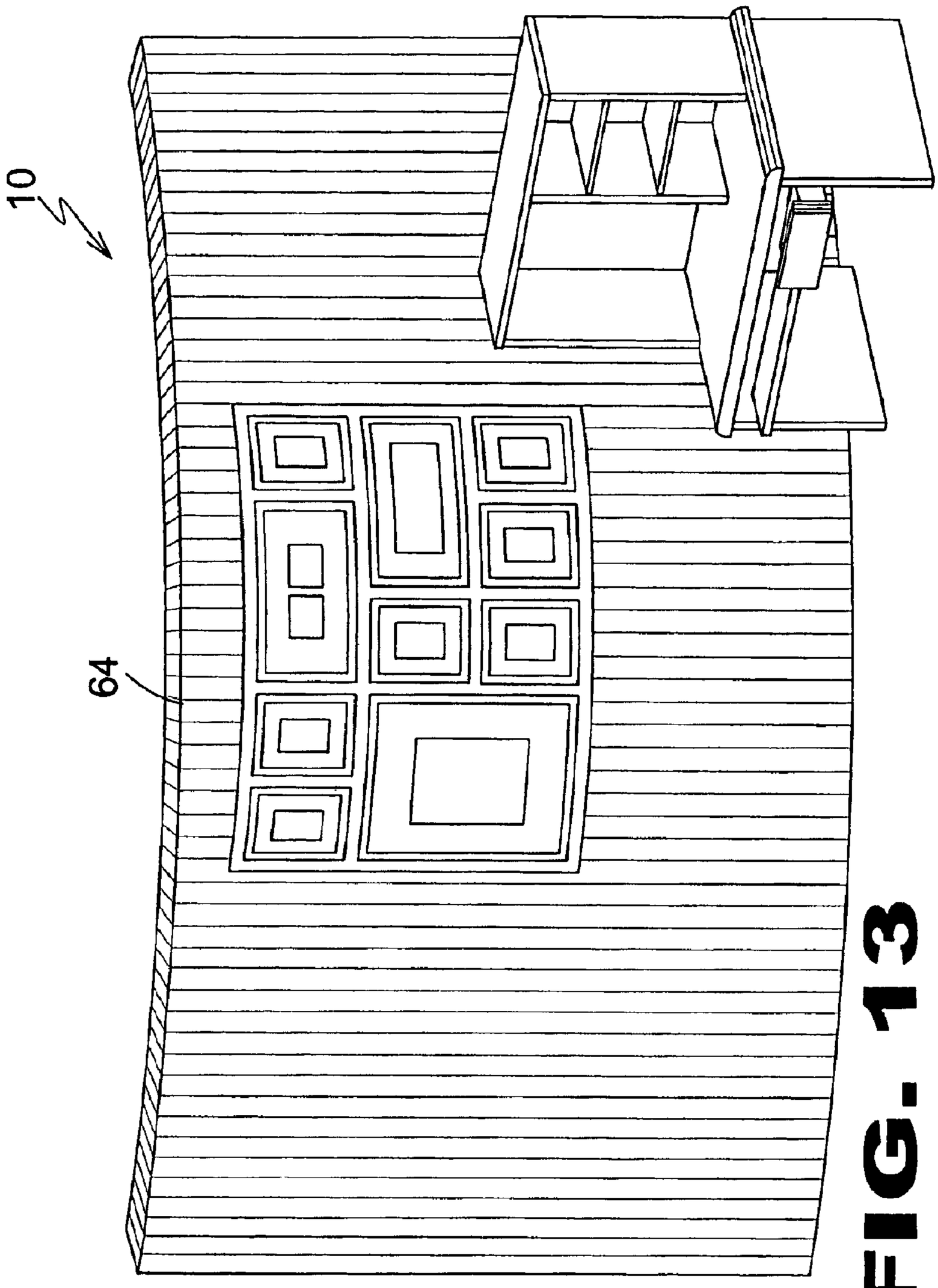


FIG. 13

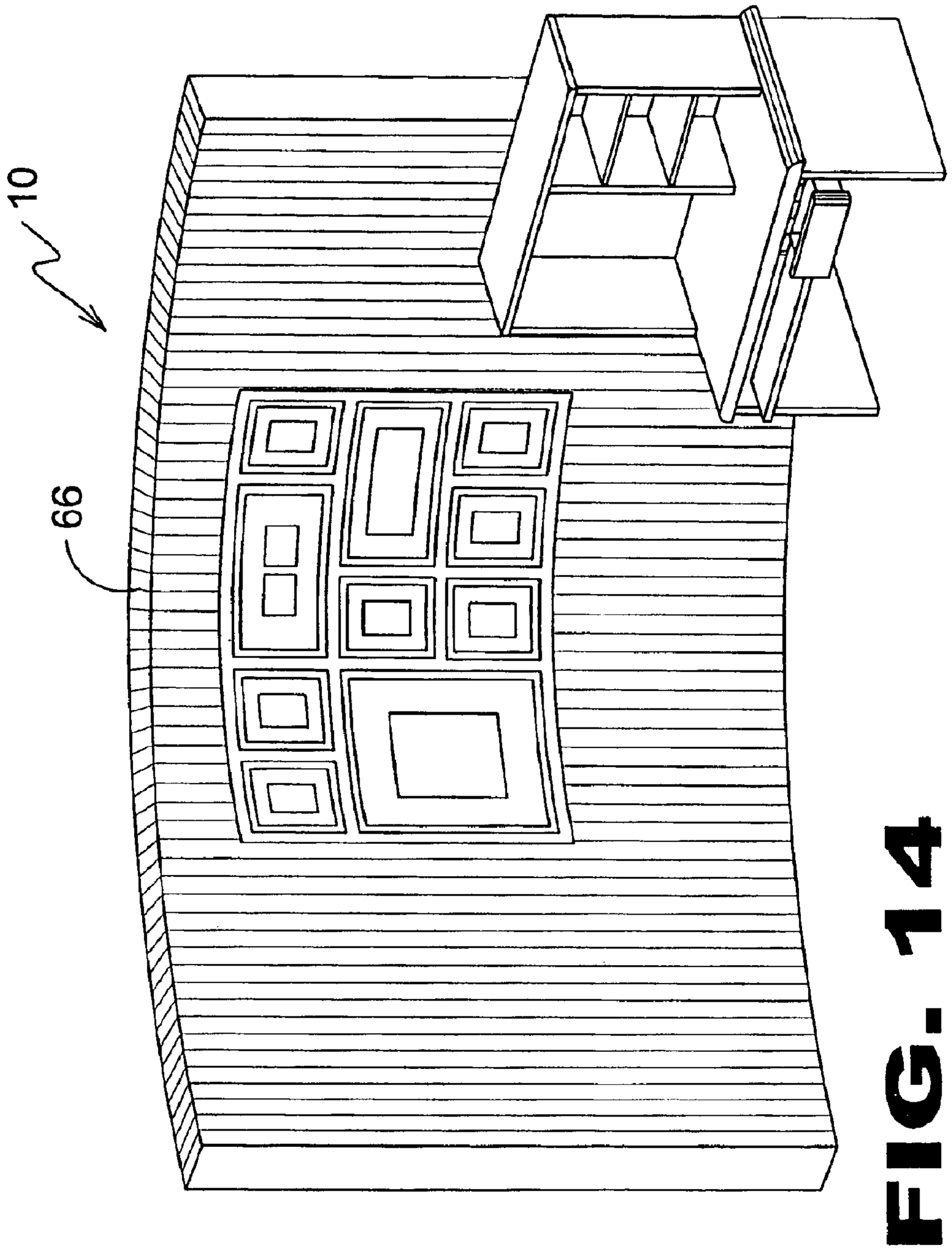


FIG. 14

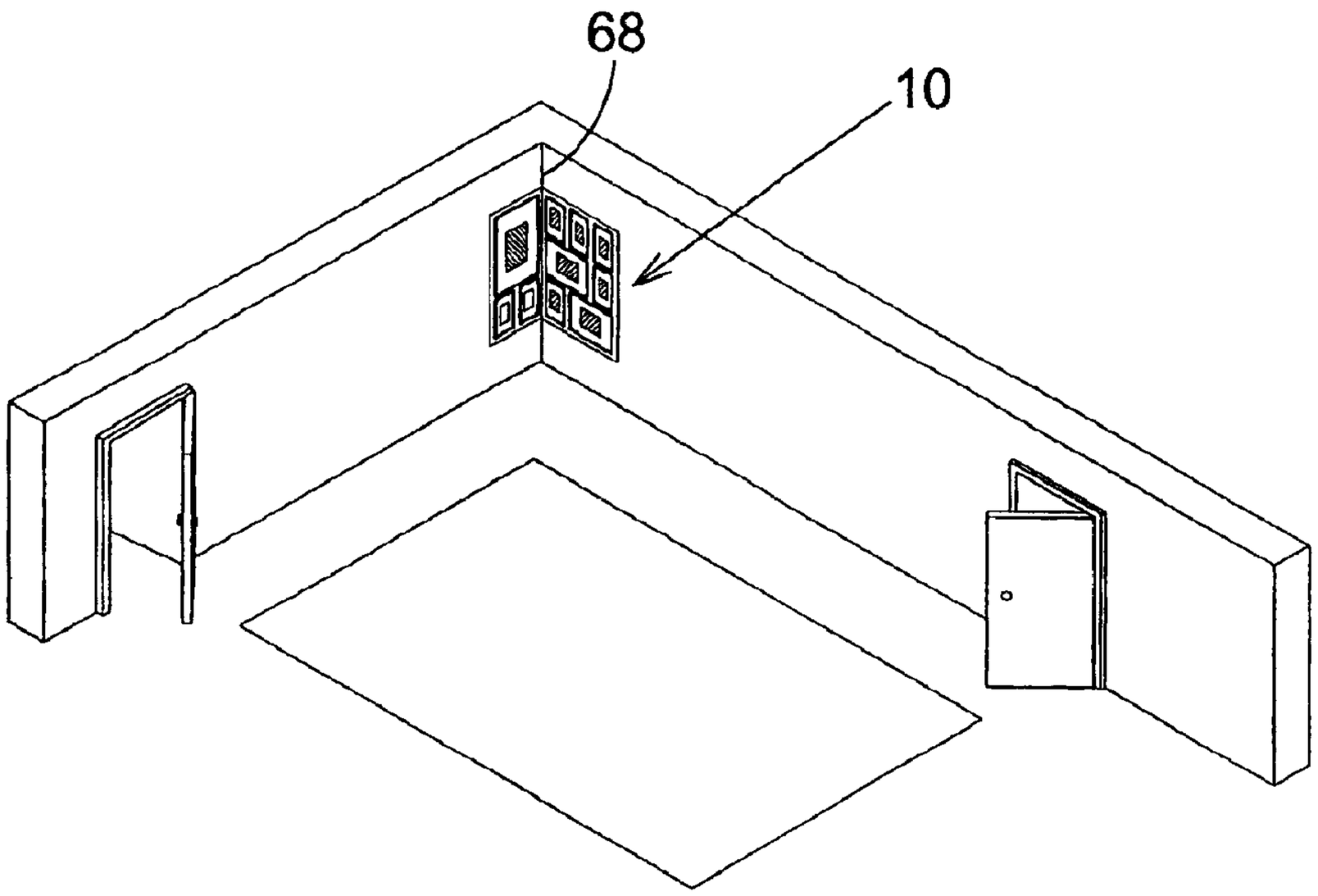


FIG. 15

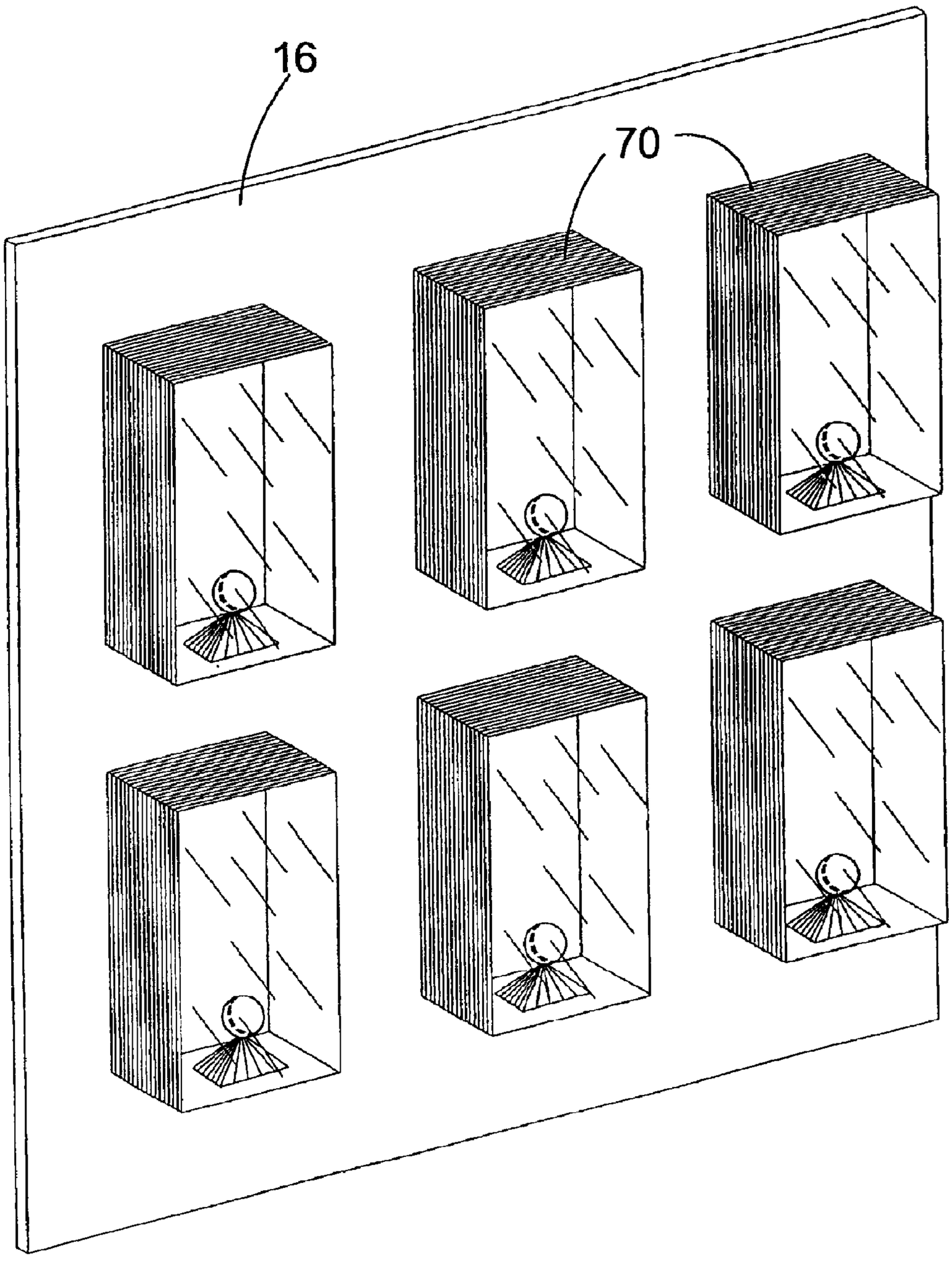


FIG. 16

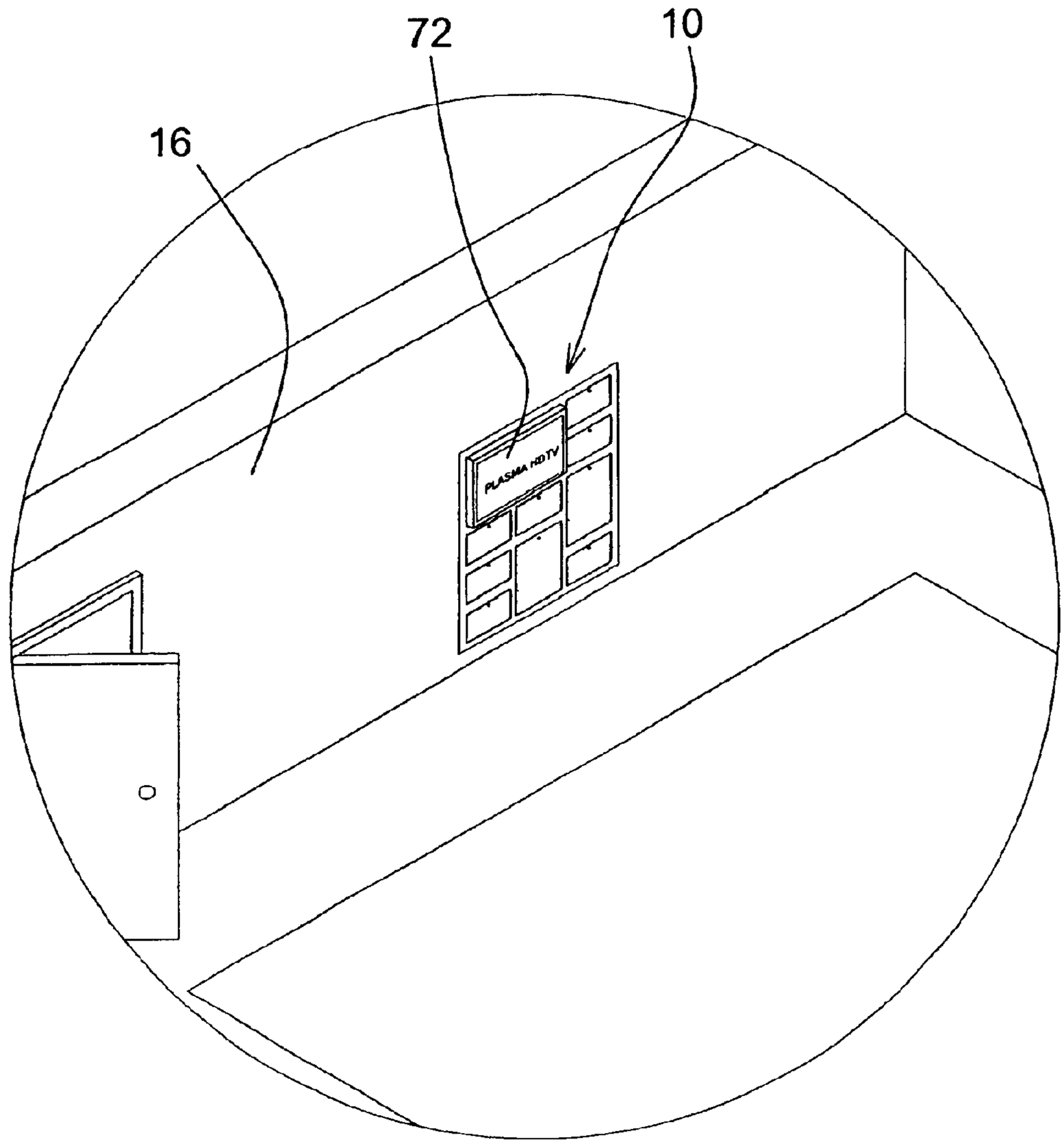


FIG. 17

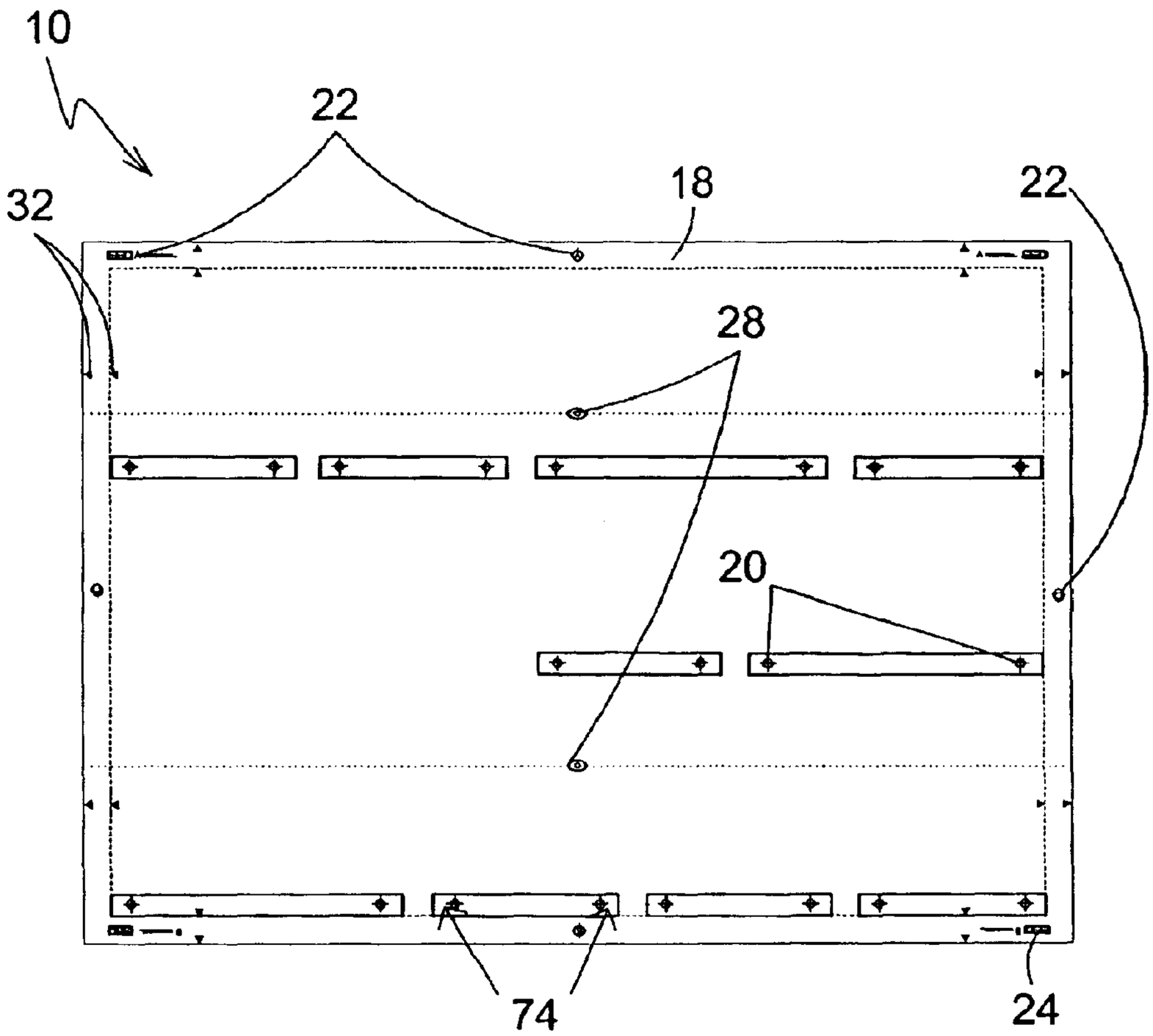


FIG. 18

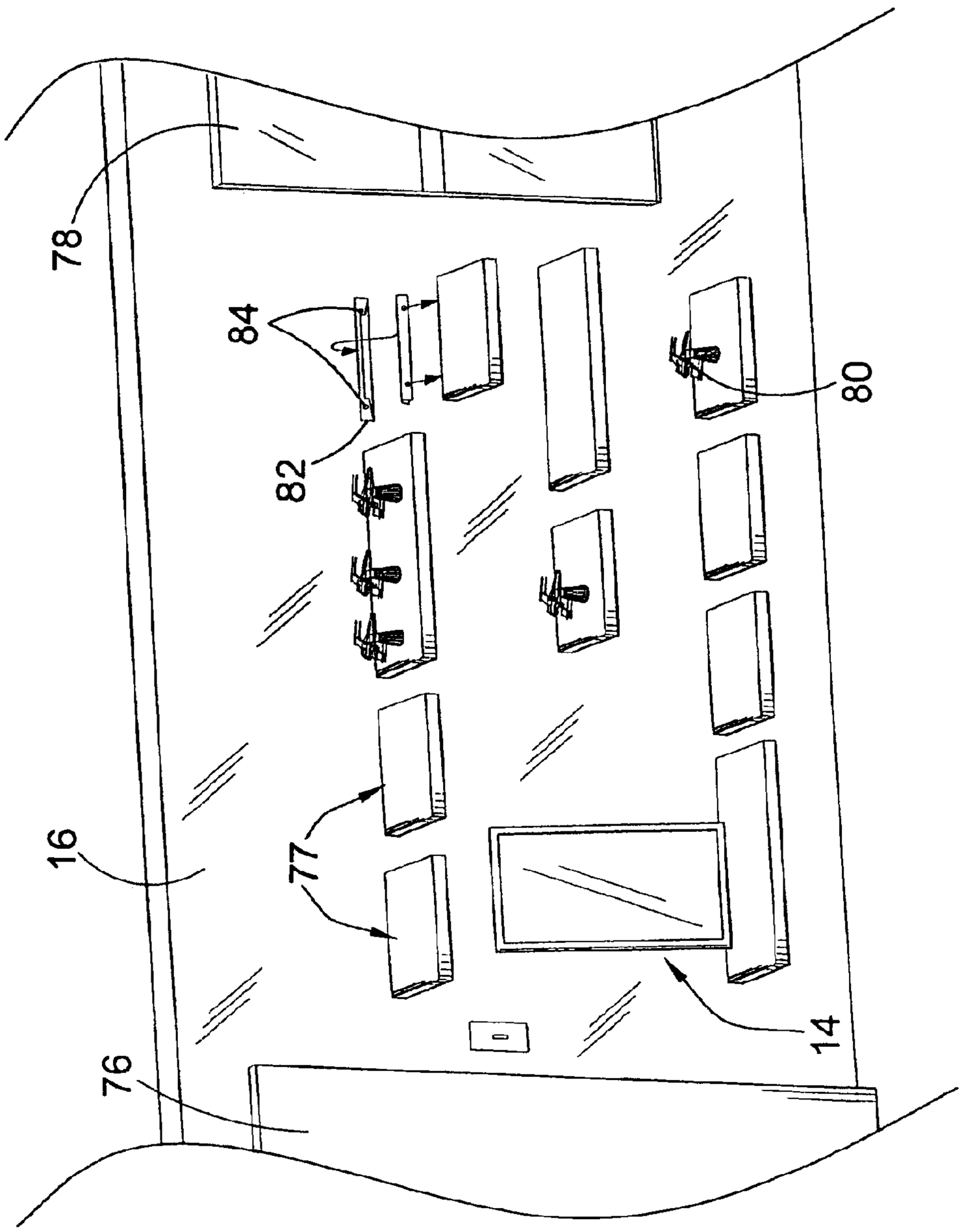


FIG. 19

PICTURE LEVELING/POSITIONING TEMPLATE

Matter enclosed in heavy brackets [ ] appears in the original patent but forms no part of this reissue specification; matter printed in italics indicates the additions made by reissue.

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Notice: More than one reissue application has been filed for the reissue Parent No. 6,880,259. The present application is a continuing reissue application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 11/351,217, filed on Feb. 9, 2006 and titled "Picture Leveling/Positioning Template," as issued on Aug. 30, 2011 as U.S. Pat. No. Re. 42,649, which is a reissue patent/application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 10/735,682, filed on Dec. 15, 2003 and titled "Picture Leveling/Positioning Template," for which U.S. Pat. No. 6,880,259 B1 was granted on Apr. 19, 2005. The disclosures of these commonly owned applications are incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates generally to picture leveling/positioning and, more specifically, to an inexpensive, reusable, and compact picture leveling/positioning template where the design of the device would allow the user to arrange picture frames, shadow boxes, shelving, signage, or any objects with 2 or 3 dimensions that could be mounted on a wall in a preferred arrangement in limitless aesthetic combinations on a vertical surface of any size or slope and curved wall surfaces.

The template also has multiple leveling guides to assist the user in leveling and spacing picture frames horizontally and vertically on any vertical surface.

The invention is a three part inexpensive compact kit comprised of a planar pliable material with multiple leveling lines inscribed thereon, a non-shear adhesive, and bubble levels with a non-shear adhesive.

2. Description of the Prior Art

There are other level devices designed for leveling pictures. Typical of these is U.S. Pat. No. 2,667,704 issued to Carl H. Dunn on Mar. 18, 1952.

Another patent was issued to Gary E Mallory on Sep. 5, 1967 as U.S. Pat. No. 3,339,302. Yet another U.S. Pat. No. 3,523,382 was issued to Ronald L. Dreyer on Aug. 11, 1970 and still yet another was issued on Jul. 18, 1978 to Bruce L. Hollander as U.S. Pat. No. 4,100,681.

Another patent was issued to Stephen R. Berndt on Jun. 24, 1980 as U.S. Pat. No. 4,208,802. Yet another U.S. Pat. No. 4,936,033 was issued to Mark Lacko on June 26, 1990. Another was issued to Michael Kane on Dec. 11, 1990 as U.S. Pat. No. 4,976,055 and still yet another was issued on Nov. 7, 1995 to Richard A. Leeds as U.S. Pat. No. 5,463,817.

In a bracket for leveling picture frames and the like, the combination which comprises a plate having an extended edge and with upwardly extended sections of unequal length on the ends, arms of unequal length with hooks extended from the upper ends extended upwardly from the sections at the ends of the plate, and means hinging said arms to the upwardly extended sections at the ends of the plate.

A frame structure for photographs, comprising: (a) a rectangular frame defining a central opening; (b) means for positioning a photograph in said opening; (c) a raised rim bordering said frame and having a set of slots therein defining a common plane parallel to, but offset from said frame; (d) a set of tongues extending outwardly from said rim in the same plane as said slots, said tongues and slots being so located as to permit the tongues of one frame structure to enter the slots of a companion frame structure thereby to join said frame structures.

Individual frames are provided with hooks or clamps which cooperate with holes or slots respectively in similar frames to secure adjacent frames together in various arrangements. A photograph, glass and backing are retained in position within the individual frames by an integrally formed, resilient clip which extends from one end of the fame. Several smaller frames are displaced independently or are mounted within a single larger frame.

An inexpensive spirit level having means for easy attachment to upper surface portions of picture frames or the like. The device comprises a transparent tape having blister-like cavities at regular intervals, a base tape affixed in face-to-face relation against one side of the transparent tape and having a pressure sensitive adhesive on the outside for attachment to a surface portion of a frame, and a liquid partially filling said cavities. Each blister cavity has a bubble corresponding to the unfilled space which bubbles will move along the curvature of the blister, thereby indicating the relative position of the device with respect to a horizontal plane. Suitable markings on the transparent tape are provided to facilitate reading level position with respect to the horizontal plane.

A mounting plate is attached to a picture frame and holds a removable liquid bubble level. The plate can be sheared by pushing the frame toward the wall. A card is provided for packaging several mounting plates with a single bubble level.

A unitary poster assembly molded of flexible synthetic plastic material, the assembly including a rectangular backing plate whose dimensions are slightly smaller than those of the poster. The plate is bordered by an integrated frame formed of top, bottom and left and right side branches, the top branch being spaced from the upper edge of the plate to form an inlet gap. The inner walls of the branches, save for the top branch, are slotted to define a U-shaped socket for receiving the corresponding margins of a poster supported on the backing plate. To install a poster, the top branch is momentarily bent back to admit the lower end of the poster into the inlet gap and to permit insertion of the side margins thereof into the slots of the side branches, the poster then being pushed down until its bottom margin lies in the of the bottom branch, at which point the poster is properly mounted. To thereafter remove the poster from the frame assembly, the top branch is again flexed, and the poster is pulled out of the socket.

A wall mountable frame comprises a rectangular pan-shaped frame including a main rectangular vertical rear wall having forwardly extending magnet-attracting marginal walls defining with said main wall a rectangular sign or poster receiving recess. Screw head-receiving holes are provided in said main vertical wall for receiving the heads of wall mounting anchoring screws which will be fully recessed in said holes, the defining walls of said holes being formed by rearwardly projection portions of said main vertical wall. Magnet bars are insertable along the inner margins of the marginal walls of the frame to hold the margins of sheet material upon said rear wall. Spacers are preferably in the form of double adhesive coated synthetic plastic foam strips are positioned behind said frame to extend along the margins of the rear wall of the frame. The strips space the hole-forming projecting portions of the rear wall from the mounting wall surface of the frame. The strips have a peelable outer layer to cover the outer

adhesive layer thereof. The strips are compressed by the tightening of the screws when screws are the frame anchoring means, and can be used as the sole anchoring means of the frame when the peelable outer layer is removed therefrom.

A leveling device is provided that has a hollow thin rectangular housing and is constructed of transparent plastic. The housing holds two different types of fluids, such as oil and water, or a mix of air and fluid. The two immiscible fluids allow the device to be used as a level which operates when the line between the fluids aligns with a datum line that is etched or marked upon the surface of the transparent housing. The device can be attached to an article to be leveled by an adhesive back on the leveling device or alternatively by thumb tacks inserted through holes provided in the housing of the device. The relatively long line between fluids allows the device to be used in judging the degree to which the article is non-level relative to its environment, and also allows the device to hang an article at a specific angle relative to a wall, floor or ceiling. A version of the level can be constructed with a flexible and bendable housing to allow the level to be used to align objects of any shape.

While these leveling devices may be suitable for the purposes for which they were designed, they would not be as suitable for the purposes of the present invention, as hereinafter described.

SUMMARY OF THE PRESENT INVENTION

The present invention discloses an inexpensive, reusable, and compact picture leveling template where the design of the device would allow the user to arrange picture frames, shadow boxes, shelving, signage, or any objects with 2 or 3 dimensions that could be mounted on a wall in a preferred arrangement in limitless aesthetic combinations on a vertical surface of any size or slope along with curved wall surfaces. The template has multiple leveling guides to assist the user in leveling and spacing picture frames horizontally and vertically on any vertical surface. The present invention may be a three-part, inexpensive compact kit comprised of a planar pliable material with multiple leveling lines inscribed thereon, a non-shear adhesive, and bubble levels for use with a non-shear adhesive.

A primary object of the present invention is to provide limitless combinations of frame hangings in a precise manner.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a new and useful product to the market.

Yet another object of the present invention is to provide an effortless way to organize picture frames on a vertical surface.

Still yet another object of the present invention is to provide a template that would ensure the user proper placement of picture frames on vertical surfaces.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a reusable product.

Another object of the present invention is to provide multiple predetermined aesthetically pleasing functional frame configurations.

Yet another object of the present invention is to provide a system for exact replication by varying individuals in various spaces.

Still yet another object of the present invention is to provide an (all in one) solution for precise picture hanging.

Another object of the present invention is to allow the user to view, by way of the template, what the final execution of the frames on the wall will look like prior to execution.

Yet another object of the present invention is to allow the user maximum flexibility prior to execution by easy adjustments of template prior to execution.

Still yet another object of the present invention is to provide an (all in one) solution for precise shelf hanging.

Additional objects of the present invention will appear as the description proceeds.

The present invention overcomes the shortcomings of the prior art by providing a picture positioning template used to provide and indicate to the user where the optimum placement of a fastening element used for the attachment of a display or photograph should placed for an ideal aesthetic arrangement.

Additionally provided are a plurality of individual and segregated indicia which correlate to define to an individual when the present invention is placed at the proper elevation and square upon a vertical planar or curved surface wherein a shearable adhesive may be used to maintain the present invention in the selected position.

The foregoing and other objects and advantages will appear from the description to follow. In the description reference is made to the accompanying drawings, which form a part hereof, and in which is shown by way of illustration specific embodiments in which the invention may be practiced. These embodiments will be described in sufficient detail to enable those skilled in the art to practice the invention, and it is to be understood that other embodiments may be utilized and that structural changes may be made without departing from the scope of the invention. In the accompanying drawings, like reference characters designate the same or similar parts throughout the several views.

The following detailed description is, therefore, not to be taken in a limiting sense, and the scope of the present invention is best defined by the appended claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In order that the invention may be more fully understood, it will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. **1** is an illustrative view of the present invention in use.

FIG. **2** is a front view of the present invention.

FIG. **3** is a detailed front view of the frame indicia of the present invention.

FIG. **4** is a detailed front view of the eye level guide of the present invention.

FIG. **5** is a detailed view of the level placement of the present invention.

FIG. **6** is a perspective view of the present invention.

FIG. **7** is a front view of a plurality of the present invention.

FIG. **8** is a front view of an additional element of the present invention.

FIG. **9** is a plurality of the additional element of the present invention.

FIG. **10** is a plurality of the additional element of the present invention.

FIG. **11** is an additional element of the present invention.

FIG. **12** is an additional element of the present invention.

FIG. **13** is an additional element of the present invention.

FIG. **14** is an additional element of the present invention.

FIG. **15** is an additional element of the present invention.

FIG. **16** is an additional element of the present invention.

FIG. **17** is an additional element of the present invention.

FIG. **18** is an additional element of the present invention.

FIG. **19** is an additional element of the present invention.

LIST OF REFERENCE NUMERALS

With regard to reference numerals used, the following numbering is used throughout the drawings.

10 present invention
12 user
14 picture
16 vertical surface
18 planar pliable material
20 fastener placement markers
22 axial correlation guide
24 bubble level placement indicia
26 representative frame indicia
28 eye level guides
32 peripheral guides
34 central eye level guide
36 horizontal eye level guide line
38 non-shear adhesive
40 bubble leveler
42 edge
44 cutting guide
46 overlapping template area
48 staircase
50 landing
52 template
54 template
56 scissor cut
58 cut
60 individual frame template
62 tape
64 concave curved wall
66 convex curved wall
68 corner of wall
70 box
72 plasma television
74 representative shelf indicia
76 door
77 shelf
78 window
80 object
82 support
84 fastener

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

The following discussion describes in detail one embodiment of the invention (and several variations of that embodiment). This discussion should not be construed, however, as limiting the invention to those particular embodiments since practitioners skilled in the art will recognize numerous other embodiments as well. For a definition of the complete scope of the invention, the reader is directed to the appended claims.

Turning to FIG. **1**, shown therein is an illustrative view of the present invention **10** in use. Shown is the present invention **10** being a picture positioning template used to provide and indicate to the user **12** where the optimum placement of a fastener used for the attachment of a display **14** or photograph should be placed for an ideal aesthetic arrangement. The template **10** additionally has a plurality of individual and segregated indicia which correlate to define to an individual user **12** when the present invention is placed at the proper elevation and being properly vertically and horizontally squared upon a vertical **16** planar or curved surface wherein a shearable adhesive may be used to maintain the present invention in the selected position.

Turning to FIG. **2**, shown therein is a front view of the present invention **10**. Shown is the present invention **10** being a reusable sheet of planar pliable material **18** having a plurality of fastener placement markers **20** used to indicate the point where a fastener should be used along with having relative axial indicia inscribed to enable the user to coordinate what markers to use relative to the present inventions rotational placement. Also shown are axial correlation guides **22**, bubble level placement indicia **24**, representative frame indicia **26**, eye level guides **28**, and peripheral guides **32**.

Turning to FIG. **3**, shown therein is a detailed front view of the frame indicia **26** of the present invention. Shown is the present invention having frame indicia **26** representative of the placement of a predetermined frame size; e.g., 10 inch×12 inch, inscribed thereon. Provided within the inner perimeter of the frame indicia **26** are fastener placement markers **20** with respective axial indicia or axial correlation guides **22** to express correct fastener (i.e., nail hole) placement for the related frame size. Also shown is planar pliable material **18**. The present invention has a plurality of variously common-sized frame indicia **26** thereon wherein the indicia **26** are arranged in different configurations with the edges of the indicia **26** being parallel and symmetrically arranged with each other and all indicia.

Turning to FIG. **4**, shown therein a detailed front view of the eye level guide **28** of the present invention. Shown is the present invention having indicia representative of the elevation at which the present invention should and/or could be placed upon a vertical surface with respect to the viewer for correct picture group height being a centrally disposed eye level guide **34** and a horizontal eye level guide line **36**.

Turning to FIG. **5**, shown therein is a detailed view of the level placement of the present invention. Shown is the bubble level placement indicia **24** of the present invention having an area marked where a bubble leveler should be adhered to allow the user to horizontally and vertically square the present invention against a vertical surface. Also shown is the axial correlation guide or indicia **22**.

Turning to FIG. **6**, shown therein is a perspective view of the present invention **10**. Shown is the present invention **10** adhered to a vertical surface **16** such as a wall, by means of a non-shear, removable and adjustable adhesive **38** in the form of putty. Additionally shown is the placement of the bubble leveler **40** onto the level placement indicia **24**, with the bubble leveler having a non-shear adhesive backing **38** for attachment to the level placement indicia **24**.

Turning to FIG. **7**, shown therein is a front view of a plurality of the present invention **10**. Shown are multiple templates **10** overlapping at their ends or edges **42** and aligning by using the peripheral guide markers **32** as indicated. The templates **10** are arranged in a formation to show the infinite combinations that may be used. These combinations allow the present invention **10** to cover any size wall and also offer a greater atheistic appearance, function and coverage for the user.

Turning to FIG. **8**, shown therein is a front view of an additional element of the present invention **10**. Shown is an additional element of the present invention **10** that would enable the user to apply the invention on a non-horizontal or angled wall line such as a staircase wall. Shown are previously disclosed elements **18**, **20**, **24**, **26**, **28**, **32** along with cutting guide **44** which allows the user to diagonally cut the sheets into usably sized portions.

Turning to FIG. **9**, shown therein is a plurality of the additional element of the present invention **10**. Shown are three elements of the present invention **10** one overlapping at **46** and aligning to the other by using the peripheral guides **32**. Angled templates can also be used in conjunction with rectangular instances of the present invention for staircases **48**, landings **50** and hallways. The arrangement of multiple elements also offers a greater atheistic appearance, function and coverage for the user.

Turning to FIG. **10**, shown therein is a plurality of the additional element of the present invention **10**. Shown is a plurality of the present invention **10** that would enable the user to apply the invention on a large staircase wall. The template element **52** has been trimmed off using the cutting guide **44**. Template element **52** can now overlap and align with template element **54** by using the peripheral guide markers **32** available on both elements **52**, **54**.

Turning to FIG. **11**, shown therein is an additional element of the present invention **10**. Shown is the present invention **10** trimmed by scissors at **56** which would enable the user to use part of the present invention on a small wall and still have the guides **32** available for accurate and level placement of the picture frames. This ability to be separated also allows users to change configuration by combining sections of a template **10** in different ways without loosing accuracy/function of template.

Turning to FIG. **12**, shown therein is an additional element of the present invention **10**. Shown is an additional element of the present invention **10** wherein by cutting along the outside of the frame at **58** and removing the frame **60** from the template **10** creates an individual frame template **60**. The individual templates **60** retain their indicia and when bonded to a wall using tape or the like **62** allows the user to hang individual picture frames. Other previously disclosed elements **20**, **22** and **43** are also shown.

Turning to FIG. **13**, shown therein is an additional element of the present invention **10**. Shown is the present invention **10** that would enable the user to apply the invention on a concave, curved wall **64**.

Turning to FIG. **14**, shown therein is an additional element of the present invention **10**. Shown is the present invention that would enable the user to apply the invention on a convex, curved wall **66**.

Turning to FIG. **15**, shown therein is an additional element of the present invention **10**. Shown is the present invention **10** that would enable the user to apply the invention in a corner **68** of a wall.

Turning to FIG. **16**, shown therein is an additional element of the present invention **10**. Shown is the present invention **10** with 3D object viewing boxes **70** thereon. This shows that the user will be able to hang shadow boxes **70** in a level formation on a vertical surface **16** with accuracy.

Turning to FIG. **17**, shown therein is an additional element of the present invention **10**. Shown is the present invention with a plasma television **72** thereon. This shows that the user will be able to hang thin screen televisions **72** in a level formation on a vertical surface **16** with accuracy.

Turning to FIG. **18**, shown therein is an additional element of the present invention **10**. Shown is the present invention **10** being a reusable sheet of planar pliable material **18** having a plurality of fastener placement markers **20** used to indicate the point where fasteners should be used. The template **10** is for hanging shelves level in a specific predetermined order. Shown are the representative shelf indicia **74**, peripheral guides **32**, axial correlation guide **22**, eye level guides **28**, bubble level placement indicia **24** and fastener placement indicia **20**.

Turning to FIG. **19**, shown therein is an additional element of the present invention **10**. Shown are shelves **76** mounted using the shelf template element of the present invention. Shown are picture frame **14**, door **76**, shelf **77**, wall **16**, window **78**, displayed object **80**, shelf supporting element **82**, and fastener **84** placement.

The present invention is used to mark where the hooks to hang the frames should be placed. Once the area is marked, the template is removed, the hooks are applied to the wall surface and then the frames are put in place. At no time during or after this process are template and frames seen together on the wall. We have however shown them together in some cases for purpose of illustration.

I claim:

1. A template for hanging picture frames level on a wall, comprising:

[a)**]** a rectangular, *planar* sheet of pliable material**[**, wherein said sheet is planar, said sheet**]** having a pair of opposite side edges, a top edge **[**a and**]**, bottom edge, and front *surface,* and rear **[**surfaces**]** *surface*;

[b) multiple**]** *a plurality of* picture frame indicia **[**being**]** disposed on **[**said front of said**]** *the* sheet *front surface*, each **[**said**]** frame indicia **[**being defined by a substantially**]** *having* horizontal top **[**edge**]** and bottom **[**edge**]** *edges* and a **[**substantially**]** *pair of* vertical **[**pair of**]** side edges, wherein a **[**faster**]** *fastener* placement marker is disposed within each **[**said**]** frame indica in association with each of **[**said**]** *the* top, bottom and side edges **[**being so disposed as**]** to indicate correct fastener placement for attachment of the picture frame to the wall, the picture frame **[**being**]** *is* complementarily sized as **[**said**]** *the* picture frame indicia **[**can**]** *to* be hung level on the wall with **[**said**]** *the* fastener**[**,**]***;*

[c)**]** a plurality of bubble level placement indicia **[**being**]** disposed on **[**said**]** *the* sheet, wherein **[**said**]** *the* bubble level placement indicia are disposed on **[**all**]** *two adjacent* corners of **[**said**]** *the* sheet in both horizontal and vertical orientation **[**wherein said bubble level placement indicia are so disposed as**]** to allow **[**said**]** *the* sheet and **[**said**]** *the* picture frame indicia to be horizontally and vertically aligned with the wall;

[d)**]** a bubble leveler **[**being**]** disposed on **[**said**]** *the* bubble level placement indicia**[**, said bubble leveler being**]** *and* attached to **[**said**]** *the* sheet using removable adhesive to permit the sheet to be leveled on the wall;

[e)**]** a removable adhesive **[**being**]** disposed on **[**said**]** *the* rear surface of **[**said**]** *the* sheet for attaching **[**said**]** *the* sheet to the wall*;*

[f)**]** *a plurality of* axial correlation guides **[**being**]** disposed adjacent **[**said**]** *the* fastener placement markers **[**and said bubble placement indicia**]** *found at the top edge only* to permit the horizontal and vertical axes of the sheet to be identified;

[g)**]** a centrally disposed **[**eve**]** *eye* level guide on **[**said**]** *the* sheet whereby a user can determine the correct picture height at which to place the picture frame;

[h)**]** a plurality of peripheral guides disposed **[**in a spaced apart relationship around the perimeter**]** *upon the opposite side edges* of **[**said**]** *the* sheet whereby a plurality of **[**said**]** *the* sheets can be joined together *and* wherein **[**said**]** *the* plurality of **[**said**]** sheets can be horizontally and vertically aligned with the wall**[**,**]***; and*

[i) a plurality of**]** *one or more* cutting guide lines **[**being**]** disposed on **[**said front of said**]** *the* sheet *front surface*, wherein **[**said**]** *the* sheet can be cut into parts **[**diagonally**]**, a plurality of **[**said**]** *the* sheets can be joined together, and **[**said**]** *the* parts can be horizontally and vertically aligned with an existing feature of **[**said**]** *the* wall.

2. **[**The**]** *A* method of hanging picture frames level on a wall, comprising **[**the steps of**]***:*

[a)**]** placing **[**on said wall**]** a rectangular sheet of pliable material *on the wall*, **[**said**]** *the* sheet having a pair of opposite side edges, a top edge and a bottom edge and front and rear surfaces, **[**said**]** *the* sheet having multiple picture frame indicia on the front **[**thereof**]** *surface*, with

a fastener placement marker disposed within each frame indicia so as to indicate correct fastener placement for attachment of the picture frame to the wall, a plurality of bubble level placement indicia [being] disposed on [said] *the* sheet [disposed on all] *at two adjacent* corners of [said] *the* sheet in both horizontal and vertical orientation, *one* axial correlation guide [being] disposed [adjacent said fastener placement markers and said bubble placement indicia] *upon the top edge* to permit the horizontal and vertical *axes* of the sheet to be identified, a centrally disposed eye level guide on [said] *the* sheet whereby a [use] *user* can determine the correct picture height at which to place the picture frame, [a plurality of] *two* peripheral guides disposed [in a spaced apart relationship around the perimeter] *the pair of opposite side edges* of [said] *the* sheet whereby a plurality of [said] *the* sheets can be joined together and [said plurality of said] *the* sheets can be horizontally and vertically aligned with the wall, [a plurality of] *one or more* cutting guide lines [being] disposed on [said front of said] *the* sheet *front surface*, wherein [said] *the* sheet can be cut into parts [diagonally], a plurality of [said] *the* sheets [can be] joined together, and [said] *the* parts [can be] horizontally and vertically aligned with an existing feature of [said] *the* wall, [said] *the* sheet having a removable adhesive disposed on the rear surface for temporarily attaching [said] *the* sheet to the wall;

[b)] attaching a bubble leveler on [said] *the* bubble level placement indicia using removable adhesive to permit the sheet to be leveled on the wall;

[c)] using the peripheral guides for overlapping additional such sheets as required;

[d)] locating nail holes in [said] *the* wall using [said] *the* fastener placement markers with respective [axial indicia or] axial correlation guides;

[e)] removing [said] *the* sheet from [said] *the* wall; and

[f)] mounting picture frames using nail holes located in [said] *the* wall.

3. A template for hanging objects level on a wall, comprising:

a rectangular planar sheet of pliable material having a pair of opposite side edges, a top edge, bottom edge, front and rear surfaces,

a plurality of separable object representation indicia disposed on the front surface at time of manufacture of the template, each object representation indicia comprising inside object dimensional indicia and object outline indicia to facilitate placement of an object thereon, the object representation indicia serving as a preview of what the object will look like installed on the wall surface, the object representation indicia not required to be manually traceable on the sheet front surface by a user,

a plurality of fastener placement markers disposed within each object representation indicia on the sheet front surface to indicate correct fastener placement for attachment of the object to the wall,

bubble level placement indicia provided on at least two corners of the sheet for aligning the sheet vertically and horizontally on the wall,

a plurality of axial correlation indicia disposed on the front surface, at least one axial correlation indicia disposed adjacent at least one fastener placement marker and the bubble level placement indicia to delineate the horizontal and vertical axes of the sheet,

an eye level guide on the sheet for determining a correct height at which to place the sheet on the wall,

one or more cutting guide lines disposed on the sheet front surface for separating the sheet into one of modules of multiple object representation indicia parts and individual object representation indicia parts, the parts recombinable into a desired revised template for horizontal and vertical alignment with an existing feature of the wall, and

a plurality of peripheral guide indicia disposed along outside edges of the sheet front surface, the peripheral guide indicia providing a fixed margin width between adjacent sides of two or more object representation indicia.

4. The template of claim 3, wherein the object representation indicia is sized on the sheet and the fastener placement markers are disposed therein so that object hanging hardware, once installed in the fastener placement markers using the template, do not require later repositioning on the wall to move originally installed objects to new locations while maintaining a desired width between adjacent sides thereof.

5. The template of claim 3, wherein the plurality of object representation in each template further includes multiple different frame indicia sizes, a first frame size and one or more different object representation sizes, the one or more different object representation sizes each being a different larger derivative of the first object representation size so that combinations of one or more first-sized object representation indicia, with spacings therebetween, or first-sized object representation indicia with one of the different-sized larger derivative object representation indicia with spacings therebetween are interchangeable in a footprint of another one of the larger-sized derivative object representation indicia on the template, while maintaining a fixed margin width between adjacent object representation indicia due to the peripheral guide indicia.

6. The template of claim 3, further comprising an additional pair of axial correlation indicia disposed adjacent at least two other fastener placement markers so that four axial correlation indicia are each arranged on respective sides within the object representation indicia.

7. The template of claim 3, wherein the peripheral guide indicia facilitates offset alignment of individual or groups of individual object representation indicia parts or modules.

8. The template of claim 3, wherein a fixed width is provided between adjacent object representation indicia, whether objects are installed on a template without modification, multiple templates are overlapped, or one of modules and individual object representation indicia parts are cut from the sheet via the cutting guide lines vertically, horizontally or diagonally and re-combined via the peripheral guides into a desired revised template with horizontal and vertical alignment for hanging objects on the wall.

9. The template of claim 3, wherein multiple combinations of object representational indicia parts cut from a template are configured to be re-combinable into a dimensional pattern which aligns with an angle of a staircase or another non-horizontal wall or feature line.

10. A method of hanging objects level on a wall, comprising:

placing a rectangular planar sheet of pliable material on the wall, the sheet having at least a facing surface with a plurality of separable object representation indicia disposed thereon at time of manufacture, each object representation indicia comprising inside object dimensional indicia and object outline indicia to facilitate placement of an object thereon, the object representation indicia serving as a preview of what the object will look like installed on the wall surface, the object repre-

sentation indicia not required to be manually traceable on the sheet front surface by a user, a plurality of fastener placement markers disposed within each object representation indicia to indicate correct fastener placement for attachment of the object to the wall, bubble level placement indicia provided on at least two corners of the sheet for aligning the sheet vertically and horizontally on the wall, a plurality of axial correlation indicia disposed on the sheet facing surface, at least one axial correlation indicia disposed adjacent at least two of fastener placement markers and the bubble level placement indicia to delineate the horizontal and vertical axes of the sheet, an eye level guide on the sheet for determining a correct height at which to place the sheet on the wall, one or more cutting guide lines disposed on the sheet facing surface for separating the sheet into one of modules of multiple object representation indicia parts and individual object representation indicia parts, the parts re-combinable into a desired revised template for horizontal and vertical alignment with an existing feature of the wall, and a plurality of peripheral guide indicia disposed along outside edges of the sheet front surface, the peripheral guide indicia providing a fixed margin width between adjacent sides of two or more object representation indicia on the template,

using the peripheral guide indicia for overlapping additional such sheets as required,

locating nail holes in the wall using the fastener placement markers with respective axial correlation indicia,

removing the sheet from the wall, and

mounting picture frames using the nail holes.

11. A modular system for hanging picture frames level on a wall, comprising:

a plurality of combinable picture frame templates, each template overlapped with another template or modified to have modules of multiple frame representation indicia parts or individual frame representation indicia parts removed therefrom and separately re-combined to form a revised template, each template including:

a rectangular planar sheet of pliable material having a facing surface and a backing for attachment to the wall,

a plurality of separable and removable frame representation indicia disposed on the facing surface, the frame representation indicia disposed on the sheet at time of manufacture thereof, each frame indicia comprising inside frame dimensional indicia and frame outline indicia to facilitate placement of a picture frame thereon, the frame representation indicia serving as a preview of what the picture frame will look like installed on the wall, the frame representation indicia not required to be manually traceable on the sheet facing surface by a user,

a plurality of fastener placement markers disposed within each frame representation indicia on the facing surface to indicate correct fastener placement for attachment of a picture frame to the wall,

bubble level placement indicia provided on at least two corners of the sheet for aligning the sheet vertically and horizontally on the wall,

a plurality of axial correlation indicia disposed on the facing surface, at least one axial correlation indicia disposed adjacent two fastener placement markers and at least two bubble level placement indicia to delineate horizontal and vertical axes of the sheet,

an eye level guide on the sheet for determining a correct height at which to place the sheet on the wall,

one or more cutting guide lines disposed on the facing surface for separating the sheet into one of modules and individual frame representation indicia parts recombinable into a desired revised template for horizontal and vertical alignment with an existing feature of the wall, and

a plurality of peripheral guide indicia disposed along outside edges of the sheet facing surface, the peripheral guide indicia providing a fixed margin width between adjacent sides of two or more frame representation indicia.

12. The template of claim 11, wherein the frame representation indicia is sized on the sheet and the fastener placement markers are disposed therein so that picture frame hardware, once installed in the fastener placement markers using the template, do not require later repositioning on the wall to move originally installed picture frames to new locations while maintaining a desired width between adjacent sides thereof.

13. The system of claim 11, wherein the plurality of frame representation indicia in each template further includes multiple different frame representation indicia sizes, a first frame representation indicia size and one or more different frame representation indicia sizes, the one or more different frame representation indicia sizes each being a different larger derivative of the first frame representation indicia size so that combinations of one or more first-sized frame representation indicia, with spacings therebetween or first-sized frame representation indicia with one of the different-sized larger derivative frame representation indicia with spacings therebetween are interchangeable in a footprint of another one of the larger-sized derivative frame representation indicia on the template, while maintaining a fixed margin width between adjacent frame representation indicia due to the peripheral guide indicia.

14. The system of claim 11, wherein a fixed width provided between adjacent frame representation indicia, whether frames are installed on a template without modification, multiple templates are overlapped, or one of modules and individual frame representation indicia parts are cut from the sheet via the cutting guide lines vertically, horizontally or diagonally and re-combined via the peripheral guides into a desired revised template with horizontal and vertical alignment for hanging frames on the wall.

15. The system of claim 11, wherein modules of multiple frame representation indicia parts or individual frame representation indicia parts removed therefrom are configured to be separately re-combined into a dimensional pattern which aligns with an angle of a staircase or another non-horizontal wall or feature line.

16. A template for hanging picture frames level on a wall, comprising:

a rectangular planar sheet of pliable material having a facing surface,

a picture frame representation indicia disposed on the facing surface, the frame representation indicia disposed on the sheet at time of manufacture thereof and comprising inside frame dimensional indicia and frame outline indicia to facilitate placement of a picture frame thereon,

a plurality of fastener placement markers disposed within the frame representation indicia on the sheet facing surface to indicate correct fastener placement for attachment of the picture frame to the wall,

bubble level placement indicia provided on the sheet for aligning the sheet vertically and horizontally on the wall,

axial correlation indicia disposed within the frame representation indicia on the sheet facing surface, each axial correlation indicia disposed adjacent a corresponding fastener placement marker to delineate the horizontal and vertical axes of the sheet,

an eye level guide on the sheet for determining a correct height at which to place the sheet on the wall,

one or more cutting guide lines disposed on the sheet facing surface for separating the sheet into one of modules of multiple frame indicia parts and individual frame indicia parts, the parts re-combinable into a desired revised template for horizontal and vertical alignment with an existing feature of the wall, and

a plurality of peripheral guide indicia disposed along outside edges of the sheet facing surface, the peripheral guide indicia providing a fixed margin width between adjacent sides of two or more frame representation indicia.

17. The template of claim 16, wherein the frame representation indicia is sized on the sheet and the fastener placement markers are disposed therein so that picture frame hardware, once installed in the fastener placement markers using the template, do not require later repositioning on the wall to move originally installed picture frames to new locations while maintaining a desired width between adjacent sides thereof.

18. The template of claim 16, further comprising at least one bubble leveler disposed on the sheet facing surface.

19. A template for hanging fasteners on a wall in order to mount one or more objects thereon, comprising:

a rectangular planar sheet of pliable material having a pair of opposite side edges, a top edge, bottom edge, front and rear surfaces,

a plurality of fastener placement markers disposed on the sheet front surface to indicate correct fastener placement for attachment of an object to the wall,

bubble level placement indicia provided on the sheet for aligning the sheet vertically and horizontally on the wall,

a plurality of axial correlation indicia disposed on the front surface, at least one axial correlation indicia disposed adjacent at least one fastener placement marker and the bubble level placement indicia to delineate the horizontal and vertical axes of the sheet,

an eye level guide on the sheet for determining a correct height at which to place the sheet on the wall,

one or more cutting guide lines disposed on the sheet front surface for separating the sheet into one of modules of sheet parts and individual object parts, the parts re-combinable into a desired revised template for horizontal and vertical alignment with an existing feature of the wall, and

a plurality of peripheral guide indicia disposed along outside edges of the sheet front surface, the peripheral guide indicia providing a fixed margin width between adjacent sides of two or more objects to be hung on the fasteners placed using the sheet.

* * * * *