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Delfs

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(54) **BEDDING ARTICLE WITH OVERLAYING PORTIONS**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(51) **Int. Cl.**
A47G 9/00 (2006.01)
A47G 9/02 (2006.01)

(57) **ABSTRACT**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **5/645; 5/502; 5/711**
(58) **Field of Classification Search** **5/645,**
5/644, 654, 710, 711, 712, 709, 502
See application file for complete search history.

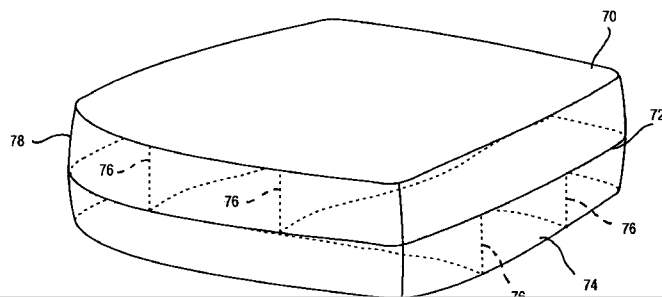
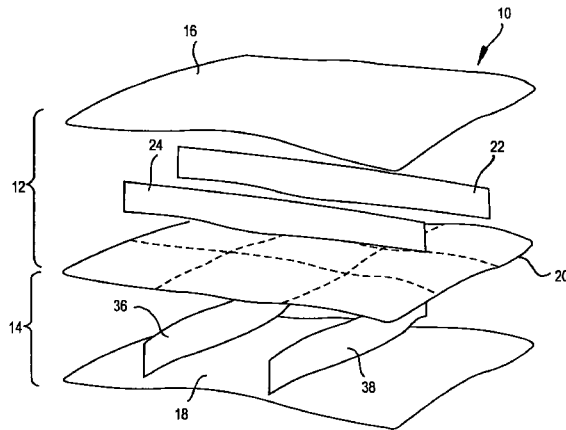
The bedding article includes three fabric sections having approximately the same size and positioned in registry. Two fabric baffle strips extend in one dimension between and connected to upper and middle fabric sections, defining three interior chambers therebetween. Two fabric baffle strips extend in a dimension perpendicular to the dimension between and connected to the lower and middle fabric sections, also defining three chambers therebetween. Loose filling is placed into all of the chambers defined by the baffle strips.

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23 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets



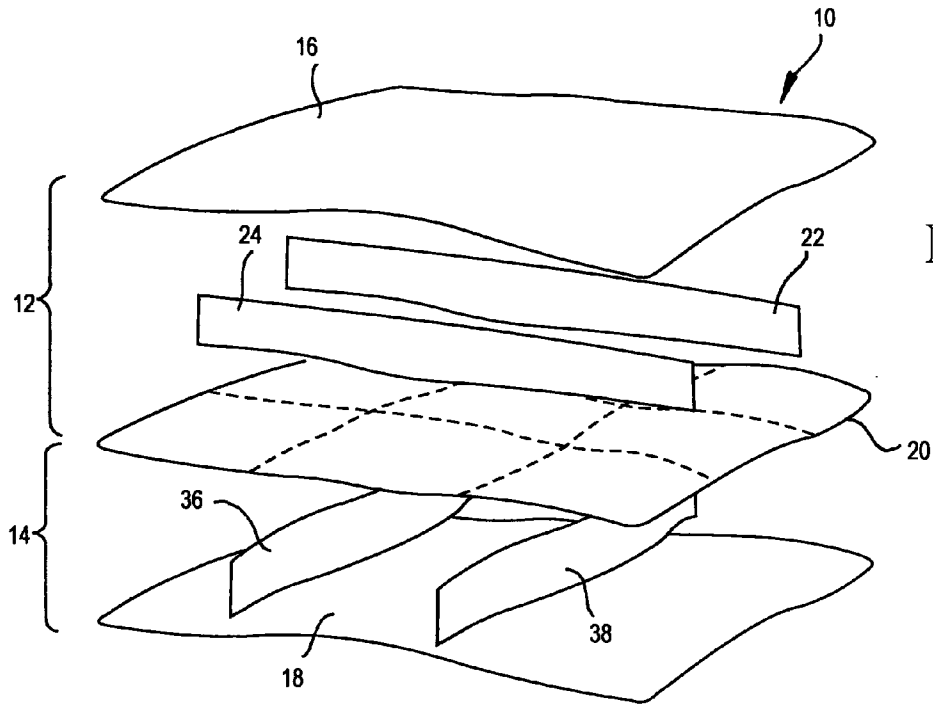


FIG. 1

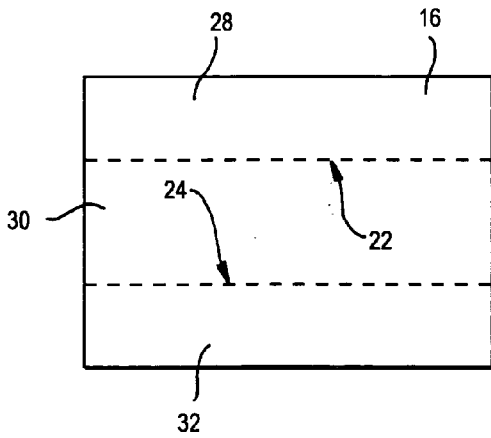
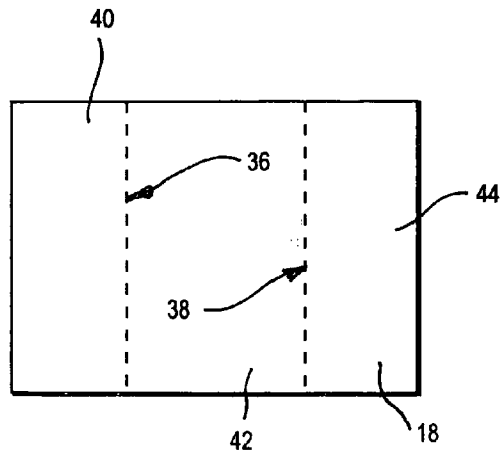


FIG. 2

FIG. 3



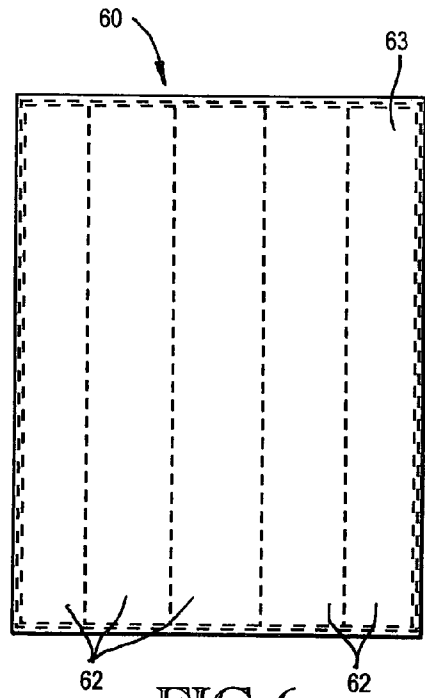
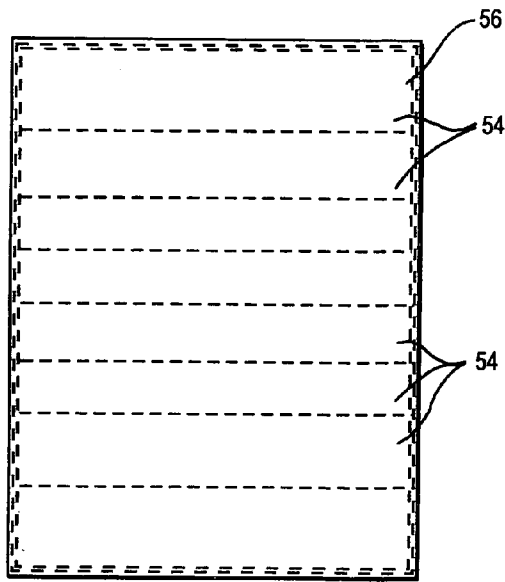
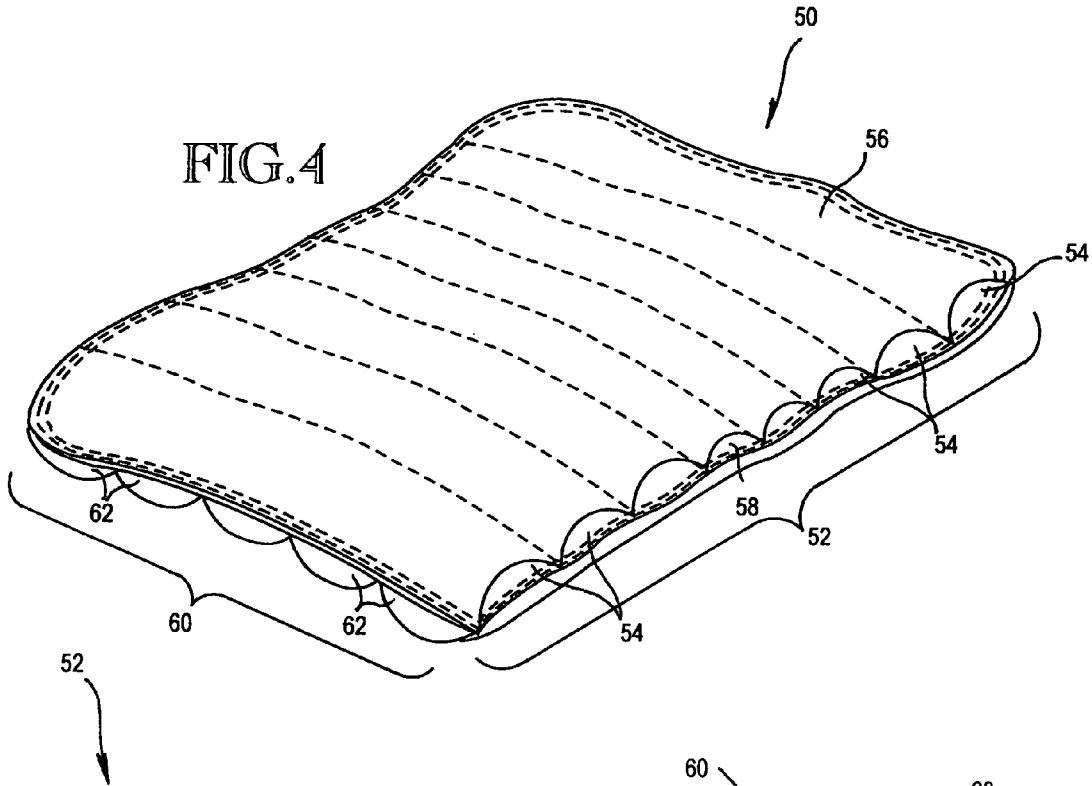


FIG. 7

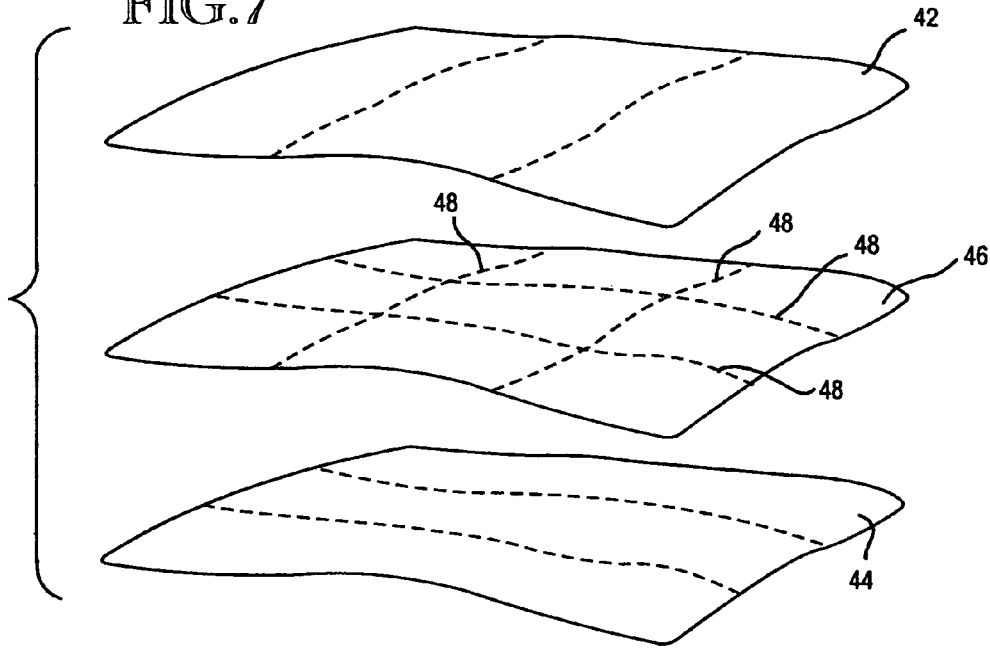
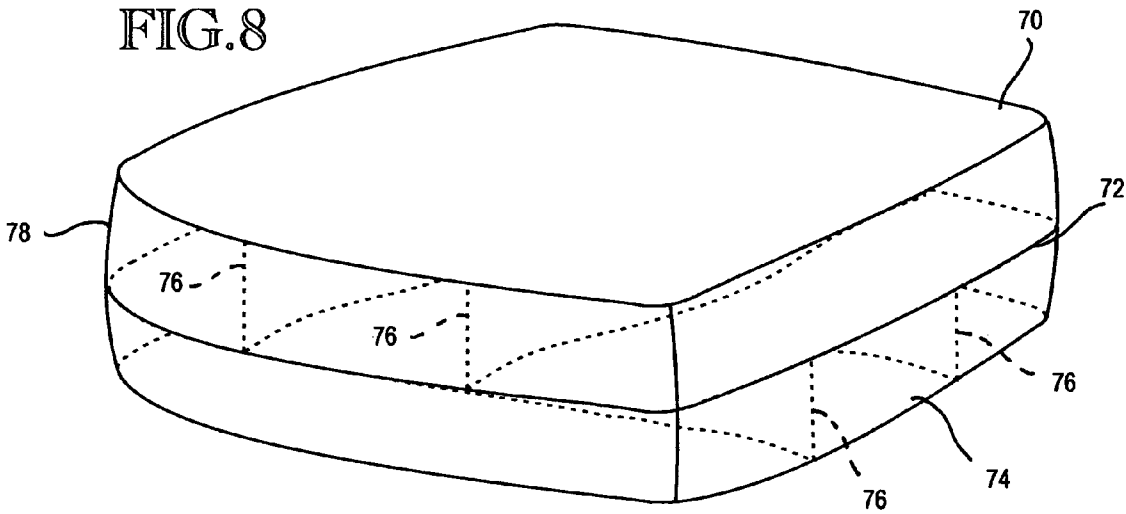


FIG. 8



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BEDDING ARTICLE WITH OVERLAYING PORTIONS

TECHNICAL FIELD

This invention relates generally to bedding articles, and more particularly concerns such a bedding article having upper and lower portions with chambers defined in each portion.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Various bedding articles, such as pillows, cushions and featherbeds, as well as furniture cushions, are often filled with loose filling such as feathers, down and polyester or other man-made filling, or various combinations thereof. Such articles using loose filling are typically quite comfortable, but the filling often shifts within the article when weight is applied and/or the article is compressed. During use, particularly after extended use, the filling will shift away from the point of compression. Re-fluffing is then necessary to then achieve maximum comfort. However, during a particular period of use, such as during a single night's sleep, it is not practical to re-fluff the article.

Thus, it would be desirable to have bedding and related articles with a particular arrangement which reduces shifting of the filling during use, thereby maintaining the comfort of the article during a selected use.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Accordingly, the bedding article comprises: first, second and third fabric sections, the second fabric section being intermediate the first and third fabric sections, the fabric sections being all approximately the same size and positioned in registry; at least two spaced first fabric baffle strips which extend for substantially one entire dimension of the article, secured between the first and second fabric sections; at least two spaced second fabric baffle strips which extend for substantially another entire dimension of the article, which is approximately perpendicular to the one dimension, secured between the third and second fabric sections, the first baffles defining at least three successive interior chambers between the first and second fabric sections and the second baffles defining at least three successive interior chambers between the second and third fabric sections; and loose filling in all of the chambers.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is an exploded view of a pillow showing the construction of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a top view of the upper layer of the pillow of FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is a bottom view of the lower layer of the pillow of FIG. 1.

FIG. 4 is a perspective view of a featherbed which includes an embodiment of the construction arrangement of the present invention.

FIG. 5 is a top view of an upper portion of the featherbed of FIG. 4.

FIG. 6 is a bottom view of the lower portion of the featherbed of FIG. 4.

FIG. 7 is an exploded view of another embodiment of the present invention.

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BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

Reference is now made to FIGS. 1, 2 and 3, which show a pillow 10 which includes the construction and arrangement of the present invention. Pillow 10 includes a top portion 12 and a bottom portion 14. The top portion includes an upper layer 16, while the bottom portion 14 includes a lower layer 18. The top and bottom portions share an intermediate layer 20. The upper, intermediate and lower layers are generally rectangular in configuration and are substantially identical. Their dimensions will differ depending upon the actual size of the pillow. The layers are made from a standard tick material, such as cotton. Other fabrics could, however, be used.

Positioned between upper layer 16 and intermediate layer 20 are two flexible fabric walls or baffles 22 and 24 which extend in the longitudinal direction of the pillow. The baffles 22, 24 are sewn to the intermediate and upper layers along their lengths and divide the volume between the upper and intermediate layers into three upper chambers 28, 30 and 32. In the embodiment shown, the outboard chambers 28 and 32 are the same width, while middle chamber 30 is somewhat wider. Middle chamber 30 could also be smaller in width than chambers 28 and 32. The chambers could also be equal in width or they could be all different widths.

Positioned between intermediate layer 20 and lower layer 18 are two spaced fabric baffles 36, 38 which extend in the lateral direction of the pillow. Baffles 36, 38 are sewn along their lengths to the intermediate and lower layers and define lower chambers 40, 42 and 44. Baffles 36 and 38 are arranged so that the two outboard chambers 40 and 44 have slightly smaller widths than middle chamber 42, although the chambers could have the same widths, or could all have different widths, or chamber 42 could be smaller than chambers 40 and 44.

While the embodiment shown has a single intermediate layer, two identical layers could be used, one for use with the upper layer and one with the lower layer. The space between them could be filled. The upper and lower layers could be single pieces of fabric, or they could be pieced, such as with multi-color panels, to illustrate the various chambers.

The configuration shown defines a total of nine sections within the pillow as a whole. The number of baffles in the top and bottom portions can be varied. For instance, there could be more than two baffles in either or both of the top and bottom portions, thereby defining more than three chambers within either or both of the top and bottom portions. The number of baffles may be different in the top and bottom portions, respectively; the larger number of baffles could be either in the top or the bottom portions. Typically, the baffle members will extend the entire distance (length or width) of the pillow. They could be somewhat shorter, however. The baffle members 22, 24 and 36, 38 can be made of cotton, polyester or other flexible fabric material.

The baffle members in the top portion could extend longitudinally as shown, or laterally. The baffle members in the bottom portions are approximately perpendicular to the baffle members in the top portion.

Alternatively, instead of baffles, the upper and lower layers could be sewn directly to the intermediate layer, i.e. lines of stitching which extend between the intermediate and upper layers along the lines of the baffles 22 and 24 and lines of stitching connecting the intermediate and lower layers along the lines of baffles 36 and 38. This embodiment is

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