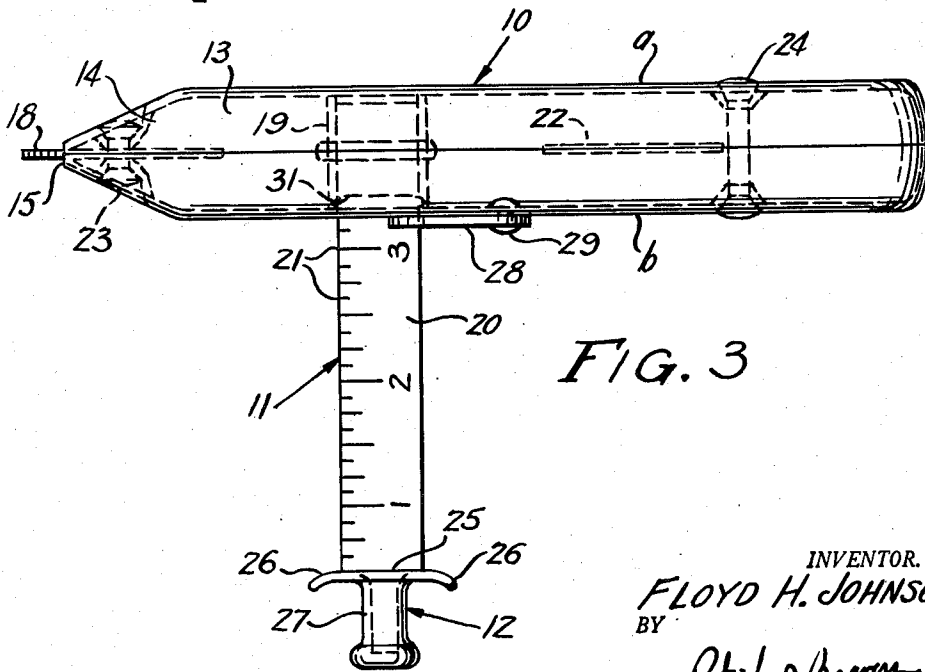
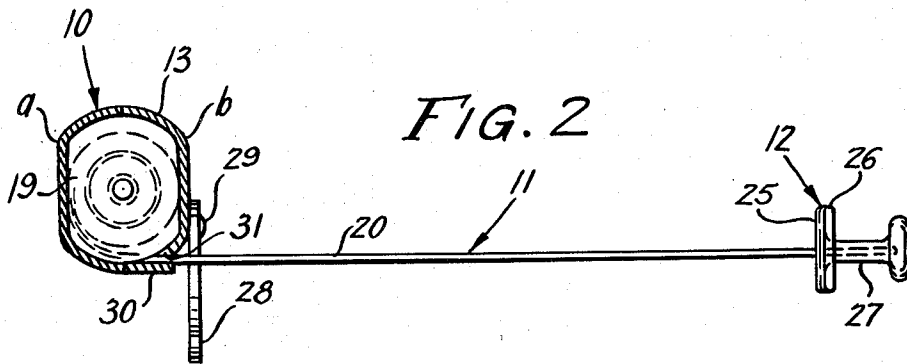
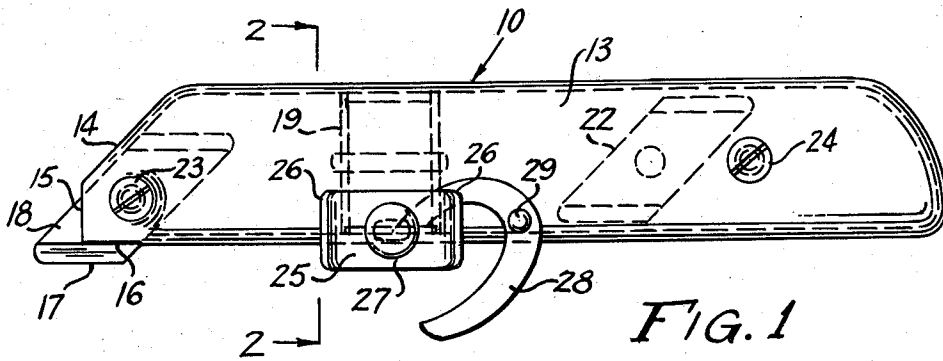


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TAPE MEASURING GUIDE KNIFE FOR CUTTING SHEET  
ROCK, PLASTER BOARD AND SIMILAR MATERIALS  
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**TAPE MEASURING GUIDE KNIFE FOR CUTTING SHEET ROCK, PLASTER BOARD AND SIMILAR MATERIALS**

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2 Claims. (Cl. 7-14.1)

This invention relates to cutters for various sheet materials especially plaster board, rock lath, sheet rock, etc. Heretofore it has been difficult and inaccurate to use means available for measuring cuts, but with the present invention, accuracy and efficiency are predominate.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide a cutter assembly in combination with a tape measure, carried by the cutter assembly and a material end riding guide connected to the outer end of the tape measure.

Another important object of the invention is to provide a sheet material cutting assembly including a handle carrying a knife, a measuring tape feedable from the handle, a guide at the outer end of the handle and means for clamping the tape at a fixed extended position, measuring away from the handle.

A further object of the invention is to provide an assembly of the character stated, which will be of simple construction, durable and of low cost to manufacture, and accordingly the device can be retailed and made available to contractors, workers and others at a very low retail price.

These and various other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent to the reader of the following description.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of the cutter assembly.

Figure 2 is a cross section taken substantially on line 2-2 of Figure 1, showing the measuring tape and guide extended.

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the structure shown in Figure 2.

Referring to the drawing wherein like numerals designate like parts, it can be seen that reference character 10 generally refers to a handle structure, while numeral 11 generally refers to a measuring tape and numeral 12 to a sheet material guide at the outer end of the tape.

The handle 10 consists of a hollow body 13 of suitable shape and adapted to be comfortably held in the hand of a workman.

The forward end of this handle slopes at at 14 and is constricted or tapered as shown in Figure 3, the same being slotted both at its nose portion 15 and under portion 16 to receive the cutting edge projecting portion 17 of a blade 18.

Inside of the hollow handle 10 is a spring wound reel 19 on which is wound a steel tape 20 having measuring indicia or markings 21 thereon.

As can be seen in Figure 1, extra blades 22 may be suitably stored within the handle 13 and the handle 13 is preferably in two sections *a, b* held together by bolts 23, 24, the bolt 23 serving the double function of not only holding the blade 18 in place but also the sections of the handle at the nose portion thereof.

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The guide 12 consists of a plate 25 which has its vertical end portions curved outwardly as at 26.

Protruding outwardly from the plate 25 is a suitable handle 27 which can be held by one end of the workman while the handle 10 is being operated across the work in cutting the same.

A detent for holding the tape 20 extended is in the form of an arcuate trigger 28 pivoted as at 29 to one side of the handle 13, the upper end of which is adapted to engage the top side of the tape 20 and hold the same against a lip 30 projecting from the handle 13 at a slot 31 formed in the handle, through which the tape 20 is payed from the reel 19. It can be seen that the lip 30 serves as a stationary door between which and the upper end of the trigger 28, the tape 12 is held in a fixed predetermined position, while the guide 12 and the handle 13 are slid across a building material sheet.

It can be seen that through the medium of the handle with its cutter 18, the measuring tape 20 and the guide 25, an accurate measured cut can be made across a sheet of building material, preparatory to its use.

While the foregoing description sets forth the invention in specific terms, it is to be understood that numerous changes in the shape, size and materials may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed hereinafter.

Having described the invention what is claimed as new is:

1. A device for cutting sheet materials comprising a handle provided with a knife blade, a spring reel mounted on the handle, a measuring tape secured to and extending from the reel and away from the handle when pulled to an extended position, a guide structure at the outer end of the tape means for securing the blade to the handle, and detent means on the handle for engaging the tape and holding the same in a definite extended position, said means for holding the tape being in the form of a curved trigger, one end of which is adapted to be engaged by a finger of a workman while the other end engages the tape.

2. A device for cutting sheet materials comprising a handle provided with a knife blade, a spring reel mounted on the handle, a measuring tape secured to and extending from the reel and away from the handle when pulled to an extended position, a guide structure at the outer end of the tape means for securing the blade to the handle, and detent means on the handle for engaging the tape and holding the same in a definite extended position, said means for holding the tape being in the form of a curved trigger, one end of which is adapted to be engaged by a finger of a workman while the other end engages the tape, said handle being provided with an outstanding lip, underlying the tape and against which the tape can be clamped by the engaging end of the trigger.

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