

A46B

BRUSHES (handles not integral with brushware B25G)

Definition statement

This subclass/group covers:

Apparatus with brushes in general

Relationship between large subject matter areas

Subclass [A45D](#) covers hairdressing or shaving equipment; manicuring or other cosmetic treatment

Subclass [A47L](#) covers domestic washing or cleaning; suction cleaner in general

Subclass [A61C](#) covers oral or dental hygiene

Subclass [A61H](#) covers physical therapy apparatus e.g. skin or gum massage

Subclass [B05C](#) covers apparatus for applying liquids to surfaces in general

Subclass [B05D](#) covers process for applying liquids to surfaces in general

Subclass [B08B](#) covers cleaning in general or prevention of fouling in general

Subclass [B24B](#) covers machine and process for grinding or polishing

Subclass [B25G](#) covers handles for hand implements

Subclass [B43K](#) covers writing implements e.g. pen or pencil

Subclass [B44D](#) covers artistic painting

Subclass [B60S](#) covers cleaning of vehicles

Subclass [E01H](#) covers street cleaning

References relevant to classification in this subclass

This subclass/group does not cover:

Body washing implements	A47K 7/00
Handle constructions	B25G 1/00
Attaching handles to the implements	B25G 3/00
Vehicle cleaning apparatus not integral with vehicles	B60S 3/06

Street cleaning	E01H 1/00
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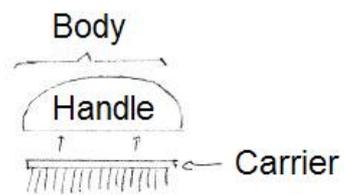
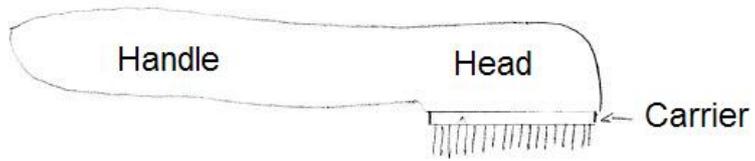
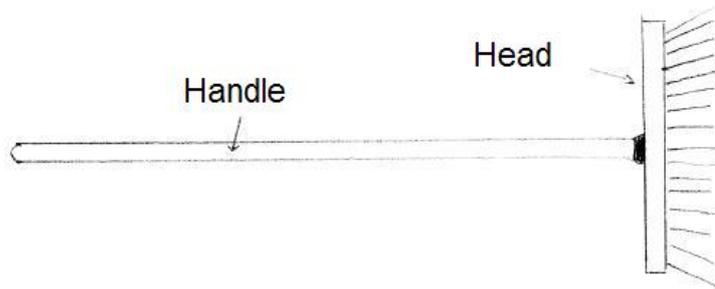
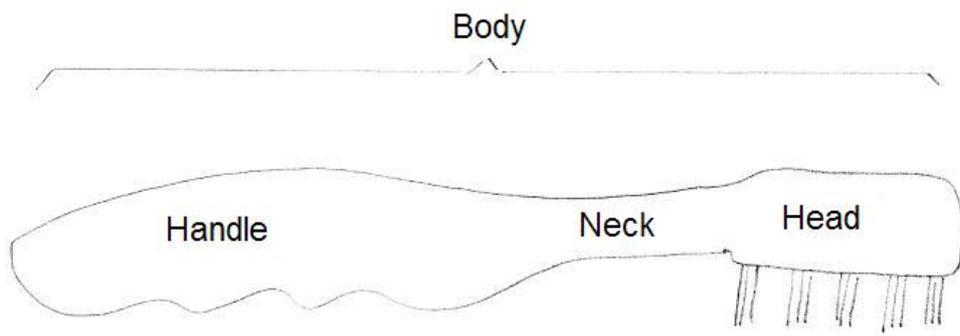
Informative references

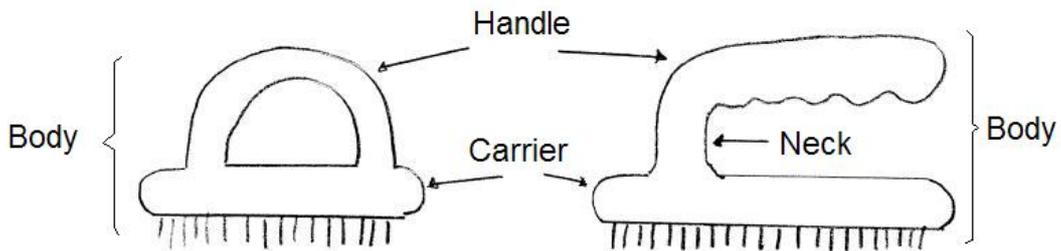
Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Handles for hand implements	B25G
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Special rules of classification within this group

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in [A46B](#)





Glossary of terms

In this subclass/group, the following terms (or expressions) are used with the meaning indicated:

Tuft	a group of bristles
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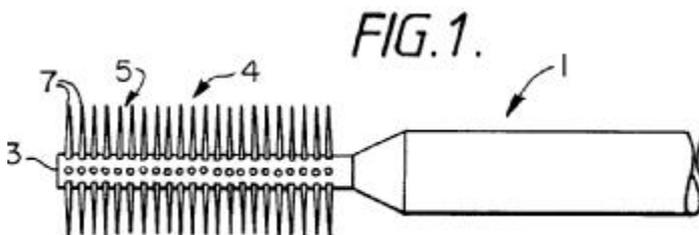
A46B 1/00

Brush bodies and bristles moulded as a unit

Definition statement

This subclass/group covers:

The brush body or brush carrier and the bristles are moulded in one piece



EP0474934

A46B 3/00

Brushes characterised by the way in which the bristles are fixed or joined in or on the brush body or carrier (machines or appliances therefor A46D)

A46B 3/04

by mouldable materials, e.g. metals, cellulose derivatives, plastics (A46B1/00 takes precedence)

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Bristles and carrier or body moulded in one piece	A46B 1/00
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A46B 3/06

by welding together bristles made of metal wires or plastic materials

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Machines for fusing or gluing bristle to body	A46D 3/045
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A46B 3/12

especially adapted for paint-brushes

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Brushes used for painting	A46B 20/20A
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A46B 3/14

especially adapted for street-cleaning or rail-cleaning brooms

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Brushes for street cleaning	A46B 20/30G
Street cleaning apparatus with brush	E01H 1/02

A46B 3/22

rubber bristles being fixed in or on brush bodies

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Bristles and body moulded in on piece	A46B 1/00
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Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Bristle material	A46D 1/0207
Brush material not made of bristles	A46B 9/04EA
Mixed Bristles	A46B 9/06

A46B 5/00

Brush bodies; Handles integral with brushware

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Bristles carrier	A46B 7/00
Attaching handles to implements	B25G 3/00

A46B 5/0025

[N: Brushes with elastically deformable heads that change shape during use]

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Brushing action causing brush movements	A46B 13/08A
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A46B 5/0033

[N: folding or collapsible (A46B7/023 takes precedence)]

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Bristle carrier retracts or collapse	A46B 7/023
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A46B 5/0062

[N: being flexibly resilient during use]

Definition statement

This subclass/group covers:

Brush head being articulated with the handle during use.

A46B 5/0075

[N: being adjustable and stable during use]

Definition statement

This subclass/group covers:

Brush head fixed in one position relative to the handle during use.

A46B 5/0095

[N: Removable or interchangeable brush heads]

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Interchangeably bristle carrier	A46B 7/04
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A46B 5/02

especially shaped for holding by the hand

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Handle shape facilitating handling	B25G 1/102
Gripping portion for writing implement	B43K 23/00

A46B 7/00

Bristle carriers arranged in the brush body

Definition statement

This subclass/group covers:

Brushes for which the bristles are not directly joined/attached to the brush body but through an intermediate bristle carrier.

A46B 7/02

in an expanding or articulating manner

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Brush body with joints	A46B 5/002
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A46B 7/023

[N: where the bristle carrier retracts or collapses, i.e. for storage]

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Folding or collapsing brush body	A46B 5/0033
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A46B 7/04

interchangeably

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Removable brush head	A46B 5/0095
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A46B 7/044

[N: Sliding connections for bristle carrier]

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Folding collapsing body	A46B 5/0033
Articulated bristle carrier	A46B 7/02

A46B 9/00

Arrangements of the bristles in the brush body

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Fixation of the bristle in the body or carrier	A46B 3/00
Powered brushes with cylindrical, annular or disk shape	A46B 13/00 to A46B 13/008
Bristle form or shape itself	A46D 1/00

A46B 9/021

[N: for cosmetics brushes, e.g. mascara, nail polish, eye shadow]

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Brushes characterized by their function, i.e. cosmetic brushes	A46B 20/10F
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A46B 9/04

for toothbrushes

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Brushes characterized by their function, i.e. toothbrushes	A46B 20/10G
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A46B 9/04E

[N: where the brushing material is not made of bristles, e.g. sponge, rubber, paper or Velcro]

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Bristle material	A46D 1/0207
Fixation of rubber bristles on body	A46B 3/22
Bristles surrounded with an other material	A46B 9/065

A46B 9/06

Arrangement of mixed bristles or tufts of bristles, e.g. wire, fibre, rubber

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Brushes characterized by their function, i.e. cosmetic brushes	A46B 20/10F
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A46B 11/00

Brushes with reservoir or other means for applying substances, e.g. paints, pastes, water (driven brush bodies A46B13/00; [N: massage apparatus with liquid delivery A61H7/00]; applying liquids or other fluent materials to surfaces by liquid carrying members in general, e.g. by pads B05C1/00, B05D1/28)

Relationship between large subject matter areas

Subclass [B05C](#) covers apparatus for applying liquids to a surface in general.

Subclass [A61M](#) covers device for introducing medical product onto the human body.

Subclass [B05B](#) covers spraying apparatus in general

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Driven brush bodies	A46B 13/00
Massage apparatus with liquid delivery	A61H 7/00

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Cosmetic container with brush applicator	A45D 34/042
Cleaning devices with liquid supply arrangements	A47L 13/26
Applying liquids to surfaces by liquid carrying members in general, e.g. by	B05C 1/00 , B05D 1/28

pads	
Container with brush applicator	B65D 51/32

A46B 11/0041

[N: Flexible reservoirs, e.g. resilient bulbs, compressible tubes]

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Device for squeezing flexible tubes	B65D 35/28
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A46B 11/06

connected to supply pipe [N: or to other external supply means (A46B11/0003 and A46B11/0006 take precedence)]

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Brush with a single dose substance	A46B 11/0003
Specially adapted to feed bristles upper surface	A46B 11/0006

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Implement for cleaning floors or furniture connected to the water supply	A46L 13/23
Domestic water supply line with means to add soap, disinfectant	E03C 1/046

A46B 13/00

**Brushes with driven brush bodies [N: or carriers]
(power-driven toothbrushes A61C17/16)**

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Machines for cleaning floors, carpet furniture, walls or wall coverings	A47L 11/00
Power driven tooth cleaning device	A61C 17/16

A46B 13/001

[N: Cylindrical or annular brush bodies]

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Street cleaning devices	E01H 1/02
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A46B 13/008

[N: Disc-shaped brush bodies]

Definition statement

This subclass/group covers:

The bristle carrier or body forms a disk and the bristles are positioned on a face of said disk.

A46B 13/02

Power-driven [N: carriers]

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Manually actuated mechanism for generating the movement of the brush	A46B 11/08
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Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Power driven toothbrush	A61C 17/16
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A46B 13/04

with reservoir or other means for supplying substances

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Brush with reservoir	A46B 11/00
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A46B 13/06

with brush driven by the supplied medium

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Bathing device water-flow operated	A47K 7/046
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A46B 13/08

hand-driven

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Simple flexion or deformation of the brush head	A46B 5/0025
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A46B 15/00

Other brushes; Brushes with additional arrangements

A46B 15/0022

[N: With an electric means]

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Powered brushes	A46B 13/02
Electric toothbrushes	A61C 17/16

A46B 15/0032

[N: With protrusion for polishing teeth]

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Brush for polishing	A46B 20/30N
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A46B 15/0036

[N: With a lighting means e.g. laser, bulb (A46B15/0034 takes precedence)]

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Brush with a radiation source	A46B 15/0034
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A46B 15/0053

[N: Brushes fitted with ventilation suction e.g. for removing dust (vacuum cleaner A47L7/00)]

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Structural features of vacuum cleaners	A47L 5/00
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Vacuum cleaners adapted for additional purposes	A47L 7/00
Details or accessories of vacuum cleaners	A47L 9/00

A46B 15/0069

[N: Brushes fitted with inter-dental devices e.g. toothpick (A46B2200/108 takes precedence)]

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Inter-dental brushes	A46B 20/10G4
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Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Additional brush head	A46B 5/0004
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A46B 15/0071

[N: Toothbrushes with flossing arrangements (A61C15/04 takes precedence)]

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Flossing tools	A61C 15/04
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A46B 15/0091

[N: Container e.g. bag or box with a collection of various devices]

Definition statement

This subclass/group covers:

For exemple a kit with a brush and other products in a bag.

A46B 15/0093

[N: Magazines or sets of brushes components, plurality of brushes linked as a package]

Definition statement

This subclass/group covers:

For exemple a blister or package containing two or more brushes.

A46B 15/0097

[N: Self supporting e.g. brushes that stand upright or in other particular ways]

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Storing of cleaning tools	A47L 13/51
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A46B 17/00

Accessories for brushes

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Accessories for toilet tables (bathroom)	A47K 1/00
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A46B 17/02

Devices for holding brushes in use

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Toothbrush holders	A47K 1/09
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Paintbrush holders	B44D 3/12
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A46B 17/04

Protective covers for the bristles

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Closure for brush with reservoir	A46B 11/10C6
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A46B 17/08

Other accessories, e.g. scrapers, rubber buffers for preventing damage to furniture

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Brush combined with other articles	A46B 11/001
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Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Implement for cleaning floors, furniture, walls	A47L 13/00
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A46B 2200/00

Brushes characterized by their functions, uses or applications

A46B 2200/01

Disposable brush (A46B11/0003, A46B5/0004 take precedence)

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Brush containing a single dose substance	A46B 11/0003
Additional brush head	A46B 5/0004

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Removable bristle carrier	A46B 7/04
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A46B 2200/10

For human or animal care

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Body washing cleaning equipment	A47K 7/00
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A46B 2200/102

Brush specifically designed for massaging the skin or scalp
(A46B2200/1026 takes precedence)

Definition statement

This subclass/group covers:

Brushes where the principal function is massage.

Relationship between large subject matter areas

Subclass [A67H](#) covers physical therapy apparatus e.g. skin or gum massage

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Additional massage device	A46B 15/0075
Gum massage	A46B 20/10C

A46B 2200/1033

Brush for applying or spreading shaving foam or soap

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Shaving accessories	A45D 27/00
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A46B 2200/104

Hair brush (bristles arrangements for hair brushes A46B9/023)

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Hair drying accessories	A45D 20/00
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A46B 2200/1046

Brush used for applying cosmetics (bristles arrangements for cosmetic brushes A46B9/021)

Definition statement

This subclass/group covers:

Cosmetic applicators where the brush aspect is important

Relationship between large subject matter areas

Subclass [A45D](#) covers cosmetic applicators in general

A46B 2200/1066

Toothbrush for cleaning the teeth or denture (A61C17/16 takes precedence; bristles arrangements for toothbrushes A46B9/04)

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Power driven toothbrushes	A61C 17/16
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A46B 2200/1073

Denture toothbrush, i.e. used for dentures specifically

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Cleaning device for prostheses removed from oral cavity	A61C 17/036
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A46B 2200/108

Inter-dental toothbrush, i.e. for cleaning interdental spaces specifically

Definition statement

This subclass/group covers:

Brushes where inter-dental cleaning is principal function

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Additional inter-dental device	A46B 15/0069
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A46B 2200/1086

Toothbrush for cleaning animal teeth specifically

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Instruments for treating animals' teeth	A61D 5/00
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A46B 2200/20

Brushes for applying products to surfaces in general (A46B2200/10 takes precedence)

Relationship between large subject matter areas

Subclass [B05C](#) covers apparatus for applying liquids to surfaces in general

Subclass [B43K](#) covers writing implements e.g. pen or pencil

A46B 2200/30

Brushes for cleaning or polishing

Relationship between large subject matter areas

Subclass [A47L](#) covers domestic washing or cleaning; suction cleaner in general.

Subclass [B08B](#) covers cleaning in general or prevention of fouling in general.

Subclass [E01H](#) covers street cleaning.

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Body washing implements	A47K 7/00
Vehicle cleaning apparatus not integral with vehicles	B60S 3/06

A46B 2200/40

Other application

Definition statement

This subclass/group covers:

Brush where the brushing function is not the principal purpose