CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001]

This applicationThis is a continuation-in-part of and claims priority to U.S. patent application Ser. No. 14/518,443 entitled "MULTIPLE VIEWING ANGLE MEDIA SUPPORT" and filed on Oct. 20, 2014 for Bruce Cannon, which is incorporated herein by reference. U.S. patent application Ser. No. 14/518,443 claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 61/896,540 entitled "FLIPY EREADER PILLOW" and filed on Oct. 28, 2013 for Bruce Cannon, which is incorporated herein by reference.

FIELD

[0002]

The subject matter disclosed herein relates to media support and more particularly relates to multiple viewing angle media support.

BACKGROUNDDescription of the Related Art

[0003]

It is often comfortable to support media such as electronic readers, tablet computers, magazines, and books while viewing the media.

BRIEF SUMMARY

[0004]

An apparatus for multiple viewing angle media support is disclosed. The apparatus includes three support sides. Each support side includes a back support and an edge support. A top of each back support is in physical communication with an adjacent edge support clockwise about a central axis. A plane of a first back support is at a first plane angle in a range of 50 to 60 degrees to a second virtual plane between the top of a second back support counterclockwise to the first back support and an outer edge of a second edge support counterclockwise to the first back support. A plane of the second back support is at a second plane angle in a range of 55 to 65 degrees to a third virtual plane between the top of a third back support counterclockwise to the second back support and an outer edge of a third edge support counterclockwise to the second back support. A plane of a third back support is at a third plane angle in a range of 50 to 75 degrees to a first virtual plane between the top of the first back support counterclockwise to the third back support and an outer edge of the first edge support counterclockwise to the third back support.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0005]

A more particular description of the embodiments briefly described above will be rendered by reference to specific embodiments that are illustrated in the appended drawings. Understanding that these drawings depict only some embodiments and are not therefore to be considered to be limiting of scope, the embodiments will be described and explained with additional specificity and detail through the use of the accompanying drawings, in which:

[0006]

FIG. 1 is a perspective drawing illustrating one embodiment of a media support;

[0007]

FIG. 2 is a side view drawing illustrating one embodiment of a media support;

[0008]

FIG. 3 is a perspective drawing illustrating one alternate embodiment of a media support; and

[0009]

FIG. 4 is a perspective drawing illustrating one embodiment of media disposed on a media support.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0010]

Reference throughout this specification to "one embodiment," "an embodiment," or similar language means that a particular feature, structure, or characteristic described in connection with the embodiment is included in at least one embodiment. Thus, appearances of the phrases "in one embodiment," "in an embodiment," and similar language throughout this specification may, but do not necessarily, all refer to the same embodiment, but mean "one or more but not all embodiments" unless expressly specified otherwise. The terms "including," "comprising," "having," and variations thereof mean "including but not limited to" unless expressly specified otherwise. An enumerated listing of items does not imply that any or all of the items are mutually exclusive and/or mutually inclusive, unless expressly specified otherwise. The terms "a," "an," and "the" also refer to "one or more" unless expressly specified otherwise.

[0011]

Furthermore, the described features, advantages, and characteristics of the embodiments may be combined in any suitable manner. One skilled in the relevant art will recognize that the embodiments may be practiced without one or more of the specific features or advantages of a particular embodiment. In other instances, additional features and advantages may be recognized in certain embodiments that may not be present in all embodiments.

[0012]

The description of elements in each figure may refer to elements of proceeding figures. Like numbers refer to like elements in all figures, including alternate embodiments of like elements.

[0013]

FIG. 1 is a perspective drawing illustrating one embodiment of a media support **100**. The media support **100** may position media at one of three varied and carefully chosen angles for viewing by a user. The media may be handheld media. In addition, the media may be an electronic reader, a tablet computer, a video display, a magazine, a book, or the like. Because the media may be handheld, it is often viewed while the user is sitting at a table with the media on the table, while the user is sitting with the media disposed in the user's lap, or while the user is lying down.

[0014]

During extended periods of viewing, it may be comfortable for the user to prop up the media to reduce hand and arm fatigue. Unfortunately, the use of traditional pillows may position the media at a less than advantageous angle. In addition, during extended viewing periods, the user may shift position, resulting in a need for a support with a different viewing angle. For example, a user may shift from reading while sitting on a couch to reading while lying on the couch.

~~[0015]~~

The embodiments described herein provide support for multiple viewing angles. The angles are carefully chosen to support the media on a table for a sitting user, in the lap of a sitting user, and on a lying user. As a result, the media support **100** provides a comfortable support at an appropriate angle for the most common viewing positions.

~~[0016]~~

In the depicted embodiment, the media support **100** includes three support sides **155**. Each support side **155** comprises a support back **105** and a support edge **110**. The support sides **155** may be disposed about a central axis **125**. The media support **100** may have a latitudinal length **150**. The latitudinal length **150** may be in the range of 6 to 50 centimeters (cm). In a certain embodiment, the latitudinal length **150** is in the range of 9 to 25 cm. In one embodiment, the latitudinal length **150** is 15 cm.

~~[0017]~~

In one embodiment, the latitudinal length **150** of an edge support **110** may be different from the latitudinal length **150** of the corresponding side support **155**. The edge support latitudinal length **150** may be in the range of 2 to 10 cm. In a certain embodiment, the edge support latitudinal length **150** is in the range of 6 to 8 cm. In one embodiment, the edge support latitudinal length **150** is 7 cm.

~~[0018]~~

The side supports **155** may be arranged to provide three different viewing angles **160** for three different user positions. Each viewing angle **160** is orthogonal to a support back **105**. The arrangement of the side supports **155** are disclosed in greater detail in FIG. 2.

~~[0019]~~

In one embodiment, each back support **105** and each edge support **110** is a surface **175** of a solid. The solid media support **100** may have one or more ends **165**. ~~In addition, the~~ Each back support **105** and each edge support **110** may be in physical communication with two ends **165** of a solid interior. The solid media support **100** may be a pillow. The solid interior may be foam. The foam may have an Indentation Force Deflection (IFD) of in the range of 15-30 kilograms at 25% indentation. In one embodiment, the surface **175** of the solid may be a fabric. Each back support **105**, each edge support **110**, and each end **165** may a surface **175** of the solid interior. The surface **175** of the solid interior may be a pillow is covered in fabric. In one embodiment, the fabric is ultra-suede.

~~[0020]~~

A user may place the media support **100** on a table, in the user's lap, or on the user while lying down. The semi-rigid pillow feel of the media support **100** comfortably contacts the user while providing firm support for the media. The user may further rotate the media support **100** to select a back support **105** with a comfortable viewing angle **160**. The user may place media on the edge support **110**. The edge support **110** holds the media with the back of the media against the back support **105**. As a result, the media may be viewed at the viewing angle **160**.

[0021]

FIG. 2 is a side view drawing illustrating one embodiment of a media support **100**. The support backs **105** and the support edges **110** of the three support sides **155** are shown about an end **165**. A top of each back support **105** is in physical communication with an adjacent edge support **110** about the central axis **125**. A plane of a first back support **105** *a* may be at a first plane angle **120** *a* in a range of 50 to 60 degrees to a second virtual plane **130** *b* between the top of a second back support **105** *b* counterclockwise to the first back support **105** *a* and an outer edge of a second edge support **110** *b* counterclockwise to the first back support **105** *a*. In addition, a plane of the second back support **105** *b* may be at a second plane angle **120** *b* in a range of 55 to 65 degrees to a third virtual plane **130** *c* between the top of a third back support **105** *c* counterclockwise to the second back support **105** *b* and an outer edge of a third edge support **110** *c* counterclockwise to the second back support **110** *b*. A plane of a third back support **105** *c* may be at a third plane angle **120** *c* in a range of 50 to 75 degrees to a first virtual plane **130** *a* between the top of the first back support **105** *a* counterclockwise to the third back support **105** *c* and an outer edge of the first edge support **110** *a* counterclockwise to the third back support **105** *c*.

[0022]

In one embodiment, the first back support **105** *a* has a longitudinal length **115** *a* in the range of 12 to 26 cm, the second back support **105** *b* has a longitudinal length **115** *b* in the range of 9 to 21 cm, and the third back support **105** *c* has a longitudinal length **115** *c* in the range of 10 to 22 cm. In a certain embodiment, the first longitudinal length **115** *a* is 19 cm, the first plane angle **120** *a* is 60 degrees, the second longitudinal length **115** *b* is 15 cm, the second plane angle **120** *b* is 68 degrees, the third longitudinal length **115** *c* is 17 cm, and the third plane angle **120** *c* is 52 degrees.

[0023]

The arrangement of the longitudinal lengths **115** and the plane angles **120** generate three distinct viewing angles **160**. In one embodiment, the first viewing angle **120** *a* may be ~~x~~36 degrees, the second viewing angle **120** *b* may be ~~X~~74 degrees, and the third viewing angle ~~**120 C**~~**120C** may be ~~X~~49 degrees.

[0024]

In one embodiment, each edge support **110** forms an edge angle **140** with an adjacent back support **105**. The edge angle **140** may be in the range of 85 to 120 degrees. The edge angle **140** may be 90 degrees. Each edge support **110** may have an edge support width **135**. The edge support width **135** may be in the range of 1 to 5 cm. In a certain embodiment, the edge support width **135** is 2 cm.

[0025]

FIG. 3 is a perspective drawing illustrating one alternate embodiment of a media support **100**. In the depicted embodiment, each back support **105** and each edge support **110** is a surface **180** of a frame. Each end **165** may also be a surface **180** of a frame. The frame may include a molded mashed, a fabric mash, a wire mesh, or the like. In the depicted embodiment, the media support **100** includes ends **165**. Alternatively, there may be no ends **165** on the media support **100**.

[0026]

FIG. 4 is a perspective drawing illustrating one embodiment of media **170** disposed on the media support **100**. A bottom edge of the media **170** is disposed in the edge support **110** while the back of the media **170** is disposed against a back support **105**.

~~[0027]~~

The embodiments arrange three support sides **155** to generate three distinct viewing angles **160**. Each viewing angle **160** is chosen for a specific viewing orientation. The first viewing angle **160** *a* may be employed when the media support **100** and the media is disposed in the user's lap. The second viewing angle **160** *b* may be used when the media support **100** and the media is disposed on a table and the user is sitting upright. In addition, the 3rd viewing angle **160** *c* may be used when the user is lying down and the media support **100** is disposed on the user.

~~[0028]~~

When the user changes position, the media support **100** may be quickly rotated to provide a different viewing angle **160**. As a result, the media support **100** is quickly deployed to provide the appropriate viewing angle **160**. In addition, the comfort of the user is greatly enhanced as the media may be viewed at the appropriate viewing angle **160** without the user holding the media.

~~[0029]~~

The media support **100** has been marketed as the "~~flipv~~Flipy Tablet Pillow" since 2013 at a retail price of $49.98. Because of the media support's unique properties, it has enjoyed significant commercial success, with 800 units sold in 2013 ~~and projected sales of 3000~~, 2,233 units in 2014, 925 units in 2015 and 997 units year-to-date in 2016.

~~[0030]~~

Embodiments may be practiced in other specific forms. The described embodiments are to be considered in all respects only as illustrative and not restrictive. The scope of the invention is, therefore, indicated by the appended claims rather than by the foregoing description. All changes which come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims are to be embraced within their scope.