

Just For Openers January-December 2025 1

Myrtle S. Cushman's Cool Combo Tool For

Beer & Soda Drinkers By Don Thornton

JFOers, read this, it's important: "The device also has a combination functional utility in that cheese and crackers are frequently eaten at the same time beer and soft drinks are consumed. On such an occasion, the device of the invention effectively performs both of the required functions." That's right a device that allows beer and soda drinkers to cut the cheese.

Myrtle S. Cushman was awarded a patent in 1951 that was "adapted to perform the dual functions of cutting cheese and removing bottle caps." And she gave the small aluminum tool the arresting name "EZ KUT."



July 31, 1951. M. S. Cushman 2,562,842
BOTTLE CAP LIFTER
Filed Jan. 19, 1950

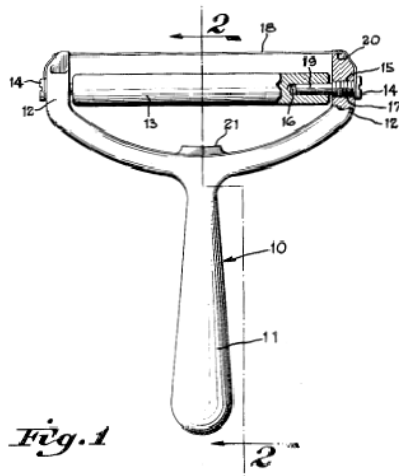


Fig. 1

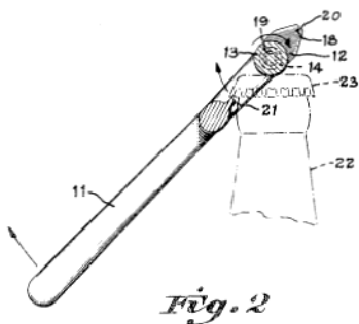


Fig. 2

INVENTOR
Myrtle S. Cushman
BY
Wood, Gray, Kinnon & Evans
ATTORNEYS

The Cincinnati resident was awarded Patent No. 2,562,842 on July 31, 1951 for her "bottle cap lifter" combo "for use in and around the home."

The 4-½ inch device with 3 ½-inch wide wire cheese cutter is marked: **EZ KUT PAT. APPLD. FOR** on one side and **BOTTLE OPENER AND CHEESE SLICER** on the other. Later models were marked: **U.S. PAT. 2,562,842.**

Myrtle assigned one-half of the patent to her husband, Ralph S. Cushman, and the EZ KUT was produced and marketed by their family businesses, the Cushman Manufacturing Company and the Cincinnati Aluminum Mould Company. It was the only patent awarded Myrtle, who died in 1993 at the age of 87.

