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### Tape Measure

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#### Abstract

A tape measure includes a housing having a wall defining an internal cavity and a tape port, a coilable measuring tape disposed within the internal housing and having a first end extendable out of the housing, and an end hook member including an attachment portion and a hook portion. The attachment portion is arranged to engage the first end of the tape to attach the end hook member to the tape. The hook portion extends in a direction normal to the attachment portion and includes a first face and a second face arranged to engage the workpiece. A finger guard extends from the housing, and is configured to engage the hook member, and a finger space is defined between the tape port and the finger guard and is arranged to receive a user's finger during operation of the tape measure such that the user's finger engages the measuring tape.

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## Background/Summary

### BACKGROUND

[0001] The present invention relates to measurement devices, and in particular, the invention relates to a tape measure including a magnetic hook.

### SUMMARY

[0002] In one construction, the invention provides a tape measure. The tape measure includes a housing and a length of measuring tape having a first end and a second end. The first end of the measuring tape is coupled to the housing. A hook assembly is fixedly coupled to the second end of the measuring tape. The hook assembly includes a hook body having a magnet housing portion. A first magnet and a second magnet are disposed within the magnet housing portion. The first magnet has a first magnetic pole orientation and the second magnet has a second magnetic pole orientation, where the first magnetic pole orientation is substantially non-parallel to the second magnetic pole orientation.

[0003] In one construction, the invention provides a tape measure for measuring a workpiece. The tape measure includes a housing, a coilable measuring tape at least partially disposed within the housing and having a first end extendable out of the housing, and an end hook member including an attachment portion and a hook portion. The attachment portion is arranged to engage a first surface of the first end of the tape to attach the end hook member to the tape. The hook portion extends in a direction substantially normal to the attachment portion and includes a first face and a second face arranged to engage the workpiece. The second face faces outward from the end of the tape. A magnet housing is coupled to the end hook member, a first magnet is disposed within the magnet housing and arranged to magnetically engage the workpiece when the workpiece is positioned adjacent the second face, and a second magnet is disposed within the magnet housing and is arranged to magnetically engage the workpiece when the workpiece is positioned adjacent the first face.

[0004] In another construction, the invention provides a tape measure for measuring a workpiece. The tape measure includes a housing and a coilable measuring tape at least partially disposed within the housing and having a first end extendable out of the housing. The extended portion of the tape forms a concavo-convex cross section having a concave side and a convex side when extended out of the housing. An end hook member includes an attachment portion and a hook portion. The attachment portion is arranged to engage one of the concave side and the convex side of the tape to attach the end hook member to the tape. The hook portion extends in a direction substantially normal to the attachment portion and includes a first face that faces toward the tape

and a second face that extends away from the tape. A magnet includes a first pole and a second pole and is arranged to present the first pole in a plane substantially parallel to the second face to magnetically attract the workpiece when the workpiece is positioned adjacent the second face and to present one of the first pole and the second pole along a portion of the extended portion of the tape to magnetically engage the workpiece when the workpiece is positioned adjacent the tape and the first face.

[0005] In another construction, the invention provides a tape measure for measuring a workpiece. The tape measure includes a housing and a coilable measuring tape at least partially disposed within the housing and having a first end extendable out of the housing. The extended portion of the tape forms a concavo-convex cross section having a concave side and a convex side when extended out of the housing. An end hook member includes an attachment portion and a hook portion. The attachment portion is arranged to engage the concave side of the first end of the tape to attach the end hook member to the tape. The hook portion extends in a direction substantially normal to the attachment portion and includes a first face and a second face arranged to engage the workpiece. The second face faces outward from the end of the tape. A magnet housing is coupled to the end hook member and is disposed within the concave side of the first end of the tape, a first magnet disposed within the magnet housing and including a substantially planar surface that is substantially parallel to the second face and arranged to magnetically engage the workpiece when the workpiece is positioned adjacent the second face; and a second magnet disposed within the magnet housing and arranged to magnetically engage the workpiece in a direction normal to the planar surface of the first magnet when the workpiece is positioned adjacent the first face.

[0006] In another construction, a tape measure for measuring a workpiece includes a housing having a wall defining an internal cavity and a tape port, a coilable measuring tape at least partially disposed within the internal housing and having a first end extendable out of the housing through the tape port, and an end hook member including an attachment portion and a hook portion. The attachment portion is arranged to engage the first end of the tape to attach the end hook member to the tape. The hook portion extends in a direction substantially normal to the attachment portion and includes a first face and a second face arranged to engage the workpiece, the second face facing outward from the end of the tape. A finger guard extends from the housing, and is configured to engage the hook member when the measuring tape is fully retracted and a finger space is defined between the tape port and the finger guard and is arranged to receive a user's finger during operation of the tape measure such that the user's finger slidingly engages the measuring tape.

[0007] In another construction, a method of controlling the movement of a tape from a tape measure includes extending the tape from a tape port in the housing, the housing including a front surface and a bottom surface, the tape port being adjacent the bottom surface and set back a first distance from the front surface and passing the tape through a finger guard disposed adjacent the front surface, the tape including an end hook that engages the finger guard to inhibit retraction of the tape completely into the tape port, the finger guard and the tape port defining a finger space having a length of about the first distance. The method also includes positioning a user's finger in the finger space such that the user's finger is in contact with the tape as the tape passes between the finger guard and the tape port and applying pressure to the tape using the user's finger to stop movement of the tape and to maintain the tape in an extended position.

[0008] In yet another construction, a tape measure for measuring a workpiece includes a housing having a wall defining an internal cavity, the wall including a front surface and a bottom surface, a tape port formed in the housing adjacent the bottom surface and set back a first distance from the front surface. A coilable measuring tape is at least partially disposed within the internal housing and has a first end extendable out of the housing through the tape port. An end hook member includes an attachment portion and a hook portion, the attachment portion arranged to engage the first end of the tape to attach the end hook member to the tape, the hook portion extending in a direction substantially normal to the attachment portion. A finger guard is positioned adjacent the front

surface and extends from the housing to the bottom surface, the finger guard defining an opening sized to allow passage of the tape and to inhibit passage of the hook portion of the end hook member. A recessed housing portion is formed between the tape port and the finger guard, the recessed housing portion spaced a second distance from the bottom surface of the housing, the second distance measured in a direction substantially normal to the first direction. A finger space is defined in a first direction between the finger guard and the tape port and in a second direction between the bottom surface and the recessed surface, the finger guard sized to receive a user's finger and inhibit contact between the user's finger and the hook portion when the user's finger is disposed in the finger space during tape usage.

[0009] Other aspects of the invention will become apparent by consideration of the detailed description and accompanying drawings.

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## Description

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0010] FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a tape measure according to one construction of the invention.

[0011] FIG. 2 is a perspective view of a hook assembly of the tape measure of FIG. 1, with the hook member illustrated transparently to illustrate an arrangement of magnets.

[0012] FIG. 3 is an exploded, perspective view of the hook assembly of FIG. 2.

[0013] FIG. 4 is an exploded side view of the hook assembly of FIG. 3, showing magnetic pole orientations.

[0014] FIG. 5 is a perspective view of a tape measure according to another construction of the invention.

[0015] FIG. 6 is a perspective view of a portion of a measuring tape and a hook assembly of the tape measure of FIG. 5.

[0016] FIG. 7 is a cross-sectional view of the hook assembly of FIG. 9, along section 10-10.

[0017] FIG. 8 is a cutaway view of the tape measure of FIG. 5.

[0018] FIG. 9 is a perspective view of a finger guard assembly of the tape measure of FIG. 5.

[0019] FIG. 10 is a perspective view of a finger guard member of the finger guard assembly of FIG. 9.

[0020] FIG. 11 is a perspective view of a tape measure according to another embodiment of the invention.

[0021] FIG. 12 is a perspective view of a finger guard assembly of the tape measure of FIG. 11.

[0022] FIG. 13 is a perspective view of a finger guard member of the finger guard assembly of FIG. 12.

[0023] FIG. 14 is a perspective view of a tape measure according to another embodiment of the invention.

[0024] FIG. 15 is a cutaway view of the tape measure of FIG. 14.

[0025] FIG. 16 is a perspective view of a finger guard assembly of the tape measure of FIG. 14.

[0026] FIG. 17 is a perspective view of a finger guard member of the finger guard assembly of FIG. 15.

### DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0027] Before any constructions of the invention are explained in detail, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited in its application to the details of construction and the arrangement of components set forth in the following description or illustrated in the following drawings. The invention is capable of other constructions and of being practiced or of being carried out in various ways.

[0028] FIG. 1 illustrates a length measurement device, more specifically, a tape measure 10. The

tape measure **10** includes a coilable measuring tape **14** that is at least partially disposed within a housing assembly **18**.

[0029] As illustrated in FIG. 1, a variable-length segment of the measuring tape **14** is retractable and extendable from the housing assembly **18** along a tape axis **22**. When extracted, the extended portion of the tape forms a concavo-convex cross sectional shape (best illustrated in FIG. 6) that includes a concave or top surface of the tape **14** and a convex or bottom surface of the tape **14**. At least the top surface **14** includes indicia for taking measurements.

[0030] A hook assembly **26**, or end hook member is fixedly coupled to an end portion **30** of the measuring tape **14**. Referring to FIGS. 2 and 3, the hook assembly **26** includes a hook body **34**. The hook body **34** includes attachment portions **38** for riveting or otherwise fastening the hook body **34** to the end portion **30** of the tape **14**. In preferred constructions, the attachment portions **38** form a concavo-convex cross section similar to that of the tape **14**. A hook tab **42** extends substantially perpendicular to the attachment portions **38** and defines a first face **43** that faces toward the tape and a second face **44** that faces outward or away from the tape **14**. The hook tab **42** is configured to engage an end portion of a workpiece to be measured, such as a board or beam. The hook tab **42** defines serrations for additional engagement with the workpiece. In some constructions, a single attachment portion extends along the center of the tape and facilitates the attachment of the hook assembly **26** to the tape.

[0031] Referring to FIG. 3, the hook body **34** additionally includes a magnet housing **46** disposed between the attachment portions **38**. In the illustrated construction, the magnet housing **46** defines a circular bore **50** extending through the hook body **34** along a magnet axis **54**. The magnet axis **54** is substantially parallel to the tape axis **22** (FIG. 1). In other constructions, the bore may be a blind hole with a closed end portion.

[0032] Referring to FIGS. 2 and 3, a first magnet **58** and a second magnet **62** are disposed within the magnet housing **46**. As shown in FIG. 3, the first magnet **58** and the second magnet **62** are disposed entirely within the bore **50**. In other constructions, the magnets **58** and **62** may extend beyond the bore **50**.

[0033] Referring to FIG. 4, the first magnet **58** is magnetized with its north and south magnetic poles, N.sub.1 and S.sub.1, respectively, oriented along the magnet axis **54**. The first magnet **58** is so oriented to provide a significant magnetic pull toward metal objects placed in front of the hook assembly **26**. The second magnet **62** is magnetized with its north and south poles, N.sub.2 and S.sub.2, respectively, oriented perpendicular to the magnet axis **54**. The second magnet **62** is so oriented to provide a significant magnetic pull toward metal objects placed alongside top or bottom surfaces of the hook assembly **26**. For example, FIG. 7 illustrates a workpiece “W1” in a first position in which the first magnet is attracted to it in the direction of arrow “X”. A workpiece “W2” is also shown in a second position in which the second magnet attracts the workpiece in the direction of arrow “Y”. Thus, the first magnet attracts workpieces positioned adjacent the second face **44** beyond the end of the tape **14**, while the second magnet attracts the workpiece when it is positioned adjacent the first face **43** and the tape **14**.

[0034] Referring back to FIG. 1, a second end of the measuring tape **14** is coupled to the housing assembly **18**. The measuring tape **14** forms a spool disposed within a cavity of the housing assembly **18**. A retraction mechanism is coupled to the spool to provide for powered retraction of the measuring tape **14**. The retraction mechanism may include an elongated coiled spring for motive force. A tape lock **66** is provided to selectively engage at least one of the spool and the retraction mechanism, such that the extended segment **22** of the measuring tape **14** remains at a desired length.

[0035] The housing assembly **18** includes a first side wall **70**, a second side wall **74**, and a peripheral wall **78** connecting the first side wall **70** and the second side wall **74**. Each of the first side wall **70** and the second side wall **74** has a substantially circular profile. In other constructions, the side walls **70** and **74** may be rectangular or another polygonal shape. Portions of the housing

assembly **18** may be co-molded or separately formed of a resilient material, such as a natural or synthetic rubber, forming housing bumpers.

[0036] A slot **82** is defined along a forward portion **86** of the peripheral wall **78**. The slot **82** is provided to allow for sliding movement of the tape lock **66** relative to housing assembly **18**. Below the slot **82**, a tape port **90** is provided in the peripheral wall **78**. The tape port **90** allows for the retraction and extension of the measuring tape **14** to and from the internal cavity.

[0037] A guard member **94** is coupled to the housing assembly **18** adjacent the tape port **90**. As shown in FIG. 2, the guard member **94** is U-shaped and is configured to engage the hook assembly **26** when the measuring tape **14** is fully retracted.

[0038] The guard member **94** shields the housing assembly **18** from being struck by the hook assembly **26**. The guard member **94** also shields a user's fingers from being struck by the hook assembly **26** when the measuring tape **14** is rapidly retracted into the housing assembly **18**. A gap **98** defined between the tape port **90** and the guard member **94** allows a user's finger to slidably engage the measuring tape **14** during retraction, thereby allowing the user to control a rate at which the tape **14** is retracted into the housing assembly **18**.

[0039] FIG. 5 illustrates a tape measure **102** according to another embodiment of the invention. Various aspects of the tape measure **102** are similar to those of the tape measure **10**, and only those aspects that differ are described herein. The tape measure **102** includes a coilable measuring tape **106** and a housing assembly **110**.

[0040] A hook assembly **114** is fixedly coupled to an end portion **118** of the measuring tape **106**. Referring to FIG. 6, the hook assembly **114** includes a hook body **122** and a magnet housing **126**. The hook body **122** includes attachment portions **130** for riveting or otherwise fastening the hook body **122** to the end portion **118** of the tape **106**. A hook tab **134** extends substantially perpendicular to the attachment portions **130**. The hook tab **134** includes extension portions **138** that extend beyond a lateral width **142** of the measuring tape **106**, and, referring to FIG. 7, beyond first and second planes **146** and **150** of the measuring tape **106**. The extension portions **138** facilitate engaging the hook tab **134** with various work pieces and in various orientations. The hook body **122** may be formed, for example, of stamped steel or other metals.

[0041] Referring to FIG. 6, the magnet housing **126** defines a first magnet recess **154** with a polygonal (e.g., square) cross-section. Referring to FIG. 7, the magnet housing **126** defines a second magnet recess **158** with a polygonal (e.g., rectangular) cross section. The first magnet recess **154** and the second magnet recess **158** are separated by a baffle wall **162**. The magnet housing **126** may be formed, for example, of injection molded plastic.

[0042] A first magnet **166** is disposed in the first magnet recess **154**. A second magnet **170** is disposed within the second magnet recess **158**. The first magnet **166** is magnetized with its north and south magnetic poles, N.sub.1 and S.sub.1, respectively, oriented along a magnet axis **174** that is substantially parallel to a tape axis **178**. The first magnet **166** is so oriented to provide a significant magnetic pull toward metal objects placed in front of the hook assembly **114**. The second magnet **170** is magnetized with its north and south poles, N.sub.2 and S.sub.2, respectively, oriented perpendicular to the magnet axis **174**. The second magnet **170** is so oriented to provide a significant magnetic pull toward metal objects placed alongside top or bottom surfaces **182** or **186** of the hook assembly **114**. Virtually any magnet material could be employed as the magnets **58**, **62**, **166**, **170** (e.g., metal alloys, rare earths, ceramics, bonded magnets, etc.).

[0043] Referring to FIG. 8, a second end **190** of the measuring tape **106** is coupled to a spool assembly **194** disposed with the housing assembly **110**. A retraction mechanism **198** is coupled to the spool assembly **194** to provide for powered retraction of the measuring tape **106**. A tape lock **202** is slidably coupled to the housing assembly **110** and includes an actuation portion **206** and an engagement portion **210**. The engagement portion **210** selectively engages the measuring tape **106** and compresses the measure tape **106** into a friction member **214**, thereby inhibiting the measuring tape **106** from retracting into the housing assembly **110**. The friction member **214** may be formed

as an extension of an overmold layer **218** on the housing assembly **110** (FIG. 5).

[0044] The tape measure **102** also includes a finger guard assembly **218**. Referring to FIG. 9, the finger guard assembly **218** includes a guard member **222** and a guard support member **226**. Exposed portions **230** of the guard member **222** are substantially U-shaped, with a first leg **234** and a second leg **238** extending from the guard support member **226**, and a connecting leg **242** extending between first leg **234** and the second leg **238**. Referring to FIG. 10, a first mounting extension **246** is coupled to the first leg **234**, and a second mounting extension **250** is coupled to the second leg **238**. Each of the first mounting extension **246** and the second mounting extension **250** includes a mounting boss **254**. The guard member **222** may be formed of substantially rigid material such as a metal.

[0045] Referring to FIG. 9, the guard support member **226** is molded over the first mounting extension **246** and the second mounting extension **250** of the guard member **222**, such that the exposed portions **230** of the guard member **222** extend from a forward surface **258** of the guard support member **226**. The mounting bosses **254** extend outwardly from lateral edges **262** of the guard support member **226**.

[0046] The guard support member **226** further includes a fastener boss **264**. Referring to FIG. 8, the fastener boss **264** defines an aperture **266** for receiving a fastener **270** for coupling the guard support member **226** to the housing assembly **110**. The mounting extensions **246** and **250** of the guard member **222** are received by corresponding recesses **274** (FIG. 5) formed in the housing assembly **110**. The guard support member **226** may be formed of a resilient polymer or rubber material, such that the guard support member **226** provides a degree of impact resistance between the guard member **222** and the housing assembly **110** when the guard member **222** is struck by the hook assembly **114** or the tape measure **102** is dropped upon the guard member **222**. Additionally, the guard support member **226** can rotate relative to the housing about the fastener **270** when an impact is received by the guard member **222**.

[0047] FIG. 11 illustrates a tape measure **278** according to another embodiment of the invention. Various aspects of the tape measure are similar to those of the tape measure **102**, and only those aspects that differ are described herein.

[0048] The tape measure **278** includes a finger guard assembly **282**. Referring to FIG. 12, the finger guard assembly **282** includes a guard support member **286** and a guard member **290** (FIG. 13). A U-shaped portion **294** of the guard member **290** extends through a bottom surface **298** of the guard support member **286** (FIG. 12). Referring back to FIG. 11, the finger guard assembly **282** is configured such that a hook member **302** strikes the guard support member **286**, as opposed to the guard member **290**, of the finger guard assembly **282**. The guard support member **286** may be formed of an impact resistant material such as a resilient polymer or rubber.

[0049] FIG. 14 illustrates a tape measure **306** according to yet another embodiment of the invention. Various aspects of the tape measure **306** are similar to those of the tape measures **102** and **278**, and only those aspects that differ are described herein.

[0050] The tape measure **306** includes a finger guard assembly **310**. Referring to FIG. 16, the finger guard assembly **310** includes a guard support member **314** and a guard member **318**. The guard member **318** includes a U-shaped, exposed portion **322** and, referring to FIG. 17, a first extension member **326** and a second extension member **330**. Referring to FIG. 16, the guard support member **314** is molded over first extension member **326** and the second extension member **330**, such that the guard member **318** is substantially supported by the guard support member. The guard support member **314** defines a lateral groove **334**. Referring to FIG. 15, the lateral groove **334** is configured to receive a tongue member **338** of a housing assembly **342**, with the lateral groove **334** and the tongue member **338** defining a tongue and groove arrangement **346**. The guard support member **314** further defines mounting recesses **350**. The mounting recesses **350** are configured to receive corresponding mounting bosses defined by the housing assembly **342**. The guard support member **314** may be formed of an impact resistant material such as a resilient

polymer or rubber. By acting as a resilient interface between the guard member **314** and the housing assembly **342**, the guard support member **314** substantially reduces the transfer of impact forces between the housing assembly **342** and guard member **318**.  
[0051] Thus, the invention provides, among other things, a tape measure. Although the invention has been described in detail with reference to certain preferred constructions, variations and modifications exist within the scope and spirit of one or more independent aspects of the invention as described.

## Claims

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17. (canceled)
18. (canceled)
19. (canceled)
20. (canceled)
21. A tape measure comprising: a housing comprising a forward wall portion and an internal cavity; a coilable measuring tape at least partially disposed within the internal cavity of the housing and having a first end extendable out of the housing; an end hook member comprising an attachment portion and a hook portion, the attachment portion coupled to the measuring tape, the hook portion comprising: lateral extension portions that extend laterally beyond opposing lateral edges of the measuring tape; a first face facing toward the first end of the measuring tape; and a second face facing away from the first end of the measuring tape; a guard member comprising: an opening sized to allow passage of the measuring tape into the housing and sized to inhibit passage of the hook portion into the housing; and a front surface configured to engage the first face of the end hook member when the measuring tape is in a fully retracted position; a region located behind the guard member configured to receive a user's finger during operation of the tape measure such that the user's finger is permitted to apply pressure to the measuring tape to stop movement of the measuring tape, wherein the region is located below the attachment portion of the end hook member when the measuring tape is in the fully retracted position; and a tape lock configured for sliding movement within a slot defined along the forward wall portion of the housing, wherein the slot is located above the attachment portion of the end hook member when the measuring tape is in the fully retracted position.
22. The tape measure of claim 21, wherein the hook portion comprises: an upper portion extending in a direction away from the attachment portion above the measuring tape; and a lower portion extending in a direction away from the attachment portion below the measuring tape.



23. The tape measure of claim 22, wherein the end hook member further comprises a magnet coupled to the attachment portion and arranged to magnetically engage a workpiece when the workpiece is positioned adjacent the second face of the hook portion.
24. The tape measure of claim 23, wherein the magnet is positioned above the attachment portion and above the measuring tape.
25. The tape measure of claim 21, wherein the housing further comprises a tape port, wherein the measuring tape is extendable out of the housing through the tape port, wherein the guard member is in front of the tape port.
26. The tape measure of claim 25, wherein the region comprises a gap defined between the tape port and the guard member, wherein the gap provides a space such that the user's finger is permitted to contact and directly apply the pressure to the measuring tape.
27. The tape measure of claim 21, wherein the front surface of the guard member is a forward-most surface of the guard member such that the first face of the end hook member engages the forward-most surface of the guard member when the measuring tape is in the fully retracted position.
28. The tape measure of claim 27, wherein the front surface of the guard member that engages the first face of the end hook member is a vertical surface.
29. The tape measure of claim 21, wherein the guard member comprises a portion formed from an impact resistant material, wherein the front surface of the guard member that engages the first face of the end hook member is formed from the impact resistant material.
30. The tape measure of claim 29, wherein the impact resistant material is a resilient polymer material or a rubber material.
31. The tape measure of claim 21, wherein the forward wall portion has a curved shape.
32. The tape measure of claim 31, wherein the housing comprises a first sidewall and a second sidewall and the forward wall portion is located between the first sidewall and the second sidewall.
33. The tape measure of claim 32, wherein the guard member comprises a guard support member coupled to the housing and a U-shaped portion coupled to the guard support member.
34. A tape measure comprising: a housing comprising a forward wall portion and an internal cavity; a coilable measuring tape at least partially disposed within the internal cavity of the housing and having a first end extendable out of the housing; an end hook member comprising: an attachment portion coupled to the measuring tape; a hook portion; a first face facing toward the first end of the measuring tape; and a second face facing away from the first end of the measuring tape; and a guard member comprising: a forward facing surface extending in a generally vertical direction and defining a front surface of the guard member, the forward facing surface configured to engage the first face of the end hook member when the measuring tape is in a fully retracted position; and an opening sized to allow passage of the measuring tape into the housing and sized to inhibit passage of the hook portion into the housing; and a finger brake located behind the guard member configured to apply pressure to the measuring tape to stop movement of the measuring tape.
35. The tape measure of claim 34, wherein the attachment portion of the end hook member is located above the finger brake when the measuring tape is in the fully retracted position.
36. The tape measure of claim 34, further comprising a tape lock configured for sliding movement within a slot defined along the forward wall portion of the housing, wherein the slot is located above the attachment portion of the end hook member when the measuring tape is in the fully retracted position.
37. The tape measure of claim 34, wherein the hook portion further comprises: an upper portion extending in a direction away from the attachment portion above the measuring tape; and a lower portion extending in a direction away from the attachment portion below the measuring tape.
38. The tape measure of claim 34, the hook portion further comprising lateral extension portions that extend laterally beyond opposing lateral edges of the measuring tape.
39. The tape measure of claim 38, wherein the end hook member further comprises a magnet coupled to the attachment portion and arranged to magnetically engage a workpiece when the

workpiece is positioned adjacent the second face of the hook portion, wherein the magnet is positioned above the attachment portion and above the measuring tape.

**40.** The tape measure of claim 34, wherein the finger brake comprises a gap defined behind the guard member, wherein the gap provides a space such that the user's finger is permitted to contact and directly apply the pressure to the measuring tape.

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