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KATAOKA et al.

(54) SEAT COVER AND VEHICLE SEAT

(71) Applicant: **TACHI-S CO., LTD.**, Tokyo (JP)

(72) Inventors: **Kengo KATAOKA**, Tokyo (JP); **Yuhei CHINOMI**, Tokyo (JP)

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A seat cover, to be mounted on a seat while covering the frame of the seat, includes: a contact portion contactable with the frame; and a deforming section configured to be collapsed by contacting with the frame, the deforming section being provided at a first surface of the contact portion, the first surface being opposed to the frame.

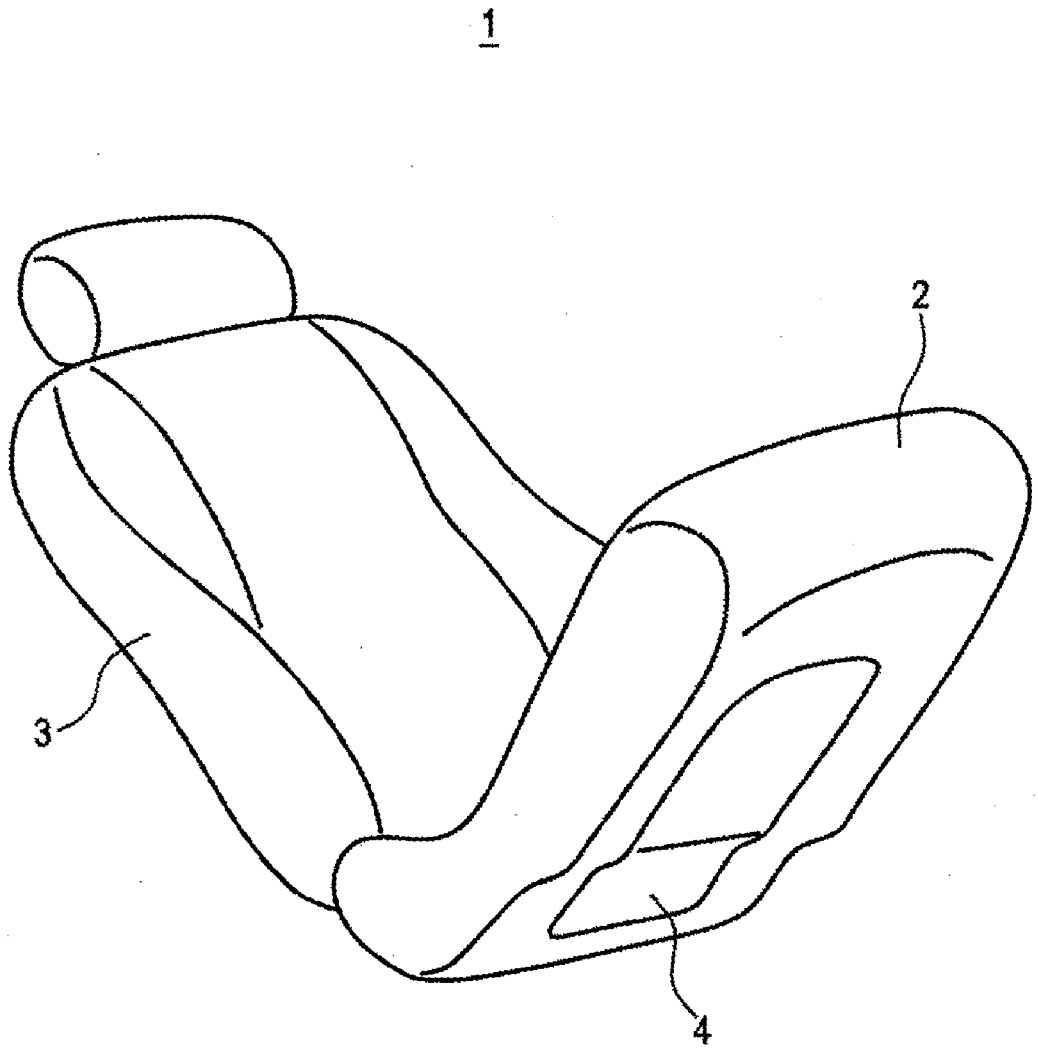
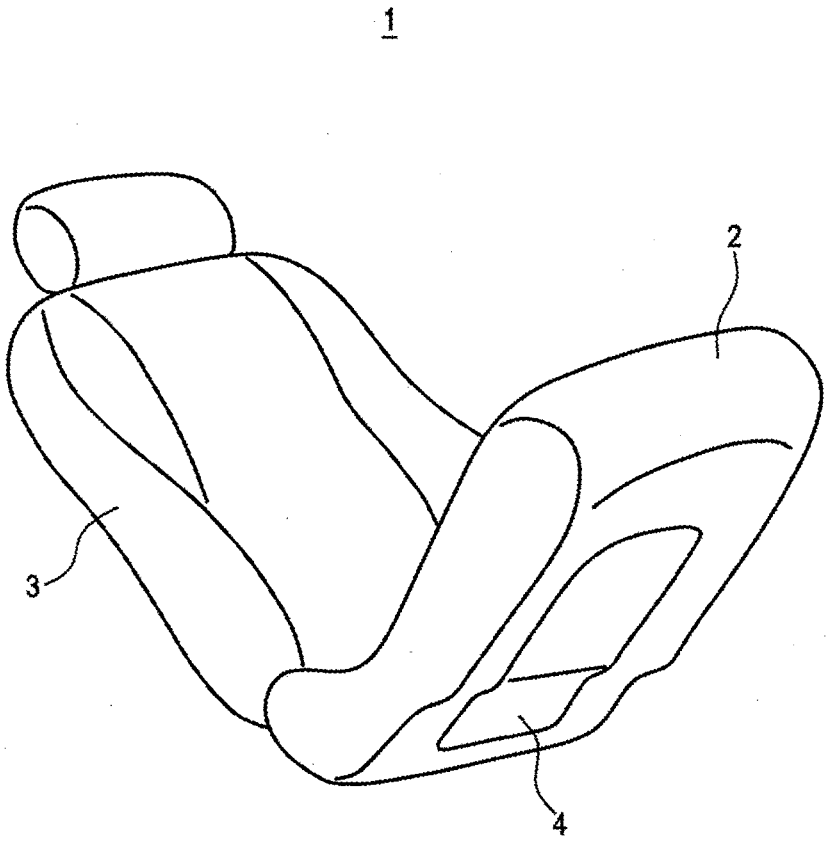


FIG. 1



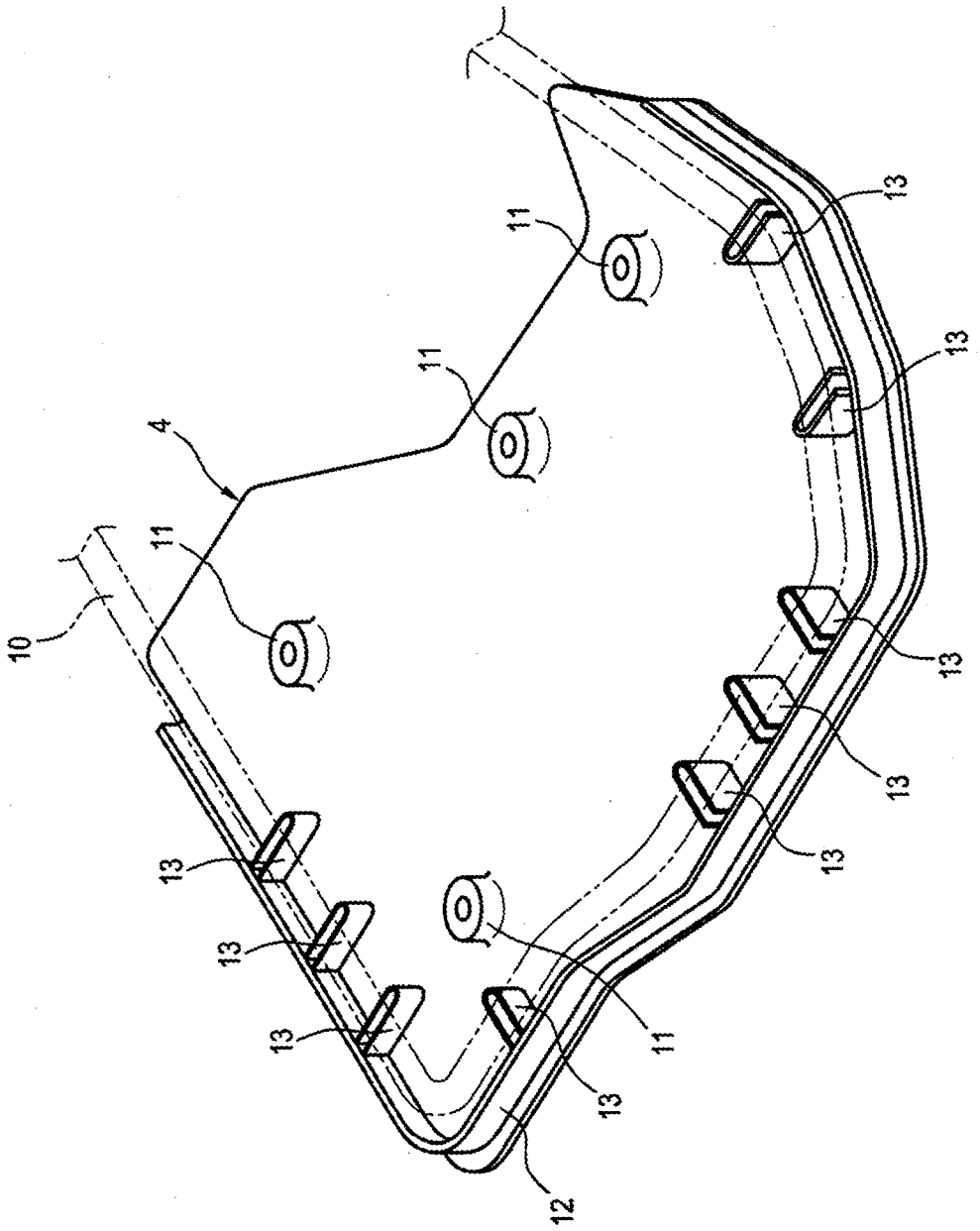


FIG. 2

FIG. 3

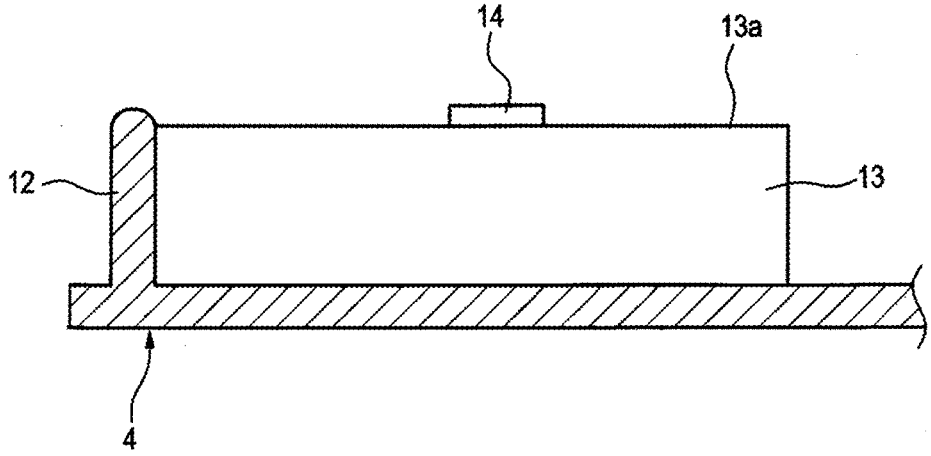


FIG. 4

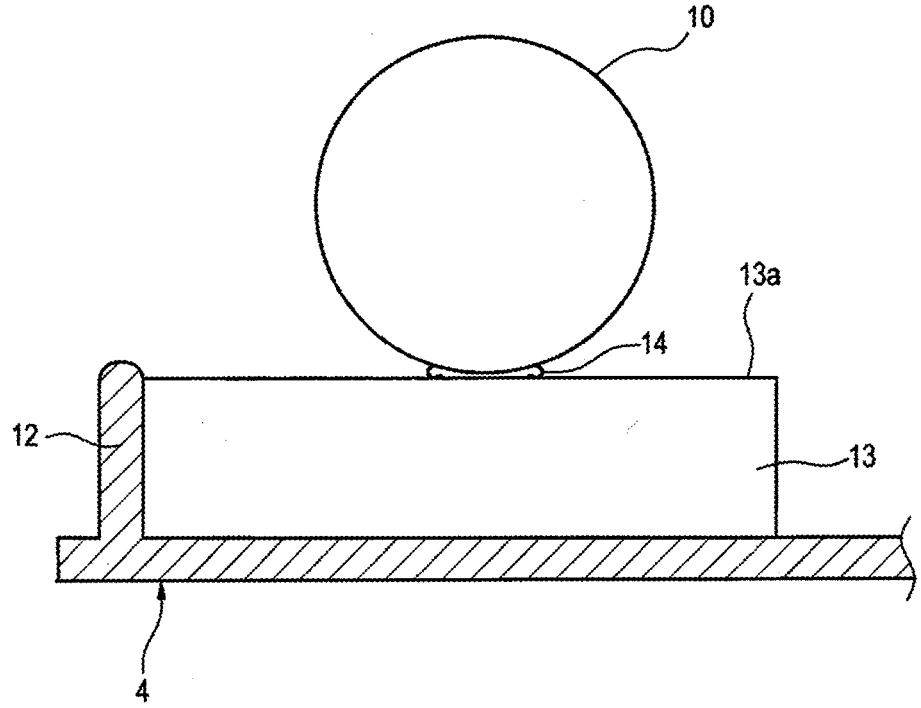


FIG. 5

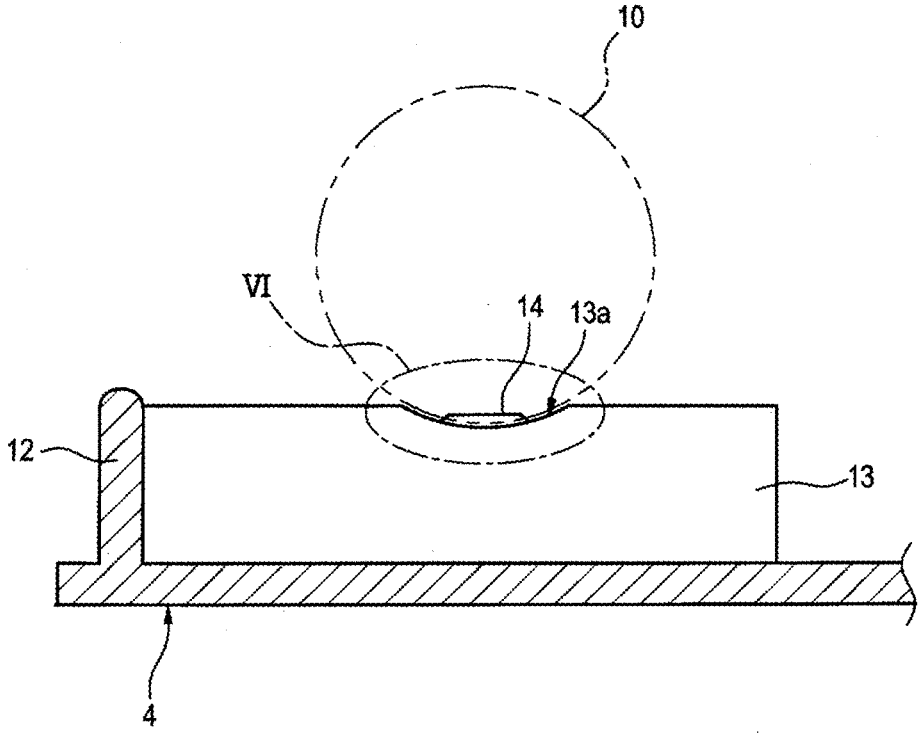


FIG. 6

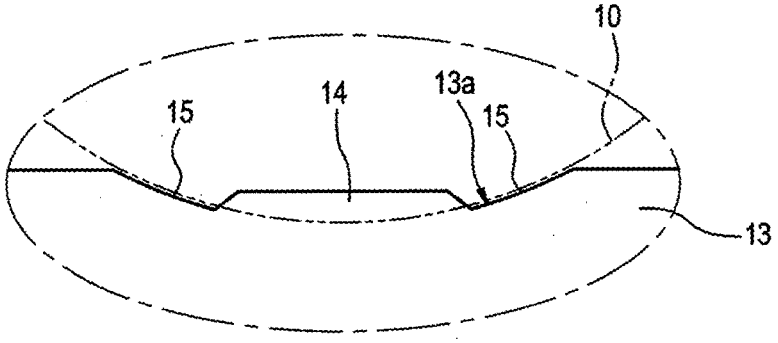


FIG. 7

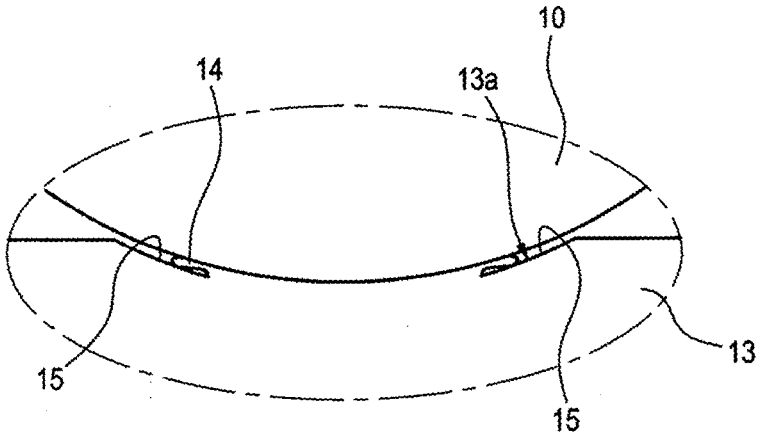


FIG. 8

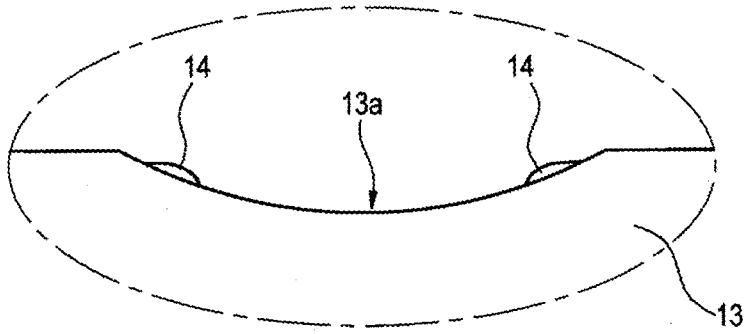
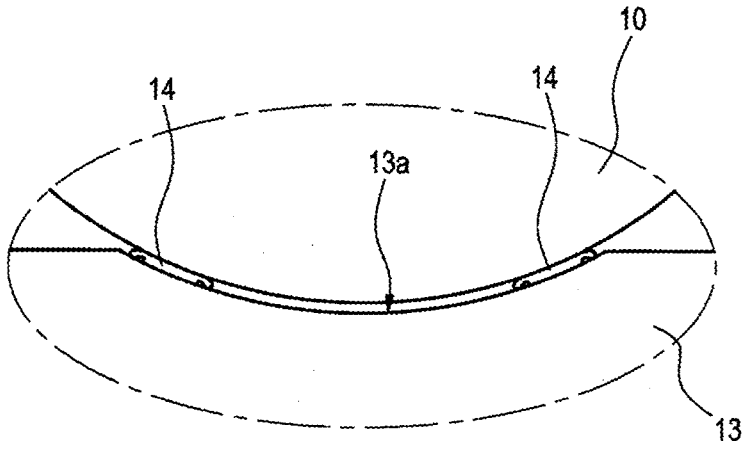


FIG. 9



SEAT COVER AND VEHICLE SEAT

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

[0001] This application is based upon and claims the benefit of priority from Japanese Patent Application No. 2014-254064, filed on Dec. 16, 2014, the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND

[0002] 1. Field of the Invention

[0003] The invention relates to a seat cover and a vehicle seat.

[0004] 2. Description of the Related Art

[0005] JP-A-H07-52717 discloses a seat cover which, in a reclining seat with a tiltable seat back, is mounted on a seat cushion while covering a reclining apparatus and a frame. On such inner surface of a cover as is opposed to the reclining apparatus and frame, there are provided multiple ribs and, with the ribs contacted with the frame of the seat, the cover is fastened to the frame.

[0006] JP-A-2014-34253 discloses a seat cover which is mounted on the lower surface portion of a seat cushion while covering a rear frame constituted of the two upper and lower pipes connecting together a pair of right and left side frames of the seat cushion. On such inner surface of the cover as is opposed to the rear frame, there are provided multiple arc-shaped first ribs engageable with the upper pipe, and multiple second ribs supporting the lower pipe from below; and, while the second ribs are contacted with the lower pipe, and the upper pipe is engaged with the first ribs, the cover is mounted on the frame.

[0007] Generally, a seat cover is formed of resin. The seat covers disclosed in JP-A-H07-52717 and JP-A-2014-34253 are both mounted on the seat in such a manner that the ribs provided on the inner surface of the cover are contacted with the frame of the seat. However, for example, there is a fear that a gap can be produced between some of the ribs and frame due to a molding error or the like caused by resin sink.

[0008] When a gap between the frame and ribs to be contacted with the frame is existed, there is a fear that the cover can provide backlash against the frame and thus hitting, noise can be produced by collision between the ribs and frame. Particularly, in a seat such as a vehicle seat easy to produce vibrations, there increases a possibility that hitting noise can be produced due to such vibrations.

SUMMARY

[0009] The invention is made in view of the above-mentioned circumstances and thus has an object to restrict the backlash of the seat cover against the frame to thereby reduce hitting noise.

[0010] The invention provides a seat cover, to be mounted on a seat while covering the frame of the seat, including: a contact portion contactable with the frame; and a deforming section configured to be collapsed by contacting with the frame, the deforming section being provided at a first surface of the contact portion, the first surface being opposed to the frame.

[0011] The invention also provides a vehicle seat with the above-mentioned seat cover mounted thereon.

[0012] According to the invention, the backlash of the seat cover against the frame can be restricted to thereby reduce hitting noise.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0013] The present invention will become more fully understood from the detailed description given hereinbelow and the accompanying drawing which is given by way of illustration only, and thus is not limitative of the present invention and wherein:

[0014] FIG. **1** is a structure view of an example of a vehicle seat, explaining an embodiment of the invention;

[0015] FIG. **2** is a structure view of a seat cover of the vehicle seat of FIG. **1**;

[0016] FIG. **3** is a structure view of an example of a contact portion of the seat cover of FIG. **2**;

[0017] FIG. **4** is a view, to show the state of the contact portion of FIG. **3** when the seat cover is mounted on the vehicle seat;

[0018] FIG. **5** is a structure view of other example of the contact portion of the seat cover of FIG. **2**;

[0019] FIG. **6** is an enlarged view of a portion surrounded by the broken line circle VI of FIG. **5**;

[0020] FIG. **7** is a view to show the state of the contact portion of FIG. **5** when the seat cover is mounted on the vehicle seat;

[0021] FIG. **8** is a structure view of a modification of the contact portion of FIG. **5**; and

[0022] FIG. **9** is a view to show the state of the contact portion of FIG. **8** when the seat cover is mounted on the vehicle seat.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0023] FIGS. **1** and **2** show the structure of an example of a vehicle seat, explaining an embodiment of the invention.

[0024] A vehicle seat **1** shown in FIG. **1** includes a seat cushion **2** constituting a seat surface portion and a seat back **3** constituting a back rest portion. The seat cushion **2** and seat back **3** respectively include cushion pads formed of foaming material such as urethane form, and frames for supporting the cushion pads, while the cushion pad and frame are properly coated with skin material such vinyl chloride.

[0025] The vehicle seat **1** further includes a seat cover to be mounted on the seat while covering the frame of the seat. In the illustrated example, the seat cover **4** is mounted on the bottom surface of the seat cushion **2** while covering the frame thereof.

[0026] FIG. **2** shows the structure of the seat cover **4**.

[0027] The seat cover **4** is formed of resin and has a panel-like shape so sized as to project at least partially outwardly of the frame **10** of the frame-shaped seat cushion **2**.

[0028] The seat cover **4** includes multiple fixing portions **11** dispersed in the respective portions thereof. The fixing portions **11** are fixed to the frame **10** and the structure member of the seat cushion **2** mounted integrally on the frame **10** by a proper method such as by a fastening method, whereby the seat cover **4** is mounted on the bottom surface portion of the seat cushion **2**.

[0029] The seat cover **4** includes, on its inner surface opposed to the frame **10**, a frame-shaped side wall portion **12** extending along the edge of the seat cover **4** and multiple contact portions **13** situated inside the side wall portion **12** and arranged along the side wall portion **12** at intervals.

[0030] When the seat cover **4** is mounted on the bottom surface of the seat cushion **2**, the seat cover **4** stores the frame **10** inside the side wall portion **12** to cover the frame **10** and brings the multiple contact portions **13** disposed inside the side wall portion **12** into contact with the frame **10**.

[0031] FIG. **3** shows the structure of an example of the contact portion **13**.

[0032] On such surface **13***a* of the contact portion **13** as is opposed to the frame **10**, there is formed a deforming section **14** collapsible due to contact with the frame **10**.

[0033] The contact portion **13**, in the illustrated example, is formed in a rib-like (plate-like) shape and is erected on the inner surface of the seat cover **4**, while the edge surface of the contact portion **13** serves as the opposed surface **13** to the frame **10**.

[0034] The deforming section **14** is constituted of a projecting section formed on the opposed surface **13***a* and, in the illustrated example, it is constituted of a piece-shaped projection extending along the edge of the contact portion **13**.

[0035] The deforming section **14** providing the projecting section on the opposed surface **13***a* is not supported on the lateral side thereof crossing the projecting direction but, in the periphery of the deforming section **14**, there is formed an escape location for material constituting the deforming section **14**. This enables relatively easy deformation and collapse of the deforming section **14** when it is contacted with the frame **10**.

[0036] As the seat cover **4** is mounted onto the cushion **2**, the contact portions **13** are respectively contacted with the frame **10** and, as shown in FIG. **4**, the respective deforming sections **14** of the contact portions **13** are properly collapsed due to contact with the frame **10**, whereby the respective contact portions **13** and frame **10** are closely contacted with each other. This restricts the backlash of the seat cover **4** against the frame **10**, thereby reducing hitting noise caused by collision between the contact portions **13** and frame **10**.

[0037] Here, the contact portion **13** may be formed at least one on the seat cover **4** and the shape of the contact portion **13** is not limited to the rib shape but may be, for example, a boss shape (cylindrical shape). The deforming section **14** is not limited to a special shape so long as it is collapsible due to contact with the frame **10**. For example, it may be a dot-shaped projection, or multiple deforming sections **14** may also be formed in the respective contact portions **13**.

[0038] FIGS. **5** and **6** show the structure of other example of the contact portion **13**.

[0039] In the example of FIGS. **5** and **6**, the opposed surface **13***a* of the contact portion **13** opposed to the frame **10** is formed in a recess shape capable of storing at least part of the frame **10**. In the illustrated example, the outer shape of the section of the frame **10** is substantially circular, while the opposed surface **13***a* is formed in a substantially arc-like shape following the outer shape of the section of the frame **10**.

[0040] The deforming section **14** is formed in the bottom of the recess-shaped contact portion **13** and further, in the bottom of the recess-shaped contact portion **13**, there are formed a pair of recesses **15** along the edge of the contact portion **13** with the deforming section **14** interposed between them. The deforming section **14**, due to interposition between the paired recesses **15**, provides a projecting section relative to the recesses **15**. The deforming section **14** providing the projecting section, as described above, can be collapsed relatively easily due to contact with the frame **10**.

[0041] As the seat cover **4** is mounted onto the seat cushion **2**, the contact portions **13** are relatively contacted with the frame **10** and, as shown in FIG. **7**, the deforming sections **14** of the contact portions **13** are respectively collapsed properly due to contact with the frame **10**, whereby the respective contact portions **13** are closely contacted with the frame **10**. This restricts the backlash of the seat cover **4** against the frame **10**, thereby reducing hitting noise caused by collision between the contact portions **13** and frame **10**.

[0042] In this example, the opposed surface **13***a* is formed in a recess shape and at least part of the frame **10** is stored in a recess formed by the opposed surface **13***a*, thereby enhancing stability of the frame **10** in the contact portions **13**. Further, since material constituting the collapsed deforming sections **14** is escaped into recesses **15** formed adjacent to the deforming sections **14** and the recesses **15** are filled therewith along the outer shape of the frame **10**, stability of the frame **10** in the contact portions **13** can be enhanced further. Thus, backlash of the seat cover **4** against the frame **10** can be restricted further.

[0043] The forming positions of the deforming sections **14** in the opposed surface **13***a* formed in a recess shape are not limited to the bottom. For example, as shown in FIGS. **8** and **9**, the deforming sections **14** may also be formed in the open side end of the recess-shaped opposed surface **13***a*. In this case, the deforming sections **14** may preferably be formed in both of the two ends of the opposed surface **13***a*.

[0044] The above-mentioned structures of the vehicle seat **1** and seat cover **4** are illustrative and proper deformations and changes are possible without departing from the subject matter of the invention.

[0045] The invention has been described with reference to the seat cover **4** to be mounted on the bottom surface of the seat cushion **2**. However, the invention can also apply to, for example, a seat cover to be mounted on the back surface of the seat back **3** and a seat cover to be mounted on the side surface of a seat cushion **2** in the reclining seat.

[0046] As described above, the seat cover disclosed in this specification is a seat cover which is mounted on the seat while covering the frame of the seat, and includes the contact portions contactable with the frame, while, in the respective opposed surfaces of the contact portions, there are formed the deforming sections collapsible due to contact with the frame.

[0047] Also, in the seat cover disclosed in this specification, the deforming sections are projecting sections formed on the opposed surfaces of the contact portions.

[0048] In the seat cover disclosed in this specification, the opposed surfaces of the contact portions are respectively formed in a recess-like shape for storing therein at least part of the frame.

[0049] In the seat cover disclosed in this specification, the contact portions are respectively formed in a plate-like shape, the opposed surfaces of the contact portions are constituted of the edge surfaces of the contact portions and, in the opposed surfaces of the contact portions, there are formed the deforming sections and the paired recesses arranged along the edges of the contact portions with the deforming sections between them.

[0050] The vehicle seat disclosed in this specification mounts the seat cover thereon.

What is claimed is:

1. A seat cover to be mounted on a seat while covering a frame of the seat, comprising:

a contact portion contactable with the frame: and

a deforming section configured to be collapsed by contacting with the frame, the deforming section being provided at a first surface of the contact portion, the first surface being opposed to the frame.

2. The seat cover according to claim **1**, wherein

the deforming section is a projecting section formed in the first surface of the contact portion.

3. The seat cover according to claim **2**, wherein

the first surface of the contact portion is formed in a recess-like shape for storing at least part of the frame.

4. The seat cover according to claim **3**, wherein:

the contact portion is formed in a plate-like shape, the first surface of the contact portion is constituted of the edge surface of the contact portion; and

the first surface of the contact portion includes a pair of recesses arranged along the edge of the contact portion with the deforming section between them.

5. A vehicle seat comprising:

a frame: and

a seat cover including: a contact portion contactable with the frame; and a deforming section configured to be collapsed by contacting with the frame, the deforming section being provided at a first surface of the contact portion, the first surface being opposed to the frame, wherein

the seat cover is mounted on the frame.

* * * * *