

## Patent Protection & Registration

[Patents](#) grant property rights on new and useful inventions, allowing the patent holder to prevent others from using, making, or selling that invention without permission for a limited time. U.S. patents are permitted by the U.S. Constitution and are designed to promote scientific progress and invention. By allowing inventors to profit from licensing or selling their patent rights, inventors can recoup their research and development costs and benefit financially from their inventing efforts. There are three main types of patents utility, plant, and design. Utility and plant patents can last up to 20 years, while design patents can last up to 14 years. When a patent expires, the patented material enters the public domain, making it free to use by anyone without a license. U.S. patents are issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

[U.S. Patent No. 11,137,227](#) entitled “Adjustable Firearm Mount Apparatus and Method of Mounting a Firearm” issued October 5, 2021 to Ronnie Barrett of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Also invented by Ronnie Barrett. Abstract: An adjustable firearm mount apparatus includes a main support. The main support includes a base end and an adjustment end opposite the base end. A longitudinal axis extends along a length from the base end to the adjustment end. At least one first mounting section is configured to interface with a first portion of a firearm. At least one passageway is defined in the main support and extends in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis. An auxiliary support is slidably connected to the main support nearer the adjustment end than the base end. The auxiliary support includes at least one elongate member received in the passageway and at least one second mounting section configured to interface with a second portion of the firearm.

[U.S. Patent No. D932,727](#) entitled “Electric Winch for Cars” issued October 5, 2021 to Tractor Supply Company of Nashville, Tennessee. Invented by Ling Ye, Xiang Feng, and Jianhao Zhu of Jinhua, China; Christian D. Fogg of Columbia, Tennessee and Brian Kennemer of Chapel Hill, Tennessee. Claim: The ornamental design for an electric winch for cars, as shown and described.