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(54) **IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND CLEANING BLADE**

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**
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See application file for complete search history.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An image forming apparatus includes: a rotatable image bearing member; an image forming portion; and a cleaning blade. The cleaning blade has an edge layer which includes an edge portion contacting the image bearing member and which is formed of a first resin material, and has a base layer which is provided superposedly on the edge layer so as to support the edge layer with respect to a thickness direction of the cleaning blade and which is formed of a second resin material different from the first resin material. The cleaning blade includes a hardened portion, at a part of the edge layer including the edge portion, subjected to hardening so as to be harder than another portion of the edge layer. The hardened portion has a length shorter than a length of the edge layer with respect to the thickness direction.

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