THE AMERICAN HOME

May 35¢

SITTING PRETTY ON YOUR PORCH AND PATIO

RARY OF THE
APR 18 1962
WOMAN'S COLL
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH

AT HOME WITH CHARLTON HESTON

DECORATING ON A BUDGET

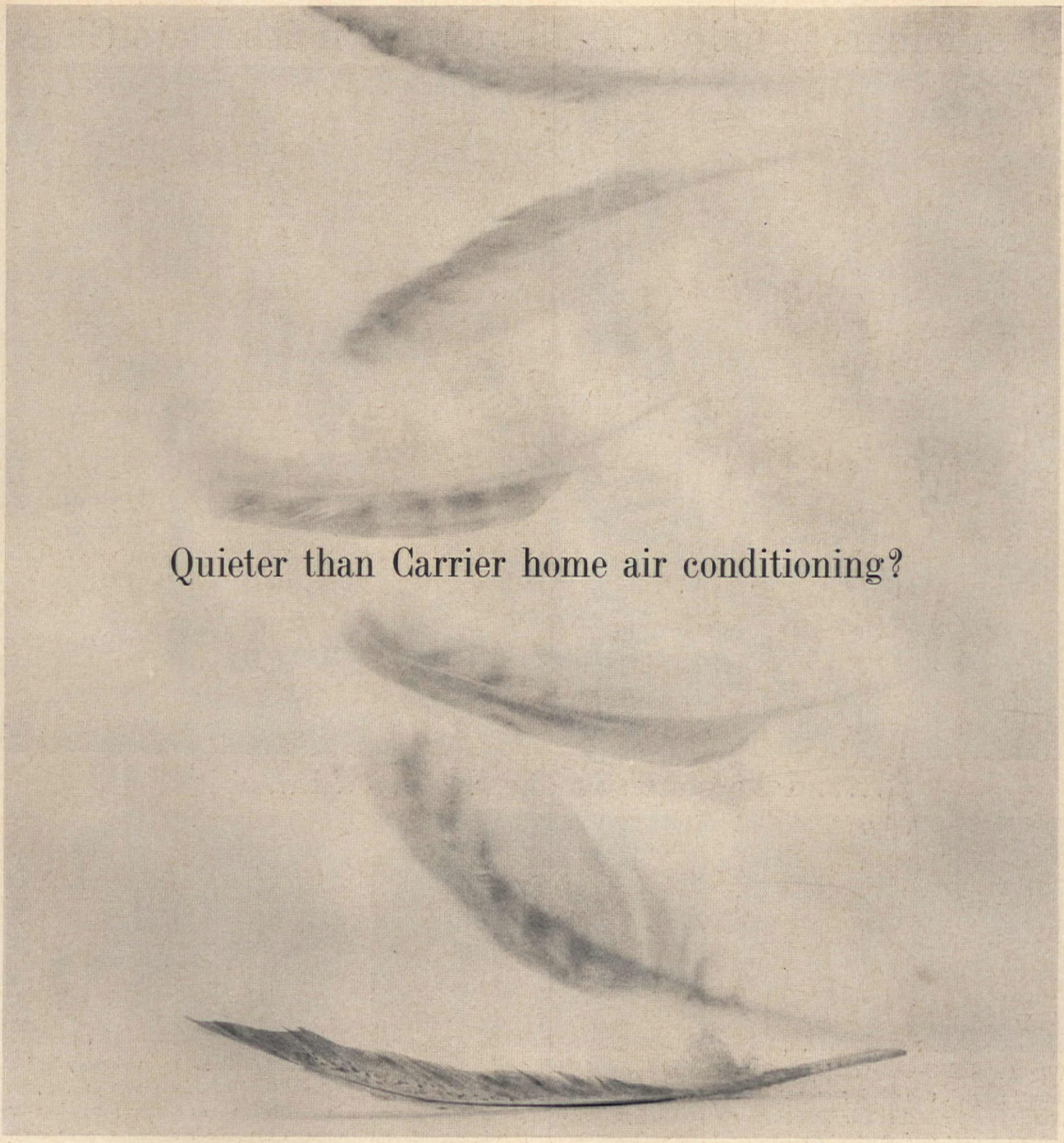
FOR QUICK GARDEN COLOR PLANT PETUNIAS

GET A HOUSE FOR 20% LESS

Style 86549, white, with custom design of 86550, gold, 86547, brown, and 86530, green. Tessera and Corlon® are trademarks of Armstrong Cork

The floor for today's spirited decorating: Tessera Corlon — one of the famous Armstrong VINYL FLOOR

For a free sample of Tessera, write Armstrong, 6205 Pine St., Lancaster, Pa. In Canada, Dept. 52-B, Box 919, Montreal, P.



Quieter than Carrier home air conditioning?

A falling feather certainly is. But the new outdoor condensing unit of a Carrier residential air conditioning system is amazingly quiet. Stand right next to it and you hear only a faint hum. Small wonder home owners call it "neighbor approved."

This new, lower sound level was brought about by (1) employing a new ultra-quiet Carrier compressor, (2) using a blanket of heavy acoustical insulation, (3) installing a low-speed, high-volume fan, and (4) eliminating internal air turbulence with a device that is known to engineers as a venturi ring.

Doing away with air turbulence brings about an important operating saving, too. In the past, up to 8 per cent more electricity was required to deliver the same amount of cooling.

In spite of all this, Carrier Air Conditioning costs no more than many other makes. Your Carrier dealer will gladly give you a cost estimate. He's listed in the Yellow Pages of your telephone directory. Carrier Air Conditioning Company, Syracuse, New York.

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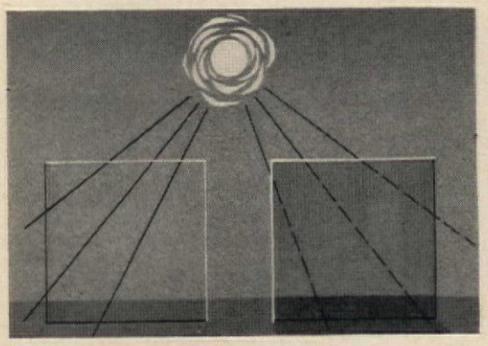
Glass enhances living...even more so if it's Plate Glass

...and there are so many places you'll want it



Why Parallel-O-Grey®? Because it's a neutral grey all through, it shuts out glare without shutting off the view. *Parallel-O-Grey* cuts down the inflow of solar heat, keeping rooms cooler, minimizing air-conditioning costs. Its color reduces visibility from outside in daytime...providing privacy.

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And where else? You will enjoy having genuine *Parallel-O-Plate wherever* you use glass in your home. This quality plate glass not only is superior for sliding glass doors and windows, but it is also best for bathroom mirrors, door mirrors, wall mirrors and sliding mirror doors.

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Whether you buy, build or remodel a home, you'll want the extra quality and satisfaction that come with having the finest—*polished plate glass*. Your builder will put it in for you if you specify it. If he already has used this fine *plate* glass, it's a good clue he believes in quality. And it will make your "Open World" view a pleasure forever.

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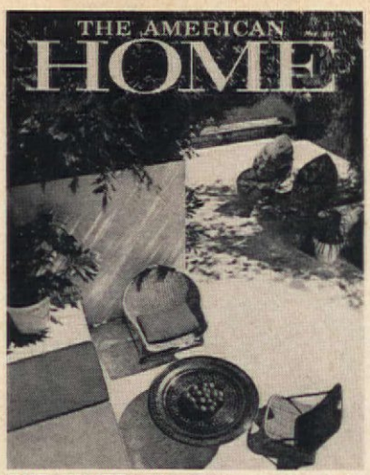

OUR COVER: It's spring and out to the patio we go. Ideas galore for your home-outside-of-home beginning on page 26. Photographer: Lisanti.

MAY 1962/VOL. LXV, NO. 5

THE AMERICAN HOME

A Curtis Publication

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I Lacked Confidence

Girls growing up so often find themselves feeling insecure and embarrassed when they're out in company.

This is usually compounded many times over when it's an embarrassing time of the month.

But you *can* feel your best when you might be feeling your most self-conscious. You can use Tampax.

Tampax® internal sanitary protection doesn't chafe, doesn't irritate, doesn't allow odor to form, doesn't create bulges or telltale outlines, doesn't make you uncomfortable when you're sitting, standing or moving.

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NO PINS
NO PADS
NO ODOR

All of this helps you feel perfectly groomed, perfectly at ease, perfectly sure of yourself.

Remarkable—the difference internal protection can make!

Tampax can be bought in your choice of 3 absorbencies (Regular, Super, Junior) wherever such products are sold. Look for Tampax Vendor in restrooms throughout the United States. ☆*Dress by Rappi*

TAMPAX Incorporated Palmer, Mass.

Touch a snow-white handkerchief to dust catchers like this and see how clean Electric House Heating can

Look how clean flameless electric house heating keeps the modern hom

Already more than 850,000 families in every part of the nation are enjoying the clean comfort of truly modern heating at lower cost than most people believe possible

If dust is a problem in your home, you should know about electric house heating.

In a word, it's clean.

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"Dusting isn't nearly the nuisance it used to be..."

"Even drapes stay clean and new-looking . . ."

"Walls and ceilings keep a fresh-painted look longer than you'd ever think possible . . ."

And there are other comments, too. Eagerly, people volunteer such information as, "There just aren't any cold drafts or hot blasts." "We've never felt so completely comfortable." "It's amazing—there's just no maintenance to pay for or worry about."

Clean, even electric house heating is well worth your looking into. Over and above providing you with comfort and convenience beyond your fondest dreams, it has the practical advantage of enhancing the value of your home. Modern today, it will be just as modern in your children's time.

Give careful thought to electric house heating you're planning to build, buy or modernize, t over electric house heating with your local Elec Utility.

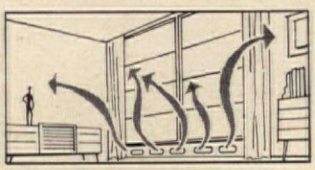
For brief, factual information on basic meth of modern electric house heating, look carefully the diagrams below.

Flameless Electric House Heating is so clean

YOU LIVE BETTER ELECTRICA

Sponsored by Edison Electric Institute

Ceiling cable heat is invisible. Wires less than ⅛" thick are fastened to ceilings before plastering. Each room can have a thermostat.



Baseboard units heat by both radiation and convection. All surfaces are warmed evenly, and control is by individual room thermostat.

Wall panel heaters have heating coils behind a decorative grill. Small fans may be used with this thermostatically controlled unit.

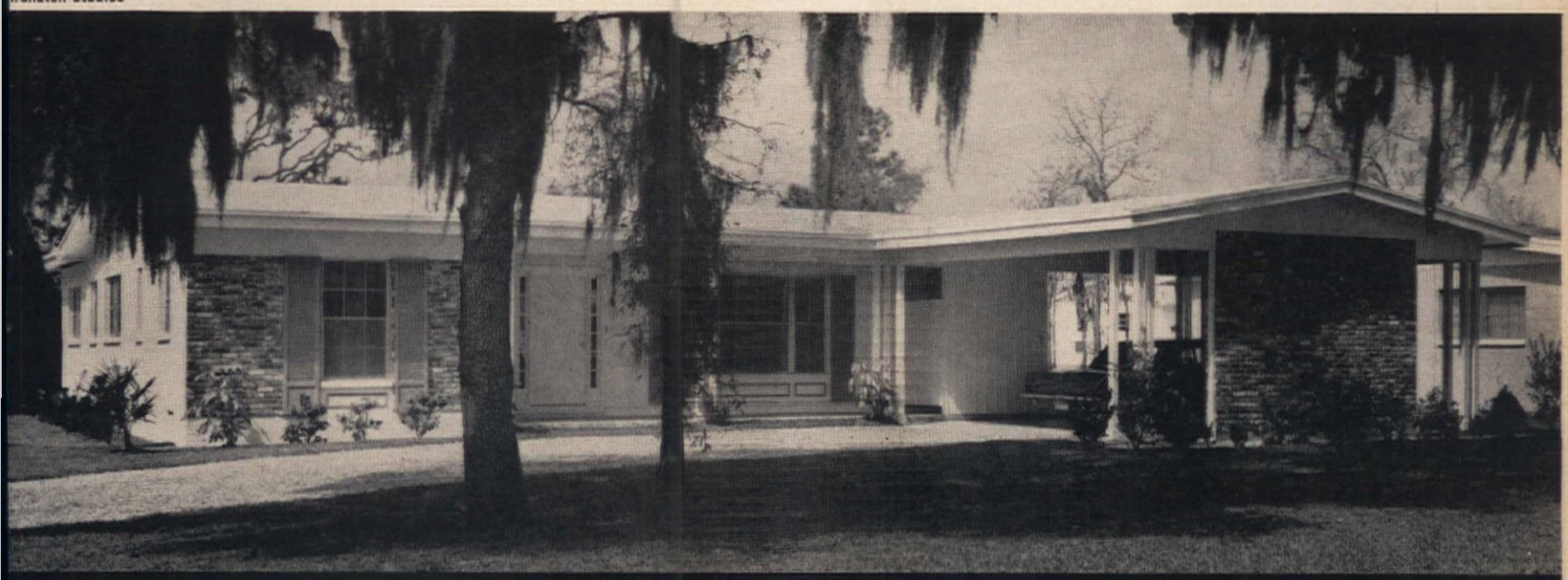
Heat pump heats in winter, cools in summer. It's automatically reversible and maintains any desired year 'round temperature.

Electric furnaces provide com central heating systems which be combined with central air ditioning.

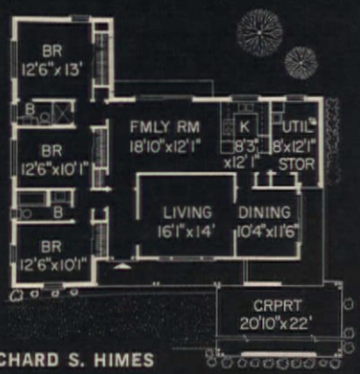
BEST HOMES FOR THE MONEY IN THE SOUTH

These four winners mark the beginning of *The American Home's* sixth "Best Home for the Money" competition. Winners from other regions will be shown in the months to come. Over the past five years, 192 award homes have appeared on these pages. Some were extraordinarily good. Some could have been improved. But all had qualities that set them apart at the time. Yet, in comparing our new crop of winners with those in the past, a significant difference emerges—a marked improvement in exterior design. We see it as the beginning of a trend, and predict that other merchant builders will follow their example.

Kranzten Studios



Freedom for informal living *and enough partitioning to keep peace in the family are the winning essentials in this Tampa home. The house, designed and built by a woman, drew high praise from our judges. The judges were also impressed with the pleasant well-proportioned façade and its moderate colonial touches. The setting for this home is an excellent subdivision, where streets wind through lots shaded by graceful trees. All utilities are in, including city water and sewer. The plan shows above-average storage for a home without a basement. There is even a handy broom closet in the kitchen. And outside is something all children will love—a bike port between the house and carport. Construction throughout is excellent.*



PRICE: $20,500 WITH LAND • LIVING AREA: 1664 SQ. FT. • BUILDER: RAMONA BOLDING, INC. • ARCHITECT: RICHARD S. HIMES

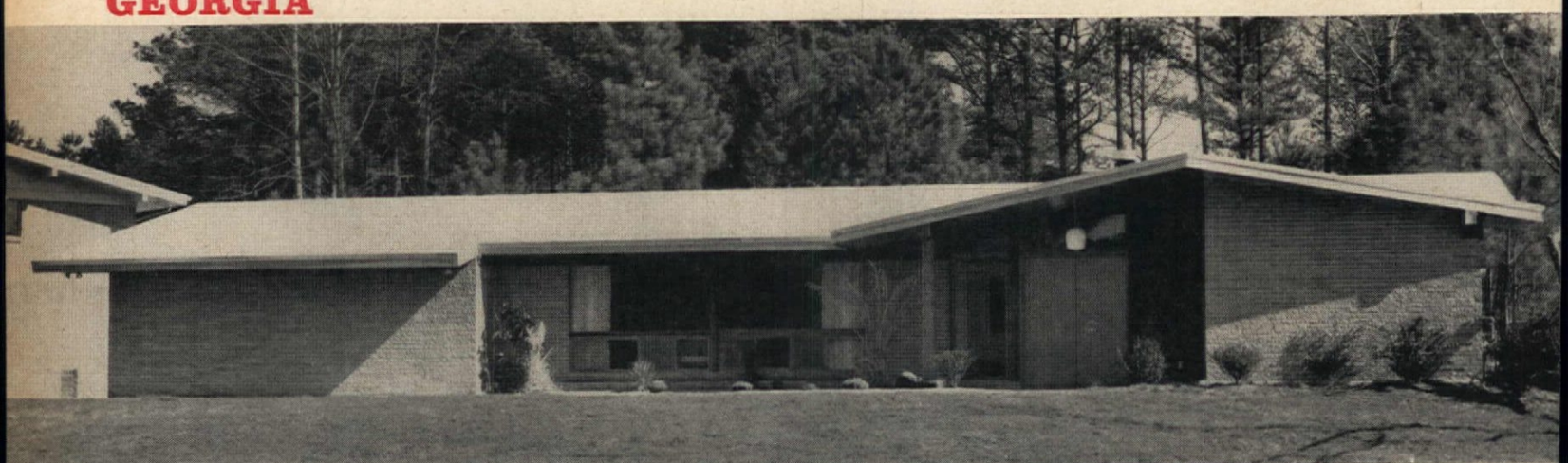
lans by Sigman-Ward, Inc.

FLORIDA

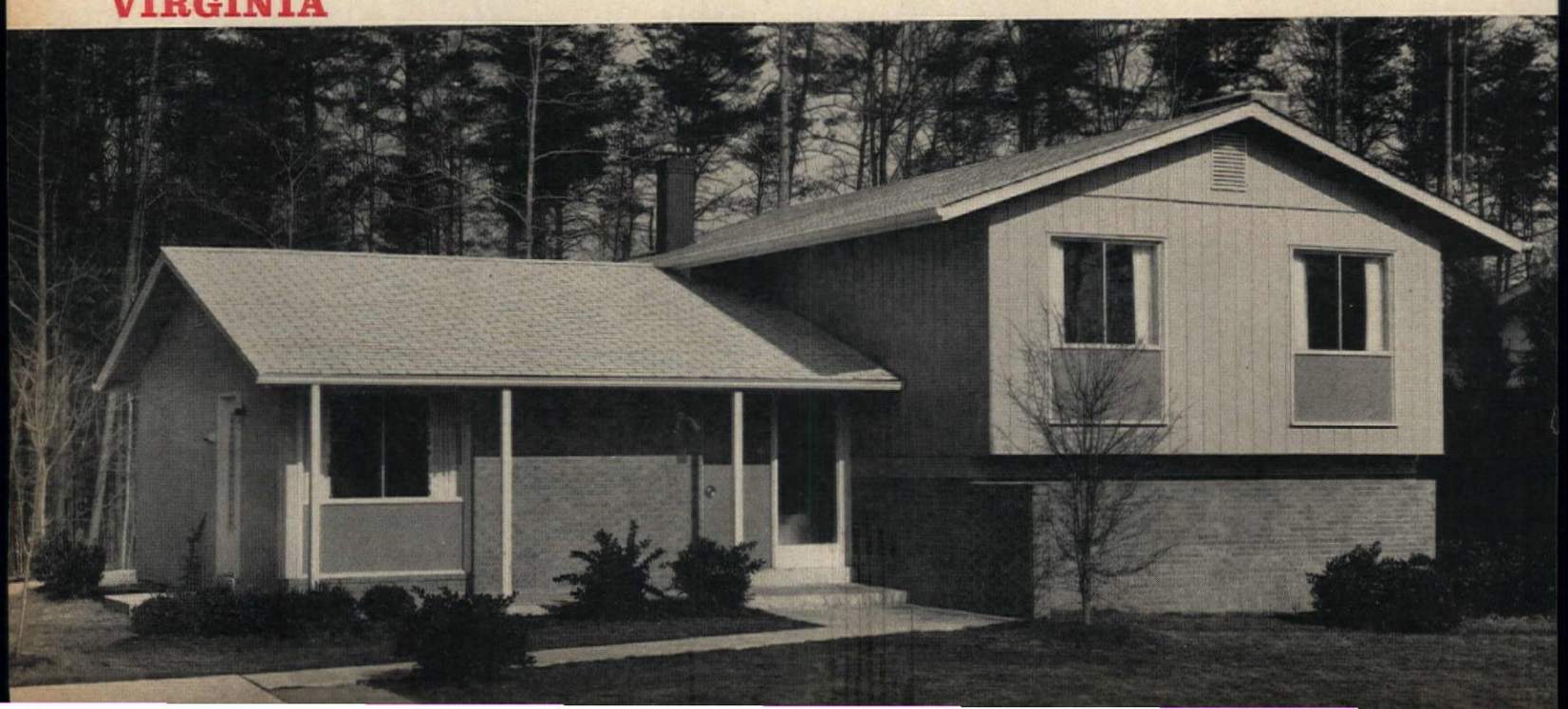
NORTH CAROLINA

Alderman Studios

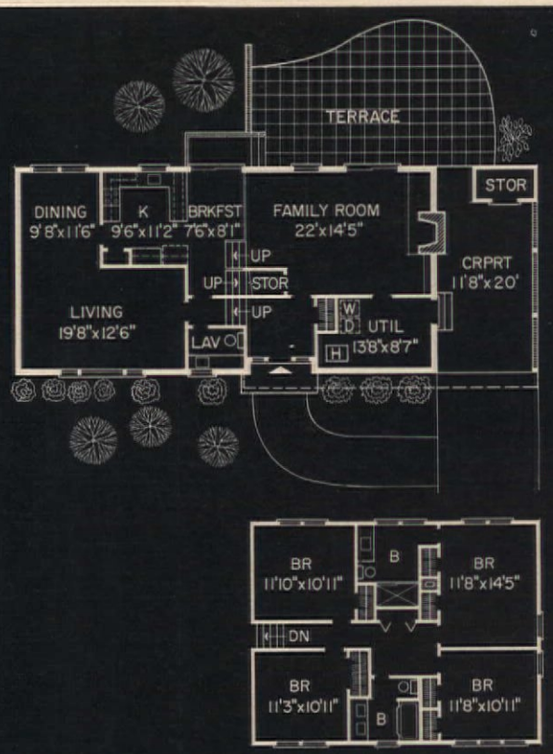
GEORGIA



VIRGINIA

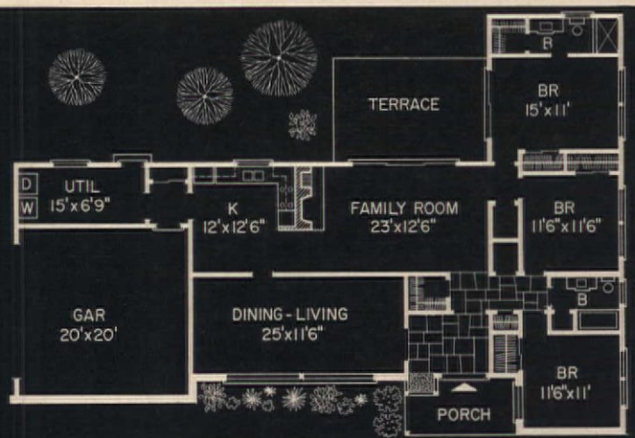


A wealth of living space *for a very sound price makes "value" the key word in describing this fine Raleigh winner. It is located in a well-planned community outside the city. When land is excluded, the $26,750 price comes to nearly $10 per square foot. (Compare this to roughly $15 per square foot for a custom-built house in the same area.) For this price you also get a range, oven, dishwasher, and garbage disposer plus a fireplace and terrace. Now, take a look at the plan. It's one of the best-conceived split-level plans we've seen in a long time. First, it has a foyer with enough room for you to receive guests graciously. Second, it has bathroom facilities on both the middle and upper levels. Third, there is a rear entrance to the kitchen. And, fourth, two sets of stairs lead down to the lower level for maximum convenience. Though the exterior appearance is not the home's strongest point, the brick and horizontal siding blend well, and the windows are standardized. The house is well constructed and well insulated. For example, there's insulation above carport to protect the bedrooms.*



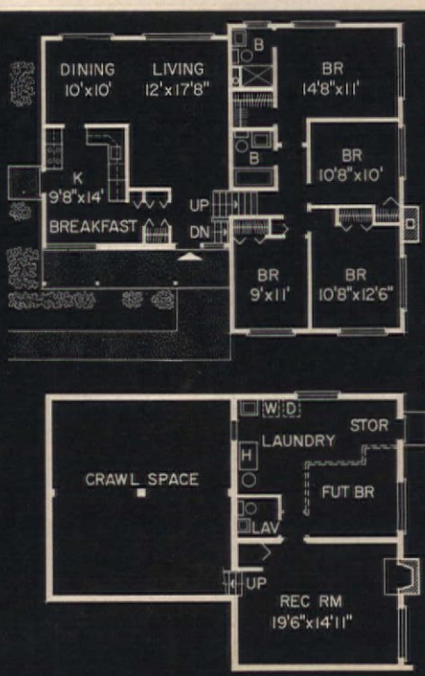
PRICE: $26,750 WITH LAND • LIVING AREA: 2135 SQ. FT. • BUILDER: E. N. RICHARDS & ASSOC. • ARCHITECT: R. B. CAUTHEN

Outstanding design *and a smooth-flowing floor plan tipped the scales in favor of this Decatur home in the Georgia competition. It's an attractive price, too, for the high-cost area surrounding Atlanta. The exterior ties design to function beautifully. Notice how the brick veneer walls to the right and left balance well and integrate perfectly with the entire facade. Yet, both were built for a definite purpose — the left wall to shield the garage; the right wall to provide privacy from the street for a bedroom. Winning features inside include: bedrooms sound-conditioned from each other and the living area by closet walls and a bath and a big foyer with a flagstone floor.*



PRICE: $26,000 WITH LAND • LIVING AREA: 1930 SQ. FT. • BUILDER: ARTISTIC BUILDING CORP. • DESIGNER: HOME BUILDERS PLAN SERVICE

Excellent planning *and the use of standard building materials in this winning house refute the idea that only expensive materials produce good design. Among the materials used are brick, vertical aluminum siding, and aluminum sliding windows with plywood panels below. From almost any view, this Fairfax County winner appears suited to its site — something we can't say for most split-level homes built on flat ground. The floor plan solves one of the split-level's most common faults—getting to the kitchen without walking through half the rooms in the house. This kitchen is easily accessible from front and side doors, as well as the bedroom area. It is also well placed for service to the dining area, the lower-level family room and patio. For privacy, the family room is shielded from the street by a solid wall, and from the neighbors by a wood fence. Added attractions which come with the house at no extra cost, are a refrigerator, range and oven, range hood and fan, garbage disposer, mixing center, and fireplace.*



PRICE: $23,500 WITH LAND • LIVING AREA: 1754 SQ. FT. • BUILDER: YEONAS DEVELOPMENT CORP. • ARCHITECT: JACK C. COHEN, A.I.A.

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YD—Yeonas Development Corp.

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Gilmore Mfg. Co.—RB
Hall-Mack Co.—ER
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General Electric Co.—RB
Lennox Industries Inc.—YD

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Standard Concrete Products—ER
Tampa Sand & Material—RB
Virginia Firebrick Co.—YD

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Cherokee Brick Co.—ER
Virginia Firebrick Co.—YD

CABINETS, KITCHEN
Alderman Co.—RB
Boro Wood Products Co.—ER, YD

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CHIMES
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Dal Tile—RB
Formica Corp.—AB, ER
National Plastic Products Co.—YD
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DOORS, SLIDING GLASS
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NuTone, Inc.—AB, ER, RB

FAN (OR FAN AND HOOD), KITCHEN
Caloric Appliance Corp.—ER
General Electric Co.—AB
Miami Cabinet Div., Philip Carey Mfg.—YD
NuTone, Inc.—RB
Stanthony Corp.—ER

FIXTURES, LIGHTING
Lightolier Inc.—ER
Progress Mfg. Co.—AB, YD

FIXTURES, PLUMBING
American Standard—ER, YD
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Eljer Co.—RB

FLOOR COVERING
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Southern Coating Paint & Chem. Co.—RB

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Southern Coating Paint & Chem. Co.—RB

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Alabama Pipe Co.—RB
Hajoca—YD
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RANGE & OVEN
Caloric Appliance Corp.—ER
General Electric Co.—AB, ER, RB
Hardwick Stove Co.—YD

REFRIGERATOR
Westinghouse Electric Corp.—YD

ROOFING
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Johns-Manville Corp.—YD
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MIAMI	The Carpet Mart
MIAMI	Lotspeich Company
NAPLES	Naples Floor Coverings
POMPANO BEACH	Atlantic Rug Company
PUNTA GORDA	Hessler's, Inc.
SARASOTA	The Rug Mart
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Have you taken up country living? Together with a wonderful new way of life, you may run into new risks to your financial security—risks which may call for a discussion of insurance with your local Hartford Agent.

4 CHILDREN

4 ACRES

Do you have a typical "suburbanite" family? If so, it probably differs in quite a few ways from your city cousins'. Probably you have more children—maybe that's why you moved to the open spaces! Instead of being laid out in frontage feet, your property may be measured in acres. In the garage you probably have not one car but two. And your house itself—more likely than not—is bigger, newer and more expensive than the one which you left behind you back in the city.

It all adds up to financial risks which call for careful insurance planning.

"Breadwinner insurance" keeps your income coming in

Everybody needs income. The suburban family needs it even more than most. More children to feed, clothe and send to college. More mortgage to pay off. More property tax to pay. More expenses to be reckoned with all around.

With so many obligations to meet, it's good to know that there are several types of insurance specifically designed to assure your family an adequate income in case the family breadwinner should fall ill or suffer injury and be unable to earn a living...or if he should die.

For example, there's Hartford Health Insurance. If an *accident* makes it impossible for you to work, this insurance can pay you an income of $100 to $600 per month, depending on the policy benefits you select. These payments may be set up to continue for as long as you are disabled—even for a lifetime. And in case of accidental death, Health Insurance can pay your family from $1,000 to $100,000.

If you are laid up by *illness* rather than an accident, Health Insurance can likewise pay you a steady income for as long as five years.

Then there's Hartford Life Insurance. It may be planned to provide a large lump sum of money in case of death—or continuing monthly income for the family—or a combination of lump sum *plus* continuing income. And there are many other possible arrangements with which to build your protection program.

Which Life Insurance plan best fits the needs of your family? That's where the friendly professional counsel of your local Hartford Group Agent can be helpful. He'll be glad to discuss your special requirements with you, with no obligation on your part.

Low-cost mortgage payment insurance available

Extended interruption of your family income due to sickness, injury or death of the breadwinner could create a serious problem in meeting mortgage payments. For this situation The Hartford offers a special form of protection which is called Mortgage Life Insurance, and Mortgage Disability Insurance.

Mortgage Life Insurance will provide the cash to pay off the remaining balance on your mortgage if your family head should die, thus leaving your home free and clear. Because the balance due on your mortgage is steadily reduced by your regular mortgage payments, the amount of insurance needed also declines steadily. Accordingly, Hartford Mortgage Life Insurance costs less than other forms of life insurance.

Mortgage Disability Insurance steps in when sickness or accidental injury cuts off the breadwinner's earnings. It will give you the means to take care of mortgage payments while he is disabled, for as long as five years if necessary.

If you are without these kinds of protection it will be well worthwhile to ask your local Hartford Agent about them.

Hurting others can hurt you

Let's look at your situation from another angle—your *liability exposures*. In nontechnical terms, liability means your legal responsibility for injury to someone else or damage to someone else's property. And it means that you may have to pay heavily to make

2 HOUSE 1 CARS

good for causing injury or damage of that kind.

Suppose, for example, a visitor trips over a garden tool on your patio. Or you accidentally hit someone with a golf ball. Or a handyman doing a little work on your property injures himself. If a court were to rule you liable, such accidents could cost you heavily. It's easy to see how country living – with free-running children and pets, lots of deliveries, and frequent use of hired help, can create liability claims against you.

Relief for you from these financial risks is the job of Hartford Liability Insurance. It can pay on your behalf any damage claims awarded against you, from a few hundred dollars for minor property damage to scores of thousands of dollars for a serious injury to some other family's breadwinner. People who have the Hartford Homeowner's policy already have such protection. It's the type of insurance which everyone should be sure to carry.

Safeguarding your home and the things in it

Speaking of the Homeowner's policy, it's interesting to note how well it fits the needs of the suburban family. Besides the Liability Insurance described above, it combines in one "package" the principal coverages needed by every homeowner.

To begin with, it insures your dwelling and other buildings against fire, lightning, windstorm, hail, explosion, smoke damage and various other perils. If you have a mortgage on your home, the lending institution requires you to have this insurance to protect its interest in the house. It's important to keep in mind that in the event of major damage, the lender comes first when insurance dollars are paid. The economical cost of the Homeowner's policy makes it easier for you to carry enough insurance to pay off not only the balance on your mortgage, but to cover your own interest in the house as well.

Along with insurance for the buildings, the Homeowner's also provides insurance for the *contents* – appliances, furnishings, clothing and other personal possessions. If there are items of special worth – silver, jewelry, furs and the like – insurance on them can be increased to cover their full value by having your Hartford Agent list them in a special endorsement to the Homeowner's "package" policy.

Hartford Homeowner's Insurance also includes theft coverage. Sometimes Theft Insurance is thought to be of less importance out in the country. Yet country living often means unlocked doors and windows. And every country home seems to have readily-removable outdoor furniture, tools and other easily-stolen items, all of which can be covered by the Hartford Homeowner's policy. Your Homeowner's protection also extends to theft losses from places away from home –for example, your locked car, a rented cottage or the home of a friend.

Insurance savings possible on your second car

For country dwellers a second car is not a luxury; it's a necessity. Of course, owning a second car involves additional insurance cost. However, since the second car is unlikely to be driven as much as your first, it may qualify for a premium reduction. And if the second car is a compact, you may be entitled to an additional discount. Your Hartford Agent can tell you about it.

Key to your planning—the Hartford Agent

Developing a protection program that is right for you requires the services of a knowledgeable professional – The Hartford Group Agent. Because The Hartford Group offers insurance of every kind, including home, car, life and health – he can analyze your requirements overall, and balance your dollars to fit them best. Supplementing his capabilities are The Hartford's coast-to-coast facilities—its 260 claim offices, and 34,000 Agents – ready to serve you anywhere.

The Hartford Agent in your community is probably listed in the yellow pages of the telephone book under Hartford Insurance. Or look for him wherever you see the well-known Hartford Stag trademark displayed.

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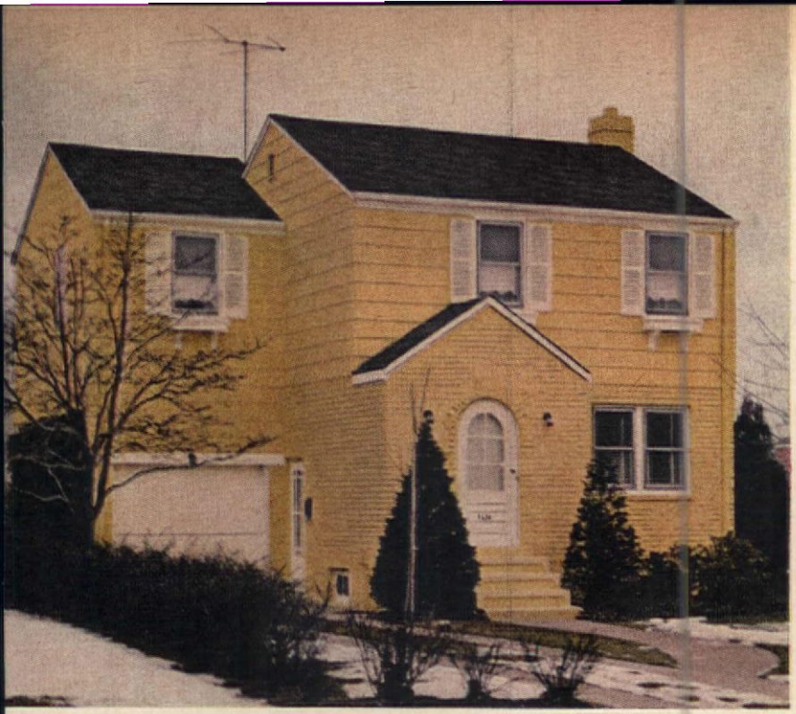
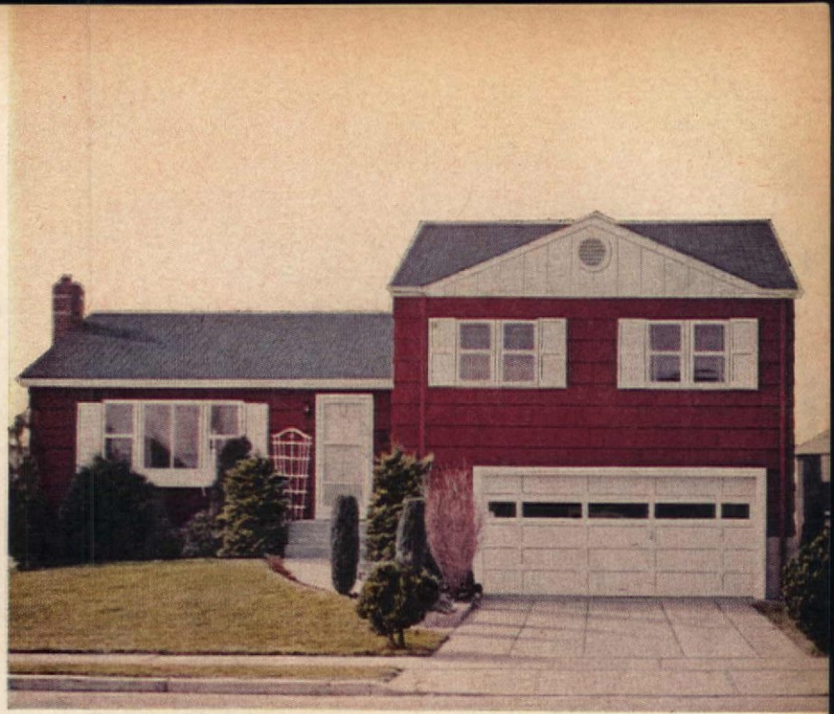
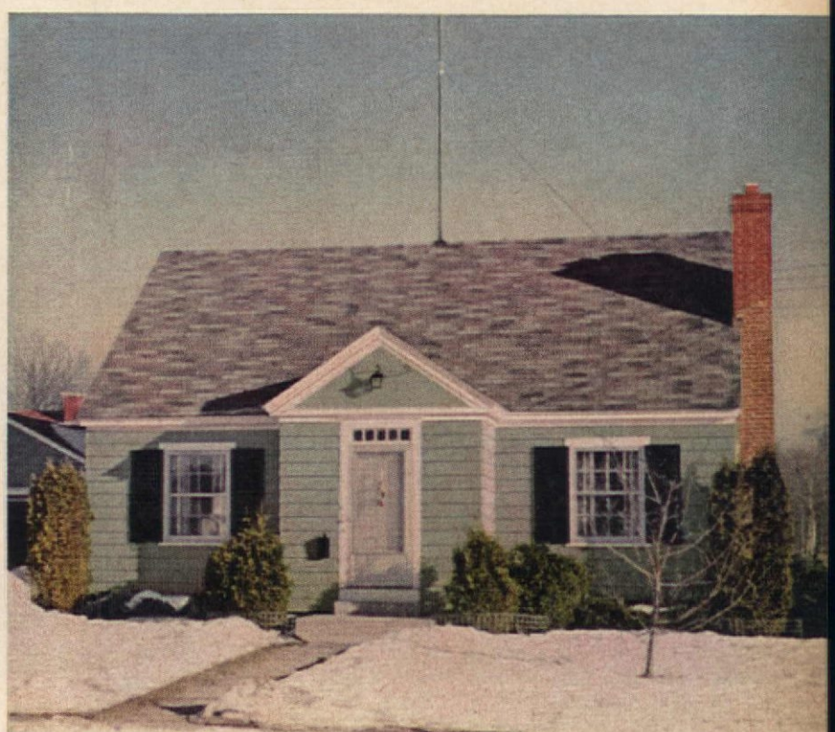
With our kit, you don't need old-fashioned skill and patience, for the design is worked in cross-stitch. You won't believe how much it looks like the original appliqué until you see it! The luxurious quilting is simpler to do than you might imagine, but you can have it done professionally.

Our Whig Rose Quilt Kit, #PQK-29, comes in three sizes: single, double, and king size. Each kit contains a stamped top of silky white percale, embroidery floss, and complete instructions. You may also order the backing and the ruffled bolsters. Bolsters come in single and double sizes (use two singles for king-size bed).

SEE ORDER FORM ON PAGE 24







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LATEX HOUSE PAINT

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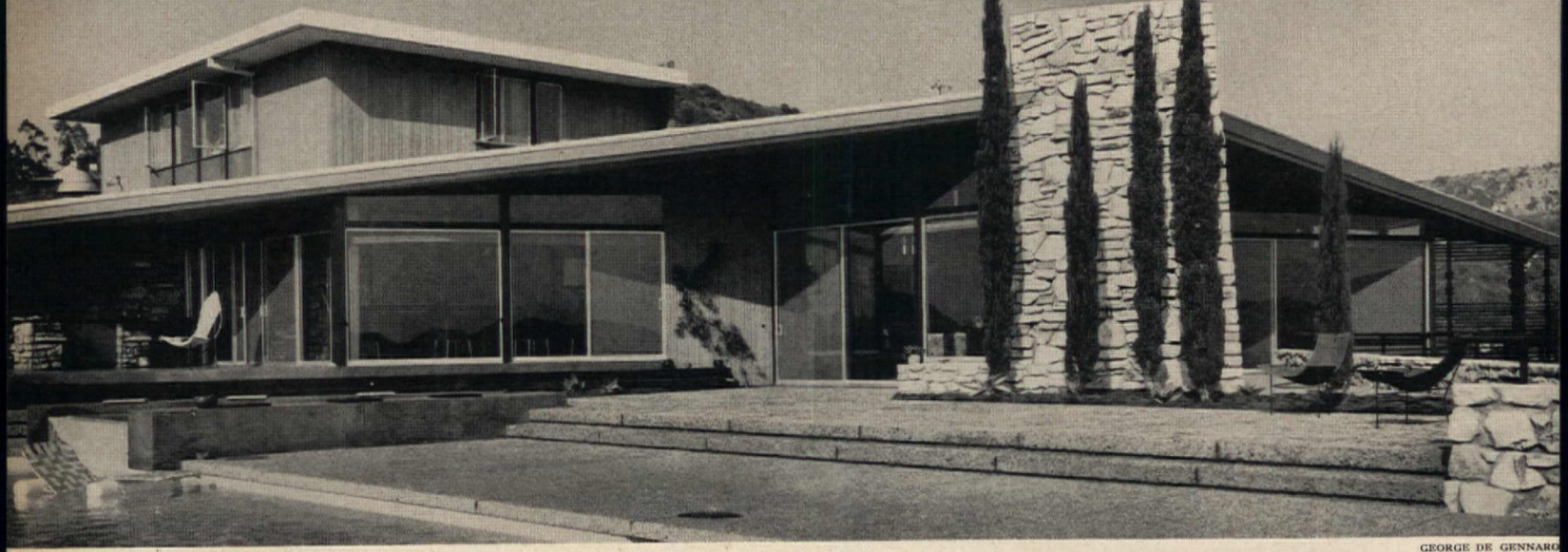
AT HOME WITH CHARLTON HESTON

JIM LISTON

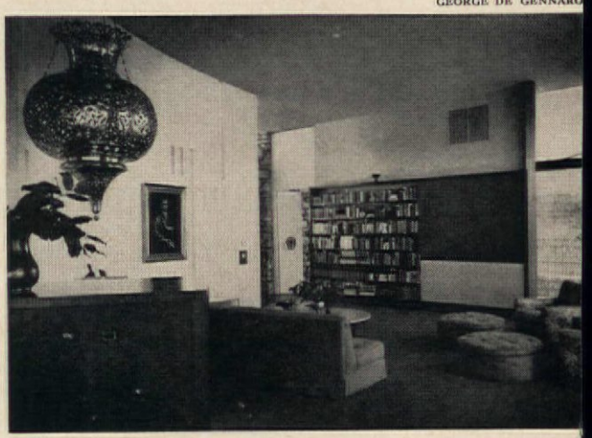
"Think things through to the last detail," says the star of superspectacles who built a contemporary home. One of its best features—a cobbled court with fountain and pool—was a last-minute idea he got while he was working in Rome.

***Antique oriental screen** depicting wild horses on a field of gold fills wall of the dining area.*

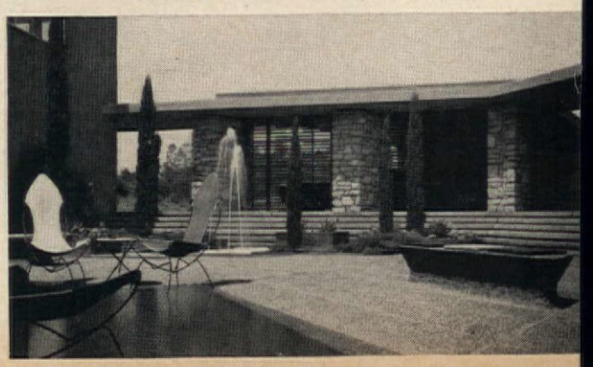


GEORGE DE GENNARO

***Glass walls of living room** (above right), dining area (center), and kitchen (left), open house to a magnificent view of mountains and canyons. Children's rooms are on upper floor. Stone wall at right guards steep drop-off. House is V-shaped, with the vertex at fireplace.*



***View of living room** from dining area, which is three steps above it. Large brass urn was once a prop in a Douglas Fairbanks film. Wall at left separates room from glass-walled foyer. At left of bookshelves is door to study with large doorknob a memento of Ben-Hur's palace.*



***Large court at entrance** was originally planned as landscaped patio. Fascinated by fountains of Rome, Heston worked out details of pools and paving in sketches and correspondence with his architect.*

Charlton Heston lives at the crest of Coldwater Canyon Drive. Coldwater climbs from Sunset Boulevard in Beverly Hills past some of the most beautifully landscaped homes in California. As the grade gets steeper, the canyon gets rougher, and the road winds past home sites scraped from canyon walls and houses daringly cantilevered above them. When you reach Heston's place, you're up in hills that are still inhabited by coyotes and other small wild animals.

Heston's home can be seen from the road, but it's out on a narrow ridge at the end of a long driveway that skirts a steep drop-off and a tennis court. The drive leads to a motor shelter that adjoins a large, open courtyard formed by two wings of the house. The court is bounded on the open end by a long flat-roofed arcade supported by five massive stone piers. A three-jet fountain leaps high and cascades into a series of shallow pools in the black cobbled floor. This dramatic approach to the glass-walled contemporary home is as Roman as a scene from "Ben-Hur" shot at the villa of Quintus Arrius.

I was met by Lydia Heston who said that Chuck would be home in a few minutes. She led the way around a curved wall that separates the entrance foyer from the living room. The living room is large and triangular with sweeping views to the west and northwest through walls of glass that join at a massive stone fireplace.

Brunette, brown-eyed, and soft-spoken, Lydia explained that the blue lake in the distance was the Franklin Canyon Reservoir. Its pine-studded shores reminded Chuck of his home in Michigan.

"Chuck was born in Evanston, Illinois," she said, "but he spent a lot of time in Michigan. We have a cottage and 1400 acres of timber and like to vacation there whenever we can. I'm from Two Rivers, Wisconsin, and met Chuck when we were majoring in speech at Northwestern University. The course was Fundamentals of Theater Practice and he sat behind me and occasionally pulled my hair. His friends used to say, 'The Hestons had a skeleton in their closet and let him out.' Chuck—Charlton was his mother's maiden name—was six feet two and weighed only 165 pounds. He was 18 and one day when he played the lead in a class play he was severely panned by student critics. After class I felt sorry for him and told him I thought he had done rather well. He scowled and said something about not trying to kid him. 'I was just trying to be nice,' I said, but if that's the way you feel ——' 'Come on,' he said, 'I'll buy you a cup of coffee.' When it came time to pay for the coffee, he had to borrow the 20 cents from me. We were married two years later and Chuck went into the Air Force as a radio operator in the Aleutians. (continued)

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"When he got out we went to New York and lived in a two-room, cold-water flat in Hell's Kitchen. The rent was $30 a month and we managed to eat on $6 a week while Chuck hunted acting jobs and I modeled clothes in the garment district. Our combined income at that time was about $3000."

She recalled her husband's rise on Broadway, his success in television, and his eventual discovery by Hollywood. But she did not mention her own success in summer stock and on Broadway.

"While Chuck made such pictures as 'The Greatest Show on Earth' and 'The Ten Commandments,' we lived in an apartment. But Fraser was growing and needed to be outdoors more. This is the first home we have owned and it has been a real dream house for us. Here's Chuck now."

Heston, followed by Fraser, followed by his German Shepherd puppy, Drago, filed in.

"Fraser has traveled with us wherever I've made a picture," said Heston. "But now that he has started school, it's time for him to develop roots here." The Hestons recently adopted a baby girl—Holly Ann—who is 8 months old.

"Before we decided to build," he said, "we thought we might buy a big old house and remodel it. Now we're glad we didn't. We wanted all kinds of modern appliances and that would have required an extensive rewiring job. This house has eight miles of wiring.

"My father, who's in the real-estate business, started looking for lots for us. One day he came home all excited and told us that he had found the perfect spot in Coldwater Canyon. I said it would cost a fortune. But Dad had shopped carefully. The owners were asking a reasonable price. In fact, I got these three acres for little more than people are paying for 100-foot lots farther down the canyon. Of course, there was a good deal of grading to be done on this site and it all had to be in accordance with the regulations in this area.

"The builder was very careful to get the proper angle of slope on this hillside. But someone apparently reported that there wasn't enough slope. An inspector came roaring out here and started shouting about regulations. While he was talking, his car started rolling and disappeared over the edge of the cliff into the canyon. It was a complete wreck. The inspector looked at it lying there and said sheepishly, 'Well, I guess the slope here is adequate.'"

The maid brought a tray of sandwiches and Heston sat on a hassock at the free-form coffee table which is topped with travertine.

"We didn't go out and buy a carload of furniture to fill this place," he said, helping himself to a sandwich. "That doesn't make sense. We've furnished it with the basic things—sofa, coffee table a few chairs. But somewhere in our travels we'll see the chair or the table that's just right for a particular spot in the house and we'll buy it because it means something to us. I'd rather leave a wall blank than fill it with meaningless stuff.

"There, for example," he said pointing to the portrait of an Italian nobleman hanging alone on the curved wall. "Lydia and I bought that from a good friend in Rome. It's 18th century. We like it and associate it with the man who was gracious enough to part with it. Eventually (continued on page 60)

***Fireplace lends massiveness** and support to glass-walled living room, which has wide view of Santa Monica mountains. Note how stone bench and black terrazzo floor continue beyond the glass to heighten outdoor illusio*

WHY THIS IS AMERICA'S FAVORITE WALL PAINT

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HY STEINBERG

BEFORE YOU PAINT THE OUTSIDE OF YOUR HOUSE...

stir in the facts from this timely report on exterior paints

Today may be the day you decide to paint your house. Spring is here. You're in the yard more often. You take a look at your house and say, "Well, old house, you've survived a rough winter, but you sure could use a coat of paint."

The next step is to decide the color and kind of paint you want to use. Color is a matter of personal taste, but selecting the best type of paint is more difficult. Maybe you'd be lucky enough to find a salesclerk in a paint store who could steer you to just the right paint for your house. But chances are you would be overwhelmed by the staggering array of paint products. There are paints with lead, titanium, zinc, with oil base or alkyd base. There are latexes, pigments, extenders, and tints. So, before you decide, we're going to clear up the confusion. First of all, let's get the ingredients straight. Then we can talk about the difference between paints, the cost of painting, and examine the new latex paints.

A can of paint contains many ingredients. For the home owner, the most important are the pigments and vehicle since they identify the paint and generally determine where and how the paint should be used. **The pigment** (a finely ground powder) gives paint its hiding power and color. The type of pigment used affects the lasting quality of the paint and increases the paint's resistance to discoloration and mold growths. Titanium dioxide, zinc oxide, and lead are the basic white pigments used and coloring of the paint is accomplished by the addition of small amounts of metallic oxides.

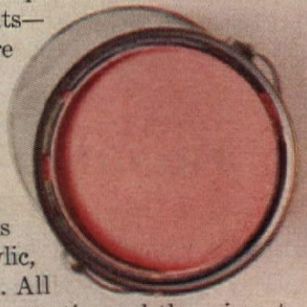
There are also many types of extender pigments. These are used primarily to control mildew and dirt collection and to help prevent fading of tinted paints. Unfortunately, disreputable paint companies reduce the cost (and quality) of paint by substituting a large amount of cheap extender pigment for the more expensive titanium dioxide pigment.

The vehicle (also called resin or base) is a liquid that binds the pigment and permits it to be spread upon a surface in a continuous thin film. These vehicles are linseed oil, alkyd, and latex. The linseed oil and alkyd paints are solvent-thinned, while latexes are thinned and cleaned up with water.

Linseed oil is an extract of the flax seed. Paint formulated with this natural resin will last from three to six years, depending on the pigments used. All linseed-oil paints have a high gloss and care must be used in application to avoid lap marks. They generally cost less than other paints.

Alkyd is a synthetic resin formed by combining an alcohol with an acid. It produces paints which last from four to six years. The odor is less objectionable than oil paints. Colors are deeper and come in either flat or gloss finish. Alkyds have better hiding power and are more resistant to mildew and discoloration. However they are poor in blister resistance. They are more expensive than oils.

The mixture of latex resins with water forms an emulsion which looks like the milky juice of the rubber tree. This is one reason these paints are often called rubber or rubber-base paints—which they are not. There are different latex resins and mixtures of resins which bear the names of familiar plastics; basically they are either a vinyl system or acrylic system. Vinyl systems are usually cheaper than acrylic, but they are not as durable. All latex paints exhibit similar properties and there is not enough history of use to warrant further distinctions among them. They can be applied easily, dry in half an hour, fade less than other paints, and have no objectionable odors. They require the use of a primer* when applied over oil or alkyd paints. They are the most expensive of all paints.



(continued on page 22)

**Primers are zinc-free paints used as a first coat. Always use the primer recommended by the manufacturer of the top coat.*

IRWIN HOROWITZ

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and when you can't spare a minute...

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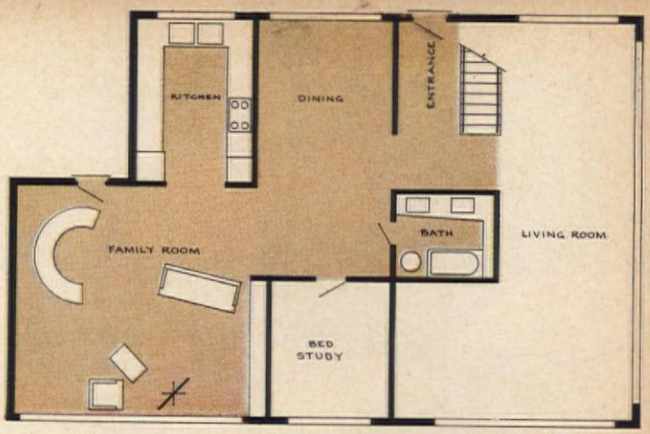
Now decorator vinyl in new "Spacemaker" width

...seamless as broadloom!



For that "open" family-living area

The shaded part of this floor plan shows how the family room, kitchen, bath and hall flow together for a spacious, open look. A continuous floor of Congoleum-Nairn's decorator vinyl in the new "Spacemaker" width makes the whole area seem bigger, brighter—it flows seamless as broadloom from room to room in one uninterrupted pattern.

This is the kind of beautiful, deep-design inlaid vinyl you used to find only in tile sizes. Now this most-wanted of all decorator floorings comes *by-the-yard*—in the wonderful new "Spacemaker" width! It's the result of a major technological breakthrough from Congoleum-Nairn!

Now—with Congoleum-Nairn's new "Spacemaker" width, the vinyl floors in your house can be as seamless as broadloom. What a difference this wall-to-wall, room-to-room vinyl makes! It seems to "push back the walls" . . . has a way of making whole areas seem airier, brighter, bigger.

Exceptionally beautiful and luxurious, Saracen is the very newest pattern in new "Spacemaker" width inlaid vinyl. Its gold-flecked, clear-through design flows continuously in six-foot widths. New Saracen is the easy-care answer for kitchen, family rooms, bath, halls—singly or adjoining. Sensibly priced, too. The cost of an average 9′ x 12′ area is only about $105 *installed!*

For FREE sample of Saracen, write: Congoleum-Nairn, Dept. 30, Belgrove Drive, Kearny, N. J.

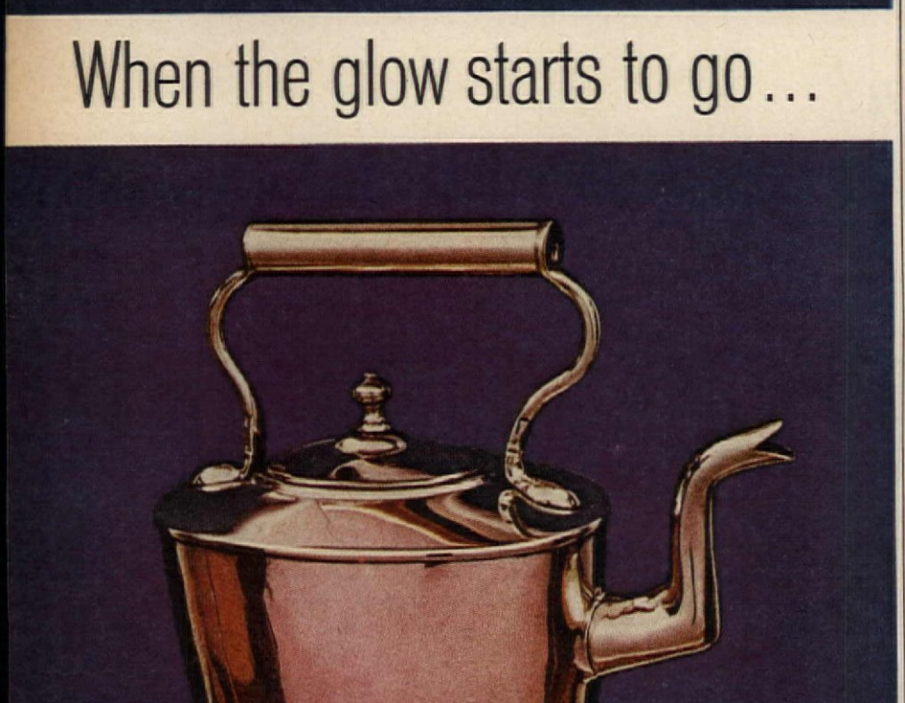
Congoleum-Nairn
FINE FLOORS

New deep-design beauty in vinyl

Saracen is a new concept in luxury inlaid vinyl—gold-flecked, deep-design beauty that glistens clear through! The size of the jacks tells you the perfect size of the inlaid chips. Note, too, the smooth way the vinyl extends up the wall. That's what flooring men call "coving"—an extra that more than pays for itself in easier cleaning!

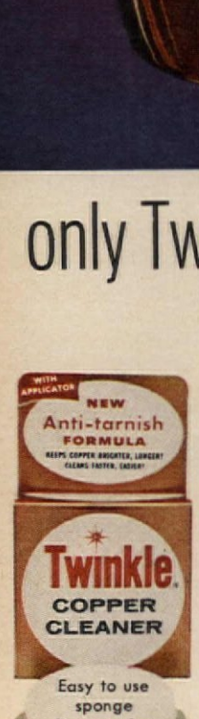
Saracen®—*newest vinyl floor by Congoleum-Nairn*

When the glow starts to go...



only Twinkle Copper Cleaner

DOES ALL THIS!



Polishes as it cleans. Twinkle® wipes clean, polishes bright in one easy application.

Wipes tarnish away chemically. Twinkle cleans by chemical action, not elbow grease. Even the toughest-to-remove stain smooths away quickly.

A gentle-to-your-hands paste. Economical, too. Creamy, smooth Twinkle is so much nicer to your hands than harsh powder-type cleansers.

Shields copper from tarnish. Now Twinkle leaves an invisible shield on copper, so you don't have to clean it as often between uses.

The Drackett Company, makers of Twinkle Cream for Silver. Available in Canada.

Exterior Paints

(continued from page 18)

THE CASE FOR LATEX

Latex is the newest paint on the market and its virtues are often exaggerated in advertising claims. The truth is that although latexes are an improved breed of paint with many advantages, they are still far from being perfect. The most touted claims relate to blistering and peeling. The latexes are more resistant to blistering than oils or alkyds, but they are not blister-proof as some of the manufacturers claim.

Blistering generally occurs where a vapor barrier has been omitted in the wall construction and the excessive moisture from bathing, cooking, drying, dish-washing, and other steam-producing activities is forced through the wall. This moisture accumulates between the surface of the wood and the back of the paint film, breaking the bond between the two. The latex paints, unlike the oils or alkyds, permit moisture vapor to pass through them and thereby reduce the likelihood of blistering. However, the only sure cures for blistering are to install vapor barriers where needed, channel excess moisture outdoors through vents and windows, and ventilate behind the siding by means of wedges or breather tubes.

A second claim made for the latexes concerns their durability. Evidence to date suggests that a good latex paint will last as long or longer than an oil or alkyd paint. However, claims to the effect that a latex paint will definitely last twice as long as any of the oil or alkyd paints have yet to be proven.

The latex paints are more costly than other paints and they require three coats (one primer and two topcoats). They should be applied only to bare wood or over an existing paint surface which has no history of blistering. The primer for the latex paint is usually an oil paint (specially formulated for moisture vapor permeability) which requires thinning and cleaning up with solvents and their attendant mess. In effect, you are going through almost as much trouble and expense in applying the primer for the latex as you would go through if you were merely repainting with a single coat of conventional oil paint. Even in comparison with two coats of oil paint, the three-coat latex system is more costly since the latex costs more to start with and covers fewer square feet per gallon. But, in view of its superior properties and the possibility that longer life may off-set its extra cost, latex paint is worth considering when you repaint.

On bare wood, a three-coat oil system (one primer and two topcoats) is normally used. So the scales tip and the latex system becomes superior in all respects. Thus, if you are removing all the old paint down to the bare wood, or painting a new home for the first time, latex paint is the best choice. Once your house has been painted with latex, repainting is simplified since a primer is no longer required. In addition, latex paints fade very little and it is possible to touch up or repaint sections of the house as needed over a period of time—something that you can't do with the oils or alkyds.

Many additional advantages such as ease of application and cleanup, rapid drying, and resistance to staining have been responsible for the enormous popularity of latex paints. The near future holds the prospect of modified and improved latexes that will require no priming and perhaps latexes that more closely resemble the "perfect paint" will be developed. In any event, it is almost certain that within ten years the majority of houses will be painted with latex.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BRAND

An unfortunate circumstance of the paint industry is that products of outrageously poor quality can compete so freely with top-quality paint and capture a large percentage of the millions of dollars spent each year on house paint. The home owner who ends up buying a paint that will ultimately cost him five times its price in repainting expenses plus a great deal of aggravation is usually a victim of high-pressure salesmanship, superb merchandising techniques, or misleading advertisements. The latex paint he decides to buy may not contain more than a spoonful of latex, or the titanium oil paint he buys may contain only a small percentage of titanium and a large percentage of some cheap extender pigment.

The truth of the matter is that while many states require a list of ingredients on the label, there is no control over what the paint manufacturer calls his paint, how he makes it, or how he advertises it.

Particularly distressing is the fact that not even an expert can tell the difference between good and bad paint by examining it in the can, or even by applying it to the wall. There is no way of judging the quality of paint by consistency, smell, or appearance

Since the average home owner is not a paint chemist, the list of contents on the label (if there is one) is of practically no help in evaluating the paint. The only sure way of getting quality paint is to depend on the reputation of the manufacturer.

For a reputable paint manufacturer, the creation of a paint starts with the development of a new formula in the laboratory. Thousands of carefully controlled laboratory tests may then follow. If the paint makes the grade in the laboratory, it is then painted on outdoor test-fence panels and subjected to several years of weathering in various climates. Finally, the paint is tested by applying it to houses located in various parts of the country. If the paint proves its worth after four or five years on these houses, it is then offered for sale. The time that elapses between the creation of a new paint and its introduction as a product is at least five years and often as much as ten years. There is just no substitute for the long and slow job of painting test panels, then houses, and observing the results of natural weathering throughout the years. The latex paints introduced in 1959, for instance, were painted on the test-fence panels of many manufacturers over ten years ago.

Not all paint companies operate in the same fashion. There are thousands of paint manufacturers and they range from the back-alley shop with no more equipment than a bathtub and a stick for stirring paint to a manufacturer with millions of dollars invested in paint-testing and paint-making equipment. Some companies take short cuts in testing a paint, while others eliminate the test procedures altogether. It is tempting, to say the least, for a manufacturer to forgo the huge expense of a test program and let the buyer assume the risk of using his paint. What is even worse is that these same paint companies will usually cut costs further by using cheap, inferior ingredients. The resulting products may wear off, discolor, fade, or peel off in a year or two instead of lasting four or five years.

Until the paint industry adopts minimum standards and a logical system of labeling, the home owner's only measure of quality is the integrity of the manufacturer. Under these circumstances, there is no way to save money on paint purchases and the best rules to follow when buying paint are:

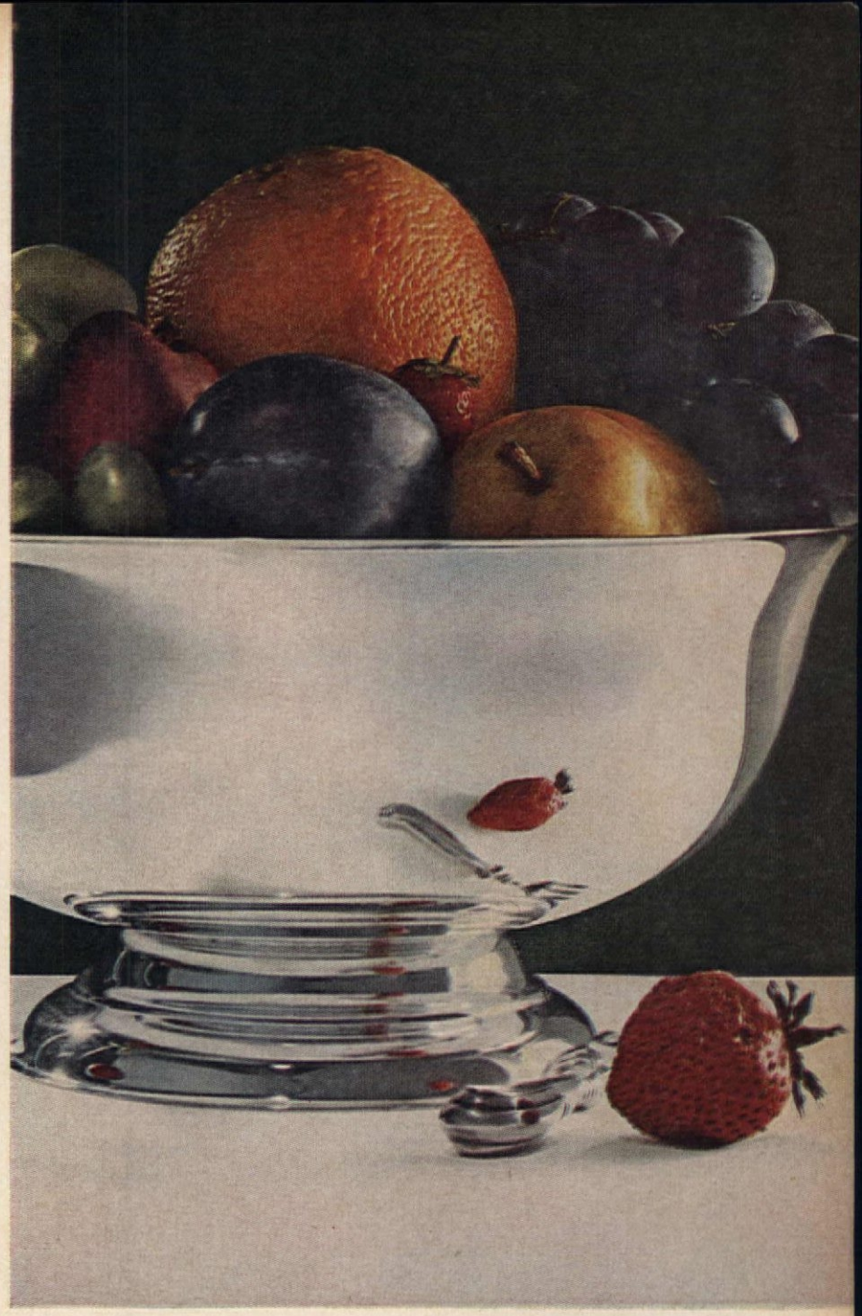
1. Look for a brand name you recognize as belonging to a company that cannot afford to jeopardize its reputation.
2. Buy the highest priced paint you can afford, because you generally get what you pay for.
3. Don't place faith in manufacturers that guarantee no blistering, no peeling, or lifetime durability.
4. Avoid two-for-the-price-of-one sales and exorbitant mark-down offers, regardless of the claims made by the salesman.

THE COST OF PAINTING

The cost of materials is generally 15 to 20 percent of the total contract price of a paint job. If you do the painting yourself, you can obviously save a substantial sum of money. However, unless you are particularly handy and intend to follow the manufacturer's directions implicitly, your efforts and savings can easily be wiped out by the need to call in a contractor to correct your mistakes. If the decision to do-it-yourself is based solely on a limited budget, consider the possibility of obtaining an FHA home improvement loan. The FHA loans, known as Title I loans, are made in amounts up to $3500 and can be repaid in monthly installments over a period of up to five years. If you are planning a major remodeling project and also want to paint your house at the same

COMPARISON OF PAINT SYSTEMS

	OIL	ALKYD	LATEX
Ease of brushing	Fair	Poor	Good
Gloss level	High	Flat to high	Flat
Initial drying	4–6 hrs.	2–4 hrs.	½ hr.
Ready for recoating	Overnight	Overnight	2 hrs.
Resistance to blistering	Fair	Poor	Good
Resistance to cedar staining	Fair	Fair	Poor
Resistance to erosion	Good	Good	Excellent
Color retention	Fair	Fair	Good
Adhesion to chalky surfaces	Good	Good	Fair
Hiding power	Good	Good	Fair
Ease of cleaning up	Poor	Poor	Good
Resistance to yellowing	Fair	Good	Good
Resistance to alkali burning	Poor	Poor	Good
Resistance to copper staining	Poor	Good	Good



New Twinkle Cream for Silver

SMOOTHS TARNISH AWAY IN SECONDS!

Twinkle® Cream for Silver works on a revolutionary new principle. Dissolves tarnish by special chemical action... not by elbow grease! Twinkle is *gentle to silver* because it's made of finer-than-face-powder particles. *Gentle to hands* because the handy sponge applicator takes the mess out of silver cleaning. No more blackening of hands and nails. Twinkle leaves an invisible shield on silver that slows tarnish to a crawl. *When the GLOW Starts to GO*, new Twinkle Cream for Silver smooths tarnish away in seconds!

SILVER OFFER! 8-inch Paul Revere Bowl by Oneida Ltd. Silversmiths for only $6.00 including tax. (Value $11.00) Heavy silverplate. Send name, address and front panel from Twinkle Cream for Silver box with check or money order to Box 1560-B, Clinton, Iowa. (Offer good in U.S.A. only while supply lasts.)

The Drackett Company, makers of Twinkle Copper Cleaner. Available in Canada.

time, you might consider the newest FHA program—Section 203(k). Loans made under this program are available in amounts from $2500 to $10,000, repayable over periods up to 20 years. You can apply to any FHA-approved lending institution for these loans.

When you select a contractor for the job, be guided by his reputation as well as his price. Since labor costs are likely to be the same for all contractors in a given area, the only way one firm can underbid another by a sizable amount is to skimp on the quality of workmanship or use an inferior grade of paint. A cheap contractor seldom bothers to prepare the surface properly for painting and sometimes even resorts to excessive dilution of the paint he applies. By the time you realize that he has not done an adequate job, he may already be out of business or operating under a new name. Sometimes an honest contractor will offer you a lower price based on the use of cheap paint in order to meet competition. The home owner who accepts this arrangement as money saved is likely to be a sorry chap when he's faced with another paint job in two or three years instead of four or five. Cheaper paint might reduce the total cost by only five or ten per cent. Since the true cost of painting is the cost per square foot for materials and labor *per year of life*, a ten per cent saving on cheap paint may actually increase your painting cost by 100 per cent or more due to its shorter life.

Before you sign a contract for painting, investigate the firm. A few telephone calls can sometimes save you from a mistake that could cost hundreds of dollars. Call your local Better Business Bureau and Chamber of Commerce to check for any history of complaints against the firm. Ask the contractor for the names of people in your neighborhood who have done business with him and then check with these people. If the contractor balks at giving you the names of previous customers, for one reason or another, then show him the door. A reputable contractor will be more than anxious to supply this type of information since a successful job is his best advertisement.

Specify that a top-grade, brand-name paint be used on your house and have him state in the contract exactly what work will be done. If the house is dirty, it should be scrubbed with a non-abrasive cleaner or strong detergent like tri-sodium phosphate. All protruding nail heads should be countersunk and the holes filled with non-drying putty. If there are areas of paint failure, such as blistering, peeling, or cracking, the old paint should be removed down to the bare wood. Finally, have him show proof that he carries liability insurance and workmen's compensation, otherwise you may be held liable if the painter falls off the scaffolding or any other accident occurs on your premises.

If you've selected a reliable contractor and a reliable paint, you can be reasonably certain that your house will not have to be painted again for at least four or five years. When that time arrives, you may actually be able to buy the "perfect paint"—at least we hope so! THE END

SPRED SATIN...
the one wall paint
you're likely to see anywhere

As in this traditional living room, your walls are ready for pictures—and company compliments—just 20 minutes after you paint with Spred Satin. No brush or roller marks. Touch your brush to a missed spot. Paint with windows closed, clean up with water!

Sold by dealers throughout the United States and Canada

Glidden QUALITY PRODUCTS
THE GLIDDEN COMPANY
CLEVELAND 14, OHIO
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WHIG ROSE QUILT ORDER FORM

(pictured in color on page 12)

The kits listed below have been made expressly for The American Home Magazine by Paragon Needlecraft and can be ordered by mail from The American Home Magazine. They are also available in art needlework departments of leading department stores.

Fill out coupon, enclosing personal check or money order (no stamps, please). Kindly allow three weeks for handling and mailing. (New York City residents please add 3% sales tax.)

THE AMERICAN HOME MAGAZINE
Dept. PEK, Forest Hills 75, New York

PQK-29 WHIG ROSE QUILT KIT

	Single Bed Size Finished 98L x 68"W	Double Bed Size Finished 98L x 84"W	King Bed Size Finished 98L x 100"W
PQK-29/T Stamped Top	☐ $5.99	☐ $7.99	☐ $8.99
PQK-29/B Quilt Back	☐ 4.99	☐ 5.99	☐ 7.49
PQK-29/F Embroidery Floss	☐ 4.50	☐ 5.59	☐ 6.69

PQK-30 BOLSTER KIT

PQK-30 Bolster	☐ 3.50	☐ 3.99	☐ 7.00 (Use two single bolsters)

Please Print Name

Print Address

City *Zone* *State*

Enough 12" x 12" ceiling panels for an average 10' x 14' room for as little as $28. Enough 9" x 9" floor tiles: $35.

Imagination hits the ceiling!

(and how about that floor!)

See what a striking ceiling you can have with the new Johns-Manville ceiling panels created by interior designer Michael Greer. Shown above—in combination with Cloud White—is the exotic Mandarin Gold design, compatible with any room decor. Easy to install. Low-cost. Washable. The floor was created with J-M Terraflex vinyl-asbestos tile . . . featuring Muscovy White in combination with Thrush Brown. Lastingly beautiful and easy to clean.

You can see the whole new J-M collection of acoustical ceilings —and the floor tiles that complement them—at your J-M Dealer now. Mail coupon for brochures and name of nearest dealer.

JOHNS-MANVILLE
CEILINGS AND FLOORS

SEND COUPON FOR TWO IDEA-FILLED BROCHURES

"IMAGINATION HITS THE CEILING" . . . packed with full-color illustrations of original rooms by noted designers . . . plus many practical decorating suggestions.

"FLOOR DESIGN" . . . 47 unique and original floor designs you can create with J-M Terraflex. There's one for any room or area.

(Enclose 25¢ in coin for postage and handling)

Address Johns-Manville Sales Corp., Dept. AH-562, Box 439, New York 10, New York. In Canada: Port Credit, Ontario.

Name_____

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City_____

County_____ State_____

"THIS IS WHERE WE REALLY LIVE"

We take you on a tour of the great American summer "living room" — an around-the-country peek at what's new in porches and patios. We've eight pages of building and decorating tips on how to make your "home-outside-of-home" a wonderful place to entertain, and an even more charming place to really live!

INFORMATION: JUNE D. EDWARDS PHOTOGRAPHER: LISANTI

■ Wherever our editors go, it's the same story. We're shown the living room, dining room, bedrooms, kitchen, and then—proudly and fondly—the porch or patio where the family "really lives." It isn't always fancy or spacious or decorated to the hilt, but it always has an atmosphere all its own. More informal, more fun, more relaxing—and what a spot to entertain. Whether it's a sunny all-year patio or a summer-only porch, we say no home should be without one!

Porches and patios come in as many sizes and shapes as people. They come with a house, or as an afterthought. They're wide open or cozily enclosed—and a hundred variations in between. They're separate little Shangri-Las, or so closely related to another room in the house you can't tell where one begins and the other leaves off. There are patios off living rooms, dining rooms, family rooms, porches—even patios off patios (sometimes the original patio gets so elegant with screens, sliding glass, and broadloom, it becomes a room, and you need a new patio for sunbathing and barbecuing).

Here are ideas for your porch and patio—ideas on furnishings, accessories, landscaping, lighting, unusual uses of materials, new ways to make your casual living more rewarding. And if your present home is unporched and patioless, how about building one? (See page 68.)

Adjoining porch and patio *in Miami, Florida, provide indoor-outdoor pleasures for Dr. and Mrs. Richard Simpson and their two small children. Extending inner wall of adobe brick and concrete shields patio without covering it. Bright pillows and airy furniture add unity to both areas.*

"THIS IS WHERE WE REALLY LIVE"

Picnics on the porch *are fun for everyone in the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Hendrich of Coral Gables, Florida. This delightful addition to their house is perfect for informal entertaining. It's a step-saving, rustic-flavored spot for family dining with two young children. It's a gay, intimate setting for friendly hospitality and small parties. The comfortable, cushioned chairs have sleek rod-iron legs and handsome rounded oak backs. The base of the gleaming counter is sturdy redwood; the top is walnut laminated plastic.*

The "kitchen" on this unusual porch is completely equipped—with range, refrigerator, and two stainless steel sinks. The grill at stage-center has storage drawers below and a pull-down ventilator hood above to eliminate smoke. The screened jalousie windows provide both ventilation and protection against sudden rain. Kitchen area is actually lower than the porch to allow host and hostess to turn a steak while chatting at eye level with guests at the counter.

ARCHITECT: ROBERT LITTLE, A.I.A. INFORMATION: JUNE D. EDWARDS PHOTOGRAPHER: LISANTI

BUILDER: CLAUSEN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY INFORMATION: JESSIE WALKER PHOTOGRAPHER: KRANZTEN STUDIOS

"We love our big back yard, *so when we added our family room, it just seemed natural to build the terrace, too," says Mrs. Whitlow Danby of Winnetka, Illinois. By bold use of fixed and sliding glass doors, the architects, Stanton and Rockwell, truly tied the family room, terrace, and back yard together. The Danbys chose bluestone to pave their terrace. The bluestone-topped, concrete-block wall, closing in the terrace, makes the terrace even more a part of the room. Interior is finished in walnut paneling (not shown).*

"THIS IS WHERE WE REALLY LIVE"

Patio with a plan *is this lovely open-air "living room" that's sunny in the morning, shady in the quiet afternoon, and romantically spotlighted at night. When Mr. and Mrs. Russell W. Steger added a family room (behind sliding glass doors) to their charming Wilmette, Illinois, home, they enlarged the existing patio so that their outdoor living space would be doubled during the summer months. It's ideal for dining on warm evenings since a door (not shown) located behind the portable barbecue opens directly into the kitchen. Spotlights under the eaves light the area at night.*

INFORMATION: JESSIE WALKER PHOTOGRAPHER: KRANZTEN STUDIOS

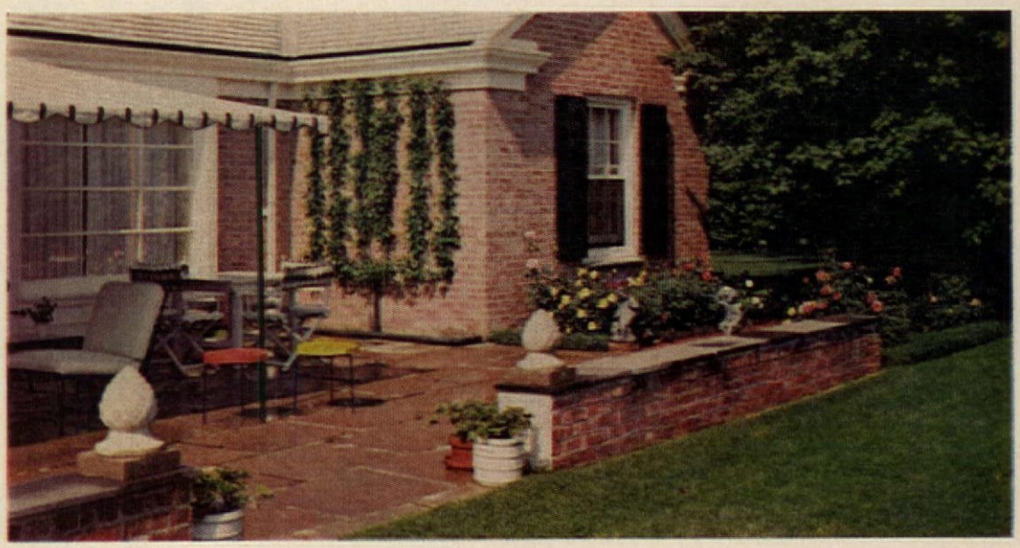
Poolside patio *in Miami, Florida, is an inviting place to relax between dips. The entire pool area is screened in for undisturbed comfort while swimming or enjoying an informal meal. The sliding glass doors off patio lead to the living room.*

ARCHITECT: RALPH ANDERSON DESIGNER: MARSHALL TODD, N.S.I.D. PHOTOGRAPHER: LISANTI

PHOTOGRAPHER: WARREN REYNOLDS

Secluded patio *is nestled against the ancient brick wall of an old New Orleans house. Wide louvered doors make the terrace an integral part of the charmingly decorated home of Mrs. W. Raymond Trelford. This "little house on Dauphin Street" is where Audubon drew many of his famous American birds.*

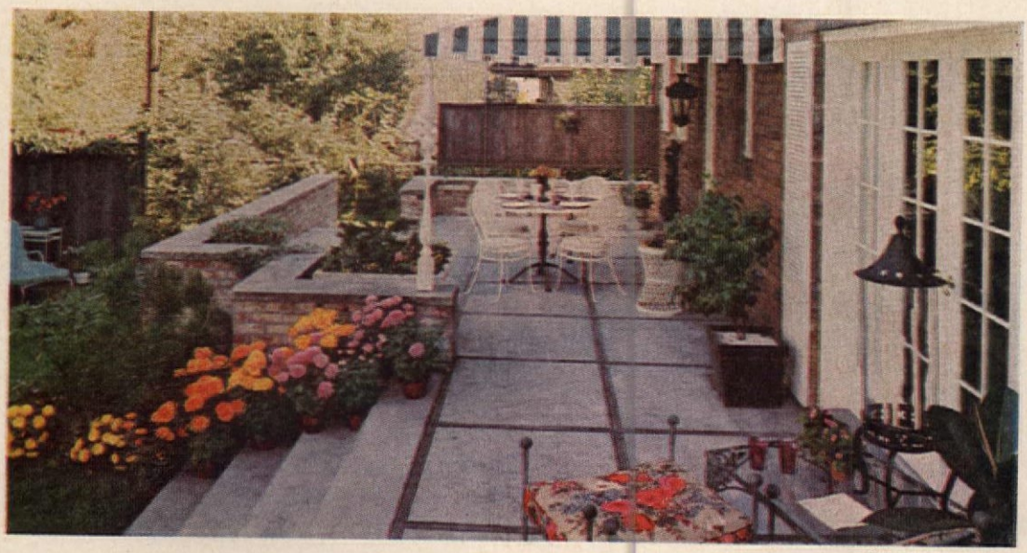
"THIS IS WHERE WE REALLY LIVE"



You'd have a choice *of bright sunshine or canopied shade on a terrace like one at right—actually an extension of the house. Large paved area, bordered with a low brick wall, also provides a delightful transition from the living room to the garden. At right it adjoins a small, intimate planting of roses, edged with germander (Teucrium chamaedrys), and in the foreground it opens out onto a large lawn. An espaliered pear tree decorates the house wall—and never fails to intrigue visitors—and geraniums in pots lend spots of interest.*

That glassed-in room you see *was once a screened porch and, at the time, the terrace was only a dream. The Walter E. Buchroeder, Jr., family of Highland Park, Illinois, bought their house in 1948. They loved the back yard and almost immediately set to work turning the screened porch into a glassed-in sun porch. Next step: addition of heating and air conditioning to provide year-round comfort. After that? What could be more logical than a handsome stone terrace to make summer entertaining an indoor-outdoor affair? The yew hedge atop the stone retaining wall is a clever touch that strengthens the bond between house and land. View below gives you an idea of why the Buchroeders enjoy spending time in sun room.*

ARCHITECT: EDWARD L. BURCH, A.I.A. INFORMATION: JESSIE WALKER PHOTOGRAPHER: KRANZTEN STUDIOS



CHARLES R. PEARSON

If you can imagine it, *this handsomely designed terrace was once a short, ordinary, and rather unattractive back stoop. Yet, Dr. and Mrs. William Warmington of Seattle, Washington, saw the potential and called on landscape architects, Beardsley & Brauner, to turn it into the picture you see here. The French doors (once a picture window) lead to the living room, and the table setting under the awning is right next to the kitchen. The redwood dividers give added interest to the concrete porch surface. Note mums in pots.*

Shopping Information, page 63

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VIRGINIA T. HABEEB

MAKE CUTTING SHEAR PLEASURE!

Think how many times a day you have something to snip or clip or slit or dissever—a plump chicken for frying, a magazine recipe, a ribbon for Susie's hair, a bothersome hangnail. You'd be lost without scissors and shears! (Incidentally, do you know the difference? Scissors are usually six inches or less, with ring handles. Shears have longer blades and, usually, contoured handles for more comfort and better leverage.) Both come in many shapes and sizes.

You can cut dozens of household tasks in half if you have the particular pair of cutters designed for the job! For instance, did you know there are scissors to snip off the top of your morning boiled egg? And adjustable scissors for precision-perfect buttonholes? Do your guests have to tear off their grapes, or do you provide elegant shears? Do you prick your fingers when you cut the roses? Try flower-holding shears. Here are 14 common and uncommon scissors and shears that would make a shining addition to your equipment closet—and an unusual gift for a friend who has everything—except enough scissors.

1. Stationer's (paper) shears. 2. Kitchen-utility shears. 3. Pinking shears with ring handles for right or left hand. 4. General household shears. 5. Buttonhole scissors. 6. Cuticle scissors. 7. Poultry shears. 8. Egg scissors. 9. Sewing scissors. 10. Barber's shears. 11. Grape shears. 12. Flower-holding shears. 13. Lobster shears. 14. Fisherman's shears. For more shapes and sizes, and advice on cutting, turn to page 58.

Some months ago, The American Home published a report on shell houses. The drawback to these houses, as we pointed out, is that they are so incomplete, it takes most families many months to finish them. And some are never finished because families become discouraged or run out of money. Any savings they had hoped to achieve were eaten up in payments for the house plus rent for their present living quarters.

Now there is an improved version of the shell called a "Livable but Unfinished House." We feel this almost-complete house is a good answer to the housing problems of many families.

Not long ago, a young couple moved into a house worth $18,000. But it cost them only $14,000. They were luckier than many families whose housing needs exceed their budgets. What they discovered is a relatively new type of home—known as the "Livable but Unfinished House." By finishing the house themselves, they saved about 20 per cent of the total cost. Some people who buy this type of house save 10 per cent; others 30 per cent or more. The amount saved depends on how much of the finishing work the owner and his family are able to handle themselves.

These houses are not limited to the low-cost house market. The houses range in size up to about 2000 square feet of living area. Some are comparable in quality and size to finished new houses selling for as much as $30,000. A survey of buyers shows that 48 per cent had incomes of $130 a week and over.

The Livable House differs from the shell house in that it is completed to the point where a family can live in it fairly comfortably while they do the finishing jobs themselves. This means that the wiring, plumbing, and heating, plus some safety and privacy features are installed. A point to remember is that in many localities you need a certificate of occupancy in order to move into your house. The amount of completed work required for this certificate differs from place to place. Check with your building inspector before you decide how much of the work you plan to do yourself.

The finishing work to be done on a Livable House varies from builder to builder, and buyer to buyer. In general, you can choose what will be left undone; the builder completes everything else. In addition to an unpainted interior and no lawn or landscaping outside, a typical Livable House will have unfinished floors, little or no interior trim (baseboard and other molding), no closet shelves or doors, few or no kitchen wall cabinets, and no walk or driveway. The materials for some of these items may

be supplied but you are required to install them.

Because water supply and sewage disposal are variable factors depending on the availability of city water and sewer and the soil condition and size of the lot, these items cannot be included in the basic house price. The contractor usually will supply the owner with the names of reliable subcontractors who will install the necessary conveniences (well, septic system) or connect the plumbing to existing city systems. The owner deals directly with the subcontractor.

HOW REALISTIC ARE THESE SAVINGS?

Achieving savings of 20 per cent on the amount of finishing work already mentioned may seem hardly possible. But as almost everyone knows labor is the lion's share of the cost for work you have done. As one expert points out, it costs a builder about $750 to paint the interior of the average $15,000 house, but the paint accounts for about $60 of this. Naturally the paint and the equipment needed to do the job may cost the owner more than it would the builder, but think of the tremendous savings on labor. This alone means nearly five per cent on a $15,000 house.

How you save on a Livable House is illustrated by the following cost breakdown of a house recently bought by a family named Harris. It was sold by Durabilt Homes of Little Falls, New Jersey, a leading unfinished house firm.

Sales price of a two-story, 1800-square-foot house erected on buyer's lot includes: garage; recreation room; heating, plumbing, and wiring installed; finished kitchen and one and a half baths (includes ceramic wall tile in baths); closet doors, kitchen wall cabinets, and miscellaneous wood trim provided but not installed	$16,395
Cost for well and septic tank system subcontracted by the buyer (a figure that will vary from house to house) . . .	1,265
Cost of interior paint, tape for wallboard joints, floor shellac, outside landscaping, blacktop walk and 30-foot driveway . . .	685
Total cost to buyer for finished house . .	$18,345
Average cost of comparable 1800-square-foot house in same area completely finished and landscaped, excluding land . .	23,500
Total savings on Livable House	$5,155

About 75 per cent of Durabilt's customers buy a Livable House finished to the same extent as the Harris house. Mark Jacobs, the firm's president, says a small percentage of buyers asks for an even more completed house, while other more ambitious families buy a less finished house.

Some buyers, for example, save over $7000 on the same house as Harris bought, since a less-complete version of it sells for $13,800. For this price the house is erected on your lot with plumbing, heating, and wiring installed. The following materials are provided but you install them: insulation, wall and ceiling board, kitchen and bathroom cabinets, hardware—all of this on top of the completion work done by Harris.

DON'T BITE OFF MORE THAN YOU CAN CHEW

Obviously, the more work you do yourself, the greater your savings. But be careful. There may be a great temptation to buy a more incomplete house than you should. Or some salesman may push you into it. For example, a salesman might suggest that you could save a great deal of money by making your own arrangements to have the plumbing, heating, and wiring installed. While theoretically this sounds good, the price he mentions may be considerably lower than the job will actually cost. Also, you may discover that good plumbers and electricians are tied up on other work and cannot do your job for months. When this happens you no longer have a Livable House. Any money you might be saving by subcontracting the work yourself would be eaten up in the monthly payments for the house and the rent you must still pay for your present living quarters while you are waiting to move into your new home.

You must watch out, too, for taking on certain work which may sound deceptively easy but may later rise up to plague you. Dale Sweet, a skilled toolmaker in a northern state, says, "Taping the wall joints was the worst job of all for me. I don't have the patience for it." He and his wife saved nearly $3000 on a 1120-square-foot house by finishing it themselves, but if he did it again he would hire a professional.

On the other hand, a 45-year-old Tulsa man says that the same chore, taping the wall joints, sometimes called 'mudding,' was fairly simple. In fact, he says, "My wife has taken such a fancy to mudding that she'll be sorry when she finishes it." So before you buy, know exactly what you will not mind doing, as well as knowing the finishing jobs you are capable of doing. (continued on page 62)

DECORATE WITH MORE IDEAS THAN DOLLARS

ROBERT W. HOUSEMAN

■ Maybe your home isn't a rambling old mansion full of fascinating decorating possibilities. Maybe it's a typical small development house with little to distinguish it from its neighbors but the number on the door and the nasturtiums in front. It can still be a "stand-out" inside—without turning the budget inside-out!

The privacy-loving manufactured home here, Kingsberry's "Space House," is far from typical. Sliding glass doors link the indoors to the outdoors—a lovely enclosed area with patios and swimming pool. Built-in storage units throughout increase the air of spaciousness. But the Kingsberry house presents the same decorating-on-a-budget problem as other small homes with plain square-shaped rooms.

Start by blowing the cobwebs off your color sense. Away with fusty, dusty notions of what color goes with what, and where. Be fresh, young, and vigorous. Instead of quiet pastels in the children's room here, we used colors as bold as brass—and see how bright and gay the room looks! In a girlish pink bedroom, we added daring accents of persimmon and a high-spirited wallpaper.

Don't be afraid to mix your periods. Antique accessories on the simple desk in our contemporary master bedroom add much to its charm and distinction. A secondhand Victorian chair can be brightly painted to add dash to any room.

Here are other tricks that require less money than imagination. You can make a dramatic custom-looking headboard out of ordinary plywood and a pennywise fabric. You can make lavish floor-length draperies by sewing lengths of bright cotton together. If you're cramped for space and pinched for funds, let these pages give you a lively new decorating outlook!

Accents of persimmon *add a decorator's fillip to a pretty pink room for a girl. Inexpensive rattan and unpainted furniture keep costs down. The Victorian-type desk chair was bought at an auction for $15. Checked fabric used to cover plywood headboard and at windows cost $1.50 a yard. Spread is ready made ($15.95).*

Deep gold wall color *lends character to this contemporary master bedroom which opens on its own private patio. The bedspread and draperies, bought ready made, were chosen for their dramatic brilliance. The handsome desk unit, which we designed, cost only $37 for labor and materials.*

Doll-house storage unit *is the decorating eye-catcher in this small-scaled playroom. We built it into a Murphy-bed nook, paid a little over $50 for all materials, including shutters. "Striped" curtains are 89c-a-yard cotton sewed together. Alphabet letters came from felt game board. Table and chairs were unpainted.*

ARCHITECT: HENRY NORRIS BUILDER: THOMAS MORGAN PHOTOGRAPHER: WARREN REYNOLDS

Shopping Information, page 63

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O
1 2 3

GRETCHEN HARSHBARGER

Portraits of Petunias

Take an appreciative look at America's most popular summer bedding flower! It's the most joyously colorful, varied, adaptable annual for growing outdoors in sunshine, and especially rewarding for its continuous bloom. Though petunias have always been loved, it's the recent exciting and revolutionary improvements in varieties that have changed a simple Cinderella flower into a spectacular Beauty Queen. The secret—the skill of breeders in creating first generation (F_1) hybrids. Some of the fabulous new varieties are pictured on these pages. You can have them in your garden this summer, for they're available at practically all garden supply sources. *(continued on page 74)*

Doubles are the aristocracy. They make handsome pot plants, and blooms last long when cut. This is 'Sonata.'

Reddest, most popular petunia is 'Comanche.' Combine it with a white variety for a dazzlingly bright border.

Plant some white petunias, such as 'White Magic,' for evening enjoyment. They seem to glow and are fragrant.

Cute, quaint 'Sugar Plum' is tops for good behavior. It blooms like mad, and flowers aren't harmed by rain or sun.

Nearest to true blue in color is 'Mercury.' You'll love it as foreground for pink phlox or yellow daylilies.

Giant blossoms and ruffled or fringed petals identify the grandiflora petunias. This gay bicolor is 'Calypso.'

LONDON BROIL FOR A SPRING FEAST

JUNE M. TOWNE and Foods Staff

Feel like celebrating spring with a glamour meal, but hate to waste a balmy afternoon in the kitchen? Try our 60-minute meal starring tender, juicy slices of sizzling London Broil, an elegant cast of gourmet vegetables, and Strawberry Shortcake for the dazzling finale. Select a top quality flank steak, add meat tenderizer, cook it rare, and carve it deftly in thin, diagonal slices. Your London Broil will be as succulent as a sirloin or T-bone. Fresh sautéed mushrooms and lemony buttered broccoli are a perfect complement. And festive Duchess potatoes are so easy to make with instant potatoes. To give your Cole Slaw a special fillip, add flavorful

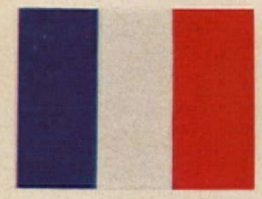
IRWIN HOROWITZ

60-MINUTE MEAL

Bleu Cheese Dressing. Of course, it's Strawberry Shortcake for dessert, but ours with sour cream is something new and delicious. All this in only 60 minutes—can you believe it? Turn to page 55 and we'll show you how. You'll find all the starred recipes plus a handy shopping list and step-by-step preparation plan to guide you.

LONDON BROIL* WITH
SAUTÉED MUSHROOMS
DUCHESS POTATOES
BUTTERED BROCCOLI
COLE SLAW WITH
BLEU CHEESE DRESSING*
STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE*
COFFEE

FOR ELEGANT FARE TRY BROILED CHICKEN WITH MAÎTRE D'HÔTEL BUTTER



FRENCH COOKING CAN BE EASY

This is the fourth in a series of simplified lessons in the basics of French cooking. Our chef and teacher again is Joseph Hyde. Here his subject is broiling with a recipe for Broiled Chicken with a very special Maître d'Hôtel Butter.

Says Mr. Hyde, "Broiling is a particularly fine form of cooking. It is good only for those meats that are tender—steaks, chops, fish—and those that can be eaten when they are hot all the way through. And there has to be a bit of burn involved. It is this great taste that is the virtue of broiling."

What are his special tips for Broiled Chicken? First, there's the artful cutting to make sure the chicken cooks to the peak of perfection and looks invitingly delicious when served. Next, broil the inside first. "It's only the bones that get burned on this side—and that wonderful taste carries right through the meat."

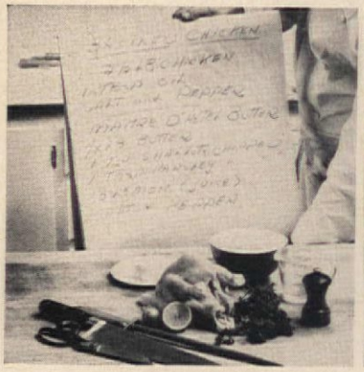
And then, there is the Maître d'Hôtel Butter—the fillip that makes this a truly gourmet dish. *(More about broiling on page 63.)*

Reported by Joan Cassell

Shopping Information, page 63

BILL FOTIADES

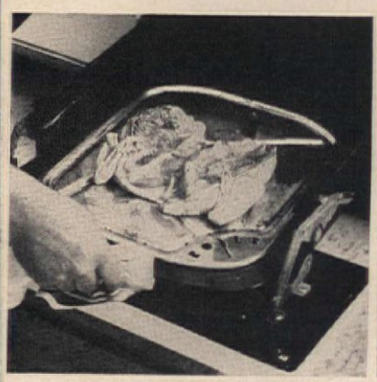
STEPHEN MICHAEL



1 "In just half an hour you can serve this special broiled chicken with Maître d'Hôtel Butter. You'll need a 2½-pound chicken, 1 tablespoon cooking oil, salt, and pepper. For the Maître d'Hôtel Butter: ⅛ pound butter, 1 teaspoon each of chopped shallots and parsley, juice of ½ lemon, salt, and pepper." **2** "I cut up the chicken with regular household scissors . . . I prefer them. However, if you wish, you can use your kitchen shears. Turn the chicken breast-side down and cut between the wing joint and the neck. There's a little place where you start cutting. Cut all the way down." **3** "Then you cut down the other side so that you can remove the entire backbone, starting with the neck and ending up with the tail."

4 "Then open the chicken. Inside, at the very top of the wishbone, there's a little bit of cartilage—cut in there slightly. At this point, you could clip the chicken into two pieces. I think it looks better whole, though." **5** "Now, turn the chicken over, and with the back of your scissors or a cleaver, break the bone on the second joint, way down toward the end of the leg. Give it a good sharp crack. The reason you do this is so that when you later fold back the legs, they'll stay." **6** "You do another thing to make the legs stay back—you make a little slit with the knife on the side of the tail. Then you make another slit on the opposite side of the tail."

7 "You cut off the little knob at the end of the leg—there's no meat on it. If you have trouble doing this with scissors, use a chef's knife or cleaver." **8** "Then you put the leg bone into the slit. Notice how nicely that holds the leg in place. Do the same thing with the other leg." **9** "Now turn the wing up, and fold the tip under the chicken—like this—so it stays in place." **10** "Now we have one nice, neat, flat piece of chicken. It's easy to handle, and it takes the heat evenly so that it broils faster. Tastes better, too—I'm sure you will agree!"



11 "Salt and pepper both sides of chicken and rub with cooking oil. Place in a preheated broiler, bottom-side up. That's the side through which most of the heat can pass without hurting anything. Turn when it's good and black. The blacker on the bone side, the better it's going to be. When it's nice and brown on the skin side, it's done." **12** "Now for the Maître d'Hôtel Butter. Mix the butter and other ingredients in a little bowl and smear it over the chicken. That's all there is to it. The heat of the chicken will melt the sauce." **13** "Garnish with parsley and watercress. It will divide into two large pieces or four smaller ones. You'll serve with this things that don't need gravy."

TAKE A CAN OF FRUIT

■ Fruit's in season all year round on your pantry shelf. So good for your family, so easy to dress up for dessert! Try our Easy Peach Cheesecake—a high, light, and luscious treat with a fruit-studded crown of sour cream. For Glazed Fruit Towers, colorful canned fruit is piled into coconut-crunchy cups. Like your fruit desserts hot from the oven? Try juicy, crusty Pineapple Pie De Luxe or fluffy Pear-Applesauce Upside-down Cake dribbling with sweet buttery syrup. Like fruit with cheese? You'll love the taste and satiny texture of cream cheese in our Fruited Sponge Roll and Jellied Fruit Medley.

BILL FOTIADES

• JELLIED FRUIT MEDLEY

Preparation time: 1½ hrs.
Chilling time: 4–6 hrs. or overnight

4 c. hot water
4 pkg. lemon-flavored gelatin
1 can (1 lb. 14 oz.) sliced pineapple
1 can (1 lb. 14 oz.) whole peeled apricots
2½ c. cold water
1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese
1 c. chopped nuts
1 jar maraschino cherries

● Add hot water to gelatin; stir until dissolved. Drain pineapple; drain apricots. Measure ½ cup of each syrup (1 c. total); combine with cold water; stir into gelatin. Cool; chill until syrupy. Cut cheese into 1-inch cubes; roll in nuts; shape firmly into balls. Set a 2½-quart mold firmly in bowl of ice. Spoon thin layer of gelatin into bottom of mold; let set. Remove pits from apricots; cut in half; arrange half the apricots in pattern on set layer of gelatin. Pour thickened gelatin carefully around apricots; chill until set. Proceed in this manner adding cream cheese-nut balls, quartered slices of pineapple, maraschino cherries, and remaining apricot halves in layered design. Allow each layer to set before adding next. Chill mold 4 to 6 hours or overnight. Unmold on serving plate; garnish with fresh mint, if desired. May also be served as a salad on crisp greens with a tart French dressing. For family size halve all ingredients.

Makes 10 servings *358 cal. per serving* *Source of Vitamins A,B,C*

***Tested in* THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS**

• PEAR-APPLE SAUCE UPSIDE-DOWN CAKE

• PINEAPPLE PIE DE LUXE

• GLAZED FRUIT TOWERS

Preparation time: 20 min.
Chilling time: 30 min.

1 jar (12 oz.) raspberry, currant, or apple jelly
1 tbs. water
6 packaged dessert shells
1 can shredded coconut
Drained canned fruit*

● Melt jelly in water in small saucepan over medium heat, stirring constantly. (Use raspberry or currant jelly for red fruits, apple jelly for light colored fruits.) Cool jelly mixture until it begins to thicken. Spread coconut out on wax paper. Brush sides of dessert shells with jelly mixture; roll in coconut; press coconut in place where necessary to coat sides well. Spoon drained fruit into shells, piling fruit high where possible. Spoon jelly carefully over fruit, glazing all surfaces. Chill until serving time.

*To fill 6 dessert shells, use any one of the following:
1 can (about 1 lb.) red tart pitted cherries
1 can (1 lb. 14 oz.) unpeeled apricot halves
1 can (1 lb. 13 oz.) whole figs
1 can (1 lb. 14 oz.) fruit cocktail
1 can (1 lb. 15 oz.) dark sweet cherries and 1 can (11 oz.) mandarin oranges
1 can (8½ oz.) sliced pineapple, and 1 can (11 oz.) mandarin oranges

Makes 6 servings

***Tested in* THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS**

• EASY PEACH CHEESECAKE

Preparation time: 35 min.
Chilling time: 3 hrs.

Crust:
¾ c. graham cracker crumbs
2 tbs. melted butter or margarine
2 tbs. sugar
Filling:
1 tbs. grated orange rind
2 tbs. unflavored gelatin
⅔ c. sugar ½ c. orange juice
2 egg yolks, slightly beaten
3 c. cottage cheese (1½ lbs.), sieved
1 can (1 lb. 13 oz.) sliced cling peaches, well drained
2 egg whites ¼ c. sugar
1 tbs. lime or lemon juice
1 c. dairy sour cream
Maraschino cherries

● Blend crust ingredients together; press on bottom of 8-inch spring-form pan; chill. Grate and reserve orange rind. Mix gelatin and ⅔ cup sugar; stir in orange juice and egg yolks. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until mixture just comes to boil; cool. Stir in cottage cheese; chill until it begins to set. Dice peaches enough to make 1 cup; reserve remainder. Beat egg whites until foamy; beat in sugar slowly; continue beating until stiff. Fold egg whites, orange rind, lime or lemon juice, sour cream, and diced peaches into cheese mixture. Pour into pan; chill 3 hours, or until set. Top with more sour cream, reserved peaches, and cherries. Garnish with lime slices, if desired.

Makes 10 servings *335 cal. per serving* *Source of Vitamins A,B,C*

***Tested in* THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS**

• FRUITED SPONGE ROLL

• EASY PEACH CHEESECAKE

• FRUITED SPONGE ROLL

Preparation time: 10 min.
Baking time: 12–14 min.
Chilling time: 1 hr.

1 c. sifted all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking powder
¼ tsp. salt
3 large eggs
1 c. sugar
¼ c. water
1 tsp. grated lemon rind
1 tbs. lemon juice
Confectioners' sugar
1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese
1 tbs. milk
¼ c. sugar
1 can (1 lb. 1 oz.) fruit cocktail, well drained

● Grease a 15x10x1-inch jellyroll pan; line with foil or brown paper; grease foil or paper. Set oven at moderate (350° F.). Sift flour, baking powder, and salt together. Beat eggs until thick and very light in small bowl: beat in 1 cup sugar slowly; beat until quite thick; pour into mixing bowl. Blend in water, lemon rind and juice; fold in dry ingredients; spread evenly in pan. Bake 12 to 14 minutes. Sprinkle clean towel with confectioners' sugar. Invert cake onto towel; trim edges. Roll cake and towel gently together, starting with long side; cool. Mash cheese; beat with milk until smooth; stir in ¼ cup sugar. Unroll cake; remove towel; spread cheese mixture to within 1 inch of edges; top with fruit cocktail; re-roll firmly. Refrigerate until serving time.

Makes 12 servings *238 cal. per serving* *Source of Vitamins A,B,C*

***Tested in* THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS**

• PINEAPPLE PIE DE LUXE

Preparation time: 15 min.
Baking time: 30–35 min.

1 pkg. pie-crust mix
1 c. sugar
3 tbs. cornstarch
¼ tsp. salt
1 can (1 lb. 14 oz.) crushed pineapple (3½ c.)
¼ c. chopped maraschino cherries
1 tsp. grated orange rind
Milk
Sugar

● Prepare pastry for 2-crust pie according to package directions; line 9-inch pie pan with half the pastry. Set oven at hot (425° F.). Combine sugar, cornstarch, and salt in saucepan; add crushed pineapple with juice, and maraschino cherries. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until mixture thickens and boils; boil 1 minute. Remove from heat; stir in orange rind; pour into prepared pastry-lined pan. Roll remaining half of pastry for top crust; cut design or vents for steam; adjust over filling; seal edges together firmly; crimp. Brush crust lightly with milk; sprinkle with sugar. Bake 30 to 35 minutes, or until golden brown.

Makes 8 servings *452 cal. per serving* *Source of Vitamins A,B,C*

***Tested in* THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS**

• GLAZED FRUIT TOWERS

• JELLIED FRUIT MEDLEY

• PEAR-APPLE SAUCE UPSIDE-DOWN CAKE

Preparation time: 20 min.
Baking time: 55–65 min.

⅓ c. melted butter or margarine
½ c. light brown sugar, firmly packed
1 can (1 lb. 13 oz.) pear halves
Maraschino cherries
2½ c. sifted all-purpose flour
2 c. sugar
¼ tsp. baking powder
1½ tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. ginger
½ tsp. cinnamon
½ c. soft shortening
½ c. water
1½ c. canned applesauce
2 eggs

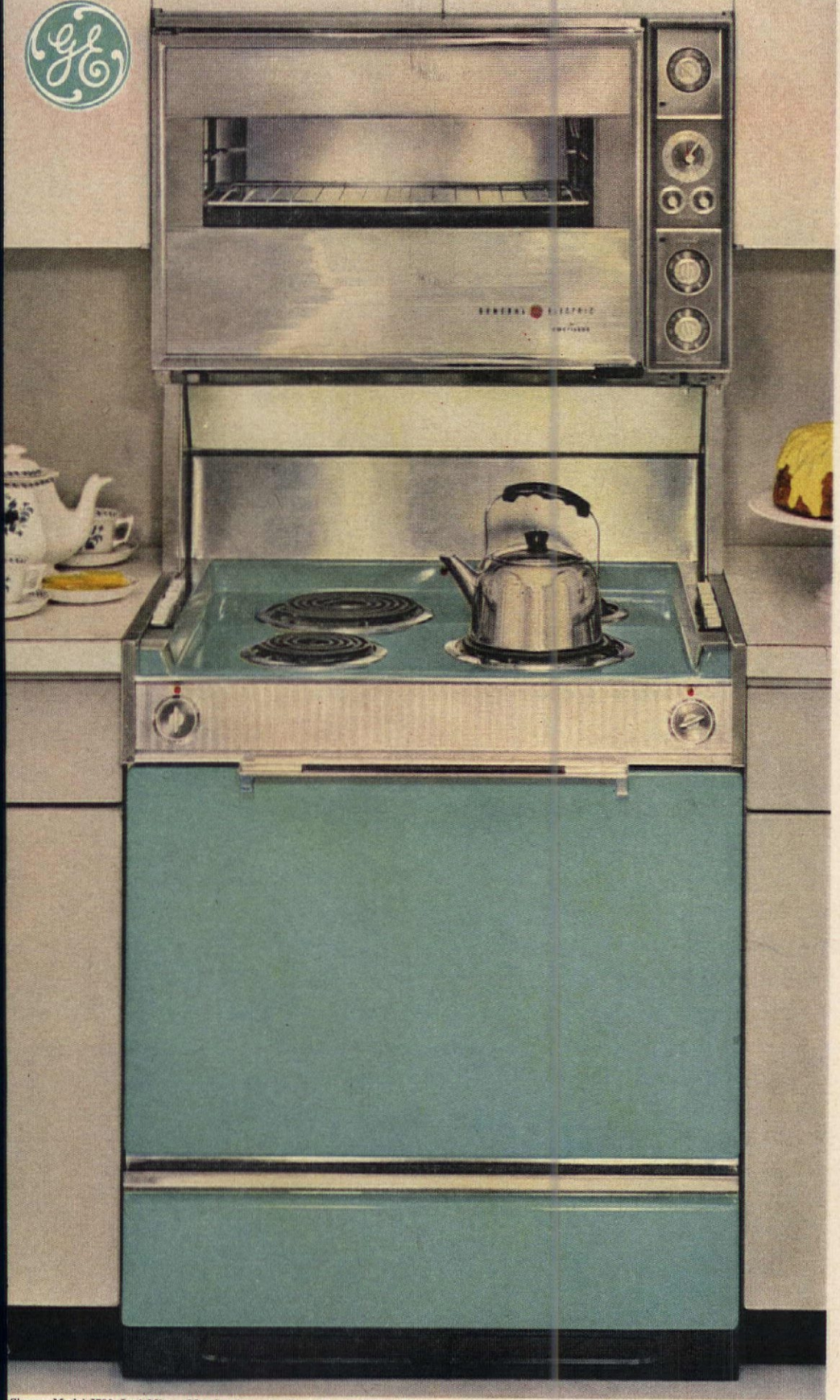
● Melt butter or margarine in 10-in. oven-proof skillet, or 13 x 9-in. baking dish. Sprinkle evenly with brown sugar. Drain pears; arrange, cut side down, with a cherry in each in pan. Set oven at moderate (350°F.). Sift flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, ginger, and cinnamon in bowl. Add shortening, water, and applesauce; beat 2 minutes at medium speed, on mixer, or 300 strokes by hand; scrape bowl frequently. Add eggs; beat 2 minutes more. Pour carefully over pears. Bake 55 to 65 minutes, or until cake tests done. Loosen edges, turn quickly upside-down on large serving plate; leave pan in place 1 minute to allow syrup to run down. Serve warm or cool, with whipped cream, if desired.

Makes 12 servings *410 cal. per serving* *Source of Vitamins A,B,C*

***Tested in* THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS**

NEW americana'62

2 FULL OVENS... YET ONLY 30 INCHES WIDE



Shown, Model J790. In 4 Mix-or-Match colors, plus Dark Coppertone or White

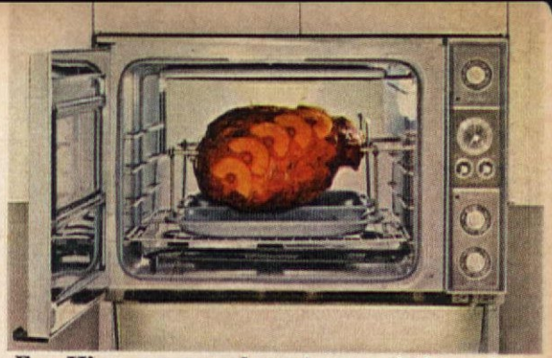
Fits in to look built-in . . . without the built-in cost! And this wonderful new *look* is only part of the pleasure. Cooking's easy and pleasant . . . and so is clean-up. Practically everything lifts up or off for *easy* clean-up. No sooty pots or surfaces—because it's *flameless* cooking.

By any measure...

There is nothing "just as good as" General Electric

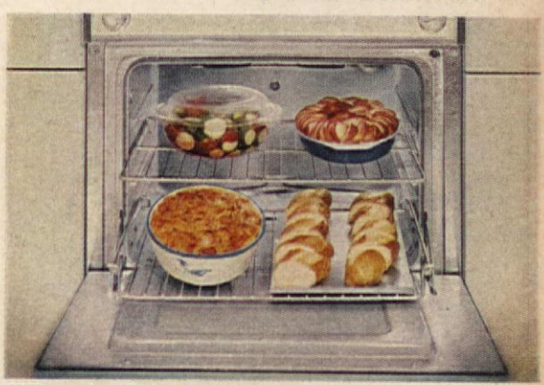
Progress Is Our Most Important Product

GENERAL ELECTRIC



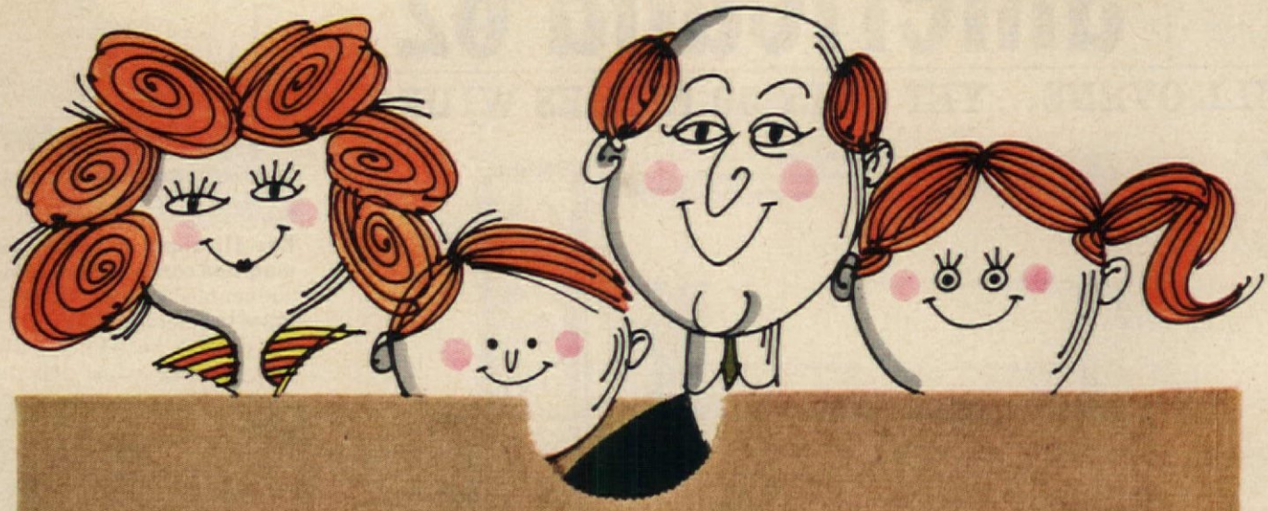
Eye-Hi upper oven has picture-window, side-mounted controls, automatic rotisserie. The timer automatically turns either oven *on* or *off*, and it times the motor-driven rotisserie, too! That glistening chrome back-liner pulls out completely for easy cleaning—clips right back in.

SENSI-TEMP® Automatic Unit ends pot-watching forever. Adjusts to 4-, 6- or 8-inch pans. Boils a pint of water in 130 seconds. Smart recessed cooktop fits snug with counter top. All four Tilt-Lock Calrod® units have removable trim rings, drip pans. Each unit's pushbuttons are right alongside ...you don't need a map to use AMERICANA®!



Whopping downstairs oven with its own controls. Door lifts off for easy cleaning. Both ovens work at once at different temperatures—you can bake in one, broil in the other! Know how great-big AMERICANA is? You could cook a full meal for 50 all at once or bake a single pie *economically*. Don't you *crave* this AMERICANA?

Single-oven Americanas, too. Americana J760, shown here, has only one oven. All the features . . . rotisserie, automatic controls, Sensi-Temp. All the easy-cleaning conveniences . . . and the whole thing *jeweled* with chrome trim. Available with a matching, specially designed cabinet that serves as a base for this AMERICANA. See your dealer right away!



FOOD SHOPPING CALLS FOR COOL THINKING

Do you play checkers in your refrigerator—moving one dish to make way for another, finding leftovers too late to use them, wishing you could stretch space just a little? Do you look with longing at good buys on meats or fresh fruits, wishing you had a real freezer to stow them in? If you are like many families we know, the main thing wrong with your refrigerator is there's not enough of it to satisfy your family's appetites. Or it has only a freezing compartment for ice cubes and a few packages of frozen foods instead of a true freezer with zero-or-below temperatures for long-term storage.

Adequate refrigerator and freezer space is hardly a luxury in these days of supermarket shopping. If your present refrigerator is 10 to 15 years old, it's probably not adequate for your family's needs now. And, even if it is big enough, chances are you want the convenience of a freezer. Whatever your reason for buying a new refrigerator, freezer, or combination of both, here's what you'll see when you shop:

Bigger capacity in the same space. Refrigerators and freezers are larger on the inside, but not on the outside because of vastly improved insulation materials. You can buy an 18-cubic foot combination refrigerator-freezer and put it in the space vacated by your old 10-cubic foot refrigerator. The straight sides and square corners that made news a few years ago are now seen in refrigerators and freezers of all kinds and sizes. Many have doors that open without projecting beyond the cabinet side, which means they can fit flush to the side wall. Some have built-in ventilation, permitting installation in a recess without extra air space. Look for the absence of coils on the back and an air inlet at the front. Or, if you want to build in a non-vented model, you may be able to buy a special frame that assures proper air supply.

Elimination of frost, even in freezers. Refrigeration without visible frost may sound too good to be true, especially if you're still juggling pans of hot water and overflowing drip trays. This new feature has many names: *Free-o'-Frost*, *Frostless*, *Frost Proof*, *No Frost*, *Frost-Free*, *Never Frost*, *Frost-Guard*, *Frost Clear*, and *Frost Gone*. Whatever the name, it offers three unbeatable advantages: (continued on page 52)

BUYERS' GUIDE FOR REFRIGERATORS AND FREEZERS

Harlequin effect in new Kentile® "Breccia"™ Solid Vinyl Tile. Colors: Marine Blue, plain White, Whitestone. Walls in Kentile Custom Cork Tile. Black Wall Base: Vinyl KenCove®.

Send 25¢ for a full set of nine actual tilesamples (3"x3") to: Kentile, Inc., P.O. Box 12, Van Brunt Station, Brooklyn 15, New York, Dept. AH5.

***New! The glowing beauty of a marble floor**—in Kentile "Breccia" Solid Vinyl Tile. Easy-cleaning, greaseproof "Breccia" is ideal for any hard-working room, even kitchens. Smooth, comfortable to walk on. 9 rich colors. A 9'x12' area costs only about $130 installed. Your Kentile Dealer? Check the Yellow Pages.*

KENTILE VINYL FLOORS

Model FU-70B

Model FP-50B

These RCA WHIRLPOOL dishwashers filter the water while they wash the dishes!

Food particles are drained away—not redeposited on the dishes

Don't all dishwashers do this? Not on your life! These RCA WHIRLPOOL Dishwashers have exclusive Filter-Stream* washing action which flushes the water through a self-cleaning filter trap, sends soil down the drain and returns filtered water to the dishes. That's why you don't have tedious hand scraping or pre-rinse with an RCA WHIRLPOOL—and your dishes still come out sparkling clean. Torrents of water under great pressure pre-rinse your dishes, then wash them... rinse and wash them again . . . then rinse twice more. All this in continually filtered water that's kept hotter than hands can stand. Filter-Stream washing action is yours on the undercounter or portable models shown here. Why not make your choice soon? *Tmk.

Whirlpool

"When women talk...WHIRLPOOL listens"

Products of Whirlpool Corp., Benton Harbor, Michigan. Use of trademarks RCA and RCA authorized by trademark owner, Radio Corporation of America.

1. You'll never have to defrost. 2. Frost won't take up precious freezer space. 3. You can all but forget the old rule against opening doors too often or too long, even in hot, humid weather!

Exciting as it is, elimination of frost is just the latest of many scientific advances. Merely keeping foods cold is no longer enough. They must be "properly cold."

A variety of features. If you haven't shopped for a refrigerator or freezer in several years, you may be amazed at the great variety of models and features you see. There are conventional refrigerators that defrost automatically and some that require manual defrosting; combination models with two doors, and some with one door; combinations with no frost in the freezer section and others with freezers you do have to defrost; and even models with "special cold" drawer sections between the refrigerator and freezer doors.

In freezers, you'll have the choice of chest or upright style; then if you choose an upright, a choice of a no-defrost or manual defrost type.

To choose intelligently, all you really need to know is what these various types can do. Conventional refrigerators, for example, do not have true freezers. The freezing compartment, whether it's U-shaped or horizontal (full width), large or small, self-defrosting or not, is there mainly to keep the refrigerator cold. That it also freezes ice cubes and stores frozen foods is a sort of bonus.

A refrigerator-freezer combination, on the other hand, has a true freezer with zero-degree temperature. You can freeze fresh foods in it, store them for several months—anything you'd do with a separate food freezer. Each section has its own cooling system, thus the many different combinations mentioned above.

The refrigerator part of a combination never needs defrosting. Technically, moisture causes frost in any refrigerator, but in this case it is removed automatically without your even seeing it. *This is where you must watch advertising claims or sales pitches that declare "no defrosting"—but fail to mention the manual defrost freezer section.* Manual defrost means you'll occasionally have to scrape frost off the walls or shelves to keep it from crowding in on packages. Once or twice a year, you should remove all packages and defrost completely. Even a no-frost freezer needs an annual thorough cleaning.

If you buy a combination with no frost, you'll notice an increase in your electric bill. That's because, in addition to a compressor (the main motor), there is a fan that circulates cold air. Your new refrigerator will probably be much bigger than your old one, so naturally it will cost more to operate.

You should know that a fan in the refrigerator dries the air slightly, making it advisable to cover most foods. To overcome this, some combinations have special moist-cold storage compartments for uncovered foods.

WHAT DO YOU NEED?

Your choice of a new refrigerator or freezer will, of course, hinge on many factors: the size of your family, how they eat, and how you shop; how much you want to spend; how much space you have in your kitchen—or utility room, basement, or garage perhaps—for a freezer. Do you plan to keep your present refrigerator or trade it in?

How about a second refrigerator or small freezer? Many compact models are now available. Sizes range from six cubic feet downward, and prices range from less than $100 to several hundred dollars for decorator-styled models.

Refrigerators, not counting compacts, vary enormously in size, in price, and in features. It's possible to spend from about $175 to over $800 for a refrigerator—depending on what size you need and on how much convenience you want. At the lowest price, you'll find the 8–10 cubic-foot refrigerators of the conventional, defrost-it-yourself type. At the top are the jumbo combination models, complete with special features such as automatic ice makers, no defrosting, and special compartments for many foods. In refrigerator-freezer combinations, you can get any space proportion you need, from a freezer section just large enough for ice cubes and orange juice (in case you have a freezer and need lots of fresh-food storage) to a freezer larger than the refrigerator section.

Our strongest suggestion for buying a refrigerator of any kind is: *get one as large as space and your budget will allow!* You won't be sorry.

Choosing a freezer is a different matter. For operating economy, keep a freezer relatively full and use frozen foods often so there's constant turnover. For

most city or suburban families, three to four cubic feet per person is ample.

Freezers in the popular 12-cubic-foot category range from under $15 to about $28 per cubic foot. Operating cost averages about 20 cents per cubic foot per month. Small freezers cost a little more per cubic foot—larger models are somewhat less. The frost-removing feature costs $50-$60 extra and also adds to operating cost because of the fan. Chest models may cost slightly less to buy, and also to operate, as opening the lid affects inside temperature less than opening the door of an upright. However, an upright is easier to keep organized. A chest involves a lot of reaching, bending, and lifting.

REFRIGERATOR AND COMBINATION FEATURES

Convertible freezers. Philco and Revco offer two-door combination models with switches that convert the freezer section into extra refrigerator space if your storage needs require it.

Adjustable shelving. Look for at least one shelf you can raise or lower. The swing-out shelves in General Electric, Hotpoint, and Marquette-Zenith refrigerators can be relocated without removing their contents. All the shelves in some Coldspot models are half-width and may be placed at any level. Movable door shelves make way for extra-tall bottles.

Quick-chill shelf. An extra-cold shelf in some RCA Whirlpool No-Frost models will set gelatin in approximately half the time.

Accessibility to foods. There are shelves that pull out like drawers, shelves that swing out from one front corner support, and even a new RCA Whirlpool shelf that can be pulled out and rotated.

Specialized meat storage. Blasts of cold air, channeled around a specially vented compartment, maintain ideal temperature and humidity for fresh meats. A number of manufacturers have such specially refrigerated meat storage sections in one or more combination models. In some Montgomery Ward and Westinghouse models, it is a separate center drawer that stores fresh vegetables too. Philco has a sealed compartment with shelves for meats and vegetables within the refrigerator A General Electric meat drawer is converted to a vegetable crisper by closing an air vent in back. Frigidaire features a covered meat well in the chill tray, just below the freezing section in one conventional refrigerator.

Crispers. Covered containers, on the door or inside the cabinet, keep produce fresh and moist. Be sure they're deep enough.

Compartmentalized storage. The more expensive the model, the more special sections it may have for items like eggs, butter, and cheese, usually on the refrigerator door.

Solid shelves. Most refrigerators have one solid surface where you can safely put small items. General Electric now offers a model with three solid, swing-out shelves.

Easy-release doors. Magnetic doors, with no latches, are very popular. If latches are used, they are designed to release at light pressure from inside or out, for safety. Many two-door models have foot-pedal door releases.

Automatic ice makers. Featured in top models, or offered as an accessory, this luxury is located in the freezer section. A plumbing connection is needed. Cubes collect in a removable bin, which is automatically refilled as needed.

As of press time, this feature is offered by Admiral, Amana, Chambers, Kelvinator, Norge (in gas models), Revco, Coldspot, Sub-Zero, and RCA Whirlpool.

Ice cube ejector bins. Almost as handy as automatic ice cubes is a bin that you fill by just inverting a tray of cubes and pressing a lever. You'll see this feature in the true freezer compartments of Frigidaire, Hotpoint, General Electric, Montgomery Ward, Marquette-Zenith, Norge, Coldspot, Philco, Tappan, and Westinghouse two-door combination refrigerator-freezer models.

Freezer features. Swing-out or roll-out baskets, door storage shelves, can dispensers, and fast-freezing surfaces are among the many handy extras found in combination model freezer sections.

Levelers. For proper operation and a good door seal, a refrigerator or freezer must rest solidly on the floor. Levelers compensate for uneven flooring.

Colors and changeable door panels. Many manufacturers offer a choice of pink, yellow, turquoise, copper color, or stainless steel cabinets and you can match your decorating scheme in wood grain, fabric, or paint by just changing front panels on some models.

Roll-out models. Some Hotpoint models are on casters and roll out from the wall for easy cleaning. Many compact refrigerators on wheels are available.

choose one appliance...

enjoy four!

Skillet Griddle Roaster Server

Time was when "griddling," roasting, skillet-cooking and buffet-serving required shopping for four separate appliances. Now—with West Bend's new Buffet Chef—*you actually enjoy all four in one!* Vented high-dome cover accommodates 2 chickens, a large roast or ham. With more than 140 square inches of cooking surface, you'll griddle 8 jumbo pancakes at a time. Prepares steaks, chops, hamburgers like a "party size" skillet. Buffet-styled for serving with controlled simmer-heat. Immersible. Sparkling, triple-thick aluminum. With cover, heat control plug and trivet rack, **$29.95***

West Bend®

Buffet Chef

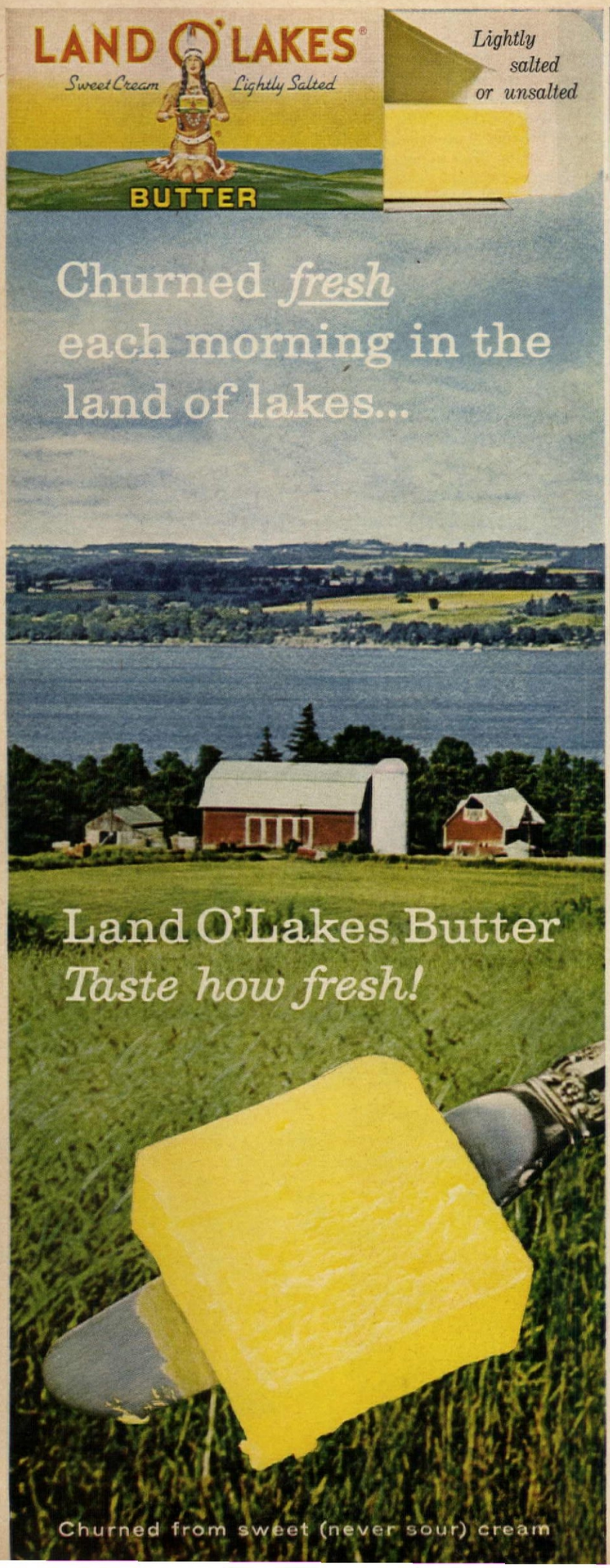
the automatic 4-in-1 appliance

*At housewares, hardware, gift and appliance stores; *suggested retail prices, slightly higher in Canada and Hawaii.*

30 CUP STAINLESS STEEL PARTY PERK $39.95*

10 CUP STAINLESS STEEL PERK $24.95*

West Bend Company Dept. 554, West Bend, Wisconsin



Gas models. There are Coldspot, Norge, and RCA Whirlpool gas refrigerators and combinations with most of the above features.

FREEZER FEATURES

Quick-freezing. For top flavor and quality, fresh foods should be frozen fast. Look for special shelves or sections that give you space for freezing without rearranging foods.

Accessibility. Pull-out or swing-out baskets in uprights and sliding or lift-out baskets in chest models will help you locate packages quickly. Most uprights have on-the-door storage as well.

Interior lights. If the freezer is in a dark corner, you'll appreciate having a light inside.

Space flexibility. An upright freezer may have one or two movable shelves (not freezing surfaces). In chest models, look for movable partitions to help you organize.

Signal lights. In some models an outside light remains on as long as inside temperatures are at safe, low levels, goes out to signal trouble. In others, signal lights turn *on* to warn you.

Power cord brackets. A power interruption could be disastrous, so look for this device that prevents removing the plug accidentally. A freezer, incidentally, should run on a separate circuit.

Door locks. Good idea if your freezer is located where children or even thieves might tamper.

Defrost drain. Once or twice a year you'll want to empty and defrost the freezer completely. A drain saves work by letting water flow into a pan you can empty. (Unnecessary in no-frost type.)

Defrost switch. Warms freezer coils to speed defrosting.

Food spoilage warranties. Like an insurance policy, such a warranty protects you against food losses in case of breakdown or power failure. Ask whether this is included in the freezer price.

Flush-to-wall chest freezers. Lid hinges in Coldspot and RCA Whirlpool chest freezers are designed so that they can fit flat against the wall in back.

Counterbalanced lids (on chest models). This serves two purposes: You can raise the lid easily, and it won't close unexpectedly.

SOME BASIC CHECKPOINTS

Match-mates. If you have space for a separate freezer in your kitchen, ask about one to match your refrigerator. Several manufacturers make twin models.

Where will you put it? Measure space before you shop. If a refrigerator is to fit flush to the side wall, check to see if you'll be able to pull out shelves, crispers, etc. without interference. Be sure to specify a door with the handle *next to* a counter.

The built-in look. Even a free-standing refrigerator or freezer can now look like a built-in because of squared-up styling in cabinets. If you're planning actually to build it into a wall or cabinets, however, be sure to check ventilation requirements.

How about cleaning? Even a non-frosting refrigerator or freezer will need occasional tidying up. Ask how various parts should be removed and cleaned. (Some plastics can't take hot water.)

Check your floor. Will it take the weight of a new, bigger refrigerator plus food? For a freezer, this may be critical. A 16-cubic-foot upright loaded with food may concentrate 850 pounds in about six square feet of floor area. Reinforcement may be needed.

Warranty and service. The majority of manufacturers guarantee refrigerator and freezer compressors or refrigerating systems for five years, and many include a one-year warranty on all parts. Cost of labor, however, may not be included or may be the responsibility of the dealer. As in any appliance purchase, discuss these questions with your dealer before you buy, and be sure he'll stand behind the product.

Your old refrigerator. It may be advantageous to trade it in. Or perhaps you'll relegate it to the basement to take the overflow of soft drinks and food for a crowd. If you're *not* using it, and *not* trading it in, remove the door or at least the latch immediately. Don't let it become a hazard!

A "sturdy look." This, more than any special feature we've listed here, is a good sign of over-all quality and serviceability. Do the doors close solidly without rattling shelves? Do shelves or baskets pull or swing out smoothly without sagging, even under pressure? How many parts are of metal or glass rather than flimsy plastic? (Some plastics are good, even as good as metal for some purposes, but many are brittle and therefore not serviceable under stress.) If you make your final choice on the basis of this sturdiness, rather than glitter and gimmicks, you'll get a good buy!

THE HOME EQUIPMENT STAFF

Which brand? For a complete list of features, identified by brand name and manufacturers' addresses, write: The American Home Testing Center, 300 Park Avenue, New York 22, N.Y.

60-Minute Meal With London Broil

Here are the recipes, shopping list, and work schedule. Clip along dotted lines, but do not separate the recipes. Fold two ways to make one 3x5" unit with the menu card on top, and slip into transparent envelope for filing in your Menu Maker.

• 60-MINUTE MEAL

MENU

LONDON BROIL WITH
SAUTÉED MUSHROOMS
DUCHESS POTATOES
BUTTERED BROCCOLI
COLE SLAW WITH
BLEU CHEESE DRESSING
STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE
COFFEE

SHOPPING LIST

2-2½ lb. flank steak
¼ lb. bleu cheese
½ pt. dairy sour cream
1 jar mayonnaise or salad dressing
1 bottle hot pepper sauce
1 bottle seasoned pepper
1 pkg. biscuit mix
1 can shortening
1 pkg. confectioners' sugar
1 jar instant meat tenderizer
1 bottle grated orange peel
1 bottle garlic powder
1 pkg. instant potatoes
2 pkg. frozen broccoli
1 small head cabbage
1 bunch carrots
1 green pepper
½ lb. mushrooms
1 qt. strawberries

Check your staple shelf for: Eggs, milk, butter or margarine, sugar, salt, pepper, flour, coffee.

See other side of card for work schedule.

• LONDON BROIL

• COLE SLAW WITH BLEU CHEESE DRESSING

• STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

Preparation time: 15 min.
Baking time: 12–15 min.

1 qt. firm, ripe strawberries
¼ c. sugar
2 c. packaged biscuit mix
2 tbs. sugar
1 tsp. bottled grated orange peel
¼ c. soft shortening
½ c. milk
3 tbs. butter or margarine
½ c. sifted confectioners' sugar
½ pt. dairy sour cream

● Wash and hull strawberries; slice; sprinkle with ¼ cup sugar. Set oven at hot (450° F.). Combine biscuit mix, 2 tablespoons sugar, and orange peel; cut in shortening; stir in milk. Turn dough out onto floured board; knead lightly several times. Roll dough out to a 6x12-inch rectangle; cut into eight 3-inch squares. Brush tops of 4 squares with 1 tablespoon butter or margarine; top with remaining 4 squares. Bake on a greased baking sheet 12 to 15 minutes. Blend remaining 2 tablespoons butter or margarine with confectioners' sugar. Pull squares apart; spread mixture between the halves. Spoon strawberry mixture between halves and over tops of shortcakes. Top each with a generous dollop of sour cream.

Makes 4 servings *779 cal. per serving* *Source of Vitamins A, B, C*

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS

CAMEO
CLEANERS

AMERICA'S #1 SELLER

Fastest, Easiest Way To Brighten COPPER and ALUMINUM

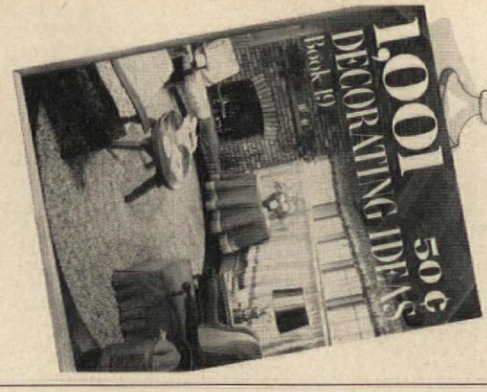
AMERICA'S NEWEST SELLER

For copper, apply speed-formula Cameo. Instantly, it goes to work on tough tarnish, stubborn stains. Wipe off, rinse, shine dry. The smile you see gleaming back at you will be your own.

For aluminum and stainless steel, sprinkle on new Cameo. Wipe—stains disappear in seconds. Rinse and shine dry. The metal comes up mirror-bright and beautiful. The money you save will tell you you're bright, too.

CAMEO CLEANERS—TWO MORE
B. T. BABBITT QUALITY PRODUCTS

Dress-up Your Home



New 19th Edition—larger, more colorful . . . 100 pages of dramatic yet inexpensive ways to redecorate. Original room settings in full color that can be so easily adapted. New decorating trends. Short cut ways to make curtains, draperies, bedspreads and slipcovers. Hundreds of trimming ideas. Fabric sources. Unusual wallpaper, new paint colors. Lamp and window shade treatments. 1001 Decorating Ideas is on sale where drapery fabrics are sold in the United States or Canada. Or, send 50c in coin to Dept. AH-8, CONSO, P.O. Box 325, New York 10, N. Y.

CONSO®
Creators of 1001 Products for Home Decorating

AMERICAN HOME RECIPES (pictured in color on pages 42 and 43)

60-Minute Meal With London Broil

Here are the recipes, shopping list, and work schedule. Clip along dotted lines, but do not separate the recipes. Fold two ways to make one 3x5" unit with the menu card on top, and slip into transparent envelope for filing in your Menu Maker.

• COLE SLAW WITH BLEU CHEESE DRESSING

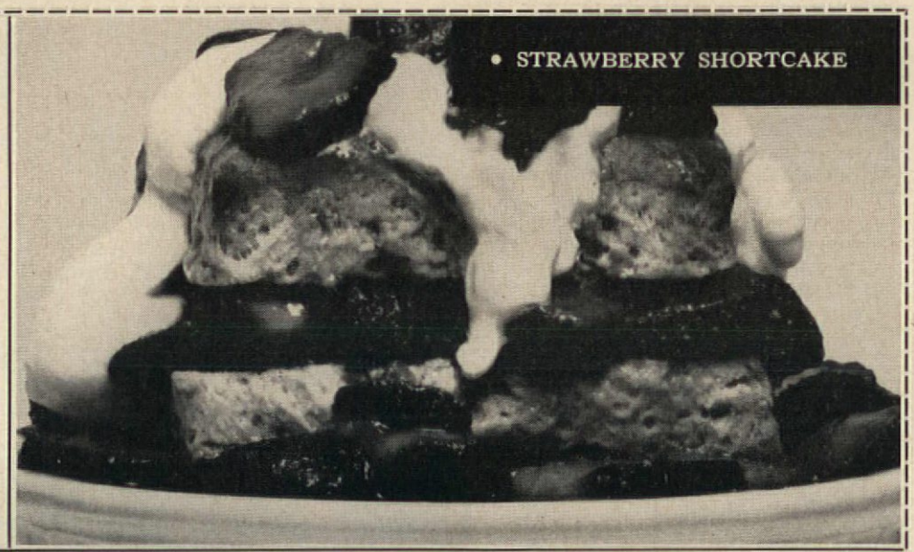
Preparation time: 10 min.

1 c. mayonnaise or salad dressing
¼ c. milk
½ tsp. salt
¼ tsp. seasoned pepper
Dash of bottled hot pepper sauce
⅓ c. crumbled bleu cheese
3 c. shredded cabbage
½ c. shredded carrot
¼ c. chopped green pepper

● Blend mayonnaise or salad dressing, milk, salt, pepper, and hot pepper sauce in small bowl; stir in bleu cheese. Combine cabbage, carrot, and green pepper in large bowl. Add bleu cheese mixture; toss gently until vegetables are coated. Chill.

Makes 4 servings *111 cal. per serving* *Source of Vitamins A, C*

***Tested in* THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS**



• STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

This is your work schedule for the preparation of the menu on reverse side: London Broil with Sautéed Mushrooms, Duchess Potatoes, Buttered Broccoli, Cole Slaw with Bleu Cheese Dressing, and Strawberry Shortcake.

• WORK SCHEDULE

1. Prepare cole slaw according to recipe; chill.
2. Prepare strawberries for shortcake; refrigerate.
3. Prepare biscuit dough for shortcake; bake.
4. Blend sugar and butter or margarine mixture for shortcake.
5. Set table.
6. Prepare instant potatoes according to package directions; add egg; shape with spoon or pastry bag on foil so that they may be transferred to oven to brown; drizzle with melted butter or margarine.
7. Sauté mushrooms; keep warm.
8. Make coffee; turn on broiler.
9. Put broccoli on to cook.
10. Prepare steak; broil on one side; turn; place potatoes on broiler pan to brown while second side of steak broils. Watch carefully.
11. Assemble shortcake.
12. Drain broccoli; butter.
13. Slice steak.
14. Serve.

See other side of card for menu and shopping list.

• LONDON BROIL

Preparation time: 3 min.
Broiling time: 8–10 min.

2-2½ lb. flank steak (prime quality)
Instant meat tenderizer
1 tsp. salt
¼ tsp. pepper
¼ tsp. garlic powder
3 tbs. butter or margarine

● Preheat broiler. Sprinkle steak with meat tenderizer according to label instructions. Mix salt, pepper, and garlic powder; rub well into both sides of steak. Place steak on lightly greased broiler rack; dot top with ½ the butter or margarine. Broil 4 to 5 minutes on one side; turn. Dot surface with remaining butter or margarine; broil 4 to 5 minutes longer. Remove steak to hot platter or board. With very sharp carving knife held almost parallel to top of steak, cut thin diagonal slices across the grain (long fibers) of the steak.

Makes 4 servings *790 cal. per serving* *Source of Vitamins A, B*

***Tested in* THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS**

what's new from General Electric

New! Sprinkles as you iron, has a "Water Window," too!

Just press a button. A fine, continuous spray automatically sprinkles away wrinkles—without tiresome thumb-pumping, as you do with other irons.

General Electric's all-new Spray, Steam & Dry Iron has a handy "Water Window," too—a built-in level right under the handle that tells you when to add more water!

And it steams and dry-irons! Has 3 wash-and-wear settings with a handy fabric guide which tells which setting to use.

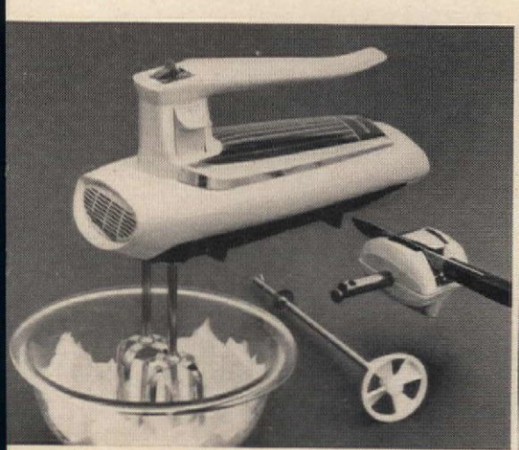
Now you can safely and easily iron most delicate synthetics. Even steam-iron many wash-and-wears!

Visit your dealer's soon and ask to see the remarkable iron that lets you sprinkle as you iron and tells you when to add water.

Only General Electric has it! General Electric Co., Housewares & Commercial Equipment Division, Bridgeport 2, Conn.

Progress Is Our Most Important Product

GENERAL ELECTRIC



Portable Mixer sharpens knives, too! Beats, whips, mixes drinks. Optional accessory for sharpening knives. Mixer hangs on wall.

For the hair beauty you want . . . in the time you have. Dries all over, doesn't muss hair. Hair's done fast, as you do other things.

New "Do Everything" Floor Polisher! Scrubs, waxes, buffs bare floors. Cleans rugs! Complete with attachments including liquid-wax dispenser

Scissors and Shears

(continued from page 35)

From the time of the ancient Greeks, scissors and shears have played roles in everyday life, in literature, and even in history. Superstitions about them are many. A favorite is giving a penny to a friend who gives you shears or scissors—to avoid severing your friendship.

What makes all this interesting is that techniques used in making shears and scissors have changed so little since the famous swordmakers of Damascus developed the first really keen and lasting cutting edge. Even today, grinding is the only production step that has been automated—and you'll still find cutlery experts who insist hand grinding is far superior!

When you set out to buy scissors and shears, your chief concern probably will be the kind of service you can expect from them, not how they are made. However, how they are made determines how well they will cut and how long they will last. A good pair, properly used and cared for, will last a lifetime. Poor ones lose their edges quickly and tend to break or bend easily.

HOW TO JUDGE THEM

Pick up a pair of scissors or shears and simply open and close them several times. They should feel "like velvet"—smooth and free of rough spots. They should work easily, yet you should feel a slight pressure, indicating they are neither too tight for comfort nor too loose for good cutting action.

Now look them over closely. Is that a real screw or bolt, or a rivet made to look like one? A rivet can't be adjusted when it works loose. Are the blades perfectly smooth, with no grinding marks visible? Do you see any breaks or bubbles in the nickel or chrome plating that could develop into peeling later on? If you live in a very damp climate, look for stainless steel scissors and shears that won't corrode or rust. The majority are plated, nickel, or chrome, and many have enameled handles. Those with the black handles cut just as well and may cost a bit less. However, the paint may chip eventually.

The final test is in the cutting, of course, so always try out shears and scissors on samples of whatever materials you'll be cutting. Check these important points:

Is the cut complete, from the back of the blades to the tip?

Do they release the fabric immediately as you open them?

Are the handles comfortable? (Do you need left-hand shears?)

Before you decide, try more than one pair and compare them on all the points we mentioned, particularly comfort. Though price makes a difference, the most expensive pair of shears or scissors isn't always necessarily the best.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO CUT?

Name any purpose, even an out-of-the-ordinary hobby. Chances are there's a pair of scissors or shears designed just for the job. Here are a few of the kinds you might enjoy owning or giving:

Dressmaking shears, made in 7–10 inch lengths, have bent handles to help you follow pattern outlines without disturbing the fabric. Choose the size that fits your hand.

Sewing scissors do countless little cutting, snipping, and trimming jobs. One blade is pointed, one blunt. Handy for sewing or mending, they come in 4–6 inch lengths. A variation is Rip-Stitch scissors with one tip beveled for removing basting threads without damaging the fabric. One handle is black.

Embroidery scissors, 3½–6 inches long, have two sharp points for precision work.

"Shear" cutting pleasure starts with having the right tool for the job: **1.** *Scalloping shears.* **2.** *Left-handed dressmaker's shears.* **3.** *Standard dressmaking shears or bent trimmers.* **4.** *Rip-stitch scissors for sewing.* **5.** *Baby nail scissors.* **6.** *Wire stem cutters for artificial flowers.* **7.** *Folding scissors for pocket or purse.* **8.** *Rug scissors with angled blades for trimming pile.* **9.** *Electric scissors for fabrics, paper.*

RUDY MULLER

Shopping Information, page 6

FOUR NEW RECIPE SENSATIONS FROM NESTLÉ!

CUT OUT AND FOLD...USE AS A BOOKMARK

CHOCOLATE CREAM FROSTING

Melt over low heat one 6-oz. pkg. (1 c.) NESTLÉ'S® Semi-Sweet Chocolate Morsels and 1 tbs. shortening. Stir to blend. Fill 8" or 9" layer cake, reserving 4 tbs. Frost cake with whipped cream. Press reserved chocolate mix through pastry tube in lines 2" apart. Cut through chocolate with knife.

SOUR CREAM VELVET FROSTING

Melt over hot (not boiling) water one 6-oz. pkg. (1 c.) NESTLÉ'S Semi-Sweet Chocolate Morsels. Remove from water. Blend in ½ c. sour cream, 1 tsp. vanilla and ¼ tsp. salt. Gradually beat in 2½ c. sifted confectioners' sugar. Fills and frosts two 8" or 9" layers.

CHOCOLATE GLAZE

Heat over hot (not boiling) water ½ 6-oz. pkg. (½ c.) NESTLÉ'S Semi-Sweet Chocolate Morsels, ¼ c. corn syrup, 1 tbs. water, till chocolate melts. Stir till blended and smooth. Cool 5 min. Fills and frosts two 8" layers or will glaze a 10" angel food.

EASY CHOCOLATE FROSTING

Bring to boil over moderate heat, stirring constantly one 14-oz. can (1¼ c.) sweetened condensed milk, ¼ c. butter and ¼ tsp. salt. Boil and stir 1 min. Take from heat. Blend in one 6-oz. pkg. (1 c.) NESTLÉ'S Semi-Sweet Chocolate Morsels, 1 tsp. vanilla. Cool 20 min. Frosts 24 cup cakes.

CUT OUT AND FOLD...USE AS A BOOKMARK

CUT OUT AND FOLD...USE AS A BOOKMARK

CUT OUT AND FOLD...USE AS A BOOKMARK

READY-MADE, MIX-MADE OR FAVORITE RECIPE CAKE

add your own personal touch with

NESTLÉ'S MAKES THE VERY BEST CHOCOLATE!!!!!

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Pinking shears cut a zigzag edge that resists fraying. They come in many sizes, at many prices, most with bent handles for use in place of dressmaking shears. If you are left-handed, the ring-handled type (see page 35) may be best. There are pinking shears that weigh as little as three ounces and even some with removable blades.

Scalloping shears cut graceful curves, keep threads from poking between seams. Small scallops are for fabrics of light weight, larger ones for woolens or heavy tweeds.

Kitchen shears cut anything from marshmallows to chicken, lift bottle caps, loosen jar lids, even double as a hammer or screw driver. Some have blades that separate for easy washing. Be sure yours will resist rust as they'll be in water frequently!

Stationer's shears have long, narrow blades for slitting envelopes, opening packages, or any paper-cutting job that arises. Ornate desk styles make welcome gifts. They may be 9–12 inches in length.

Straight trimmers, often used as general household shears (see page 35), come in different weights and sizes. Use light trimmers for silks and other light fabrics, the heavy ones for cutting twine, heavy fabrics, or paper.

Baby nail scissors have blunt points for safety. Keep them in mind as a "new mother gift."

Pocket scissors with blunt points may be used in sewing. A quality pair makes a fine gift for a child.

Belt shears for leather cutting have heavy, serrated blades. One is pointed, one blunt. Ideal for hobbyists!

Weaver and appliqué scissors have pointed curved blades to facilitate close trimming.

Personal grooming tools include dozens of specialized shears, scissors, clippers, and trippers. You can find a pair of moustache scissors, precision nose and ear scissors for clipping unwanted hairs, hair thinning shears, and hair clippers—not to mention the more obvious array of manicure and pedicure tools available. Even your dog can have his own nippers!

A BASIC CUTTING WARDROBE

Choose kitchen shears, dressmaking shears, nail scissors or nippers, and cuticle scissors or clippers (good for removing splinters or hangnails, even if you never cut cuticles).

TAKING CARE OF THEM

Scissors and shears almost care for themselves when used properly. Don't torture them by using them for the wrong purpose. Dressmaking shears, for example, can cut paper safely, but should never be used on heavy cardboard or wire. Cutting toenails with cuticle scissors can loosen the blades beyond repair.

Everyday care calls for keeping them dry and running your thumb along the inside of the blades to remove dust and lint. Apply a bit of light oil at the screw occasionally, being sure to wipe away any excess before you cut fabrics.

When shears need sharpening, go to an expert! Look for "Sharpening Service" in your classified directory. For about 50 cents, your shears or scissors will not only be sharpened at the correct angle but also reset properly. Pinking and scalloping shears must be sent to the manufacturer for this service. If yours have removable blades, you can keep spares on hand to use while one set is away for sharpening. THE END

TODAY'S PYREX WARE—LOVELY NEW WAY TO COOK AND SERVE

Wonderful gifts! Today's Pyrex Ware is the handiest thing in any kitchen—for mixing, baking, serving, storing. Keeps flavors fresh—and so easy to clean. Today's Pyrex Ware is beautifully decorated. What gift could be more practical, more appreciated? Corning Glass Works, Corning, New York. PYREX® WARE

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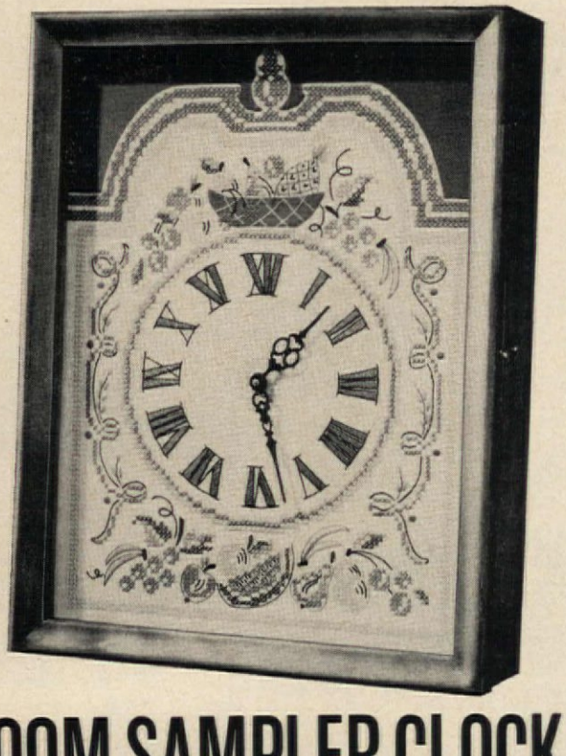

YOU CAN MAKE THIS HEIRLOOM SAMPLER CLOCK

This wonderful new easy-do clock is as handsome as the day is long . . . and accurate, too. Think how many times a day you'll enjoy your handiwork, as you tell time by the big readable numerals and antiqued black hands. Stand it on the mantel or hang it on a wall—it's an heirloom-in-the-making that you'll treasure for years. Colorful fruit and numerals are embroidered on fine linen with cross-stitch. Wood frame is ready to assemble and stain or paint—all parts are presanded, and grooves and holes for screws are already in place. It's easy to install the fine electric clock movement. Over-all size is 13½ x 17½ x 3¼". Glass is not included. Kit #PSC-23, price $12.98 postpaid. Federal excise tax included.

***Complete kit contains** stamped 100 per cent Belgian linen with embroidery thread, U.L. Approved Telechron electric clock movement, assembled front-frame, easy-to-assemble box frame, instructions. Kit assembly takes less than ½ hour after face has been embroidered.*

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Heirloom Sampler Clock has been designed expressly for *The American Home. Fill out coupon, enclosing personal check or money order (no stamps, please). Sorry, we are unable to handle foreign orders.*

Please allow three weeks for handling and mailing.

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Please send me_____Heirloom Sampler Clock Kit(s) at $12.98 each. Federal excise tax included.
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Charlton Heston

(continued from page 16)

that wall will be covered with things we like, but in the meantime we leave it empty.

"Lydia and I sat here while the house was being finished and studied this room. The curved wall that forms the gallery gives this room intimacy and a wall for furniture arrangement and hanging an art collection. We pierced it with those random slit-like openings to get interesting light patterns and relieve its massiveness."

"Our first inclination was to panel the wall with walnut," said Lydia, "but when we thought of the possibilities it offered for an art display, we decided on pure white."

"You have to think things out for a while," Heston said, "instead of rushing ahead and regretting it later. You're bound to make some so-called mistakes because your taste changes. Take this coffee table, for instance. I designed it and had the top cut from a piece of marble. Now we think the free-form design is a little too free. While working on 'El Cid' in Spain I got an idea for an antique Spanish table, so I designed it and we're having it made. It will add more character to the room.

"That big brass chandelier over the piano is a good example of what I'm talking about. You can't visualize something like that in advance, but after you've lived in the place a while you know it's just what the house needs. The architect who designed our home, Bill Beckett, phoned me one day. He was at a stage supply warehouse and excited about this urn and the one that hangs in the entry. I hurried down there and I was amazed when I saw them. They were bent and black with tarnish and looked enormous. 'Oh, no,' I said to Bill, 'not that junk!' They'd been lying in a corner since they were last used in a Douglas Fairbanks picture. Bill had them repaired and polished and he wired a spotlight in the base of each that brings out the fine openwork. Those chandeliers are scaled for an area as big as this. I simply hadn't lived here long enough to know how big it really is. Our house was finished in February, 1960. But because of 'Ben-Hur' I'd actually lived in it less than a month."

He went up three steps to the dining area which overlooks the terrace and the swimming pool. Mounted on the stone wall behind the table is a 4x8′ oriental screen decorated with wild horses.

Where can you see French Accent Furniture?
At the following Drexel furniture dealers:

ALABAMA
Birmingham . . . Loveman's
Marks-Fitzgerald Furn. Co.
Decatur . . . . Robinson Furniture Co.
Florence . . . . . Lamar's
Mobile
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Montgomery . . Bishop-Parker Furn. Co.
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ARKANSAS
Benton . . . . . Newbill's
Fayetteville . . . Lewis Bros. Furn. Co.
Hot Springs . . . Bennett Furniture Co.
Jonesboro . . . . Home Furniture Co.
Little Rock . . Westmoreland Furn. Co.
Pine Bluff . . John A. Simpson Furn. Co.

FLORIDA
Boca Raton Sterling Gold Coast Furn. Co.
Clearwater . . . . . Helmly's
Cocoa . . . . . B O P Furniture
Daytona Beach . . . . McFarland's
Delray Beach . . . Craige Furniture Co.
Fort Lauderdale
Fort Lauderdale Furniture Co.
Grosse Pointe Furniture Shops
Fort Myers . . . . . Robb & Stucky
Fort Walton Beach . . Far Corners Shop
Jacksonville . . . . . Jones Bros.
Miami . . . . . Burdine's
Moore Furniture Co.
Ocala . . . . . Blocker & Turnipseed
Orlando . . . Lloyd's Home Furnishings
Panama City . . . James Furniture Co.
Pensacola . . . Marston & Quina, Inc.
Sarasota . . . . Hendry Furniture Co.
Tallahassee . . . Collins Furniture Co.
Vero Beach . Grants Tropical Furn. Co.
West Palm Beach . Grant Furniture Co.

GEORGIA
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Athens . . . . Thompson Furniture Co.
Atlanta . . . . . Rich's
Augusta . . . . Richards Furniture Co.
Columbus . . . . . Hinson Galleries
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Fitzgerald . . . . . Home Furniture Co.
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Moultrie . . M. W. Major Furniture Co.
Pelham M. W. Turner Hdwe. & Furn. Co.
Savannah . Dream House Furniture Co.
Thomasville . . . . W. Feinberg & Son
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Waycross . . R. B. Zachry Furniture Co.

KENTUCKY
Danville . . . Scott Showrooms, Inc.
Louisville . . . Stewart Dry Goods Co.

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Baton Rouge . . . . . Hemenway's
Kornmeyer's
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Lake Charles . . . . . Hemenway's
Monroe . . . Dixie Bedding & Furn. Co.
Hemenway's
New Orleans . . . . . Maison Blanche
Nu Idea Furniture Co.
Opelousas . . . . . Abdalla's
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Hattiesburg . . . Pioneer Furniture Co.
Jackson . . . . . Batte Furniture Co.
Meridian . . . . . Hulett Furniture Co.
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Charlotte . . . . . J. B. Ivey & Co.
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by Drexel

"We know little about that," said Lydia, "but it's very old. A friend of ours who's an importer had it in his warehouse. It reminded me of Chuck's style of drawing—he does pen-and-ink sketches—so I bought it for an anniversary present."

"I designed this dining table," he said, "and my friend Milburn Stone—he plays Doc in 'Gunsmoke'—built it for us. I designed some new chairs and they're being made in Spain."

The black terrazzo floor continues through the glass wall past the barbecue area on the terrace to a sun deck cantilevered over the drop-off like a flying bridge.

Heston, pointing to the scorched brush in the canyon below, said, "When the house was almost finished, a fire raced up the canyon. Lydia and I were in Rome and when we heard about it we felt sick. But it stopped there, at our line."

He studied the house from the edge of the swimming pool, relishing what he saw as obviously as any new home owner.

"That second story is the children's rooms. Where we don't have stone or glass we've used that random-width vertical siding. It's a mustard color used inside, too."

"We made one mistake when we planned this house," said Lydia, entering the laundry off the kitchen. "It seems unbelievable, but I didn't allow enough space here for sorting and folding laundry. With the washer, dryer, and ironer here, there isn't room to work efficiently. The kitchen is fine but we're going to remodel the laundry."

Heston crossed the living room, pausing to page through some of his rare folio editions of Shakespeare, first editions of Ben-Hur and Hemingway.

"This is my study," he said, grasping a pair of heavy, ornamental pulls on double doors. "These handles are from the palace of Ben-Hur. And here's the sound room and movie projection room. A friend put together my hi-fi—all those woofers and tweeters are too complicated for me—and we get wonderful effects."

He skimmed through a pile of mail on his desk.

"I have a secretary come in to handle correspondence, but I wish I had another room where I could work while she's taking phone calls and typing. Here's what I have in mind."

He opened a glass door that led to another sun deck, stepped over the railing, and walked a plank to the rough grade at the foundation wall below. He opened a door to a partially excavated service area under the study. His head barely cleared the heating ducts.

"I'll dig this out, put a window in here, finish it off. Even when you build the house yourself," he smiled, "you think of new things to do."

He climbed back to the sun deck and entered a small patio that adjoins the study. It is equipped with exercise bars and bar bells. "I work out here every day to keep trim. I hate it, but it keeps me in shape. I weigh 204 pounds. This helps," he said, opening the door to a steam bath. "This and tennis."

He led the way through his bath and dressing room to the bedroom.

"I designed the bookcase headboard and Lydia's desk and Mil Stone built them. I used travertine on the desk top to match the fireplace."

The fireplace is centered in a wall of glass that faces south. A series of wardrobe closets runs the length of the opposite wall and continues to Lydia's bath and dressing room.

"Lydia has 47 running feet of closet space; I hope that's enough. And here," he said, entering her dressing room, "she has 66 shallow drawers for storage. She planned this unit herself and, as you can see, the drawers aren't marked. What amazes me is how she knows what drawer to look in."

He stretched out in a canvas chair in the entrance court. It was shaded from the afternoon sun and the fountain babbled noisily.

"We got that idea during the nine months we were working in Rome on 'Ben-Hur.' Lydia and I decided we had to have a fountain. This patio is essentially the same as the architect planned it. But the fountain is something we worked out in long correspondence from Rome. There's something wonderfully soothing about the sound of a fountain."

He leaned back with his hands behind his head. "I'm very fortunate. Even in our lean, cold-water flat days, Lydia made the best of it, made a home. And now that we have the children and this place—well, sometimes when I get up in the morning and look out toward the Franklin Canyon reservoir with the trees around it and the mist, I almost feel it's my boyhood home in Michigan. I don't feel transplanted. I feel at home. It's a great feeling." THE END

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Home Buyers' Guide

(continued from page 37)

YOU CAN BUILD IT ANYWHERE

Another advantage both in money and satisfaction is that Livable Houses are usually built on the buyer's lot. You are not limited to a builder's choice of location. (The buyer's choice of location is a prime reason for the success of Livable Houses, says M. O. Gustofson of Alabama's Imperial Homes Sales Corporation. He claims it also represents a major market shift toward on-your-lot building in the United States today.)

Little or no cash down payment may be required if you own your own lot. The lot may serve as your down payment. Owning your own lot represents another saving; you eliminate the builder's overhead charges had he supplied the lot.

WHAT ABOUT THE FINANCING?

Most banks and other lenders will not give a regular conventional mortgage loan so you can buy an unfinished house, per se. You should, nevertheless, insist on regular mortgage financing at a straight 6 to 6½ per cent interest. It is done in this way:

Suppose you are buying an unfinished house erected on your lot for $12,000. You estimate that another $2500 will be needed to complete the house. Thus you need to borrow a total of $14,500 mortgage. (The exact cost should be figured accurately before you apply for a mortgage. It is very important that you have enough money to pay for the completion work, as well as to pay for the unfinished house itself.)

Before you buy, take the house blueprints to a bank or any other lender and apply for this mortgage. If the banker okays the house he will tell you that he will give you the mortgage *when the house is finished*, coupled with an arrangement for a "construction loan." This will enable you to pay for the unfinished house package and the materials to complete it. This is also called "interim financing," the same kind that builders themselves use, to pay for the houses they build until the houses are sold.

You pay for the construction money advanced at a straight six per cent interest charge. Your mortgage goes into effect when the house is finished. Then you begin paying it off in monthly payments for 10, 15, or 20 years, whatever terms you choose, in the same way you would pay off any mortgage.

Many good Livable House dealers will pave the way for you to obtain a conventional mortgage loan including interim financing. They have special arrangements with banks and savings and loan associations who are familiar with their houses.

FHA and GI mortgages are also available for Livable Houses. These government-backed mortgages are designed to encourage low-cost housing in suburban and rural areas. One kind, called the FHA Section 203 (i), is limited to a mortgage of no more than $9000. Another kind, FHA Section 221 (d2), permits mortgages of from $11,000 to $15,000, depending on where you live. The GI loans come under VA Section 1810 (Chapter 37) mortgage program. The government also restricts the amount of unfinished work (to prevent buyers from getting into trouble); and in rural areas, chiefly for farm houses, your lot size must be at least five acres.

If you live in a rural area where conventional mortgages are hard to get, you might try getting one through the Voluntary Home Mortgage Credit Program. This is a joint industry-government group that aids home buyers unable to obtain a loan locally. They will try to get you a VA or an FHA approved loan from a lender in a nearby town. For further information you can write to VHMCP Washington 25, D.C.

There are also many Livable House dealers or builders who will give mortgages. The interest rates on these are sometimes higher.

WHO SELLS LIVABLE HOUSES?

They are sold by more and more conventional builders around the country, by factory-house manufacturers, by building firms that specialize in unfinished houses, and by shell-house firms who offer almost-complete versions of their regular shell models. For that matter, a conventional builder sometimes will build a Livable House especially for you. For a list of Livable House builders and dealers send a stamped, return-addressed envelope to The American Home Dept. LH, 300 Park Avenue, New York 22, N.Y.

POINTS TO REMEMBER WHEN BUYING A LIVABLE HOUSE

1. Thoroughly investigate the reliability of the builder-dealer. Bu

only from a reputable firm. This all-important advice cannot be overemphasized. Get the names of other buyers, talk to them and *see* their houses. Check on the firm with a few banks, your nearest Better Business Bureau, and the Chamber of Commerce.

2. Know exactly what the builder will do, and what you are to finish and pay for yourself.

3. Does the builder provide the finishing materials you will install? This may include such things as finished flooring, kitchen cabinets, paint, and closet doors. Much time, expense, and shopping headaches can be avoided if such materials are provided with the house.

4. Don't take on more completion work than you are capable of handling. If you are skilled with tools and like do-it-yourself work, fine. If not, avoid such work.

5. Do you provide outside water, and septic tank installation or sewer connection? If so, know the cost of each in advance. The builder should give you the names of reliable subcontractors.

6. Does the builder provide a construction supervisor to give you advice and guidance if you get stuck? This is a key question to ask of other people who have bought from the same firm.

7. Does the builder provide instructions and plans showing how to finish the house? He should.

8. Figure out all your costs in advance.

9. Arrange for a regular mortgage loan *before* you buy.

10. Be sure the mortgage loan includes provisions for "interim financing," as well as covering the basic house sales price, so that money will be advanced as you need it for completion work and materials. THE END

French Cooking

(continued from page 45)

Our chef Joe Hyde explains that there are many variations in broiling that can be done outdoors as well as indoors.

"A combination of meats is a wonderful kind of broiled thing," he claims. "Try a couple of steaks, some sweetbreads that have been boiled first for 10 minutes and cooled in their own water, and tiny sausages. Veal kidney is delicious broiled over charcoal if you baste it once in awhile with butter—about two tablespoons smeared over it. And don't forget to use Mâitre d'Hôtel Butter over the whole works!

"As far as steak is concerned, I think the outside should get a good coating of sugar. It completely caramelizes and turns black almost immediately, forming an absolute crust. It's delicious to eat and there's no sweetness as soon as it's black. I use half a cup of sugar on a 2" thick steak along with the salt and pepper. But look—sugar is only for outdoor cooking. There's too much smoke this way for indoors.

"There's nothing better than a correctly broiled pork chop. Some people think that because a pork chop should be well done, it has to be *petrified!* There's a difference between a pork chop that is well done and one that is done to a point of no return. You give ¾" thick loin pork chops 7 or 8 minutes on each side. And as soon as they come out of the broiler, put Mâitre d'Hôtel Butter over them. Sprinkle a little parsley on top and serve. Pork chops—wonderful food! Abused, poorly done by so many.

"And don't forget, Mâitre d'Hôtel Butter is good for everything broiled. Broiled bluefish is superb. Broiled swordfish, a delicacy. Brown some almonds on top of the swordfish for just a minute after broiling. Then top with the Mâitre d'Hôtel Butter!" THE END

SHOPPING INFORMATION

THIS IS WHERE WE REALLY LIVE

Pages 26, 27: Hong Kong cane furniture—Burdine's. Woven straw rug—Mary Whitlock's Interiors. **Page 29:** "Montego" terrace table and chairs—Saterini. **Page 30:** Folding director's chairs—Telescope. Coffee table, chaise lounge—Hurricane Imports. Planter—Raymor. **Page 31** (top): Chairs, table—Brown Jordan. **Page 33** (right): Porch furniture—Ficks Reed. Ceiling tile—Acousti by Celotex.

MAKE CUTTING SHEAR PLEASURE

Pages 34, 35: 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12—Clauss Cutlery Co. 2, 3, 6, 10, 13—J. Wiss & Sons Co. 8—Hoffritz Cutlery. 11—The James Cutlery Corp. 14—H. Boker & Co., Inc. **Page 58:** 1, 2—J. Wiss & Sons Co. 3, 7, 8—The James Cutlery Corp. 4, 5, 6—Clauss Cutlery Co. 9—John Dritz & Sons.

MORE IDEAS THAN DOLLARS

Pages 38, 39: "Vinyl Best" flooring—Congoleum Nairn. **Page 38** (top): Wicker chest, chairs—F. O. Mertz. Desk, bookcase wall units—Country Workshop. Wallpaper—Woodson Wallpaper Co. "Checkster" bedspread, draperies—Cabin Crafts. "New Orleans" Avisco rug—Aldon. Pillows—Charles Bloom. Orange trimming on headboard—Consolidated Trimming. Pole light—Ainsley Lamps Inc. (Bottom): "Saga" headboard, bench, desk chair—Broyhill Furniture. Outdoor chairs—Troy Sunshade. "Ceylon Stripe" draperies, bedspread—Charles Bloom. Clock, net light—Howard Miller Clock Co. Sitting Ibis—Museum Pieces. **Page 39:** Toys—Toy Guidance Council. Wicker chest—F. O. Mertz. Child's record player—Capitol. Toy storage unit—Classic Displays, Inc. Child's table, chairs—Rich's Dept. Store. Curtain fabric—Indian Head Mills, Inc.

FRENCH COOKING CAN BE EASY

Pages 44, 45: China—Art Exchange. Vermeil cutlery and plate—Tiffany. Marble—Greco Marble Works.

COLOR IDEAS

Take your idea to the BPS Answer Man and he'll create a color scheme for any room in your house

Interior decorators pick their colors from draperies, furniture or pictures. You can, too.

Grab a few swatches or tuck that favorite picture under your arm and head straight for the BPS Answer Man. He'll help you find the right combination of colors for any room.

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It's as handy as it is handsome! You'll find it such a convenience to put the best ideas from all your cookbooks and recipes into this one 6x11 file! And it now comes with 360 of your favorite American Home recipes! There's room, too, for approximately 1000 additional recipes you can clip each month from American Home.

The Menu Maker lets you take a single recipe (or as many as you want for a complete dinner.) No need to mark your place. No thumbing through pages of cross references. You can rearrange your recipes or add and subtract from your file as much as you like.

Made of beautiful, durable super styrene, the Menu Maker is available in striking decorator colors to complement or match your kitchen decor. 35 preprinted index cards are included for easy filing. Transparent envelopes keep your recipes clean. Send for more as you need them.

Every day of life means hope

Every added day a leukemia victim lives means added hope that the cure might be found.
Temporary arresters have been found for this disease of the blood-forming tissues. And a vaccine has been discovered that will prevent leukemia in animals.
Strange, isn't it, that this most hopeless of all cancers might be the one that science will overcome first!
The American Cancer Society diverts one out of six of its research dollars to the support of further study of the cause and cure of leukemia. Surely this activity alone merits your support!
Fight cancer with a checkup and a check. Send your donation to CANCER, c/o your local post office.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

YOU ASKED US

HOW GOOD IS ALUMINUM SIDING?

Mr. John Ingersoll, Building Editor
The American Home Magazine
300 Park Avenue
New York 22, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Ingersoll:

Can you help us? We recently bought a 20-year-old house. It's just what we've been dreaming about ever since we've been married—with one exception. It needs a new face.

We'd like to use aluminum siding, but we're a little leery. We've read many stories of how others have been gypped by dishonest aluminum siding companies. And we've also been told that aluminum siding shows pockmarks, and that our taxes will be much higher if we use it.

On the other hand, my cousin built a home a few years ago. She used aluminum siding and says she wouldn't have it any other way. We've tried to find out what the real truth is, but for everyone who says go ahead and use aluminum, someone else says don't do it.

Can you tell us—should we or shouldn't we?

Sincerely,
Mrs. A. R. Roberts

This letter is typical of many we've received. There's been more controversy about aluminum siding than any other building product that's hit the market in recent years. Deceptive advertising, high-pressure sales techniques, and sloppy installations by some "suede shoe" operators have made many potential customers wary.

The truth is that, properly installed, good aluminum siding looks excellent and wears well—whether it's used on a new or old home. Following are some common fallacies and facts about aluminum siding that will help answer your questions and some tips on how to get a good job done.

Fallacy: Aluminum siding never needs repainting.

Fact: No reputable aluminum siding manufacturer or installer will claim "lifetime" paint jobs. They will say how long the paint *should* last. But that's about all. The National Paint and Varnish Manufacturers Association—spokesman for many of the companies which make paint for aluminum siding, are cautious. They say, quite honestly, "There is no definite information on the duration of the new finishes."

Newest of the finishes is acrylic enamel, first used in 1960. On the basis of lab tests, it is estimated acrylic enamels will give 20 to 25 years' service. About 80 per cent of aluminum siding produced today is finished with the acrylics. Two other type finishes are also used. Alkyd paints, first used in the 1940's, are good for about 8 to 12 years; vinyl paints, which came into use about five years ago, should give up to 15 years' service. So you should check the type of paint on the siding you plan to buy. An important fact to remember: these performance expectations do not apply to heavily industrial areas where atmospheric problems will cause deterioration of any paint.

Fallacy: Aluminum siding is a maintenance-free material.

Fact: While the Federal Housing Administration classifies aluminum as a low-maintenance siding material, it is not completely maintenance free. As stated above, it

(continued)

NEW!

Puts out pain... kills germs as you spray it on

Here's the *fun* way to help prevent infection while everyday skin injuries heal. New Unguentine® First-Aid Spray has anesthetic action that puts out pain, antiseptic action that kills germs—as you spray it on. Goes to work instantly on cuts, scrapes, scratches, burns. Cools and soothes sunburn on contact. Kind to youngsters—doesn't sting. Red unbreakable, unspillable container.

Good Housekeeping

Boosts nature's healing power as no plain antiseptic can!

Creates an *antiseptic protective blanket* to lock out germs . . . and help nature heal injured skin faster.

must be painted after a certain number of years. In addition, it should be washed at least once a year (with detergent if oily fumes are present). Also, any nicks or scratches should be covered with touch-up paint. When the time comes to repaint the siding, it should be cleaned thoroughly to remove loose paint and dirt. Spray painting should restore its original appearance.

Fallacy: Aluminum siding is resistant to all types of damage.

Fact: Aluminum can't rot, split, rust, nor can it be attacked by vermin. The paint on aluminum cannot be blistered by trapped moisture as can paint on inadequately ventilated conventional siding. On re-sided homes, moisture and vermin can damage the material which the aluminum siding covers.

There has been much discussion about fire resistance. While aluminum siding might prevent an outdoors fire from burning your house, it has little value in restraining a fire that starts inside. In either an outside or inside fire the paint on the siding would be likely to blister. Major insurance companies report that the same fire insurance rates are charged for aluminum-sided houses as for conventional frame houses.

Small marks and mars are likely to be more noticeable on aluminum siding than on wood because they are not camouflaged by the grain and brush marks. In a test, a steel ball was dropped on various siding materials. It chipped brick, cracked rigid asbestos siding, markedly dented composition and wood siding, marred and slightly dented hardboard siding. The ball made a deeper dent in insulating-backed aluminum siding than in wood.

More realistically, damage could be caused by a large hammer in the hands of a small boy, or the bumper of a delivery truck. Such damage could be repaired with plastic aluminum and paint. This would be similar to repairing wood siding by filling dents or rips with putty and then repainting. If the damage is serious, the damaged portion should be replaced.

Fallacy: Aluminum siding is easily damaged by hail.

Fact: Although a real rip-snorting hailstorm will damage almost any siding material, normal hail should not cause trouble. Interviews with owners of aluminum-sided houses—in an area which normally has one or two hailstorms yearly—showed no damage.

Fallacy: The people who sell and install aluminum siding are out to gyp you.

Fact: The large majority of aluminum-siding contractors are honest and aboveboard. Unfortunately, it's the few "bad apples" who give the industry a bad name. Many of them use "model home installations" and thinly veiled "contests" to sell their product. For example, if you can name ten movie stars whose faces are as familiar as those in your own family, you "win" a special deal.

Fallacy: If the aluminum comes from a major manufacturer, the application is bound to be good.

Fact: If the aluminum *used* in the siding is produced by a reliable company, there's no guarantee the siding application will be up to par. While it is an indication of the quality of the material, it in no way verifies the quality of the application. This is because many good aluminum manufacturers, in addition to making siding themselves, also supply the aluminum to other siding manufacturers. A siding produced by a reliable aluminum manufacturer will bear that company's name *on the siding itself*.

Fallacy: Using aluminum siding will effect a tremendous saving in your fuel bill.

Fact: Aluminum is an excellent conductor of heat. Paint color, too, has some effect on the reflective qualities of any siding; and the aluminum-foil backing on insulating siding is capable of reflecting radiant heat. Dead air space formed between any siding material applied over old siding has some insulating value and re-siding an old house should help seal air leaks. All of this will reduce heating bills, but no siding will prevent heat loss from doors, windows, or roofs. Since these factors vary from house to house, arbitrary figures on savings in fuel costs can't be valid.

IS ALUMINUM SIDING FOR YOU?

When siding on an older home has deteriorated to the extent that paint will no longer disguise its condition, re-siding is perfectly logical. If you're tired of frequent repaintings, aluminum siding could save you time and money. The most popular type of aluminum siding is the standard 8" horizontal interlocking panels. Some of these are insulated; others are not. There are also uninsulated panels—both horizontal and vertical—which are molded to resemble some types of conventional siding.

Aluminum siding for new homes is growing in popularity. In fact, one of the nation's largest producers of manufactured homes is using it extensively. The appeal of aluminum siding has grown

AGAIN...

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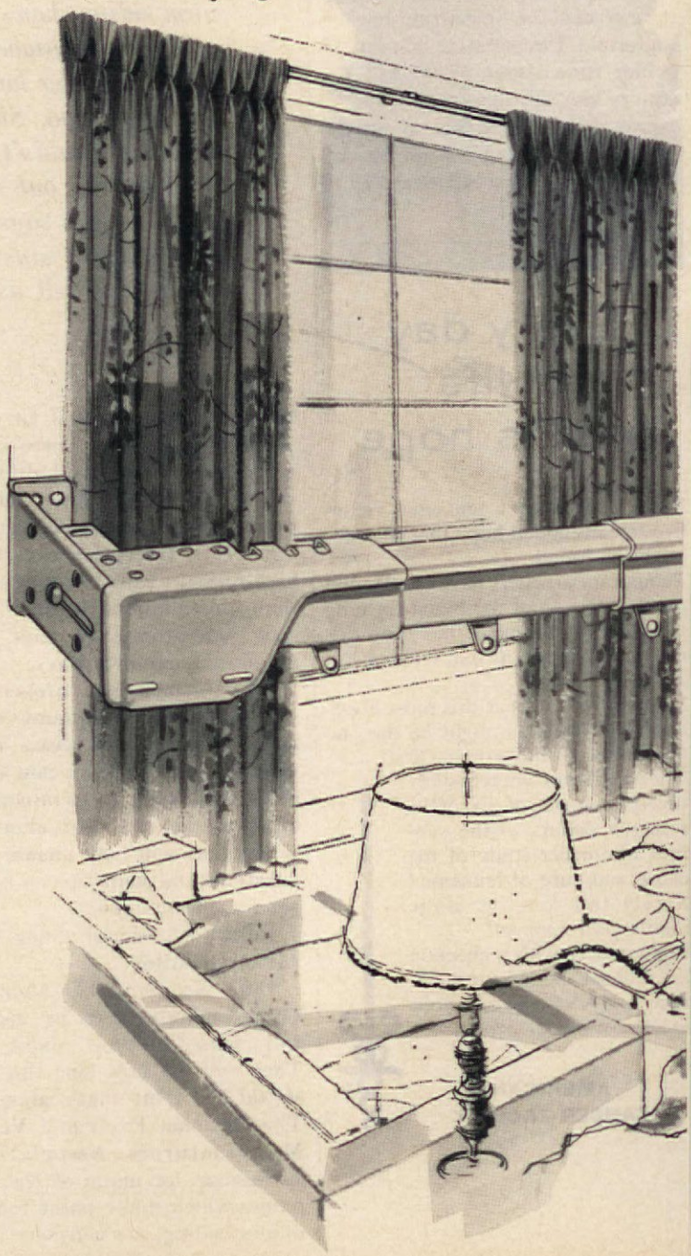
makes beauty news for your windows

You expect the latest from Kirsch, the leader in window beauty, and Kirsch always comes through. Now, exciting new "lifetime smooth" operation is built right into the fine Kirsch traverse rods you buy today—*at no increase* in price! Be sure to ask for them by name—Kirsch.

And Kirsch offers—*for only 25¢*—a big, colorful book of latest pictures and suggestions to help you plan, measure and make (or order) smartly-styled curtains and draperies to beautify any room. (See details and coupon at right.)

Start at the windows. And ensure the lasting beauty of your lovingly-planned effects with genuine Kirsch drapery hardware, offered by stores nearby who have *your* needs sincerely in mind as to style, quality and value.

- Rods with new *ball-bearing smoothness*
- Window styling ideas by the hundreds



appreciably now that many matching accessories are available. Panels with ventilating louvers, fascia, and prepainted gutters are just a few of these.

Here you may well ask about costs. It may be cheaper to maintain aluminum than other sidings, but what about initial expense? In many cases, aluminum-siding costs run about even with many conventional siding materials—particularly if you take into account the painting needed with wood and composition sidings. One 1340-square-foot split-level home acquired a $75 higher price tag when the builder used aluminum siding in place of a good composition siding which would have needed painting.

Nationwide average installed costs for aluminum siding run from about $70 to about $100 per square (100 square feet). Some companies offer a square for as low as $60, while others quote prices as high as $125. These figures are for insulating-backed material. Uninsulated aluminum siding runs about $7 to $10 per square less. Of these costs you can figure about $10 to $20 represents labor for installing the siding. Accessories add an additional $10 to $15 per square. Typical of the price fluidity is the case of the owner of a middle-aged, two-story home. He received four bids—all for essentially the same insulating-backed material. The bids were $1930, $1872, $1445, and $1356, and the number of squares the installers expected to use ranged from 18 to 30. The owner offered $1300 to the company which had bid $1356 and was accepted. Actual siding used—22 squares. This is an example of why you should always ask for several bids.

In addition to initial costs, taxes and insurance should be taken into consideration. As mentioned previously, there is no difference in fire insurance premiums. If you are re-siding an older home, your tax bill will probably rise no matter what new siding you use, simply because the value of your home will be increased. With a new home, the tax should be about the same. The split-level mentioned previously, which is located in a city with very high taxes, was taxed $12 a year higher because of the aluminum siding.

HOW TO GET A GOOD JOB

Because of the few dishonest operators in the aluminum siding business, it is important for a home owner to check on the company which will be doing the work. Look in the phone book for names that you recognize; check those you're not sure of with your local Better Business Bureau or Chamber of Commerce. There is not much point in dealing with an out-of-state installer. It might be difficult to get him back later if trouble develops. Get several quotations, spelling out what you want and exactly how much siding is to be used. Be sure the price includes all materials and accessories. And be sure aluminum nails are to be used.

Don't imagine that a high price automatically assures a good job. And don't be bashful about asking installers to whittle their bids. There is almost certain to be some water in their first price.

Ask to see two recent jobs the installer has done. Talk to the home owners. Ask who did the job. One "suede shoe" operator was caught showing customers his competitor's jobs as glowing examples of his own work. When you're checking these jobs see if exposed nail heads or installation scratches have been neatly touched up with matching paint. Are there any cuts around window corners? If proper molding and trim were not used, don't buy the excuse, "They don't make them." It's either a cheap siding for which no accessories are available, or a cheap job where the installer's low price did not include the extras. Most calking should be concealed. When it's exposed, how neatly was it applied?

Before you sign anything, be sure it contains assurances of the procedures that will be followed on your home. Some installers may balk; but if you have it in writing, they'll be sure to do the job right—particularly if you withhold payment until they do.

DOING IT YOURSELF

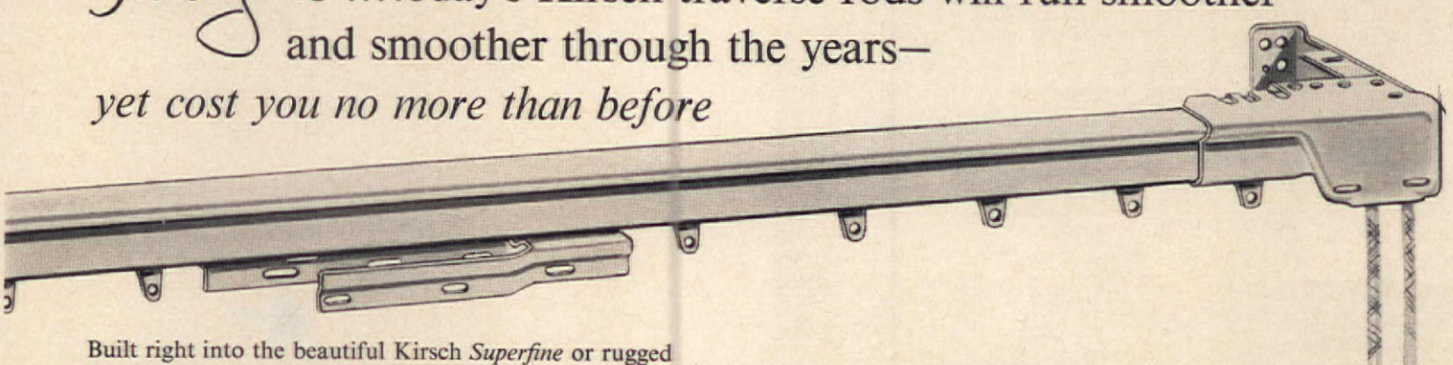
If you're a fairly skilled handy man, you can install aluminum siding yourself. Figure that it will take you from six to eight hours to install each 100 square feet.

You'll need the same paraphernalia and ladders you'd use to paint your house—normal carpenters' tools, plus a power saw with a metal cutting blade and a good pair of tinsnips.

For a list of manufacturers of aluminum siding, write: The American Home, 300 Park Ave., New York 22, N.Y. THE END

INFORMATION: PHIL MCCAFFERTY

Imagine ...today's Kirsch traverse rods will run smoother and smoother through the years—
yet cost you no more than before



Built right into the beautiful Kirsch *Superfine* or rugged Kirsch cut-to-measure traverse rods you buy today is a hidden improvement that ensures years-lasting smo-o-oth performance. New, special-formula *ball-bearing pulleys*—developed by Kirsch engineers exclusively for fine Kirsch rods—will carry even your heaviest draperies back and forth . . . back and forth . . . with effortless ease that actually becomes *smoother* through the years. Best news of all, these improved Kirsch rods *cost no more!*

Remember, there is a "big difference" in drapery hardware, and you need never settle for less than genuine Kirsch quality. Ask for Kirsch every time—the name you know and trust—and be sure you get it!

Send for this big 96-page book of Home Beauty Ideas . . . only 25¢

Contains 237 room pictures, with easy how-to-do-it instructions for every type of window, in house or apartment.

A colorful step-by-step guide to help you plan, measure and make (or buy) lined and unlined draperies . . . curtains including cafes . . . even slip covers. Expert help includes style, fabrics, sewing . . . a 4-page section on color . . . and a guide to drapery hardware. The biggest 25¢ worth in decorating!

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Gentlemen: Enclosed is_____for_____copies of "Kirsch Guide to Window Beauty" at 25¢ each.

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Write for an assortment of brochures on the famous Pennsylvania House collection of solid cherry and maple Colonial furniture, including a full color brochure of room settings. Send 25¢ in coin.

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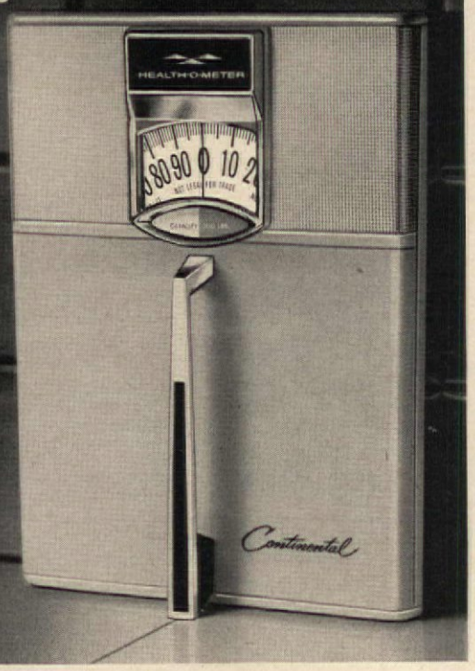
PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE

DEPARTMENT A-562, LEWISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

Good with figures



Health-o-Meter Bath Scales detect slightest change in your weight ... warn you long before your mirror can. New "Color-Zone" dial makes figures easier to read! Sleek, floor-hugging design. Built-in, easy-lift handle. Scale stands upright to save floor space. Choice of 6 decorator colors with glistening chrome trim. 300 lb. capacity.

Model 57 shown $10.95
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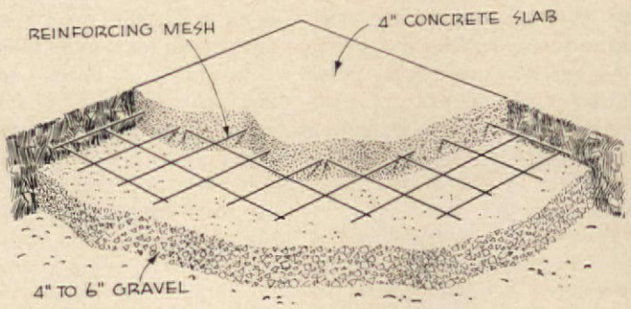
America's weight watcher since 1919

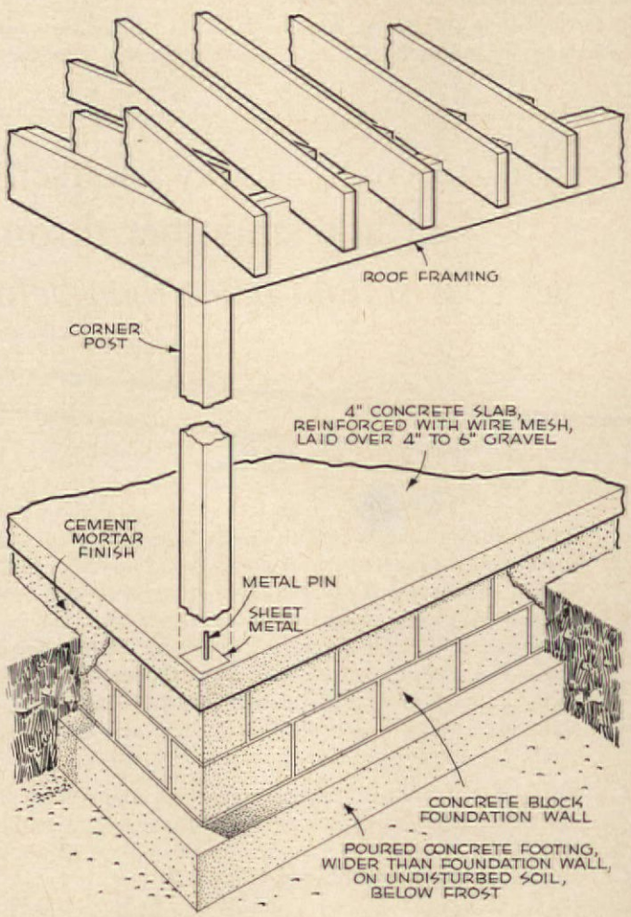
CONTINENTAL SCALE CORPORATION, CHICAGO 36

Here are eight tips on building patios

If you plan to have your porch or patio built, these eight ideas will help you determine the quality of the job you are getting. If you have worked before with concrete, brick, or stone, use these drawings as a guide to building your own patio. For accurate quantity measurements of cement, sand, gravel, reinforcing wire, take patio measurements to your local building-material dealer.



CONCRETE PATIO: *Bed of excavation should be raked level and tamped. Lay 4" to 6" of clean gravel to make a firm foundation for concrete; drain excess moisture. Set wood forms to allow for slight pitch away from house. Block up #10 6x6 reinforcing wire so it sets about 1" into concrete. Make one pour of 1-2¼-3½ concrete mix. Screed surface smooth.*



ROOFED PORCH: *If you intend to build a roofed, closed-in porch on your patio—either now or later—better figure for foundation and footing around the patio perimeter now. Make footing twice width of foundation wall. Use a 1-3-4 mix of concrete for footing; concrete block for foundation. It's wise to give foundation a protective coat of the cement mortar you set blocks in. Rules for making the concrete patio are the same as above. Framing is for illustration only.* (continued)

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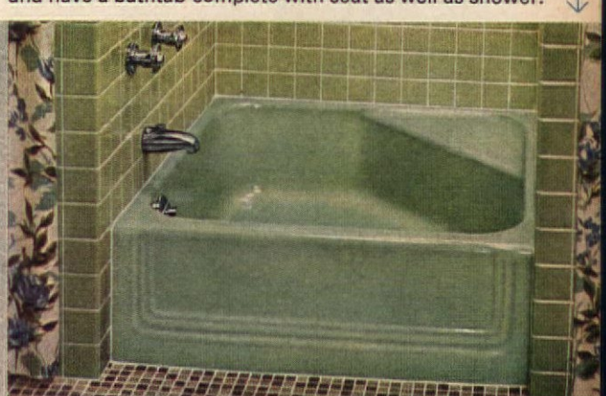
ECONOMY PLUS QUALITY...that's the Bildor, the finest tub at an economy price. Its rugged cast iron construction with a fused-on gleaming enamel finish affords a lifetime of value. These tubs are available in two lengths...4½' and 5'. A choice of white or six decorator colors.

SPACE SAVER...the Restal snuggles into a 38" x 39" recess. Planning a second bathroom...install the Restal and have a bathtub complete with seat as well as shower.



For more information see your American-Standard retailer listed in the Yellow Pages under "plumbing" or "plumbing supplies" ...or mail coupon to:

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color that really lasts on concrete

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PERMANENT CONCRETE STAIN

Colors as beautiful and permanent as the Grand Canyon. Change drab concrete walks, pool decks and driveways to beautiful-colorful areas. It's easy to achieve many beautiful effects — patterns and plain colors.

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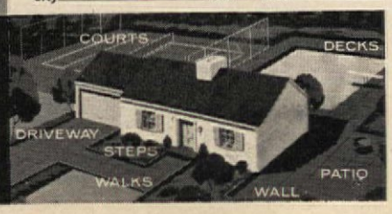
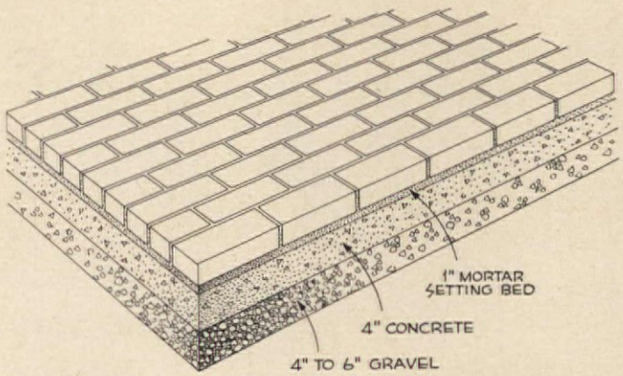
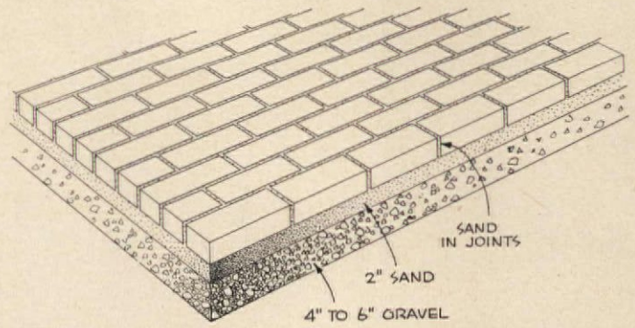
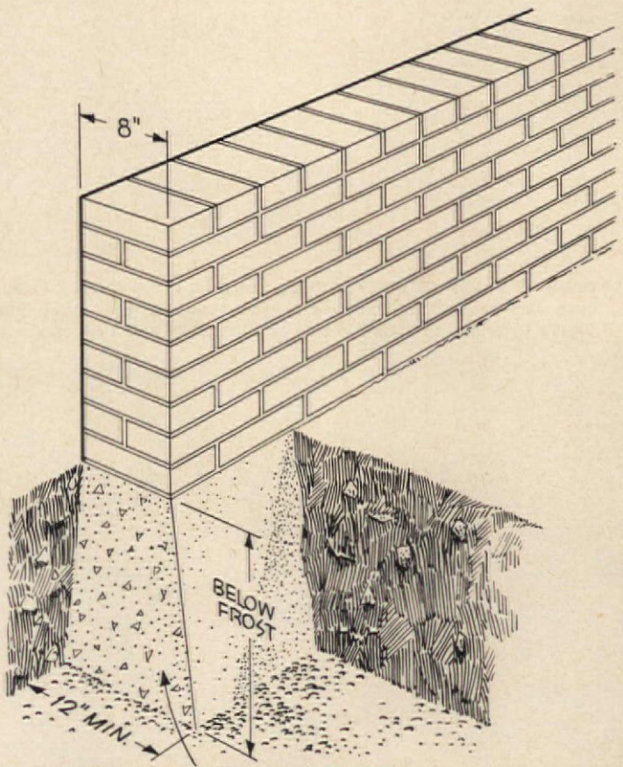




BRICK IN MORTAR: *If you wish a long-lasting, nearly maintenance-free brick patio, set brick in mortar. Use SW (Severe Weathering) grade brick. Begin with same concrete slab described on page 68. When slab dries, lay brick in 1" of mortar. Use a mix of 1 part Portland cement, ½ part hydrated lime, and 4½ parts sand. Lay brick from outside in.*



BRICK IN SAND: *Here's a simple—but not so permanent—way to make a brick patio. Use SW grade brick. Lay them in 2" of sand. Then sweep sand into ⅜" cracks between bricks.*



BRICK WALL: *To make a pleasant closed-in patio or garden, try this brick wall. Foundation and footing is one unit, made in a single pour. Use a 1-3-4 concrete mix. When foundation dries, lay bricks, one course at a time, with same mortar mix described above. Follow brick pattern indicated.*

(continued)

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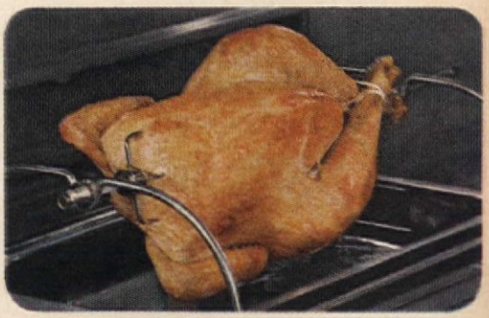

PARTY-SIZE BARBECUES . . . AUTOMATICALLY! Magic Chef rotisserie turns and bastes your barbeque with loving care—automatically! Oven, with even-flowing Gas heat, is 20 roomy inches wide—clock-controlled too, to help automatically with roasting and baking!

HANDLED-WITH-CARE . . . AUTOMATICALLY! No double-boiler needed, even for delicate Hollandaise! That's how reliable a Gas Burner-with-a-Brain* is. The heat you set is the heat you get—and a thermostat keeps it that way, automatically.

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More women cook with Gas than any other way! No wonder . . . because Gas is so clean, cool, automatic and modern. Thrifty, too. Look at this sleek Magic Chef Gas range, and you'll see why. Made to Gold Star standards, filled with new features—it *saves you money* because it's Gas. Installation costs less. Upkeep, ditto. There's nothing to "burn out" needing costly replacement—only a clean, silent flame that responds instantly to your bidding. Do you pay too much to cook with a range that does less? Join the happy majority—a Gas range with cooking magic like this awaits you, at your appliance dealer's or Gas company. AMERICAN GAS ASSOCIATION

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*A.G.A. Mark
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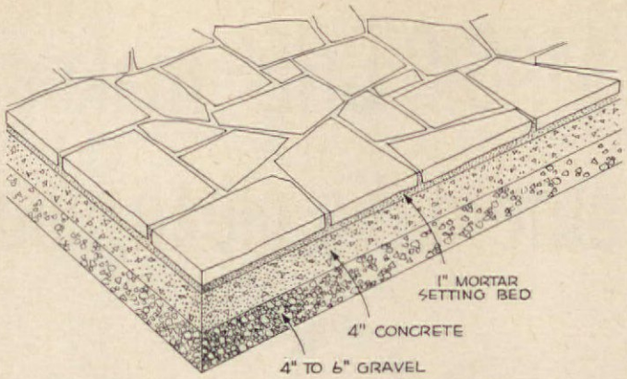
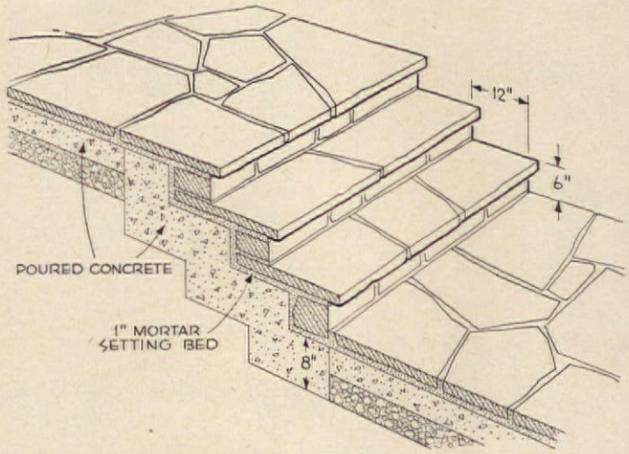
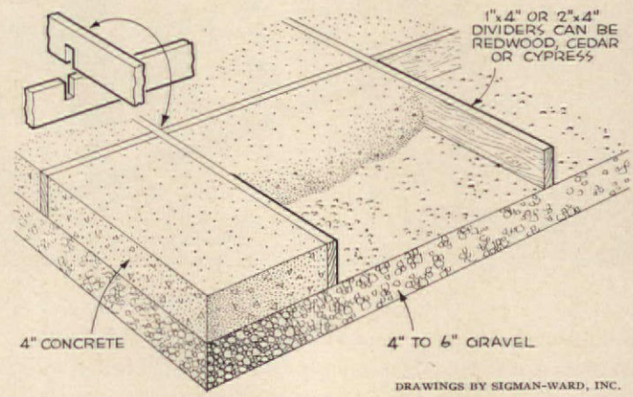
Call your painting contractor or see your Pratt & Lambert dealer.



FLAGSTONE PATIO: *Gravel bed and concrete slab are prepared as for brick patio. Use of #10 6x6 reinforcing wire is recommended in the slab, which needs only a 1-3-4 concrete mix. However, the same cement mortar used for the brick patio is necessary as a setting bed for flagstone, slate, or whatever type of cut stone you select. Straight edges rarely appear on natural stone, so edges, and particularly corner pieces, must be cut by supplier. Often, supplier will cut and mark stones to fit a planned pattern within the dimensions of your patio.*



FLAGSTONE STEPS: *If you feel confident working with stone and concrete, these steps should prove an interesting challenge. Walks are prepared as patio, above. Forms for concrete foundation under steps should be cut for both sides and every riser. Nail forms in place, and make one pour of a 1-3-4 concrete mix. Screed tread base level. Using cement mortar, as above, set stones, as shown. Thicker stones are used for risers.*



DRAWINGS BY SIGMAN-WARD, INC.

DIVIDED CONCRETE SLAB: *Here's a way to match Dr. and Mrs. Warmington's porch (see page 33). Start with a 4" to 6" gravel bed, raked to pitch away from the house slightly. Notch wood dividers, as shown, and set firmly in gravel. Use one of the toxic softwoods (see note in drawing) for decay resistance. Make or order a 1-2¼-3½ mix of concrete, and pour as many sections at one time as you can work with comfortably. You can eliminate reinforcing wire.*

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May 17-27

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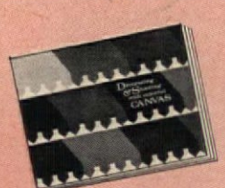
Full-color, 24-page booklet is packed with adaptable design ideas and color combinations. Only 25¢. Send coupon today or see your local awning dealer.



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You, too, should have an Inclin-ator in your home. Or perhaps an Elevette, the vertical lift which carries three passenger or a wheel chair and two passengers up two or more floors. Both are safe for all ages and operate on house current.

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Portraits of Petunias

(pictured in color on pages 40 and 41)

You can buy either seed or young plants. The latter are your best bet unless you're experienced at starting tiny seeds indoors.

TIPS ON GROWING PETUNIAS

- To make sure of having the exact color you want, each year buy new seeds or plants of the desired varieties. Don't rely on self-sown seedlings that come up where last year's plants were. They can't be depended upon to "come true" to parent's color, and may resemble unattractive ancestors.
- Time to set plants outdoors: In cold climates, it's spring when hard freezing weather's over and lilacs start to bloom. Young petunia plants stand a temperature of 35° without being killed. Where winters are mild, plant any time.
- Best sized plants to buy in boxed units are *not* large ones in bloom but younger ones in "leafy rosette" stage. The younger they are when transplanted, the better they stand the shock of moving, and the less their growth is checked. They quickly produce low side branches and become bushy plants with maximum bloom potential.
- What if the only plants available to buy have grown tall with single stems? Prune them back when you plant to induce side branching. Nip off tops to within four leaves of plant's base. Though immediate bloom will be postponed, pay-off in profusion of flowers will be worth the delay.
- Best place to grow them outdoors is in full sun, though half shade is tolerated. Soil should be moderately rich and deeply dug.
- When planting, space 18 to 24 inches apart. Water. Protect from sun and wind first few days.
- Petunias should be fed, but don't overdo it! Use a complete plant food (follow manufacturer's directions) at planting time, three weeks later, and as bloom begins.
- To keep flowers coming all summer, learn to prune. Buds form on new tip growth as branches extend outward. Older part of each branch (low end) is through blooming. When plants begin to look leggy and tired, encourage development of new bud-bearing side shoots by snipping off outer ⅓ to ½ of a few old branches occasionally. A good excuse to pick bouquets!

KINDS OF PETUNIAS

There are two general types of petunias available. Each comes in double and single forms and in many colors and combinations.

don't say "darn"...buy

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Fast, easy way to patch plaster—fill cracks, holes, dry wall panel joints. Ready to use. No mixing. Smooth spreading. Easy sanding. Fast drying. Needs no primer when you paint. Dry powder patching can't match it!

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The *Genuine* – Accept No Substitute.

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The Year's Most Talked About Petunia!!! A brilliant red and white grandiflora . . . one of many fine petunias from today's leader in quality F_1 hybrid flower seed production.

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Handles like putty. Hardens like wood.

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The *Genuine* – Accept No Substitute.

Multiflora or "many-flowered" petunias have relatively small plain-edged blooms (2½ to 3 inches across) borne in profusion on compact thickly branched plants. They're the best kind for withstanding bad weather and have quickest comeback after being sodden with rain. They tend to be early-blooming. Excellent for masses of color in beds. Examples (illustrated on pages 40 and 41) are 'Comanche,' 'Sugar Plum,' 'Mercury.'

Grandifloras or "large-flowered" have somewhat fewer but bigger blossoms (3 to 4 inches across), ruffled or fringed, on a larger spreading plant. Individual blossoms are showy. They're useful not only for bedding but for closer viewing and display in pots, window boxes, and hanging baskets. Examples (illustrated on pages 40 and 41) are 'Sonata,' 'White Magic,' 'Calypso.'

WHICH ARE BEST?

To help you understand why some kinds are superior to others (and cost more too!), here's a brief history of petunia development.

This garden flower got its beginning from two petunia species that grew wild in Argentina. One had a small magenta-purple colored flower. The other had a large long-tubed white one that resembled a tobacco blossom (tobacco and petunia are related). When the two were crossed, their offspring were a mixture of colors and sizes. The assortment was known as Petunia hybrida. Seed breeders improved the flowers by making additional crosses, and by selecting the best colors and mutations and inbreeding them for uniformity. Gradually there evolved a wide range of small- and large-flowered named varieties in many colors. Some of the best known in this group are 'Rosy Morn,' 'Snowstorm,' and 'California Giants.'

First generation (F_1) hybrids are the newest (continued)

PAN-AMERICAN SEEDS, INC.

***These plants** are the ideal size for transplanting into the garden.*

Get a Horse!

WHEEL HORSE, OF COURSE

Don "Breakfast Club" McNeill (ABC-Radio) riding the Wheel Horse suburban tractor with 36" rotary mower attached

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Self-Powered Tiller. A Wheel Horse attaching tool for the serious gardener. Has own 5½ hp. engine. Designed to dig deep through hard packed earth. Other garden tools include plow, cultivator, disc.

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***Kitchen Sampler** captures the richness of earth's bounty. The simplicity of this design is appropriate for any setting. Cross-stitch design is stamped on 100 per cent Belgian linen, size 12x14". Included in kit: embroidery thread, instructions. Kit #PSK-10, $1.*

***Eagle Kit.** The American eagle has been a favorite decorative motif since it became our national emblem. This spread eagle, adapted from an old etching, is cross-stitch, accented with an appliquéd flag-blue banner. Frame it or make a decorative pillow. Kit has stamped 100 per cent Belgian linen, size 12x20", embroidery thread, instructions. Kit #PSK-20, $1.*

***Pledge of Allegiance Sampler** is one of our most popular needlework kits. It is one you will take pride in displaying in your home, school, or office. Kit includes design stamped on 100 per cent Belgian linen, blue cotton appliqué patch for flag, embroidery thread, and complete instruction sheet. An excellent project for Girl Scouts and Camp Fire Girls. Kit #PSK-1, $1.*

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All of the kits listed have been made exclusively for *The American Home* by Paragon Needlecraft.

Fill out coupon, enclosing personal check or money order (no stamps please). New York City residents add 3 per cent sales tax.

Please allow three weeks for handling and mailing.

The American Home Magazine, Dept. PEK, Forest Hills 75, New York

Please send me the following items:

_____Kitchen Cross-stitch Sampler Kit, PSK-10, $1
_____Eagle Cross-stitch Sampler Kit, PSK-20, $1
_____Pledge of Allegiance Cross-stitch Sampler Kit, PSK-1, $1

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development and most tremendous improvement. Flowers are handsomer, in more and better colors, borne in greater profusion, over longer periods. Plants are more vigorous, uniform, early-blooming, weather resistant, and easier to start and grow.

The seed is more valuable than gold! That's because there's so much hand labor involved in producing it. Hybrid double petunia seed retails for $4500 per ounce; large-flowered kinds at $2500, small-flowered at $1750. Luckily you don't need an ounce! That's 275,000 of the tiny lightweight seeds, and only wholesale dealers purchase such amounts. The packets prepared for home owners contain just a small number of seeds which cost about a penny apiece. In the basic method of producing hybrid petunia seed two selected, uniform inbred lines are crossed to obtain hybrid vigor in addition to other desired characteristics. But petunias can't be handled in mass manner. Each ounce of seed demands 6000 separate hand operations, and the total annual crop in the U. S. is only about 300 pounds.

Hybrid seed grows easily, but because it's so tiny and valuable you can't sow it directly in the garden outdoors as you would marigolds or zinnias. It should be started indoors about two months before time to set outside. If your thumb's bright green, raising the seedlings will be fun. Otherwise, buy started plants.

OUTSTANDING HYBRID VARIETIES

Doubles

Large-flowered:
- 'Allegro,' deep salmon
- 'Burpee Orchid,' lavender
- 'Caprice,' rose
- 'Lyric,' clear pink
- 'Nocturne,' purple

Small-flowered:
- 'Cherry Tart,' pink and white
- 'Cardinal Riches,' red
- 'White Riches,' white

Singles

Grandifloras:
- 'Ballerina,' salmon (All-America)
- 'Blue Lace,' lavender-netted
- 'Maytime,' pink (All-America)
- 'Prima Donna,' rose (All-America)
- 'Tango,' deep scarlet

Multifloras:
- 'Coral Satin,' coral (All-America)
- 'Glitters,' red and white (All-America)
- 'Linda,' rosy salmon
- 'Neptune,' deep blue
- 'Paleface,' white (All-America)
- 'Red Satin,' red (All-America)

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CLOGGED TOILETS
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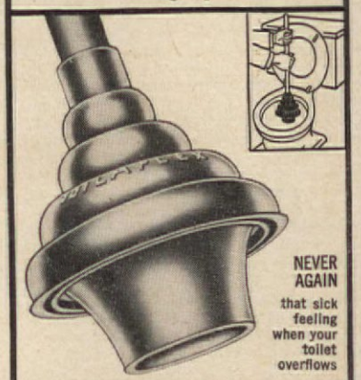

NEVER AGAIN that sick feeling when your toilet overflows

'TOILAFLEX'®
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Ordinary plungers just don't seat properly. They permit compressed air and water to splash back. Thus you not only have a mess, but you lose the very pressure you need to clear the obstruction.

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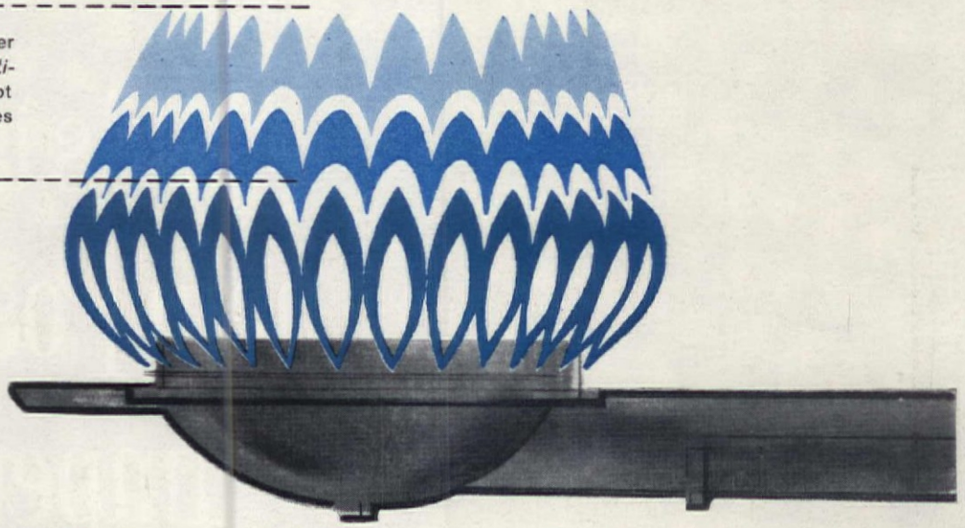
announcing a new water heating concept!

Now! A new water heater that AUTOMATICALLY "shifts gears" to provide more hot water...faster

When large amounts of hot water are demanded, size of flame *automatically* increases. As demand for hot water is reduced, the flame becomes smaller . . . *automatically*.



This self-regulating flame satisfies your demands for hot water by AUTOMATICALLY heating water faster...not hotter!

YES . . . HOT WATER WHEN YOU WANT IT!

That's what you get from this new and different Rheem gas water heater. Different because it *automatically* provides an *abundance* of hot water when you need it the most.

THE RHEEM DEMAND-O-MATIC GAS WATER HEATER

THE RHEEM DEMAND-O-MATIC IS DIFFERENT!

To understand its advantages requires comparison with an ordinary water heater:

Ordinary water heaters come in various sizes. Each size gives just so much hot water and that's all! Oh, you can turn up the temperature dial—but that just makes the water hotter. And that's not good—water that's too hot can scald and is often the cause of a variety of water heater ailments.

THE RHEEM DEMAND-O-MATIC "shifts gears" *automatically* to provide more hot water...faster.

As hot water is used, the burner turns on to heat the incoming cold water, (just like an ordinary water heater). ***But***, when there is a demand for large amounts of hot water, the Rheem Demand-O-Matic really goes to work! Its new "extra-sensory" control ***automatically*** increases the size of the flame, (just like the "Burner with the Brain") to ***heat the water faster . . . not hotter.*** In fact, when it "shifts into high speed," the Demand-O-Matic heats up to 61% faster than ordinary water heaters. As hot water needs decrease, so does the size of the flame.

COMPLETELY, CONVENIENTLY AUTOMATIC!

The Rheem Demand-O-Matic has no dials to turn or knobs to touch. Once installed, you simply forget it.

NEW ECONOMIES—MORE HOT WATER PER DOLLAR

Rheem Demand-O-Matic water heaters are available in two sizes. The 30 gallon model for most homes...recovers up to 50 gallons of hot water per hour . . . The 50 gallon model for extra large families . . . recovers up to 85 gallons of hot water per hour. Both sizes are available with either Rheemglas or Coppermatic tanks. Your neighborhood plumbing contractor can recommend the one that's just right for your home.

MORE HOT WATER BENEFITS!

The Rheem Demand-O-Matic recovers up to 61% more hot water per hour . . . does the same job as larger water heaters, ***but costs less to buy.***

Both models save on fuel because you heat only the water you need . . . when you need it . . . ***costs less to operate.***

The 30 gallon Demand-O-Matic is the same size as most ordinary 30 gallon hot water heaters. It will easily fit into small areas which are unable to accommodate a larger, bulky water heater . . . ***so it costs less to install.***

Don't put up with the inconvenience caused by a tired, inadequate water heater. Compare the performance benefits and economy of the Rheem "Demand-O-Matic" with larger, more expensive water heaters . . . Prove to yourself it ***costs less to buy, less to install and less to operate.***

CALL YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD PLUMBING CONTRACTOR

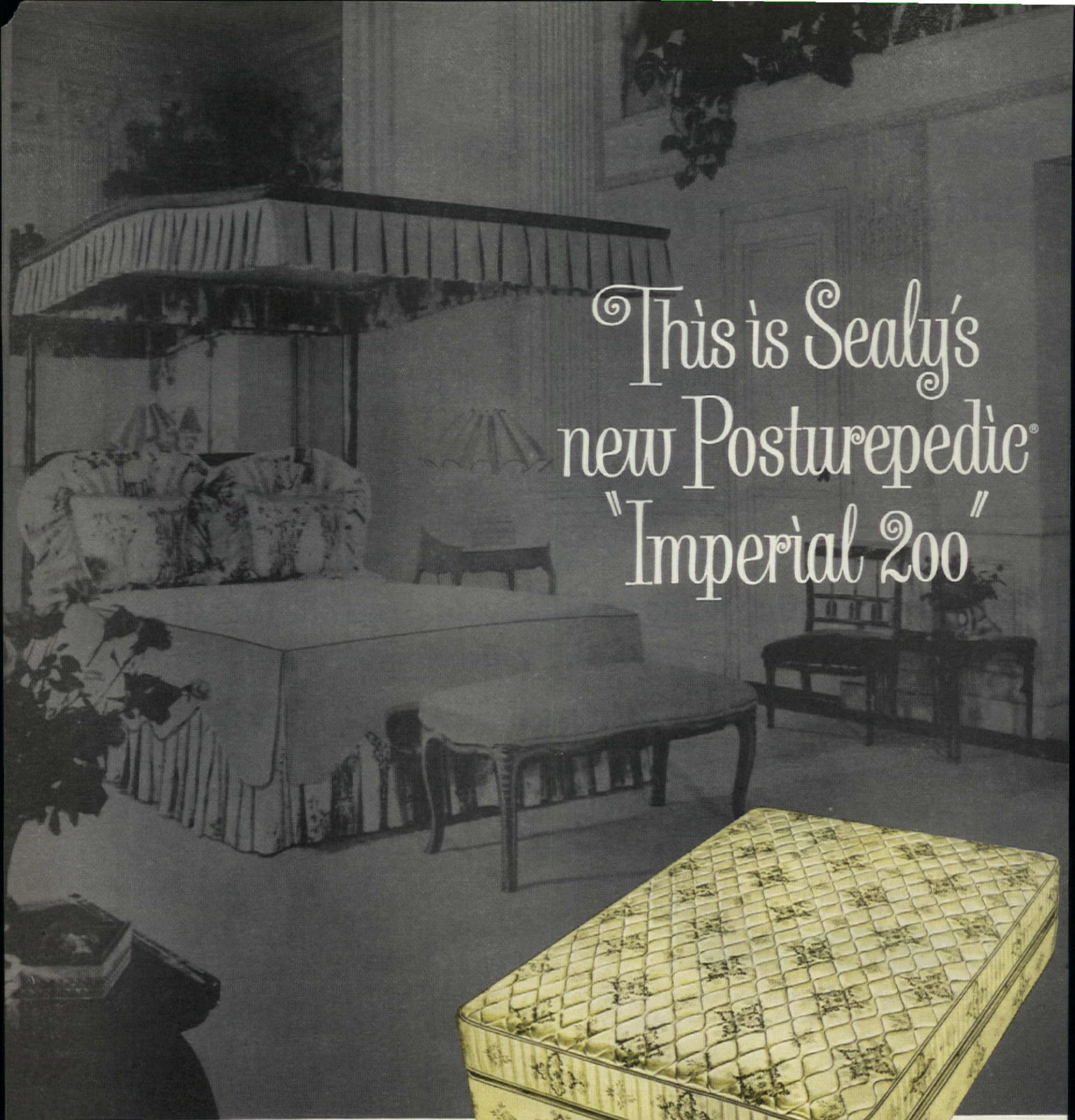
You will find him listed in the yellow pages under the Rheem Trade Mark in the Water Heater Section—ask for a Demand-O-Matic water heater demonstration.

Rheem

RHEEM MANUFACTURING CO. • Home Products Group • 7600 S. Kedzie Ave. • Chicago 52, Ill.

World's largest manufacturer of automatic storage water heaters

Rheem also makes these comfort products for the home: plumbing fixtures, warm air and hydronic heating equipment, complete home air conditioning.



This is Sealy's new Posturepedic® "Imperial 200"

Now from Sealy comes a new experience in luxurious and healthful sleeping

Never before has a mattress cared for you so beautifully and so healthfully. Inside this magnificent Imperial 200 is an inner mattress—a Sealy Posturepedic that is designed in cooperation with leading orthopedic surgeons. It is complete even to its own cover. Double insulated, life line flanged, and button free to provide the firm, smooth surface for which the Posturepedic is famous.

And this is only the beginning. Around this inner Posturepedic, Sealy has wrapped three clouds of luxury—twin layers of deep, billowy Sealyfoam, and an outer covering of gleaming Moonglow satin—all quilted together to create the most sumptuous surface a body has ever slept on. Mattress and matching foundation, $200 the set.

Sealy

Fabric of Ball Gown Elegance by Ceil Chapman, world famous fashion designer. Miss Chapman created the Imperial 200 design in Moonglow satin especially for this Posturepedic.

"No morning backache" from sleeping on a mattress without proper support.

SEALY POSTUREPEDIC®

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Sealy, Inc., 666 N. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago 11

SHOP YOUR AMERICAN HOME MARKET PLACE

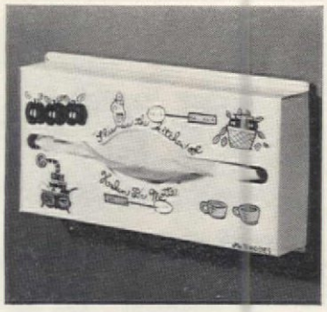
It's May, it's May, the merry old month when Mother has her day, and everyone's heart is a little bit gayer than it is any other month in the year. It's a time to plant a tree, and paint the boat, and put the guest room in order for the first guest of summer. It's the time to surprise yourself with a gift, and send one to your grandchild. But who has the time to shop? No one. And that's why the smartest people are shopping by mail. Send your order now, and when the postman whistles—he'll have a package for *you!*

HELEN DE MOTTE

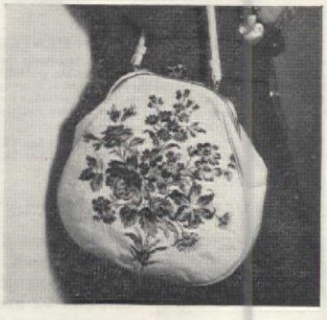
GOOD MORNING help for Mother during the breakfast rush hour comes from this pine cereal caddy. Hanging on the wall, it holds ten individual packages of dry cereal where the kids and hubby can easily get their own. And you can see your supply at a glance. The 21x4x5″ dispenser has a honey-tone finish. $4.98. From Crescent House, Box 621-AB, Plainview, N.Y.

GETTING STEPPED ON is the way in which this unusual-looking door mat protects your carpeting. Woven of long-wearing esparto fiber, its loose weave lets the dirt fall through while the mat stays clean. The 30x18″ Portuguese rug has a black horse silhouette set attractively against a natural colored background. $5.95. From Jenifer House, Dept. AH, Great Barrington, Mass.

IN THE NAME OF your appreciation for the chief cook and bottle washer of your household, give Mom her very own tissue holder. This metal box is personalized with "This is the kitchen of" plus her name. White, with gaily hand-painted decorations, this dispenser can be hung on the wall. It will hold a standard-sized box of tissues. $3.95. Taylor Gifts, Wayne 6, Pa.



TOTE-ALLY CORRECT for all spring fashions, this needle-point tote from Belgium is a lovely way to remember Mom. The delicate flower pattern on a beige fabric decorates both sides of this handsome bag. She will love the brass frame, taffeta lining, bone trim, zipper pocket, and the 14x13½x3″ roominess. Also in black. $7.95. Here's How, 15-AH West 26 St., New York 10, N.Y.

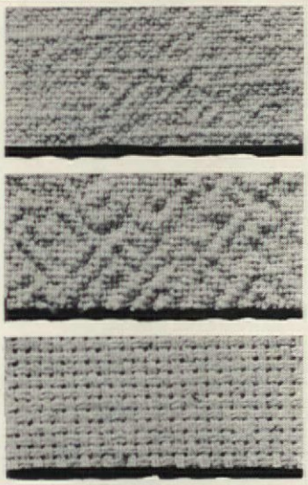


OTTO MAYA

THE LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE with its black roof can teach neatness as well as the three R's. This one, 4x5x6½″, holds a giant box of crayons, and you just raise the roof to put them in or take out. The wooden crayon keeper makes an adorable desk-topper in the playroom. $1.98 (crayons not included). Add 25c post. Foster House, 6523-AH No. Galena Rd., Peoria, Ill.

RACKING YOUR BRAIN to solve a tight situation? This versatile luggage rack is a guest room bonanza. The 15x26x17½″ hardwood and fiber rush piece lists holding bedspreads, serving as a chair, and acting like a table among its additional talents. Unfin., $7.95. Natural fin., $8.95. Pine, maple, walnut, or mahogany, $10.95, exp. coll. Jeff Elliot, Dept. AH-4, Statesville, N.C.

Order merchandise from the Market Place by sending your check or money order to the company mentioned. Unless otherwise stated, the postage is included in the price. Anything that is not personalized may be returned within seven days for a full refund.



only $2.98 a yard and it's 10 feet wide!

Decorators and architects "up end" **one piece** to drape the widest window floor-to-ceiling — no seams to sew or show! These heavy, sturdy cottons launder fluff-dry, never ironed — in primitive weaves that look handwoven. Natural, white, or custom dye-matched. 5 weaves, 2.98 to 5.25 yd.

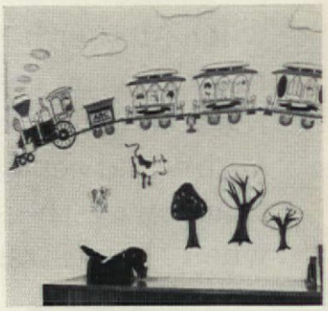
world's widest seamless draperies!

Your choice of yardage, do-it-yourself pleating materials — or prepleated yardage — or complete, made to measure draperies (handsomer at low, low cost because they're seamless!) For brochure and 15 samples, **send 25c** to:

HOMESPUN HOUSE
261 So. Robertson, Beverly Hills 2, Calif.

GET TOGETHER the best features of a colonial chair, and you have a description of *The Chair*. Designed for comfort and proper sitting, it is 33¼" high, 17¾" wide, with an 18" high seat. Charming in its simplicity, it goes well with today's casual interiors. In honey pine or maple finish, $14.95, exp. coll. Kit, $10.95 plus $1.50 post. Yield House, Dept. A, North Conway, N.H.

WELL-TRAINED children's rooms have their walls traveled by these ABC Train cutouts. The 38 pieces, done in pastel shades, can extend up to 10′ long. This picture is just the beginning! There are cars, signals, children, clouds, trees, an engineer, a conductor, 2 engines, a coal tender, and even a cow! Complete train, $4.30. Small Fry Shop, Box 76303-AH, Los Angeles, Calif.



HOME ON THE RANGE there's sure to be a spare 3¾" for this roguish rooster to sit. Catching your fancy as well as the drippings from stirrers, this spoon rest is white ceramic, brightly touched with color. With its own four plastic measuring spoons, it makes a gay little thank-you gift to return with an empty cake plate. $1. Spencer Gifts, 601 Spencer Bldg., Atlantic City, N.J.

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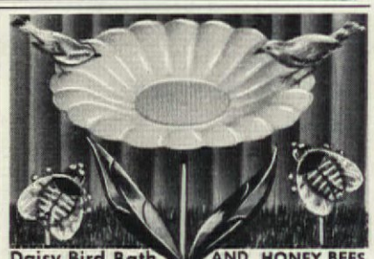

Daisy Bird Bath Giant Bird Bath **3.98** plus 45c shipping AND HONEY BEES Pair Giant Honey Bees **1.98** plus 25c shipping

Bath made of soft white plastic petals with yellow center. Stem rustproof enameled steel with green plastic daisy leaves. 43" high, 20" diameter bowl, 3" deep. Stakes easily into lawn or garden. Ord. No. 8101. Pair of honeybees add realistic scenery. Each bee 7" long x 5" wide x 2½" high. Yellow and black bee colors, transparent wings. 21" high overall with stake. Bees are completely weather proof durable plastic. Order No. 7703.

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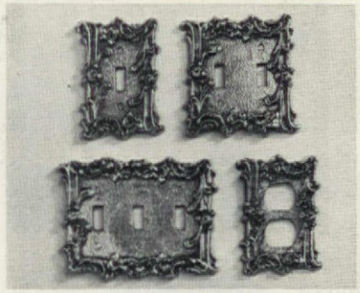
the workbench
46 Greenwich Ave., Dept. A, N.Y. 11, N.Y.



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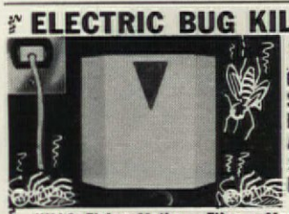

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ELECTRIC PERCOLATOR—At last, the beloved Blue Onion pattern adorns a percolator! Holds 8–10 cups, complete with electric cord, sparkling white ceramic percolator is just right on any table. **$6.95** ppd.

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MATCHING TABLE MATS—Blue onion pattern on white foam rubber back place mats. 16½" x 10½" Set of 4, **$4.95** ppd.

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Send 10c for 1962 Catalog.

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WITH BALL FRINGE ON UNBLEACHED MUSLIN

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all types 80" wide per pair

Matching Valance 9"x80" **1.50**

All Prices Postpaid

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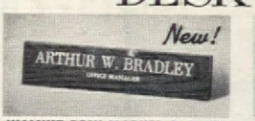

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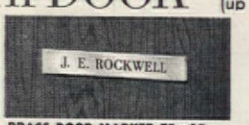
Two lines, as shown 2.45 ppd.



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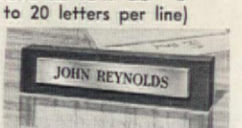

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Madison Ladder Back 9.95 fully assembled

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Minimum order TWO. 10% discount on six.

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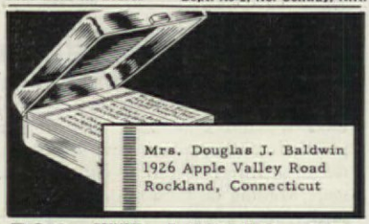

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Superior quality paper with rich-looking gold trim, printed with ANY name and address in black. Thoughtful, personal gift; perfect for your own use. Set of 500, 50¢. In two-tone plastic box, 60¢. 48-hour service.

Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back. We pay the postage.

Walter Drake & Sons
405 DRAKE BUILDING
COLORADO SPRINGS 14, COLO.

Send for Free Catalogue

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Inexpensive to operate and comfortable to use. These stoves lend enchantment to interiors, old and new. Provides more heat and all the cheer of an open fireplace. Charcoal broiling cooking convenience.

Also manufacturers of cast iron modern and antique ranges, stoves and furnaces. Send for information. Write to Dept. A.H.

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I. R. Fox, fur specialist, restyles your old, worn fur coat into a glamorous new cape or stole. Special price $24.95 complete, includes new lining, interlining, monogram, cleaning, glazing. Mink, beaver, extras, add'l.

FREE FUR PURSE TO MATCH YOUR STOLE

ALL WORK GUARANTEED
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SEND NO MONEY! Just wrap up your old fur coat, mail it to us now. Send your dress size and height on postcard. Pay postman $24.95 plus postage when new cape arrives. Or send for FREE Style Book now! Many different styles to choose from. Write:

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2 bu. cap. $14.95
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ALSTO CO., Dept. AH-5, 4007 Detroit Ave., Cleveland 13, Ohio

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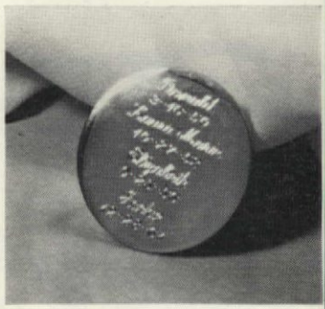
Now it's EASY to learn ANY instrument. No boring exercises. Start playing real pieces by notes right away. Amazing progress, at home, in spare time. No teacher. Low cost. 1,000,000 students all over the world. Write for 36-page FREE BOOK. No salesman will call. **U.S. School of Music, Studio 1795, Port Washington, N. Y.** (*Est. 1898.*) Tear this out as a reminder.

FRESH AS A DAISY ideas for serving eggs come from this flower-shaped poacher. It makes toast toppers fancy enough to be a real treat at Sunday breakfast. Or you can use hard-cooked flower eggs as a garnish for soups and salads. The six-petaled eggs with yolk centers are so easy to "grow," and such fun to show. Set of 2, $1. Sunset House, 71 Sunset Bldg., Beverly Hills, Calif.

ETCHING TO GO on any wall is one of these village scenes from Europe. The 3x4½" picture is set in a wide, white border, making the total size 8x10". Each of the four in this set is signed by the artist. The black and white etchings on heavy bond paper will stay at home or go to the office with equal ease. Four for $2.98. The Fruitland Traders, Box 74-H, Fruitland, Md.

GOING IN A CIRCLE pin of sterling silver are the engraved names of all her children or grandchildren. And what mommy or grammy wouldn't love the chance to brag about her progeny in such a pretty way? Give her this 1⅜" excuse to talk about the world's best children. $2 plus 25c for each name and birthdate (tax incl.). Zenith Gifts, 4861 P.O. Bldg., Brighton 35, Mass.



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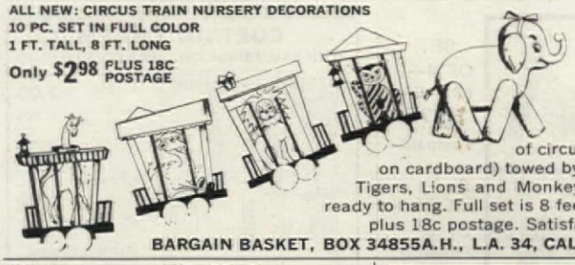
Only $2.98 PLUS 18C POSTAGE

Cutest Nursery Decorations ever
Pre cut
Ready to hang
Satisfaction Guaranteed



Set of 10 carloads of circus animals (printed on cardboard) towed by "Effie Elephant". Tigers, Lions and Monkeys galore, pre cut, ready to hang. Full set is 8 feet long. Only $2.98 plus 18c postage. Satisfaction guaranteed.

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See how *The Sound Way To Easy Reading* can help him to read and spell better in a few weeks. New home-tutoring course *drills* your child in phonics with records and cards. Easy to use. University tests and parents' reports show children gain up to *full year's grade in 6 weeks!* Write for free illustrated folder and low price.

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2½" x 3½" photos made on professional paper. Send photo, snapshot or neg. today with $1.25 (originals returned unharmed). State color of hair, eyes, clothing.

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THE AMERICAN HOME
American Home Bldg., Forest Hills 75, New York

IT'S A TIE rack and mirror duo that every man will love having behind his closet door. Made of pine with a maple finish, it has 14 brass-finished bars to hold his neckwear. And there's a 17x8¼" mirror to see himself in. When he's not looking, you can even peek in and powder your nose. The 20x14x1½" piece is $8.50 from Gotham Gifts, 67–85-A Exeter St., Forest Hills 75, N.Y.

SITTING BULL, made of gay red and yellow corduroy, is an ideal mount for your TV watching tots. 18" long and 12" high, he is well-stuffed to make him so comfy to sit on. With big, lovable eyes and ears that are wired for easy grabbing, flower loving Toro will bulldoze the squirmiest youngsters into sitting still. $5.95. Gay Gifts, 430-AH Teaneck Rd., Ridgefield Park, N.J.

OUT IN THE COLD dining room, this candle warmer will keep your hot fudge or butterscotch sauce bubbling. And sitting under the coffee pot in the morning, it will keep breakfast from being a lukewarm affair. The dull black aluminum trivet, ringed in a heart pattern, has a candle set in the center. The 2½" high warmer is $1.25. Moultrie Mfg., Dept. AH, Moultrie, Ga.

NEW! CAPE COD CUPOLA

Opaque glass louvres give this handsome, practical cupola charm and beauty. Unique and attractive when lighted at night. It's easy to install and fits any roof. Adds charm and beauty to your home.

Send for free illustrated catalog — listing attractive cupolas from $16 to $340, also 197 designs of weathervanes from $10 to $175, write:

CAPE COD CUPOLA & WEATHERVANE CO.
Dept. AM-5 North Dartmouth, Mass.

NEVER BUY FILM AGAIN!

Don't run out of film! When you send Yankee your exposed black & white or color film, Yankee returns . . . at no extra charge . . . a fresh roll of Kodak, same size as yours. Yankee prices are up to 40% lower than most stores. Quality unsurpassed. Send postcard for free mailing envelopes and prices.

YANKEE PHOTO SERVICE,
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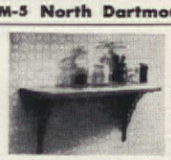

Early American
PINE SHELF

Enjoy your shelf in any convenient and eye-catching spot. Supported by reproductions of old black wrought-iron brackets, the surface interest alone makes it worth the price. Shelf is nicely finished pine, 17½" long and 5¾" deep, to hold spices in a country kitchen, jars in the bathroom, or showpieces anywhere.

Only **$4.95** plus 50c postage and handling.
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Wrought Iron Brackets only, $2.75 set

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HAND CUT COLONIAL SILHOUETTES
4 for $1.00 ppd.

Jet black, 7" to 9" high full figure silhouettes of colonial men and women hand cut from heavy paper by professional artist. Ideal for inexpensive black wood, pine, or antique frames to make a charming gallery in any room. Fine decorator or conversation pieces, hand made gifts. Choice of 4 packs—(1) 4 men full figures; (2) 4 women full figures; (3) 4 men profiles (2" x 3"); (4) 4 women profiles (2" x 3"). Money-back guarantee. *Send 25c for complete catalog.*

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Crystal Chandeliers and Sconces. Compare our price and quality. Imported Crystals. Satisfaction guaranteed. Prices from $12.50. We pay shipping charges in U.S.A. Free catalogue. Our prices have not advanced during past ten years.

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PREPARE NOW FOR THE INEVITABLE with a steel burial vault for your small pet. Machine pressed contour for greater strength, padded with satin lining, exterior wrought iron black with gold mist finish. Pet's name in brass on cover. When closed has self sealing cover making vault completely waterproof, rodent proof etc.

Size 18"L 9"W 13"H $12.95 ppd.
Quotations available on larger sizes.

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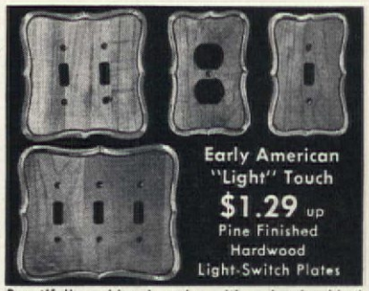
Marker or plaque available as shown or with pet's name and owner's name only with raised blank for future date engraving. Or will supply marker with other personalized lettering, limit four lines. Specify which on order. **Size 4" X 7"** with mounting fasteners on reverse side. Made from cast aluminum with polished raised lettering. **$6.95 ppd.**

SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER AND PET'S NAME WITH ORDER.

PET MEMORIAL PRODUCTS CO. 625 S. MAIN HUTCHINSON, KANSAS



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Send check or m.o.—Satisfaction Guaranteed

SPENCER GIFTS D-24 Spencer Bldg. Atlantic City, N. J.

"LET THERE BE LIGHT"

Enjoy candle light at its best from this reproduction of an Early American Candle Holder. This antique finished candle holder with ceramic candle cup makes a unique accent piece, adds a touch of charm to tables, shelves. Hand made of solid copper for lasting beauty. 6" diameter.

$6.95 ppd. *Less Candle*

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BATHROOM WALL ASHTRAY

At Last—a wall ashtray for bathroom or kitchen. Simulated white tile with adhesive backing; adheres fast to wall tile. Eliminates ashes in basin, on floor.

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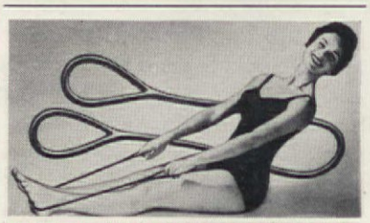

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Stretch your way to a trimmer you with new sturdy, rubber Stretch-A-Way. Complete with chart to show you the safe method of toning muscles. Improve your figure—tummy, thighs, hip and bust measurements—this *natural* way! Keep fit and trim. Stores away in any drawer. *Guaranteed to do the job or money back!* STRETCH-A-WAY, only $1, postage paid. Order from Sunset House, 405 Sunset Building, Beverly Hills, Calif.

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WS FOR YOU/WE'VE GOT NEWS FOR YOU/WE'VE GOT NEWS FOR YOU

DELAYED DELIVERY: The battery-powered hand mixer scheduled to arrive on the market in time for Mother's Day, is now expected to make its appearance "in time for Christmas" instead. A powerful electric mixer with no cord will certainly be a big boon in the kitchen if the price is right, so we are still looking eagerly toward its debut. Promised by Sunbeam, its detractors, or should we say their competitors, claim it is impossible at present to come up with a mixer that will run long enough so that it won't poop out right in the middle of the batter or mashed potatoes.

TRADE YOUR HOME: Ever think about trading in your home as you do your car? Your chances of doing it are fair to good now, but they're getting better every day. The number of home builders taking trades is presently at an all-time high—and still going up. Don't expect your asking price, but do expect to shed the responsibilities of readying your house for sale, advertising it, and finding a buyer (who has the right cash). Maybe one day we'll all be trading homes once a year—who knows?

SHORTER PLANTS: If the only thing you have against mums is that they grow too tall and fall flat on their faces, your anti-mum sentiments can be put to rest once and for all. Just treat the soil with Phosfon, a new chemical that'll be in garden stores by planting time, and your mums will stay as short as you want them. Developed by U.S. Department of Agriculture scientists and manufactured by Virginia-Carolina Chemical Corporation, Richmond, Virginia, Phosfon has also been found to induce shorter, more compact growth of lilies, petunias, marigolds, azaleas, and some other plants. Before long, too, there'll be other, related chemicals available for dwarfing plants that don't respond to Phosfon.

NEW FINANCING SOURCE: If you are seeking a conventional mortgage to build or buy your new home, you may have a new source of money near you. Insured federal savings and loan associations may now invest in mortgages on property located within 100 miles of their home office. Previously the limit was 50 miles. Take a look at the map and see if you are within that 100-mile radius of your nearest federal savings and loan association.

NEW MATCH MATES could be your drapery fabric and table top. Richbilt Manufacturing, Cincinnati, is laminating decorator fabrics to the tops of tables, making a bright splash of pattern in what used to be a pretty dull area. The surface is permanently protected by a tough, clear shield of "Daponite" which makes it impervious to cigarette burns, glass rings, and just about anything you might spill on it—including nail polish. The same company is also laminating drapery fabrics to molded plywood chairs. Wherever the furniture is sold, you will also find the matching fabric available by the yard.

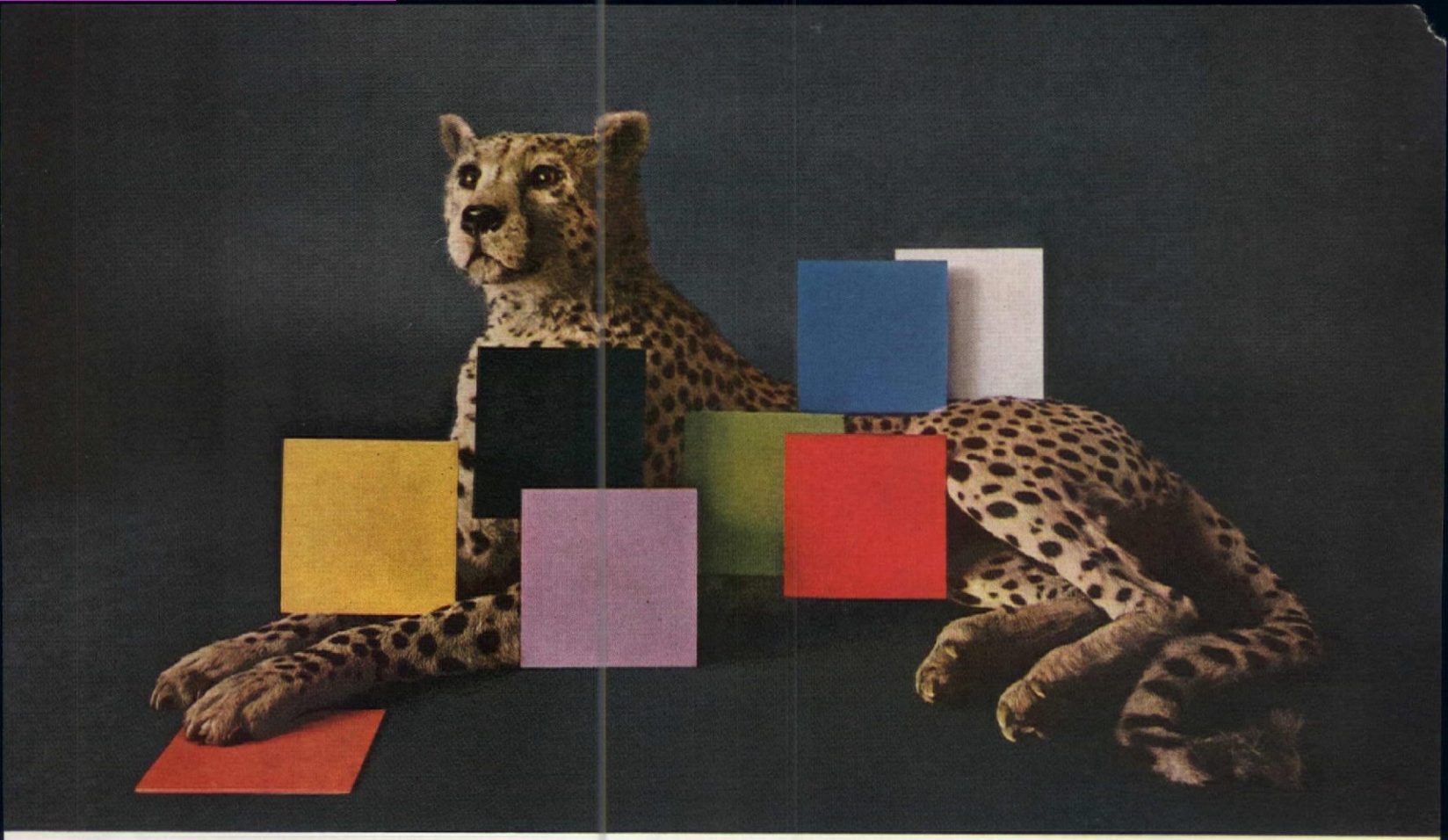
THE GOOD WORD in the carpet and upholstery industries seems to be polypropylene. It's a new synthetic fiber that promises to cost less and wear and wear. We're keeping our eyes on it to see if it lives up to the extravagant promises made for it. Showing up in carpeting right now, one company, Barwick Mills, is guaranteeing that their carpets made of this fiber will wear for ten years—and are pricing them $1 less a yard than their comparable nylon carpeting. All the big carpet and textile companies are experimenting with polypropylene, and the hope is that the price will come down even more before long.

ANTI-DO-IT-YOURSELF: The AFL-CIO has gone on record as opposing "livable-but-unfinished" homes (see page 36). They hitch their complaint to the fear that too many homes will be shoddily finished by amateurs. The real reason, of course, is their protective attitude toward the contracting trades that would normally do the finish work on a home. In this case, we go on record as opposing AFL-CIO. The surveys already taken show that owners who completed their homes had a definite mechanical aptitude. Those owners who were inept mechanically, recognized it and called in tradesmen to finish the job, although most saved money by doing their own painting. If this has been true, it is most likely that it will continue to be true.

PLUMBING DEPARTMENT: Bathroom fixtures seem immune to many radical changes, so we note with interest that Eljer has created a new style in toilets—a free-standing bowl with a three-cornered tank. Called the "Triangle" it is designed to fit into a corner which gives more flexibility to arrangement as far as the floor plan is concerned, permits a remodeler to add a powder room in a limited area, such as under a stairway, and gives a "new look" as well.

NEW STATUS SYMBOL: Now that "just everybody" has a swimming pool, we note that one of the new claims to fame is having your own "sauna" (pronounced sow-na). An old Finnish custom that involves relaxing in a room of intensely dry heat followed by a cool shower or swim, its popularity increased in this country when saunas were installed at the Olympic Village during the Olympic Winter Games at Squaw Valley. Redwood-lined rooms with efficient electrical heating units were substituted for the smoking rocks, and you can now obtain plans for your own room from the Simpson Timber Company (who just happen to be the nation's largest producer of redwood). Many home owners, we understand, are including saunas in their new homes; others have built them as outdoor cabanas alongside their swimming pools; some have remodeled storage rooms, spare bedrooms, basements, and even large closets. Where do you want yours?

OVEN WITH A MIND is what the new automatic gas oven control by Robertshaw-Fulton Controls Company is called. A perfect name! Here's how it works. You set a timer dial for the length of time you want to bake or roast, then set a temperature dial to the correct temperature—and forget it. The oven instantly comes on and heats to the selected cooking temperature—and then, at just the right moment in the cooking cycle automatically cuts back to an ideal serving temperature. Food inside remains at just the right degree of doneness for minutes or hours, without drying or overcooking. More than 15 manufacturers will use the new control on their ovens. You'll see the first of them this summer.



Can you tame these wild new Flintkote colors?

Never.

Look what Flintkote's unleashed—the boldest, brashest array of floor tile colors ever! Any one a brilliant choice as an accent in a studied random design. But why not be daring: let them all run riot through a field of white? These Flexachrome® vinyl-asbestos tiles wear beautifully, too. Color goes clear through. See them at your Flintkote Dealer. Another product of Flintkote, America's broadest line of building products.

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