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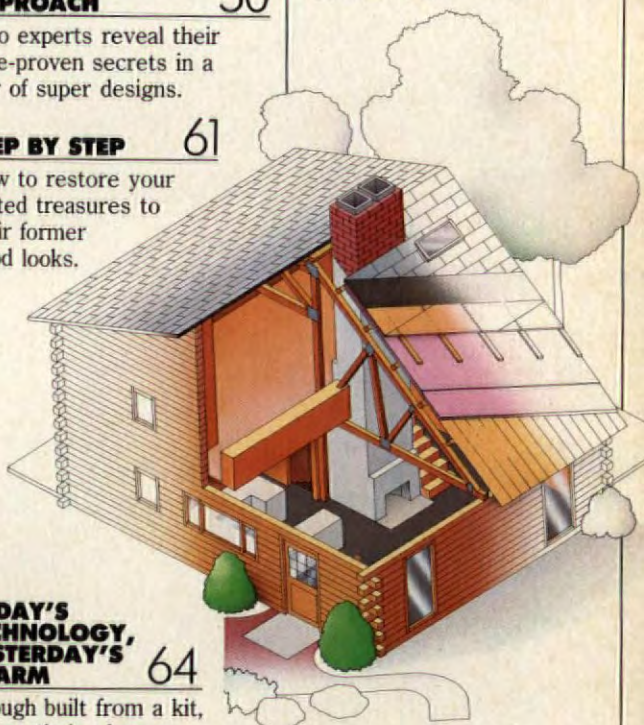
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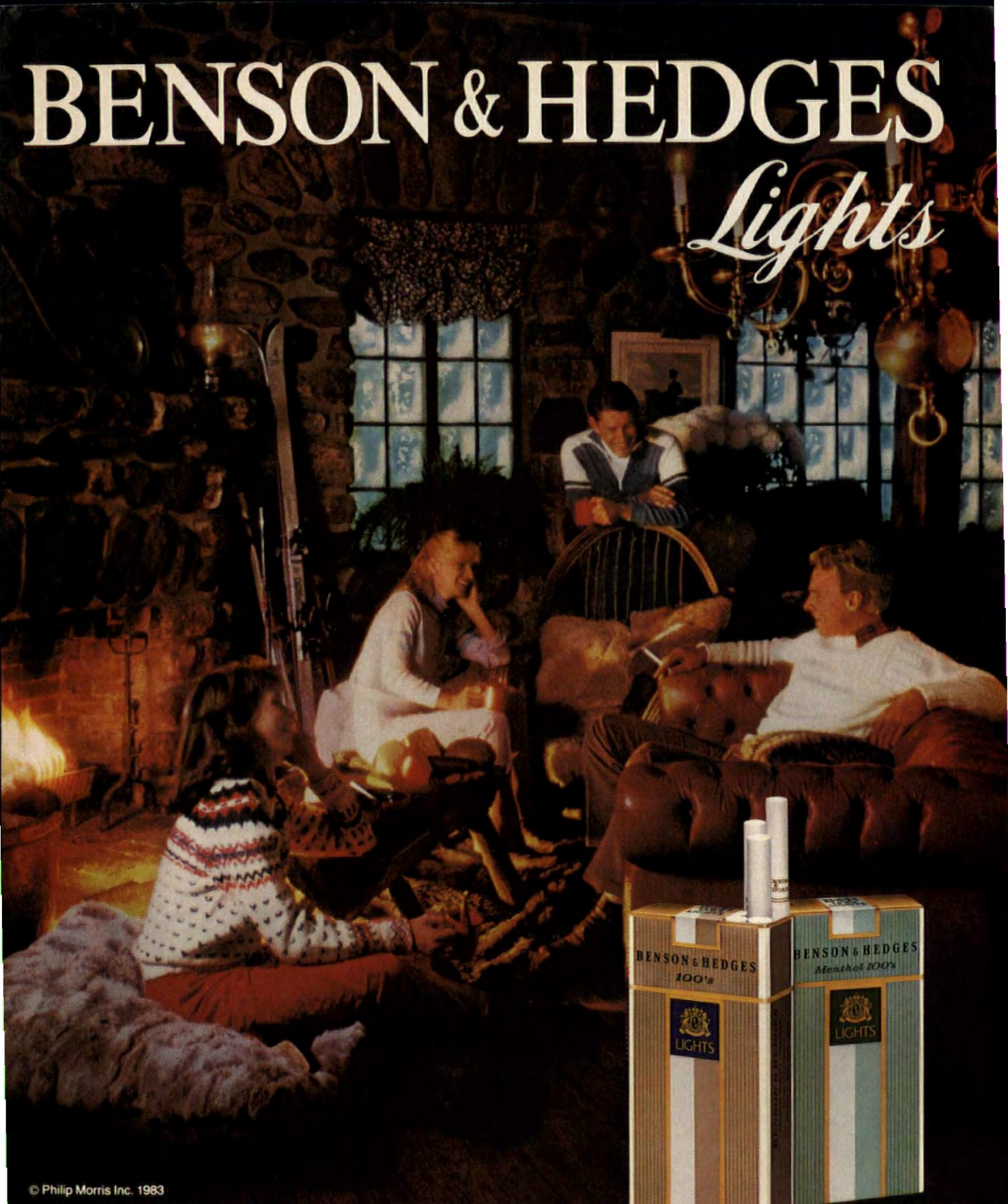


HANDS-ON HOUSING 88

Our survey of owner/builder schools provides on-site evidence of how and where you can learn to build the house of your dreams.

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HOME

JANUARY 1984 VOLUME XXX NUMBER 1



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Model 125

Why this year is the best year yet to own a WESO Ceramic Tile Stove

These elegant tile stoves combine advanced combustion technology with a unique heating design still unsurpassed after six centuries, to give you everything you could ask for in a superb heat producer . . .

Now you don't have to compromise the beauty of your home to enjoy the pleasure, comfort, and savings of a wood or coal fire. Available in four sizes and eight lustrous hand-glazed tile colors, WESO Ceramic Tile Stoves let you select and harmonize your stove with your room, as you would a lovely piece of furniture.

Yet the WESO's beauty is far more than skin-deep. Here are just six of the reasons we feel these handsome tile heaters are the best stove investment on the market today, with a total combination of advantages no other stove can match:

1. Comfortable heat that warms you all over.

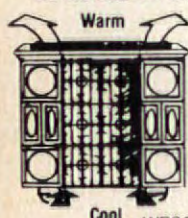
Unlike typical cast-iron stoves, the WESO Ceramic Tile Stove is both a radiant and convection heater. Most iron stoves just radiate heat directly outward in a straight line. Stand or sit too close and you feel scorched on one side, chilled on the other. Stand far away, and you just can't seem to get warm.

But the WESO circulates its heat evenly, floor to ceiling. Its natural convection quietly fills every corner of your rooms with warmth. No "hot spots" — you'd hardly be aware of the heat source if it weren't for the lovely flames flickering behind the WESO's tempered glass window. WESO stoves create a wonderful warmth — mild yet penetrating — that no other stove can match. And so much more soothing and spirit-lifting than expensive furnace heat.

2. Beautiful ceramic tiles create a "heat reservoir" for safe, long-lasting warmth.

The WESO stove is a true descendant of the magnificent *Kachelofen* tile heaters that have been warming European homes and inns for over six centuries. Thick hand-glazed tiles surrounding an all cast-iron burning chamber absorb heat from the fire, then release it s-l-o-w-l-y, even long after the fire has died. Yet since 60% of the heat is released

out of the top of the stove, the tiles themselves never get "blistering" hot to the touch — making the WESO one of the safest stoves available. You can even lean against the stove and soak in its delicious warmth — without sacrificing on heat.



WESO creates its own warm air flow.

There IS a difference in WESO Warmth

Typical radiant stove (left) bakes you on one side while you're still chilly on the other. But the WESO (right) warms you with gentle radiant heat AND bathes you with a soothing flow of heated air. It's a natural flow, too — no noisy fan needed. Some owners heat their entire house with their WESO



3. High technology matched with Old World craftsmanship.

The WESO's airtight firechamber holds all-night burns; combustion air is automatically controlled by



a liquid-expansion thermostat that eliminates constant tending. A controlled inflow of pre-heated secondary air assures maximum combustion of volatiles. The result? A WESO rivals or exceeds any stove its size for heat output. It's one of the most efficient stoves you can buy.

What's more, the entire unit is hand-assembled and fitted to precise tolerances, so the WESO meets rigid industry safety standards.

4. Burns wood or coal without a conversion kit.

The WESO's unique suspended burning basket with shaker grate burns wood or coal with superb

efficiency — and without the need of a costly conversion kit or special adjustments when you switch fuels. You can burn either fuel interchangeably.



Thick ceramic tiles capture, store and release heat slowly, even after the fire has died.

5. Mess-free convenience

The WESO is a civilized stove. Cleaning is easy — simply pull out the concealed ash pan. (A protective tray underneath the pan automatically swings out to catch any stray embers or sparks.) The stove's slim profile takes up little floor or hearth space, and requires less clearance from combustibles than most stoves.

6. Breathtaking beauty in your home

The WESO possesses truly remarkable beauty — its appearance is totally unlike any other wood-burner you can buy. You can select the rich tile color that best complements your decor — from a classic white to a deep burnished brown. Choose from 4 handsome models, too — from a compact, economical Model 025 to our stately Model 325 with wraparound oak bench that can become the centerpiece of your home.

The WESO is beautiful furniture that graces the most tastefully decorated home — where a black metal stove would be rudely out of place.



Make this year your year to own — or step up to — a WESO Ceramic Tile Stove. For our complete literature portfolio, including color photos of all Models, mail this coupon today.

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ON THE SCENE

Hands-on vs. calling in a pro

Do-it-yourself or hire a pro? That's the question most of us confront when contemplating a home-improvement project. Many of us opt for a combination of the two extremes, weighing the considerations of money, time, and natural inclination in the decision-making process. If you've always had a flair for hanging wallpaper and painting, you may use a contractor to build your bedroom/bathroom addition, then rely on your own talents for the finishing touches. Or if your idea of relaxation is woodworking, you may choose to build the cabinets for your new kitchen while a plumber, electrician, and drywall expert handle the other aspects of the job.

Although most people understand why and when it's necessary to hire an architect or contractor, often a sense of guilt envelops them when it comes to using a decorator or interior designer. But while a much-publicized view portrays designers as members of the jet set with client lists as impressive as their fees, most of these professionals—just like doctors, lawyers, teachers, or accountants—have the training and skill to deal easily with everyday challenges that stump most of us.

If the idea of calling a designer fills you with fear and trepidation, you should draw comfort from our glimpse at how two designers who specialize in kitchens go about their work. Turn to page 50 where you'll read about Ken Peterson, CKD, and Ann Grasso, spatial design consultant, and see two separate fruits of their labor. Each brings his or her own perspective to each job, but they have two traits in common: Both are solid, down-to-earth professionals, and both feel their design efforts should express the clients' wishes and needs, not their own. The differences in the way each works and the flexibility even within their own methods go a long way to dispelling any fear that a designer makes you do things a certain way.

This issue of HOME serves up the same mix we usually present of both

houses "done" by designers and those in which the owners did the honors themselves. Blurring the categories a bit are homeowners like Ulla Allyn, a designer whose remodeled "adobe" home in Santa Fe (pages 30-35) now partakes of a flavor that is uniquely southwestern, thanks to her own efforts and that of a friend and fellow designer.

Three of the four bedrooms we show off in our story entitled "Sleeping Beauties" (pages 80-87) were designed by their owners. Susan Thorn, ASID, of Cross River, N.Y., is an interior designer by profession. Her light touch deftly blends a variety of pale colors and furniture periods in her own bedroom. Home-furnishings designer Katja uses her own products in an unusual loft bedroom. And sculptor Robert Mihalik puts his abilities to manipulate space and carve interesting shapes to work in his own private retreat.

Another approach was taken by Murray and Gail Bruce, owners of the charming log house pictured on pages 64-69. The Bruces, who are not design professionals, put their heads together with designers at Northeastern Log Homes to come up with a floor plan especially suited to their needs.

For those of us with lots of ideas and a little time, hiring a designer or other professional can mean the end of putting "it" off, moaning and groaning to our spouses, and apologizing to our guests. I've finally taken that step myself: When people come into your house and exclaim, "How exciting, you've just moved in," and you've been there well over a year, you know it's time to act.

For others with more free time, a spirit of adventure, and a desire to save money, there is a completely different approach possible: building their own homes from start to finish. Turn to page 88 for our insider's look at the phenomenon known as owner/builder schools, where even novices can learn the skills necessary to construct a dwelling.

Fortunately, life is full of options.

Olivia Buehl

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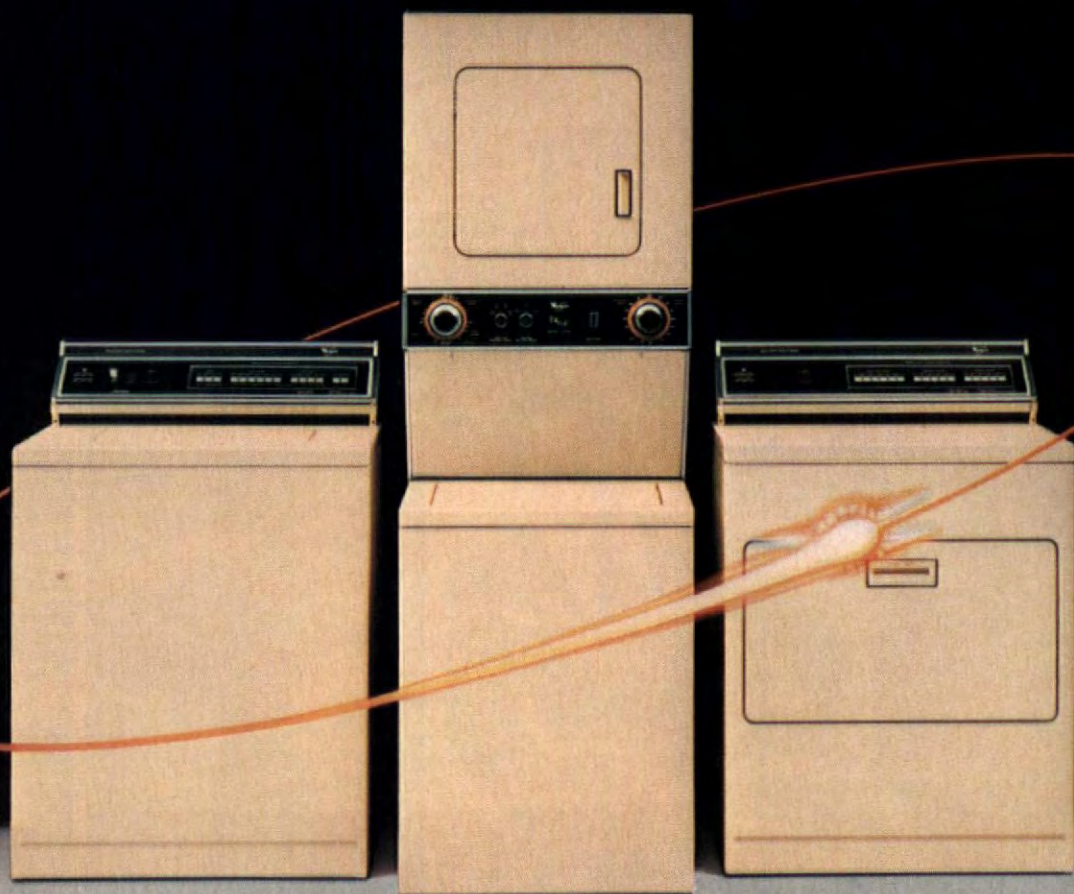
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Andy Williams will delight you with his many hits including *Moon River* and *Somewhere, My Love*. And the list goes on and on...Lena Horne singing *Stormy Weather*...Johnny Mathis and *Misty*... Ella Fitzgerald's *A-Tisket A-Tasket* and all-time favorite after all-time favorite by Bing Crosby. In all, the collection, covering the spectacular performances of all the great singers, is the greatest galaxy of stars and popular music talent ever assembled.

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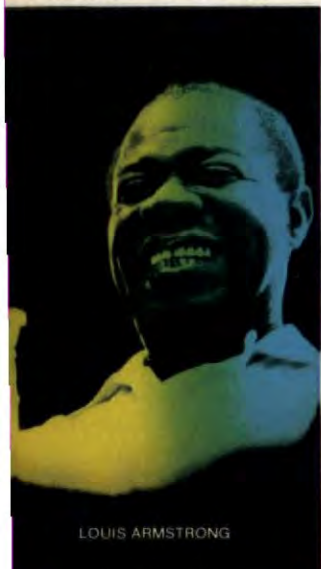
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"Unplug it" advises safety commission

More than 40,000 kitchen fires annually are caused by malfunctioning small appliances. Want to cut your risk? Then unplug that toaster after your bread pops up and the radio before you walk out of the house.

That's the advice of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, which, in conjunction with the appliance industry, is starting an "unplug it" campaign.

"I know it's an inconvenience," admits Commission chairman Nancy Harvey Steorts, but she points out that a small current continues to flow through a plugged-in appliance after it's been turned off. A blow or spilt milk could easily short out the switch, starting a fire.

Shopping for money by computer

Looking for a mortgage with which to buy or refinance a home? If you live in Orange County, Calif., you have about 15,000 loan programs to choose from, which may make comparison shopping for the best terms a bit overwhelming. This problem has engendered a high-tech solution: computer searches for the best loan among the multitude of options.

Prime Rating of Sausalito, Calif., for example, will perform such a search in California for \$25. You tell them the type and amount of the mortgage you're seeking, and they

send you a computer print-out listing prospective lenders with rates and terms.

Citibank is experimenting with a similar program in the New York City area in an attempt to speed the approval process. A real-estate broker rings up Citibank's central computer from his or her office terminal and enters income and debt data about the client along with the terms of the real-estate deal.

Within seconds the computer lists the terms of the loan and whether or not the client is likely to qualify. This saves the buyer time, to be sure, but doesn't aid comparison of rates among banks.

As of yet no single system combines all of these features, but surely that day is not far distant in the brave new world of the computer age.

Loft living and loftmania

Ten years ago, SoHo, the area just south of New York's Greenwich Village, was a pretty desolate place filled with half-vacant old factory lofts. But young artists were moving in—the old lofts made wonderful studios—and revitalizing the area. And by the mid-1970s, the avant-

garde loft lifestyle became nouveau chic. So chic, in fact, that many of the poorer artists had to move to Hoboken, N.J., and beyond.

Loftmania has long since transcended the limits of SoHo, New York, or reason. Originally a loft provided a highly practical answer to specific housing needs. *The New York Times*, however, recently featured an eight-room Park Avenue apartment with most of its walls removed in an attempt to "bring the loft concept uptown."

And in SoHo itself, one new loft contains small rooms on casters that can be wheeled around as convenience demands. But clearly, the artists' lifestyle was the cutting edge of loftmania as for so many other styles and fads. If artists ever decide that a spare bedroom in a ranch-style home will do just fine as a studio, expect a revolution in suburban home values, for the tastemakers of America may be following close behind.

From Mongolia by way of Oregon: the Pacific yurt

Old, old designs are sometimes adapted to ends undreamed of by their creators. The baths of Caracalla in Rome, for example, served as the model for Grand Central Station. Now, inhabitants of the Pacific Coast, the heartland of the hot tub, are adapting an even more ancient design to meet the needs of the next millenium. They're



covering their spas and hot tubs with updated versions of Mongolian yurts.

A yurt is basically a dome-shape tent of skins stretched over a collapsible lattice framework. It was the ancestral abode of the Mongol conqueror Genghis Khan and his armies, and remains a favored form of housing among nomadic peoples of the Middle East and Central Asia. Now, Pacific Yurts Inc., of Cottage Grove, Ore., has replaced the skins with watertight fabric sides and a clear vinyl roof. At a cost ranging from \$2,000 to \$6,000, the yurt can shelter a hot tub or spa from inclement weather or prying eyes.

But there may be a risk. If one's home shapes its dweller, as some believe, fantasies of world conquest may well up in the consciousness of those lazing within the new yurts. ▶

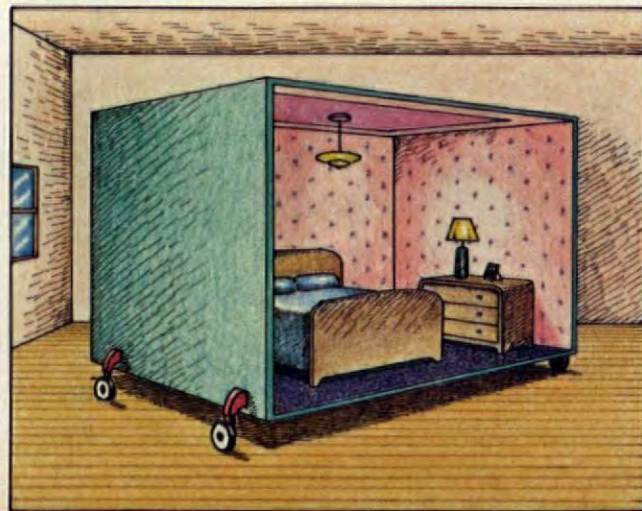


ILLUSTRATION: RODICA PRATO

ILLUSTRATION: ROBERT KAUFMAN

And, with a full line of ventilating and fixed Pella Skylights to choose from, your imagination can reach new heights. Plus, Pella Skylights are built with all the quality and convenience features you expect from Pella.

A line drawing showing a cross-section of a roof ridge. A wooden ridge cap is being installed over the top of the roof structure, which consists of rafters and sheathing. The ridge cap is shown in two pieces, one already in place and another being positioned next to it.

Water-tight and air-tight. A triple weatherstripping system on ventilating Pella Skylights compresses tightly to seal out moisture and air infiltration. And, to keep the outside of your skylights looking good, the exterior aluminum cladding is finished with a baked enamel that resists fading, chipping, peeling, and blistering. Plus, the low profile of Pella Skylights and the dark brown finish will blend well with any roof covering.

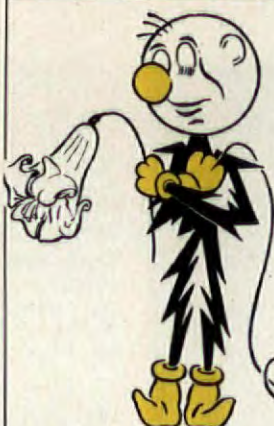
Also available throughout Canada. This coupon answered within 24 hours. ©1982 Rolscreen Co.

Circle 77 for free information

How and why utilities want to keep you cool

Reddy Kilowatt, the cartoon mascot of the postwar electric power industry who used to advise homeowners about the joys of all-electric living, is dead. Long dead. Just how dead is illustrated by the fact that some of these same utilities will now pay you to use less electricity. They're offering rebates to customers who buy high-efficiency air conditioners.

The amount rebated varies among the utilities and depends on the capacity and energy-efficiency rating (EER) of each unit. Public Service Electric and Gas in New Jersey offers \$5 for each 1,000 Btus of capacity if the EER is at least 9. In Fort Worth, Texas Electric Service will fork over \$80 for a unit with less than 12,000 Btus and \$120 for one with a larger



capacity if each is rated at or above 8.5. Utilities in Houston, Minneapolis, and Florida have similar programs.

Many utilities will also offer customers low-interest loans to install insulation, upgrade furnaces, and even add on storm windows. Why are the power companies so generous? Paying consumers to conserve puts off the

day when they have to build more billion-dollar electric power stations.

So if you're buying an air conditioner, call up your utility and ask if it's offering rebates. If not, this may still be a good time to buy; air conditioners are usually somewhat cheaper when the weather's cold.



Moving's tough in any season

No time of year is ideal for moving. It's, at best, an onerous task fraught with emotional upheaval, and the one thing you don't need is a van line that will botch the moving job.

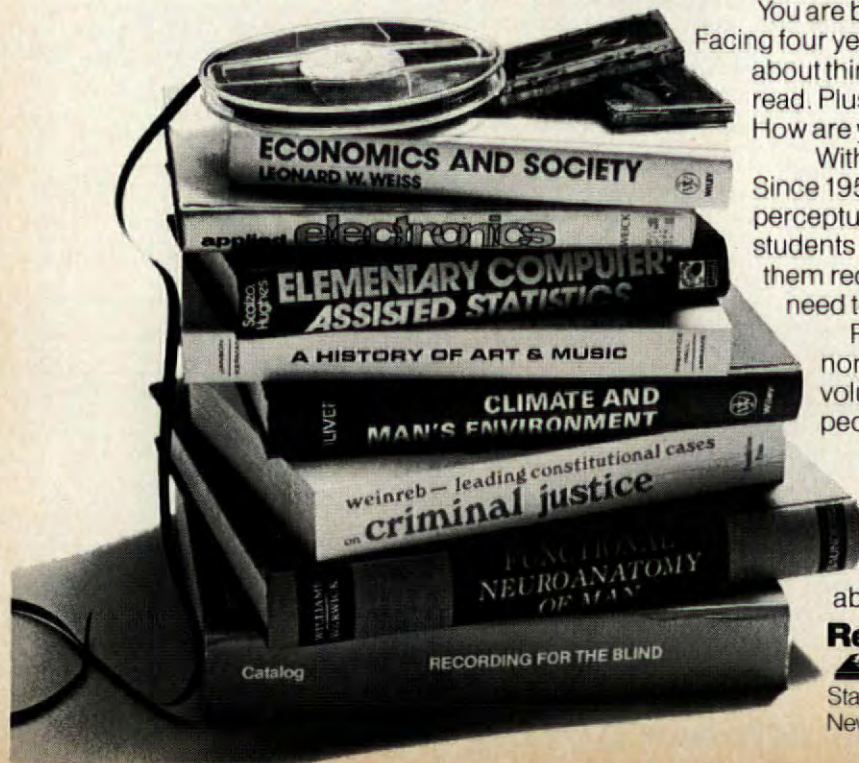
But how do you select a carting firm that won't arrive three days late, demolish your Dresden figurines, or turn up in Columbia, S.C., instead of Columbia, Mo.?

One way to choose might be to follow the record of customer complaints maintained by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Leading the pack in a recent survey, with the lowest ratio of complaints to shipments, is Bekins, closely followed by United Van Lines and then Allied. Fourth and fifth places went to Aero-Mayflower and North American Van Lines, respectively.

In choosing a mover, however, the homeowner faces a bewildering decision since there are 2,700 carriers with an estimated 8,000 agents. You might get help in making the choice by reading "A Shopper's Guide to Choosing a Mover," published by Consumer News Inc. To get a copy, send \$2 (\$2.10 if you live in Maryland) to Consumer Newsweekly, P.O. Box 34418, Bethesda, Md. 20817.

ILLUSTRATION: JOHN PARKS

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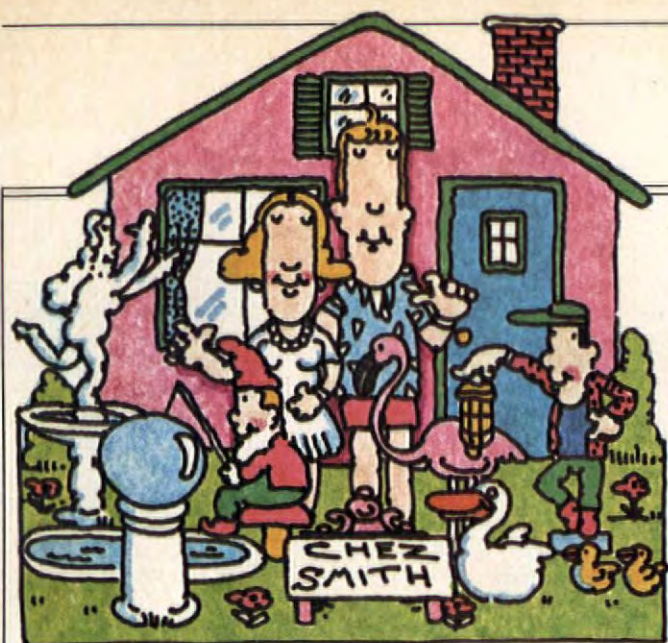
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Of pink flamingos and musical dwarfs

Remember the days when flocks of plaster pink flamingos graced many a suburban yard or entry? Most of them are gone now, relegated to the dustbin of fashion and fads gone tacky.

Sales of other types of lawn statuary, however, have been increasing in recent years. What's hot right now? Red and aqua cement gnomes playing accordions, cement reindeer with antlers of bent reinforcing rods, and plastic daisies that spin in the wind, according to Jim Fernicola, manager of a home and garden center in Fairfield, N.J.

Plaster flamingos still sell fairly well, however, even if they no longer strut so proudly beside the front walks of suburban ranches. Who buys them, and why? One salesperson suspects that many of his customers surreptitiously place their purchases on the lawns of unsuspecting neighbors.

Cordless phones: the party line of the 80s?

Those new cordless phones are handy little things; they let you gab on the phone anywhere within a 200-yard radius of your telephone outlet. That freedom, however, creates a problem. Most

urban and suburban lots are far smaller than the range of these telephones.

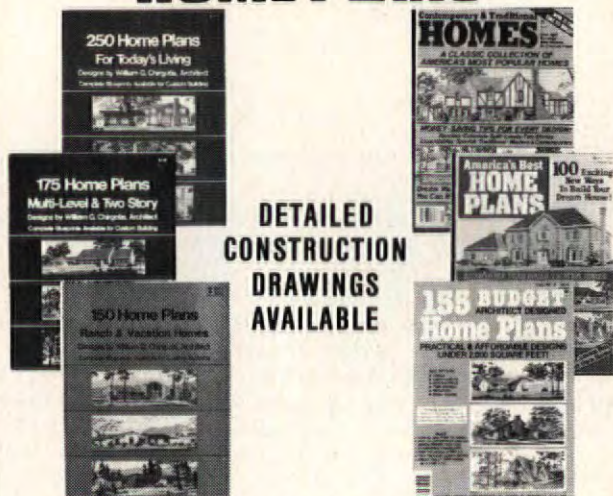
Each cordless phone contains a small radio transmitter and receiver that operate on one of only 10 frequencies. If your next door neighbor also buys one of the devices, the odds are one in 10 that it operates on the same frequency as yours. Thus, he or she may be able to listen in on your calls, or vice versa.

The federal government



may authorize 10 more channels next year, and manufacturers are introducing models that allow users to switch frequencies to a clear channel, which will ease the problem. But for the present, retailers report that up to 30 percent of cordless phones are being exchanged for units with different frequencies. The main complaints: interference from other units and eavesdroppers. HAL PORTER

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WRITING HOME

A hearty thanks

I am writing on behalf of the Pilot Club of Greater Summerville to thank you for the outstanding section, "Design for the Disabled," in the August 1983 issue. The Pilot International Foundation, of which we are a member, is a civic-service organization for professional women whose goal lies in the support of programs needed to provide full recognition of the handicapped. It's with such refreshing and informative articles as yours that our drive to increase public awareness can be achieved.

Belinda K. Love
Corresponding Secretary
Pilot Club of Greater Summerville
Ladson, S.C.

As an enthusiastic subscriber to HOME, I was truly impressed with the August 1983 issue, and in particular, "Design for the Disabled." There's obviously so much to consider when planning space for the elderly and/or handicapped and your ideas, such as an angled mirror over the stove and a hydraulically powered sink, are just the beginning. Your articles just go to prove that a house can be lovely and accessible. Keep up the excellent work!

Linda Campion
Lake Ronkonkoma, N.Y.

The response to our articles on well-designed homes for the disabled has been overwhelming. We're happy that so many of you have benefited from our approach to accessible design; we hope to include similar stories in the future.

Wright revisited

We absolutely fell in love with the Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired home in "A House at One with its Site" (September 1983). Is there any way we can get a set of plans?

Penny A. Byrd
Alexandria, Va.

The article, "A House at One with its Site" sent me to the library in search of books and articles on the life and work of Frank Lloyd Wright. Where else might I find facts on this great man?

Ron Copeland
Kansas City, Mo.

We've been inundated with inquiries about the Connecticut home that was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright protégé John H. Howe. Having worked in Wright's office from 1932-1959, Howe has been heavily influenced by the great architect's style. Any questions regard-

ing the plans to the Wright-inspired house we featured should be sent directly to Howe at 151 West Burnsville Parkway, Burnsville, Minn. 55337, or call (612) 890-1896.

Anyone interested in learning more about the life and work of Frank Lloyd Wright (1869-1959), should contact The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation, at either Taliesin, Spring Green, Wisc. 53558, (616) 558-2511 or Taliesin West, Scottsdale, Ariz. 85261, (602) 948-6400. Established by Wright, the hub of the foundation is an architectural office for those trained by the master himself and a school which offers an eight-year program leading to a master's degree in architecture. All buildings at Taliesin were designed by Wright and there are several tours offered daily.

All fired-up

I am writing in response to the article, "Be prepared for that fire you plan never to have," which appeared in Around the House, October 1983.

The article mentions several good points on how to safeguard your home against fire, but there's one glaring error. The illustration as well as the text suggests keeping a fire extinguisher in a cabinet next to the kitchen stove. In the event of a fire, it would be very dangerous to try and retrieve the extinguisher from the stove area. Instead, the extinguisher should be located on the wall opposite the stove.

Cork Atkinson
Gas City, Ind.

The National Fire Protection Association, which was cited in our article, does not have any standard rules as to where in the house you should place fire extinguishers. They do, however, recommend that there be at least one Class B extinguisher—the type designed to combat grease and oil fires—in the kitchen. We suggested placing the extinguisher close to the stove so that cooking-related fires could be put out quickly. While the NFPA supports our suggestion, they also recommend that a second Class B extinguisher be placed near the kitchen doorway, in case the fire gets out of hand, or makes reaching the first one impractical or dangerous. Before attempting to use an extinguisher though, the NFPA prefers you try and smother a stove-top fire with a pot cover, provided the fire is confined to a single

pot or pan. They warn that a blast from an extinguisher could spread the blaze.

Because the article focused on many generalized methods of fire prevention in the home, we were not able to devote too much space to specific applications. If you would like more information, contact your local fire department. They'll have access to two NFPA booklets, *To Fight or Not to Fight*, which details when to use an extinguisher and when to leave the scene, and *The ABCDs of Portable Fire Extinguishers*, which discusses both Class A and Class B extinguishers.

Wasn't planning for this

Last March, we hired an architect and paid him \$250 to draw plans and specifications for a house. We gave a copy of the plans to our contractor, who finished the house the following November. Later, we found out our contractor built an identical house in another neighborhood. Do we have a claim against him?

Herbert NeCamp
Highland Heights, Ky.

According to the copyright law that went into effect in 1978, the architect—as the originator and author of the plans—retains all rights to them. Since the other house is a reflection of his work, he—not you—is the one who would have reason to take action against the contractor. You paid the architect for services rendered, not for his ultimate creation. However, explains an architect/attorney with the American Institute of Architects, 1735 New York Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006, (202) 626-7300, if the contractor did not duplicate, redraw, redraft, or alter the original plans in any way, he is more than likely innocent of any purposeful wrongdoing.

Wants to convert

In order to reduce our fuel bill, I'm considering converting our Weil-McLain gas pilot, hot-water boiler to electric ignition. Can I do it? How much will it cost, and how much fuel will I save?

M. Swiftwater
Lincoln, Neb.

The gas pilot can be converted to electric ignition, says a technician at Weil-McLain, A Marley Co., Blaine Street, Michigan City, Ind. 46360, (219) 879-6561. He advises that you call a local heating contractor for an estimate, but ►

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living bird artist!

BLUEBIRDS

by

Roger Tory Peterson

A serially-numbered private edition
produced exclusively for the Danbury Mint
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Roger Tory Peterson is the greatest bird artist since John James Audubon. Millions of bird lovers have taken to the woodlands with his famous *Field Guides* in hand. Collectors compete for the privilege of owning his original paintings and his fine art prints command premium prices.

A milestone event in collecting history!

Incredibly, Peterson's art has never before appeared on a collector vase. This is especially surprising when you consider that birds have traditionally been the most popular subjects of all on fine collector vases. Now, the art of Roger Tory Peterson will be immortalized for all time on fine porcelain — *the first Roger Tory Peterson bird vase ever to be issued!*

As a registered owner of *Bluebirds*, you will have the opportunity — but *not* the obligation — to acquire any subsequent Roger Tory Peterson bird vases issued by the Danbury Mint.

Art that may never be surpassed!

Notice the lifelike positions and colors — the glorious wingspread of the male bluebird, soaring in flight — the more subdued, but no less beautiful, plumage of the female. Peterson's birds seem so immediately alive and alert that your very thoughts take wing!

Each vase will be produced by world-renowned Kaiser Porcelain.

Bluebirds, by Roger Tory Peterson, will be crafted exclusively for the Danbury Mint in West Germany by world-renowned Kaiser Porcelain. The vase will not be available in galleries or stores, anywhere in the world!

Each vase will be trimmed with two bands of precious 24kt gold.

Peterson's original art will be featured on both sides of the vase. Each vase will be hand-decorated at the base and the crown with a band of precious 24kt gold, and a custom-made wood stand will be furnished at no additional charge. The bottom of the vase will bear the hallmark of the Danbury Mint, the insignia of Kaiser Porcelain, the name of the work, and the signature of Roger Tory Peterson, all reproduced in gold. And each vase will be serially-numbered.

Affordably priced and convenient to acquire.

Bluebirds will be a full-size collector's vase — 11" high. Vases of comparable quality, by lesser-known artists (or even anonymous artists), are being offered elsewhere for up to \$120. But this Roger Tory Peterson vase will have an issue price of just \$105 — payable in three monthly installments of \$35 each. *To reserve your vase, send no money now.* Simply complete the reservation application and return it to the Danbury Mint.



Vase shown smaller than actual size of 11" high.

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Reservation Application

BLUEBIRDS

by

Roger Tory Peterson

X74

The Danbury Mint
47 Richards Avenue
Norwalk, Conn. 06856

For production planning
purposes, please return by
March 31, 1984.

Please accept my reservation for *Bluebirds* by Roger Tory Peterson, a full-size collector vase trimmed with two bands of 24kt gold and serially-numbered. A custom-made wood stand will be sent at no additional charge. I understand I need send no money now. I will be billed for the vase in three monthly installments of \$35 each.

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What do you call "home"?



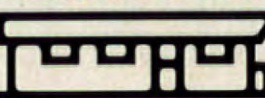
House?



Apartment?



Condominium unit?



Mobile home?

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It's wise to keep track of what you've invested in furnishings, too. Send for the free Allstate "Household Inventory Record."

you can expect to pay no more than a day or two's worth of labor, roughly \$200-\$500. With the conversion, you'll reduce your energy consumption by 2 percent. However, if you also add a motorized damper, you'll increase the total savings to 15 percent. Ask the heating contractor for more information on the damper.

To further increase your energy savings, you might also want to consider insulating the hot-water pipes in the basement, especially if it's unheated. Insulating pipes in a heated basement will not make a significant difference.

Looking for a write-off

Is it true that if I make a \$10,000 down payment on a house for my daughter and she pays all the bills, I can claim a tax deduction?

*Ron Adamsson
Nashua, N.H.*

If you give your daughter \$10,000 and don't expect her to pay it back, then the money is a gift. Your daughter, being obligated in the mortgage, would own the house, and since she'd be paying the bills, would claim all tax deductions related to homeownership. If you expect her to pay back the \$10,000 with interest, then she gets another deduction and you'd have to report the interest income. The only way you could take any deductions, explains the IRS in Washington, would be for you to buy the house, become obligated in the mortgage, and then rent to your daughter on a month-to-month basis. For further information, contact your local IRS office; it's in the White Pages.

A wish book for old houses

In the July 1983 letters department, a reader asked about locating a source for purchasing older houses. My wife and I recently bought an 80-year-old house in New Hampshire through United Farm Agency, which publishes a free, 200-page real-estate guide to old houses across the country and offers free location service with individually contracted agencies. We were quite pleased with our agent, who did everything possible to find exactly what we wanted; he even sent video tapes of property by mail!

*Phil Philcox, Editor
The Press Association
Gainesville, Fla.*

We called UFA, 612 West 47th St., Kansas City, Mo. 64112, (800) 821-2599 — in Missouri, call (800) 892-5785 — and found out that in addition to a

general guide, they also have regional catalogues for the nation's western, central, and eastern sections. If you provide specifics about the region, price, style of house, acreage, and type of financing you want, UFA will send you a selection of homes fitting your description.

Heat-pump help

I've been trying for about a year to purchase a programmable thermostat that will hook up to a residential heat pump. Can you help me find one?

*Kenny R. Jones
Mary Esther, Fla.*

Honeywell only recently introduced a programmable thermostat for heat pumps. Their model T8300 has been designed specifically for use with an air-to-air heat pump that relies on electric resistant heaters for supplemental heat. The unit's Intelligent Recovery feature keeps the resistant heaters off unless they're absolutely necessary to warm the house. Regular set-back thermostats aren't capable of that, so instead of saving you money, they send your heating bill sky high. Honeywell's John Peterson estimates the cost of the T8300 to be \$200 to \$250 installed. For more information, write Honeywell Inc., Residential Controls Center, Honeywell Plaza, Minneapolis, Minn. 55419.

Reliving the past

We just bought a 100-year-old Victorian house that we'd like to restore to its original splendor. There aren't many sources in our area, but we've heard about mail-order catalogues that sell only old house supplies. To whom and where do we write?

*Janet Perotti
Demarest, N.J.*

Two companies, Cumberland Woodcraft, 2500 Walnut Bottom Rd., Carlisle, Pa. 17013, (717) 243-0063, and Vintage Wood Works, 100 Main St., Quinlan, Texas 75474, (214) 356-2158, each offer a catalogue that contains mostly interior and exterior fretwork and gingerbread. To get a copy, send \$3.75 or \$2, respectively, to the above addresses.

In addition, The Renovator's Supply, Millers Falls, Mass. 01349, (413) 659-3961, has a \$2 catalogue featuring everything that's needed for restoration projects from hardware to weather-vanes. *The Old House Catalogue* (\$9.95) from Collier Books, MacMillan Publishing Co., Front and Brown Streets, Riverside, N.J. 08075 and *The Old House Journal Catalogue* (\$11.95) from The Old House Journal Corp., 69A Seventh

Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11217, each list hundreds of products and sources from across the country.

For further information on restoration projects, contact the National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1600 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006, (202) 673-4201. Good luck!

The owl and the . . . snake?

Regarding the letter about how to get rid of woodpeckers that dig for dinner in cedar siding (October 1983), you suggested discouraging these misguided creatures with plastic owls. Another solution to the problem, and my own preference, is rubber snakes. They work wonders when draped over a rain gutter or tree branch.

Linda Campbell Franklin
New York, N.Y.

We assume that your experience is based on having a weekend house in the country, because cedar siding's not too common in New York City! Nevertheless, your advice is well-taken. You can find rubber snakes—for just that purpose—with the plastic and inflatable owls, in garden-supply stores.

Hot under the collar

The September 1983 issue of HOME was very enjoyable, as usual, but I have one comment. I can understand why people in the Northeast appreciate all the articles on saving energy and keeping warm, but since we plan to move to Florida, we'd welcome some advice on how to keep our cool under the hot sun!

Mrs. R. Turco
Wyckoff, N.J.

Our fall issues contain lots of information on conserving energy, so you'll be prepared when winter rounds the corner. Come spring, though, we'll switch gears and show you ways to combat high temperatures. On the agenda this year are solar houses, pools, homes by the water, and "shady" landscaping.

Mismatched

In "Making Space," November 1983, the photographs on page 56 and the bottom right photo on page 59 were taken by James Levin.

Photographs in "Aged to Perfection," December 1983, were taken by John Vaughan (page 52, top) and Craig Buchanan (pages 53-59).

HOME welcomes questions on all subjects relating to the home. Address questions to Writing Home, HOME, 2 Grand Central Tower, 140 East 45 St., New York, N.Y. 10017. Because of the large volume of mail, we are not able to respond to all letters. All questions submitted become the property of Home Magazine Ltd.



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ON THE MARKET

Cultivating an indoor garden



Colorful stakes give your plants a lift

Looking for a way to liven up an indoor winter garden? Instead of ordinary wooden plant stakes, support the spindly growth in your indoor garden with brightly colored, whimsical bird stakes (below) from Lillian Vernon. Handpainted in bold shades of yellow, blue, or red, the 3-inch-long wooden birds, perched atop 17-inch-long sturdy wire stems, add a welcome touch of spring to your greenery. Sold in sets of three, the pretty but practical bird stakes cost \$5.98; \$9.98 for two.



A flowery bowl for forcing bulbs

This winter, fill your home with beautiful flowers and the sweet smell of spring by forcing bulbs in a ceramic crocus pot (above), available from Paragon. Imported from Portugal, the brilliantly colored, delftware-inspired bowl has five holes, stands 3 inches high, and measures 7 inches in diameter. A perfect addition to an indoor garden, the bulb pot sells for \$40, bulbs not included.

A handy cart especially for the home gardener

Keep all your indoor gardening supplies in one convenient place with a multipurpose work cart (below) from Gardener's Eden. Made of enameled steel with a butcher-block work surface, the rolling organizer



has three adjustable shelves to store planters, tools, stakes, watering cans, and bags of soil. Pegboard sides with hooks allow you to hang the caddy shelf and other necessities such as scissors, shears, tape, and wire. The cart measures 35" x 23" x 16" and assembles easily in just 20 minutes. It sells for \$52.



Grow your plants in pretty pots

Planters (above and below) in a wide variety of shapely sizes add a fresh burst of color to a windowsill or table top. Available in a rainbow of warm, pastel shades in both ceramic- and contemporary-style designs, the molded-plastic planters with drainage saucers come in 4½- to 14½-inch diameters. From Rubbermaid's Home Horticulture Collection, the pretty pots cost from \$2 to \$12 and are sold through most home-center and garden-supply stores.



A sun-room that'll bloom all year

Grow flowers, vegetables, and herbs through the seasons in your own greenhouse (above) from Garden Way. Constructed of wood beams, tempered glass, and heavy insulation, the 12' x 10' solar addition has an integrated system of heat collection, storage, and transfer. Nighttime or summer shading is optional. Price: \$6,472. ▶

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Grand, for many, shall always remain an illusion. For the rest, however, there's the new Spiegel Spring Catalog.

To receive your grand copy, simply mail \$3 with the attached card. Or call, toll-free 1 800 345 4500, Department 279.

Spiegel
SHOPPING

ON THE MARKET

A helping hand for healthy plants

Whether you're repotting or starting from scratch, these planting aids can help you make your garden grow.

Protect your hands from dirt and chemicals with cotton/polyester gardening gloves (below) from Lillian Vernon. Designed for women, they have elasticized cuffs and a



dotted-plastic coating on the palm, thumb, and forefinger for a better grip on tools. A pair costs \$3.98.

Start seeds and cuttings on their way with a seedling tray (below) and peat pots (right, top) from Carefree Garden Products. The plastic tray lets you grow 20 different varieties of seeds at once. When ready for transplanting, just peel the row of seedlings right out of the tray and break apart. Each tray costs \$1.89.

Peat pots, made of 70 per cent peat moss, enable cuttings to grow faster since roots have more freedom and can easily



penetrate the fibrous wall. When transplanting, just bury the peat pot—and roots are never disturbed. A pack of eight Jiffy Pots sells for 98¢. To protect your indoor



garden from unwanted pests, try Bag-A-Bug time-release insecticide sticks (above). Made especially for household plants, the sticks are inserted into the soil and, after watering, release an insect-fighting chemical for mealybugs, spider mites, and whiteflies. A pack of 24 sticks costs \$3.48.



Fancy aids for floral designs

Flowering plants and pretty floral bouquets require special handling. A pair of flower clippers (below) from Burpee firmly holds a stem as you snip, while the handle's clever design strips off prickly thorns. The versatile clippers sell for \$9.95.

When repotting plants, a mini-fork and trowel (below, center) from



Gardener's Eden work wonders.

Made in England, the stainless-steel pair costs \$9.

Flower arranging is easy with brass-wire "frogs" (below) from Gardener's Eden. The two round hairpin holders and the three-piece needle-point holder have lead bases. Prices start at \$6.95.



Shed some light on hungry plants

Indoor plants need supplemental lighting to help keep them alive and healthy. A steel plant stand (top) from Burpee has four light fixtures and eight, 15-watt Gro-Lux lamps. The stand measures 55" x 27" x 24" and has eight easy-to-clean plastic trays which hold 288, 2 1/4-inch pots. Price: \$214.95. A two-fixture, two-tray stand costs \$109.95.

The Spot-Grow (above) from Sylvania provides a direct source of light for plants. Available with either 75- or 150-watt Spot-Grow lamps, the fixtures sell for \$20-23. Lamps cost \$7 and \$7.50, respectively.

SUE ANN H. CHRISTENSEN

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, REFER TO THE BUYING GUIDE ON PAGE 101.

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Sculpture shown approximate size of 9" in height.

AROUND THE HOUSE

Keeping a roll-up garage door on track

For all its weight, an overhead garage door works with surprising ease when properly adjusted. But let one get out of tune, and it will give you nothing but headaches. Whether you open and close your garage door manually or by the press of a button, simple maintenance can help save your back or avoid that day when pressing the button gets no response.

The everyday roll-up garage door usually consists of four horizontal panels joined by hinges. Five metal rollers on each side of the door travel within vertical tracks that go up just inside the door opening and extend back overhead.

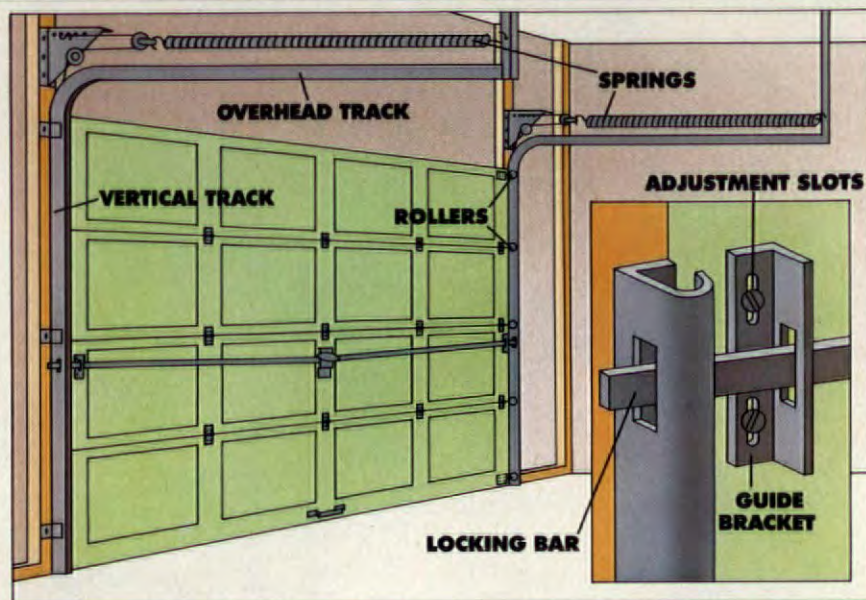
The door is raised mainly by the tension of two springs that run parallel to the overhead tracks. Spring tension should approximate the weight of the door, and the rollers should travel freely in the tracks without binding.

Check all hinge and track bracket bolts, and tighten any that may be loose. Then raise the door slowly (disconnect the power arm from the door if you have an electric opener), and feel for spots of resistance along the way. If a misaligned track causes binding, adjust the track bracket nearest the offending spot. Oil hinges, rollers, and tracks wherever moving metal parts come in contact.

The overhead springs and the cables that attach them to the door can wear and stretch with age. Properly tensioned springs should hold the door in position when it is halfway open—about 3 to 4 feet from the ground. Raised another foot, the door should creep upward by itself. Lowered to within 2 feet of the ground, it should creep downward until it closes gently and remains fully closed.

A door that opens too easily will require excessive downward force to close and, if free in its tracks, will not stay closed on its own; in this case, less spring tension is called for. More typical, however, is the hard-to-raise door that tends to slam shut on your big toe.

Arrangements for increasing spring tension vary from one type of door to another. In the most common arrangement, the cable ends are clamped to S-hooks that fit into the holes of a wall-mounted bracket. To increase tension, you move the S-hooks forward one or two holes. Other doors have a turnbuckle



A few simple adjustments can help your overhead garage door roll smoothly.

system or require the loosening and resetting of cable clamps.

Since the springs are under some tension even with the door fully open, the tricky part of the job is to get the springs slack enough so you can make the adjustment. You can do this by closing the door, then inserting shims—strips of wood or pieces of shingles work well—between six or eight coils of each stretched spring. When the door is reopened with the shims in place, the springs should be sufficiently slack to permit repositioning as necessary. Remove the shims, and test the door again; if it's still out of balance, add or release spring tension as necessary. Keep the tension of both springs about equal to prevent the rollers from binding in the tracks, and to keep the door from getting out of level.

Springs that are very old or rusted may have lost too much strength to counterbalance the door. You can buy new ones at most building supply centers, but take along one of your old springs to make sure you get replacements of similar size and strength and with the same method of attachment.

A garage door that fails to lock and unlock properly can be a source of real annoyance. On most doors, turning the handle activates two locking bars that fit into openings in the side tracks. Turning a key in the lock releases these locking bars, which are spring loaded, and

should disengage the door without your having to turn the handle.

The height of the locking bars can be adjusted by raising or lowering L-shape guide brackets mounted on the doors. If the bars have become bent, they can usually be straightened by hand. When properly adjusted, the bars should slide freely in the guide brackets without touching either the door or the tracks.

Even though your garage is probably unheated, if it's attached to the house you'll want to keep it as draft-free as possible. Close the door, and check for excessive space between the edges and the surface trim around the door opening. If there's about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch of space, you can apply narrow self-adhering weather stripping to the back edge of the trim. This will block drafts and help prevent rattling in heavy winds.

The door should fit evenly against the garage floor along its entire bottom edge. If there are gaps caused by a slight buckling of the floor, mark the door to match the contour of the floor, and trim with a saber saw. If there are gaps caused by a drop in the floor, you may have to add a filler strip to the door bottom, then trim to fit the floor. Paint the cut edges to prevent moisture absorption and rot.

Applying an ounce of cure to your garage door can do more than relieve the strain on your back. It could head off the need for future repairs and, with a tighter fit, save a little heat besides. ►

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AROUND THE HOUSE

Smart thermostats know how to whack your heating bill

A few years ago when fast-rising heating costs were blowing everybody's budget, the quickest fix was simply to turn back the thermostat. That tactic still works, of course; by selectively lowering your home's heat when you don't need it, you save fuel without sacrificing comfort.

The task was simplified by clock-controlled set-back thermostats, but the primitive technology of these early devices—they date back to 1906—now makes them seem little more than curiosities. With today's new programmable thermostats, you don't even have to think about what the furnace is doing.

The new microcomputer-controlled thermostats allow you to set up heating programs on a seven-day cycle—with variations from one day to another and up to six different temperature changes for each day. You can also override the setup, or any portion of it, without losing or changing the program.

Here's the way a typical program might work. Monday at 6:30 a.m., the heat setting moves from 57 to 68 degrees so the house will be warm for a 7-o'clock wake up; at 8 o'clock, the setting returns to 57 degrees since by 8:15 everyone will be off to school or work. At 3:30 p.m., the thermostat moves back to 68 to warm the first returnees coming in at 4 o'clock. At 7 p.m., the temperature setting moves from 68 to 70 degrees to accommodate your evening's lower level of physical activity. At 11:30 p.m., the thermostat returns to its nighttime level of 57.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, the same pattern applies. But for Thursday—the day you always come home for lunch—you add a one-hour 68-degree setting for midday. Friday is a holiday, so you override the 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. portion of the day's program to keep the house at a constant 68 degrees.

You can also make changes for the extra hour or two you sleep on Saturday and Sunday mornings and program in lower temperatures for times during the weekend that you're out of the house.

You'll find, surprisingly, that over the course of a seven-day cycle, your home's temperature has been raised or lowered more than 30 times. Yet in the course of the week, you'll touch the thermostat only once. All of this presupposes, of

course, that your comings and goings are fairly regular; that the house will be unoccupied for some predictable periods during the week; and that you prefer sleeping in cooler temperatures.

But even with less-optimal conditions for temperature setback and a simpler program, you can save fuel with an automatic thermostat. Here's why: You're guaranteed at least six or seven hours of savings for the sleeping-time reduction of temperature, and you don't have to worry about forgetting to turn back the heat before going to bed. Besides, you can reduce the nighttime temperature to as low as 50 degrees if the heat is set to rise before you do—which means you won't have to climb out of bed to a cold house.

The same holds true for periods of daytime heat setback. On leaving home, you can turn the heat way down, yet set the thermostat so that the house gets back to a comfortable level by the time you return. In fact, you can buy a thermostat that monitors furnace running time, calculates how long it takes to reach a prescribed temperature, then switches on at the appropriate moment.

A furnace-monitoring thermostat requires adding a relay switch to your furnace and running an additional wire back to your thermostat. However, most of the programmable set-back models simply connect to the two low-voltage wires that run to your present thermostat. Replacement is an easy operation for almost any do-it-yourselfer.

Automatic set-back thermostats, readily available at most home-supply centers, vary widely in price. They range from about \$40 for a simple two-setting, 24-hour-cycle model to as much as \$250 for one with multiple programs and a seven-day cycle. So it's wise to assess your needs and shop around before you buy. The less-expensive units are usually controlled by dials and levers; most of the costlier versions have touch-button keyboards and digital readouts.

Can one of these computer-age marvels save you money? That depends on how you use it. There's no doubt that turning down the heat when you're asleep or out of the house saves fuel. But you can do this with any thermostat and perhaps already do so. With a programmed thermostat, though, you can make greater heat reductions more frequently, without risking frostbite. And you're guaranteed *some* savings—even if you're an absent-minded professor!

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Getting your disjointed chairs back together

The time to reglue a chair that's coming apart is when you spot the first loose joint. One bad joint leads to others and can ultimately cause dowels to break off in their sockets.

Whether you're regluing a few joints or reassembling an entire chair, it's essential to remove all traces of old glue from the connecting parts. Scrape away the hardened glue with a sharp knife. If some remains, soak it with a half-and-half mixture of warm water and vinegar and scrape again. Be careful not to remove any wood, or the pieces will no longer fit tightly—giving you a weak joint. If the cleaned surfaces are very smooth, gently roughen them with a coarse file to afford the new glue a better bite.

When regluing a whole chair or a major segment, it must go back together exactly as it came apart, so don't forget to mark the pieces. You must also take pains to keep the legs and back symmetrical, the seat level, and the legs resting squarely on the floor.

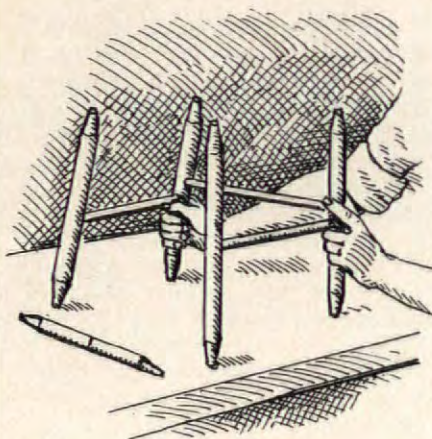
For a strong bond, the joined pieces must be clamped tightly while the glue dries. You can do this with pipe clamps, web clamps (as shown in the illustrations), or even elastic bungee cords. Clamp tension should be strong enough to force glue into the wood fibers and to drive any excess glue out of the joint.

A platform chair, such as the one shown, with the backrest separate from the legs can be put together in two stages; a frame chair, with the backrest and back legs part of an integral unit, should be assembled all at one time.

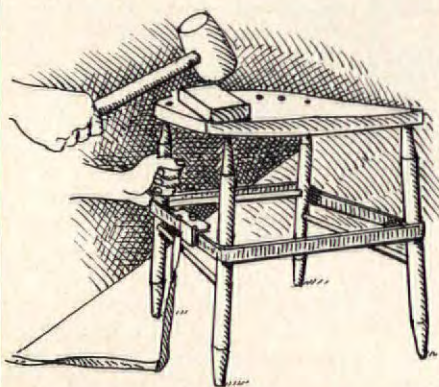
Getting an entire chair—or even half a chair—clamped together and properly aligned before the glue sets means you have to work fast. So assemble and clamp the entire chair without glue to determine the best clamping locations (as close as possible to the joints) and to be sure everything fits. Then disassemble the chair, glue, and reclamp. Wipe away any excess glue quickly with a damp cloth.

Yellow glue, also called aliphatic resin, is a strong easy-to-use glue that's ideal for furniture. However, it sets rapidly, allowing only about 10 minutes to complete clamping. If you need more time than that, use white wood glue, which will give you up to 20 minutes to complete the clamping. Let the clamped chair dry for at least 18 hours before using.

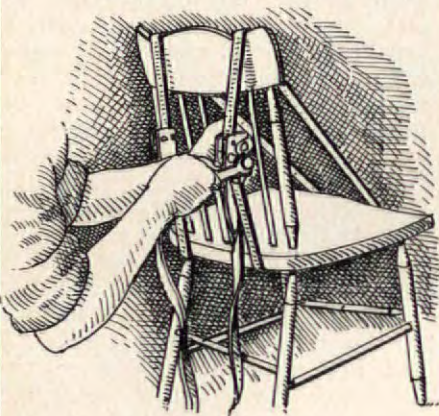
ARTHUR ROOZE



1 Join all chair parts together without glue to test the fit, then disassemble; glue and reassemble the legs and horizontal footrails on a flat surface.



2 Glue and fit the legs into the seat bottom; clamp the footrails into place, then tap the seat firmly onto the legs. Be sure the seat remains level.



3 Apply glue to the backrest parts, and clamp with even pressure on both sides. Check for symmetry, adjusting clamp pressure for proper alignment.

DOLLARS & SENSE

Two-family homes: a money-wise solution to a multitude of problems

Many older neighborhoods in cities, suburbs, and small towns are chock full of large rambling houses built to meet the needs of bygone eras. Comfortable and even grand houses, perhaps, but often far roomier than many require. In fact, according to a recent survey conducted for the *National Home Center News*, more than 70 percent of the nation's 83 million households are dissatisfied with the size of their current homes. And half of them—35.4 percent of the sample—feel they have more space than they really need.

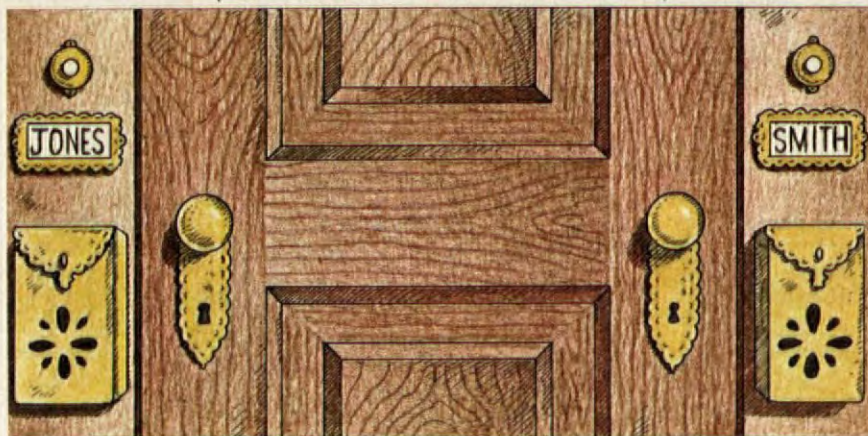
In the view of *National Home Center News*, these figures describe a "massive housing mismatch" in this country. But for some homeowners and home buyers, the seeds of opportunity may lie buried within this unbalanced situation. Many of those too-large single-family residences can be converted into comfortably sized two-family homes, thereby bringing in added income to the homeowner while creating needed housing for those unable or unwilling to buy.

Consider the case of the empty-nester. The children have grown up and left home, leaving the parents with a huge home to maintain, perhaps on a restricted retirement income. One option might be to sell and move into a condo or cottage, pocketing any capital gains. But all too often, this option entails moving to another neighborhood—far from friends, neighbors, doctors, and the associations of a lifetime. Renting out a portion of one's home, on the other hand, can achieve the same financial result without the social dislocation. And the tenant need not be a stranger; renting to a family member or friend might thus solve two housing problems.

A two-family house may also be ideal for younger persons just starting out since the added income from rent can mean the difference between qualifying for a mortgage and being frozen out of the market. One young Atlanta woman

was recently able to purchase a \$92,000 two-family home even though she has an annual income of only \$20,000. Her rental income, combined with the tax advantages of ownership, reduced her housing costs to less than she'd have paid to rent the same amount of space.

Such factors are taken into account when one applies for a mortgage, explaining much about why homes that provide a supplemental income are becoming increasingly popular throughout the country. Some buyers rent the extra space at the outset, then convert it to their own use as their families grow. Other homeowners convert their extra space purely as an investment.



The cost? It's as varied as the houses of America. But let's say that a homeowner could create a complete one-bedroom apartment in his house for \$10,000, and that such a unit would rent for \$350 per month. Even if the owner had to pay 15 percent annual interest on a \$10,000 fix-up loan, he might easily net \$2,700 a year ($\$4,200 - \$1,500 = \$2,700$). And this homeowner hasn't put up a dollar, though a lot of personal labor may have gone into the project. In addition, the homeowner may benefit by an increase in the value of the home well beyond the \$10,000 investment.

Of course there can be flies in the ointment. The floor plan of your house, for example, may make creation of a separate apartment difficult or expensive. Then, too, tenants may be troublesome, maintenance costs will likely go up, and your real-estate tax assessment may increase—though some or all of the costs can be reduced by substantial depreciation and other deductions on your income-tax return now that you're operating a business by renting out space. Consult your accountant as to how these deductions will affect your rate of return.

But the biggest fly in the ointment for many homeowners is undoubtedly local zoning restrictions. If your single-family home is located in a neighborhood with zoning that prohibits two-family housing, you can't legally convert. Yet the demand for conversion is intense enough in many localities to generate considerable political heat.

Under pressure from voters and, in some cases, state laws mandating zoning that meets a spectrum of social needs in housing, municipalities are beginning to liberalize restrictive ordinances. Marin County, Calif.—a suburb of San Francisco—Portland, Ore., Seattle, and a number of communities on Long Island

in New York state are among those either making or considering such zoning changes.

In some instances, the new zoning is merely an acknowledgement of an existing situation: The town fathers of Babylon, N.Y., for example, decided to permit two-family houses after a survey showed that a fifth of the

town's homes were already illegally converted. All of those homes can now be inspected for safety.

John L. Hale, a real-estate broker in Kent, Wash., says that backers of more two-family units in Seattle range from the council of churches and support groups for the elderly to real-estate agencies and builders. Some opponents focus on parking and related traffic problems, while others worry that rental conversions would alter the character of their communities, increase population, and overload utilities and schools.

A few nonprofit organizations now offer technical advice to homeowners who want to convert part of their houses to rental space. One such program was started by the Ecumenical Council on Housing in Marin County, Calif. Similar help may also be available in your area.

You'll certainly want to consider the ramifications very carefully—from financial, legal, and practical standpoints—before making a decision. In any event, here's one factor that will likely carry a lot of weight: Few investments can rival the return from the right kind of conversion to a two-family house. ►

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MARVELOUS MAKEOVERS

Their prosperous glow dulled by time, many postwar ranch and split-level houses are now prime targets for up-to-the-minute remodelings. We'll present three examples that swapped suburban convention for urbane design.

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Whether a source of food or beauty, or a deft mix of both, a glorious garden is always sure to satisfy our yearnings for fresh tastes and blooming vistas. Two green-thumb examples—plus a display of the tools of the trade—show you how gardens and homes can flourish as one.

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HOME

DOLLARS & SENSE



Jumbo mortgages and the disadvantages of affluence

The sum \$108,300 is very special. Just how special may become clear to a mortgage applicant only when asking for a loan exceeding that amount. The lending officer may say, with a shake of the head, "If you needed just \$108,300, we could help you out more. As it is, we'll have to charge you an interest penalty—even though there's no doubt that you can afford to make the payments.

What's so special about \$108,300? About half the conventional mortgages written today are immediately resold to investors on what's called the secondary market. The two largest buyers of these mortgages, the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Association (Freddie Mac), are both quasi-governmental bodies that are forbidden under federal law to purchase loans with a face amount greater than \$108,300. It's therefore much more difficult for banks to sell jumbo loans, so lenders usually charge an interest penalty to make up for the additional risk.

Sometimes it just doesn't pay to be rich! Or to buy an expensive home.

Actually, a \$108,300 mortgage is no longer unusual. In 1982, the average sale price of a single-family home exceeded the Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac limit in 19 metropolitan areas. Average sale prices in Los Angeles and San Francisco, for example, now hover around \$140,000. But as the numbers of those affected by the federal limit increase, so will the political pressure to raise the limit. Some relief has already arrived in the form of a totally private company, the Residential Funding Corp., which is

packaging jumbo loans for the secondary market. RFC's rates are running a bit higher than Fannie's and Freddie's.

Until Congress acts to change the law, loans with rapid pay-off provisions and/or adjustable interest rates may be your best bets for escaping the interest penalty on a long-term fixed-rate jumbo loan. Lenders that are protected from inflation or that can expect their funds back quickly are less likely to feel a pressing need to sell a loan.

Even so, you've got to shop carefully for rates. Terms vary widely. In general, don't accept an adjustable-rate loan unless the interest rate is less than that of a comparable fixed-rate loan. But with some lenders you won't have a choice; the only jumbo loans they'll write come with adjustable rates.

Another prime option for a jumbo borrower is a bit more complicated. Many lending institutions will offer to make two loans: a first mortgage of \$108,300 and a second mortgage for the excess. The interest rate on the second mortgage is higher than that on the first mortgage, but the averaged—or blended—rate is lower than that of a jumbo loan.

The lender thus has the option of selling the low-interest first mortgage on the secondary market while retaining the higher interest second mortgage for the bank's portfolio. Both loans might have the same term and could carry either fixed or adjustable rates.

A jumbo borrower should also look into mortgages with shorter terms—say 15 instead of 30 years—if he or she can afford the higher payments. The advantages of a quick payback are two-fold: A homebuyer paying off a \$150,000 mortgage in 10 or 15 years may save an equivalent amount in interest charges; and the lender may be willing to offer the buyer a lower interest rate in return for a shorter term.

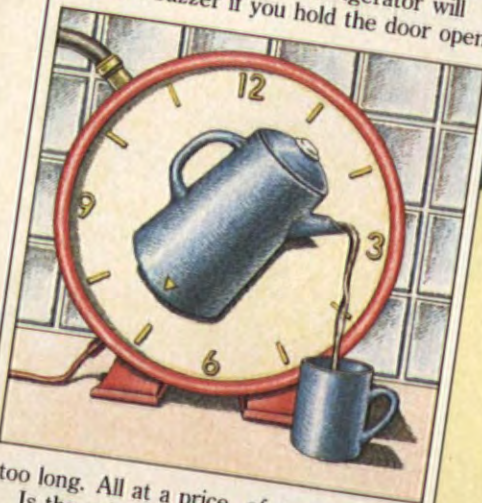
The jumbo-loan problem could be virtually eliminated if Fannie's and Freddie's limits were liberalized. Both agencies are government-sponsored corporations and are indirectly controlled by presidential appointees. The Reagan administration would like to withdraw its participation, but some segments of the housing industry fear this might destabilize an important source of mortgage investment funds. As a result, lending rules haven't been modified.

Meanwhile, the affluent of America must go on suffering the indignity of having to pay higher mortgage interest rates when they purchase their hard-earned mansions.

Home appliances: what high-tech features cost

A video cassette recorder with a "brain" is a handy device. Most VCRs can be programmed to record a favorite show, even when you're not at home. This type of brain—a microprocessor, which is essentially a small computer—has proved to be one of the chief selling points for the popular video-recording systems.

Now, manufacturers of other appliances—including refrigerators, dishwashers, clothes dryers, and microwave ovens—are adding silicon-chip microprocessor control units to their staid old product lines. This means a microwave can sense when the roast is done, the dryer will shut off when your clothes are dry, and a refrigerator will sound a buzzer if you hold the door open



too long. All at a price, of course.

Is the price worth it? That depends on how much the added features can do for you. These electronic devices usually time an appliance's operation or sense potential problems. A person used to setting a manual timer may not need an electronic clock that essentially does the same job. On the other hand, a humidity sensor hooked to a control mechanism on a clothes dryer can cut energy use and prevent heat damage to delicate garments. The value of a refrigerator that emits nagging signals is less obvious.

Such features aren't cheap. The refrigerator described above, which will also warn you when the freezer temperature is too high and remind you when it needs cleaning, retails for a bit less than \$1,700. Microwave ovens that "smell" when your meat is finished run from \$500 to \$800. And one new \$900 air

conditioner can automatically cool a room by day and warm it by night. Humidity-sensing clothes dryers are becoming fairly common—some of them selling in the middle price ranges.

As you may have guessed, however, most of these appliances are top-of-the-line models and may cost hundreds of dollars more than equivalent units that lack electronic controls. Homeowners in general, however, may be quite naive about what these extras are actually capable of doing. "People often ask if an

electronic refrigerator really refrigerates better," remarks Russell L. Leavitt, a New York securities analyst specializing in the appliance industry.

Another wrinkle is that you can sometimes buy a controller—without the appliance. West Bend, a division of Dart & Kraft Inc., markets the Kitchen Controller. Not only does this device turn on appliances at preset times, it will also convert ounces and pounds to liters and grams. And you can also utilize it to help balance your checkbook. **HAL PORTER**

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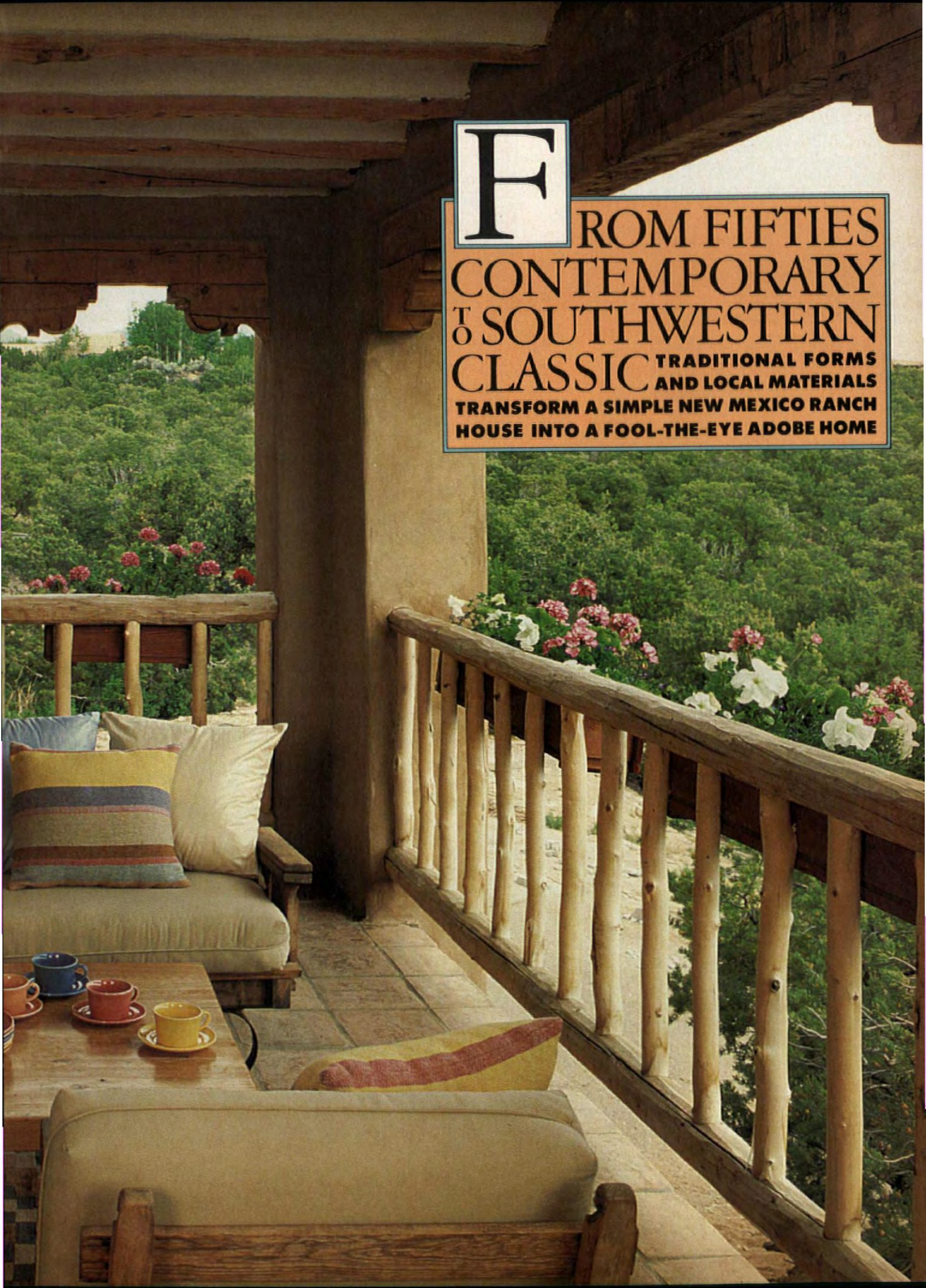
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F

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TRADITIONAL FORMS
AND LOCAL MATERIALS

TRANSFORM A SIMPLE NEW MEXICO RANCH
HOUSE INTO A FOOL-THE-EYE ADOBE HOME





An uncommonly strong and recognizable architectural tradition abides in the American Southwest, where climate and natural materials are essential to the style and construction of even the simplest buildings. Thick mud-brick and plaster walls and flat roofs of beams and mud mixed with straw reflect centuries-old technology designed to insulate inhabitants from both hot dry summers and bitter cold winters.

In fact, in the areas surrounding Santa Fe, N.M., the roots of these traditional building methods run deep. Pueblo Indians residing on a reservation in nearby Taos live in enormous apartmentlike adobe houses dating to the 16th century—the oldest inhabited dwellings in the continental United States.

It was to this rich architectural environment that Ulla Allyn, a self-taught designer, and her family moved 12 years ago, and she's been absorbing the sights ever since.

"When we first relocated to Santa Fe, we lived in an old adobe built by the Indians in the characteristic southwestern style," Ulla says. "It

had exposed *vigas*, or beams, and ceilings of *latillas*, or small supporting cross pieces of branches and wood strips. You could say I did my design research just by living there."

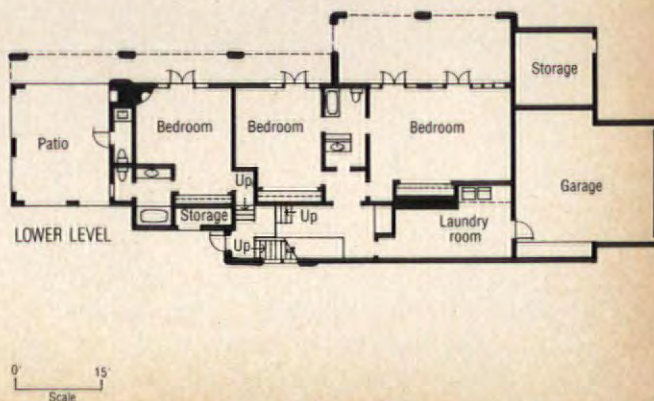
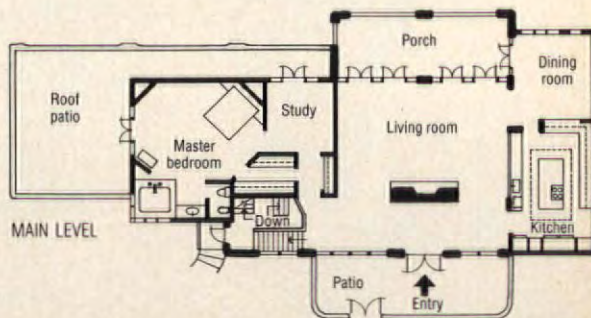
When Ulla decided she was ready for a move and a new challenge, she looked for a house with as much potential as the first one. A realtor friend showed her several, one of which was "just a big box"—a 1950s wood-frame house that claimed few architectural merits but had an impressive view of Santa Fe and the Sangre de Christo Mountains.

"There wasn't a wood beam in the place," Ulla recalls. "Walls were of cheap panel board and a family with 10 kids had just moved out. I guess my friend believed in my imagination. Even so, my first reaction was, 'You must be kidding.'"

Rising to the challenge, Ulla took sketch pad and pencil to the site several times before convincing herself the house did have possibilities.

In what Ulla calls a melding of the minds, she teamed with fellow self-taught designer Tom White. Assisted by local craftsmen, some with skills passed down for generations, they wrought what turned out to be a grand-scale transformation in

(Counterclockwise, from top left): An open staircase lets in light from large new windows, putting once-empty space to good use as a seating area. An adobe courtyard attaches to new entry foyer (below). Master bedroom/bathroom suite was created by eliminating walls and combining smaller spaces into an open layout—a treatment used throughout the house to brighten once-dark rooms. Wall-to-wall mirrors and Mexican tiles spruce up a bathroom. Traditional look cabinetry carries the southwestern feel to unexpected places in the house, while newly built ceilings in the dining area and kitchen draw on age-old structures for their appeal.





style, size, and, certainly, appeal.

To bring in more light, Ulla and Tom nearly gutted the first level. French doors and large windows—some newly created through outside walls—replaced nondescript originals. In addition, they switched the entry to the rear of the house and added a 400-square-foot foyer there; the front hall and porch became a dining room and patio.

What makes the result outstanding is the manner in which plaster was used inside and out, mimicking the local real McCoy: the mud-brick adobe homes of the area.

The convincing work combines a supporting structure of stud walls and metal lath instead of adobe bricks. Over that went three coats of mud plaster. Outside, the last coat of plaster got a tint, making painting unnecessary. Each year the exterior walls of the house will need a new slather of mud, however, to control cracking—a traditional autumn task in the pueblos.

Inside, where a tamer approach might have been simply to apply fool-the-eye decorative beams, Ulla literally raised the roof, rebuilding the ceilings with a different, yet authentic, southwestern motif in each room.

The ceiling in the living room combines plaster with pine *vigas*," Ulla explains. "The work is hard, since it's done upside down, and the plasterers really got sore arms."

For other ceilings, Ulla drew on the skills of local resident Sam Olivas. "Sam and his sons make a living by going up into the mountains and bringing back the log *vigas* and

latillas," she says. "They peeled the logs and delivered them: just the right trees and just the right sizes."

In the new entry area, Ulla used pine *vigas* with aspen *latillas* in a herringbone pattern. The dining room was done in plain aspen *latillas*.

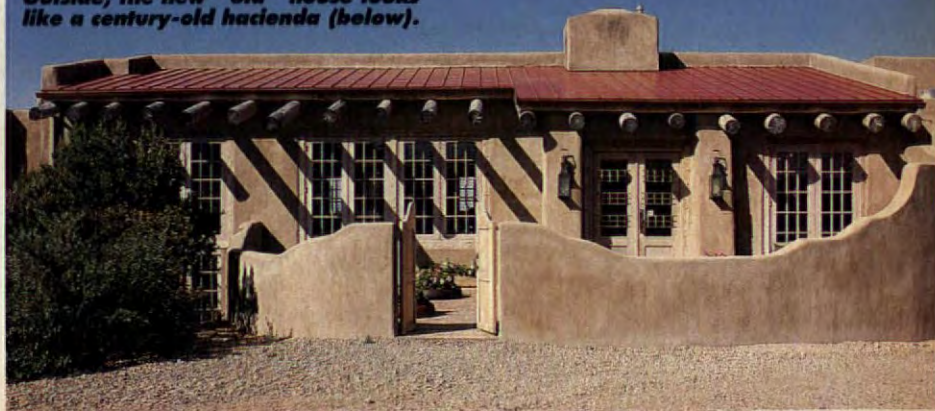
A treatment that combines pine beams and willow twigs caps the sumptuous bedroom/bathroom suite. New wraparound windows and French doors leading to a deck provide the open-plan retreat with a spectacular view. For privacy, the toilet is separated from the bath.

For the newly expanded kitchen, where old-world sentiments are sometimes abandoned for practicality's sake, Ulla was still able to impart a southwestern look with walls of floor-to-ceiling pine cabinetry. Designed by Bob Powell of Lifestyle, Sante Fe, they were treated with stain, bleach, and oil to resemble *trastero* chests. Even the large appliances have been paneled in pine to camouflage a modern kitchen. Mexican marble counters and backsplashes offer tough-as-nails work surfaces. The ceiling, too, was treated with old-style *vigas* and up-to-the-minute clerestories.

By keeping colors and textures compatible throughout the house, Ulla made the look complete. Few would call this remodeling a modest undertaking—costs ran to about \$100 per square foot—but the lessons, applied here on a grand scale, could easily improve a simpler project. Ulla Allyn's dictum might well be, "Take it to the limit." For that rule of thumb, brought new life to this once-ordinary house. ANDREA THORSEN

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, REFER TO THE BUYING GUIDE ON PAGE 101.

A living room fireplace (left) got a facelift to lighten its look. Custom-designed sofas have been upholstered with an oversize dhurri rug. Outside, the new "old" house looks like a century-old hacienda (below).



WARMTH

Back in Colonial days, the fireplace was the social center of the house, where a family gathered to cook, make candles, forge tools, and tell tales. A blazing fire not only provided a house with heat and a warm sense of cheerfulness but also was often the primary source of light. Through the years, the fireplace has remained the focal point in many contemporary homes. Today's fireplace, however, has taken on a more decorative role, displaying all sorts of shapes, sizes, and styles, while its fiery glow continues to lure the entire family to the hearth. On the following pages, our and wood stoves—some remodeled, that keeping warm can be a bevy of fireplaces some new—prove beautiful experience.

Once the main heating source in a Stockholm, Sweden, apartment, this 100-year-old, ceramic-tile stove found a new home in northern New Jersey. Dismantled by the dealer, a friend of the new owners, the stove was shipped to the U.S., piece by piece. Over 10 feet tall and weighing a half-ton, the stove is connected to an existing chimney. The flue system has four separate looped channels through which heat is circulated twice before escaping; tiles radiate heat long after the fire is extinguished. Local artist Lisa

Druck copied the flower motif on the stove onto the walls. The stove cost \$7,000 installed.

PHOTOS: RALPH BOGERTMAN



IN STYLE

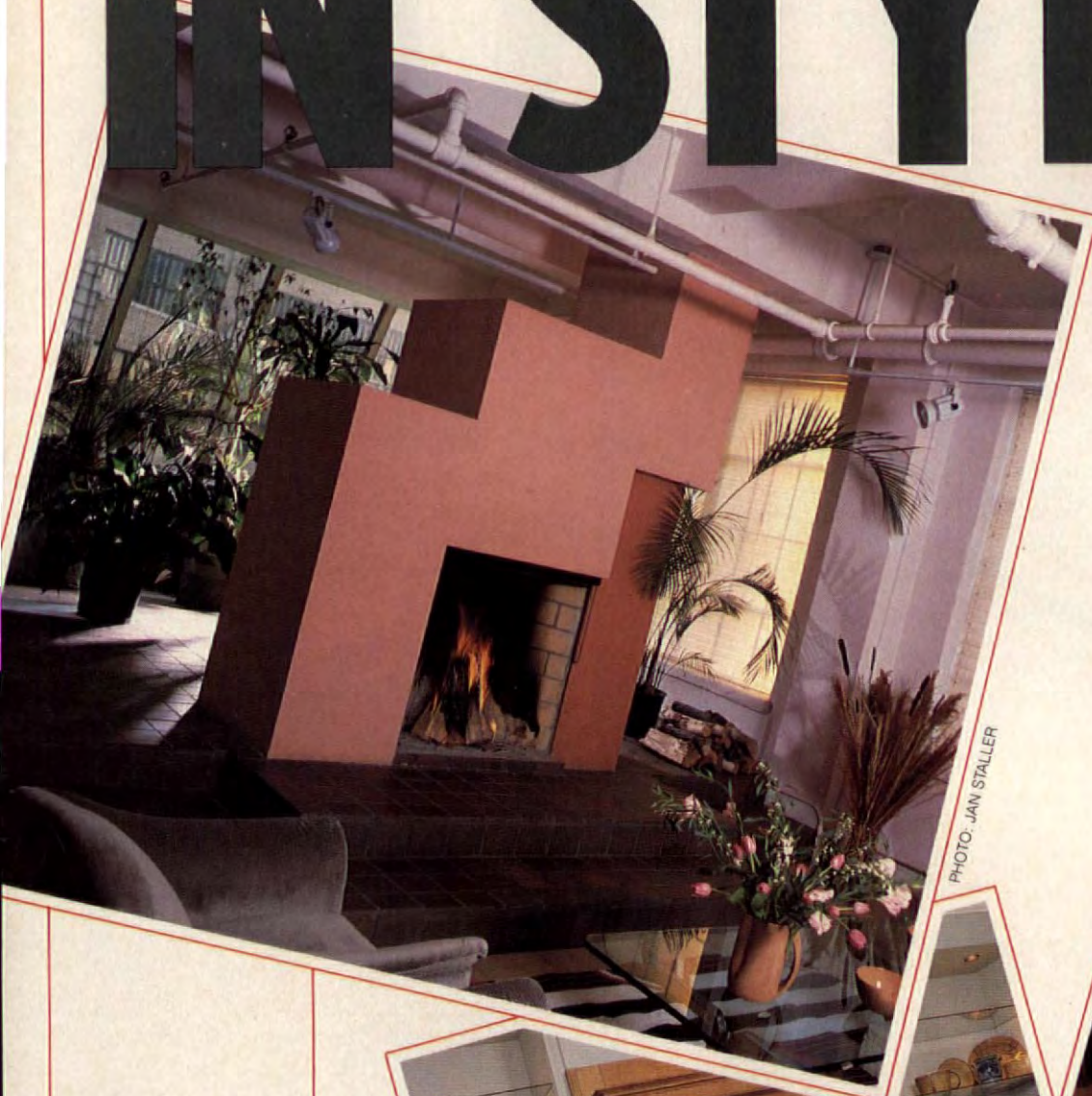


PHOTO: JAN STALLER

This "new wave" fireplace makes a bold statement in a contemporary New York City loft apartment. Architect Ralph Gillis, AIA, of Gillis Associates in New York, chose to "step" the fireplace to echo the level changes found throughout the loft. Gillis was limited as to where to locate the fireplace since the flue required that he punch through an unaccommodating roof. In an effort to subdivide the spacious loft, Gillis put the fireplace to the front right of the tiled sun-room, and enclosed the new "room" with modular seating. Constructed of wallboard-covered firebrick, the fireplace is painted an earthy pink. ▶

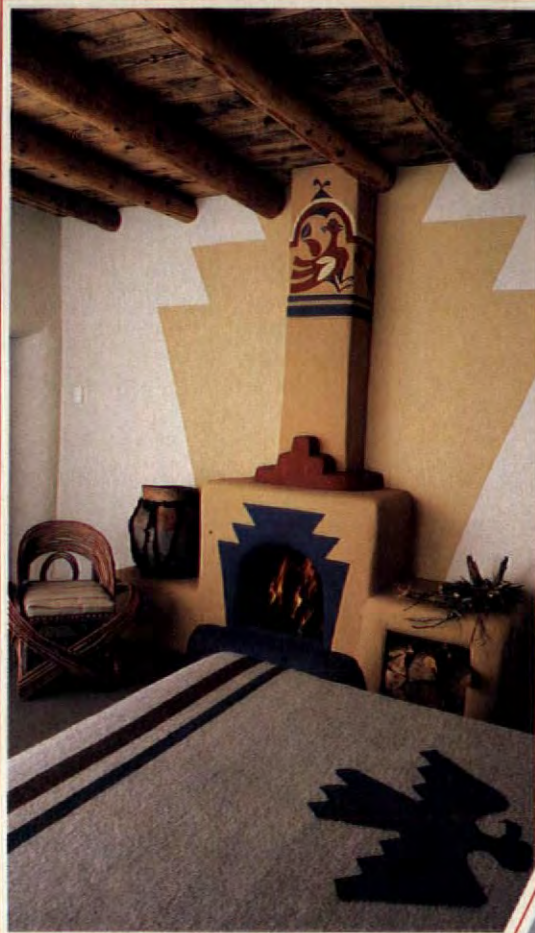
When Barbara and Tom Resnick of Evanston, Ill., first discovered the magnificent oak mantel in their friend's basement, it was covered with layers and layers of paint. Using her husband's dental tools, Barbara painstakingly scraped and refinished the old piece and then set it in the living room as a faux fireplace. When moving plans turned sour, they went ahead and built a functioning fireplace with an 18-inch-square chimney. Marble bought from a nearby factory surrounds the hearth. Recesses on each side of the chimney wall provided perfect niches for storage, so the couple also added oak-top wood cabinets with roll-out shelves for hi-fi equipment and glass shelving for pictures and collectibles. The remodeling cost \$3,000.



PHOTOS: JESSIE WALKER



Remodeled and then painted with American Indian motifs, this colorful fireplace in a suite at The Taos Inn in Taos, N.M., was handmade of adobe brick. Artist Carmen Velarde of Taos designed the fireplace to include a short *banco*, or bench, on each side of the main structure. While the *banco* on the left serves as a shelf for a large clay pot, the other is used for storing wood. To complete the project, graphic designers Nona Wesley and Anne Forbes, both of Taos, sketched directly onto the bare plaster and then handpainted the fireplace and wall with latex flat paint, using colors and designs representative of the Southwest. To build a new fireplace with similar artwork would cost around \$1,000.



O

ptions aplenty spark today's fireplaces with housewarming style.

Spanish settlers first brought the concept of the shepherd's fireplace to the Southwest about 150 years ago, and its primitive style has remained a popular decorative element ever since. Witness this example (below) in the home of Carla and Dick Young of Santa Fe,

N.M. Made of white plaster with wood framing for support, the Youngs' fireplace stands 5 feet high and has a narrow opening where a few small logs are placed upright rather than in a pile. Named after the shearers who would use the flat deck up top to warm frostbitten lambs, these fireplaces were also used as beds on cold nights.



A handmade, red-clay fireplace (above) from Mexico provides warmth and decoration in the corner of a Santa Fe, N.M., house. Dating to the 1800s, this type of short, stout fireplace was used to keep households warm, as well as for grilling tortillas. With costs ranging from \$30 for a 3-foot-tall model to \$80 for a 4-foot-high version, these fireplaces are a small investment that can pay large dividends in warmth and style. Inside, they require a metal flue attachment—which can be bought at a hardware store—but outdoors the flue is not necessary.





Since the only source of natural light in the living room of Kathy and Robert Reverman's home in Bellevue, Wash., is a row of small, northwest-facing windows, designer Bonnie Moffat, ASID, of Seattle, decided to brighten the lifeless room using a pale, travertine fireplace as the focal point. Once a simple brick-face opening, the fireplace was re-designed by Moffat and fabricated by Northwest Marble in Seattle. Floor-to-ceiling wood shelves were painted faux marble by a local craftsman and are backed with bronze mirrors to subtly reflect new recessed ceiling lighting. Surrounding walls, including the section over the fireplace, wear wool wallcovering. The new fireplace and wall system cost \$10,000.



A huge, black-granite fireplace helps define space in this roomy Manhattan loft owned by Sharon and Ira Hainick. Limited somewhat by two existing flues in the side wall, architect Ralph Gillis, AIA, of Gillis Associates designed the fireplace on an angle, primarily

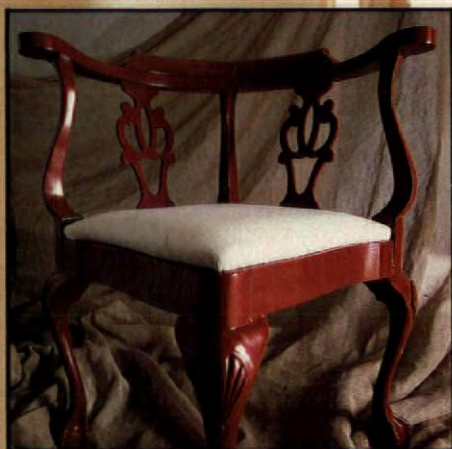
to offset the distance from entryway to living room. The fireplace also separates the dining area, which is directly off the entryway, from the living room. From the back, the fireplace looks like part of a wall, complete with book shelves and a cabinet. SUE ANN H. CHRISTENSEN



PHOTOS: JAN STALLER

Close-up of sofa table with desert beige Ceraglaze polyester finish and brass trim from the Cera Collection by Lane.

Corner chair with red polyester lacquer finish by KayLyn.



Bachelor's chest with black nitro-cellulose lacquer finish and chinoiserie from the Et Cetera Collection by Drexel Heritage.



Four-panel screen in polychrome wood veneer with mauve polyester finish and pink trim from the Tweed Collection by Maville Interiors.



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CHINOISERIE TO FAUX MARBLE
AND GOATSKIN, OUR PRIMER SHOWS
OFF "FANCY-FINISH" FURNISHINGS
OF EVERY STYLE AND HUE

FABULOUS



***Oriental armchair
with plum crackle
nitro-cellulose
lacquer finish by
Casa Bique.***



***From top:
Console with
grass-cloth sur-
face and nitro-
cellulose lacquer
finish by Casa
Bique; stand with
red lacquer finish
from the Oriental
Collection by Baker;
Parson's table with
laminato finish by
Thayer Coggin.***



***Stacking tables with
painted green tortoise
finish from the Tai
Ming Collection by
Drexel Heritage.***

FINISHES

One of the most exciting recent developments in furniture design is the re-emergence of decorative finishes, now available in a multitude of colors and patterns and styled to suit every taste. Finishes range from glowing solid-color lacquers in peaches and pale greens to traditional Chinese designs (chinoiserie) in vermillion and ebony. Tables sheathed in linen and grass cloth offer subtle texture as well as color. And bureaus, consoles, chairs, and similar pieces are painted in faux or "fantasy" finishes that closely imitate malachite, tortoiseshell, and leather.

Once affordable only to the very wealthy, these "fancy" finishes, as they're known in the furniture trade, have gained enormous popularity in the last few years. One strong impetus has been the trend to an overall soft look in interior design, characterized by the use of muted pastel colors and rounded curvilinear furniture.

"There was so much use of wood, especially the darker varieties, over the years that a cyclical counter-reaction developed," says Milo Baughman, the noted designer for Thayer Coggin Inc. He adds that the growing use of pastels spurred interest in a monochromatic look.

In selecting finish colors, Baughman sometimes starts with the fabric destined for settees and chairs and matches the lacquer accordingly. This soft one-tone blending makes the lacquer finish less visually obtrusive. "You can have a number of storage pieces in a room and still retain an airy feeling, which is important in today's smaller rooms," says Baughman.

"The depth of sheen that lacquer imparts gives a wonderful look to a room," says New York City interior designer John Robert Moore II. "A client might have a beautiful antique Oriental cabinet, and I might add a contemporary lacquer coffee table and a beautiful lacquer box—all of which become focal points."

Yet another reason for the popularity of the so-called fancy finishes is their one-of-a-kind quality. People are attracted to a simulated malachite chest or a metallic-lacquer cocktail

table because of its out-of-the-ordinary look. "More and more people are interested in the unusual and the beautiful. These finishes are part of the 'tangibles' that people now want in their homes," explains Jim Sharp of Manhattan's Laurin Studios, which specializes in custom-made furniture.

Custom-made pieces can, of course, be created in any size and finish your designer dreams up, but you pay a premium for the service. A custom-designed cocktail table with fantasy finish, for example, could easily run you \$5,000 or more. But with this status look now readily available in commercial furniture collections, it's possible to have a similar table for, perhaps, a half or even a quarter of the custom cost.

So exotic is the array of available finishes that even the fussiest furniture buyer should be satisfied. From Thayer Coggin come such tantalizing lacquer shades as Vintage Wine and Salmon, as well as a high-style range of electrostatically applied finishes used on metal furnishings. Casa Bique pieces, available at better retail stores, offer faux goatskin and nubby grass-cloth surfaces, or you can match any color you desire by special order. And from Baker comes the Alessandro Collection's traditional and contemporary styles in fantasy malachite, tortoiseshell, and pigskin.

Fantasy finishes, particularly those with Oriental origins, have long been coveted. Beginning in the 17th century, Europeans prized the lacquered boxes, chests, screen panels, and tables that traders brought from the East. By the 18th century, this furniture had become a status symbol in European households, and craftsmen there sought ways to imitate Oriental lacquering.

The true Oriental lacquer used in Japan and China is derived from processing the sap of an Asiatic sumac called the lacquer tree; it forms a hard transparent film when dry. The rich, jewel-like surface comes from repeated application of lacquer and the rubbing down of successive coats as they're applied.

Because of the unavailability of lacquer-tree sap in Europe, Western craftsmen had to create a similar



Queen Anne armchair with royal burgundy Ceraglaze polyester finish from the Cera Collection by Lane.



Details of the console with faux malachite alcohol-resistant lacquer finish (top) and commode with red-dyed Chinese newsprint and clear lacquer finish by Mansfield Manor Ltd.



Trunk with brushed-gesso nitro-cellulose lacquer finish from the El Cetera Collection by Drexel Heritage.



Detail of desk with black nitro-cellulose lacquer finish, chinoiserie, and leather blotter insert from the Et Cetera Collection by Drexel Heritage.



From left: Side chair with rose lacquer finish by Century; armchair with cinnabar lacquer finish from the Et Cetera Collection by Drexel Heritage.



Detail of an armoire with handpainted husk-color finish by Habersham Plantation.

Bombé commode with tulip design on a gray/white finish from the Four Corners Imports Collection by Thomasville.

effect through alternative means. The European product, thus, isn't true lacquer, which is why some authorities insist that the term japanning is more technically correct when referring to European lacquering.

The Western process, developed in the 18th century, involves the application of size and whiting, substances that are applied preparatory to finishing a furniture surface. Several applications of a varnish composed of resin dissolved in spirits follow. Painted decorations and gilding are next to be applied.

The modern technique of lacquering, as practiced by commercial furniture manufacturers and artisans alike, involves several stages of surface preparation, sanding, applying the desired color of paint, and successive layers of clear nitro-cellulose, polyester, or acrylic lacquers—synthetic substances worlds removed from the original formula of natural materials. Tightly grained hardwoods are preferred since the success of the technique depends on a nonporous and absolutely smooth surface.

To achieve the desired sleek finish, the preparation stages require meticulous attention to sanding. After the application of a base coat of size and whiting, the piece may be sanded again. Then comes the paint, often applied in several coats with a compressed-air spray gun. A really fine piece may also be sanded between these applications.

The next step calls for several coats of clear lacquer, the number depending on the richness of finish desired. This is followed by hand-rubbing with a creamy compound of fine silicone; it's this stage that creates the jewel-like transparency.

Although custom fabricators and mass producers use the same basic process, there are major differences in their methods. Custom makers usually use nitro-cellulose lacquer, whereas many large manufacturers prefer acrylic or polyester.

The latter have a higher durability—they're almost as hard as glass—and require less hand-finishing to achieve a high-gloss look. They're also better at resisting damage from burns, spills, and the like. Should polyester or acrylic lacquer chip, however, the repair cannot be fused into the original.

By contrast, nitro-cellulose lac-

quer permits easy refurbishing with a heated tool to melt sticks of shellac that fuse to the furniture surface. A piece finished with nitro-cellulose lacquer can be recolored later.

Another critical difference between custom-made and manufactured pieces is the amount of hand labor involved. With custom pieces, of course, almost all decoration is applied by hand. Manufacturers, on the other hand, are more likely to engineer the decorative stages to save time and labor costs. For example, when it comes to traditional chinoiserie on reproduction commodes and secretaries, even leading manufacturers often rely on decals.

Even so, an astounding amount of hand work is required, particularly if the pieces boast a faux tortoiseshell, marble, or animal-skin design. These patterns have to be created by hand if they're to achieve an authentic look. A few details are worth noting.

Faux finishes such as imitation marble and stone are achieved with designs applied on top of the base color. Depending on the look desired, the piece might be stippled with a brush, mottled with a sponge, or veined to simulate stone or marble. The design may be applied in several layers, using a different color for each, and sprayed with clear lacquer at each successive stage.

Fabric finishes—linen, silk, and grass cloth are examples—range in texture from fine to very slubbed and are chosen according to how much of a textured effect is desired. The process involves covering the furniture frame with the fabric, which is glued down in the manner of wallcovering. Then sealer is applied, followed by base coats, the colored paint, and finally the lacquer.

Laminates sold under such brand names as WilsonArt, Formica, and LaminArt are thermoplastics, chemically made surfacing materials bonded by heat and pressure. The array of high-style colors and patterns available in laminates today has moved them out of the kitchen and into all rooms of the house, where they embellish fancy-finish furniture. Some have the look of antique brass or the sheen of brushed steel.

Tough and not easily marred,



Clockwise from bottom left: Pillow table with textured material and beige lacquer finish by Casa Bique; lamp table with teal lacquer finish from the Apropos Collection by Tomlinson; pedestal with salmon lacquer finish by Thayer Coggin; pedestal with gray laminate finish by Casa Bique; bar stool with metal finish by Thayer Coggin; armchair with pimento lacquer finish from the Kosuga/Mehrtabel Collection by Tomlinson; swing-out coffee table with plumrose laminate finish by Thayer Coggin.

Carved console painted antique gold with clear lacquer finish from the Rideau Collection by Casa Stradivari.

laminates are difficult to repair when broken. Scratches, however, may be covered with either a specialty product called SeamFill or by melting a stick of furniture shellac and working it into the surface. Properly cared for, a laminate surface will last almost indefinitely, causing little or no maintenance worries. To clean, all you need do is wipe the surface with a soft cloth and window cleaner.

For other fancy finishes, polyester lacquer can be buffed by hand or machine. "Use Turtle Wax, Blue Max, or any of the polishes you'd pick to shine your car," recommends George Daleo, merchandise manager for Thayer Coggin.

Advice on the care of furniture finished with nitro-cellulose lacquer comes from Jim Sharp: "A new piece, six to eight weeks old, can be cleaned with water and a soft cloth. After six months you can use a window cleaner but only one with a spray pump, not an aerosol dispenser. The alcohol propellant in aerosol will cause surface pitting. And pump spray should be applied to the cloth first, then wiped on."

Selecting the fancy finish that's right for you depends on your budget and lifestyle. If you want an artful piece of furniture and can afford the luxury, a custom-designed piece may prove your most gratifying possession. But if your purse has limits, you can still get a custom look by purchasing a quality piece from a furniture dealer or department store.

In judging a lacquered piece, study the quality of construction first and then its finish. The surface should be absolutely satin smooth; the color should look rich; and if there are decorations, they should be carefully applied. Avoid any finish that's streaked, runny, or otherwise imperfect. Comparison-shopping will reward you well.

As one San Francisco furniture designer who specializes in fantasy finishes comments: "There's something special for everybody. Today's homeowners enjoy lacquer furniture for the same reasons as 18th-century Europeans—it lends sophistication to any room." **SALLY CLARK**



Detail of bunched tables in gray faux goatskin with polyester/polyurethane finish from the Gampel-Stoll Collection.



Top left: Detail of cabinet with plumrose acrylic lacquer finish by Thayer Coggin. Bottom: Detail of cocktail table with cappuccino lucite finish from the Concentrics Collection by Tomlinson. Center: Detail of cocktail table with travertine tortoise lacquer finish by Casa Bique.

IDEAS TO BUILD ON

Working storage for your basement, attic, and garage

Every household seems to have more things to store than places to store them, so looking for unused space in unexpected places is a worthwhile endeavor. If you can devise relatively simple methods for housing ungainly or seldom-used items and in the process utilize space that would otherwise go unused, you can pat yourself on the back.

Some of the storage facilities shown on these pages are quite specialized and may not be exactly what you're looking for. But all of them show that a little ingenuity goes a long way and that utilitarian storage can, indeed, be attractive.

Besides, you don't have to be an expert to build what you need yourself. Materials will usually be inexpensive plywood or readily available lumber. A few basic hand tools and imagination are the only other requirements.

New York City designer Michael Zanar put together five easy-to-build ideas based on principles that can be adapted to an almost-endless variety of storage needs. His tire rack, for example, could become a raised platform for stowing a lawn mower, large garden equipment, outdoor furniture, or camping gear.

The principle of storing long items between open studs, as shown with the ski rack, or on slotted holders, as with the barbells, also works for ungainly things such as fishing rods and pieces of spare lumber. And with slight modification, the bike rack can hold tools and implements that too often get underfoot.

So look with a new eye at

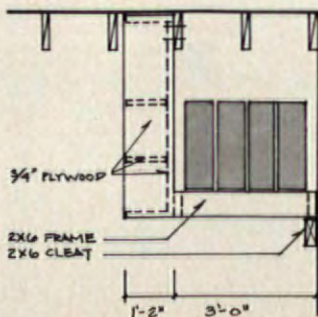
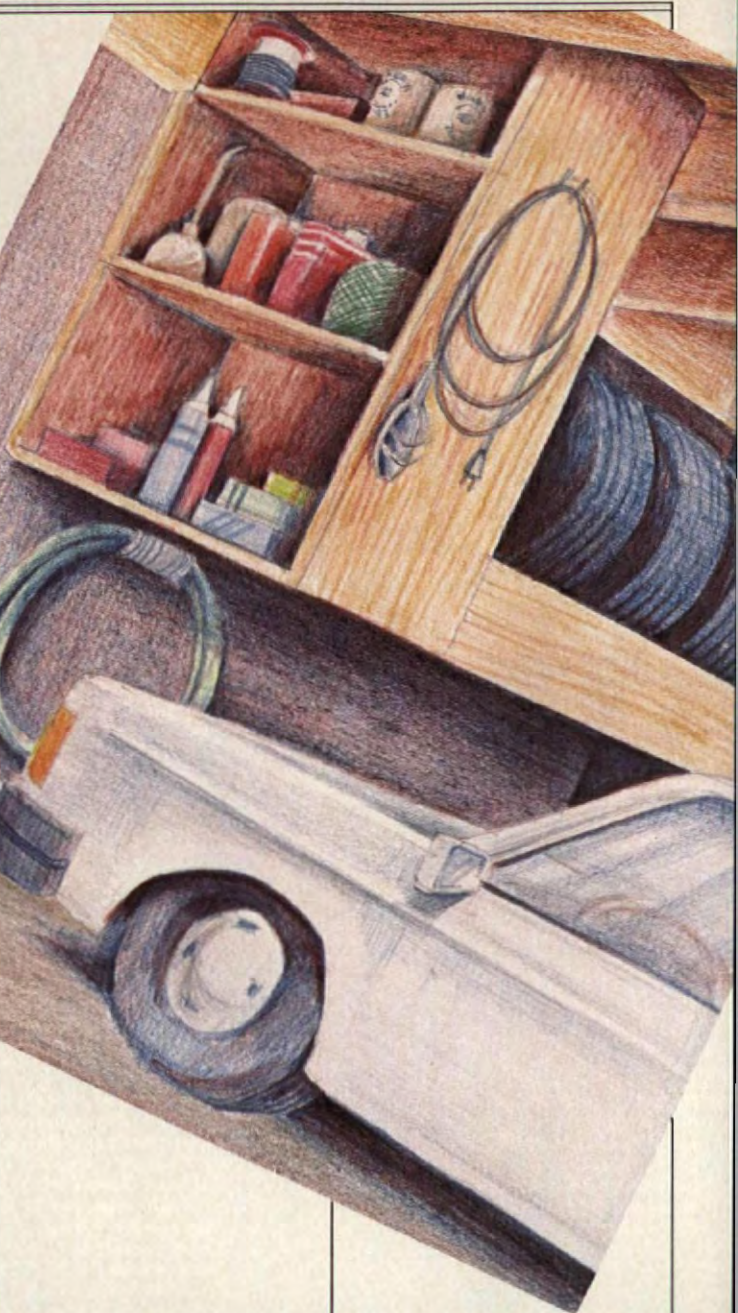
all those things that now clutter your attic, basement, and garage. Use Zanar's ideas or change them to suit your own circumstances. Or go one step further, and design your own racks, shelves, and cabinets.

Begin by regarding all space, whether on floors, walls, or overhead, as potential storage areas; then roughly map out on paper each likely solution to your needs. You'll discover that there are more ways than you thought to stash possessions.

TIRE RACK/SHELF

Suspend a sturdy storage rack from the garage ceiling, over the hood of your car, to hold out-of-season tires and other automobilia. Build the frame of 2 x 6s to the right dimensions for the size of your tires but long enough to end in alignment with an overhead ceiling beam. If the horizontal rack exceeds 5 feet in length, add centered vertical 2 x 4 supports at the front and back. Assemble the 2 x 6 framework with 1/4" x 4" lag screws.

Use 3/4-inch plywood for all parts of the shelf section—including the back since it's the back panel that carries the weight of the horizontal rack. Secure the shelf section to the ceiling beam and the 2 x 6 frame with eight 4-inch-long carriage bolts.





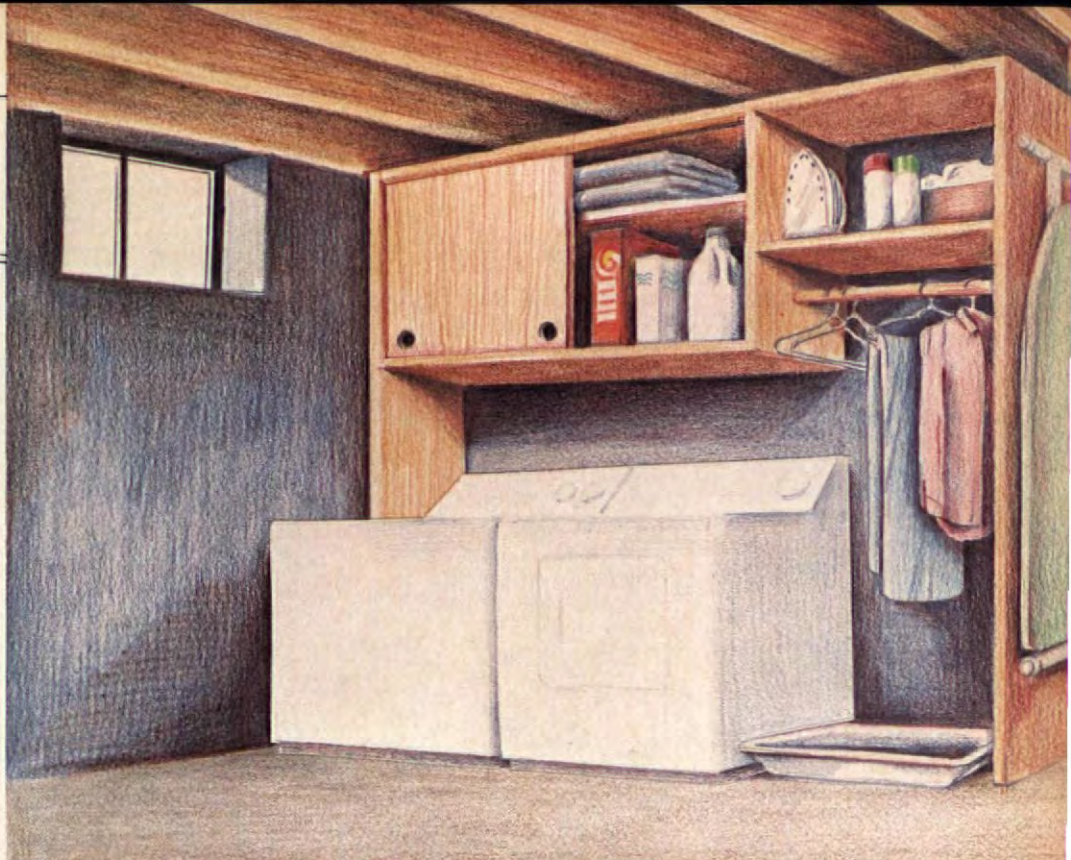
LAUNDRY CENTER

Organize your basement laundry area by adding a versatile storage compartment with cabinets and shelves. To build the unit as shown—about 16 inches deep, 8 feet wide, and extending from floor to ceiling—you'll need approximately two and a half sheets of $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch plywood.

Assemble the major components using $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch wood screws at each butt-jointed corner; then slide the unit into place and secure it with screws through the top, into the overhead beams.

Fit the shelves and closet pole after the unit is in place. You can alter the shelving configuration to suit your

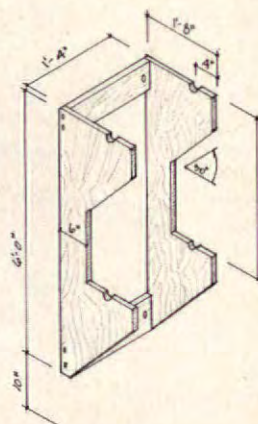
storage needs by making the enclosed cabinet section higher or longer—even extending the full length of the unit. Doors, either hinged or sliding, are optional, of course, depending on how uncluttered you wish the area to appear.



BIKE HANG-UP

Two bikes hanging on the wall take up little space compared to one standing on the floor. Besides, they won't fall over and are less likely to be damaged. This rack requires about half a sheet of $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch plywood. The dimensions given will accommodate most men's bicycle frames. To be sure, tack the unit together temporarily, and hang it on the wall for a test fit; if necessary, cut the angles a bit sharper or alter the shape as necessary.

For a woman's bike, enlarge the rounded cutouts and position them to support the seat and handlebar. Once you have the rack properly shaped, secure the two side pieces to the 2×4 s with 3-inch wood screws; fasten the unit to the wall with wood screws driven through the 2×4 s and into studs. Position the rack so the bottom bike's wheels are about 2 inches off the floor.



IDEAS TO BUILD ON

UNDER-STAIR CACHE

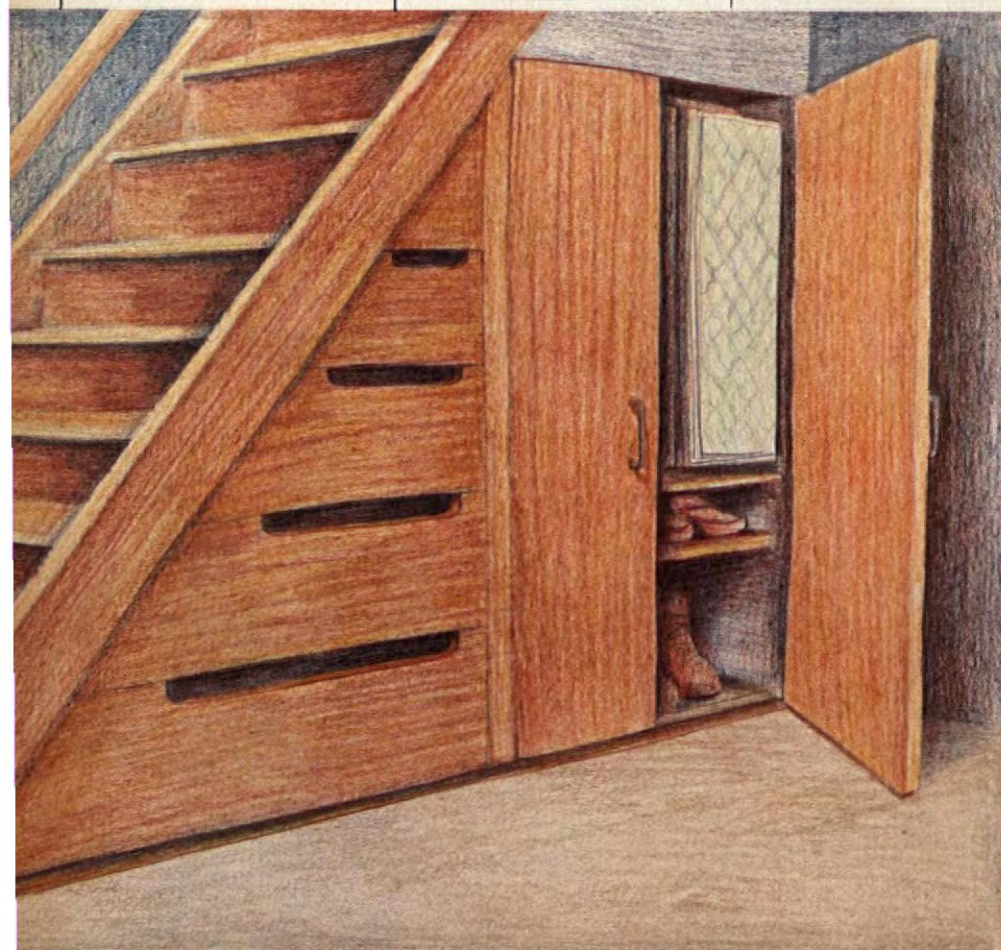
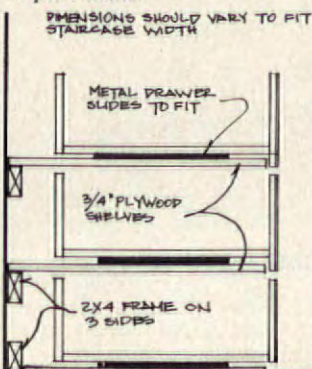
That awkward and often-wasted space under a basement stairway can become a storage bonanza with a bit of imaginative planning. Install roll-out bins in the lower triangular sections. Make the bins rectangular and in varied widths to fit the opening, with the face of each bin angled at the end to conform to the stair slope. A partition separates the bins from the main storage area behind tall hinged doors.

Fit shelves in the bin section approximately 14 inches apart, resting on horizontal 2x4 supports secured to the stair backs, the vertical partition, and the back wall. These shelves serve as a foundation to support each bin.

Heavy-duty, fully extendable metal drawer slides mounted on the shelves and drawer bottoms will give easy access even when bins are

heavily loaded. Make drawers, shelves, and partitions of $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch plywood, assembled with glue and screws; doors can also be $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch plywood or standard 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch-thick, hollow-core flush doors.

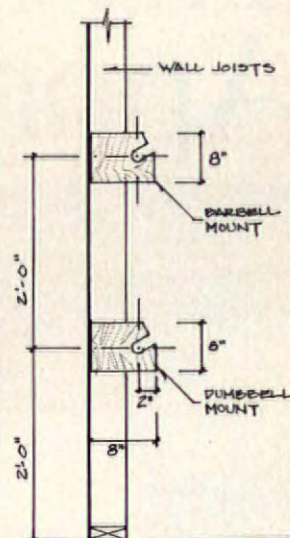
Mount shelves and closet pole behind the tall doors using shelf clips and metal shelf supports so the shelves can be adjusted to accommodate your changing storage requirements.



ATTIC SKI RIG

Organize your ski equipment between open attic studs with a few pieces of lumber and a half-hour's work. Slide shelf sections between each stud—about 14 inches from the floor—and toenail in place with 6d finishing nails. A small lip will keep the ski ends from sliding off the shelf.

Place a horizontal retainer strip high enough so you can slide skis out from below, yet allow for shorter children's skis as well as your own. If your skis are too long to permit this, mount one end of the retaining strip with a screw loose enough to pivot, and support the other end with a simple J-shape clip. Hang poles from nails or hooks driven into the retaining strip.



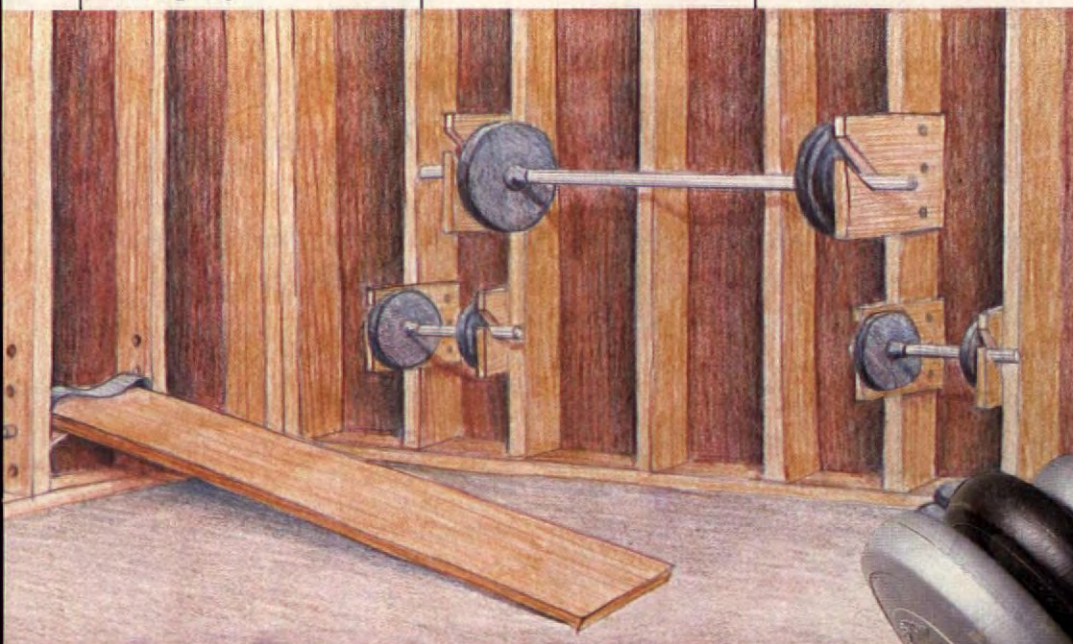
WORKOUT HANGOUT

If you're into exercise and find it difficult to keep your equipment accessible without clutter, you might try hanging barbells and dumbbells on attic or basement walls with slotted brackets.

Use $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch plywood to make the brackets (solid wood splits too easily), and secure them to the studs with $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch bolts. Use a double thickness of plywood for heavier barbells. Cut the angled slots just deep enough to keep the weights about 1 inch from the wall.

Build an adjustable slantboard to fit between studs, supported by a movable 1-inch-thick dowel. Drill the height-adjustment holes about $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter so the dowel slides easily past the adjacent stud and into the holes.

ARTHUR ROOZE



The Professional Approach

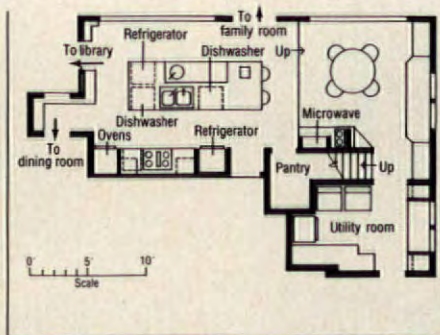
A kitchen that's comfortable, eye-catching, and convenient—a simple goal, but a complex task. Here, two pros reveal their secrets in a pair of super designs



An island topped by handmade tile forms the core of a remodeled Cape Cod kitchen designed by Ann Grasso.

In designing a new kitchen or remodeling an old one, a homeowner has many choices of professional help. He can work with an architect, an interior designer, and/or a kitchen specialist like a certified kitchen designer (CKD). Or, as in the case of this kitchen, he can turn to a rarer breed, someone like Ann E. Grasso, a spatial design consultant whose expertise lies in between.

When these clients approached Grasso, they were beginning a major remodeling, having already received finished plans from an architect for a contemporary great-room addition to their 18th-century oceanside house on Cape Cod. The great room would



connect to the house via a glass-wall gallery leading to the kitchen, which would also be remodeled. The clients asked Grasso to design a plan with an efficient work center, a comfortable breakfast area, and a laundry. What's more, they wanted the kitchen to act as a transitional space, linking the Colonial home to its modern addition. A difficult task but one to which Ann Grasso's skills were very well matched.

After receiving a liberal arts education, Grasso studied architectural design at the Rhode Island School of Design. On her first job—managing a new home center 12 years ago—she learned to work with stan-



Grasso positioned the large work/storage island to provide views of both the ocean and the breakfast area.

As a "spatial design consultant," Ann E. Grasso occupies a niche between architect and decorator, addressing such problems as traffic flow and relationships of rooms. "I deal with the nit-picky issues that really make spaces function," she says. "I want clients to become part of the job and understand what they're getting."



**Spatial design consultant
Ann E. Grasso.**

dard lumber and also designed stoves and cabinets. Later, she worked for a high-end kitchen design shop, followed by a stint with an outfit she describes as the McDonald's of kitchens: "good cabinetry at good prices."

Today, from her Warwick, R.I., office, Grasso heads her own design firm, whose work runs the gamut from consulting on small projects to designing and overseeing major renovations. Grasso divides her work, regardless of the size or scope of a project, into four stages,

and clients can proceed as far as they wish:

Consultation, including design, rough cost estimates, and sources—what to use, where to buy it. "I provide a design based on the client's needs and wishes and recommend sources he can work with on his own."

Block proposals, a continuation of the first step in which Grasso works up conceptual plans. "First we discuss function, what is necessary to make a space work for a particular client. Then, we address the aesthetics, the design of the project."

Specific plans, based on options discussed at the previous meeting. At this stage, says Grasso, clients are usually firmer about what they want, so she can translate rough plans into the 1/2-inch scale necessary for blueprints.

Material selection: Grasso prefers to stick to the "permanent" items—cabinet materials, flooring, counter tops—and generally leaves the "finishing touches" to the decorator or homeowner. When all is decided, she does a detailed specification list.

From this point, clients can choose to do the actual work themselves, or they can have Grasso act as their general contractor.

Though Grasso can be retained on a flat-fee basis, she prefers to bill at an hourly rate. "I opted for that because I find clients' imagery becomes much sharper and they can make decisions more quickly when they pay on a time-

expended basis. It also gives them more latitude in working with me." In the case of a simple kitchen remodeling, for example, Grasso might draw up plans, specify materials, and help the client act as his own contractor. Grasso's charge for this service? Between \$1,500 and \$2,000 for an average kitchen. If a client wants Grasso to see a project through to execution, she will charge for the hours she spends, plus a percentage of the cost of any materials or appliances ordered directly through her office, though she prefers clients to pay vendors directly.

In the case of the Cape Cod kitchen, built in 1983, Grasso completed all four stages, from preliminary discussions through contracting. By integrating small existing areas—butter's pantry, hallway, laundry, storage room—into the new kitchen plan, she gained 600 square feet with which to work. To take advantage of the view while permitting easy traffic flow

from the new great room through the kitchen and into the rest of the house, Grasso moved the position of the gallery slightly and glassed in the wall facing the ocean. To keep the kitchen's work space out of the traffic pattern, she created a large central island that includes two dishwashers, the primary sink, a baking center with low granite counter and adjacent bar, a slide-out pantry, drawers for pots and pans, and a built-in knife rack.

In choosing materials and colors for the kitchen, Grasso concentrated on creating a smooth transition from old to new, using traditional oak cabinets in the breakfast area and more modern white laminate ones, trimmed in oak, in the kitchen

proper. The result is a modern kitchen at its best—a joy to use, easy to care for, a pleasure to be in—that is right at home with its treasured past. And the key to its success lies in the design skills and logic Ann Grasso brings to all of her work.



**China cabinets line one
wall and the hall to
the dining room.**



**Drawers in the breakfast
area hold linens.**



Cranberry, "a Cape Cod color," was chosen for the laminate accents on the island cabinets and above the stove.



Special touches include a microwave oven set in the chimney (left) and a granite-top baking center (above).

How tall is the cook? What are her cooking specialties? Questions such as these are tools an expert like Kenneth W. Peterson, CKD, uses to create a client's ideal room. "To solve an individual's problems, we want to search through the best possible solutions—to help a client find the right options for his or her specific needs."



**Certified kitchen designer
Kenneth W. Peterson.**

When Anita and Wolfried Mielert decided to renovate their 1823 Connecticut home, one of their main objectives was to combine a galley kitchen and cramped breakfast room into one large great room for cooking, family dining, and as a playroom for their three young children. Stephen-son Assoc., the Avon, Conn., architectural firm that was handling the remodeling, suggested that the couple hire a kitchen specialist to design the great room. The Mielerts contacted Kenneth Peterson, CKD, president of Signature Kitchen and Bath/M.A. Peterson Inc., the flagship of a retail design franchise operation that recently grew out of M.A. Peterson Inc. Peterson's firm, founded by his father in 1938, is a full-service West Hartford kitchen and bath dealer. Most of the company's work involves planning and building kitchens and baths from start to finish—including design, provision of materials and appliances, and contracting. In practical terms, what Ken Peterson brought to the Mielerts' project was 16 years of experience as a certified kitchen designer, a staff of 15, including seven other CKDs, a host of subcontractors the firm regularly employs, and a broad range of product lines that his company carries.

What exactly is a CKD? To receive this certification, a designer must have worked in the field for seven years, or have worked for four years and passed a correspondence course offered by The Society of Certified Kitchen Designers. In addition, he must pass the Society's rigorous day-long exam.

Peterson's work with the Mielerts is typical of his firm's design procedure. "We first arranged for the Mielerts to interview us in our office," says Peterson. Peterson feels it is in the showroom, where seven full kitchens are on display, that the designer can best familiarize prospective clients with trends, available products,

and the firm's procedures. "Owners should be as informed as possible so they can decide both what they like and what they don't like," says Peterson.

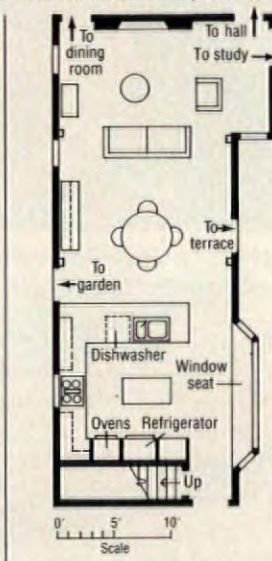
Homeowners relate their specific needs and desires during the next step in the design process, the home consultation, which, like the showroom visit, involves no fee. Working with a four-page questionnaire, the designer zeroes in on clients' problems, cooking practices, shopping habits, and lifestyle patterns.

Also covered are their parameters in remodeling—would they, for instance, be willing to eliminate a wall or move a window? Based on this information, the designer will present some rough design ideas and budget estimates.

At this point, clients must decide whether the firm can solve their particular problems within their budget. If they answer "yes," the firm is retained at a fee of 8 percent of the low end of the initial budget estimate—for example, if the estimate was \$10,000 to \$12,000, the fee would be \$800. For that fee, the clients receive three or four drawn-up designs, all of which include a number of options. Designer and clients then discuss the pros and cons of each plan, working together to come up with the just-right solution. The

focus then turns to product selection—cabinets, floor coverings, counter tops, and appliances. If the clients agree to purchase the entire kitchen—except for final decorating touches such as wallcoverings and draperies—the initial 8 percent fee is applied toward the price, which includes designs, materials, appliances, and contracting.

In the Mielerts' case, the design process moved quickly: They wanted a streamlined cooking zone, a comfortable dining area, a cozy place for their sons to play and watch TV, plus plenty of storage space to replace the pantry. By relocating a door to the yard a few feet to the right, Peterson was able to reroute traffic and design a



**Peterson used a big bay window
in this family-style kitchen.**



A seating area occupies one end of the new great room in Anita and Wolfried Mielert's 1823 Cape Cod-style home.



Traditional cherry cabinets facing the dining area visually integrate the cooking zone with the room.



Like 50 percent of Peterson's clients, the Mielerts opted for a wide-open plan, designed for the whole family.



Fold-out cabinets replaced a pantry.

wide-open room that "enables Anita to be isolated at one end in her three-sided work area while still in touch with her family in the dining and living areas of the 'great kitchen.'"

When it came to materials and appliances, Anita and Wolfried wanted state-of-the-art cooking facilities, but a setting that blended gracefully with the antique flavor of the dining

and family areas. A mix of traditional cherry wood cabinets and more contemporary textured-steel cabinets became the perfect solution: Steel base cabinets bear the cooking area's hardest wear, while the cherry cabinets, at eye level and facing the dining and family spaces, meld easily into the room's traditional scheme.

"The interplay of materials sums up the eclectic attitude of the room," says Peterson, adding, "It was a matter of using the best material for

each job. With years of experience under our belt, we've researched the best lines available in each price range."

In the scheme of the overall design process, the selection of materials and appliances is followed by the preparation of final drawings—usually about six weeks after the first meeting—at which time all materials are ordered. Eight to 10 weeks later, Peterson's firm assigns a project-management team to each job; the team functions as the contractor, making sure the final design is implemented correctly. If they prefer, clients can choose to do some of this work themselves—for instance, buying their own appliances or hiring a favorite electrician.

When all is done, what makes for a successful collaboration? "We're there to design solutions within the client's budget," says Peterson. "We can get as much satisfaction out of a job that costs \$6,000 as one that costs as much as \$50,000. The greatest sense of personal accomplishment comes from fulfilling an individual's hopes and needs."

LOIS PERSCHETZ



Steel base cabinets are visible only in the work area.

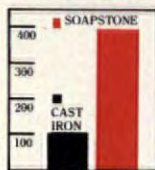
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, REFER TO THE BUYING GUIDE ON PAGE 101.



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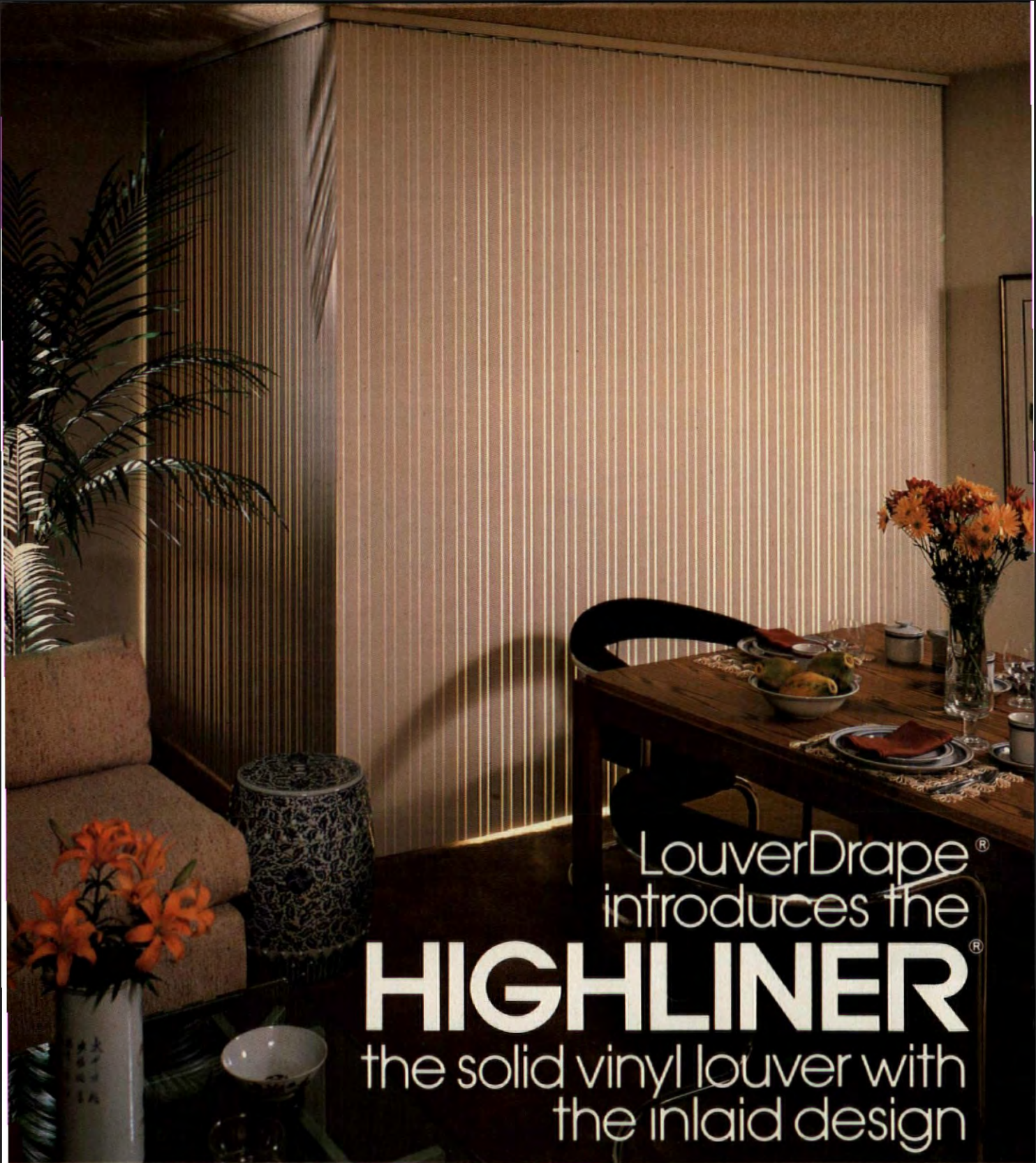
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STEP BY STEP

*How to restore
rusty metal
on weather-beaten
treasures*



Once a rusty remnant (above) of childhoods past, this sprightly rocking horse (top) is now ready for the rigors of future generations, thanks to careful restoration.

Outdoor furniture, barbecue grills, and other metallic items are subject to rust that can, in time, destroy both appearance and usability. Even if the rusting process has begun, you can stop it cold and—with a few hours of work—take pride in an almost-like-new object.

Rust involves the oxidation of ferrous metals in a chemical process that eats away at iron and steel. A simple coat of paint won't stop rust, only slow

it down while hiding the damage beneath.

We chose a rusty old rocking horse to illustrate the simple secrets of restoration that can be applied to almost any metallic object. The job is an easy one, but no shortcuts are allowed. The secrets? Thorough surface preparation and multicoats of quality paint

with rust inhibitors. This means removing *all* rust and scale and patching any rusted-through holes before applying a rust-engineered primer and top coats. The better the job you do, the longer your finish will last.

To complete the project you'll need pliers, wrenches, screwdrivers, hand-held wire brush, elec-



Apply decorative details with an artist's brush.

tric grinder with wire-brush attachment, sandpaper (wet or dry), penetrating oil, paint-brushes, primer, and paint.

Take the object apart, removing all nuts, bolts, and screws. If they've rusted tight, apply a penetrating oil, wait 10 minutes, and then unscrew. Use a screwdriver, pliers, or wrench as required.

Replace bolts and screws having worn or indistinct threads. But if their size or shape is unusual, you may have to reuse them. In that case, wire-brush clean, coat with machine oil, and set aside. While dismantling complex items, take note of how the parts fit together as they come off. This will prevent foul-ups during reassembly.

Once the unit is apart, you can really get at the rust with a hand- or machine-driven wire brush. Grind off all surface rust, and as scale is removed, the metal should go from red/brown to shiny bright. Any paint that resists removal can be left on but feather the edges with wet or dry sandpaper. Next, wipe the parts clean with a tack rag (a cloth impregnated with linseed oil and turpentine)

and spray or brush on rusty-metal primer, remembering to protect work surfaces with drop cloths. For extra antirust protection, apply a coat of clean-metal primer. To reclaim our rocking horse, we used Rustoleum primers and paints to achieve a pinto look. Primers can take hours to dry—especially in damp weather—but are essential to defeating rust problems.

Apply at least two light coats of finish. Thin coats don't sag or run, and they build up a stronger finish. To add decorative details, first draw an outline in pencil, then complete the details with an artist's brush. Now reassemble.

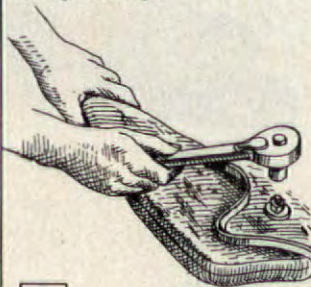
Whether you have restored a grill, lawn chair, child's wagon, or a rocking horse like ours, your handiwork will give it a new lease on life and make it last for years to come. Do a thorough job and you won't have to worry again about whether or not rust ever sleeps.

TIM SNIDER

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, REFER TO THE BUYING GUIDE ON PAGE 101.

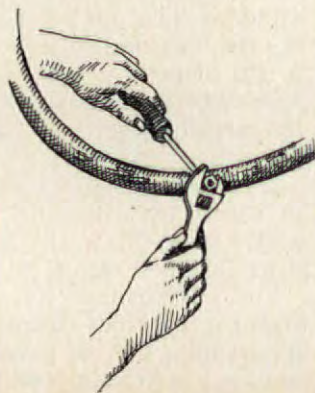
1

Disassemble parts—penetrating oil will help—preparatory to cleaning and painting.



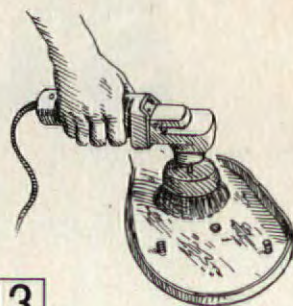
2

Loosen rusted bolts and nuts, using adjustable or socket wrenches, and replace with new ones.



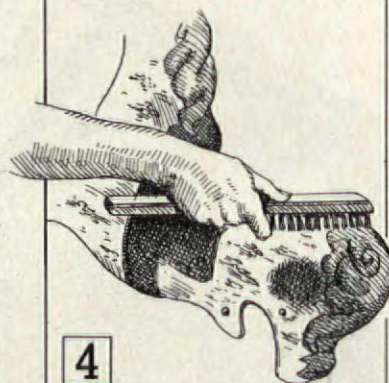
3

Remove rust and scale with a wire-brush attachment on an electric drill or grinder until shiny.



4

Use a hand-held wire brush, if necessary, to get down to clean metal; be sure you remove all traces of rust before painting.



5

Let old paint that's firmly attached remain in place, but feather the edges with sandpaper to remove ridges.



6

Wipe the surface clean with a tack rag before applying the first coat of primer; let stand until dry. Protect work surfaces with newsprint, and keep your painting area ventilated.



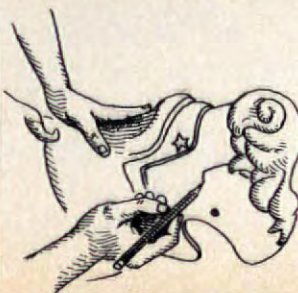
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Spray or brush on your top coats. Remember, several thin layers produce a better finish than one thick coat.



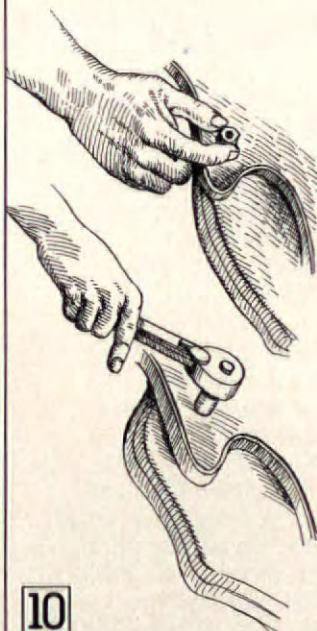
8

Use a soft lead pencil to outline any different colors or details to be added.



9

Paint in the penciled areas to complete your decorative effects. In this case, brush strokes produce the effect of pinto markings.



10

Reassemble the parts in their proper order, and tighten nuts and bolts snugly as required.

With fresh new paint and accessories, this horse will rock for a long, long time.

Patching rusted-through holes

What can you do if in the course of removing scale you discover spots that are rusted through? Holes that are small pits or gaps up to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch can be patched with auto-body putty. The putty comes in a package with a small amount of hardener; mix the two carefully following the manufacturer's instructions.

Before applying, be sure to sand all of the area that's around the hole shiny bright. Push the goopy mixture into the opening with a squeegee or putty knife so that some of it bulges out the back and locks itself in. Now smooth the surface of the patch to conform to the surrounding metal.

Most putty kits also contain a piece of fiberglass screening to patch holes larger than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. Cut a piece of the screening a little larger than the contour of the hole, and press the putty into the screen as you apply it. The screening adds rigidity to the putty mixture, which takes about 25 minutes to set.

Use coarse sandpaper or a grinder to obtain the rough shape you want; finish it with fine sandpaper. If the rusted area is very large or structurally important, you may want to weld or pop-rivet a piece of new metal into the damaged section, then feather the edges to give the surface a smooth appearance after painting.



TODAY'S TECHNOLOGY, YESTERDAY'S CHARM

NEW LOG HOUSES RANGE FAR BEYOND ABE LINCOLN RUSTIC; BUILT FROM A KIT, THIS MASSACHUSETTS EXAMPLE BASKS IN COMFORT FROM WALL TO WALL

The log cabin and early frontiersmen are forever linked in the mythology of American history—and justly so. But the technique of building with felled timber was hardly native. Our earliest log cabins, modeled after primitive Scandinavian dwellings, appear to have been built in the early 1600s by Swedish immigrants settling in Delaware.

Log cabins made good use of the New World's most abundant natural resource—trees—and they could be thrown up quickly with relatively little sawing and finish work. Most important, perhaps, was that settlers could construct such a shelter without nails. In early Colonial times, nails were so scarce that settlers moving on to greener pastures sometimes burned down the old homestead just to reclaim them.

Colonists generally abandoned their log cabins for brick or clapboard houses as soon as resources permitted. The

reason: Log cabins were just plain drafty and uncomfortable to live in. Try as one might, it was almost impossible to prevent the infiltration of wind and moisture.

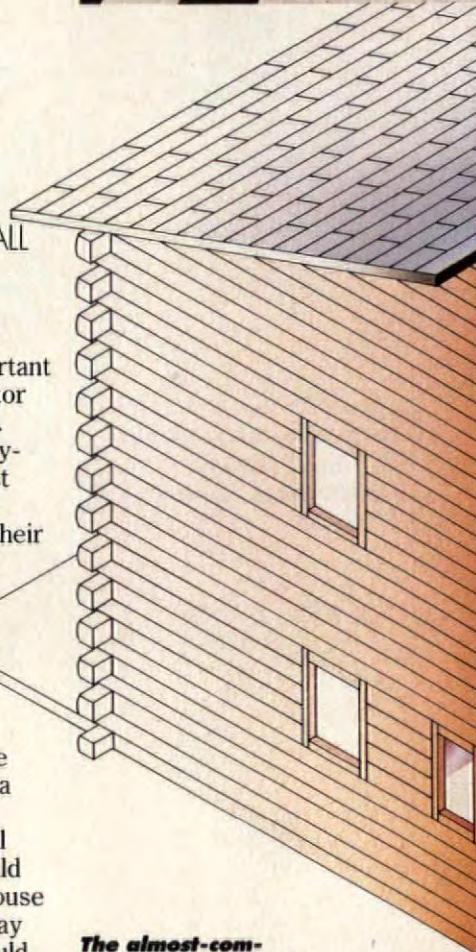
The filler between logs—commonly a mixture of mud and straw—would crack and fall out as it dried and weathered. Log houses of that time were regarded as temporary shelters. Presidents were sometimes born in them and later moved into the White House. But they never moved out of the White House and back into a log cabin!

So why, you may ask, did Jimmy Carter recently build a log house in the mountains of northern Georgia? For some of the same reasons that Murray and Gail Bruce chose a log house for their farm in central Massachusetts: There's been a revolution in their design and technique of construction. The modern versions are energy-efficient, relatively inexpensive, and easily adapted to satisfy a variety of aesthetic tastes.

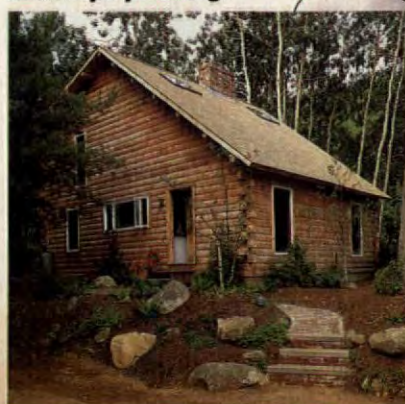
Both aesthetics and price were vitally important for TV producer/director Murray and artist Gail. They had owned Sunnybrook Farm, near West Brookfield, Mass., for some years, splitting their time between it and their New York City home.

They needed a house that would meet two very different needs: For the first few years, the house would serve as a practical, low-maintenance home for a small family; later, they would turn one part of the house into an office for Murray while another area would become Gail's studio. And since they'd be building the house under an iron-clad budget, little leeway was left for expensive alterations in plans during construction.

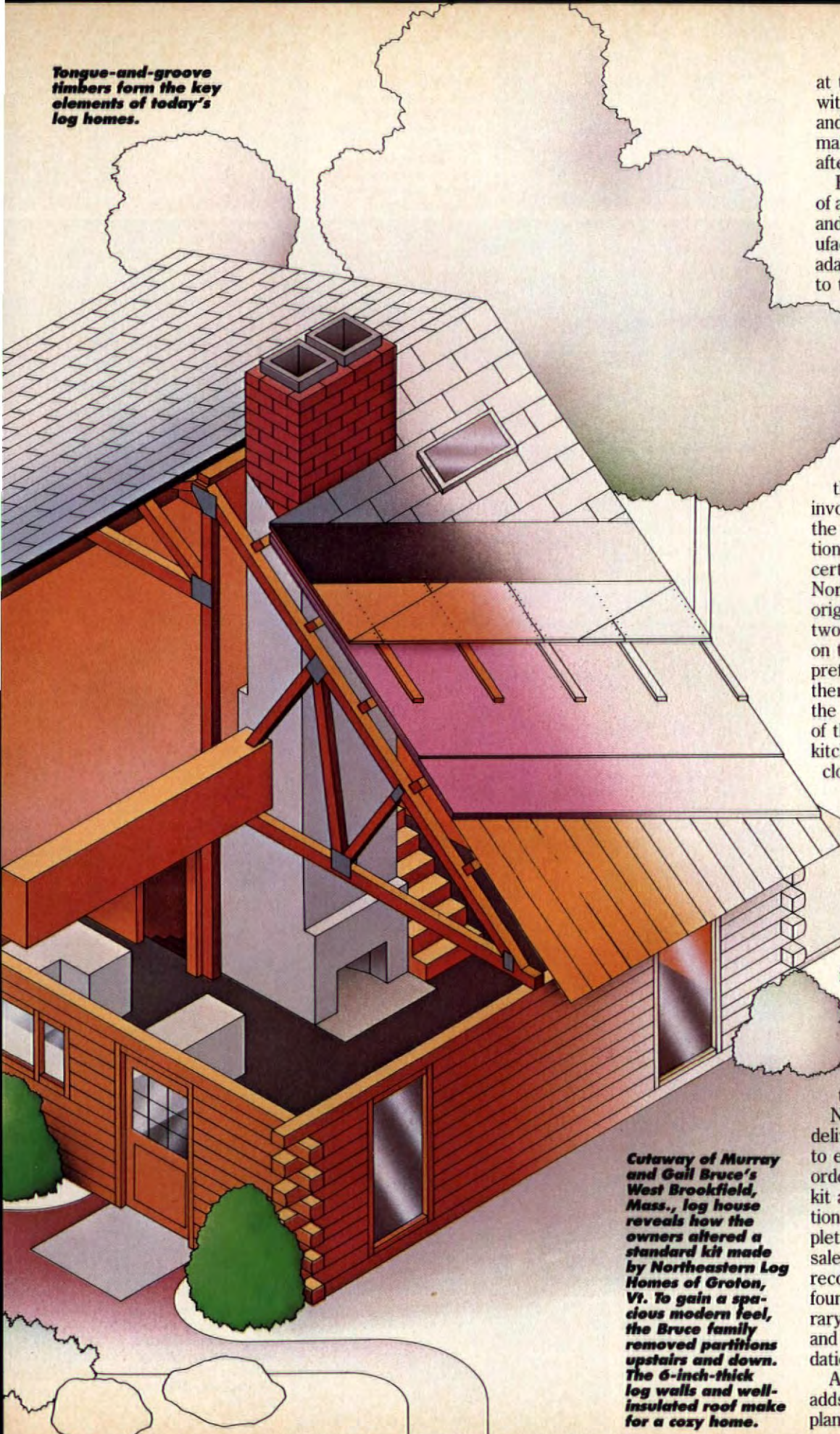
The Bruces soon decided that a kit from Northeastern Log Homes of Groton, Vt., could meet their requirements. For one thing, a kit would keep construction costs down. Each log-house kit arrives



The almost-complete cabin (below), tucked among trees, is an understated triumph of landscape planning.



Tongue-and-groove timbers form the key elements of today's log homes.



Cutaway of Murray and Gail Bruce's West Brookfield, Mass., log house reveals how the owners altered a standard kit made by Northeastern Log Homes of Groton, Vt. To gain a spacious modern feel, the Bruce family removed partitions upstairs and down. The 6-inch-thick log walls and well-insulated roof make for a cozy home.

at the construction site with every timber pre-cut and labeled, so only minimal alterations are possible after work is in progress.

But the chief attraction of a prefabricated kit to Gail and Murray was the manufacturer's willingness to adapt an existing design to the couple's specifications. Finally, Gail recalls, "I was knocked out by the idea of a home that came in a can."

Landscape architect Craig Stevens, a longtime friend of the Bruces, who was involved in every stage of the design and construction, helped them revamp certain aspects of the Northeastern design. The original blueprints called for two bedrooms and a bath on the second level; Gail preferred one large area there. Stevens also shifted the fireplace to the center of the house, altered the kitchen layout, and moved closets around.

The revisions were sent off to Northeastern, which drew up a new set of blueprints.

Then the process was repeated to incorporate some last-minute touches.

The final design ended up costing Gail and Murray only \$100 more than the original kit.

Northeastern usually delivers a house within six to eight weeks after an order is placed. Before the kit arrives all site preparation work should be completed. The company's sales manager, Rich Horn, recommends that the foundation be in, a temporary power line installed, and the corners of the foundation back-filled.

Architect Stevens adds: "People should also plan the landscaping when

they're planning the house. That way they can save what's important. Think of the money people spend after the fact, planting trees where there used to be a forest."

The Bruce house is set amid poplars and pines on a small knoll, oriented to take advantage of the views. Stevens marked the trees that had to be removed to create "viewing sheds" of a meadow and had materials delivered to the building site through those lanes.

Construction, supervised by the architect's contractor-father, Dave Stevens, started in August 1982 and finished two months later. There were no snags except for a building-permit delay.

A Northeastern kit includes studs, beams, joists, flooring, rafters, doors, windows, wall board, roofing, and other building essentials but not *everything* needed to complete the job. The buyer has to supply the foundation, plumbing, electrical and heating systems, kitchen cabinets and counters, nails, and flashing.

The total cost of the Bruce log house was \$60,000, excluding land, the total divided about equally between the price of the kit and the costs of labor and materials. These figures are fairly typical for log houses.

"But aren't log houses notoriously difficult to heat," you ask. Not anymore. Perhaps the most important feature that makes the log house practical in an energy-conscious age is the way the "logs" are manufactured. Northeastern's logs, for instance, are milled from 6"x8" eastern white-pine timbers. A tongue is formed along the top of the timber, and a complementary groove is milled in the bot-



Logs are pre-cut and numbered to simplify on-site construction. Delivery of a kit (left) should be timed so that construction (right) can begin immediately.



Log sections (below) are the most distinctive architectural feature of log houses, but the overlap no longer has a structural function. Cracks are common in logs, but they never go all the way through. Careful placement of windows and skylights (right) suffuses the house with light and opens up views. A planned greenhouse may eventually replace the deck.



Construction photo (inset, above) shows the fire-brick components of the ground-floor hearth. The fireplace was relocated when the plans were altered.



Laying of the foundation (left) is well under way. There were no significant hitches in any phase of the construction process.

Assemble the logs by the numbers, and the door and window openings (right) of the kit house fall precisely in place.



An 18-inch roof overhang (right) helps protect log walls from the effects of weather.



Northeastern suggests that the foundation (left) be completed before delivery of the log-home kit.



"My workers think I'm crazy to 'plant' boulders," says landscape architect Craig Stevens.

tom. The exterior face is then rounded to help prevent water infiltration.

A polyvinylchloride gasket seals the tongue-and-groove fitting; all joints and seams are caulked, and the logs are nailed together with 10-inch spikes. Water and air infiltration is thus virtually eliminated. Gail reports that last winter's heating bills totaled a fraction of those for nearby frame houses of comparable 1,200-square-foot size.

The natural setting of Gail and Murray's new house is in part a tribute to architect Stevens's artifice. He preserved many trees from an old poplar grove and planted white birch in preparation for the day when the long-since-mature poplars die.

To accentuate the natural look, Stevens also "planted" boulders in the yard and spread a mulch of pine needles and leaves over the landscape. Obviously, the Bruces won't have to spend a lot of time tending the yard.

The log house requires little maintenance but, as Rich Horn emphasizes, a log exterior has to be treated with an oil-base stain or preservative. Also, logs sometimes crack, or check, especially in extremes of temperature. Usually this is no problem since the checks don't go all the way through.

Gail says that when she started thinking about a new house she wanted something "interesting, wonderful, and self-sufficient"—something that would meet the demanding aesthetic tests of an artist. She still finds it remarkable that the project, from concept to walking through the front door, was almost as easy as opening a can. HAL PORTER

Bolted connector plates join trusses and beams throughout the house; they add strength and make for quick assembly.



Strong, load-bearing exterior walls and heavy beams made it possible to open up sweeps of space in the living/dining area (below) and in the second-floor master bedroom (below, right). Careful attention to window shape and placement creates visual harmony while taking full advantage of the views.



Reproduction Windsor chairs and loveseats in the dining and living areas (right and left) were made by Leroy and Hazel Partridge, neighbors of the Bruces. The classic Windsor lines are complemented by floral-pattern hooked rugs.



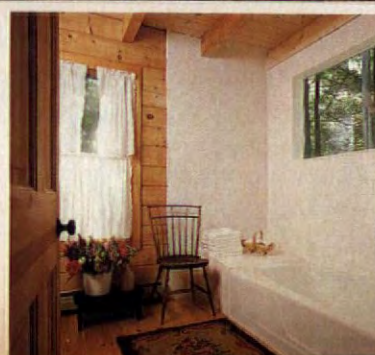
Simple white stucco fireplace (right) balances the golden tone of the knotty pine interior in the master bedroom.



Artfully placed skylights bring the seasons indoors. In the fall, for example, sunlight streams through yellow leaves to the skylight (right) and bathes the house in a golden glow.



Horizontal and vertical windows combine with white tile to create an airy feel in the master bath (right). The tile and wildflowers also counterpoint the browns and golds of the facing vanity area (left).



Benchmark entrance doors and bifolds, complements of the house.



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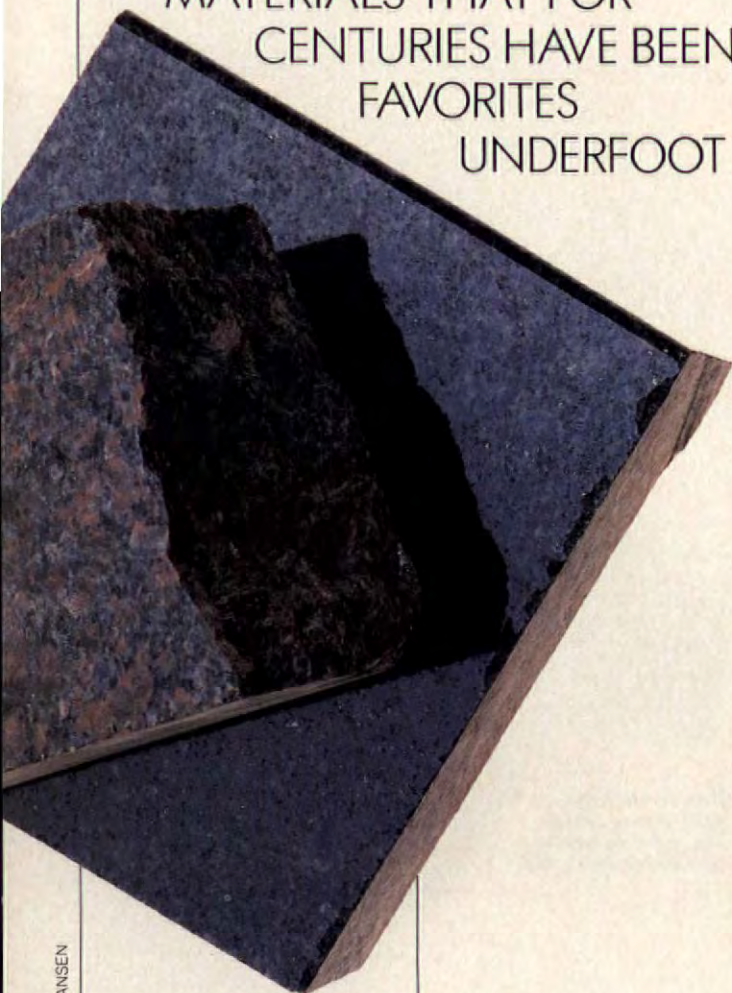
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THE NATURAL SELECTIONS **STONE, BRICK, & TILE**

IN THE LAST OF OUR SERIES,
WE REPORT ON THE ARRAY
OF HARD-WEARING NATURAL
MATERIALS THAT FOR
CENTURIES HAVE BEEN
FAVORITES
UNDERFOOT



*Minnesota granites
from Rockville
Quarry (left) and
St. Cloud Quarry.*

Always at home outside, stone, brick, and quarry tile are becoming increasingly popular indoors as alternatives to flooring of wood, vinyl, and carpeting. Such natural materials used underfoot offer durability, versatility, and a beauty that harbors a touch of nature. No less important for today's busy families is ease of maintenance—a snap with a damp mop and, perhaps, a mild detergent.

Brick, quarry tile, and stone floors are, of course, naturals in passive solar sun-rooms, where during the day they soak up heat that's gradually released after the sun goes down. But functional advantages are just the beginning.

Designers also realize how well stone, brick, and tile relate to the natural materials so much a part of country and contemporary decor. This flooring blends right in with the likes of Turkish kilims, artistic pottery, and handcrafted accessories.

"They're much more compatible than, say, the busy ceramic tiles from Italy or Portugal," contends Rhoda Schwartz, ASID, of Rubell Interiors in Westwood, N.J. "Especially where there are patterned wallcoverings and hangings, I find that I'm using natural stone and quarry tile quite a bit throughout houses."

Schwartz suggests other applications, too. For example, if you want to visually extend a carpeted area into an adjoining space—a kitchen, say—in which carpeting would be impractical, you can achieve the effect with tile or stone of a tone that complements or closely matches your carpet.

Another design idea comes from Anne Cooper, ASID, of Anne Cooper Interiors, Ridgewood, N.J. She's designed a number of rooms in which the floors are made of brick or quarry tile juxtaposed with wood.

The enormous variety of stone and tile flooring materials now available enables homeowners to choose from styles suitable for almost any purpose. Stone, brick, quarry tile—each has something different to offer in the way of color and texture.

Bluestone and slate are probably the most common types of flagging—stone that's been split into thin slabs suitable for paving. Flagstones make beautiful patios and can create some of the most easily maintained and durable floors indoors. Outside, the stone can be set in sand or dirt for a casual, natural look or installed with mortar over a concrete slab for a more

FOCUS ON FLOORS

formal effect.

Stonemason Samuel Shaw, who specializes in restoration work in the area around Deep River, Conn., advises using bluestone at least $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick to avoid cracks later. This results in a very heavy floor that's best laid indoors over a concrete slab at ground level. However, slate cut only $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick can be used over any subfloor and is probably the best thickness for renovation projects on upper stories.

The cheapest stones are irregularly shaped, but you can also buy them pre-cut to fit certain patterns. A floor of irregularly cut bluestone will cost between \$5 and \$7 per square foot, installed, according to Shaw.

Different effects can also be achieved by careful selection of coloration, which ranges from the purple and red of Vermont slate to the casual feel of cool black slate from Pennsylvania. And Tennessee stone provides the same texture, weight, and durability of bluestone but comes in tones of rose and buff instead of gray.

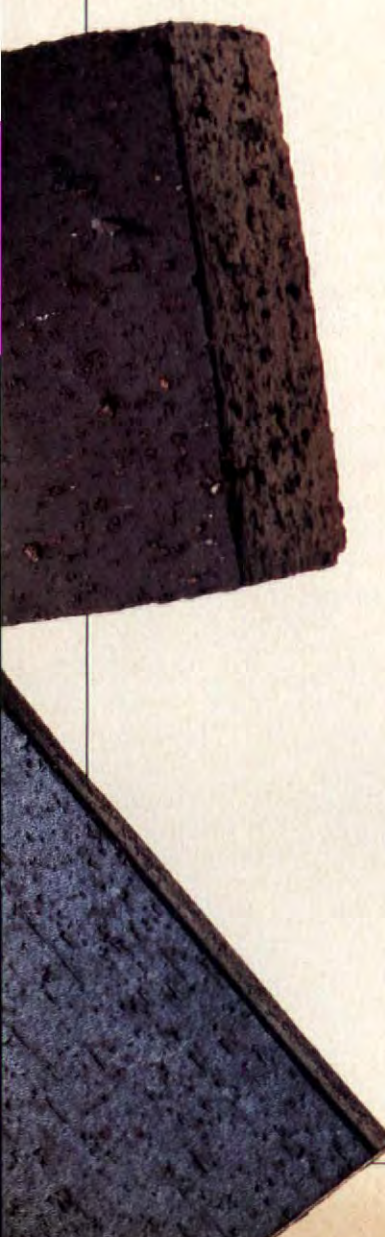
Quartzite and some varieties of granite have a coloration that helps block heat absorption, making them cool underfoot and ideal for pool decks. Bluestone and slate, by contrast, get quite hot and can burn bare feet.

Cherry log, a type of quartzite, is another colorful option; it's shot through with veins of iron oxide and looks much like a cross section of a tree trunk, hence the name.

Marble, the most luxurious type of stone, comes in many different



*(Top to bottom)
Split paver, brick
tile, paving bricks,
and black brick tile.*



BRICK AND QUARRY TILE FLOORS OFFER A FEELING OF WARMTH AND ANTIQUITY

colors, depending on where it was quarried. Prices range up to \$60 a square foot—for the material alone—though tiles and thin-cut slabs start at around \$4 a square foot. While Italian marble is well known here, this country has its own marble quarries, notably in Alabama and Tennessee.

Travertine, the least-expensive variety of marble comes in shades of brown and beige, characterized by a striped appearance with surface pinholes and fissures. These can be filled and polished to give a smooth finish or left natural. The most costly marble probably is onyx. With its wild swirls of earth-colored hues, uncut onyx suggests a gigantic geode.

Marble's deficiencies generally dictate where you can use it in the home. A soft material, marble mars easily, and the darker varieties show scratches quite readily; white gives the best service in high-traffic areas. Marble also absorbs stains unless it's sealed with at least two coats of a good stone sealer and resealed frequently. It's also slippery when wet.

Marble used to be installed in slabs an inch thick or more, and extra support was needed above ground level. But it's now available in 1/4-inch-thick tiles, which generally cost about half the price of slab marble and are easier to work with. They're installed with mastic and grout just like other tiles.

Brick, available in scores of colors and textures, lends itself to a broad range of easily constructed paving patterns, facilitated by its compact uniform size. Outside,

bricks can be set in sand or laid in mortar over a concrete slab. Some manufacturers suggest setting bricks in dry mortar mixed with sand, then hosing down intermittently until the mortar sets. Samuel Shaw advises against this method: "The mortar will stain your bricks every time it rains. You'd be cleaning up for years."

Brick floors go well in country kitchens, but the problem of staining necessitates the use of a sealer. Readily available, old brick provides a nice feel indoors but is inappropriate for use outdoors in cold climates. Such bricks can absorb half their weight in water, Shaw says, and break when they freeze. If you want that look, buy new bricks that have been antiqued.

High-firing techniques drastically reduce the permeability of bricks, but don't make the mistake of thinking that the darker the brick, the less water it will absorb. There's no correlation. Seek professional advice if you're not sure what kind of brick you need—outside or in.

Quarry tile makes a viable alternative to brick pavers, but the name is misleading since the tile isn't actually quarried. The term "quarry" comes from a rather obscure use of the word "quarrel," a four-sided stone.

These pavers are composed of clay, shale, and grit baked at very high temperatures; they're available in a variety of shapes and earthen colors. "I favor quarry tile for warmth and textural interest," says interior designer Anne Cooper. She likes to use the material for kitchen

STONE-AGE VOCABULARY

Bluestone

Rough pavers of sandstone, usually buff, blue, green, or gray in color.

Brick

Rectangular block of clay or shale, hardened by kiln heating.

Cherry log

A type of quartzite, or recrystallized sandstone, in which veins of iron oxide give a look much like a cross section of stump.

Fieldstone

Rock gathered in its uncut state; also chunks of quarried granite.

Flagstone

Evenly stratified rock that's cut or split into thin slabs; used for paving (often called flagging) surfaces.

Granite

Very durable, usually light-colored stone formed mainly of potash, feldspar, quartz, and mica.

Marble

Recrystallized limestone; it tends to be softer and less resistant to weathering than granite.

Quarry tile

Unglazed ceramic flooring material, produced in a number of uniform sizes and in a range of shapes and colors.

Quartzite

Very tough recrystallized sandstone, akin to marble, that has a tannish color and sparkly effect from mica.

Slate

Smooth, gray-color sedimentary stone that splits easily into slabs ideal for flagging.

Terrazzo

A slurry mixture of stone chips, usually marble, and cement; it produces a hard durable surface.

Travertine

Italian marble quarried near Rome and distinguished by surface fissures and voids.

floors because it's durable and easily maintained with just a damp mop.

Because quarry tile can be slick when wet, a number of manufacturers now make it with a nonslip surface. The tiles don't need a sealer for use outside if those you buy have a water absorption rate of less than 3 percent—usually labeled "frostproof."

Karl Claus of American Olean says quarry tiles ideally should be set in mortar over a concrete slab, but they can be installed over a wooden subfloor with mastic and grout if the surface is level and stable. Quarry tiles come in thicknesses ranging from 1/4 inch to 1 inch. The cost? It varies widely by area, but you can figure on paying in the neighborhood of from \$10 to \$12 per square foot, installed over concrete.

For a more contemporary look, consider terrazzo, a mixture of stone chips—usually marble—and portland cement poured over a concrete slab, then polished to an ultrasmooth finish. Terrazzo can be used indoors or out and, because of its durability, serves well in high-traffic areas. But watch out—it's slippery when wet. Prices of poured terrazzo run from about \$2.50 to \$3 a square foot, installed. It's also available in 12-inch tiles for do-it-yourselfers.

Some flooring projects are simple enough for the novice. A brick patio set in sand, for example, is easy to construct and requires almost no maintenance. Directions on how to construct such projects are available from the National Association of Brick Distributors, 1750

YOU CAN FIND NATURAL FLOORING MATERIALS TO SUIT ALMOST ANY PURPOSE OR STYLE

Old Meadow Rd., McLean, Va. 22102.

If you don't know anything about laying a brick, quarry tile, or stone floor, beware. Proper installation is a crucial factor in the success of a floor, and you should hire a professional for intricate jobs such as laying an irregularly patterned bluestone or slate floor. That way you won't run into problems with cracks or heaving later.

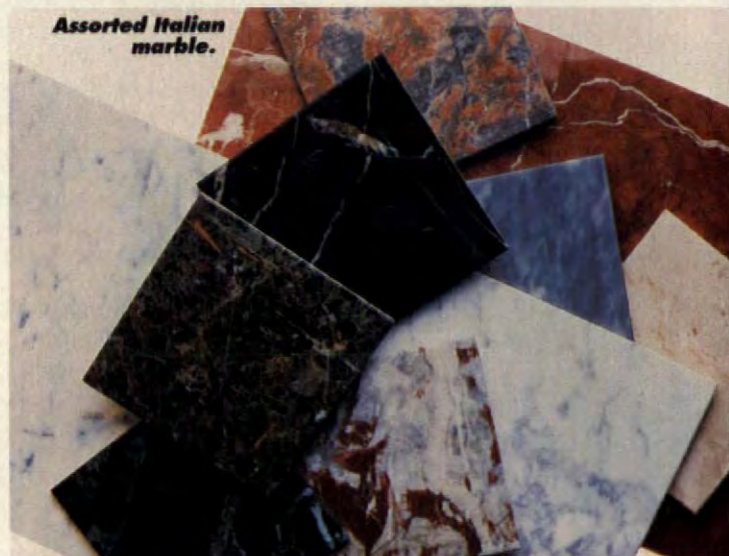
Remember, too, that rock-hard floors have some drawbacks. They tend to be hard on the feet and legs, cost more in initial outlay, break dishes and glassware, and sometimes harm children who fall. So weigh the pros and cons before you decide on natural flooring.

No matter what your need or style preference, a natural surface for flooring can fill the bill. You'll find cool durability in stone and slate, warmth and antiquity in brick and quarry tile, sleek luxury in marble, a contemporary touch in terrazzo. And each will give you a lifetime of beauty underfoot. **KAREN BRAEDER**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, REFER TO THE BUYING GUIDE ON PAGE 101.



Smooth indoor and textured outdoor terrazzo.



Assorted Italian marble.



New York and Pennsylvania bluestone.



Light and dark travertine (left); Rocky Mountain quartzite (right).



Irregular-cut Vermont slate and cherry log (left); old and new brick (right).



Quarry tiles and pavers.



Vermont, Virginia, and Pennsylvania slate.

TAKING THE PINCH OUT OF SMALL-SPACE LIVING



Necessity has always been the mother of invention, and these two compact homes are chock full of innovations that distill quality design to today's necessarily limited dimensions

Sometimes the best surprises come in small packages, and houses are no exception. Size has little bearing on the quality of a home: more space doesn't guarantee greater comfort, nor does less space necessarily cramp style or living patterns. In fact, the two model homes we've chosen to feature—one in Texas, the other in California—suggest that smaller can indeed be super, especially when furnished and decorated with an eye toward making the most of every

LIGHT AND LEVEL CHANGES OPEN UP A NARROW TWO-STORY DESIGN

The arched entry (below) of the Seafarer townhouse model in Clear Lake City, Texas, leads to an unexpectedly bright and spacious two-story interior (see plan) that appears substantially larger than its 1,376 square feet. The Childs/Dreyfus Group used neutral carpeting, walls, and furnishings to carry the eye across the area. An almost transparent staircase and balcony bridge (right) seem to float across an open-core living area that stretches 19 feet to the ceiling and absorbs an expansive view of the adjacent golf course. Mirrored surface of the tall fireplace wall increases the sense of spaciousness.



square foot. Both models were built as affordable housing geared to young professionals seeking a first home with more-than-average quality and good looks.

The secret to their apparent spaciousness? A skillful combination of architectural detailing, building expertise, and carefully orchestrated interior design.

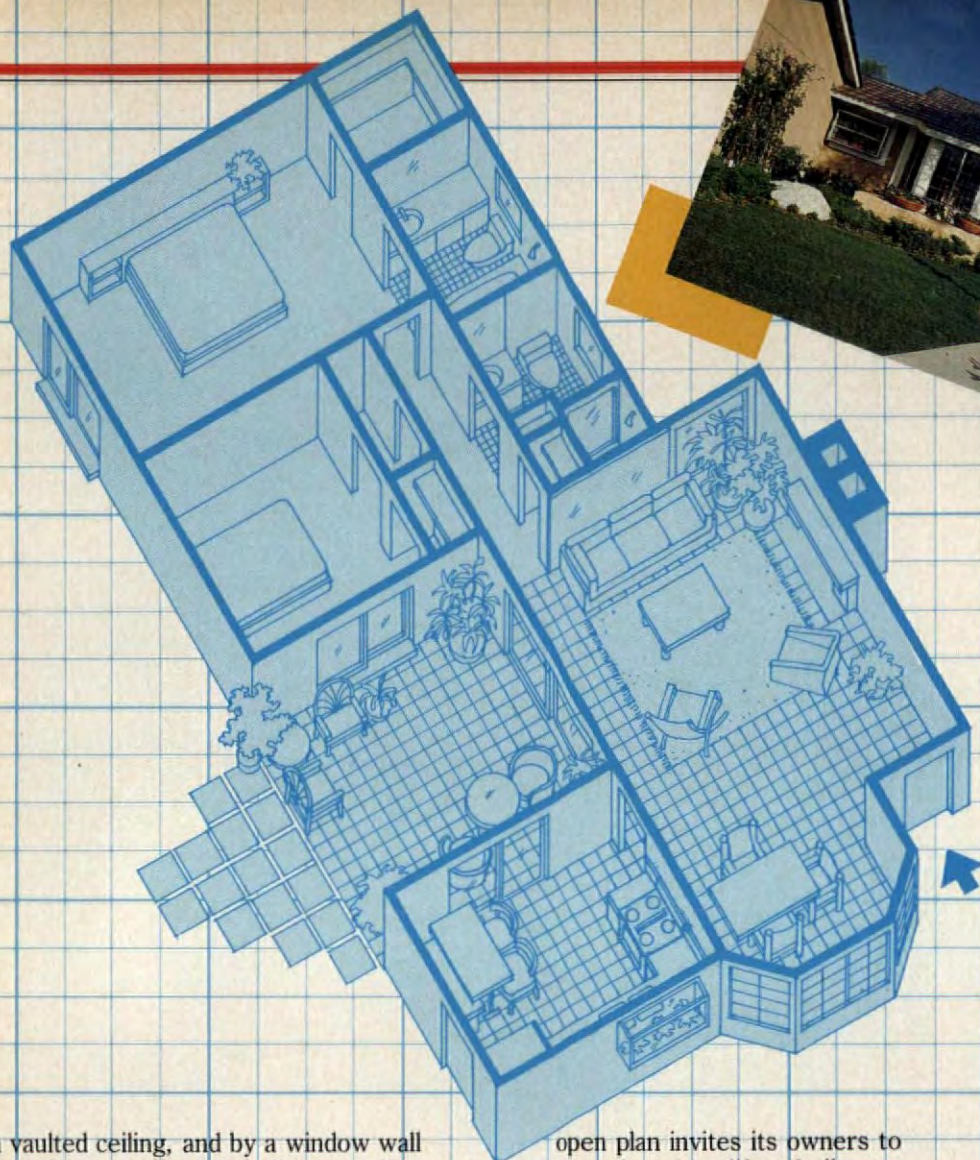
"Space is too expensive to waste," notes designer Jack Childs, ASID, of the Childs/Dreyfus Group of Chicago. The firm designed both model interiors and, in fact, effected many of the houses' architectural and landscaping features.

One of Childs' goals is to give homeowners ideas for making small spaces seem larger. "In this era, we have to rethink traditional roles for rooms," adds Gene Dreyfus, marketing specialist for the firm.

Dreyfus cites the dining room as a perfect example, noting that many families

waste space by reserving that room exclusively for formal dinner parties. He suggests creating a flexible area capable of serving a variety of functions beyond dining—game room, library, home office, even guest room. Both Childs and Dreyfus agree that today's overriding priority is to organize space effectively.

And just that sort of careful planning marks the Texas townhouse shown here, one of the Seafarer series offered by Village Builders, part of Friendswood Development Co. Located in the Houston suburb of Clear Lake City and designed by Victor Mirontschuk, AIA, president of EDI Architects/Planners, the two-story house seems far larger than its 24-foot width and 1,376-square-foot interior would suggest. From the entry, the initial impact is one of light and volume, created by an open-core living room that soars 19 feet to



AN ATRIUM BRINGS OUTDOORS IN AND EXPANDS A COMPACT PATIO PLAN

To visually—and literally—expand the 950 square feet contained within this Canyon Country, Calif., model home's tile and stucco exterior (above), an added "room"—in the form of an all-purpose atrium (see plan)—was tucked in the center of the U-shape design by architect Petar Laden.

a vaulted ceiling, and by a window wall that offers views of an adjacent golf course. Near the front door an airy stairwell climbs to an open-rail balcony that bridges the open areas below and leads to two bedrooms. As a balance to the strong vertical elements in the living area, Mirontschuk provided some intimate, sheltered spaces elsewhere—tucking dining room and kitchen beneath the same 8-foot ceiling, nestling a built-in window seat into a bedroom niche, recessing the front entry court, and partially enclosing the rear deck to ensure privacy.

Although the Seafarer townhouses share common walls—a feature that saves energy and helps lower construction costs—the overall feeling is one of detached housing. Remarks David Schade, sales coordinator for Village Builders, "Our buyers discovered that in the same price range—\$84,000–\$88,000—most townhouses made them feel claustrophobic. By contrast, this wide-

open plan invites its owners to create a luxurious lifestyle."

In this model, the Childs/Dreyfus Group fashioned a stylized interior that demonstrates how the selection of properly scaled furniture and the right mix of colors can stretch space visually. Furnishings, carpeting, walls—even the terrace floor—blend in a neutral but sophisticated environment, enlivened by red and blue accents. "The neutrals don't detract from the architecture," explains Dreyfus. "They allow the eye to glide over the larger furnishings to focus on the volume and lovely view."

Even smaller than the Texas townhouse is the trim single-story home in Canyon Country, Calif. Dubbed "le house" by its creators, Los Angeles-based Kaufman and Broad Development Group, the 950-square-foot design dispels any sense of boxiness that often accompanies small-scale houses. Through efficient organization of space—both indoors and out—architect Petar Laden created a setting where less can appear to be more. Laden sloped the ceiling above the 26-foot-deep



Interior designer Jack Childs chose casual furnishings attired in soft earth colors to visually extend the space through glass doors (above) to the atrium and patio (right) beyond; a mirrored wall behind the sofa (below) helps heighten the illusion. Low seating and glass tables are organized into multifunctional groupings. Quarry-tile flooring unifies the living areas.



living and dining area and positioned the entry to maximize the impression of extended space. The first view is into the long side yard; another, through the dining bay, reveals the front yard. A 12' x 12' atrium off the living area and a patio beyond that add outdoor space that's usable year-round in the mild Canyon Country climate. A mirrored wall in the living room heightens the space-expanding effect. "Mirrors can work magic," says Jack Childs. "Here they enhance the architecture and focus attention on the interior while bouncing light in from the outdoors."

Building materials also impart an illusion of more space. Quarry tile flooring travels through the living areas and across the atrium, its pattern and colors echoed in the tinted cement blocks that pave the adjoining yard. Indoors, vertical-groove paneling, beams, and floor-to-ceiling window shades help to raise the roof, while a trellis above the atrium caps the area and ties it to the house. A sliding glass door connects the atrium to the living room, permitting a view of the fireplace. Elsewhere, 5-foot sliders provide almost as much impact, but their smaller size conserves valuable wall space and saves energy dollars.

In harmony with the almost rustic nature of the building materials, furnishings wear restful earth tones of subtle texture and pattern.

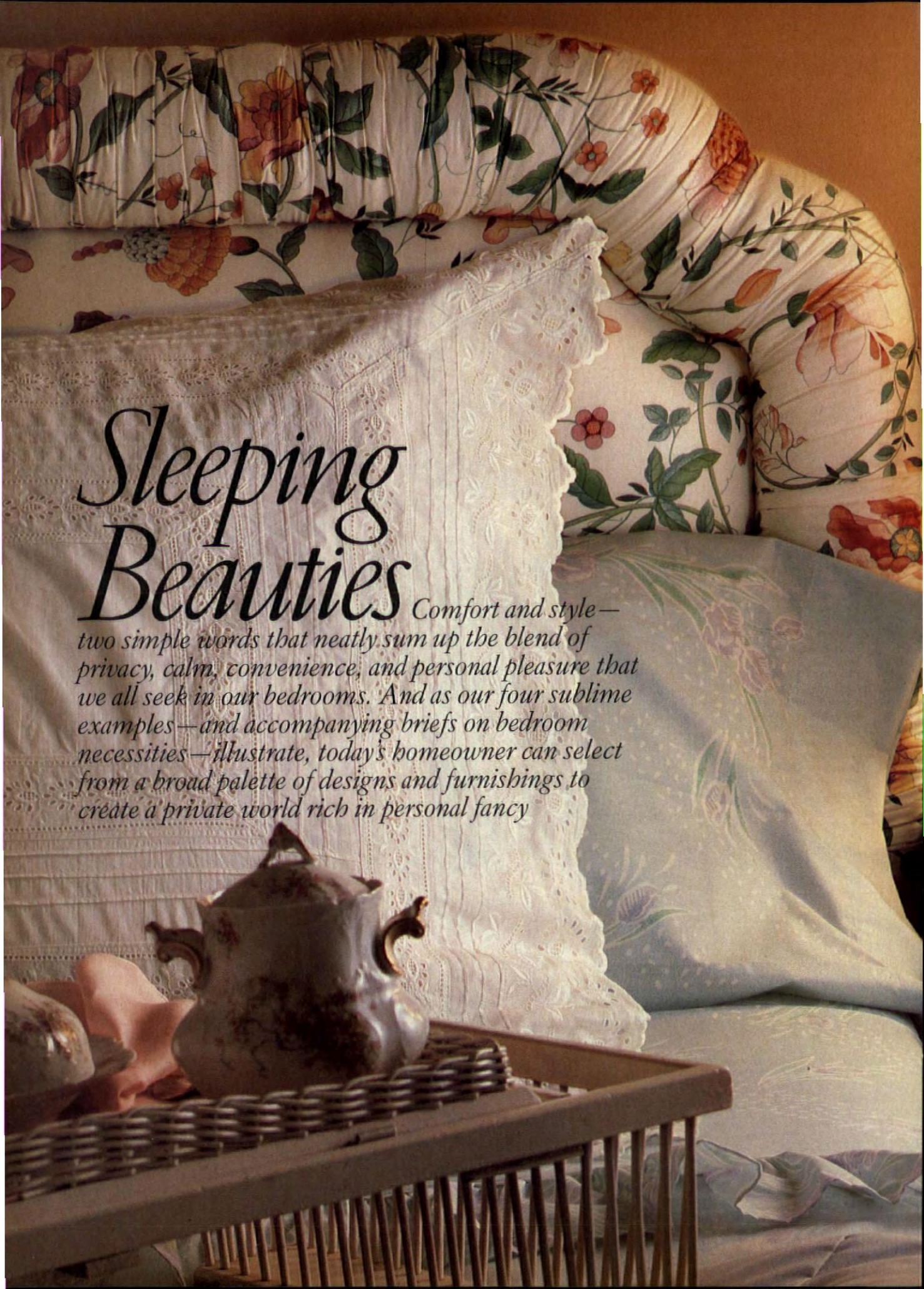
Young buyers have welcomed the warm atmosphere, effective layout, and reasonable price—\$96,000. Bruce Karatz, Kaufman and Broad Development's president, observes, "People today seek houses with quality and style at an affordable price range."

As these houses demonstrate, thinking small can have limitless possibilities. Gene Dreyfus offers a few guidelines for buyers: Bring a measuring tape and floor plan when furniture shopping and consider tables with glass or mirrored tops as an easy means to stretch space. Designer Childs suggests multipurpose furniture and shades or blinds that let in light by day but blend with the surroundings when lowered.

Clearly, attractive affordable housing doesn't have to be a thing of the past. As Gene Dreyfus puts it, "If we clear our heads of conventional ideas about what makes a 'good' house, and adopt a more creative approach to using space, it could be the wave of the future!"

CHRISTINA NELSON

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, REFER TO THE BUYING GUIDE ON PAGE 101.



Sleeping Beauties

Comfort and style—two simple words that neatly sum up the blend of privacy, calm, convenience, and personal pleasure that we all seek in our bedrooms. And as our four sublime examples—and accompanying briefs on bedroom necessities—illustrate, today's homeowner can select from a broad palette of designs and furnishings to create a private world rich in personal fancy



Interior designer Susan Thorn, ASID, used a number of soft pastels and a beamed ceiling as a backdrop for favorite antique furnishings in the bedroom addition to her Cross River, N.Y., home.



PHOTOS: KEITH SCOTT MORTON

A ROMANTIC BACKDROP FOR FINE ANTIQUES

The cathedral-ceilinged room looks as old as many of the antiques with which it is filled, but interior designer Susan Thorn, ASID, and her husband actually added this bedroom to their Cross River, N.Y., home only a few years ago. Using old beams they'd purchased locally, the Thorns built the spacious retreat to house their collection of 18th- and 19th-century antiques with grace and contemporary restraint.

By concentrating on

delicate pastels, Susan was able to integrate many pieces of furniture into one decorative scheme of elegant materials and quality objects. Bed, end tables, armoire, and chaise stand as unique pieces—and as part of the eye-pleasing whole. A delicate floral chintz, used to cover the bed's headboard and box spring and the chaise's pillows, as well as to drape the room's windows, heightens the effect.

Together with a large painted wardrobe and rich wood surfaces, the fabric evokes a traditional country-French feeling. This casual elegance is further emphasized by the

patterned dhurrie rug in soft blue and by the white moldings with pink accents that were added to the peach-color walls. Both provide subtle pattern, as do the Thorns' delicate family heirlooms, including Limoges china, old Victorian lace pillow shams, and Susan's own lacework and desk, which she handpainted to imitate the look of marble.

By day, four large windows welcome the sun, while at night, an antique chandelier and Chinese ginger-jar lamps bring out the subtle warmth of the walls. In all, a welcoming retreat filled with antique charm and personal style.

SLEEK-SURFACE DRAMA IN A PERSONAL SPACE

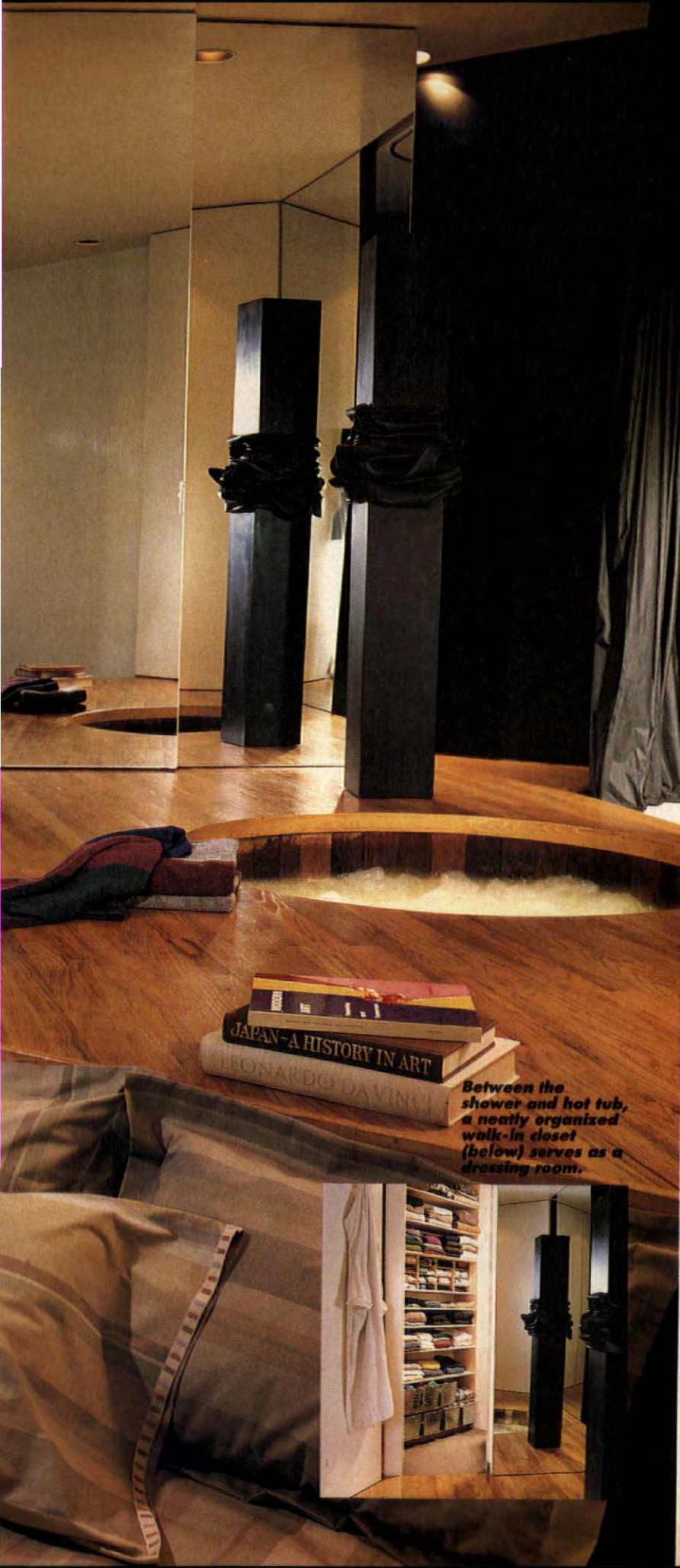
The choice of materials and the use of space are both key factors in planning an environment that fits one's special needs. Sculptor Robert Mihalik deftly handled both elements in building his own minimally furnished Manhattan loft. Relying on a few materials in a limited number of subdued colors, Mihalik, who also works as an interior designer, created a comfortable environment in which space is the ultimate luxury.

In the bedroom/bath area—as in the rest of the loft—Mihalik tolerates no loose pieces of furniture; every convenience is built in. The major functions of the room are delineated by changes in levels and materials. In the recessed sleeping area, Mihalik placed the mattress on a gray-carpeted platform. An adjoining control board, that's sheathed in black leather dims lights, turns on music, and houses a clock and a telephone. Beside the control unit, leather-covered storage cabinets for bedding have hinged doors that lift up to reveal mirrored surfaces.

Forming the bed's headboard is a raised platform built of highly polished oak. In the middle of the platform, Mihalik inset a hot tub that's partially surrounded by mirrored doors, which conceal closets. These reflective surfaces multiply the few forms in the sleek room, including Mihalik's monolithic neoprene sculpture, which stands guard at the door to the shower and water closet beyond. Also behind a mirrored door is a walk-in closet/dressing area whose ample storage preserves the svelte style of this minimalist setting.



Necessities, conveniences, and luxuries—such as an electronic control board (left)—are built into the bedroom New York sculptor Robert Mihalik designed and constructed.



The beautiful bedroom begins with a good night's rest—and bedtime comfort means quality bedding.

For the first time, the bedding marketplace comes close to providing the ideal sleep surface for every body, with mattresses filled with springs, foam, cotton batting, even water. Each provides a unique sleeping experience, so it's worth your time to lie down, roll around, and feel how each type of mattress supports your body.

Since innerspring mattresses are designed in tandem with box springs, the two should be purchased together as a matched set. Though construction details vary among manufacturers, the best innerspring mattresses all feature heavy-gauge-wire coils and reinforced corners and edges. Cushioning above and below the resilient metal core should provide a luxurious soft-on-hard surface. The best mattresses can be up to 9 inches thick at the center.

Foam mattresses, of polyurethane or more-durable latex, are well-suited to platform beds, with or without box springs. The key measure of quality is weight: the heavier, the better.

Japanese futons are perfect where space is at a premium, as these cotton-filled mattresses can be stored easily and then rolled out at night. Visible signs of quality include tightly woven cotton covers stitched through with durable twine.

Another option, the waterbed, has grown from fad to respectable alternative. The best water mattresses have seams of overlapped vinyl welded on both sides.

If properly cared for, a good-quality mattress should last for up to 15 years. Costs range from \$400 to \$800 for a full-size box spring/mattress set; platform-bed mattresses begin at about \$120 for polyurethane foam or an all-cotton futon, and rise to \$400 for latex foam. Waterbeds run about \$400 to \$500 for a complete system, including mattress, frame, liner, and heater; installation will add about \$35.

Between the shower and hot tub, a neatly organized walk-in closet (below) serves as a dressing room.



ROMANCE AND GLAMOUR SPARK A PRACTICAL PLAN

While romantic fantasy may be an important ingredient of any bedroom design, it must also be tempered by practical considerations. Plentiful storage, room to move, and an occasional work surface must be accommodated. New York City interior designer Bebe Winkler, ASID, gave a New Jersey couple all of these, creating a practical bedroom touched by glamour.

During Winkler and the clients first conversations, talk turned to "a dreamy romantic look," and specifically to movie star Jean Harlow and her glamorous style. The designer transformed these dreams into a conveniently organized bedroom that's marked by softly curving forms, silky fabrics, and sleek bleached-blond surfaces reminiscent of the 1920s.

The king-size bed's silk/linen headboard is attached to the wall instead of the box spring, so that the bed can be easily moved on its recessed casters at clean-up time. A 24-inch-deep storage wall, fronted by floor-to-ceiling mirrored doors, faces the bed. In the wall's center section, a sophisticated stereo system controls the sound for the entire apartment and a TV makes for comfortable bedtime viewing.

Equipped with files and various drawers, a desk and companion night table, both custom made of bleached birch and hand rubbed with an ivory-color finish, turn the bedroom into a sometime study. But whether used as bedroom or study, there's always a romantic atmosphere and, with the pink-blush ceiling, a touch of movie-star style.



This New Jersey bedroom, designed by Bebe Winkler, ASID, blends the romance associated with 1920s Hollywood with modern-day conveniences (right).



Bedclothes, like the fashions we wear, should provide comfort and personal style.

Designwise, the sheet-and-pillowcase market has exploded in recent years with colors and patterns to suit every taste. And for comfort's sake, age-old natural materials are making a comeback. Linen, long prized for its durability, crispness, and weight, is again widely available—if at a high price. Pure cotton has also returned, now as a luxury item. And new resin finishes have made some cotton sheets viable alternatives to no-iron poly/cotton blends, though these easy-care cottons can't rival the luxuriousness of untreated cottons.

The quality of a sheet is woven right in: The thread count on the package indicates how smooth and tight the fabric is. The best quality, percale, must have between 180 and 220 threads per square inch; anything below that is considered muslin.

Lowered thermostats have brought back cotton flannels, sometimes called flannel-ettes, which can also be used as warm-weather blankets. Again, the tighter the weave the better the sheet. Flannels are available in many colors and patterns, in both pure cotton and blends.

Today's styles in sheets run the gamut from pastels and primary solids to decorative designer lines—from bold geometrics to subtle designs reminiscent of fine tapestries from around the world. And you can now find decorative pillow shams and coordinated blanket and duvet covers.

Prices for bedclothes range from bargain basement—\$10 or less for some full-size muslins—to posh boutique, with the best cotton and designer percales fetching upwards of \$45 and linens \$250 or more. For full-size all-cotton flannels and poly/cotton percales, the mid-range is about \$20. But remember, patterns come and go, meaning bargains can always be found.



A bleached-birch night table and desk allow the bedroom to function as a part-time study.

A SERENE RETREAT WITH GRAPHIC APPEAL

"A laboratory of life and design" is how home-furnishings designer Katja likes to think of the lower-Manhattan loft she and her husband, Rod Geiger, have turned into their home/studio/showroom/office. In this dynamic space, where paintbrush and computer are easy companions, an inviting nook is set aside as a very private bedroom.

Located in the middle of the 3,700-square-foot loft, the simply furnished bedroom is framed by one fixed wall and a mix of sliding and freestanding shoji screens made of redwood and parchment.

Despite its central location, the bedroom has windows that align with others in the next room to capture views of the Hudson River. This intriguing structural bonus results from the building's earlier expansion, when what had been the brick facade became an interior wall. This windowed wall now separates the Geigers' bedroom from Katja's private workplace, which features true exterior windows—hence the view.

Just as the old brick wall is a warm reminder of the city's history, the antique Burmese puppets lend a historic reference to this unmistakably contemporary room of spare, functional furnishings—themselves an extension of Katja's Swedish-modern design heritage. As befits such a setting, the focal point of the bedroom is the bed—actually a futon set on a platform covered with tatami mats—which, graced by linens of Katja's own design, always provides plenty of decorative appeal.

SUSAN SZENASY



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, REFER TO
THE BUYING GUIDE ON PAGE 101.



Her own bed-linen designs bring a touch of graphic drama to Katja and husband Rod Geiger's New York City bedroom. The Noguchi Akari lamp (below) casts a soft glow in the shoji-screen-framed room.



Blankets, comforters, and pillows let you pick your own style of cushioning and warmth.

With the current demand for all things natural, the favorite winter blanket is once again made of wool. Nubby, lightweight weaves mark the best quality wool blankets. For the summer or milder climates, the moisture-absorbing quality of cotton makes it more than an ideal blanket material.

The range of synthetics and blends offers less-expensive alternatives to natural fibers. The best of them are brushed to create a wool-like nap that traps body heat.

But even more than man-made fibers, the product that has changed the way we sleep and make our beds is the comforter. Basically a sack filled with insulating materials and then quilted, the comforter is at its lightest and most luxurious when filled with pure goose down; less-expensive comforters are filled with combinations of down and feathers. In either, look for shell fabrics with very high thread counts that will prevent the fillings from escaping. The best synthetic-fill comforters use a new lightweight polyester that's engineered to trap heat.

Pillows are filled with the same materials as comforters, but their function is support, not insulation. Firmness is a matter of personal preference; the more filling, the firmer the pillow.

Most pillows, comforters, and blankets can be machine washed—but follow the label instructions. When it comes to price, standard-size pillows range from \$11 to \$22 for polyester fiberfill, \$25 to \$38 for down/feather, and \$100 to \$150 for pure down. Full-size comforters begin at \$70 for fiberfill, \$170 for down/feather, and \$350 for down. Full-size blankets start at \$50 for acrylic and \$120 for wool.

S.S.

In these days of TV dinners, compact cars, and cookie-cutter houses, there's something undeniably alluring about the idea of building—or rebuilding—your own home.

Whether it's designing a home from the ground up or renovating a charming old Victorian, you can recognize the dream—one that probably seems way beyond your capabilities. But don't let that feeling stop you.

If the prospect of a building or remodeling project is intriguing, there are now exciting ways that you can

the carpentry, plumbing, wiring, and finishing work yourself.

At owner/builder schools, students learn how to measure and mark materials, saw a board, and hammer the right nails into the right places. Most schools have a general house-building class to teach you how to pour concrete for footings, frame up a shell, put on a roof, install wiring, and dig a well or water-line trench.

Classes could be in the evening, over the weekend, or during a vacation—on the coast of Maine complete with lobster dinners, high in the

many cases, they're homesteaders who quickly learned how lack of experience can result in shoddy work, provoke the ire of local building inspectors, and even cause a roof or floor to collapse. These individuals absorbed the advice of local carpenters, electricians, and plumbers and combined that expertise with the experience gained on their own jobs, eventually becoming skilled craftsmen in a variety of trades.

Some, finding their knowledge in demand, began to hold informal classes. Unconventional approaches

HANDS-ON



All owner/builder schools emphasize the value of on-site instruction. Here, a class at the Heartwood School in Washington, Mass., erects the main structure for a timber-frame project. Note the mortises or notches in the heavy beam; they'll accommodate the tenons of floor joists or purlins. Students learn to work with a chisel and mallet to create these critical joints.

gain the training and experience you lack. Called owner/builder schools, these friendly places teach all the skills of house building, from basic carpentry and plumbing to drawing up plans and arranging financing. Whatever your practical experience, there are courses that teach more—how to supervise work you hire out, for example. And beyond the satisfaction of living in a house you built, you can save a load of money by doing

California hills among vineyards, or at a score of other places scattered around the country.

Some of the older schools that began back in the 1960s now have large staffs with branch instruction centers and even their own construction crews. Newer, smaller versions may operate in rented space, offering courses geared to the needs of the community.

And who are the teachers? In

may have been taken by those pioneering teachers and schools, but they all tended to stress the fundamentals of design and construction. A first lesson: Always follow established procedures and building codes, and you'll never have to worry about structural integrity or safety.

Today, programs offered at owner/builder schools follow the methods found to work in actual on-site situations. As Charlie Wing, director of the Cornerstones school located in Brunswick, Maine, puts it: "The movement has matured. Our students typically want to build comfortable homes that are well constructed and soundly designed—without spending a fortune."

Obviously, you can save substantial sums by learning to do tasks that you'd otherwise have to hire out. But owner/builder schools go beyond that. They can also teach you to act as your own contractor, a move that could save you as much as 40 per-



cent of the cost of your house. This also enables you to make all of the decisions about exactly what lumber, insulation, wiring, plumbing fixtures, cabinets, flooring, and other materials are used in your house.

And of course, you can still do as much of the work as you wish and save even more. This is the only way, in fact, that some people can afford a house at all. Others, however, want to dirty their hands with sawdust for quite different reasons. Charlie Wing sees them at Cornerstones: meticulous men and women

The hands-on schools take you from A to Z in building. At Yestermorrow in Warren, Vt., a design class (right) learns to draw houses with architectural precision. Framing begins at Heartwood (far right).



HOUSING

A SURVEY OF OWNER/BUILDER SCHOOLS



Classes you can take range from laying bricks (far left) at the Owner Builder Center in Berkeley, Calif., to woodworking, whether cabinets or beams (left), at the Heartwood School.

each with a slightly different teaching approach—to get a taste of what's available. Three are located in New England and the fourth has two campuses in California. Tuitions range from about \$50 for a one-day session to \$300 or \$400 for courses lasting around two weeks. Couples generally receive discounts. Meals and lodging are extra; most schools will, on request, make arrangements for

who want to ensure that they get the kind of old-fashioned, high-quality design and construction work so rarely obtained today.

John Connell of Yestermorrow in Warren, Vt., explains another factor in the popularity of owner/builder schools. He reckons that a \$100,000 house can be built for as little as \$25,000, excluding land, if you shop with care for materials and do all of the work yourself. Compare that to purchasing a contractor-built house

selling for \$100,000; depending on financing terms, its final cost could be doubled or tripled.

Owner/builder schools can also help the would-be renovator. Several programs offered in various parts of the country are taught in buildings actually being rebuilt by classes. Such courses could be worthwhile investments for people planning to buy and rehabilitate dilapidated dwellings of their own.

Programs are available across the country (see the

accompanying box), and they vary widely in size, emphasis, and type of instruction. So you can easily find one that meets your own special needs. We visited four representative schools—

Learning to build yourself, (far left), can mean dollar savings that will enable you to construct a better house, perhaps like this one (left) built by Heartwood students.

On a summer vacation at Heartwood, you can learn old-time skills, such as using a traditional mallet to secure a timber frame with tenons and mortises.



rental quarters.

Heartwood is a small Washington, Mass., school located in the sylvan atmosphere of the Berkshire Mountains. Six experienced teachers instruct an enrollment that's limited to 30 students per class. Accommodations are on the grounds of a large estate, either in an old manor house or at campsites situated in the surrounding woods.

The curriculum is repeated at intervals from May through Septem-



ber. In 1983, the school offered students their choice among New House Construction, a three-week course; Remodeling Existing Structures and Cabinetmaking, both separate one-week courses; a one-day Earth-Sheltered House-Building Workshop; and a Timber-Frame House-Building class covering post-and-beam construction.

In this last type of building, which dates back to the Middle Ages, heavy timbers are connected with special joints and wooden pegs to make a post-and-beam structure. Students learn the use of adzes, axes, and augers, how to "scarf" a joint, and how to perfect mortises and tenons. Once you've mastered the art, you can use locally milled lumber at the

meets crucial criteria such as drainage, location, slope, utilities, and setback requirements.

How to design a building for individual purposes is also stressed, along with how to budget, contract work, and construct that building, beginning with drawings and a scale

model. At the end of two weeks, teams of guest architects are brought in to "jury" each student's model, using their combined experience to fine-tune the design.

In addition, Yestermorrow offers a Restoration and Renovation course for one two-week period and an



Construction drawings and power tools become almost routine when the sawdust flies at Cornerstones, which offers advanced classes as well as basic training.



Cornerstones, a Brunswick, Maine, school, offers a women's house-building class as part of its regular curriculum. Established due to demand, the course is led by female instructors who have proven building experience; the course attracts professionals and amateurs alike from all over the country. Each session centers on the planning and building of an actual project; the one shown at left and below was an apartment addition.

advanced Professional course for designers and builders who would like to further expand their knowledge and experience.

Cornerstones of Brunswick, Maine, has offered a large and diverse hands-on program since 1976. School spokesmen say the courses have helped more than 3,000 people "build their own homes, start new careers, and learn new skills." Cornerstones offers a dozen courses that cover building, energy efficiency, planning, and design; classes are held at several locations in Maine year-round, though most students prefer to attend during the during the warmer months.

Whether it's those cold Maine winters or the philosophy of founder Charlie Wing, a former MIT professor, Cornerstones stresses intelligent and careful energy calculations. In every class, students explore energy-efficient and cost-effective materials and construction practices. Wing has even developed a relatively inexpensive computer that can figure the exact cost and savings over time of various options in retrofitting an older building or designing and constructing a new one.

And good design is equally important. Wing declares that his students become very adept at producing highly efficient solar houses that are both comfortable and good looking.

Cornerstones also offers a house-building class for women taught by women. One graduate of the class reports that she gained "an under-

building site to construct your own post-and-beam house.

Another small school, Yestermorrow of Warren, Vt., limits its enrollment to 15 for each of seven two-week summer courses. Made up of professional architects and builders, the staff places heavy emphasis on designing as well as building a house. Students are taught to evaluate how a potential building site

Cornerstones students report that they learn not only the use of tools—plus tips of the trade—but also how to deal with the complexities of properly scheduling construction.





At the Owner Builder Center, you can learn how to perform skills, such as plumbing and wiring, on a par with the tradesmen you would otherwise hire—and pay.

standing for the feel of a construction site, what can go wrong, how delivery of materials should be scheduled, the logical order of building phases, how to fix mistakes, and, perhaps most important, how to remain calm."

Participants in past House

two choices: either help build a new house at Grass Valley in the foothills of the Sierra Nevadas or work on rehabilitating a handyman special in the city of Berkeley.

The Owner Builder Center has a free quarterly magazine—*The Owner Builder*—and a consulting staff (as do Cornerstones and Yestermorrow) to help the owner/builder who runs into construction problems and wants to consult by telephone.

So whether you want to learn to hold a hammer and pound a nail straight or get caught up with the latest trends in energy-efficient house building, owner/builder schools have a course for you. Students who had never before in their lives

The Owner Builder Center's Summer Camp for Adults is a course that covers on-site realities of remodeling and house building. Such classes help you understand what you can do yourself, what you need to learn, and what jobs you should hire out. The same principles apply whether you're building a new house or remodeling an old one.



Building for Women classes have constructed passive solar homes, large sun spaces, and super-insulated additions.

The Owner Builder Center, headquartered in Berkeley, Calif., operates large year-round programs at several of its own locations, and there are other programs at 20 affiliate schools located nationwide. Courses from one to 21 sessions are scheduled evenings and weekends as well as full time. Building and remodeling classes go on continually.

The center also has annual two- and three-week Summer Building Camps for Adults at which you have

Instruction on roofing is included in classes at the Owner Builder Center, which has also trained the staffs of schools now operating in 20 locations scattered across the nation.



attempted to construct anything are now living in comfortable homes that they constructed themselves. You can be one of them! TIM SNIDER

WHERE TO LEARN HOME BUILDING: A PARTIAL LISTING

Alaska

Matsu Community College, University of Alaska, P.O. Box 899, Palmer, Alaska 99645, (907) 745-4255.

California

The Owner Builder Center, 1516 5th St., Berkeley, Calif. 94710, (415) 526-9222.

Canada

Pat Wolfe Log Homes, R.R.1, McDonalds Corners, Ontario, Canada K0G 1M0, (613) 278-2009.

Colorado

Durango Owner Builder Center, P.O. Box 3447, Durango, Colo. 81301, (303) 247-2417;

The Windstar Foundation, P.O. Box 286, Snowmass, Colo. 81654, (303) 927-4777.

Hawaii

Pacific Owner Builder Center, 4562 Aukai Ave., Honolulu, Hawaii 96816, (808) 523-8056.

Maine

Cornerstones, 54 Cumberland St., Brunswick, Maine 04011, (207) 729-6701;

The Shelter Institute, 38 Center St., Bath, Maine 04530, (207) 442-7938.

Massachusetts

Heartwood Owner Builder School, Johnson Road, Washington, Mass. 01235, (413) 623-6677.

Michigan

Michigan Owner Builder Center, 1505 E. Eleven Mile Rd., Royal Oak, Mich. 48067, (313) 545-7033.

Minnesota

Minnesota Owner Builder Center, 2651 Bloomington South, Minneapolis, Minn. 55407, (612) 721-8887; Minnesota Trailbound School, 3544½ Grand Ave., Minneapolis, Minn. 55408, (612) 822-5955.

North Carolina

Bomar Owner Builder Center, 704 Gimghoul Rd., Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514, (919) 929-7618;

New York

Eastfield Village, P.O. Box 145 R.D., East Nassau, N.Y. 12062, (518) 766-2422; Owner Builder Center of New York, 160 West 34th St., New York, N.Y. 10001, (212) 736-4909.

Vermont

Yestermorrow, P.O. Box 76A, Warren, Vt. 05674, (802) 496-5546.

Washington

Northwest Owner Builder Center, 1139 34th Ave., Seattle, Wash. 98122, (206) 324-9559.

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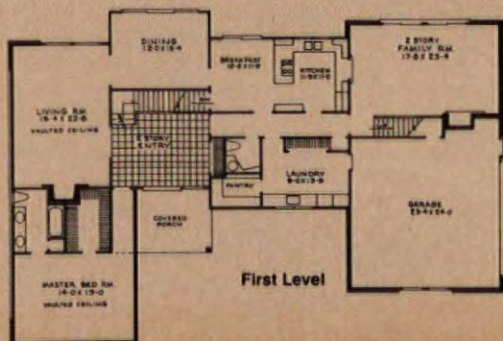
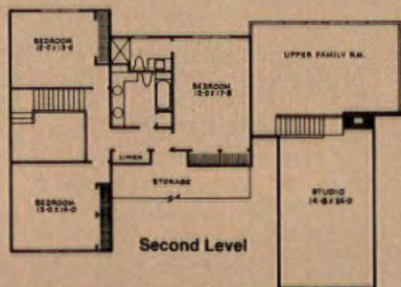
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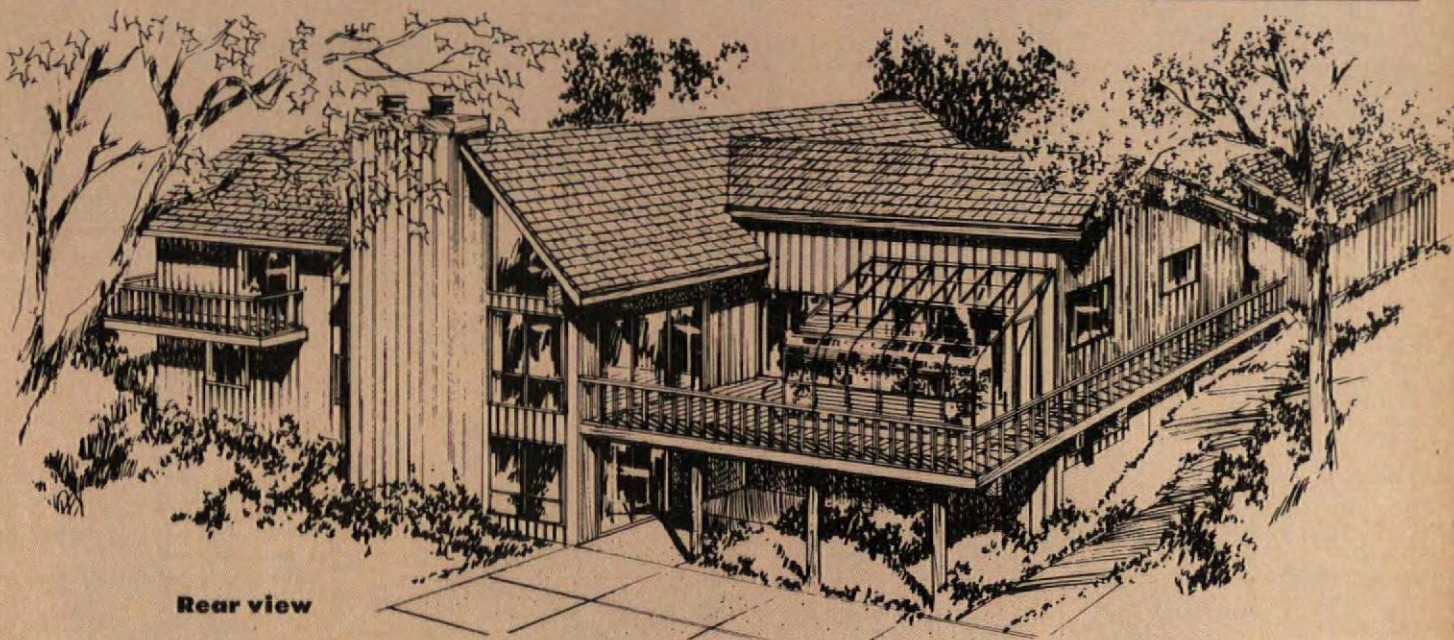
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SH14

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Rear view

L-SHAPE CONTEMPORARY OFFERS FLEXIBLE SITING

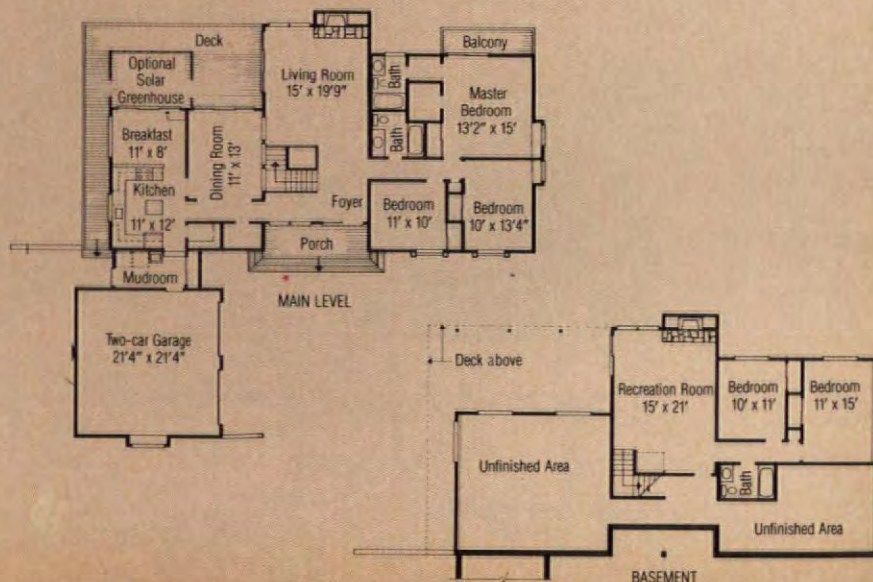
PLAN 2817

DESIGNER: JEROLD L. AXELROD

- ☐ Versatile L-shape layout permits this house to conform to lots that slope side-to-side or front-to-rear.
- ☐ Formal entry—incorporating a sheltered porch, ceiling-high windows, and double-entry doors—opens onto a large foyer.
- ☐ Living room has a beamed cathedral ceiling and a wood-burning fireplace with a raised slate hearth.
- ☐ U-shape kitchen contains center island, a walk-in pantry, and abundant storage.
- ☐ Separate wing includes a master-bedroom suite plus two other bedrooms.
- ☐ Basement, which can be eliminated on level lots, has space for a finished recreation room and two additional bedrooms.
- ☐ Materials list is included; mirror-reverse plans are available if specified.
- ☐ House measures 68'8" x 65'6".
- ☐ Main level has 1,725 square feet (excluding garage); finished basement area, 764 square feet; unfinished area, 883 square feet.



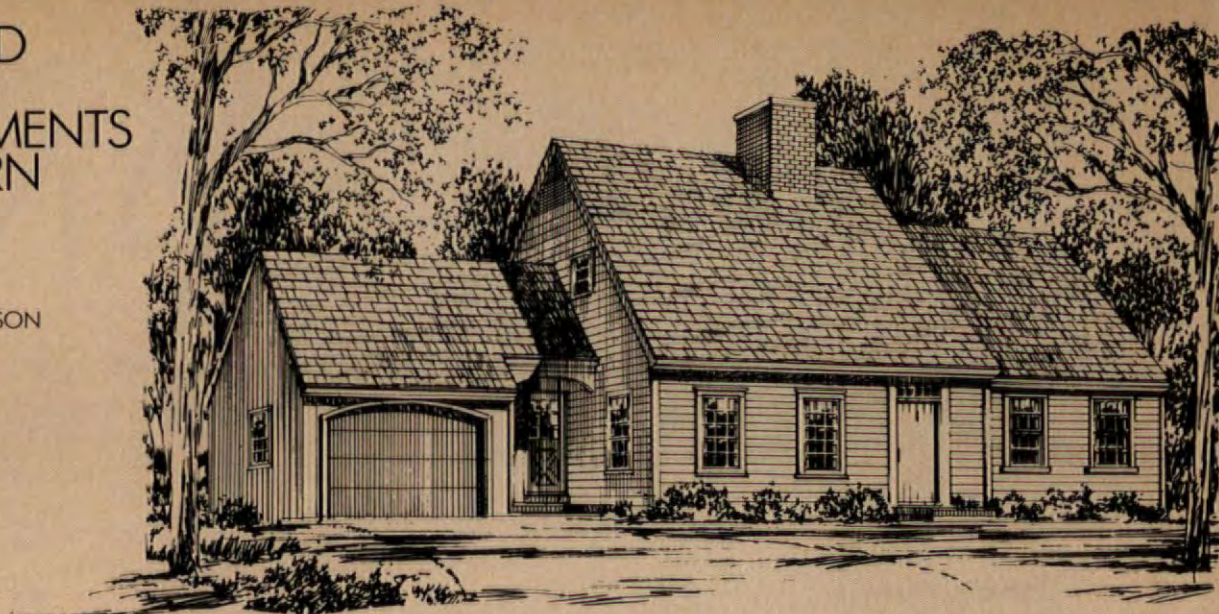
Front view



CAPE COD CHARM COMPLEMENTS A MODERN INTERIOR

PLAN 2423

DESIGNER:
WILLIAM M. THOMPSON



PROW-SHAPE A-FRAME PROMISES YEAR-ROUND ENJOYMENT

PLAN 2002

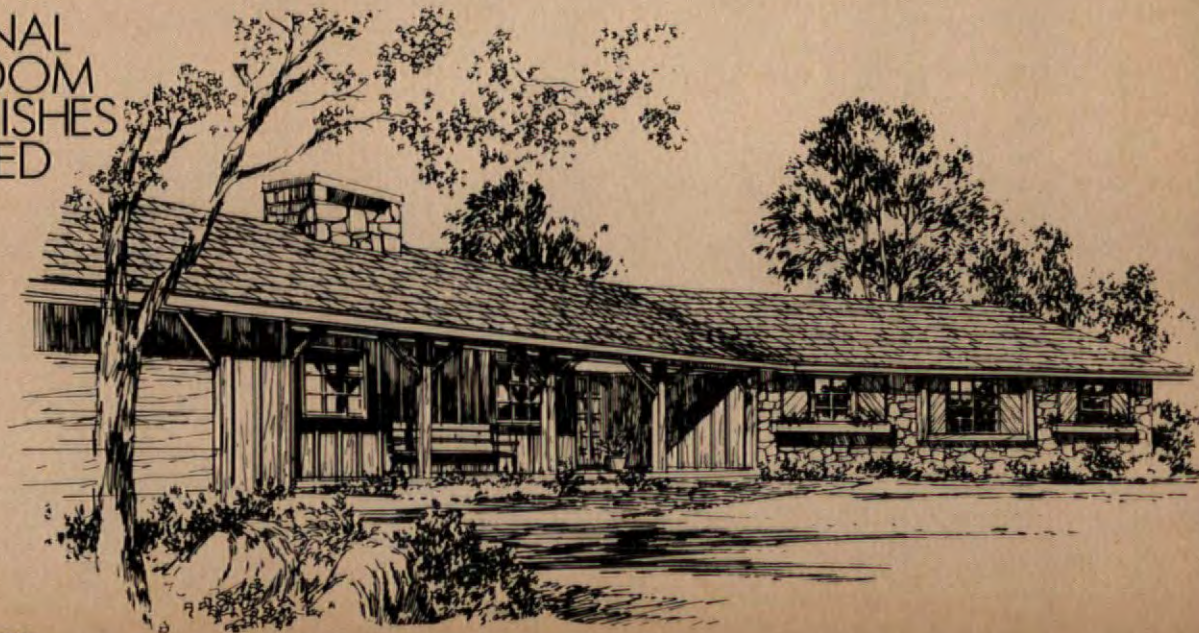
DESIGNER:
MASTER PLAN
SERVICE INC.



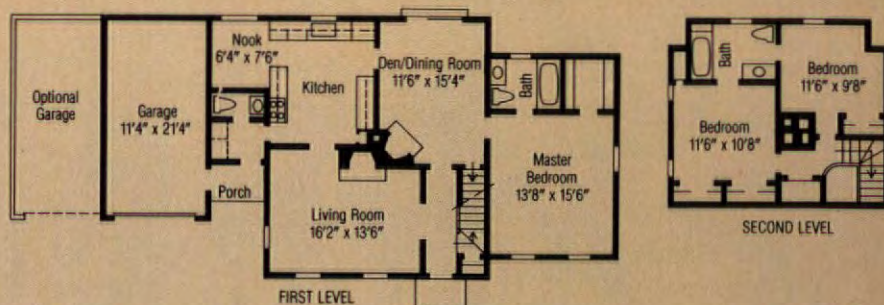
HEXAGONAL LIVING ROOM DISTINGUISHES AN ANGLED LAYOUT

PLAN 2001

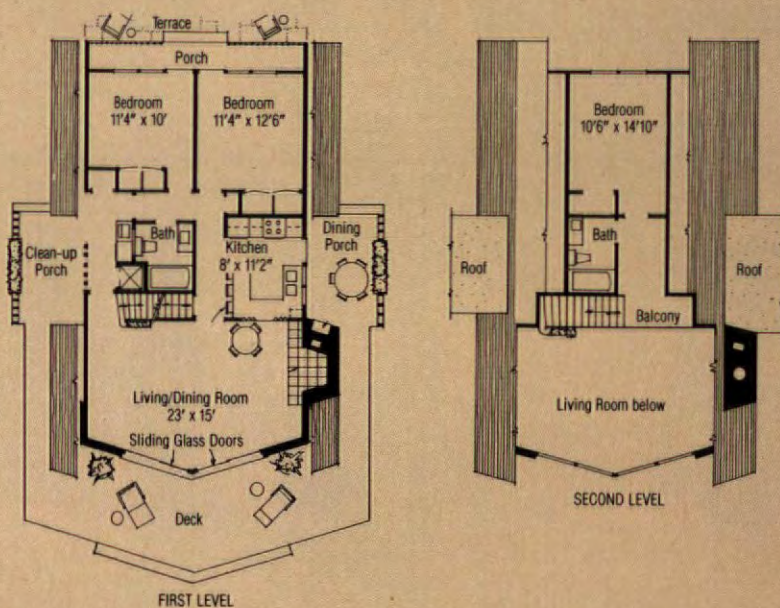
DESIGNER:
MASTER PLAN
SERVICE INC.



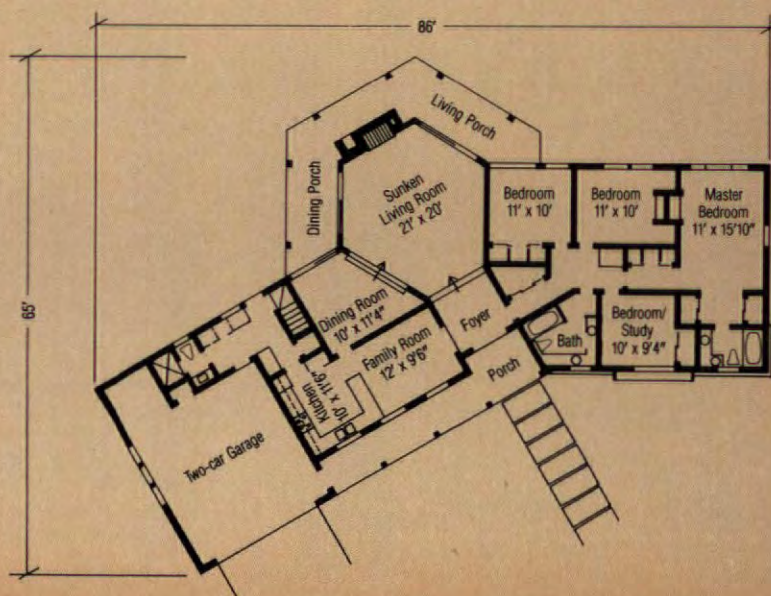
- ☐ Traditional exterior—incorporating dual windows on each side of the entry—gives way to an open, contemporary interior in a well-planned, two-story home.
- ☐ Two integrated fireplaces add rustic charm to both the den/dining room and the living room.
- ☐ Location of the master-bedroom suite on the first level permits closing off the second level for energy savings.
- ☐ Optional second-car stall can be attached to the one-car garage.
- ☐ Mirror-reverse plans are available if specified.
- ☐ House measures 56' x 28' (including the one-car garage).
- ☐ First level has 1,076 square feet (excluding garage); second level, 468 square feet.



- ☐ Variation of a traditional A-frame has 6-foot-high side walls eliminating low ceilings inside the eaves.
- ☐ Stone veneer highlights the prow-shape front; fireplace with stone face and slate hearth is vented by a chimney that also serves a built-in barbecue on the covered dining porch.
- ☐ Two first-level bedrooms open onto a railed porch overlooking a rear terrace; upstairs bedroom offers a full bath and a balcony open to the living room.
- ☐ Materials list and specifications for heating, insulation, and basement plans are included; mirror-reverse plans are available if specified.
- ☐ House measures 23'8" x 55'10".
- ☐ First level has 972 square feet (excluding porches); second level, 321 square feet.



- ☐ Flower boxes, shutters, crossbuck doors, and shake roof add charm to a country-style ranch.
- ☐ The angled layout, centered on a dramatic sunken living room, affords privacy to the bedroom wing.
- ☐ Covered back porch, convenient to both living and dining rooms for outdoor entertaining, shelters a built-in barbecue.
- ☐ Specifications call for hardwood floors, double-hung wood-frame windows, 16 closets, and many built-ins.
- ☐ Plan includes a full basement.
- ☐ Materials list is included; mirror-reverse plans are available if specified.
- ☐ House measures 86' x 65'.
- ☐ House has 1,830 square feet (excluding garage).



TWO-STORY DUPLEX BELIES ITS SINGLE-HOME LOOK

PLAN 7511

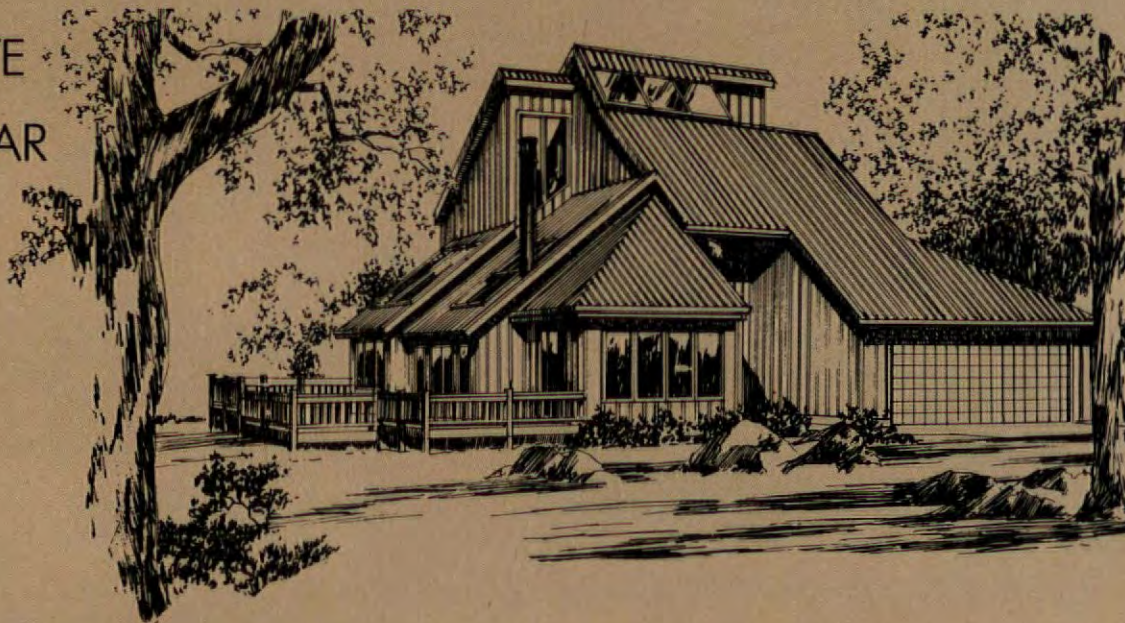
DESIGNER:
NATIONAL HOME
PLANNING SERVICE



LUXURIOUS MASTER SUITE ACCENTS A PASSIVE SOLAR DESIGN

PLAN 8602

DESIGNER:
LANDMARK DESIGNS



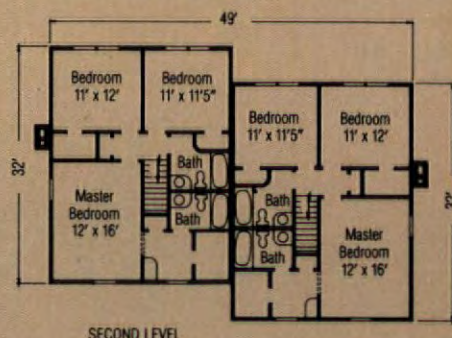
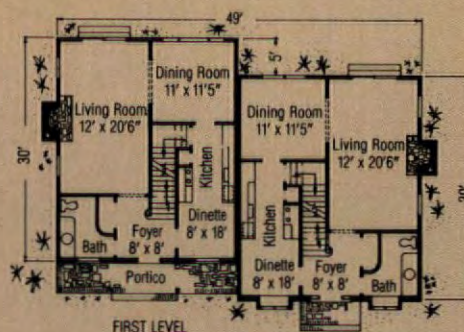
SPACIOUS FAMILY HOME OFFERS TRADITIONAL STYLING

PLAN 7719

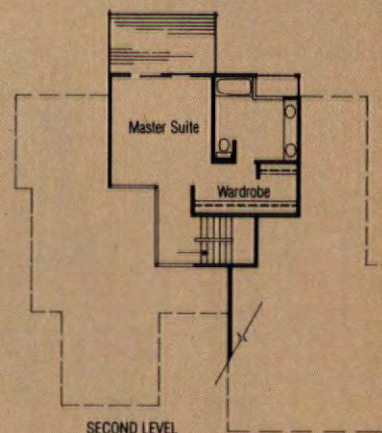
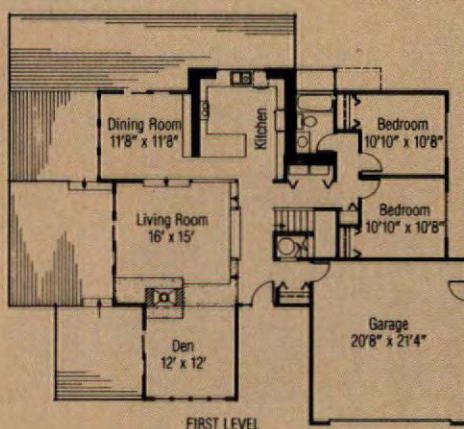
DESIGNER:
HAROLD J. SEABROOK



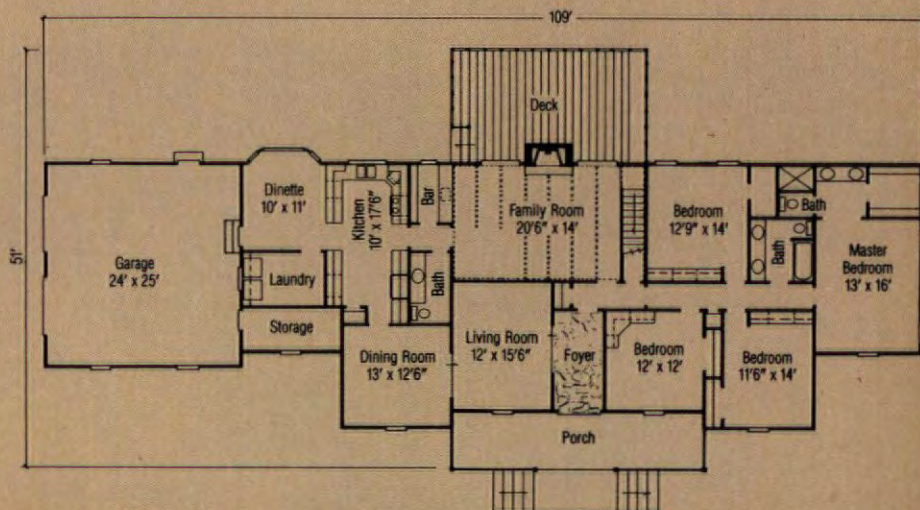
- Single residence look achieved by dropping left unit back and giving it a covered portico.
- Both units have sizable living rooms with fireplaces.
- Galley kitchens open to formal dining rooms at rear, and dinettes in front.
- Upper levels feature master bedrooms with dressing rooms, walk-in closets and private baths.
- Two additional bedrooms in each unit share a bath.
- Materials list is included; mirror-reverse plans are available if specified.
- Overall measurement of two units is 49' x 32' (excluding portico).
- Each unit has 1,470 square feet.



- Orienting the glassed-in side of this passive solar house to the south gives great potential for energy savings.
- Solar features include a concrete slab and brick wall for thermal storage, skylights angled for maximum solar gain, and sliding glass doors; clerestory and other windows can all be made operable to provide ventilation.
- Amenities include skylights, walk-through wardrobe, and a bathroom that incorporates a double vanity and cheerful greenhouse.
- Mirror-reverse plans are available if specified.
- House measures 52' x 49' (excluding decks).
- First level has 1,355 square feet (excluding garage); second level, 537 square feet.



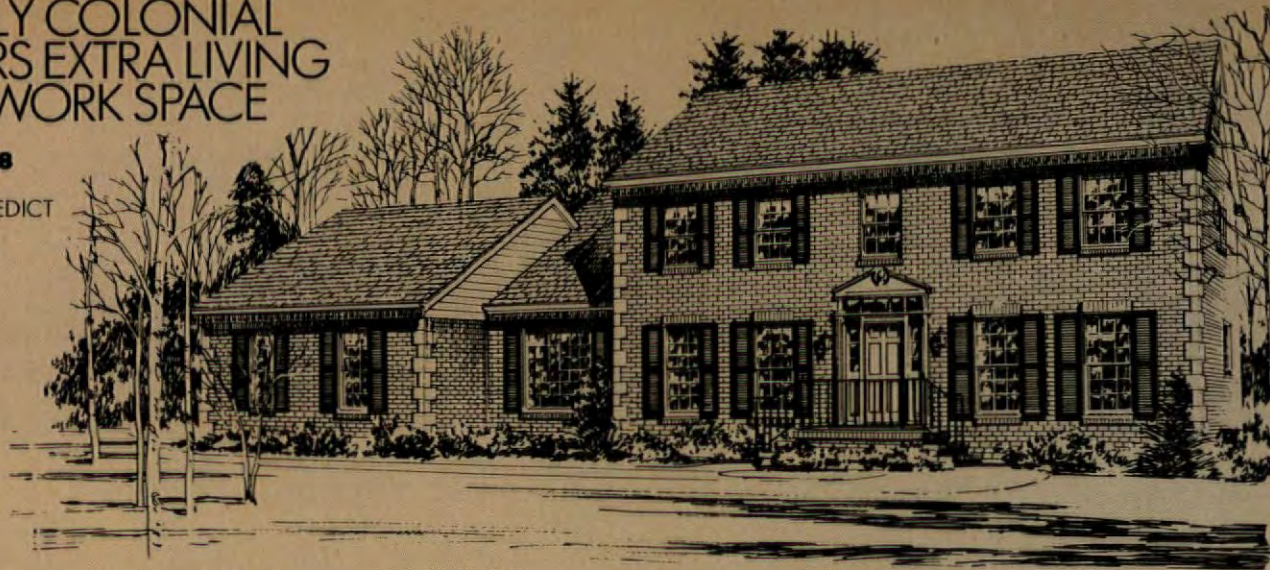
- Centrally located foyer opens into a front-facing living room and connecting dining room.
- Expansive family room has a wet bar, two sets of sliding glass doors that flank a fireplace, and direct access to the U-shape kitchen.
- Three sizable bedrooms with built-ins share a centrally situated bath; master bedroom includes a double vanity dressing room, walk-in closet, and shower bath.
- Mirror-reverse plans are available if specified.
- House measures 109' x 51' (including rear deck and front porch).
- House has 2,368 square feet (excluding garage).



STATELY COLONIAL OFFERS EXTRA LIVING AND WORK SPACE

PLAN 4118

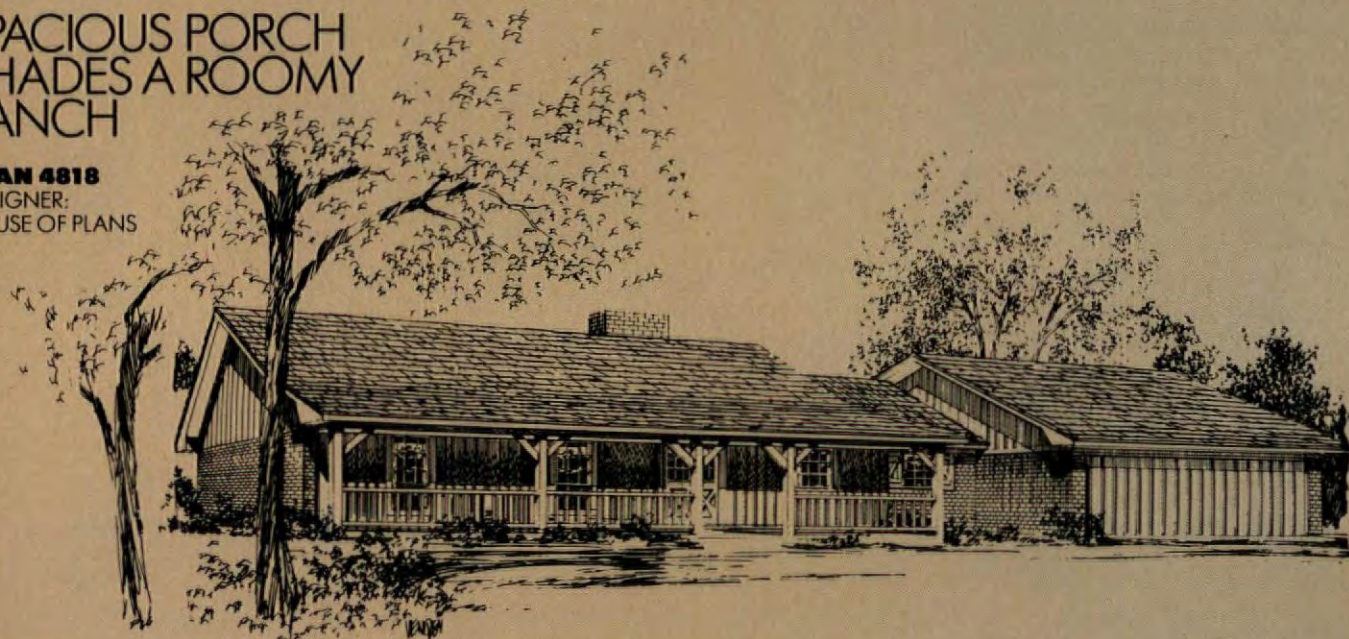
DESIGNER:
SAM H. BENEDICT



SPACIOUS PORCH SHADES A ROOMY RANCH

PLAN 4818

DESIGNER:
HOUSE OF PLANS



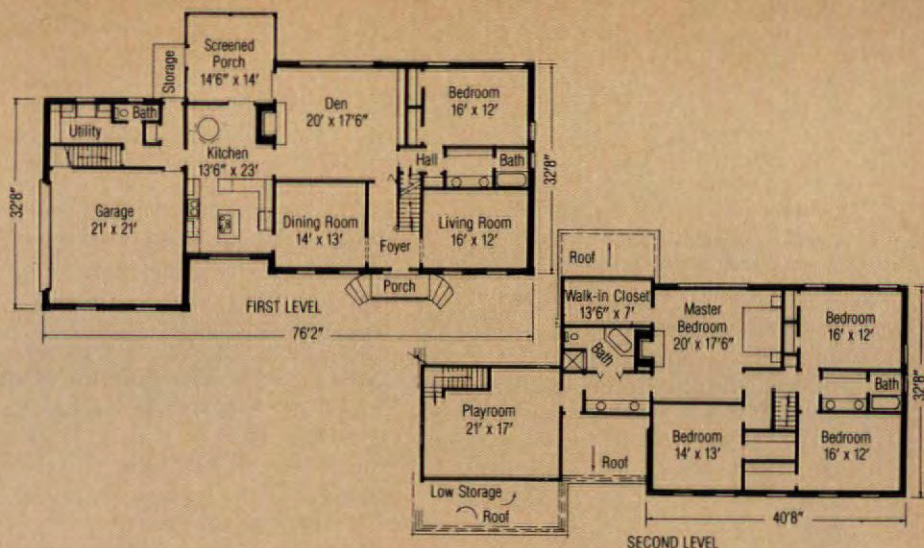
SOLAR OPTIONS ENHANCE THIS MODERN PLAN

PLAN 6011

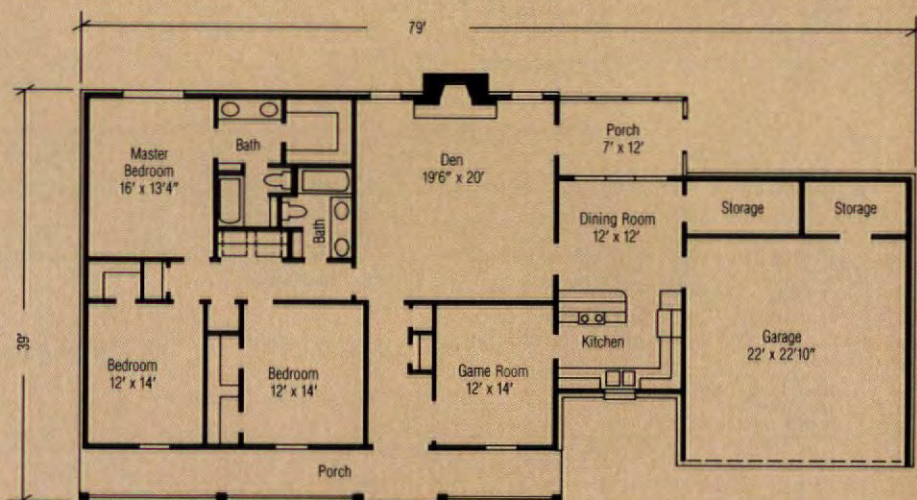
DESIGNER:
STUDER
RESIDENTIAL
DESIGNS INC.



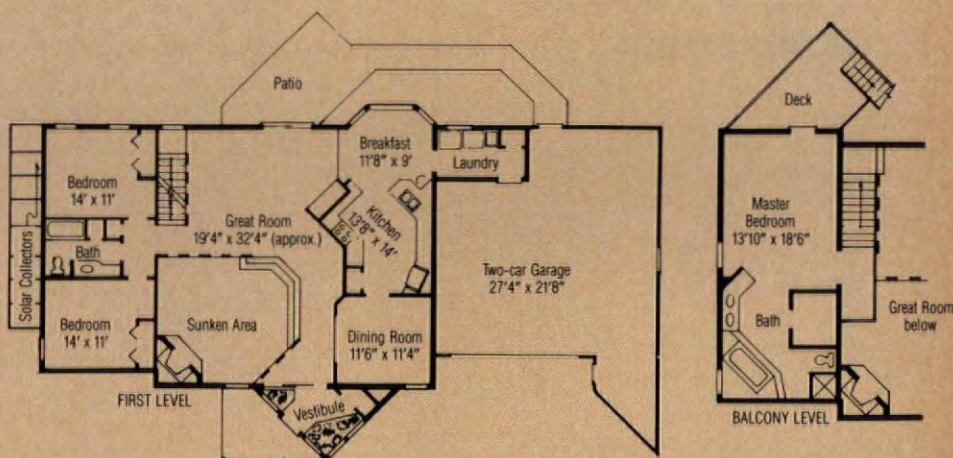
- ☐ Brick Colonial styling wraps around a spacious living area, which includes five bedrooms and three full baths.
- ☐ Separate stairway gives access to a bonus room—suitable for a children's playroom or a retreat—over the garage.
- ☐ Eat-in island kitchen connects to a den and the dining room; the breakfast area adjoins a screened porch.
- ☐ Commodious closets in the bedrooms and space under the eaves provide ample storage.
- ☐ Materials list costs \$5; mirror-reverse plans are available if specified.
- ☐ House measures 76'2" x 47'2" (including screened porch).
- ☐ First level has 1,862 square feet (excluding garage and screened porch); second level, 1,596 square feet (excluding optional playroom).



- ☐ Game room off the entry leads to the kitchen, which has a peninsula bar near the dining room.
- ☐ Back porch can be reached through a den that has its own fireplace.
- ☐ All three bedrooms have walk-in closets; both baths have double vanities and full tub/shower combinations.
- ☐ Materials list costs \$10; mirror-reverse plans are available if specified.
- ☐ House measures 79' x 39'.
- ☐ House has 1,816 square feet (excluding garage).



- ☐ Great room with built-in bar opens to the rear patio; the room also encloses a sunken area with corner fireplace.
- ☐ Dining room, angled kitchen, and breakfast bay are one step down from the great room.
- ☐ Master bedroom on the balcony level has a deck with stairs leading to the yard.
- ☐ Plan includes literature and schematic drawings for situating solar collectors over the bedroom area; partial basement can house other solar equipment.
- ☐ Materials list costs \$10; mirror-reverse plans are available if specified.
- ☐ House measures 77'8" x 41'4".
- ☐ First level has 1,823 square feet (excluding garage); balcony level, 488 square feet.



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BUYING GUIDE

Information on products shown in this issue

Although manufacturers' names and addresses are provided as available, HOME cannot supply the names of all retail sources. Contact manufacturers directly for the nearest retailer. Many manufacturers offer brochures you can order through HOME's Automatic Secretary.

ON THE MARKET (PAGE 18)

Work Cart from Gardener's Eden, Dept. 513, P.O. Box 7307, San Francisco, Calif. 94120; **Planters** from Rubbermaid, 1147 Akron Rd., Wooster, Ohio 44691; **Plant Stakes** from Lillian Vernon, 510 S. Fulton Ave., Mt. Vernon, N.Y. 10550; **Crocus Pot** from Paragon, Tom Harvey Road, Westerly, R.I. 02891; **Sun-Room** from Garden Way, Ferry Road, Charlotte, Vt. 05445.
(PAGE 20)

Gloves from Lillian Vernon, 510 S. Fulton Ave., Mt. Vernon, N.Y. 10550; **Seedling Tray and Peat Pots** from Carefree Garden Products, 1400 Harvester Rd., W. Chicago, Ill. 60185; **Bag-A-Bug Sticks** from J.T. Baker Co., 222 Red School Lane, Phillipsburg, N.J. 08865; **Flower Clippers** from W. Atlee Burpee Co., 300 Park Ave., Warminster, Pa. 18974; **Tools** from Gardener's Eden, Dept. 513, P.O. Box 7307, San Francisco, Calif. 94120; **Flower Frogs** from Gardener's Eden; **Plant Stand** from W. Atlee Burpee Co.; **Spotlight** from GTE Products Co., Sylvania Lighting Center, Danvers, Mass. 01923.

SOUTHWESTERN CLASSIC (PAGES 30-31)

Porch: **Striped Woven Pillows** from R & J Pardington, 129 W. San Francisco St., Santa Fe, N.M. 87501; **Solid Pillows** from Broadway Southwest, 900 Coronado Center, Albuquerque, N.M. 87110; **Rug** from Seret Horig East/West, 149 E. Alameda, Santa Fe, N.M. 87501; **Multicolored Dishes** from Design Warehouse, 128 E. Marcy St., Santa Fe, N.M. 87501.
(PAGES 32-33)

Downstairs seating area: **Wall Hanging** from Fenn Gallery, 1075 Paseo de Peralto, Santa Fe, N.M. 87501. Entry: **Front Door** from The Wrecking Bar Inc., 2601 McKinney Ave., Dallas, Texas 75204. Kitchen: **Mexican Tiles** from San Miguel Allende, 1418 Slocum St., Dallas, Texas 75207; **Stove** from Chambers Corp., P.O. Box 927, Oxford, Miss. 38655; **Blue and White Flowered Pot** on stove by Yorktowne Cookware for Table Talk, 527 W. Cordova Rd., Santa Fe, N.M. 87501. Master bedroom/bath: **Sheets and Comforter** from Wamsutta Mills, 111 West 40th St., New York, N.Y. 10018; **Cabinet** from LifeStyle, Inn at Loretto, 211 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, N.M. 87501; **Tub, Sink, and Toilet** from Kohler Co., 444 Highland Drive, Kohler, Wis. 53044; **Graphics** on wall from Guadalupe Framemakers, 321 S. Guadalupe, Santa Fe, N.M. 87501; **Twig Basket** from Artesanos Imports, 222 Galisteo, Santa Fe, N.M. 87501; **Towels** from Fieldcrest, 60 West 40th St., New York, N.Y. 10018; **White Bathroom Accessories** from Broadway Southwest, 900 Coronado Center, Albuquerque, N.M. 87710. Dining room: **Woven Runner** on table by Crane Day, 310 E. San Mateo Rd., Santa Fe, N.M. 87501 for LifeStyle; **Graphic** on wall from Enthios Gallery, Inn at Loretto, 211 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, N.M.

87501. Boy's bathroom: **Tiles** from Artesanos Imports; **Cabinet** from LifeStyle.
(PAGES 34-35)

Living room: **Dhurrie-Rug Sofa Upholstery** from Seret Horig East/West, 149 E. Alameda, Santa Fe, N.M. 87501; **Graphics** on wall from Enthios Gallery, Inn at Loretto, 211 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, N.M. 87501; **Blue and Beige Pottery** on coffee table from The Artist's Gallery, 228 Galisteo, Santa Fe, N.M. 87501; **Solid Pillows** from Broadway Southwest, 900 Coronado Center, Albuquerque, N.M. 87110.

WARMTH IN STYLE (PAGES 36-37)

Left: **Tablecloth and Fabric for Pillows and Seat Cushions** by Laura Ashley, 714 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10021; **China on Tray** (Fleuri) by Royal Worcester Spode, Inc., 26 Kennedy Blvd., E. Brunswick, N.J. 08816; **Vase** on fireplace by Fitz and Floyd, 225 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10010; **Antique Swedish Ceramic Tile Stove** available through Lynn Barkinge (D), 395 Beechwood Rd., Ridgewood, N.J. 07450; **Lamp** from B. Altman & Co., 361 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016; **Rug** from Lord & Taylor Co., 424 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10018; **Room stenciling** by Lisa Druck-Cerra, Pinwheels, 11 S. Broad St., Ridgewood, N.J. 07450; **Wool Throw on Couch** by The Three Weavers, available from Palmer-Smith Linens (D), 225 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10010. Right top: **Chairs and Sofa** by Monel Contract Furniture, Inc., P.O. Box 291, Oakland Gardens, New York, N.Y. 11364; **Rug and Throw on Sofa** by Ralph Lauren Home Furnishings, 1185 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10036; **Track Lighting** by Swivelier, 33 Route 304, Nanuet, N.Y. 10954; **Terracotta Pitcher and Bowls** by Elsa Peretti, from Tiffany & Co., 727 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. Right bottom: **Couch** (Style 901 Series) by Preview Furniture, Corp., P.O. Box 907, High Point, N.C. 27261; **Tape Deck** by Teac, 7733 Telegraph Rd., Montebello, Calif. 90640; **Headphones** by Koss, 4129 N. Port Washington Ave., Milwaukee, Wisc. 53212.
(PAGES 38-39)

Right top: **Chair and Cushion Fabric** from Clay and Fiber Gallery, Box 439, Taos, N.M. 87571; **Clay Pot** from Ethos Distinctive, Box 2571, Taos, N.M. 87571; **Bedspread** from La Unica Cosa, Pueblo Norte, Taos, N.M. 87571. Right center: **Mexican Fireplace and Chairs** from Artesanos, 222 Galisteo St., Santa Fe, N.M. 87501; **Table** from LifeStyle, Inn at Loretto, 211 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, N.M. 87501; **Wood Basket** from The Gamut, 54 E. San Francisco, Santa Fe, N.M. 87501. Right top: **Marble** from Northwest Marble, 645 Northwest 42nd St., Seattle, Wash. 98107; **Walpaper** from DesignTex, 8797 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90048. Right bottom: **Sofa** by Brueton Industries, Inc., 979 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022; **Black Cylindrical Coffee Table** by Frank Scerbo and Sons, 140 Plymouth St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201.

FABULOUS FINISHES (PAGES 40-41)

Left: **Sofa Table** (style 1181-08, \$599.95) from the Cera Collection by Lane, P.O. Box 151, Altavista, Va. 24517. Right: **Oriental Armchair** (style 1860, \$666) by Casa Bique, P.O. Box 788, Thomasville, N.C. 27360. Insets, from left: **Corner Chair** (style 728, \$541) by KayLyn, P.O. Box 2366, High Point, N.C. 27261; **Bachelor's Chest** (style 582-

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BUYING GUIDE

880, \$870) from the Et Cetera Collection by Drexel Heritage, Drexel, N.C. 28619; **Four-Panel Screen** from the Tweed Collection by Maville Interiors, 200 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016; **Console** (style 1560, \$1,055) by Casa Bique; **Stand** (style 2611, \$525) from the Oriental Collection by Baker Furniture, P.O. Box 3014-D, Holland, Mich. 49423; **Parsons Table** (style 44514, \$592) by Thayer Coggin Inc., P.O. Box 5128, High Point, N.C. 27262; **Stacking Tables** (style 768-428, set of three \$490) from the Tai Ming Collection by Drexel Heritage.

(PAGES 42-43)
Bombé Commode (style F200-155, \$890) from the Four Corners Imports Collection by Thomasville, P.O. Box 339, Thomasville, N.C. 27360. Insets, clockwise from top left: **Queen Anne Armchair** (style 6853-71, \$409.95) from the Cera Collection by Lane, P.O. Box 151, Altavista, Va. 24517; **Console** (style 1075BA) and **Commode** (style 1155) by Mansfield Manor, 305 East 63rd St., New York, N.Y. 10021; **Chairside Trunk** (style 584-196, \$470) and **Desk** (style 584-002, \$1,370) from the Et Cetera Collection by Drexel Heritage, Drexel, N.C. 28619; **Side Chair** (style 871S, \$417) by Century Chair Co., P.O. Box 608, Hickory, N.C. 28603; **Armchair** (style 584-188, \$430) from the Et Cetera Collection by Drexel Heritage; **Armchair** (style 17-0830, \$1,499.95) by Habersham Plantation Corp., P.O. Box 1209, Toccoa, Ga. 30577, send \$8.50 for a catalogue or call (404) 886-1476 for dealer information.

(PAGES 44-45)
Carved Console (style 70751) from the Rideau Collection by Casa Stradivari, 221 McKibbin St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11206. Insets, left to right: **Pillow Table** (style 3029, \$944) by Casa Bique, P.O. Box 788, Thomasville, N.C. 27360; **Lamp Table** (style 33-08, \$780) from the Appropos Collection by Tomlinson, P.O. Box 2408, High Point, N.C. 27261; **Round Pedestal** (style 44549, \$350) by Thayer Coggin Inc., P.O. Box 5128, High Point, N.C. 27262; **Round Pedestal** (style 2016, \$299) by Casa Bique; **Bar Stool** (style 1130, \$417) by Thayer Coggin; **Armchair** (style 24-00, \$450) from the Kosuga/Mehitabel Collection by Tomlinson; **Swing-Out Coffee Table** (style 44564, \$625) by Thayer Coggin Inc.; **Bunching Tables** (styles 1625, 1626, 1627, available in three heights) from the Gampel-Stoll Collection, 200 Lexington Ave., Space 804, New York, N.Y. 10016; **Two-Door Cabinet** (style 4421, \$475) from the Less is More Series by Thayer Coggin Inc.; **Cocktail Table** (style 9-16, \$1,440) from the Concentrics Collection by Tomlinson; **Cocktail Table** (style 1691, \$777) by Casa Bique.

BASEMENT, GARAGE, AND ATTIC STORAGE

(PAGES 46-47)
Tire, Iron, and Bicycle by Sears Roebuck & Co., Sears Tower, Chicago, Ill. 60684.
(PAGES 48-49)
Garment Bag and Weight Set by Sears Roebuck & Co., Sears Tower, Chicago, Ill. 60684; **Skis and Poles** from Ski Barn, 125 Paterson Ave., Little Falls, N.J. 07424.

TWO CUSTOM KITCHENS

(PAGES 50-53)
Kitchen: **Cabinets** by Imperia Cabinet Corp., 1000 Main St., Hanson, Mass. 02341 in Designer White Graph and Lacquer Burgundy by Formica Corp., 1 Cyanamid Plaza, Wayne, N.J. 07470; **Oven, Dishwasher, Warming Drawer, and Cook Top** by Thermador/Waste King, 5119 District

Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90040; **Refrigerators** by Sub-Zero Freezer Co. Inc., P.O. Box 4130, Madison, Wis. 53711; **Bar Sink** by John DiCicco, Harmony, R.I.; **Black Bar Faucet** by Vola, distributed by Fittings Inc., 380 Boylston Rd., Boston, Mass. 02205; **Counter-Top Tile and Tile Mural** by Jacqueline Karsch, 200 10th St., Providence, R.I. 02906; **Sink** by Elkay Manufacturing Co., 222 Camden Court, Oak Brook, Ill. 60521; **Wide Pine Board Flooring Finish** by Glitsa-American, 327 S. Kenyon, Seattle, Wash. 98108 from Robert J. Stalker Inc., 89 Pearl St., Braintree, Mass. 02184; **Lighting** by Lightolier, 346 Claremont Ave., Jersey City, N.J. 07305. Breakfast room: **Cook Top** by Jenn-Air Corp., 3035 Shadeland Ave., Indianapolis, Ind. 46226; **Microwave Oven** by Thermador/Waste King; **Food Center** by Ronson Corp., 1 Ronson Rd., Ogletown, Del. 19702; **Dishwasher** by KitchenAid, a division of Hobart Corp., 711 World Headquarters Ave., Troy, Ohio 45374; **Cabinets** by Rutt Cabinet Co., Route 23, Goodville, Pa. 17528; **Wall Unit** designed by Ann Grasso, 38 Lippitt Ave., Warwick, R.I. 02889; **Table and Chairs** by Shilling, 25 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge, Mass. 02138.

(PAGES 54-56)
Cabinets by St. Charles Manufacturing, 1611 E. Main St., St. Charles, Ill. 60174; **Counter Tops** by Nevamar Corp., 8339 Telegraph Rd., Odenton, Md. 21113; **Vinyl Tile Flooring** by Kentile Floors Inc., 58 Second Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11215; **Refrigerator** by Sub-Zero Freezer Co. Inc., P.O. Box 4130, Madison, Wis. 53711; **Dishwasher** by KitchenAid, a division of Hobart Corp., 711 World Headquarters Ave., Troy, Ohio 45374; **Oven** by Litton Industries, National Service Headquarters, P.O. Box 9465, Minneapolis, Minn. 55440; **Cook Top and Griddle** by Jenn-Air Corp., 3035 Shadeland Ave., Indianapolis, Ind. 46226; **Sink** by Kohler Co., 444 Highland Drive, Kohler, Wis. 53044; **Faucet** by Elkay Manufacturing Co., 222 Camden Court, Oakbrook, Ill. 60521; **Table and Chairs** from W & J Sloane Inc., 8 West 38th St., New York, N.Y. 10018, and branches; **Scale** by Terraillon Corp., 950 S. Hoffman Lane, Central Islip, N.Y. 11722; **Batter Jug** by Hartstone, 299 E. Ridgedale Ave., East Hanover, N.J. 07936; **Ceramic Canisters** by Bee House Co. Inc., 209 Post St., Suite 910, San Francisco, Calif. 94108; **Television/Radio** (black and white) by Quasar, 9401 W. Grand Ave., Franklin Park, Ill. 60131; **Rag Rug** from Lord & Taylor, 424 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10018, and selected branches; **Sofa and Chair Slipcovers** by Marni Robinson, The Village Craftsman, Simsbury, Conn. 06070.

HOW TO RESTORE RUSTY METAL

(PAGES 61-63)
Paint (Leather Brown #7775, Hunter Green #7738, Pimento Red #2564, Smoke Gray #7786, Antique White #7794, Gloss Black #7779, Graystone #7784), **Rusty Metal Primer** (#7769), and **Clean Metal Primer** (#7773) by Rustoleum Corp., 11 Hawthorn Parkway, Vernon Hills, Ill. 60061.

TODAY'S TECHNOLOGY

(PAGES 64-65)
Exterior: **Log House Kit** from Northeastern Log Homes, Box 126, Groton, Vt. 05046; **Cedar Deck Furniture** from Willsboro Wood Products, Box 336, Willsboro, N.Y. 12996; **Landscaping** by Sunnybrook Landscaping, West Brookfield, Mass. 01585.
(PAGES 66-67)
Living room: **Windows** from Andersen Corp., Bayport, Minn. 55003; **Wood Slat Baskets** from



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Basketville, Putney, Vt. 05346; **Blanket** from The Green Apple, Route 131, Sturbridge, Mass. 01566.

FOCUS ON FLOORS (PAGE 71)

Minnesota Granites from Bergen Bluestone Co., Inc., 404 Route 17 North, Paramus, N.J. 07652. (PAGES 72-73)

(Top to bottom) **Split Paver** by Maryland Clay Products, 7100 Muirkirk Rd., Bettsville, Md. 20705; **Tan Tile** by Hanley Brick Co., Summerville, Pa. 15864; **Paving Bricks** by Boren Clay Products Co., P.O. Box 368, Pleasant Garden, N.C. 27313; **Black Tile** by Endicott, P.O. Box 17, Fairbury, Neb. 68352.

(PAGES 74-75)

Terrazzo (left to right) (#5785, #5815, #5761, #5858, #5875-R) by D. Magnan & Co. Inc., Terrazzo Contractors, 32 Cortlandt St., Mount Vernon, N.Y. 10550; **Light and Dark Travertine**, 6" x 6" tiles from Marble Technics Ltd., 150 East 58th St., New York, N.Y. 10022; 12" x 12" tile from Bergen Bluestone Co., Inc., 404 Route 17 North, Paramus, N.J. 07652; **Rocky Mountain Quartzite** from Bergen Bluestone Co., Inc.; **Italian Marble** (clockwise from lower left) of Red Alicante, Beige Perlato, White Carrara, Red Royale, Green Aosta, Brown Tourmaline, Black St. Laurent, Rouge Turquin, Gray Bardiglio (center) from Marble Technics Ltd.; **Irregular-Cut Vermont Slate** and **Cherry Log** from Bergen Bluestone Co., Inc.; **Old and New Brick**, split pavers (upper right) from L.C. Inc., 5920 Farrington Ave., Alexandria, Va. 22304, paving brick (left) by Delta Brick Co., Route 4, P.O. Box 431, Macon, Miss. 39341, paving bricks (lower right) from Atlantic Brick, 169 Midland Ave., Saddle Brook, N.J. 07662; **New York and Pennsylvania Bluestone** by Bergen Bluestone Co., Inc.; **Quarry Tiles and Pavers** (clockwise from upper left) of Quarry Natural in Burnt Sequoia, Hexagon Primitive Ultra Paver in Pewter #817, Quarry Natural in Burnt Adobe, Quarry Natural in Burnt Sequoia, Quarry Natural in Desert, Rectangle Primitive Ultra Paver in Brownstone #807, Hexagon Primitive Ultra Paver in Pecan by American Olean Tile Co., Lansdale, Pa. 19446; **Vermont, Virginia, and Pennsylvania Slate** from Bergen Bluestone Co., Inc.

SLEEPING BEAUTIES (PAGES 80-81)

Headboard, Dust-Ruffle, Chaise-Cushion, and Drapery Fabric † from Clarence House, 40 East 57th St., New York, N.Y. 10022; **Sheets and Pillow Cases** (La Reverie) by Emanuel Ungaro for Wamsutta, Customer Service, 111 West 40th St., New York, N.Y. 10018, available at department stores; **Armchair Fabric** † by Brunswick & Fils Inc., 410 East 62nd St., New York, N.Y. 10021; **Dhurrie Rug** from Avakian Brothers, 10 West 33rd St., New York, N.Y. 10001; **Antique Botanical Prints** from Ursus Prints, 1011 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10021; **Frames** from Sam Flax, 55 East 55th St., New York, N.Y. 10022. (PAGES 82-83)

Sheets, Pillow Shams and Cases, Comforter, and Towel (Stripes Tonight) by Perry Ellis for Martex, a division of West Point Pepperell, Consumer Products Division, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10020, available at department stores; **Folded Comforter** by Christian Dior for Wamsutta, Customer Service, 111 West 40th St., New York, N.Y. 10018; **Vase** by Tiffany & Co., 727 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022; **Sculpture** by Robert Mihalik, 96 Prince St., New York, N.Y. 10012; **Control Center for Clock, Phone, Television, Stereo, and Lighting** custom designed and fabricated by Robert Mihalik. (PAGES 84-85)

Drapery Fabric † from Isabel Scott Fabrics, 979 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022; **Arm Wall Lamps** by George W. Hansen Inc., 121 East 24th St., New York, N.Y. 10010; **Custom Shades** by Bebe Winkler Interior Design, 420 East 55th St., New York, N.Y. 10022; **Iris Painting** by Carol Scott through Bebe Winkler Interior Design; **Comforter Fabric** † (Ivory) by Clarence House, 40 East 57th St., New York, N.Y. 10022; **Headboard Fabric** † (Ivory) by Scalmandre Silks Inc., 950 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022; **Sheets and Pillow Cases** by Christian Dior for Wamsutta, Customer Service, 111 West 40th St., New York, N.Y. 10018, available at department stores; **Plate** (on desk) from Limited Editions, 253 East 72nd St., New York, N.Y. 10021; **Bedside Chest and Desk** custom designed by Bebe Winkler Interior Design. (PAGES 86-87)

Bed Linens (Katja Checks and Ellipse) by Katja from Cannon Mills, 1271 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10020, available at department stores; **Akari Lamp** by Noguchi for George Kovacs Lighting, 24 West 40th St., New York, N.Y. 10018; **Gooseneck Lamp** from Turpan Sanders, 386 W. Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10013; **Glassware, Bowl, Coaster, and Tray** † by Katja for Sasaki Crystal, 225 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10010; **Tatami Platform** designed and built by Shoji Workshop, 21-10 31st Ave., Astoria, N.Y. 11106; **Napkin** by Katja for Summergrade & Sons, 261 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016.

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Small-Space Living (PAGES 76-77)

Sofa † by Kay Lynn, P.O. Box 1792, High Point, N.C. 27261; **Ottomans** † by Classic Gallery, P.O. Box 1030, High Point, N.C. 27261; **Spindle Chair** † by P. Kaufman Fabrics, 261 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016; **Accent Cushions** by Terri Kaplan, 2020 Lincoln Park West, Chicago, Ill. 60614; **Red Laminate Table Base and Wall Table** by Lamnavision, 1737 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60616; **Glass Table Top** by J. Frank Glass, 2413 N. Clybourn St., Chicago, Ill. 60616; **Custom Muslim Roman Shades** by Style-Line, 1932 S. Halsted St., Chicago, Ill. 60608; **Outdoor Chaise Longue** by Showroom '84, 84 N.E. 40th St., Miami, Fla. 33137; **Bronze Sailboat** † by Gallery House Accessories, 1215 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, Ill. 60654; **Carpet**, Paradise Bay, by Armstrong World Industries Inc., P.O. Box 3001, Lancaster, Pa. 17604. (PAGES 78-79)

Living Area: **Lattice Frame Chair** † by D.I.A., 123 Empire St., Montpelier, Ohio 43543; **Armchair** by California Bear, P.O. Box 49304, Los Angeles, Calif. 90049; **Nook: Banquette** by The Wood Shed, 16605 S. Halsted St., Harvey, Ill. 60426; **Chairs** † by Hank Loewenstein Inc., 3260 S.W. 11th Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33335; **Window Shade** † by Beauti-Vue, 855 194th Ave., Bristol, Wis. 53104.



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Do-It-Yourself Cabinetry. Consumer-oriented kit contains a 28-page kitchen-planning guide that covers measuring techniques, layout design, and cabinet sizes. Also includes 16-page, step-by-step installation instructions, cabinet specifications booklets, and color literature illustrating cabinet and vanity products. *Price: \$2.50. Yorktowne Division. Circle 718.*

DOORS

Handcarved Entrances. Pamphlet pictures 50 domestic and imported handcarved doors. Includes new patented panel-security construction, fire-resistant design, and a full line of stained, leaded-glass inserts. *Bel-Air Door Co. Circle 8.*

Insulated Doors. Brochure describes insulated, sliding glass doors of wood. Learn about the energy-conserving features of two- and three-panel reversible doors and stationary panel units. *Price: 10¢. C-E Morgan. Circle 501.*

Bifold Doors. Color brochure outlines how bifolds can match entrance doors, solve space problems, and eliminate swelling, warping, and splitting. Includes traditional, modern, flush, or louvered styles with deeply embossed designs. *Price: 25¢. General Products Co. Inc. Circle 514.*

Patio Doors. A new line of trackless swinging patio doors in Ponderosa pine is featured in this brochure. The doors are available in both 6'8" and 8' heights and come with a choice of hardware. The sills are constructed of Lexan, which is maintenance-free and helps in reducing energy costs. *Marvin Windows. Circle 10.*

To order these brochures and catalogues, use the handy Automatic Secretary between pages 104-105.

Buy a log home!

How to build with confidence.

A log home can fulfill your dreams—and be an extremely sound investment, too. But only if you pursue your dreams wisely.

With over 200 manufacturers, there are big differences in design, construction, quality, and cost.

The *Buyer's Guide to Log Homes* has been created to enhance your building experience while saving you money. It tells you about: types of log architecture; logs and log systems; key factors such as drying, preservation and fastening systems; deliveries and warranties; and heating, energy conservation and solar considerations.

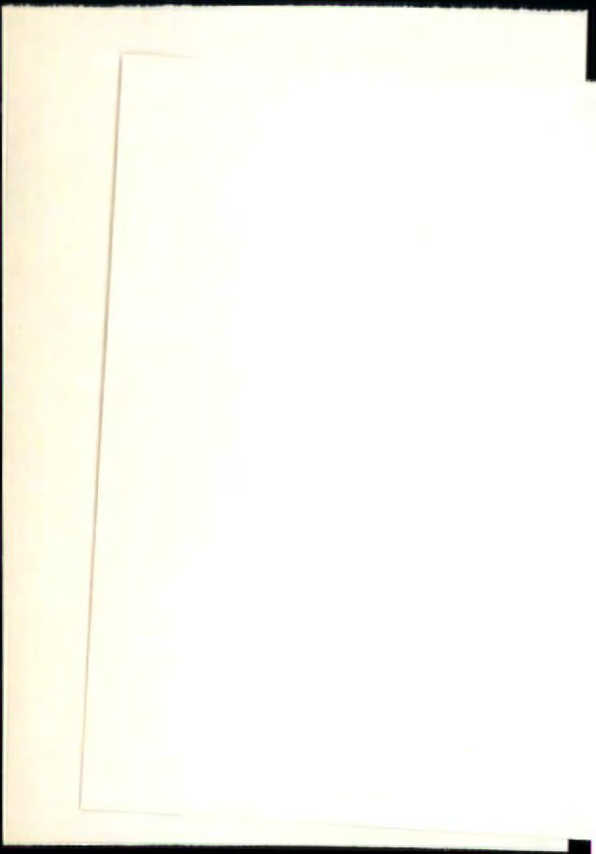
Just as important, the *Buyer's Guide* outlines five types of log home manufacturers; how their offerings differ; how to evaluate dealers, and what to watch out for along the way.

Even with an excellent manufacturer, the wrong dealer or subcontractor can drastically affect your log home building experience.

Unquestionably, a log home can be emotionally and financially rewarding in many ways; but how rewarding is up to you. For the 64-page, illustrated *Buyer's Guide to Log Homes*, send \$4.95 plus \$1.00 for P & H to:

Building Perspectives
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Mirror Doors. Sixteen-page catalogue offers suggestions for stretching space with mirrored doors shown in actual room settings. The doors are easily installed and feature distortion-free premium grade plate mirror and heavy-duty hardware. Price: \$1. Monarch Mirror Door Co. Circle 619.

Fir Doors. Literature shows high-quality front doors—carved, French, sash, and leaded glass—as well as interior panel doors. Firm also offers sliding and swinging patio doors, spindles and stair parts, and entryway frame systems. Includes finishing and installation tips. Price: 25¢. Nicolai Co. Circle 515.

ELECTRICAL & LIGHTING

Lighting Vertical Surfaces. Designer-industry bulletin explains techniques of lighting large walls, specifically those seen first when entering a space. Advanced lighting equipment aids in proper illumination to enhance works of art and wallcoverings. Price: 50¢. ASID. Circle 560.

Telephone Answering Machine. Brochure describes a line of telephone answering machines for the home or office. Some models have a remote message retrieval feature. Dictaphone Corp. Circle 14.

Home Protection System. Color brochure outlines a home-security system that's custom installed. The system offers central-station monitoring with burglary and fire protection as the primary functions. Honeywell Inc. Circle 15.

Radiator Enclosures. Steel radiator enclosures protect walls, blinds, and drapes from dirt and smudges while directing heat into the room. Available in baked-on enamel colors. Monarch. Circle 16.

FIREPLACES & STOVES

Wood-Burning Stove. With fossil fuels at a premium and utility rates on the rise, keeping your home warm and comfortable can become expensive. Literature describes all the features of this stove, including cast-iron-lined fuelbox, high temperature glass door, and slide-out ash drawer. Arrow Woodstoves. Circle 19.

Function Plus Price. Cast-iron stoves and fireplace inserts offer glass windows, firescreens, ashbins, and blowers. Both types can burn either wood or coal and are shipped directly to your home from the manufacturer. Color catalogue. Price: \$2. Consolidated Dutchwest. Circle 683.

Wood-Stove Window. Color brochure introduces a new glass window for wood stoves; it's made to resist high temperatures. Price: 25¢. Corning Glass Works. Circle 519.

Designer Blocks. Build beauty and protection with individual insulator blocks. Literature includes planning and fact sheets and insulation instructions. Simply select the shape and style that best suits the stove and your room size and decor. Crown Hill Stone, Inc. Circle 20.

Wood/Coal-Burning Stove. Godin stoves burn either wood or coal with equal effectiveness and without the need for a conversion kit. Select from several colors in porcelain enamel on cast iron, in the size and shape that best meets your need. Godin. Circle 21.

Wood/Coal-Burning Soapstone Stove. Brochure outlines the complete story behind Hearthstone wood- and coal-burning radiant soapstone stoves. Price: \$1. Hearthstone. Circle 620.

Ceramic Tile Stove. Literature package describes and illustrates a European coal- and wood-burning tile stove that heats by convection and with gentle radiant heat. A wood fire will burn up to 10 hours; coal, up to 18 hours. The stove can be built in or left freestanding. Price: \$1. Ceramic Radiant Heat Division, TexKnit Supply Corp. Circle 621.

Catalytic Stove. It burns the smoke from your fire for 40 percent more heat, 90 percent fewer pollutants, and almost no creosote. The total challenge of heating with wood is burning wood gases efficiently and circulating that heat into your home. Brochure describes the features of the Shelburne Catalytic fireplace-stove, installation information, and a sample of frequently asked questions and answers. The Vermont Stove Company. Circle 22.

Home Energy. Helpful book allows you to compare wood-stove and fireplace manufacturers' comments, prices, and specifications. Includes wood-burning accessories and solar equipment plus a dealer listing. Price: \$4.25. Woodstove Directory. Circle 820.

FLOORING

Buying Resilient Flooring. Booklet gives advice on shopping for vinyl floors. Provides information on no-wax surfaces, cushioning, installation, upkeep, and decorating. Armstrong World Industries Inc. Circle 23.

Cleaning on the Run. Cleaning is hard work but with the tips included in this brochure you can lighten your load and have extra time to devote to your family and friends. Information is given on how to organize a one-step cleaning closet, which type of vacuum cleaner will suit your needs, how to clean a room from top to bottom, tackling the tough jobs and shortcuts for entertaining. The Eureka Company. Circle 24.

Italian Ceramic Tile. Booklet contains design ideas using ceramic tiles for every room in your home. Includes decorating and shopping tips about the rich look of ceramics. Italian Tile Center. Circle 25.

Oriental Carpeting. Three booklets show Oriental area rugs and broadloom carpeting in designer settings. Detailed text includes a history of Oriental rugs. Karastan Rug Mills. Price: \$2. Circle 684.

Hardwood Flooring. Color, 10-page brochure illustrates a line of seven prefinished hardwood flooring patterns. Diagrams and specifications are included. Price: 25¢. Robbins Inc. Circle 521.

FURNITURE & FURNISHINGS

Home Furnishings. Color catalogue of 106 pages shows a wide selection of wallpaper and fabrics, paints, bed and table linens, rugs, and many other products for every room in the house. Easy-to-follow symbols guide selection of design and color groups. Price: \$4. Laura Ashley. Circle 812.

Fine Furniture. To connoisseurs of furniture design, the 18th-century cabinet makers of England and America created the most graceful, yet functional designs of lasting beauty. Throughout this catalogue are many examples of Chippendale, Hepplewhite, Sheraton, and Duncan Phyfe designs reproduced from priceless originals selected from museums and private collections. Price: \$6. The Biggs Company. Circle 859.

Contemporary Furniture. Literature describes complete line of oak constructed tables and chairs, some available with either solid, cane, or rail backs and a choice of fabric or vinyl seat coverings. The Winslow dining table features a butcher-block top with bullnosed edge and corners. John Boos & Company. Circle 30.

Furnishings and Design Concepts. Careful planning and a discriminating selection of furnishings will provide elegance to any room of your house. Contemporary, country, Oriental and traditional styles mean grace and tastefulness in form and presentation. It is an essence you can achieve for your home in any style you want. This 100 page catalogue presents furniture in the styles of today and from the finest periods in history. Price: \$3. Cherry Hill Furniture, Carpet & Interiors. Circle 763.



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PRODUCT LITERATURE

Country Curtains. Catalogue shows a complete line of curtains in cotton muslin and permanent press. Some designs have ruffles, others fringe or lace trim. Also available: bed ensembles, tablecloths, kitchen and dining-room accessories, wooden rods, rugs, pillows, and dolls. Price: \$1. *Country Curtains.* Circle 622.

Home Furnishings. A treasury of inspiring ideas and hundreds of helpful hints for furnishing every room in your home are featured in this full-color catalogue. Required reading for anyone who is redecorating or planning a new home. Price: \$5. *Ethan Allen.* Circle 830.

Home Furnishings. A collection of decorative handcrafted items is featured in this brochure, including brass wine cooler, planters, and ginger jars. Numdha rugs and other personal accessories include paper maché cigarette, jewelry, pencil, and ring boxes. Price: \$1 (refundable with first order). *From Me To You.* Circle 624.

Occasional Furniture. Portfolio shows an array of distinctive handcrafted tables and curio cabinets in a variety of woods and finishes. Styles include contemporary, French, Mediterranean, Oriental, and traditional. Price: \$2. *Gordon's Inc.* Circle 685.

Fine Furniture. Catalogue presents traditional furniture crafted in solid cherry with accent pieces in pine and elm. Included are period designs in tables, cabinets, and upholstery, authentic reproductions, occasional furniture, and bedroom suites. Price: \$5. *Harden Furniture Co.* Circle 831.

18th Century - Upholstery. An extensive line of mahogany Chippendale, Queen Anne, Hepplewhite, and Sheraton sofas, wing chairs, and occasional furniture is featured in this 84-page catalogue. Also included are James River reproductions and the Townsend wing chair, an authentic reproduction from a 1764 antique frame. Price: \$3. *Hickory Chair Company.* Circle 764.

Elegant Furniture. Catalogue describes a variety of furniture for the living room, dining room and bedroom. Styles range from traditional to contemporary—something for every taste. Price: \$3. *The Lane Company.* Circle 765.

Versatile Folding Furniture. Folder illustrates the Celebrity series of padded furniture, designed for casual entertaining. Price: \$1. *Samsonite Furniture.* Circle 625.

Mahogany Collection. Catalogue contains 52 color pages of 18th-century furniture in attractive period settings—including Adam, Chippendale, Georgian, Hepplewhite, and Sheraton reproductions. Price: \$2.50. *Thomasville Furniture Industries Inc.* Circle 719.

A History of Wool Carpets. The most dramatic test ever given to wool is the test of time. For centuries, wool rugs and carpets have been highly valued for practical and aesthetic reasons because of the durability of the natural fiber. This brochure details the history of wool carpets, how they are made, as well as cleaning and maintenance tips. *The Wool Bureau.* Circle 33.

HEATING & COOLING

Electric Water Heater. The Acutemp water heater is suitable for any location where an efficient, continuous hot water supply is needed. The literature gives detailed instructions, diagrams, and price and warranty information. *Acutemp Corp.* Circle 34.

Blueprint for Comfort. Three-panel foldout features a split package air conditioner. *Arkla Industries Inc.* Circle 35.

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Heater Remodeling. Color brochure gives information about a patented, low-cost, electro-hydraulic heater for apartments, condominiums, and homes with hard-to-heat rooms. *Intertherm Inc.* Circle 37.

Ventilating Louvers. Catalogue details a complete line of aluminum louvers that easily install to correct moisture-caused blistering of house paint and to control dry-rot fungus. Price: \$1. *Midget Louver Co.* Circle 627.

Humidifier Facts. The popularity of home humidification (the process of adding moisture to the air) has grown rapidly in recent years. It is one of the most important aspects of total indoor comfort, yet it is one of the least understood. Pamphlet outlines the facts about a home humidifier system and suggests questions to ask your dealer before purchasing a system. *Research Products Corporation.* Circle 38.

Home Energy Saver Guide. Every year, the cost of the energy we need to heat, cool, and light our homes goes up. This brochure provides useful information on saving both money and energy with tips on air conditioning, electricity, heating, insulated steel doors, passive solar heat and weather stripping. *The Stanley Works.* Circle 39.

MANUFACTURED HOMES

Manufactured Homes. Kit contains 26-page portfolio and floor plans of over 50 energy-efficient contemporary and traditional active and passive solar designs. Prices start at \$40,000 for an erected shell and the homes range from 850 to 3500+ sq. ft. Price: \$10. *Acorn Structures, Inc.* Circle 881.

White Cedar Log Homes. Portfolio contains photos and floor plans for Contemporary, Early American, modern, or rustic designs with both interior and exterior shots. Homes are built to suit the needs of the buyer from standard blueprints or from those submitted by owners and their architects. Price: \$5. *Boyer Falls Log Homes.* Circle 832.

Habitat Homes. Twenty passive or active post-and-beam solar designs feature spacious interiors, rugged beams, and virtually maintenance-free interiors and exteriors. Packet includes primary, vacation, and retirement homes, each offering complete design flexibility. Prices start at \$23,632. Price: \$6. *Habitat.* Circle 861.

Cedar Homes. Plan book features 60 different plans plus a price list, specifications, and a Home Planner to draw your own plan. Brochure discusses insulation and solar energy. Price: \$5. *Lindal Cedar Homes.* Circle 833.

Cedar Solid-Wall Homes. Brochure contains 35 standard floor plans for building custom cedar homes. Pictures many designs and interiors. Includes information on custom designing and local dealer assistance. Price: \$10. *Pan Abode Inc.* Circle 882.

Ready-to-Build Homes. Flyer features homes created from pre-cut, individually numbered and engineered timber that's shipped to the construction site. *Pre-Cut International Homes.* Circle 40.

Real Log Homes. Forty-page catalogue shows over 35 models of log homes, including four passive solar models. Price: \$6. *Real Log Homes.* Circle 862.

Cedar Log Homes. Complete catalogue contains more than 35 different designs of log homes along with details on materials, prices, and optional items. Price: \$5. *Ward Cabin Co.* Circle 834.

Log Homes. Plan book contains 50 designs of energy-efficient insulog and full log homes, crafted in northern white cedar or pine. Kits are complete (not just a shell) with brand name components. Price: \$6. *Wilderness Log Homes.* Circle 863.

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PRODUCT LITERATURE

PLANNING AIDS

Home Care & Upkeep. Whatever the surface or item in your home, caring for it is easier when you know which cleaning agents and techniques to use. Learn to care for your home as a professional with information about products and techniques that make cleaning, maintaining, and repairing easy and effective. *Price: \$5.95. Ortho Books, Division of Chevron Chemical Company. Circle 857.*

Home Building Kit. Created by HOME Magazine, this durable file box includes articles, graphs, templates, and worksheets to help you build your new home. Product literature from many manufacturers is also included. *Special Limited Offer: \$19.95 (plus \$4 shipping and handling). HOME Magazine. Circle 899.*

Kitchen and Bath Design Guide. Innovative and practical solutions to the problem of creating a greater feeling of space in areas where it is limited is described in this 24-page guide. It offers five original design concepts (two bath and three kitchen) as well as the latest in contemporary decorating ideas and a preview of new products from manufacturers such as Wilsonart, American Standard, Hafele America Co., Kitchen-Aid, Magic Chef, and Mannington. *Price: \$4. Kitchen and Bath Originals. Circle 813.*

PLANS & DESIGNS

Library of Home Plans. Ten plans books, including a book of 18 duplex designs and six townhouses, contain more than 550 plans with 821 design variations. Sizes range from 600 to 4,000 square feet. Styles include Colonial, provincial, Spanish, Tudor, contemporary, and others. *Price: \$33.50 W. D. Farmer. Circle 901.*

Popular Homes. Plans-4 (2nd edition) has a selection of 52 popular designs, from 1,400 to 3,600 square feet, including a Colonial-style home with an oval dining room. Also presents airy ranch-style homes with privacy wings. Floor plans are available. *Price: \$2.95. Heritage Homes Plan Service Inc. Circle 747.*

Best-Selling Home Plans. Book from HOME Magazine presents a collection of more than 150 home designs by some of America's top designers in every style and size. The book comes complete with renderings and floor plans; toll-free number included for ordering working blueprints. *Price: \$3.60. Home Plans. Circle 902.*

150 Ranch and Vacation Homes. Comprehensive book contains over 350 renderings of best-selling ranches, expandables, and vacation homes designed by William G. Chirgotis. Has guides on house planning, style characteristics, reading floor plans, and arranging a loan. *Price: \$6. National Home Planning Service. Circle 864.*

Custom Home Collection. Low-cost construction techniques are featured in this plan book of 1,000 to 2,900 sq. ft. homes. Architectural styles include: Early American, Tudor, Georgian, Williamsburg, and Southern Colonial as well as Cape Cod, contemporary, and Texas Ramblers. *Price: \$10. Mike Tecton's Custom Homes. Circle 883.*

PLUMBING

Equalizer Glide Rail. Movable shower head adjusts to any height for the personal bathing convenience of every member of the family. *Alsons Corp. Circle 42.*

Lifestyle Bathrooms. Brochure illustrates the latest in bathroom and powder-room designs. Includes water-saving fixtures, deluxe European-inspired pedestal lavatories, whirlpool baths, kitchen and bath faucets, and kitchen sinks. *Price: \$1. American Standard. Circle 628.*

Spatubs. Brochure features the new Spatub, which looks identical to a hot tub from the exterior but resembles a spa on the interior. Has molded seats and a flexshell liner. Price: \$1. California Cooperae. Circle 629.

Brass Fixtures. Catalogue introduces the new Renaissance Collection of faucets and fixtures. Includes center-set and widespread lavatory faucets, goose-neck spouts, and tub and shower fittings. Price: 50¢. Chicago Faucet Co. Circle 563.

Washerless Faucets. Brochure shows the complete line of Delta's washerless faucets for the kitchen and bath, including single- and two-handle models. Also shows the new, one-piece Delta 4000 toilet. Delta Faucet Co. Circle 43.

Bath and Kitchen Elegance. Catalogue illustrates a line of whirlpool baths, spas, showers, kitchen sinks, and faucets. Price: \$2. Kohler Co. Circle 686.

POOL, PATIO, & YARD

Screen out the Sun. Brochure describes the new Sunvisor awning system for use in patio areas. The awnings screen out 77 percent of the sun's heat from sun-exposed windows, reducing the work of your air conditioner. For leisure activities and social gatherings, the awnings provide protection from the elements while maximizing unobstructed space. Architectural Concepts. Circle 46.

Replace Wood Columns. In seven steps, you can replace rotting wood standards with extruded-aluminum, load-bearing columns. Moultrie Manufacturing Co. Circle 47.

Lawn Tractors. Pamphlet describes standard and optional features of the LT11000 tractor, including an 11-horsepower engine, 33-inch HiVac cutting Swath, friction-disk drive for easy operation, electric clutch, and a dual-range transmission. Options: bagging attachments and a snow thrower. Snapper Equipment. Circle 48.

Lawn and Garden Tractors. Catalogue shows a wide variety of Wheel Horse and Work Horse riding mowers and attachments. Both types are designed for consumers as well as for commercial use and handle gardening, landscaping, lawn care, and snow removal. Work Horse. Circle 49.

SOLAR

Passive Solar Designs. Booklet describes, in layman's terms, passive solar systems and the elements of sun-space design. Questions on the planning, construction, and operation of a solar addition for your home will be answered by qualified sales and engineering people at a toll-free number. Price: \$1. Brady & Sun. Circle 630.

Solar Greenhouse. Booklet shows practical, solar greenhouses and "add-a-room" greenhouses that provide an ideal year-round extra room for gardening, sitting, or luxurious hot-tub bathing. Four Seasons Solar Products Corp. Circle 50.

Sun-Room/Solar Greenhouse. Literature package profiling solar greenhouses contains a color catalogue, planning guide, checklist, and financial information. Price: \$3. Garden Way Research. Circle 766.

Greenhouses and Solariums. Turn your home into an energy-efficient environment while increasing its value with this buyers' guide and planner. This complete guide of practical, technical, and educational information includes how to qualify for state and federal tax credits; it is easy to understand and filled with ideas and color photos on how to make your home more functional and beautiful. Prices and accessories are included. Price: \$2. Lord & Burnham. Circle 687.

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ULTRAS II has a natural wood finish and is 4 1/2" in diameter and 6 1/2" high. Although low in price, the ULTRAS II should not be compared with the many low-cost units now being advertised. Those units have speakers (often noisy and bothersome) and are considerably less powerful than the ULTRAS II. And

power is what makes the difference between a successful product and the cheap units that have been discredited by such 'authorities' as the 20/20 television show.

RODAR "One-Two"

RODAR, manufactured by THE MONADNOCK COMPANY, is the established professional/commercial repeller. It is one of the most powerful units on the market at any price. Only recently did it become available to individual consumers and the price has been reduced by more than one-third because of SCIENTIFIC HEALTH SERVICES' agreement to mass market it.

Nothing has been cut in quality. Its two powerful transducers each emit more than 128 decibels of sound pressure. In an enclosed area the powerful ultrasound bounces off all surfaces and covers the entire area. Out-of-doors the directional beam may be aimed at loading docks, doorways, and other specific areas to be protected. It is housed in a handsome walnut-veneer hard-board cabinet 4 1/8" wide x 6 1/8" high x 4 1/8" deep. Both repellers plug into standard 110 volt AC outlet (220 volt available). Detailed instructions are included.

Ultrasonics — Not A "Cure-All" Too many marketers have been making outrageous claims for their inferior products. Many buyers have been disappointed and have decided that all ultrasonic repellers are a racket. Our experience of a number of years in the business, both at the commercial (exterminator) level and selling directly to the consumer, gives us an understanding of just what you can expect from ultrasonic devices in pest control. The use of ultrasound in the control of pests, although in practice for a number of years, is really a new science. There has been formal research indicating that ultrasound can be quite effective in repelling

rats and mice. But official documentation concerning its effect on squirrels, bats, chipmunks and insects is yet to come. However, we have sold ultrasonic devices to thousands of satisfied customers and we base many of our claims on their reports.

Don't buy ultrasonic devices (ours or anyone else's) to eliminate flying insects. Although there is a noticeable effect on them, mosquitos will still bite in the presence of ultrasound... flies seem to be unaffected in the short range. Ants seem to leave the area of ultrasound — but carpenter ants will still cause great damage. If that is your problem, call in a professional exterminator.

Over a period of time, ultrasound of sufficient power will eliminate infestations of rats, mice, squirrels, chipmunks, bats, cockroaches, as well as some other insects. In the usual home situation, most users have experienced remarkable success in completely eliminating pests. This is also true in commercial installations.

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Victorian Home Blueprints. Dating from 1887, blueprints are part of this 48-page soft-cover book from Shoppell's Modern Houses. The book offers designs and includes articles on landscaping, decorating, and life in the 19th century. Price: \$6 *Antiquity Reprints*. Circle 865.

Ceiling Fans. Quality fans in many styles are available from The Ceiling Fan Place, which specializes in Hunter fans and offers a full-color catalogue. Price: \$2. *The Ceiling Fan Place*. Circle 688.

Woodworker's Supplies. Catalogue presents a variety of hard-to-find products: veneers, wood-inlay pictures, frame moldings, specialty tools, carving blocks, cabinet wood lumber, lamp parts, clock kits, cabinet hardware, and other specialties. Price: \$1. *Albert Constantine and Son Inc.* Circle 632.

Curtains and Bedspreads. An impressive array of Colonial country styles appears in a 56-page color catalogue. Choose from ruffled, tailored, or sheer designs and a variety of no-iron fabrics. Price: \$1. *Colonial Maid Curtains*. Circle 633.

Decorating Help. If you've always had an eye for color, a feeling for texture, and a sense of style, perhaps a career as a decorating consultant is for you. Decorating Den consultants help clients select draperies, carpeting, and wallcoverings in their own homes. Literature describes other aspects involved. *Decorating Den*. Circle 51.

Decorative Storage-Organizer. Velcro fasteners hold movable clear bins on a nylon wall panel. The Panel may be mounted horizontally or vertically on any smooth surface without leaving marks, as no screws or nails are needed. *Discus Enterprises*. Circle 53.

Easy-to-Install Shelving. Package contains useful information on easy-to-install and well-ventilated, vinyl-coated shelving, tub and shower enclosures, and mirrored wardrobe doors. Price: 25¢. *Finishing Touch by Diston Industries*. Circle 524.

Do-it-Yourself Projects. Three brochures, covering decks and other outdoor projects, paneling and wallworks are now available from Georgia-Pacific. Exciting and innovative ideas are featured and easy-to-follow instructions are given for the novice do-it-yourselfer and the weekend enthusiast. *Georgia-Pacific Corp.* Circle 54.

Quilting Craft Ideas. A wide variety of pre-cut styles in traditional and country patterns are offered in this quilting kit. Also included are more than 70 swatches of hard-to-find 100-percent-cotton calicos and muslins, color catalogue, 16-page Quilting Know-How booklet, and introductory discount coupons. Price: \$3. *Hearthside Quilts and Supplies*. Circle 768.

Ironing Center. Brochure describes a wall cabinet with a fold-down ironing board, control panel, work light, and insulated iron-storage compartment. Price: 25¢. *Iron-A-Way*. Circle 525.

Silk Plants. Catalogue shows largest variety of foliage and flowering plants in full color. This new concept in permanent plants offers a look that could fool Mother Nature and enhances any decor style. Price \$1.00. *Silk Plants Ltd.* Circle 634.

Spiral Staircases. A complete line of cast iron Victorian-style spiral staircases has been illustrated and described in this 20-page catalogue. A collection of accessories, architectural plaster moldings, brass rail fittings and shower conversion kits, planning notes, specifications, and installation instructions are also included. Price: \$2. *Steptoe & Wife*. Circle 689.

Greenhouses. Soak up the sun all day, and gaze at the stars at night. Described in this publication are more than 40 standard prefabricated units as well as details on energy savings, tax credits, and installation. Price: \$1 *Sun System*. Circle 635.

Sun Controls. Brochure explains how you can reduce glare and heat, keep furniture from fading, and save energy by applying a special film to your windows. *3M Co.* Circle 57.

Blackcurrant Tea Sample. Specially selected China and Darjeeling tea leaves are delicately scented with the essence of black currant, a fruit that grow wild throughout the British countryside. Twinings of London, the popular English tea blender, now offers a sample of their new blackcurrant tea and a recipe brochure which includes English Sangria, Black Irish Tea, and a Blackcurrant Breeze. *Twinings of London*. Circle 58.

Home Exercise Equipment. Brochures demonstrate the Universal Power-Pak exercise system and the Trex treadmills. Freestanding and wall-mounted exercise units are available as well as manual and electric treadmills. *Universal Gym Equipment Inc.* Circle 59.

Free Gifts. A directory tells how and where homeowners, tenants, gardeners, and do-it-yourselfers can write for hundreds of free gifts, samples, decorating posters, handbooks, plans and much more. Price: \$1.99. *Weiss & Daughters*. Circle 678.

Miniblinds. Distributor sells Levolor's Riviera blinds as well as the new Thrifty Custom blinds at 50 to 60 percent off suggested retail prices. Free color samples and information are available. *Wells Interiors*. Circle 60.

Woodworking Supplies. A complete selection of veneers, hardwoods, wood products, table hardware, specialty hardware, trims, tools, and finishes are featured in this catalogue. Also available are kits for making chess/checker boards and backgammon sets, as well as an assortment of softcover craft books. Price: \$1. *The Woodworkers Store*. Circle 636.

WALLS & PANELING

Architectural Artwork. Brochures show reproduction ceiling medallions and decorative cornice moldings made of lightweight molded polymers. Price: \$2.50. *Focal Point Inc.* Circle 720.

Decorating Advice. Guide to decorating your home with wallcoverings and fabrics provides expert tips and easy-to-follow instructions for do-it-yourself projects. Price: \$1. *Imperial Wallcoverings*. Circle 638.

Wallcoverings. You can dramatically change the look of a room with the use of vinyl wallcoverings. Full-color room scenes feature coverings in kitchens, baths, bedrooms, and living areas. Step-by-step illustrations outline the easy do-it-yourself installation. Instructions and room sizes, with ceiling heights shown in chart form make it easy to estimate the number of rolls needed. *MayFair Wallcoverings*. Circle 61.

Textile, Grasscloth, and String Wallcoverings. Literature kit contains more than 80 actual samples of quality handcrafted wallcoverings—offered at 50 percent savings. Do-it-yourself instructions and tools are available. There's a special program for licensed decorators. The kit charge is deductible from the first order. Price: \$1. *Shibui Wallcoverings*. Circle 639.

Victorian Wallcoverings. Folder presents the Scarborough Square collection of wallcoverings and fabrics inspired by the Victorian era. *Richard E. Thibaut Inc.* Circle 64.

WINDOWS

Windows Galore. Booklet answers questions about saving energy with low-maintenance windows and patio doors for new construction, remodeling, and replacement. *Andersen Corp. Circle 65.*

Insulated Window Shade. Window Quilt coverings keep the heat in during the winter and shut out the glaring sun in summer. *Appropriate Technology Corp. Circle 66.*

Window Shopping. Curtains, draperies, vertical and mini-blinds, pleated shades, and woven wood are described in this complete 132-page guide to planning and buying window treatments. Ideas, detailed measuring information, and photos of more than 200 colors and patterns are included. *Price: \$3. Kirsch Co. Circle 769.*

Window Magic. Brochure presents Levolor blinds in more than 200 colors with diagrams and detailed instructions outlining how to measure, install, and clean these popular window coverings. *Price: \$1. Levolor Lorentzen Inc. Circle 640.*

Vertical Striped Louvers. A 32-page full-color catalogue features over 204 ideas demonstrating the use of multicolored vertical blinds. Nine patterns and 102 color combinations are available and easy ordering instructions are included. *Price: \$1. Louverdrape, Inc. Circle 641.*

Window Ideas. At first glance, a window may seem like nothing more than a hole in the wall covered with glass. But the size and style of a window can have a great impact on the appearance of your home, and the choice of materials for the frame and sash can affect your energy efficiency and maintenance. Catalogue is filled with information and ideas for bay, casement, double hung, picture and sun bay windows, and much more. *Marvin Windows. Circle 67.*

Energy-Saving Glass. Brochure describes the use of Sclarcoll bronze reflective glass to reduce heat and glare from the sun. *PPG Industries. Circle 68.*

Measuring Guide. Tips for measuring curtains, draperies, shades, and blinds are presented in this brochure. Information on styling, rod selection, and various window treatments is also included. *J. C. Penney Co. Circle 69.*

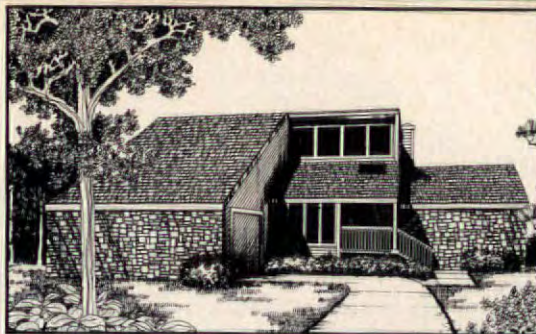
Window and Door Ideas. Booklet shows windows and patio doors in all-wood or aluminum-clad designs for low maintenance and energy savings. *Pella/Rolscreen Co. Circle 71.*

Economical Skylight. When you only need overhead light without ventilation, a fixed skylight is an easy solution. The wood frame is crafted with mortise-and-tenon joints that provide strength and durability. Energy-saving double-insulating glass comes tinted, reflective, or laminated. Brochure shows a complete line of Velux skylights that range in price from \$165 to \$260 including prefabricated flashing. *Velux-America Inc. Circle 72.*

Skylight Installation. Booklet tells you what you should know about skylights before you cut a hole in your roof. *Tub-Master Corp. Circle 73.*

Ventilating Skylights. Literature describes an acrylic skylight with operable features. *Ventarama Skylight Co. Circle 74.*

Beautiful Skylights. Pamphlet folds out to show how low-profile sloped skylights can make up a practical passive solar system. Easy-to-install LP "sky windows" are ideal for sun-rooms, greenhouses, attic rooms, and entryways. *Wasco Products Inc. Circle 75.*



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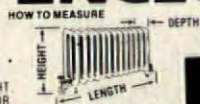
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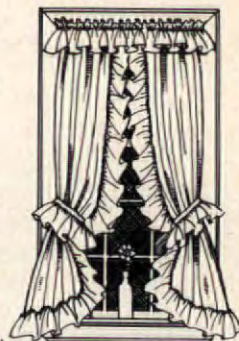
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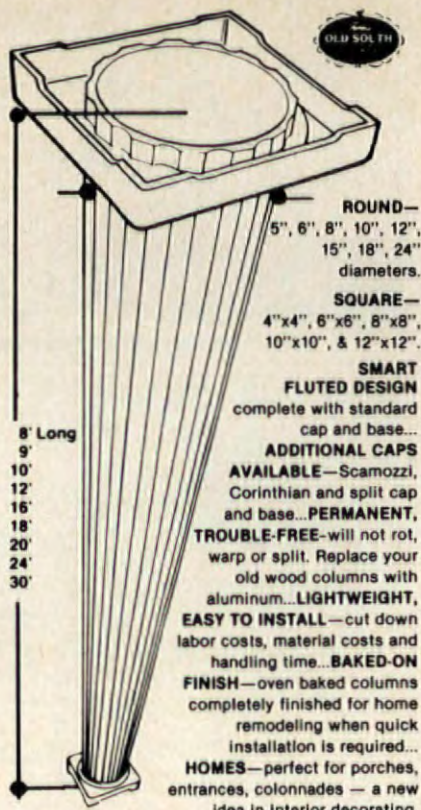
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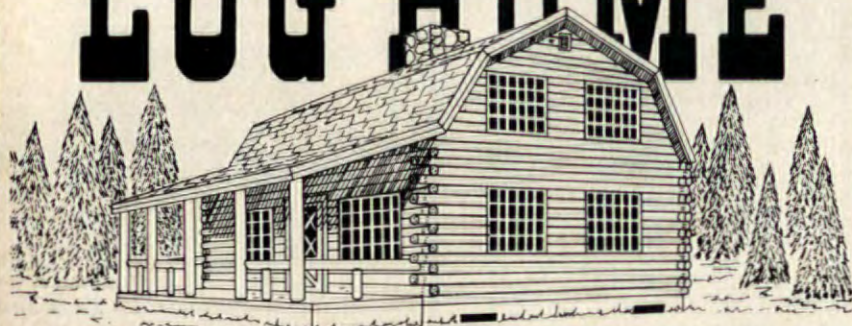
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