

NOW'S THE  
TIME TO

# BUILD! REMODEL! PAINT! LANDSCAPE!

## Tiling Bathroom or Kitchen Can Be a Simple Job for Homeowner

Simple tools, a supply of ceramic tile and surprisingly little time and money are all you need to turn home maintenance problems into good looking, carefree facilities.

Whether you want to remodel the kitchen, bathrooms, fireplace or patio, the first step is to check whether the surface to receive the ceramic tile is sound, plumb and free of any material that might interfere with the bond of the adhesive that holds the tile to the wall or whatever.

If the surface passes this test, the next step is to prime any areas that will be exposed to steam or water. Seal all openings around fixtures for example, with waterproof tape. When you are ready to start tiling, begin around the tub if it's a bathroom. If the tub is not level, make your cuts in the first row of tiles to establish a straight line.

After installation allow the

tile to set overnight so volatile elements in the adhesive will escape. Then soak the tile joints with plenty of water.

After soaking, grouting is the next step. Mix enough water with a commercial tile grout to form a paste with the consistency of heavy cream. Work this grout into the tile joints with a sponge or rubber gloves. The excess grout that will partly cover the tile sponges off readily. Polish the finished job with a dry cloth.

Most grouts should be wetted several times a day during the four days following installation so they will cure properly.

## Home Can Usually Be Expanded

The "outgrown" home is a common complaint among many young families these days.

A typical situation is the couple who purchased a house shortly after World War II. At that time, the family income was low, the future uncertain, and the two-bedroom dwelling at \$10,000 seemed like a big undertaking.

Now — say 10 years later — there are two or three children. The family income has come along nicely. The home of 10 years ago seems very cramped. That's the story behind many families that are spending their week-ends these days looking for a new home.

But is moving the ideal solution? In the 10 years, the family has become a part of the community it has helped to develop. Their friends are around them. The children are well launched in the neighborhood school.

### Investigate Possibilities

Actually, for many families, the wise move would be to improve the existing home to provide the needed space. At least, it's a good idea to investigate all the possibilities thoroughly before deciding whether to move. Consider the market for new homes and what you may expect to realize for a home like yours.

Discuss the financing arrangements with the bank and check with an architect and contractor to see what it would cost to make the desired improvements in your present home.

This family had always wanted a room with a fireplace, flagstone floors, and knotty western pine walls in a natural finish as a center for family fun and informal entertaining of friends.

### Pine Paneling

The job can be turned over to contractors or can be a partial do-it-yourself project. Pine paneling the interior is a job that is particularly well suited to the home craftsman. But whatever the method, the first thing to do is to study the floor plan and placement of the house on the property. It's advisable to make a scale drawing on graph paper to consider the room from all angles.

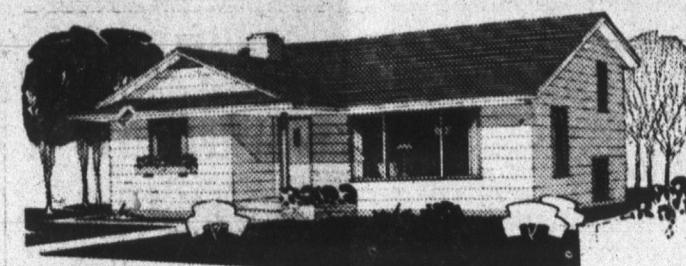
When a rough plan is figured out, then go to builder for expert advice, including information about local zoning laws and the relation of the proposed addition to the rest of the house.

In this case, the extra room was added to the home adjacent to the garage. The utility room behind the garage became the connecting hallway between the new room and the main part of the house.

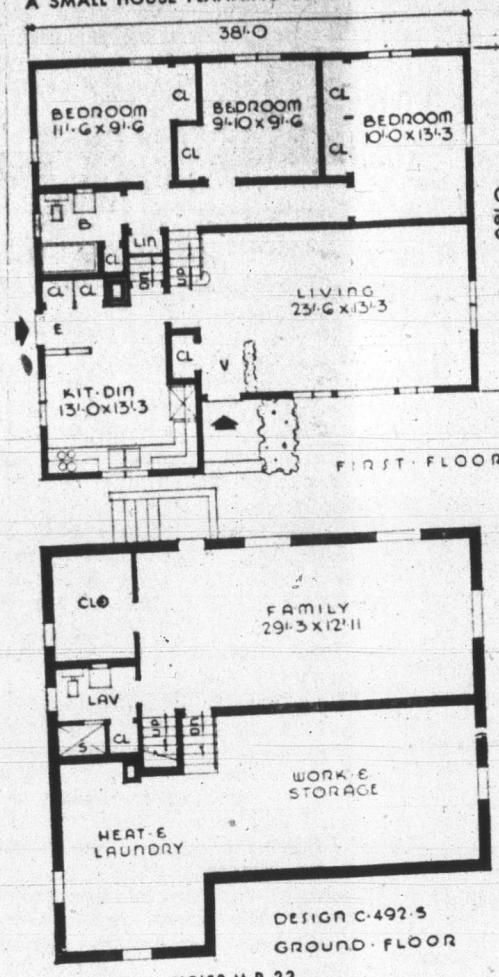
The new room, like the rest of the house, was built on a slab of concrete set over heating coils for radiant heating.

Extra touches that added a note of luxury and utility were bay windows, built-ins of western pine to match the paneling and a Dutch door leading to the main part of the house.

**CHROME PROTECTION**  
To protect chrome plumbing fixtures from scratches when using a pipe wrench or pliers on them, wrap the fixtures with friction tape. The result is a non-slip surface for your wrench. The chrome is safe from marring and the tape removes easily after the job is done.



A SMALL HOUSE PLANNING BUREAU DESIGN NO. C-492-S



DESIGN C-492-S. This front-back split level concentrates a lot of living space in an overall width of only 38 feet. The floor plan allows the use of a level piece of ground and provides access to the rear yard by means of an outside stair well. The family room has access to the rear yard and is directly below the bedrooms. Up six steps you are on the kitchen-dinette and living room level. Seven steps up from the living room three generous bedrooms with wardrobe type closets and a full bath are located. The family room has a lavatory with a good sized shower. Wide horizontal siding has been used on the entire exterior. Floor area is 1148 square feet, cubage is 18,502 cubic feet. For further information about Design C-492-S, write the Small House Planning Bureau, St. Cloud, Minn. In Canada, the Small House Planning Bureau of Canada, St. John, New Brunswick.

## Minor Damage Done As Autos Collide

A car driven by Paul Schueler, 33, of route 2, collided with the rear of an auto driven by James H. Borne, 17, of Craigville route one, at 10:30 p.m. Saturday just north of Bluffton on route 1. Sheriff Raymond Durr estimated damage to the Schueler car at \$200, and the Borne auto at \$100.

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## Minor Accident Is Reported Monday

A minor property damage accident occurred Monday afternoon at Fourth and Monroe streets at 5:30 o'clock involving two autos.

A car driven by Judith K. Brown, 16, Decatur, was struck by a car driven by Cedric Tumbleson, 44, Decatur, as she attempted to make a right turn at the same time the Tumbleson vehicle attempted to pass. Damage to the Brown vehicle was estimated by the city police at \$75, the Tumbleson auto was not damaged.

## Unconfirmed Reports Say Town Wiped Out

MAZATLAN, Mexico (UPI) — Unconfirmed reports reaching here today said the town of Cabo San Lucas, at the southern tip of Lower California, was "wiped out" Monday by a violent tropical storm.

### "PANELESS" WITH PAPER TOWELS...

## 30-Second Window Wash



Easy way to ease the home window washing chore is to use paper towels instead of cleaning rags to wipe off and polish the windows. They are especially useful in cleaning the difficult-to-reach corners and edges of windows. Use wash towels for each window; they're inexpensive and quickly disposable. Paper towels which are soft and highly absorbent are best. They are most efficient with the new spray-on cleaners, but also can be used to catch damp spots, and as polishers, when windows are washed with water and squeegee.

## Landscaping Hikes Value Of The Home

Landscaping and planting the home property is one of the first considerations in a home improvement program. Fifty million home gardeners this season will be planting trees and shrubs to make their home properties more livable, more beautiful and more valuable, says the American Association of Nurserymen, with the jobs ranging in size from a few shrubs to complete landscaping programs.

An advantage of home improvement through landscaping is that the home-owner, if he ever wants to sell the property, will get a higher resale price. Well landscaped homes bring 15 to 20 per cent more in the real estate markets. In setting out to improve your property with landscaping, start with a well-conceived plan.

### Study Location

First, study the location of your house and the slope of the ground. Look at the property as a whole, not just the house, or drive, or yard.

Your planting for best effect must have unity, that is it must tie house, drive, walks and land together to make a pleasing picture.

Eventually you will want a planting around the foundation of the home to tie it to the ground in a natural way. Bare, stark walls are unsightly. In the foundation planting you will want low-growing shrubs and plants that will not grow above the first floor windows.

A tree at the most open corner of the home will be desirable for accent. In front of the foundation planting open lawn space is popular in order to present an unobstructed sweep of grass.

**Frame the View**  
If you have a lovely open view from any location on the property do not plant anything but low-growing plants to set off the view. Tall shrubs and trees should only be planted to frame the view, not to block it.

Conversely, if you have an unsightly view, or need privacy where houses are close together, a screen planting of tall shrubs or trees should be made.

Sometimes one wishes a low line of demarcation between his property and the next. A living fence of roses or low shrubs may serve in that case to be admired by your neighbor as well as your own family.

## Avoid Injuries On Basement Stairs

Inexpensive improvements can transform a basement stairway into a safe, attractive area with storage facilities. Children can easily suffer serious injury when playing on an open stairway, but a panel of Masonite "Peg-Board" can block off this open area and provide an attractive backing for hanging pictures, plants, toys, clothes or small tools.

The perforated hardboard panel can be cut to the desired size and shape primed and painted, before it is suspended by a plastic clothesline woven through the holes and strategically located screw-eyes. Another piece of hardboard can be used to enclose the area underneath the stairway to further perk up the basement's appearance.

**GLUE APPLICATOR**  
A novel but effective tool for spreading glue over large flat surfaces is a short piece of broken hacksaw blade. Used cutting edge down, the teeth act like a notched trowel and spread the glue out in an even layer.

**RE-SLOTTING SCREWS**  
If a screw slot is so stripped by the time the screw is part way out that a screwdriver can't turn it, at right angles to the damaged slot cut a new one with a hacksaw. Then use a narrow bladed screwdriver to back the screw out the rest of the way.

### AVOID SLIPPING

How to keep screwdriver blades from slipping when heavy pressure is applied? One simple way is to rub ordinary blackboard chalk on the tip of the blade beforehand.

### TREE PROTECTION

If tree limbs are split in a wind-storm, do not grab hold of them and pull them from the tree. If you do, you may pull off a long

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## BUILDING CAN BE FUN!



Let us help you plan your new home or remodel your present one. Our experience can help you get as livable a family room as this one recently added to a local home. (Owner's name on request).

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