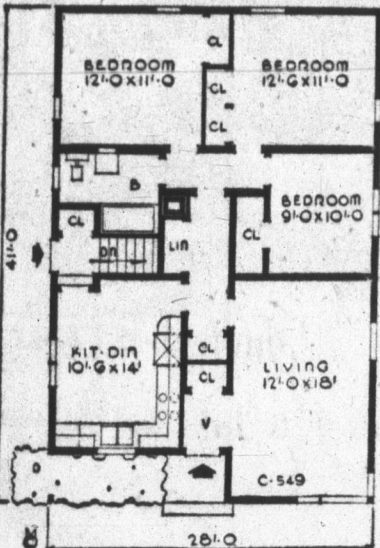


A SMALL HOUSE PLANNING BUREAU DESIGN NO. C-549



DESIGN C-549. In this plan, the kitchen-dinette has built-in appliances, cabinets and counter in an L-shape, with generous dining space beneath the cheerful windows overlooking the side yard.

A central hall leads to all rooms. There are floor-to-ceiling wardrobe type closets in the two rear bedrooms, large walk-in closet in the center bedroom, linen storage cabinet and general storage closet in hall. Both the separate front vestibule and rear entry boast coat closets.

A full basement affords further storage area, room for the laundry and heater, an additional lavatory or shower and space for a play area.

Colorful asphalt shingles, broad eaves, wide horizontal siding combined with vertical siding around the covered front entrance assure pleasing appearance, low maintenance cost with sound frame construction. 20,760 cubic feet includes the full basement and the total first floor area is 1,088 square feet.

For further information about DESIGN C-549, write the Small House Planning Bureau, St. Cloud, Minn.

In Canada, the Small House Planning Bureau of Canada, St. John, New Brunswick.

OPEN-BEAM CEILING

One of the newest building materials can give a home an atmosphere that is rustic yet sophisticated.

That material is insulating roof deck slab. Designed for use in homes with the rugged good looks of open-beam ceilings, it does three things at once. It forms the structural roof deck, it efficiently insulates, and it provides a finished ceiling.

The material is composed of layers of fiber insulation board laminated together with a water-resistant adhesive. Standard size of the insulating roof deck slabs is 2 by 8 feet in thickness ranging from 1½ to 3 inches.

Wind-Tight Seal

The slabs, or panels, are nailed directly to the tops of the beams and are joined together snugly to make a wind-tight seal. Roofing—including the popular asphalt strip shingles—is applied to the top of the deck. The bottom is prefinished, so the ceiling it forms requires no decoration.

The finished ceiling side of insulating roof deck is available with sound-absorbing perforations or fissures, thus adding a noise-reducing quality to its ability to build, insulate and decorate.

Can Be Painted

When later ceiling redecoration is desired, the material can be painted.

Dramatic lighting effects can be obtained when a ceiling of insulating roof deck is pierced with skylights.

Millions of tiny air cells inside the fibreglass material enable it to conserve heat in the winter and to keep out the torrid breath of summer.

Household Scrapbook

By ROBERTA LEE

Too Much Bluing

Be careful not to put too much bluing into the rinsing water, as this will give a dingy, gray appearance to the clothes. Measure the bluing carefully and mix it with a little water before adding it to the tub of water in which the clothes will be placed.

Peeling Apples

To peel cooking apples easily, pour boiling water over them. They can be peeled much more readily, and it saves considerable time.

Shoe Dressing

White petroleum jelly makes a good dressing for russet or patent leather. Apply the jelly with the finger tip, then polish with absorbent cotton.

Woolen Blankets

To make woolen blankets softer and hold their shape, hang them on the line dripping wet instead of wringing them. Whip lightly several times while drying, and after thoroughly dry, with a wire carpet beater. They will be soft and light.

Cleaning Sponges

When the sponges have become slimy, soak them in vinegar overnight, then rinse thoroughly in hot water, and hang out of doors to dry.

Tough Meat

To make very tough meat tender, rub baking soda into it. Let it stand for several hours; then wash it thoroughly before cooking.

The Gums

If the teeth are so sensitive that the time spent in a dentist's chair practically exhausts one, try rinsing the mouth with baking soda and water several times before going to the dentist, and it will be found that this treatment will help very much.

Variety of Flavor

A variety of flavor in roast beef or veal can be effected by basting during the process of cooking with equal parts of spiced pickled fruit juices and water.

Heavy Stitching

If hesitant about stitching through heavy cretonne on the sewing machine, rub the seams with yellow soap, and the needle will penetrate the goods without danger of breaking.

Air Conditioning Provides Comfort In Many Ways

Families can shop for air conditioning with a big advantage if they know the types of cooling units available and something of how they work.

Generally, there are two methods of air conditioning available today—units that cool individual rooms and central systems that cool an entire home. Here are the major types of each, and how they function:

Window-style room air conditioner. This unit, the most familiar and usually the least expensive of all, is available from appliance dealers. It comes in sizes to handle large and small rooms.

Through-the-wall room unit. Similar to the window style, this model is installed permanently in an outside wall. Although both of these room units are engineered to cool one room, they often are powerful enough to air condition a small house if the house is thickly insulated with mineral wool.

Year-around forced-air system. This unit cools the entire house, using the same ducts as the heating system. The unit cools and dehumidifies the air and blows it out to all rooms.

Independent central system. This system has no connection with heating, using its own set of ducts to circulate cooled, dehumidified air.

Chilled water system. Ideal for homes that have hot-water heat, this system cools rooms by sending chilled water through the heating system pipes.

Heat pump. Newest system of all, the heat pump cools in summer and provides heat in winter. It is available in sizes for single rooms or entire homes.

Hot Water Pipes Can Cool Home

Home owners who now have hot-water heating systems in their homes, or families who prefer this type of heating in a home they plan to build can choose from a number of air-conditioning systems, says the Better Heating-Cooling Council. These include:

1. Heating-cooling convectors. Chilled water is piped to the same convectors used for heating. These convectors are equipped with fans, coils, and filter.

2. Separate chilled-water unit. A special unit chills water and uses the water to cool air, which is distributed to rooms through vents high in walls.

3. Separate chilled-air unit. In hot-water-heated homes, this unit generally is installed in the attic or in a closet. Overhead ducts carry dehumidified, cool air throughout the house.

This Sheathing Does Extra Job: It Insulates House

The strength and comfort of a house depends largely on a material which you rarely see except during construction—the sheathing.

Sheathing is the material applied directly over the framework. When a structure is sheathed, it becomes more than a "skeleton" and begins to look like a house. It is covered by an exterior facing of siding, masonry veneer or some other material.

Multiple-duty performance of sheathing is well illustrated by the insulation board type, which predominates in many building markets. Insulation board sheathing performs all the functions of any sheathing, and it insulates as well.

Because it insulates, it is a fuel-saver. That is, it retards the flow of heat through the walls because of countless tiny air cells locked between the compressed plant fibers inside the material.

Lower Costs End Result Of Research

Air conditioning now can be installed in a home at a much lower cost than ever before, says FHA Commissioner Julian H. Zimmerman. Operating costs, he adds, to some extent are offset by savings on cleaning, laundry, medical expense, and other factors.

What does this mean to an average-income family planning to build or buy a home, or a family that would like more year-round comfort in its present home?

It means just this: scientific research has brought central air conditioning well within the financial reach of the average family today.

Important Discovery
Probably the most important discovery in this research was the importance to low-cost air conditioning of thick insulation.

Thick mineral wool properly installed in ceilings, walls, and exposed floors keeps so much heat out of the house that a smaller and less expensive cooling system is needed for comfort.

Batts of mineral wool 6 inches thick are recommended for economical air conditioning.

plete summer comfort. Often the cash savings on this equipment is as high as 50 per cent.

This was proved in a series of painstaking tests in the Southwest, where a group of air-conditioned houses actually was constructed to find out how much money builders could save by using thick insulation to cut down cooling equipment costs.

Savings of \$139.60
On the average, the savings were \$139.60 per house. For each dollar spent on insulation, over minimum requirements, \$1.82 was saved on the air-conditioning system.

In addition, the thick mineral wool made it possible for families who bought the houses to save an average of \$107.90 a year on the operating costs of heating and cooling.

Engineering studies have shown that the most effective insulation for air conditioning is a thickness of 6 inches of mineral wool in ceilings, at least 3 inches in walls, and 2 inches in floors over areas such as porches, crawl spaces, and attached garages or around the edge of a concrete floor slab.

Insulation for Cooling Fine for Electric Heat

A house properly insulated for air conditioning is ready, insulation-wise, for electric heating, since the formula for both is the same: 6 inches of mineral wool in the ceiling, at least 3 inches in walls, and 2 inches in floors over unheated and uncooled areas.

Building Board

Building board is a general-purpose insulation board frequently used as an interior finish for walls and ceilings. Although the boards have a factory-finished surface that requires no further decoration, they can be painted to blend with any color scheme.

Shadow Beauty

Use of insulation board shingle backer adds depth to the shadow line of shingle siding on a home, enhancing the beauty of the exterior. It also cuts construction costs by reducing the number of shingles required, since shingle backers replace an undercourse of shakes.

How To Cut Household Noise

Put sound-absorbing tiles on the ceiling and you'll solve many of the noise problems in your house. But there are other steps you can take to do a proper job of indoor sound-conditioning, advises the Insulation Board Institute.

The IBI, a trade association of leading fiberboard tile producers, offers these tips to help you make your home easy on the ear:

Use Draperies
Use draperies and full-size carpets wherever your budget allows. Sound bounces off hard-surfaced walls and floors; the soft surfaces of rugs and drapes soak up sound much like perforated insulation board tiles do.

Put rubber pads or castor cups under chair and table legs to stop scraping noises as well as to save wear and tear on the floor surface. Set refrigerators, washers and other mechanical appliances on mountings of rubber, cork or similar material that will absorb the vibration and reduce mechanical noises.

Silent Switches
Install the silent type light switches.

Replace worn faucet washers to stop the annoyance of dripping water.

Be sure that doors fit snugly. Solid core flush doors admit less sound than hollow core or panel doors. Weather stripping will add to the barrier against transmission of sound—even inside the house.

Away From Traffic
If you are building a house, locate the bedrooms as far away as possible from the living-play space. They should be on the side of the house away from the traffic noise. A study should not be an alcove off the living room, but a completely separate space with door.

To prevent party noises in a basement recreation room from penetrating to the living room overhead, cover the exposed floor joists with a heavy, impervious material like ½-inch insulation board, then apply sound-absorbing tile to it.

No Grain, Knots

Insulation board is a grainless, knotless board made of wood or cane fibers. The raw material is first reduced to a pulp. Then the fibers are formed into large sheets of varying thicknesses by a felting process. The sheets are dried, cut and trimmed to the finished size.

Fix Up Basement For Family Fun

A drab, cold basement will become warm and cheery when it's converted into a family fun area with economical insulation board.

The Insulation Board Institute advises use of insulation board plank on the walls and tile on the ceiling. Both are available in pre-decorated styles and can be applied by a do-it-yourself hobbyist with a minimum of tools.

Insulation board is easy to saw, nail or staple. The planks are lightweight and easy to handle, and the perforated tiles will help control sound in the room.

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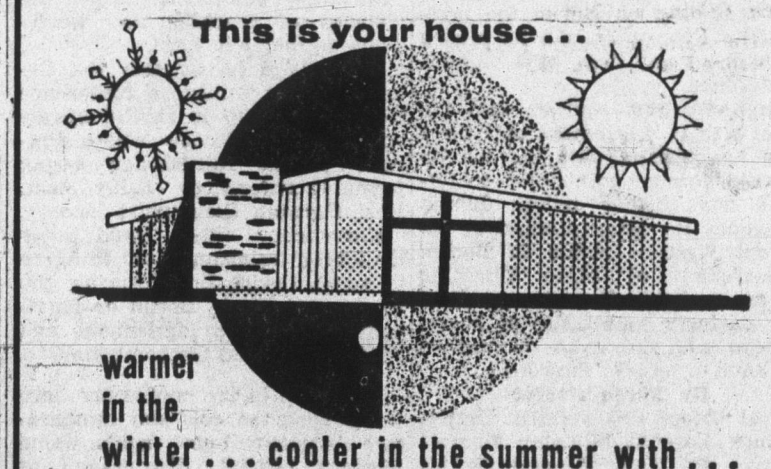
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For Comfort, Insulation Is A 'Must'

Insulation is "must" in any home if it is to be kept comfortably warm in winter and cool in summer.

Why?
Insulation is a means of slowing down the passage of heat, the Insulation Board Institute explains.

A trade association of insulation board manufacturers, the IBI points out that wherever you have two areas of different temperature, separated by any material, some of

the heat from the warmer area will escape through the barrier to the cooler side.

Insulating materials are products used in addition to—or instead of—ordinary building materials for the express purpose of retarding the passage of heat.

Insulation board sheathing is one such material in wide use today in the construction of homes. It's nailed on the outside of the frame of a house and is covered with siding. Although you can't see it, sheathing only 25/32 of an inch thick will reduce loss as much as 19 inches of brick. This is sufficient insulation to meet FHA minimum property requirements in most of the United States.

Air Conditioning Easier in House With Ductwork

If you have a forced warm-air heating system, you've already won half the battle toward gaining a central air conditioning system in your home, says the National Warm Air Heating and Air Conditioning Association.

Ductwork to carry cooled air to all parts of the house is already in place.

Your next step in adding whole-house air conditioning is to consult a reliable air conditioning contractor, says the association. If he's worth his salt, he'll check the house over from top to bottom, and make recommendations for the most economical cooling.

One of these recommendations may be to add more insulation. Thick mineral wool, which can be blown into walls, ceilings and floors where needed, automatically cuts down on the size of equipment you'll need for cooling. This smaller equipment naturally costs less and, because it's smaller, is easier on utility bills.

The contractor also may want to add a duct or two. Because the south side of a house often receives a heavy load of heat from the sun, extra ducts to south rooms may be advisable for even cooling of the house.

How To Cover Cracked Ceiling

You can cover a cracked ceiling fast without fuss with insulation board tile.

The tileboards can be applied to wood nailing strips or directly over the old surface without the bother of removing plaster. In an average-size room, you can apply the tile in one day.

Insulation board tile is available in white, colored and patterned finishes. In rooms where sound control is desired, perforated tiles should be used.

Handyman Can Install Thick Mineral Wool

Insulation for air conditioning can be installed in many areas of the house by the home owner himself.

Batts of mineral wool 6 inches thick (recommended for ceilings of air-conditioned houses) are available from building material dealers and can be installed between joists of an open attic floor.

Batts or blankets of mineral wool at least three inches thick should be used between studs of walls that are accessible. Floors over crawl spaces, attached garages, porches, and the like, need insulation 2 inches thick.

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