

Give Home Checkup Before Indoor Entertaining Begins

Cooler weather marks the return to indoor entertaining, so why not put the home in shipshape condition for coffee klatches and bridge parties which are in the offing?

One good way to begin is to plan in advance. Check the home, inside and out, for chores which should be done and make a list of them. Then assign certain jobs to various members of the family.

Dad, for example, should be captain of all outside activities, as well as vice president in charge of major repairs inside the home. Mom should confine her work to such lighter chores as polishing furniture; removing draperies for cleaning and deciding what colors she wants on painted walls.

Before any of this work begins, however, it would be well for the entire family to scout the home and the grounds around it for things which can be sold to the second-hand man or given to the garbage collector. The idea is to remove all unwanted items from the home before the actual cleanup begins, so that such things won't be in the way.

Many waste materials may be disposed of by burning, but don't use open bonfires. If newspapers, leaves or other materials are to be set to flame, put them in a galvanized steel rubbish burner. These steel burners will keep outdoor fires safely confined.

For the same reason, don't store trash in cardboard or wooden or

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Give Windows Star Billing If House Is to Be Big Hit

Windows are such an important part of the home that families planning to build or remodel a house should learn everything they can about them.

Windows not only let in light and air but are vital to the appearance of a house inside and out. Their size, shape, and placement play major roles in furniture arrangements and interior decoration.

Carefully chosen and placed, windows enhance the value and enjoyment of a house when they look out upon a scenic view or a colorful garden. Quality, tight-fitting windows also can mean a savings in heating fuel and house-cleaning chores by eliminating drafts and dust.

The first buyer is buying housing. The second buyer is buying a home.

The second buyer is wiser, more demanding. He comes supplied with more furniture, more everything. More important, he comes supplied with children, and needs the space a traditional-style house offers.

Other home builders agree. Among them are William Levitt, of the famous Levittowns, and Fox and Jacobs, the Southwest's most successful home building team.

Both have switched to traditional styles with some modern innovations, such as family rooms and air conditioning.

In making the transition, both have switched to windows of ponderosa pine and wood panel doors in Colonial styles to give their homes a traditional appearance.

Both of these building firms report that the best sellers among all their models are the houses with the most traditional styling.

paper boxes. Put all such materials in covered galvanized steel garbage and ash cans. These are completely fireproof, and may be easily emptied by the trash collector the next time his truck comes around.

When the inspection for waste materials is made, look also for repairs which may be required on the home heating system. A faulty heating system is dangerous, as well as expensive. Major repairs should be made by a competent service man before the heating season begins.

Housecleaning is never fun, but it can be a satisfying project if the entire family participates and all work is planned carefully in advance. Even the children can help by cleaning out toy boxes and helping Mom with furniture polishing or Dad with his yard work.

Entranceways of ponderosa pine, such as those shown in the drawings, plus dozens of other styles to fit modes of architecture from traditional through modern, come packaged and "semi-K.D." (knocked down).

They are designed to take advantage of the full beauty of

ing window, the hopper opens inward and down. Sliding and hopper windows are used together in banks to form a wall of windows, as the drawing shows. When installed low in a wall, the hopper window directs upward, eliminating drafts.

Casement—Opening outward and to one side as a door does, the casement window permits full ventilation and is a favorite for both traditional and contemporary architecture. One versatile window of ponderosa pine often installed upright, it is a casement window.

On its side, it becomes an awning window. Turned over, it serves as a hopper.

Sliding—This window opens by sliding to one side, and has become a favorite for walls of windows. Sliding windows of ponderosa pine are engineered to open at a touch, yet close tightly.

Fixed sash—A window which does not open, the fixed sash generally is used as a picture window where ventilation is not needed. Often it is flanked with other styles that permit ventilation.

Double-hung Awning—Much in demand for Colonial and traditional styles of architecture, this is the familiar window that raises from the bottom and lowers from the top. Models also are available from building material dealers for contemporary homes.

Awning—This window, which opens up and out for full ventilation, is popular for modern homes. Its pane forms a protective "awning" that keeps rain out when the window is open.

Hopper—Similar to the awning window, the hopper opens inward and down. Sliding and hopper windows are used together in banks to form a wall of windows, as the drawing shows. When installed low in a wall, the hopper window directs upward, eliminating drafts.

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It's Easy Matter Now To Clean Oak Floors

How do you clean your oak floors? If you use the soap and water scrubbing routine, it's time for a change.

That treatment is—or should be—a thing of the past, according to home maintenance specialists. They point out that it's not only hard work; it's unnecessary and it's bad for the floors.

Modern materials and methods for floor care make oak floor upkeep a simple matter. Furthermore, they're much kinder to the floors, keeping them clean and sparkling and extending the life of the finish over a long period.

Repeated soap-and-water scrubbing, the experts explain, tends to raise the grain of the wood and roughen the surface. It also can mar the finish and shorten its span of serviceability.

The new easy way to clean oak floors is to use one of the modern liquid wax base preparations which clean and wax at the same time.

There are two basic types of such preparations, one having about three times as heavy wax content as the other. Functioning in the same way, they remove dirt, stubborn marks and old, soiled wax far more efficiently than soap and water. Additionally, they leave a protective coating of wax which can be polished to a pleasing luster.

For Easy Care

Winterize Your Beautiful Oak Floors

Your fine oak floors, like your automobile, will perform far better during the rough winter months if you give them a modern winterizing treatment, home maintenance specialists say.

By performing better the experts mean the floors will be much easier to keep clean and sparkling even though subjected to the almost inevitable tracking in of snow and dirt. All they'll need is prompt wiping up of any "tracking" and a light once-over occasionally with a dry cloth or untreated dust mop.

For the average oak floor with finish in good condition, winterizing is a relatively simple chore. It consists merely of "dry cleaning," waxing and polishing.

Forget the old-time soap-and-water scrubbing or mopping routine, the experts advise. It's not only hard work but it's bad for the floors. It tends to mar the appearance of the finish and to raise the grain of the wood, causing a rough surface.

In "dry cleaning" by the new easy method you actually clean and wax at the same time. An approved wax-base liquid-cleaner will remove stubborn dirt, marks and old wax.

Just pour a little on the floor, a small area at a time. Spread it around well with soft cloth or long-handled applicator. With a clean dry cloth soak up the loosened dirt and residue. The wipe the floor dry and polish with clean soft cloth, electric polisher or long-handled applicator equipped with a dry pad.

That's all there is to it if you use the type of cleaner containing a heavy wax content. Some homeowners, however, prefer the kind of cleaner with a thinner wax content. When this type is employed, it is advisable to follow up with a separate coating of wax.

They Go Together

Delicate glass and dainty pottery fit best in a room with fine-textured fabrics and furniture with delicate lines.

Use the Right Primer

Priming is a must in preparing all new surfaces for painting. Primers fall into three main classifications—plaster, wood and metal.

Directions for using them may vary slightly among different manufacturers. The following procedure however, is typical:

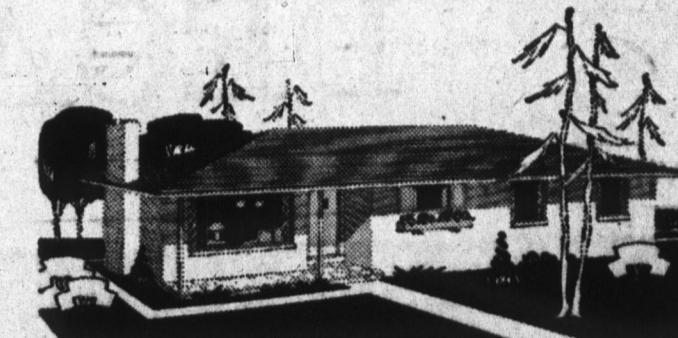
Pour a little of the liquid on the floor, covering just a small area at a time. Spread it around thoroughly with a soft cloth or a long-handled applicator. Then soak up the loosened dirt and residue with a clean dry cloth. After wiping the floor dry, polish lightly.

Some authorities, such as the National Oak Flooring Manufacturers' Association, point out that when the cleaner with the light wax content is used, it is a good plan to follow up with a separate application of paste wax or liquid rubbing wax. This affords greater protection to the finish.

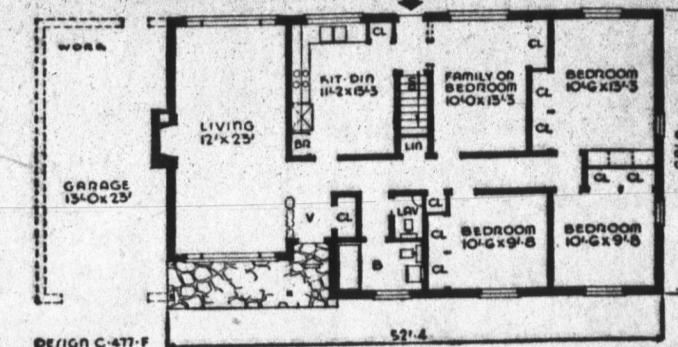
In the average home the cleaning-waxing treatment need be repeated only about two or three times a year. Heavily trafficked areas can be touched up more often if necessary.

Occasional polishing between treatments renews the sparkle. And quick daily once-over with an untreated dust mop helps prevent dirt and dust from being ground into the finish.

Builders say that the ease and effectiveness of this upkeep routine account in part for the overwhelming popularity of oak floors today.



A SMALL HOUSE PLANNING BUREAU DESIGN NO. C-477-F



DESIGN C-477-F. Versatility is the keynote of this plan. The dual bath combines economy in plumbing with an accessibility of location. The kitchen allows ample space for dining and access to the front vestibule.

An attached garage is indicated on the blueprint plans and helps show how the covered flagstone porch serves as a covered passage to the house and lets the garage, if desired, become integral part of the exterior design. Family needs would determine whether you would want a four bedroom house or a three bedroom house with an excellently located family room.

The all-brick exterior is combined with hip roof and colorful asphalt shingles. Floor area is 1444 square feet, cubage 25,992.

For further information about DESIGN C-477-F, write the Small House Planning Bureau, St. Cloud, Minn. In Canada, the Small House Planning Bureau of Canada, St. John, New Brunswick.

drip edge and starter course of shingles, wherever there is danger of freezing temperatures creating ice dams along the eaves. When asphalt shingles are then applied according to specifications, the roof will have a long, trouble-free life.

Plants Become Room Dividers

Roof gutters clogged by falling leaves can be a potential danger to a house. If water standing in the gutters freezes, it can act as a dam which may cause water to back up under the edge of the roof and leak into the house.

Two safeguards against this are:

1. Keeping gutters clear of leaves and other debris.

2. Properly applied roofing. Recommendations for application of asphalt shingles, the most widely used roofing for homes, call for an extra layer of waterproof material under the shingles at the eaves.

This is an "eaves flashing strip" recommended for use in addition to the usual underlayment, metal

One of the most striking new trends in home design is indoor planting, says the American Association of Nurserymen. Plant boxes frequently are used as room dividers, are built into entrance foyers, and provide a decorative touch for kitchens. Your local nurseryman can suggest many different plants suited for indoor cultivation.

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Interior decorators report that window cornices are on their way back in vogue. Hardboard, with its smooth, splinter-free surface, easy workability, and low cost, is an ideal material to use for cornice construction.

Hardboard cornices can be fabricated with just the face and side wings, but it is wise if you put a