

## Auxiliary Cabinet Located Under Existing One

A logical place for extra kitchen storage is immediately under the wall cabinets. The home owner or carpenter can build auxiliary cabinets in this location; they'll look fine and cost little.

Hung on the wall, the cabinet already has two sides—the wall for a back and the cabinet bottom for a top. Use  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch lumber for bottom and ends, which are trapezoids that are 10" at back, 6" at bottom, 8" at top and 10" on slanting front.

Obtain from your lumber dealer some metal tracks for the  $\frac{1}{2}$ " hardware or peg-board sliding doors used to close the cabinet. A wood shelf in the center of the door efficiency.

Prime and paint the cabinet ends and trim to suit the surroundings, and decorate the peg-board or hardboard doors in a contrasting color.

## New Bathroom Can Go In Small Space

Trying to find space in your home for a second or third bathroom? Typical good locations are in the attic, directly over the kitchen or first-floor bathroom; in the basement below a kitchen or bathroom, or next to the laundry room; in a closet, near existing plumbing, which can be used for storage until you are ready to finish it off; or in a room, also near existing plumbing, which can be partitioned off when the time comes.

You may be surprised at how little space you need for a bathroom. The three basic fixtures—bathtub, wash basin and water closet—can easily be fitted into a space 5 feet wide and 7 feet deep. In a space 5 x 6, you can squeeze a stall shower, water closet and basin. In an even smaller space—4 by 4—you can provide a washroom, lacking only the tub or shower.

## Dual Plumbing Serves Lavatory, Recreation Room

One of the fastest and most economical ways to build a sink-equipped bar area and a powder room in the basement is to locate the facilities on opposite sides of a two-way plumbing wall to take advantage of common water supply lines.

The wall also will pay off as a space-saver in a small basement. Since it carries no structural load, the wall offers big pockets for oversize medicine and storage cabinets in the powder room.

An attractive bar-lavatory layout with a common plumbing wall was featured in a recent issue of Popular Science magazine. A unique hideaway idea feature in the magazine's design was a hinged bar that swings around to cover the sink when it is not in use.

For a good-looking yet practical decor, the walls, bar, lavatory and sink counters are covered with Marlite, the plastic-surfaced hardboard. A handsome woodgrain gives the bar area an informal appearance, while a distinctive marble pattern on the twin lavatories and side walls accents the colorful wall panels in the powder room.

High-resistant to heat and moisture, Marlite never requires refinishing. Extremely easy to maintain, even hard-to-remove stains can be wiped off plastic-surfaced hardboard with a sudsy cloth.

A free plan showing construction details for a bar-lavatory arrangement built from a common plumbing wall can be obtained by writing a postal to Marsh Wall Products, Inc., Dept. PR-2, Dover, Ohio.

## Like Natural Finishes

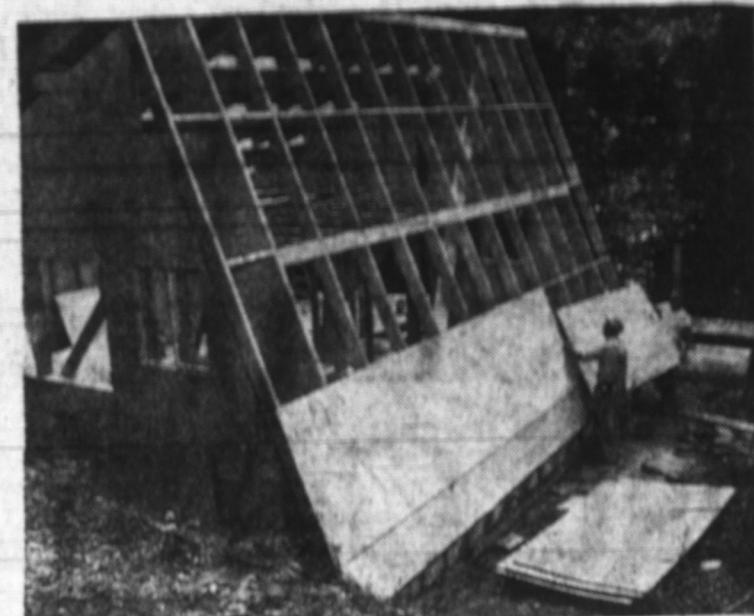
Natural finished wood kitchen cabinets are top favorites. Natural finishes account for 69 per cent of the output of factory-built wood cabinets. Birch is the most-used wood, followed by mahogany, knotty pine, ash maple, oak and walnut.

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More and more families are building vacation cabins these days because they offer a good financial investment and provide an escape from the workday routine. Douglas Fir Plywood Association has a free catalog of cabin plans.

## Second-Home Trend Gaining Ground Throughout Country

Years ago, a house in the country was something for millionaires only. Times have changed—one authoritative trade magazine recently estimated that 75,000 vacation cabins will be built this year.

Douglas Fir Plywood Association, which represents west coast plywood manufacturers, has been studying this trend for five years.

According to managing director W. E. Difford, the day is coming when the second house may be as common as two cars.

Difford says "The modern trend toward longer vacations and a shorter work week has made it possible for more and more families to buy a piece of property and build a leisure-time shelter. For some, the place is a fishing or hunting hideaway in the mountains. For others, it is a weekend place near the water or out in the country."

### Architect Designed

Working with a team of architects over the past five years, the plywood association has developed a dozen designs for vacation houses which range from a \$1,500 shelter to a \$4,000 holiday headquarters. They have received over 70,000 requests for cabin plans and information in a single month.

### Reasons For Trend

In studying the leisure-time field, the association has found that there are four basic reasons why people buy property and build second homes: They provide an escape from the workday routine, they offer a chance for adventure, they are an outlet for creative urge, and they offer a good financial investment.

### Financing

The best sources for financing the construction of a second home are local banks, savings and loan associations, and other real estate and mortgage loan outlets. In many cases, the equity in your present home can be used for security on further borrowing.

Although many holiday homes are professionally built, the new trend has helped revive the do-it-yourself movement. Most small homes or cottages are relatively simple to build, and expert workmanship isn't so important out in the woods or near the water. By working carefully and following construction plans, many families have saved money by doing at least part of the work themselves.

### Plans, Catalog Available

The plywood association has plans for several different types of cabins. If you are interested, write Douglas Fir Plywood Association.

## Flexible Counter Top In Kitchen Will Make Hit

Home handymen can score a "hit" with Mom by installing new kitchen countertops, which can be both colorful and easy-to-clean if covered with a flexible plastic sheeting material.

The sink and old countertop should be removed first so that a base of  $\frac{1}{4}$ " Preswood or underlayment can be fitted accurately. Hardboard is recommended because it is smooth, grainless and free of any imperfections that might mirror through the plastic sheeting.

Also, nails or staples used to attach the hardboard to the counter can be driven flush so that the plastic sheeting will fit smoothly. The shape of the counter area can be traced on a piece of heavy building paper, and then transferred to the underlayment and flexible counter surfacing material.

The surfacing material is secured to the underlayment with a latex-type adhesive, which should be applied with a notched spreader. Hand pressure should be used to secure a strong bond.

To insure a neat job, excess material should be trimmed before the sink is replaced and the metal edging strip attached. Plastic cut from the sink well and leftover material can be used for shelf and drawer linings, surfacing for stools or as a covering for cabinet doors.

## Blocks Popular For Home Flooring

Laminated oak blocks are becoming popular as a flooring material for home modernizing projects. The blocks are especially suitable for below-ground recreation rooms and for home additions built on concrete slabs, according to the National Lumber Manufacturers Assn. The ease with which the blocks may be installed makes them ideal for do-it-yourselfers.

Before the blocks are applied, concrete slabs should be moisture-proofed. Then, a mastic is spread over the slab with a tooth-edged trowel. The blocks, nine inches square and prefinished, have a tongue-and-groove arrangement, so the groove of each succeeding block can be "hinged" over the tongue of the adjoining one. This prevents the mastic from bunching up, while insuring a tight fit.

Since the blocks are laminated, expansion is a negligible factor and the contractor or home craftsman need not worry about allowing expansion room at the borders. Before the blocks are applied, concrete slabs should be moisture-proofed. Then, a mastic is spread over the slab with a tooth-edged trowel. The blocks, nine inches square and prefinished, have a tongue-and-groove arrangement, so the groove of each succeeding block can be "hinged" over the tongue of the adjoining one. This prevents the mastic from bunching up, while insuring a tight fit.

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## Various Coatings For Protection

There are various types of coatings which will make masonry walls moisture repellent. When you wish to provide protection for the masonry without changing its color, you employ one of the transparent coatings prepared for this purpose. You have several choices in colors and finishes. The oldest of these is house paint.

There are colorful cement-base paints which come in dry form and are based on portland cement, lime and pigment. Mixed with water and applied to a previously dampened surface, they assume a form that is similar to concrete or mortar.

**Some 'Softwoods' Are Really Hard**

Many are confused with the scientist's system of classifying trees as hardwood or softwood.

Especially because some softwoods like Douglas fir are harder than hardwoods like yellow poplar and basswood. Softwoods usually have needles are evergreen and bear cones, while most hardwoods are broadleaves, generally shed their leaves in the fall, and bear some form of seeds or pods.

**Shim Doors**

To avoid sanding or planing a door that binds, place a shim behind one of the hinges.

The shim can be cut out of cardboard.

Shim the bottom hinge for a bottom bind and the top hinge for a bind at the top.

## Wax Varieties

Polishing wax comes in three forms: paste, liquid and emulsion. The paste and liquid forms require polishing after drying. The emulsion type dries naturally with more or less gloss and usually is not polished. It is sometimes called "self-polishing" wax.

**Inside Bath Okayed**

Windowless bathrooms have been windowless bathrooms have been approved by FHA with the provision that they be ventilated. This ventilation can be accomplished with small exhaust fans or hinged skylights built into the roof.

## Want Bigger Kitchens

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