

## Courage, Care Rule Choice Of Exterior House Colors

Home owners are becoming increasingly courageous about using color on the exterior of their homes, says Howard Ketcham, a leading home color stylist. But he warns them to season their courage with common sense for lasting satisfaction.

Ketcham explains that the roof, especially, should be chosen with care because it will last for years. Exterior paint colors, on the other hand, can be changed whenever the house is repainted. Thus, the color scheme can be altered successfully only if the roof harmonizes with a variety of color combinations.

Ketcham, who has color styled everything from supermarkets to fountain pens, recommends using asphalt shingles in color blends to achieve the greatest color flexibility. Although the color blends appear to be a solid color, their multiple colors make them adaptable to many decorative variations.

Ketcham explains that the color in asphalt shingles comes from thousands of ceramic granules embedded in the asphalt surface of each shingle. These not only provide color, but give the roofing material its durability, since the granules literally give each asphalt shingle a coat of rock.

This coating not only shrugs off the wearing effects of rain, melting snow and ice, but blocks rays of the sun, keeping them from drying out the waterproofing oils in the asphalt itself.

An example of a color-blend asphalt shingle roof, Ketcham points out, is one in which red, gray, and yellow granules are blended. Obviously, this combination provides almost an unending choice of paint colors for the home owner when it's time to repaint.

Especially popular are asphalt shingles in blended pastel colors. These because they are light in color help reflect heat for cooler summers. Light color on the roof also helps to add an illusion of height and size to a small, low house.

### Garbage Can Screen Spruces Up Back Yard

An enclosure built around the garbage cans is a good way to screen them from the patio or backyard recreation area. Made from smooth-surfaced tempered preswood panels, the enclosure is easy to paint and decorate. Decals can be added for an unusual decorative effect. Quarter-inch pegboard also may be used for the backyard screen.

#### Patio Ashtrays

It's a good and practical idea to fill the ashtrays provided on your outdoor patio with sand. This makes the snuffing out of cigarette butts much easier, especially when there's a breeze.

#### Plastic Belts

Plastic belts look nice, but sometimes stretch and break, particularly at the eyelets. Adhesive tape, pressed onto the back of the belt, will prevent cracks. Punch holes to match the belt holes.

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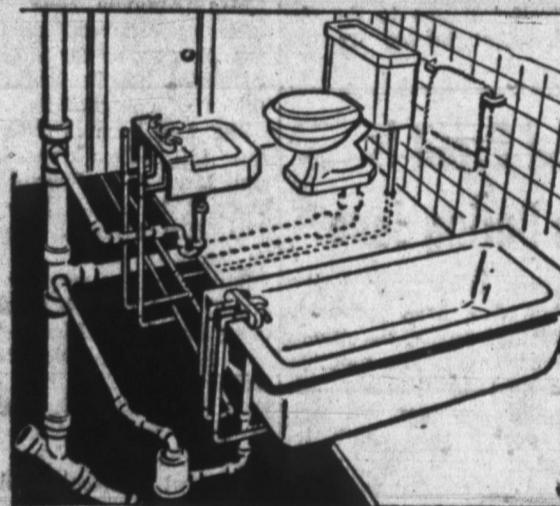
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## 'Modern' Kitchen Outmoded Today? Remodel to Save Time, Add Beauty



Many a so-called modern kitchen is actually outmoded. Continual improvement in electric appliances, a host of new decorating products, and scientific kitchen planning have sparked a new era in kitchen efficiency and beauty.

The Midas touch of a kitchen designer recently transformed an outmoded "modern" kitchen in Byram, Conn., by combining new electric appliances with gold-trimmed French Provincial cabinets. Designed by Cox Kitchens of Port Chester, N. Y., the remodeled kitchen has a new electric refrigerator-freezer and built-in automatic dishwasher.

The new refrigerator-freezer holds many more pounds of fresh and frozen food than the old unit did; but it occupies no more floor space. The slim walls and squared-off design of new refrigerator-freezers blend with built-in contemporary kitchens.

Swing-out shelves and special compartments keep meat, dairy products and vegetables at the correct temperature and humidity to preserve their freshness up to a week. Zero zone freezing sections hold large quantities of frozen foods for months. The extra space in this new refrigerator-freezer makes it possible for the owners to shop once a week instead of three or more times. They save both time and mileage.

Antique-white cabinets trimmed with gold molding and knobs, and white louver doors of ponderosa pine point up the French Provincial theme of this kitchen. Louver doors like these, which can be bought from lumber dealers all ready to install, add warmth and texture to contemporary kitchens decorated in any period, kitchen designers have found. A similar French Provincial effect can be achieved by the home handyman with stock moldings of ponderosa pine.

The owners of this kitchen were so pleased by the extra hours their old portable dishwasher had saved them that they installed a new, built-in, automatic dishwasher when they remodeled. They can save at least an hour a day by stacking dirty dishes out of sight in the dishwasher and doing them all at once with just a twist of the dial.

Since the automatic dishwasher goes through several wash and rinse cycles using very hot water, and then a hot-air drying cycle, dishes and cooking utensils are more sanitary than if they had been painstakingly washed by hand.

## 2-Zone Cooling Important Feature Of Levitt's Newest Colonial Home



A 2-zone air-conditioning system that provides separate cooling for downstairs and upstairs rooms is a leading feature of a new, 4-bedroom Colonial-style home now being built by Levitt & Sons, Inc., in Levittown, N. J.

The house has 3 bathrooms and a lavatory, a 2-car garage, 26-foot living room with fireplace, a library-den, dining room, complete electric kitchen with refrigerator-freezer and built-in dishwasher, and a laundry room with washer and dryer.

Other features include a 16 x 15-foot master bedroom with its own dressing room, storage attic with folding stairway, and center-hall entrance.

Levitt's engineers and designers were faced with a real challenge when they were told by William J. Levitt, the firm's president, that he wanted to build a big, two-story house and sell it, air conditioned, for \$25,000.

The problems of providing cooling equipment for a 2-story house with more than 2,500 square feet of living space were difficult enough. They were compounded by the need for staying within a tight construction budget.

Operating costs had to be low. Levitt guarantees his homes, and has a reputation for few "callbacks," builders' lingo for complaints from buyers.

Another difficulty was that all the houses could not be oriented to keep sun off vulnerable walls and windows because of the

community's winding streets.

The problems eventually were solved with the 2-zone cooling system, a big attic under a steeply-pitched room of asphalt shingles, and plenty of insulation.

The engineers virtually wrapped the entire house with mineral wool to block the flow of summer heat. They installed wide louvers in the gable ends of the attic to let accumulated heat escape before it could penetrate into living quarters.

The 2-zone cooling control system, with separate thermostats upstairs and down, permits cooling of individual levels when they are in use.

The end result was use of a smaller, less expensive cooling system that would do a comfortable job, yet would operate at the lowest possible cost.

The roof of asphalt shingles is a factor both in economics and design. The soft, rich texture is ideal for Colonial-style houses since it has no harsh, metallic glare. Yet asphalt shingles can be applied at low cost. White and light-color asphalt shingles, available on many of the new houses, reflect heat and make air conditioning more efficient.

The house is available in four models, and will be built in the "Country Club" section on lots of at least 12,000 square feet in the 16,000-house community.

For the most efficient, low-cost air conditioning available today, families who plan to build or buy an air-conditioned house should insist that the ceilings, walls, and floors be insulated with mineral wool batts and blankets bearing these "R" numbers.

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## Dishwasher Big Help In Caring for Baby



Portable automatic dishwasher gets baby's bottles really clean, ready to be sterilized. New, portable electric dishwashers are ideal for families with too little kitchen space for built-in units.

An electric dishwasher is a boon to the mother of a small baby, whether she uses the sterilizer or aseptic method of sterilizing bottles, says Anne Rowland, of My Baby magazine.

First, a dishwasher scouring and sanitizes bottles and all the paraphernalia that goes with baby feeding and formula making.

Second, it frees the mother from the drudgery of hand-washing pots, pans, dishes and utensils used by the rest of the family day after day, giving her more time for her baby.

An automatic dishwasher does an efficient job of washing, rinsing and drying nursing bottles, small pots and pans, quart meas-

uring pitcher, can opener, funnel, strainer, mixing and measuring spoons, and juice glasses. It even washes the sterilizer.

The easiest way to handle bottles after a feeding is to rinse them with cool water, then fill with hot water and a few drops of detergent. Soak them until it's time to put them in the dishwasher.

Today's automatic dishwasher is not, in itself, a complete sterilizer. But it helps to protect baby's health, as well as the entire family's, by cleansing dishes, glassware, utensils, pots, and pans with repeated washing and rinsing in water hotter than human hands can stand.

## New Top Adds To Life Of Picnic Tables

Durable hardboard panels applied to the tops and seats can add years of service to the lives of outdoor picnic tables and benches. A panel of tempered preswood applied with the smooth side up and given several coats of paint will withstand all kinds of hard weather. The new tops are easy to clean because they can't split and there are no cracks to hold dirt. Hardboard is ideal for seats because it is splinter-free.



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