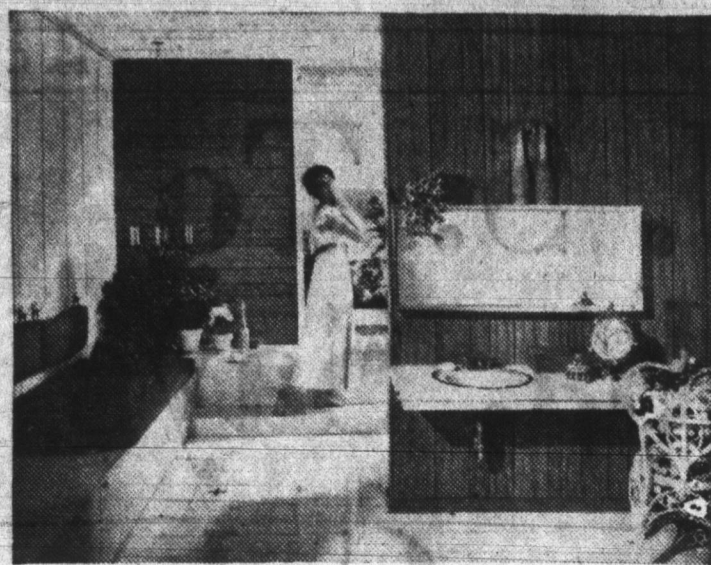


PLANNING PAYS OFF...

Bath Has Bonus Features



This well-planned bathroom, accented by the deep tones of the woodgrain paneling, actually performs the services of several baths. Its unusual design provides a neat lavatory with mirrored cabinets to serve as a make-up center for the young homemaker and guests; a cushioned bench for dressing toddlers or sun lamp treatments; and a handy ledge at the side of the tub to kneel on while bathing youngsters. For eye-appeal, Marlite planks in a handsome woodgrain were applied horizontally on the back wall and vertically on the divider wall. The side wall, ceiling and built-in also were covered with plastic-surfaced hardboard, but in a contrasting pastel color. Easy maintenance is a feature of this compartmented bathroom. Plastic-surfaced Marlite can be cleaned with a damp or sudsy cloth, and it never requires refinishing.

Those Extra
Patio Tables
Easy Made

What patio ever has enough serving tables? This question is usually asked as a glass which has been balanced on a guest's knee goes crashing to the patio flagstones.

If this is a familiar situation at your barbecue parties, you will welcome a patio table idea developed by designer Thomas Jensen. It is economical, sturdy, and can be left out in all kinds of weather. And, it's probably the world's simplest do-it-yourself project.

Tiles Are Base

The base of the table is one or two 8x16-inch or 12x12-inch clay flue lining tiles. You can obtain these inexpensive tiles from almost any ready-mix cement firm or concrete block supplier. The tiles can be painted any color. Then, cover them with square or rectangular pieces of exterior-type (waterproof) fir plywood.

If you want a small table, cover one 12x12-inch tile with an 18x18-inch square of fir plywood. If you want a larger unit, put down two 8x16-inch tiles and cover them with a 24x48-piece of plywood. No fastening is required—just set the plywood on the tile. Nail a strip of wood molding around the edges of the plywood for decorative purposes.

Practical Units

These tables are easily moved, but can be left outside indefinitely. For an extra smooth surface, specify medium density overlaid fir plywood. This type has a resin fiber surface which makes an excellent paint base. Regardless of the plywood grade you select, make sure you obtain exterior-type. This can be identified by the grade-trademark EXT-DPPA.

When the outdoor season is over, move the tables into the den or family room. They will withstand a lot of punishment from the children, but are hard to tip over.



A pair of flue-lining tiles and a sheet of exterior-type fir plywood are all you need for this simple, attractive patio table. Plywood overlaid with resin and fiber makes a smoother, more finished surface.

House Needs
An Inspection
In Springtime

Houses, like humans, need a thorough physical examination at least once a year, and spring is an ideal time for it.

Harsh winter weather can bring on many "ailments" around the house. Frost in the ground can damage foundations, extremes in temperatures can open up cracks around windows and doors, and winds may have loosened shutters and television aerials, and caused damage to wires.

The area that deserves the closest inspection is the roof. It takes more punishment from winter ice, snow, rain, wind, and temperature changes than any other part of the house.

The most important flaws to look for in a roof inspection are leaks, especially in a roof that is old and weather-worn. Water can cause serious damage if it seeps into rafters, ceilings, and other structural components. This moisture also can cause dangerous short circuits if it gets into electrical wiring.

One way to find roof leaks is to take a flashlight into the attic after a rainstorm. Look along rafters and deckboards for tell-tale dark areas in the wood. If these are damp to the touch, it usually means a leak.

If there's one leak in a worn roof, there undoubtedly are others, or soon will be, since a roof wears out uniformly. This is the time to call a roofing contractor, not to try patching leaks. Walking on an old roof to repair it may open new leaks and lead to an endless patching process.

If there are no signs of leaks, go outside and look carefully at the roof. If it looks shabby, it's time to replace it before leaks do occur.

A new roof of asphalt shingles provides not only trouble-free protection for years, but adds cash value to any home by improving its appearance with color and rich, glare-free texture. Reroofing is a home improvement that is eligible for an FHA Title I loan, and asphalt shingles are low in applied cost because they go in place quickly when applied by a skilled roofer.

The Flowerpot

Try putting some cotton in the drain hole of houseplant containers. Then, when you water your plants, you will not lose your soil or have to clean the saucers under the containers—but the drainage of excess water will not be retarded.

Window Units
Air Condition
Smaller Homes

One or two window units often can effectively air condition a small house if it is completely insulated, has lots of shade, and is tightly built.

To make such a system satisfactory, the house must first be well insulated with batts and blankets of mineral wool in all accessible outside walls, attic floors, floors over vented crawl spaces, and around the perimeter of the foundation. An insulation contractor with pneumatic equipment can blow mineral wool into inaccessible areas. Cracks around doors, windows and foundation should be securely caulked to keep heat out.

Air-flow paths must be provided through all rooms by installing wall vents or fans in solid interior partitions. At the side of the house opposite to the air-conditioning unit, a window exhaust fan will help remove warm air and keep the cool air flowing through the house.

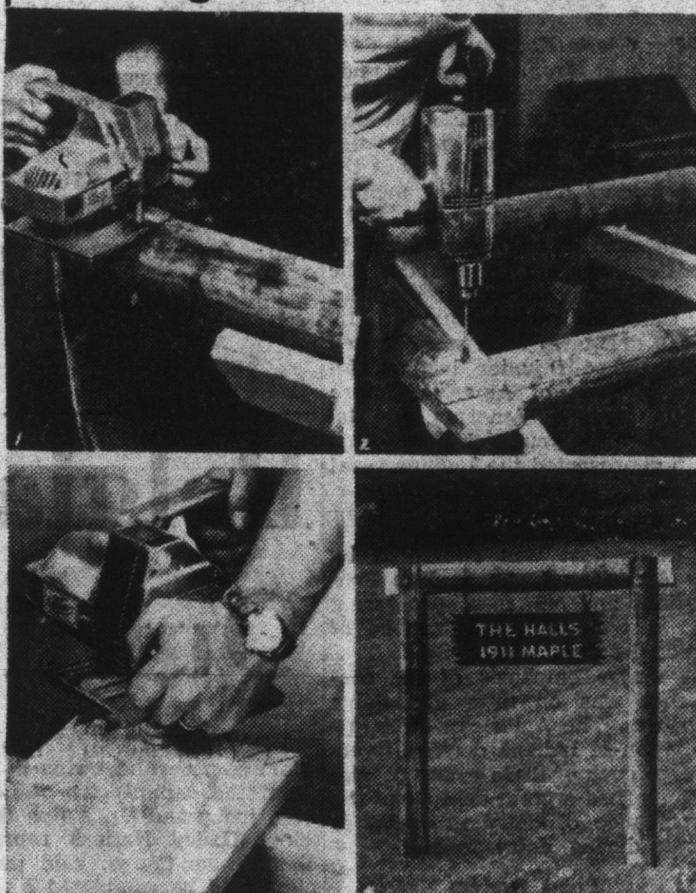
Engineering studies have shown that such an inexpensive air-circulating system using a 1-ton window air conditioner will work in a house of about 1,000 square feet if it is completely insulated, tightly-built, has wide roof overhangs, adequate shading, and is well oriented to keep direct rays of the sun out of the house.

A slightly larger home may require two window cooling units.

The first glass used in windows of British homes was so valuable that the panes were removed and packed away when the family went on a holiday.

Hitching Post for Your Lawn

Sign of the Times



Courtesy SpeedWay Division, Thor Power Tool Co.

This rustic hitching post and name sign (lower right) adds a unique touch to most homes, farms or summer cottages when built to proper proportion. One heavy-duty jig saw accomplishes all necessary sawing, from mortise and tenon cuts (upper left) needed for rigid construction to fancy zig-zag cuts (lower left) which dress up the name sign. After mortise and tenon have been made, holes are drilled where posts and cross rail are joined (upper right), then dowel rods are hammered into place. Four-inch cedar posts, about 44 inches long (6 inches go below ground) generally are acceptable for the average home.

OUTDOOR LIVING



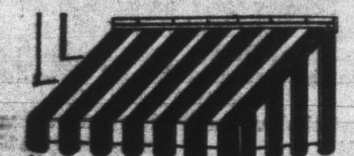
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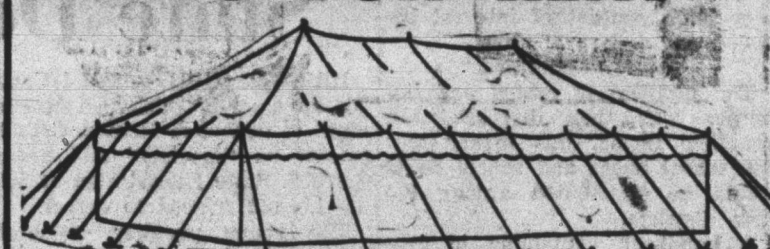
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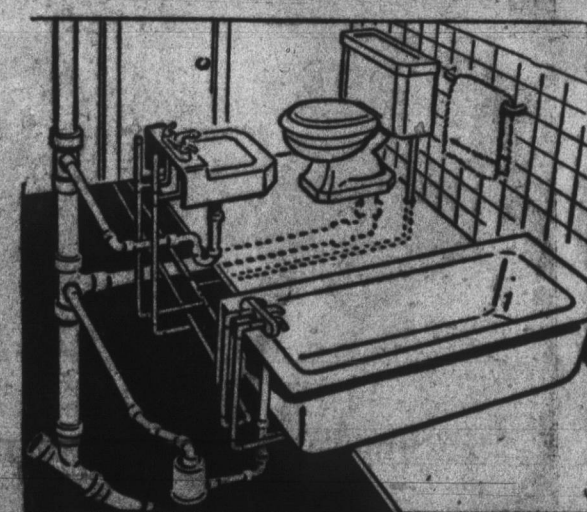
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