

Old Kitchens Due For A Change

Modernizing Jobs Get High Priority

Napoleon said an army "travels on its stomach" — and most mothers will tell you that the same thing is true of a family. Which makes the cook and her

"theater of operations" mighty important, and is why so many families in setting up their schedules of home improvement, give top priority to the modernization or remodeling of the kitchen.

A good approach to the whole subject of "re-doing" the kitchen is to ask yourself this question — if you were buying a new home, what kind of kitchen would you want? Then compare this "dream room" with your present kitchen.

The chances are the two rooms are not very much alike, but they could be.

Remodeling and modernization can change the size, shape and efficiency of your kitchen as well as its appearance, at a cost that may well be considerably less than you now think.

One of the first things you should do is make a list of everything you wish to replace, together with all of the additional appliances or fixtures you want.

Very early in your planning, it is a good idea to consult with specialists. There is an abundance of professional help available to you. You can work with an architect or kitchen designer, a kitchen cabinet dealer, a store which may offer you a complete "kitchen package" or the home economists

of a utility company. Do not hesitate to ask for bids or estimates, especially if the job will involve major structural changes.

Step-by-Step Plan

Depending on financial or other factors, you can do an overall job of remodeling or modernization at one time, or can make your desired changes a step at a time, major appliance center, by appliance center, until the job is finished.

If you take the latter course, be sure to plan ahead for the future installations of wiring and plumbing that will be required to complete the picture of your "dream kitchen."

The newest concept in kitchen planning is to analyze the kitchen according to work areas, which are basically three in number. (1) the stove or cooking area, (2) the sink or cleaning area, and (3) the storage area.

A dining and food planning area is often included. To plan a kitchen that is easiest to use, the first step is to decide exactly what is needed in each area. The best coordination of the work areas with one another will follow naturally.

Worth considering in planning a program of kitchen modernization are these basic characteristics of the up-to-date kitchen.

(1) Step-saving. Kitchens are planned for time-and-step-saving convenience. Appliances, counter

space and storage units are grouped so that the housewife can quickly turn from one to another, enabling her to prepare a meal on a "turn-around" basis.

(2) Easy-to-maintain surfaces. Plastic laminates are used extensively for cabinets, wall surfaces and countertops. The housewife appreciates the advantages of a surface that can be kept clean with a damp cloth.

(3) Lighting where it should be. No homemaker likes to work in her own shadow. For this reason the trend is to get away from center lights and instead have them under the cabinets. The ideal arrangement is to have a light for every countertop.

Major Appliances

With respect to major kitchen appliances, manufacturers are offering a wider variety of units than ever before, and designing compact units that can be used for many chores, rather than several units for several different chores. Whether these units are free-standing or built-in, they have a built-in look for easy coordination.

Compact units mean less steps and more room for storage. The variety of design means that it is possible to find just the right major appliance for the needs of the family.

A good example of the trend to multi-functional units is the new type of cooking tasks, from baking and broiling to grilling to range-top cooking.

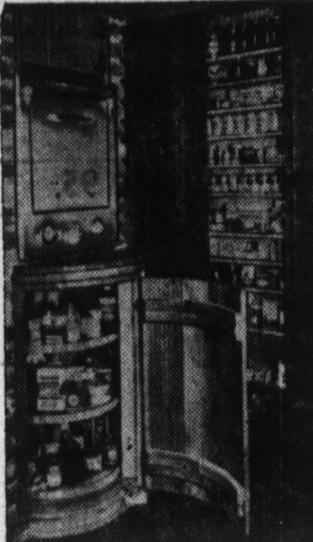
KITCHEN COLOR

Try painting one wall a deep yellow, another a light red, and the ceiling sky blue.

The new pastel shades can fill a kitchen with a bouquet of charming color.

LENGTHEN CORD LIFE

Spiral electric cord covers such as used on telephones will protect soldering iron and other workshop tool cords. Also will prevent tangling, kinking; make them easier to use and store.



EASILY VISIBLE are the canned goods in built-in storage cabinet at right. Readily accessible are the cleaning products in semi-circular cabinet (left). Paneling is of Inland Red Cedar.



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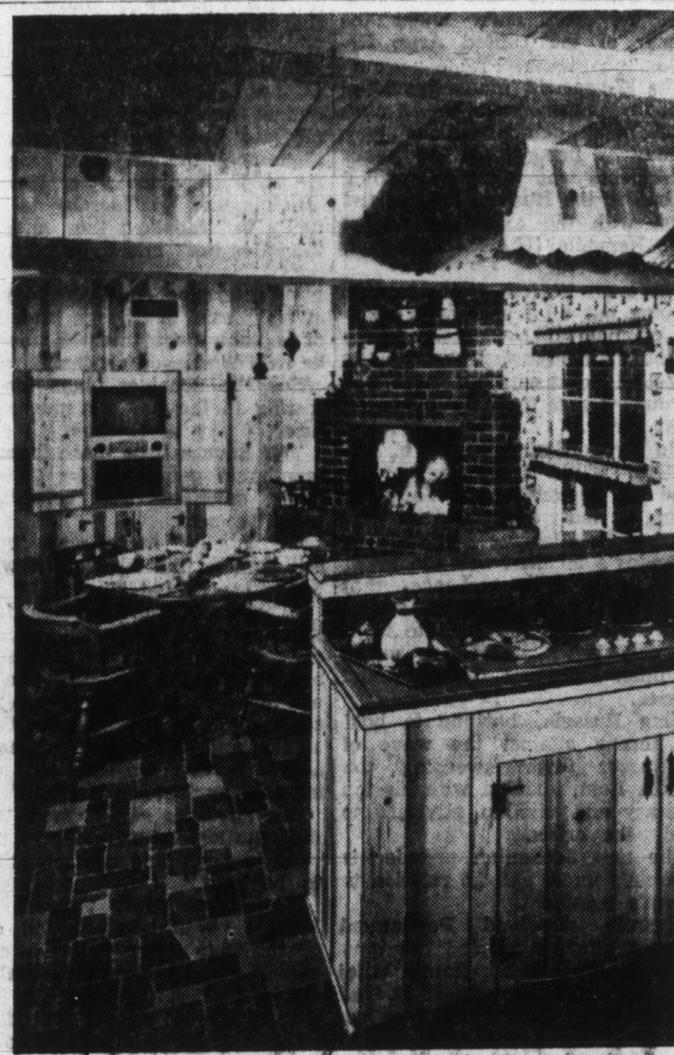
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MANY HAPPY HOURS will be spent in this family room-kitchen, which strikes a gracious keynot of comfort and informality, enhanced by built-ins and paneling of knotty Western Pine region wood, in which natural color is retained to contrast with fireplace.



ANGLED FOR UTILITY is the counter in this kitchen, which affords plenty of convenient working space and provides a "desk niche" for the busy housewife. Countertops are surfaced with Formica.

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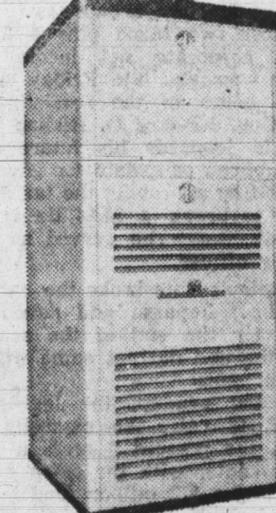
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How To Make Patio Blocks



Outdoor living has become an American way of life and patios are the order of the day. They're being constructed all over the country in various shapes and sizes and of a wide variety of materials. Patio blocks, made of concrete are popular because they're easy to make, stay in place, do not deteriorate, form a smooth floor and are easy to clean. Millions of patio blocks have been made by the method covered in the following paragraphs.

1. Make patio block forms from 2 x 2 dressed lumber. Notch so that sides fit together, yet come apart easily for re-use. Suggested inside dimension 2' x 2'. You can add interest to your patio with half blocks (1' x 2') which you can make by dividing the form.

2. Grease inside surface of form and set form on tar paper. Pour concrete mix into form. A good material to use for this is Sakrete Concrete Mix. It's available in 90# sacks and requires only the

addition of water. It's handy because you can start and stop any time. Level the mix with a straight edged board.

3. Smooth the surface with a wood float. Move float over the surface with light pressure in a half arc motion.

4. Round off edges with an edging tool. Finish patio blocks with steel trowel after concrete has set for about one hour. (Use wood float if rough finish is wanted.) As trowel is moved over surface, hold the leading edge up slightly. For best results, concrete must be moist cured for one week. Forms can be removed in a day or two.

For added enjoyment you can record important family events by making design impressions in concrete patio blocks.

Cut designs from heavy roofing paper. After troweling and when water sheen disappears, place cut-outs on concrete, trowel over to set them flush with surface. Be careful not to get too much concrete over the top. Remove the roofing paper, and you will have a neat impression.

DO CEMENT REPAIRS NOW



Pre-mixed cement products like Sakrete make cement repairing as easy as baking a cake with cake mixes. All of the ingredients are pre-mixed in the bag in the proper proportions. Several different types of these cement mixes are available for different jobs. For large repair work, a gravel mix should be used, including sand, cement and gravel. For small repair jobs and building projects, Sakrete Sand Mix should be used. It is a scientifically mixed, high-strength cement guaranteed to meet 4,000 pounds per square inch test.

For brick laying and block laying jobs, mortar mix with fine mortar sand and mortar cement properly proportioned should be used.

Cement sidewalks with cracks and holes in them, as well as driveways and indoor jobs can be repaired in a matter of minutes. The crack or hole should be cleaned out and

all loose material removed. The sides of the old concrete should be wet down to prevent the robbing of water from the Sakrete mix you will use. Add water according to instructions on the ready-mix bag, mix thoroughly, and work the mixture into the area being repaired. An inexpensive trowel, available at any hardware store, can be used, or in the case of small cracks an old kitchen knife will do the trick. With the Sakrete in place it should be smoothed off level with the walk by scraping the smooth edge of a board across the repaired area. Within an hour or two, the new cement will be firm to the touch and can then be finished off smooth and hard by working a trowel back and forth across the hardened surface.

Sakrete is distributed locally through most lumber, hardware and building material dealers.

There are few do-it-yourself ideas that add quite so much beauty to the entrance way, patio or garden as a planter box. Common brick, stone or concrete brick planters are easy to construct in spare time hours. Here are the directions for construction using 4 x 4 x 8 concrete brick. This material is uniform, easy to handle and builds rapidly.

1. Layout the planter area to determine size and location of foundation. Put in line and level stakes.

2. In clay or compact soil, dig a trench for foundation 6" wide and 5" below ground level. Put 2" of gravel in bottom of trench for drainage and level. Finish by placing 3" of Sakrete Concrete Mix on top of gravel. (This pre-mixed material is available at most lumber, building material and hardware stores.)

3. Stretch lines to mark position and level of initial course.

the three popular west coast species, fir, hemlock or cedar.

The variety of potential patterns for ceilings is almost limitless, and they give a new dimension to rooms, especially family and living rooms.

Lots of new ceilings are being designed by America's imaginative architects which are changing the entire character of some houses.

For instance, at Portland, Oregon, Architect John Storrs, has designed a ceiling for a home that is made up of exposed 2x4s with ornamental 2x4 blocks set at various intervals to create a geometric pattern above. This is a real conversation marker and an amazingly attractive ceiling. It has interesting shadow patterns and is a far departure from dull plaster.

Another ceiling designed by Blair and Zaik, and pioneered by Van Evra Bailey, all Portland architects, is made up of solid 2x4s nail laminated together with the narrow side facing down. These can be made of rough or surfaced 2x4s of either Douglas fir or west coast hemlock and need not be any better lumber than a lower grade. They never need finishing, give fine insulation, can take a single or built-up roof directly on the top side of the 2x4 slab, are inexpensive to erect. They have a wonderful texture and set off any sort of room.

Another ceiling is made by using ordinary bevel siding laid the long way of the room with the normal overlap which you would use for siding. This can be either one of

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