

**A COVERED PATIO** adds comfort and convenience to summer fun. The roof gives protection from rain and the hot mid-day sun, yet leaves the area open to catch the slightest breeze. Clean-up of tables and chairs is kept to a minimum. Where the patio and house are joined with Thermopane insulating glass sliding doors, inside and outside furniture can be arranged to give the appearance of a single, spacious room, perfect for informal entertaining.

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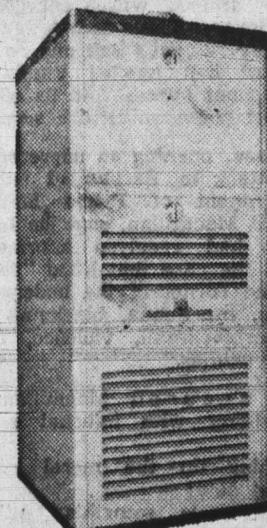
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## Covered Patio Adds To Comfort Of Outdoor Living

Whether a family room, kitchen or patio, it's that "extra" bit of livability you build into it that adds so much to everyday enjoyment. In the case of a family room it might be a fireplace with a built-in barbecue; in the kitchen it could mean precious work counter space, while for the patio nowadays it often means a roof.

Roofed patios have gained in popularity as families turn to more outside activities during the fine weather, points out Otto F. Wenzler, architectural consultant of Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Company.

"By covering the patio its usefulness is almost doubled. The living area is sheltered from the blazing summer sun yet open to catch any cooling breeze," he explained. "Furnishings can be placed much the same way as they would be in a regular room to give a closely-knit outdoor living unit which is protected from all but the most driving rains. Clean-up of tables, chairs and benches is kept at a minimum throughout the season and the need to move things indoors during a wet spell is practically eliminated."

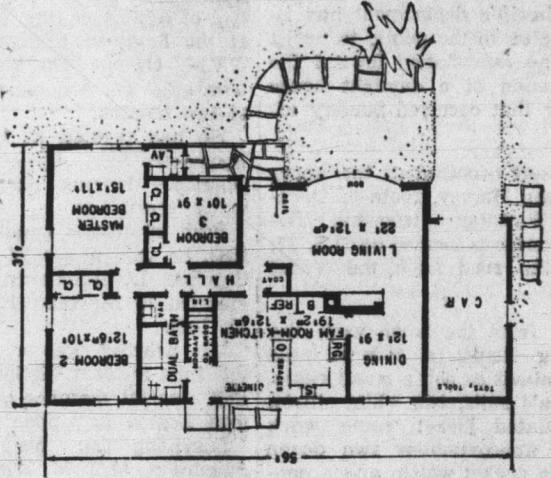
**A COVERED PATIO** comes in handy when entertaining if larger numbers of people are involved than the house will comfortably

hold. When the patio is joined to the house with Thermopane insulating glass sliding doors, many home owners plan the patio and adjacent room as one. Indoor and outdoor furniture is arranged to make both areas function as a single living unit. People can move freely from one to the other as if they were in the same room. Unexpected summer showers can't dampen the fun, either, and even outdoor grilling can go on under the protection of the roof.

Many homes today are built to include a roofed patio as part of the original plan, Mr. Wenzler noted. However, it's a relatively simple matter to add one by means of either conventional wood construction or by erecting one of the fabricated types available. The latter are light-weight, easily in-

stalled and can be chosen to match or contrast with the color of the house.

**WHEN CONSIDERING** adding a patio roof, it pays to plan beyond your immediate needs," the architect advises. "Many times roofing in a patio proves to be the first step in adding a complete glassed-in room as family needs for more year-around living space increase. Therefore, to get full value for your initial investment, the roof should be built in such a way that it will serve as the cover for the permanent room when the time comes, and adapt to the addition of walls without major structural changes. If indications point to this eventual need, homeowners are wise to seek the advice of an architect or competent builder in choosing the type of roof they build."



**DESIGN C-1822.** Stone and shingle contrasts highlight the exterior of this ranch house and the gable roof forms a covered porch at the entry. A wrought iron rail forms a foyer as you enter and there's the advantage of good traffic circulation that frees living and dining rooms from use except for family and guest occasions. A smart fireplace separates living and dining areas and there are exposed brick walls to dramatize each room. The kitchen and family room combination is most popular with a family with growing children. Three bedrooms, a dual bath and a master lavatory complete the house which has 1,251 square feet. For further information on Design C-1822 write to Illustrated Publications, Inc., 117 West 48th Street, New York 36, N. Y.

## Plan Landscaping Carefully To Insure Easy Maintenance

If you are planning to do some landscaping this spring, keep an eye on those hot summer days ahead and make improvements that will keep maintenance at a minimum and leave you time to enjoy the fruits of your labor.

A common shortcoming in landscape planning is the tendency to become too elaborate. Too many flower beds, shrubs and trees can detract from the appearance of both the house and the lot, as well as adding hours of work in weeding, cutting and trimming each week. On the other hand, a simple well planned yard can give the desired results at less expense and for a fraction of the upkeep.

FOR EXAMPLE, mowing will be a lot easier if you avoid sharp corners which require pushing and pulling the mower to get around them. Use brick mowing strips along paved areas, and add curbing to minimize trimming.

Put any plants that require considerable tending in raised beds so they will be easier to reach without bending. If the lot includes some difficult terrain such as a steep hill, use a ground cover such as myrtle, and do the same under any trees which shed fruit to avoid constant clean-up.

In laying the lawn use a good,

### GOOD INSULATOR

A cross section of a Douglas fir board seen through a microscope is made up of many thousands of tiny cells that make up the form of the wood, and in addition countless tiny air cells which combine to make wood one of the greatest of natural insulators.

### LOW COST

One of the least expensive of all wall surfaces is wood paneling, which is easily obtained in sawn wood boards, generally tongue and groove fashioned. Once finished it will last for many years without further care.

### MORE THINGS

Wood does more things well than any other substance. It is the door of the house, the heat of the hearth, the board of the table, the frame of the bed and the reed of the cradle, to mention only a few uses.

### NO SWEAT

Those seeking a friendly bathroom in durable woods like western red cedar now find that, by giving the panel boards an application of priming paint on the back, they can prevent moisture absorption.

## Here's a Page From the Home Gardener's Handbook —

## Each Garden Mulch Has A Purpose

BY ALLEN SWENSON  
Written For  
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

Spring and summer mulching of gardens, trees and new lawns saves work and improves plant growth, if done correctly. Mulches of organic matter, plastic or even stones or gravel, can be highly useful. Here are some simple ideas to make them work well for you:

For trees and shrubs, renew the mulch several inches deep every spring and again in the fall. Mulch saves moisture, controls weeds and builds good topsoil. Peat moss is good in show areas; the soft brown color is an attractive contrast to green leaves and bark. It is excellent for acid-loving plants such as azaleas, rhododendrons and laurel. Leaves can be left around trees surrounded by shrubs for cheap mulch. A layer of pebbles or gravel several inches deep may make an excellent mulch in heavy traffic areas.

For flower beds, peat moss, pine needles, coco bean hulls, ground

bark and vermiculite are attractive. In less traveled spots, sugar cane bagasse, sawdust, chopped leaves, ground corn cobs and shavings can also be used. You can cover these less attractive materials with peat moss or ground bark.

New lawn seedings are best covered with straw or salt hay. These are easy to remove after the grass has sprouted. They save moisture, control erosion and reduce weed sprouting. Use one inch of straw or hay and remove after grass is an inch tall.

Small fruits benefit greatly from mulch, as most of them have shallow roots. On strawberries, sawdust, sugar cane bagasse, peat moss and buckwheat hulls make good year-around mulch. Part of a straw or salt hay mulch covering for winter can be left between the plants each spring. Black plastic is good for strawberries. For cane berries, any of these materials is good, plus wood chips, grass clippings or leaves. For blueberries, sawdust is an ideal mulch.

**MULCH TREES IN  
LAWN WITH PEAT  
OR WOOD CHIPS. EITHER  
SAVES MOWING TIME  
AROUND TREES.**



**KEEP BERRIES WELL MULCHED  
TO SAVE MOISTURE, STOP  
WEED COMPETITION. USE  
SALT HAY, GRASS  
CLIPPINGS, STRAW,  
PEAT MOSS OR  
CORNCOB.**

**STRAW OR SALT  
HAY HELPS NEW  
LAWN SEEDINGS  
GET STARTED.**

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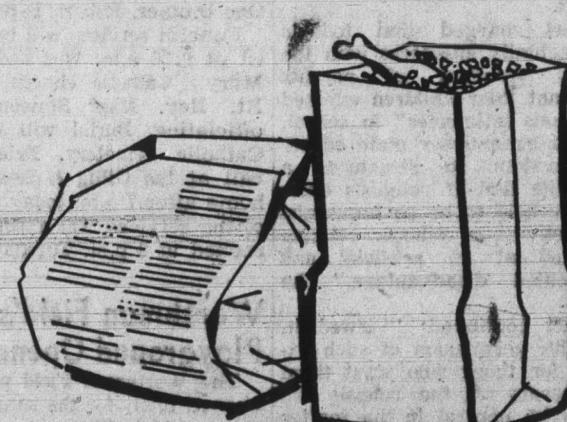
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