

## Keen Cooks Covet Clean Automatic Range Features

Electric cooking has always meant clean cooking, and practical new designs make it easier than ever before to keep this year's electric ranges clean.

Easy-to-clean features include recessed tops or cook-tops with raised rims which keep spilled food from running into crevices or down the side. Some free-standing electric ranges have tops that lift up completely for cleaning underneath.

Electric surface-cooking coils and rod-type broil and bake elements are self-cleaning. As for ovens, some have linings that pull out for cleaning; others are completely lined with aluminum foil that can be replaced quickly.

Many parts of the new electric ranges are removable for sudsing at the sink or scrubbing in the automatic dishwasher. These include oven racks and broiler



Surface cooking elements on this new electric range stay tilted up while reflector bowls and trim rings are removed and washed. Control knobs are removable and recessed cook top contains spillovers.

pans and reflectors, reflector bowls under surface elements and trim rings around them. Control knobs come off, and many of the new electric ranges have oven doors that can be lifted off; others have doors that drop straight down to make oven cleaning more convenient.

### MAKE IT DARKER

Do you want to darken that light finish on the wood paneling in the den? Apply a darker varnish stain on the existing finish, says the National Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Association. Varnish stains are available in many shades. For a successful job, lightly sand the present finish to get a good bond for the varnish stain.

## 3 Hot Reasons To Consider Cold Days Ahead

Summer may seem like an odd time to think about winter comfort and heating economy, but for several reasons it's wise to insulate a house before cold weather sets in.

1. Insulating during the off-season is more convenient because contractors' crews aren't usually busy at this time.

2. The house will be fully insulated in time to provide extra comfort during the cool autumn nights that arrive well before winter.

3. A family will benefit during summer heat waves because, even without air conditioning, a well insulated house will be cooler than one that's inadequately insulated and much cooler than one that is not insulated at all.

Virtually any house can be properly insulated today, regardless of style, age or exterior building materials. The most popular way to insulate an existing house is by having mineral wool blown into attic floors between joists and into the spaces between wall studs. Mineral wool insulation contractors use a special pneumatic hose to force the insulation into every crack and cranny to form a complete blanket around the living area of a house.

One way to be sure a house is insulated thoroughly is to follow the Quality Home Requirements of the National Mineral Wool Insulation Association. These standards call for "blowing wool" or bats or blankets of mineral wool to be installed to provide a resistance to heat loss of R-19 or R-24 in ceilings, R-11 in walls and R-13 in floors over unheated spaces. The higher the "R" number the greater the ability to block the passage of heat.

Insulating a new addition or attic—where joists or studs are exposed—is a job that many families successfully do themselves. Building materials dealers have mineral wool bats and blankets labeled with "R" numbers to make selection easy.

### BE SURE IT'S QUALITY PAINT!

Whatever you are going to paint be sure that you use a quality paint, advises the National Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Association. Quality paint is your assurance of thorough hiding power, a brighter color longer, and a long-lasting, long-satisfying finish.

## Modern Stock Woodwork Gives House Custom Look

Stock woodwork can give today's homes a note of distinction that only expensive custom carpentry once provided.

Two-story Colonials, split-level ranches, and low, rambling contemporaries—all are enhanced by decorative, functional woodwork.

A graceful stairway of wood in the center hall of a Colonial home, for example, sets a tone of inviting warmth and charm for the whole house.

Staircases made of ponderosa pine and various hardwoods now can be bought ready to install. The carefully matched, machined parts are sanded and ready for assembly. To suit individual tastes, building material centers stock several styles of newels, rails, balusters, starting steps, treads, and risers.

Fireplaces, although no longer needed for heat, rank with family rooms as the most-wanted features in new homes. Graceful wood mantels and moldings can make a fireplace the focal point of living room, bedroom or family room in any home. Like wood staircases, fireplaces of ponderosa pine in many designs are available at building supply dealers.

There are dozens of ways wood molding can be used to lend character to an otherwise colorless room or to change its proportions without remodeling.

If a room is too long, for instance, it can be broken up with molding applied vertically at intervals to give a better sense of proportion. A chair-rail molding

## 1963 Ranges Help Sell New Homes

Home builders can tick off several facts to explain the trend toward installation of electric ranges in new housing developments. Here are a few of those most often cited by builders:

Wide choice of design: whether a house is small or large, low-cost or luxury-priced, there's a suitable electric range for it. It may be a



Door of this built-in electric wall oven opens to either side.

complete, self-contained range, or built-in wall ovens and separate surface units.

Color flexibility: builders can give buyers a wide choice of kitchen color schemes with matching or contrasting electric appliances. Electric ranges are available in many attractive colors ranging from charcoal to white, as well as in stainless steel and copper finishes.

Sales appeal: women like modern all-electric kitchens. The convenience and efficiency of electric cooking help sell builder homes in a highly competitive market. Men are conscious of the added cash value of a home with an all-electric kitchen.

### KEEP IT A "BLUE-CHIP" INVESTMENT

Have you taken a careful look at your biggest investment, your home, lately? Does it still have that "blue-chip" appearance it had when it was new? If not, a fresh paint job will quickly restore its original neat, bright appearance. It is not expensive to paint, says the National Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Association, but it is expensive not to paint!

## OWNER'S SKILL CAN CUT COSTS OF REMODELING

There are few projects more satisfying to a home owner than those which involve substantial improvements to his house.

And, according to the Douglas Fir Plywood Association, the competent home owner can save a substantial amount of money through his own labor—but only if he has more than average skill with tools and paint brush, and is willing to work nights and weekends.

Douglas Fir Plywood Association, a non-profit trade organization in Tacoma, Wash., which provides remodeling information to home owners and contractors, suggests that do-it-yourselfers consider these pointers before taking on a part of an add-a-room project.

First, know your limitations. If you plan to paint your new addition, be certain you can do a good job of it. A sloppy finish job can make an otherwise good project look bad.

Second, don't attempt any structural work unless you are qualified for it.

Third, don't attempt any electrical or plumbing work. Most building codes require that these jobs be done by licensed craftsmen.

Fourth, be sure the lending agency involved will permit you to do part of the work; and, be sure you can complete the job in the length of time set forth in the financial agreement.

Fifth, make a definite agreement with your contractor so that both of you know how much work will be done by the builder.

## NEW ROOM STYLE SHOULD FIT HOUSE

Most remodeling authorities agree that a room addition should be carefully integrated with the existing structure so that the casual passerby cannot recognize it as an addition.

To accomplish this effect, the new addition should have similar, or at least complementary, roof design.

Siding materials also are important. However, it is not always possible to match siding exactly. The alternative is to choose a complementary siding material that blends well with the existing material. This solution often is preferred because it helps make the entire structure look more modern.

In any case, an artful blending of materials is preferred to a near-miss that was an attempt to match siding exactly.

## Renters Now Want Ranges To Be Built-in

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There's no need to settle for less when you're apartment hunting. Renters in Newington, Conn., found they were able to influence builder-landlord Frank T. Ferrigno to use built-in electric ranges when he was finishing the last 16 units of his 68-unit garden apartment development, known as Maurette Manor.

Ferrigno had used free-standing electric ranges in the first 52

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