

LIVING KITCHENS DO DOUBLE DUTY IN MODERN FAMILY-PLANNED HOMES

"Living kitchen" is an up-to-date term applied to an old idea which is stretching both space and living enjoyment in modern homes.

Combining the kitchen with some of the features of a family room started generations ago in farm homes where the kitchen was the center of family life, devoted equally to work and relaxation, points out Ralph Sherwin, chief designer of Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Company. Now, with usable space a prime consideration, living kitchens are coming back into prominence. "Today, budgets and smaller lots are limiting the size of many homes, making it increasingly important to use every square foot of living space to the fullest," Mr. Sherwin commented. "This means that rooms often must be called on to do double duty."

THE KITCHEN is a prime example, the designer noted. Although it receives a lot of use during the day, there are many hours when it could be doing valuable extra service as a hobby center, a

spot for informal entertaining, TV viewing or just relaxing. It can often double as a gathering place, relieving crowding by accommodating the "overflow" from the family or living rooms. And food service is already built-in, the designer noted, adding to its convenience, especially for teen-agers.

In planning a living kitchen there is not need to be elaborate. Often an easy chair, sofa and a sturdy table will serve the purpose and keep the room from becoming overcrowded. This is important if it is to remain efficient in its primary function as the food preparation area. The table should

Keep Cool With A White Roof

Interior temperatures can be reduced by as much as 20 degrees by painting your roof white, according to studies made by the National Paint, Varnish & Lacquer Association. This means lower electric bills because air conditioners will have less work to do and if you do not have an air conditioner, upstairs rooms will be more comfortable.

Model houses with roofs of black asphalt shingles were used for the test in Washington's notoriously brutal climate. One roof was painted white, the other left untouched. Other tests showed that natural color aluminum paint also brought reductions of a lesser amount in interior temperatures. Light pastel aluminum paints helped to a lesser degree. Not every kind of white paint is suitable for painting a roof, however. In the first place do not use a so-called self-cleaning, or chalking paint, because as this wears away (as it is supposed to do), the chalk may stain the sides of the house.

Roofs built of materials containing asphalt cannot be painted with solvent-thinned paints, because the solvent will dissolve the asphalt and cause ugly bleeding. So, for asphalt-felt, asphalt shingle and similar roofs, use an exterior white latex paint.

Exterior latexes can also be used on asbestos-cement shingles. Other paints suitable for this material are so-called swimming pool paints and paints designed especially for masonry.

Galvanized metal roofs should first be primed with zinc dust zinc oxide paint, or other primer meant to this metal. The top coat can be any non-chalking exterior paint.

Tin-coated roofs should first be primed with an anti-corrosive primer, and then be given the desired topcoat.

Modern shingles can be painted with any non-chalking exterior paint. To prevent old shingle stain from bleeding through, a coat of exterior aluminum paint is advised as a primer.

Remember that the life of paint on horizontal or nearly horizontal surfaces is shorter than on vertical surfaces. Two coats will last longer and do a better hiding job. To save your back, apply the paint with a long-handled roller or a spray.

Be sure, however, that you use only quality paint. Only quality paint has lasting hiding power, retains its color brilliance, and is wear and weather resistant. To be sure that you are getting a quality product, ask a friend or neighbor who has had a satisfactory paint job which brand he used or consult your established, reputable paint dealer.

ADDITIONS VALUABLE

The most popular home improvement project—and the one most likely to increase the value of a home—is a room addition, according to the Douglas Fir Plywood Association.

be informal enough for everyday family meals, yet handsome enough to provide a focal point for the living area. Furniture should be upholstered in easy-to-clean fabrics with work counters and tables covered with stain-proof material to simplify housekeeping.

"**THE SIZE** of the room will naturally determine the extra facilities it can provide, but even a small area can give a lot of satisfaction when it is properly planned," Mr. Sherwin said. "The ideal time of plan for a dual-purpose kitchen is when remodeling or building a new home. It is more convenient then to provide for the things you want than to add them later. The areas for relaxation and kitchen chores can be laid out so they don't interfere with each other, and appliances and cupboards can be arranged for the most efficiency."

Wherever possible, Mr. Sherwin advises using large Thermopane insulating glass windows to let in plenty of light and make the room look spacious. If the kitchen adjoins a part of the lawn which can be made into a patio, he suggests using sliding glass doors. In summertime they can be opened to make the kitchen and patio into a convenient indoor-outdoor room, ideal for casual entertaining.

Quality Paints The Best Buy

There are four requisites for a satisfying paint job. If you ignore any one of them you'll be subjecting yourself to unnecessary expense, loss of time and even a situation where you may have to remove all the paint and start over again. Here are the four musts:

1. Prepare the surface properly.
2. Select the right type of paint.
3. Apply it properly as directed on the label.
4. Always use quality paint and avoid so-called bargain paints.

It's important to remember that quality paints cost less in the long run because they cover better, last longer, stay brighter. These paints are made by reputable manufacturers, are sold by reputable paint dealers and are recommended and used by reputable painting contractors.

One of the best ways to be sure that you are getting a quality paint is this. Check with a friend or neighbor who has enjoyed a satisfactory paint job on a similar project. You can't go wrong if you use the same brand that he did.

If you can't find such a friend or neighbor, ask the paint dealer to show you a job in his area that was done several years ago and in which the paint he wants to sell you was used. A reputable dealer who sells quality paint will not hesitate to do this. After all, a successful job is his best advertisement. If he is unwilling to show you such a job, common sense suggests that you should take your business elsewhere.

Very often you can tell whether paint—or any other product, for that matter—is a quality product by the way it is advertised and merchandized. Paints that are always on "sale," day-in-day-out, or paints that are sold on gimmicky devices are usually suspect.

Remember the advice of a pleading magazine: "If the price of paint sounds too good to be true, it probably is."

PICK BEST SPOT

When adding a room to your home, try to pick a location where an existing window or door can be used as a connecting passageway. By doing so, costs are reduced because the existing opening already will have a functioning header.

PAINTING A CHILD'S ROOM

The one room in the house which is probably subjected to the most wear and tear and requires the most frequent clean-up is also the room that should be the most cheerful. This is the child's room. Parents frequently are met with the sight of Johnny's last artistic effort on the door, the place on the wall where he drew an outline of his brother in indelible ink, the dots on the ceiling from the night they used it for target practice with their slingshots and ink cartridges. Subsequent decision: a fresh paint job will do wonders for the room.

In selecting the proper type and color coating for this room, there are some basic facts the homeowner should remember, says the National Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Association. Armed with information about type and color, the resulting paint job will be a source of satisfaction for him and of pleasure for his children.

What, then, should be considered when choosing paint for a child's room? The following are questions which should be answered by and for the handyman for a successful paint job. Is the paint sturdy and able to withstand much art-work and many cleanings? What type of surface will he be painting on? Where is the room located? What color should be used?

A latex paint is generally the best bet for the "do-it-yourselfer," when painting most ordinary walls and ceilings. It is easily applied, gives a smoother appearance, leaves no lap marks and dries quickly. It can be cleaned frequently with soap and water, and the cleaning up after the painting can also be done with soap and water. Many latex paints require a 30-day curing period before they can be washed or cleaned. Also, a few latex paints on the market today have a gloss or semi-gloss finish.

A standard for painting children's rooms has been the alkyl or oil base paint. The alkyl paints are available in gloss or semi-gloss finishes. They will also withstand many frequent cleanings. However, alkyls are not quite as easy to apply and still achieve a smooth surface; there is a slight odor during drying; and post-painting clean up is not quite as simple.

Armed with factual information about types of paint, the handyman and his wife can now get down to the choice of color. Color is relative to the location of the room and the type of paint decided upon. In a room with a northern exposure a light color with a gloss or semi-gloss finish will reflect existing light and artificial light to a better advantage than will a flat finish of a darker color. If the room has a southern exposure, then a darker color with a flat finish may be used. If the type of paint lends itself to frequent cleaning, a light color may be used. If not, then the color may be one which will not tend to show even the slightest bit of grime and dirt, such as a sandy beige. The handyman should also remember that brightness can be added to a child's room in accent colors, either in painted furniture or in the fabrics used.

Above all, when painting a child's room, remember the child himself. He should be able to "live" in his room. The room should be bright and cheerful so that a rainy day spent inside is not so depressing after all. A child spends varying amounts of time in his room, from an entire day to a few minutes spent there between dashes outside to play. The room should be a reflection in his own cheerful personality.

IT PAYS TO SHOP FOR LOAN TERMS

There are a number of ways to finance a home improvement project.

The right way depends on the cost of the job, the monthly payment desired, and the amount of money still owed on the existing house.

Most home improvement plans require no down payment, but plans vary considerably in other terms. It is an intelligent to shop around for the best financing arrangements as it is to devote time and thought to the structural changes you plan for your home.

Remodeling contractors are familiar with most lending plans. Your bank or savings and loan office can be of assistance, and so can the local office of the FHA.

For information on various financing plans, and about specific home improvement projects to add space to your house, send 25 cents to Douglas Fir Plywood Association, 1119 A Street, Tacoma, Washington, and ask for the DFPA Remodeling Guide.

BUILD IT YOURSELF

An accomplished do-it-yourselfer can outfit a new family room with plans available from trade organizations and materials manufacturers. A good source of plans for built-in storage sections is Douglas Fir Plywood Association, Tacoma, Washington.

Child Needs 3 - in - 1 Room For Activities

As youngsters grow older, their hobbies and interests change. And so do their needs for living space. Homemakers can keep pace with these changes by converting their children's bedrooms into 3-in-1 activity centers that serve as bedroom, party room and general fun room.

Besides meeting the needs of the child, says the Construction Research Bureau, national clearinghouse for building information, the 3-in-1 activity center is designed to provide a substitute for living rooms and family rooms, thus keeping the rest of the house more quiet and less cluttered.

Start with Floor

Because the floor design determines the overall decorating scheme, it's wise to start there. Resilient coverings that resist scuffs and stains such as vinyl asbestos tile are ideal for the rough wear youngsters will give the floor. They can be obtained in gay colors and combinations and can be kept bright and clean with a minimum of care.

A charming floor for a girl's room can easily be created with dainty madiera pink or egret white in a marbled style of Kentile vinyl asbestos that will hide any signs of dirt. For a boy's room, colonial blue or shannon green are ideal marbled colors. And hop-scotch or checkerboard patterns as well as complete shuffleboard game insets can be built into the floor to provide many fun-filled hours for the youngsters in this all-round room.

Trundle Beds

Next, select furniture and accessories that are in tune with the colors in the floor. Trundle beds, with one short-legged bed fitting under a standard-height bed when not in use, are an excellent choice. They can double as daytime seats when the youngsters entertain.

Washable draperies come in a wide range of colors and prints for window accent. Install scratch-resistant composition tops on work tables and desks, and add storage chests and built-ins for the youngsters' clothing and hobby materials.

A half-oval table for snacks that can also be used for model building or games will save space if it is hinged to the wall so it can be folded back and hooked when not in use. A radio, hi-fi or an extra television set often can be built into a storage wall to provide restful entertainment.

FLOOR IDEA OFFERED

A new floor system developed by Douglas Fir Plywood Association is engineered with 3/4 inch Underlayment grade plywood over joists on 24 inch centers. This method, when combined with tongue and groove edges, eliminates one-third of the joists normally required and eliminates both edge blocking and subflooring altogether.

TIP FOR PAINT BRUSH BUYERS

When purchasing a paint brush, look for a solid strip in the heel of the brush, says the National Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Association. This strip plays three major roles in the performance and durability of the brush. It keeps the bristles in shape, it helps the brush to carry its paint load, and it makes for easier cleaning.

SINGLE WALL SAVES

One of the least expensive ways to build a good-looking wall is with the Douglas Fir Plywood Association's Sturd-i-Wall technique. This method involves the application of a single layer of plywood that acts as both sheathing and siding.

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

Children And Gardens Grow Together

BY ALLAN SWENSON

Written for Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

Indoors and out, most children enjoy gardening, if it is organized and kept simple. The challenge of keeping children's interest may help you do a better job of plant care yourself.

Answer questions, let children do planting and plant care themselves, and you may have young horticulturists with a natural love for plants. Children and their friends will be easier on mom's flower garden and dad's shrubs, too.

Even small children can do amazingly delicate jobs with seeds and plants—that is, if they do them along with you. But be sure the children have their own plant trays and pots indoors and their own separate garden plots outdoors.

Indoors, projects to build interest are the growing of a sweet potato plant from a cut tuber, sprouting a carrot top, planting big seeds like beans or grapefruit. The child will watch the unfolding leaves closely. He will learn to feed and water regularly.

Children will love to check seed germination. Count the seeds by tens, wrap them in wet blotting paper or paper towels and keep them warm and moist. Then they'll count the ones that sprout. Set up one germination test yourself, and the youngsters will do the rest.

When you prune shrubs, let the young one help. Pick some branches full of fat blossom buds for indoor bloom. Let children get a pail and put branches in water.

Pick The Right Builder To Do Remodeling Job

The most important step any home owner makes in his remodeling program is picking the right firm to do the job.

According to the Douglas Fir Plywood Association, a little time spent investigating remodeling contractors can make the difference between a dream house and a nightmare.

There are good remodeling contractors in virtually every community. And, they aren't hard to find.

There are some guidelines suggested by the DFPA remodeling authorities for those looking for a good contractor:

1. Choose a local, established firm that has been in business long enough to have a solid reputation and that you can be certain will take care of any repairs that might be necessary after a job is completed. A good contractor builds his reputation with satisfied customers and will be willing to make the job right.

2. It usually is a good idea to work with a firm that takes full responsibility for the entire job. Whether your contractor is a home modernization specialist, a retail lumber dealer, a home builder or a general contractor, he should be able to take charge of the complete job—he will make one contract with the home owner and assume the responsibility of lining up subcontractors for heating, electrical, painting and other phases of the job. He is able to schedule the work and get the job done efficiently when he has full charge of it.

3. Many so-called "one-stop" modernizers offer design assistance and will help develop specific plans to fit general requirements you present to him. This is a valuable service to the home owner.

4. Many one-stop contractors also are able to help you make financing arrangements.

5. A remodeling contractor is

They will watch the buds swell and burst into bloom. Be sure they have some flowers for their own rooms, too.

Like most gardeners, children love to anticipate the pleasure of an outdoor garden. Plan with them what to plant. Order the seeds and decide the place for each children's garden. It should have good soil and plenty of sun. Have it near the family garden, so he can work with you. Make sure lawn or walks are accessible so he and his little friends can

inspect his garden without damaging other plants.

Let each child decide what to grow himself. Flowers that grow well and bloom well include marigolds, zinnias, sunflowers, four o'clocks, cosmos, nasturtiums, poppies and annual phlox. Vegetables with large seeds, such as corn, beans and squash are easy to plant and tend if there is room. Lettuce, radishes and spinach are hardy, sprout fast and product fairly well even if crowded by enthusiastic, thick sowing of seed.



a businessman and as such will want to proceed with planning and building in an efficient, businesslike manner. However, a good contractor will not high-pressure a sale, and will be willing to have you check with the Better Business Bureau, your personal bank, and with previous customers. In fact, most contractors are proud of previous jobs and eager to have prospective customers inspect them and to investigate business references—the contractor's business reputation is often his best salesman.

6. Many—but not all—good contractors are members of industry associations which subscribe business codes of ethics. Some of those associations are the National Home Improvement Council, the National Retail Lumber Dealers Association and the National Association of Home Builders.

7. Work with your contractor under a contract and with a set of drawings and specifications. Be certain that you and your contractor both understand the exact nature of the job and have a clear and detailed description of the materials to be used, the dimensions of the room, the size and location of windows and doors and other details. Never sign a contract that has blank spaces.

For further information about remodeling ideas, including 8 ways to add rooms to most types of houses, send 25 cents to the Douglas Fir Plywood Association, 1119 A Street, Tacoma, Wash., and ask for the DFPA Remodeling Guide.

PLANS AVAILABLE

The most popular home improvement project—and the one most likely to increase the value of a home—is a room addition, according to the Douglas Fir Plywood Association.



FOR LOWER OPERATING COST...

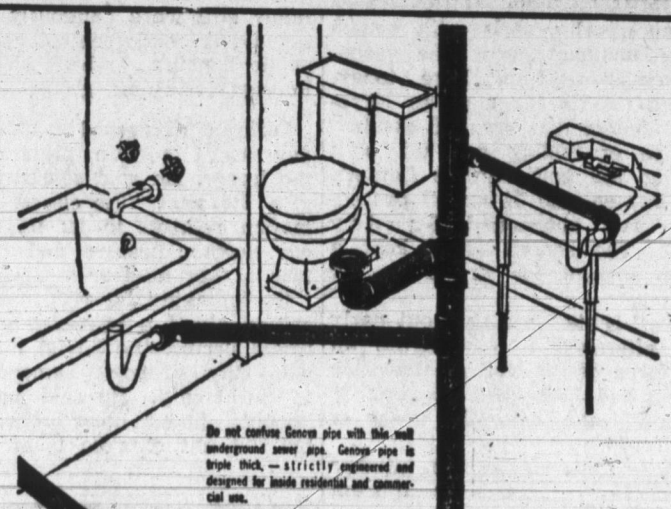
Get the **IMPERIAL** GAS FURNACE by GENERAL ELECTRIC

- So Clean
- So Quiet
- So Safe
- So Economical

NEW LOW TERMS

ASHBAUCHER'S TIN SHOP

Established 1915
116 N. 1st St. Phone 3-2615
Decatur, Ind.



Genova
COMPLETE PLUMBING
SYSTEMS OF
POLYVINYL
CHLORIDE

lowest installation cost
corrosion and impact proof
lightweight easy to handle
lasts forever

tomorrow's products - TODAY!

TRY **KLENKS** FIRST

2 miles North of Decatur
OPEN 8:00 A. M. to 8:00 P. M.
Phone 3-2158

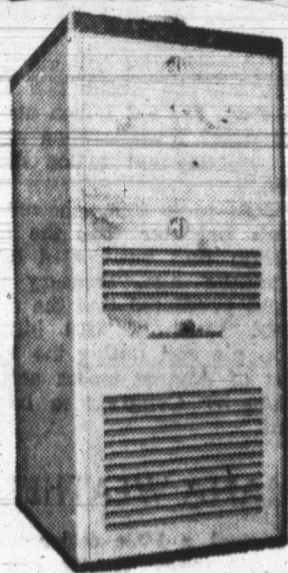
You Mark
The Spot
X
We'll Be There
Just When You
Are Ready
With The Exact
Amount Of
READYMIX CONCRETE
Expertly Mixed
especially for
the type of
construction that
it is needed.

YOST

GRAVEL
READYMIX, INC.
R. R. 1 Decatur
Phone 3-3114

LET US INSTALL AN AMERICAN FURNACE

buy from us
with
CONFIDENCE
Look for this emblem

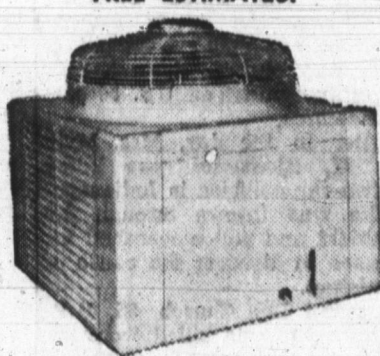


HAUGK

209 N. 13th Street

... and for Summer
Comfort combine it
with an
AIR CONDITIONER

FREE ESTIMATES!



**PLUMBING
AIR CONDITIONING
HEATING**

Phone 3-3316