

Plan On Living Cool This Year

Install Units or Central System

To most homeowners, air conditioning means room units. Many begin with one unit to cool a bedroom, then gradually add other units to cool daytime living areas, too.

Room air conditioners may be the best answer to your summer air conditioning problem if you own a home structurally unsuited to central air conditioning, or want to add air conditioning gradually.

Room units are easy to install, require no ducts, are easy to get at and repair and, since they're equipped with individual thermostats, you are able to cool only selected rooms. Practical portability is a feature of new compact room units that can be placed in the window sill and plugged into standard house current.

However, multiple units sometimes lack proper distribution and often are less efficient than a single larger unit. As a result, operating costs for multiple room units may be higher than for a central system of comparable capacity.

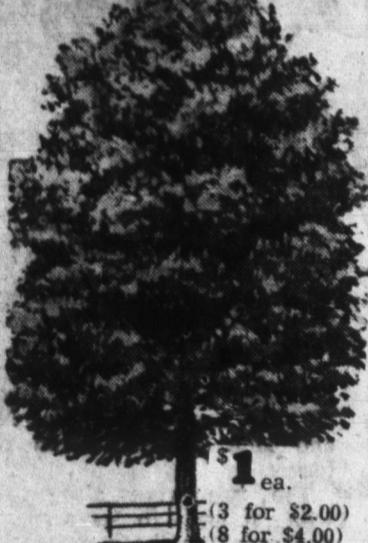
A central system in a properly insulated house offers temperature and humidity control, air cleaning and proper air distribution. Several studies have shown that central air conditioning decreases housework substantially, improves appetites, results in more and more restful sleep for the family, improves dispositions and causes families to spend more time at home together.

Design improvement in recent years has sharply cut the cost of central equipment and installation. Cost will depend on local climate, the size and orientation of your home to the sun, how the home is built and whether it will need structural modifications such as added insulation, and the amount of labor needed to install the unit.

Once you have decided on central air conditioning, and your cooling system is installed, operate it as you would your furnace ideally — full-time. Don't wait until heat is oppressive, then turn on the unit and expect it to provide design conditions immediately.

In hot summer weather, vent appliances and restrict moisture-producing activities such as showering and bathing, mopping and scrubbing to early morning or late evening. Keep doors and windows closed and shielded from direct sunlight. If you like, leave storm windows up all summer.

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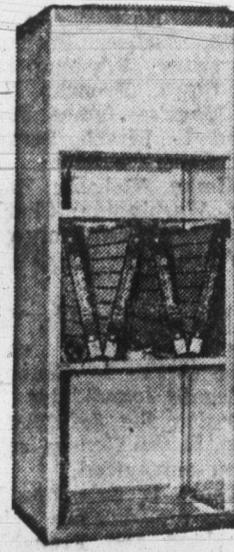


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QUALITY LABEL PROTECTS BUYERS

If you're planning on buying a new home this Spring — or are starting a remodeling or room addition on your present one — be sure the aluminum windows and sliding glass doors you buy bear the "Quality Certified" label of the Architectural Aluminum Manufacturers Association.

tion (AAMA), which is headquartered in Chicago.

This seal is your guide to a quality product that won't swell, warp or stick.

All houses and remodeling projects with aluminum windows and sliding glass doors that are insured by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) must carry this label. Too, many savings and loan officers view with favor houses and remodeling projects that carry the AAMA, Inc. label.

The seal says that the unit bearing it has been designed and manufactured in compliance with a rigid set of industry standards. It protects you against inferior products.

"What the Underwriters' Laboratory Seal is to safety, the AAMA, Inc., label is to quality," according to George O. Radford, president of the 111-member organization.

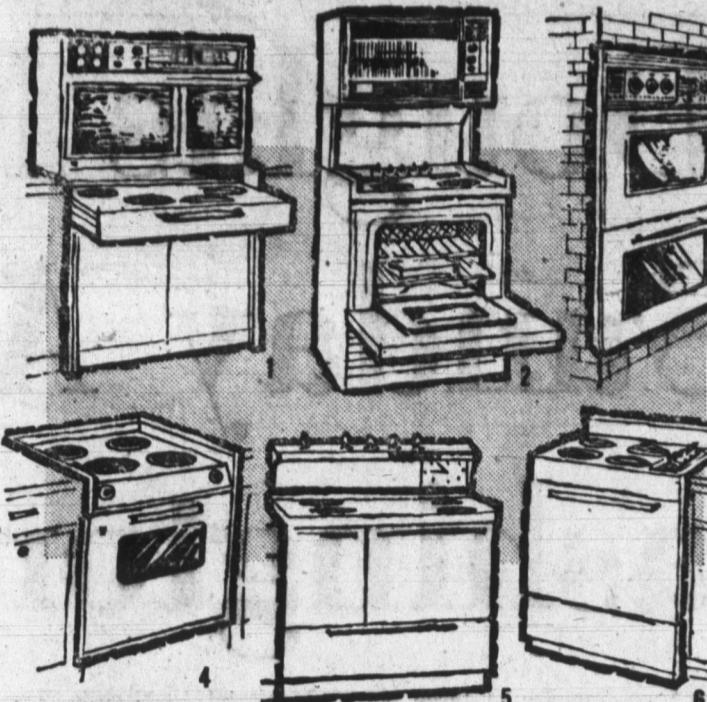
SPRAY OR ROLL ON PAINT

Roller paint applicators and portable spray equipment are becoming increasingly popular for exterior painting, because of the speed with which paint can be applied with these devices. Adherence to the instructions supplied by the manufacturer of the roller or spray equipment, and careful masking of surfaces not to be spray-painted, are important factors in producing a satisfactory job, advises the National Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Association.

NEVER LATE

It is never too late to install wood decks around your home. Use ordinary grades of common lumber like Douglas fir for framing and deck boards.

Modern Range Styles Aid Kitchen Planner



FAMILIES PLANNING TO REMODEL their kitchens or to build a new home have a wide choice of electric ranges to choose from. Shown above are the six basic types—all with a built-in look whether they actually are built-in or not, and all with automatic time and heat controls. They are: 1. high-over range with two eye-level ovens; 2. sets on cabinet or hangs on wall; 3. free-standing double-oven range with one oven at eye-level, one below; 4. built-in double ovens to be used with separate built-in surface cooking elements; 5. one-piece built-in range; 6. free-standing unit with two ovens; 6. free-standing model with single large oven.

Modern Windows Have Olden Charm



This new home in Norfolk, Va., has classic lines of traditional Colonial styling. Like the 17th Century homes after which it is patterned, it features double-hung wood windows and paneled wood doors—all stock millwork items made of ponderosa pine.

Families who buy 20th Century Colonial-design homes because they like their looks and layout are lucky. They have the advantages without the drawbacks the Colonists had to put up with.

For example, take the wood windows that are traditional in Colonial homes. At the time the residents of Salem, Mass. were busy hunting witches and loading and unloading sailing ships, wood windows were laboriously hand-made, and it took great skill to make them fit even reasonably well. Today, faithful copies of Colonial wood windows in ponderosa pine are turned out in factories using modern precision equipment and fabricating techniques.

Contemporary wood windows look like the originals, with all their enduring charm, but fortunately for family comfort and heating and cooling economy, they are not exact duplicates.

Long ago, a common way to keep a double-hung window open was to insert pegs in holes drilled in the side jambs. Today, a variety of effective methods, including compression springs or plates, and clock spring balance mechanisms, make it infinitely easier to open and close this popular type of window.

Insulating glass, which is particularly compatible with wood windows, is another innovation that adds to comfort and helps reduce heating and air conditioning bills.

Guttering Is Key To Long House Life

Maintaining a healthy roof drainage system is important in assuring long life throughout the house.

Lack of proper gutters and downspouts often results in damage to the structure, striping on the sides of the house, erosion of the ground around the house, with water infiltration through basement walls, says the Roof Drainage Manufacturers Institute.

Pronounced leaks are danger signals. Always examine the eaves under the roof after the rain.

If you find wet spots or discoloration, leaking water that has worked along the framing and through the walls, discolored siding, or tiny streaks of sunlight on rafters or walls in unfinished attics or basement, there must be a leak somewhere, and it should be found and fixed.

Clean out all gutter debris at least semi-annually. At the same time, check for corrosion and spots where paint is flaking off. Remove dirt and paint with a wire brush and apply metal primer paint to affect ed area, inside gutters.

Paint a matching or contrasting coat on the outside.

When inspecting gutters, take a stiff brush along on the first climb. It will help you dislodge debris. Look for places where gutters may have ripped loose, for opened seams, corroded or rusted sections. Be sure, there's one essential: no water stands in the gutters.

When you make necessary

USE GOOD PAINT BRUSHES Good brushes make house painting easier and contribute toward a more satisfactory job, says the National Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Association. The homeowner will usually require three sizes: a 3½ or 4-inch brush for large areas; a 2½ or 3-inch brush for shutters, windows and door trim; and a 1 or 1½-inch oval brush, or sash tool, for painting window sash and moldings.

MIXING HOUSE PAINTS In a new can of house paint, or one which has been stored for any length of time, some pigment usually will have settled to the bottom of the container. The settled pigment and any separated vehicle must be mixed thoroughly before starting to paint, says the National Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Association. Most paint stores have mechanical shakers. Where such a device is not available, follow the mixing procedure on the label.

Doors, Too When remodeling an older room with wood paneling, try salvaging the old doors by facing them with the same Douglas fir paneling as the walls.

Brighten Up When remodeling a dark basement, you should brighten up the room with lightest walls, such as sweet coast hemlock paneling walls finished clear.

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