

Stock Wood Shutters Add Decorative Touch

In the past, wood shutters on windows were functional. Nowadays they're not used so much to protect today's tightly built houses from winter's worst as they are to make them look their best.

To be architecturally correct, exterior shutters should be used with most traditional home designs to add authenticity. And,



Model home in Southgate development in Livingston, N. J., features stock shutters, wood windows and doors as key elements in colonial design. Louver shutters help tie in garage with rest of house.

although shutters are optional with contemporary architecture, many families use them to add interest to severe looking exterior walls.

The wide variety of factory-made ponderosa pine shutters, either louvered or paneled, sold today provides an inexpensive way to give a plain house individuality and style.

Wood shutters, available from building materials dealers, come from the factory chemically treated for longer life, sanded and ready for final finishing in the color that fits best with the

exterior color scheme. In most cases, they are painted in the accent color that's used on small but important areas such as doors and trim.

When an extension is added to a house that already has shutters, it's a good idea to add new shutters, painted to match the existing ones, at windows in the addition. This is an effective way of integrating old and new elements of the house.

Full-length shutters used at the sides of a garage door will dress it up and make the garage look more like part of the house.

Put Patio on Display

A good way to extract more pleasure from an attractive patio and garden area is to keep it on display on a year-round basis—from inside the house.

This can be done through the generous use of windows or sliding glass doors installed in the wall of a living, dining or family room adjoining the patio.

Converting an existing screened-in porch to a year-round room is another project that can add to the enjoyment of an adjoining patio.

Today, factory-made windows and doors of ponderosa pine are available in a variety of standard sizes and styles. This makes it easy to match architectural styles, and eliminates the need for costly custom work in most cases.

Suit Families to a 'T'

New Care-free Cottages Leave Time for Fun

A vacation home should not become a vacation. That's why buyers of cottages at the seashore, on a lake, or in the woods are wary of maintenance chores that dribble away their leisure time.

A definite trend toward completely finished, trouble-free summer homes has been observed by Houston builder James A. Bryan, who sells about 350 cottages a year along the Texas Gulf coast and nearby lake area.

"Up to a few years ago, we sold mostly shell homes—those in which the finishing work is done by the homeowner himself," Bryan said. "Now buyers want a resort home ready to move into. They don't want to spend their time working on it."

Bryan reports that buyers show a keen and knowing interest in the basic specifications of the home—the kind of siding, the roofing material, type of doors and windows. When satisfied as to their durability and low maintenance, they then proceed to discuss location, design and layout.

The average buyer of a Bryan summer cottage is described as in the 40 to 50 year age range, owns a home in town, a boat and most likely two cars, and has an excellent credit rating.

"These people," Bryan declared, "don't need to, and don't want to, spend their leisure time working on their vacation cottages."

One of the first questions they ask is about the siding. How well will it stand up? How long before it has to be painted?

Bryan explains that the siding of the "Texas T"—the newest model—is of mineral fiber with an acrylic-plastic finish that's baked on at the factory. It has a colored finish that needs no paint to protect it. The colors stay fresh and bright because they're a permanent part of the acrylic finish.

Bryan says buyers are also concerned with the roof. He tells them the self-sealing asphalt shingles have been tested by the Underwriters' Laboratories to withstand high winds—an important consideration on the Gulf.

The cottage, which is an 860-square-foot "T"-shaped model, is built on cross-tied pilings to provide maximum view and protect the lower sections from water and insect damage. There are two bedrooms, one in each wing, with a connecting bath, and a living room, dining room and kitchen along the base of the T. Each bedroom has its own sun porch.

Transform Month of Regrets Into Time for Action

September is sometimes called the month of regrets.

Summer is over, life assumes a more routine pattern, and you can't help but think back to all the things you didn't do during the sunny months just past.

In a family, the big bug is the multitude of unfinished tasks around the yard. The patios that didn't get built, the fences that are still on drawing paper, the garden storage facilities that didn't get finished.

But why have September be the month of regrets? Why not make it the month of action? There are still sunny days ahead, and the crisp cooler temperatures are ideal for hard work outdoors.

To make this the action month, pick one project—just one—and get at it. Accomplishing that one task will give you a winter-free from a guilty conscience and you can look forward to spring with joy, not dread.

In order of priority, build fences and privacy screens first. This will give you a free hand to lay out planting beds first thing in the spring without worry of trampling young and costly plants.

Building fences and screens is not a tough job, especially if you use one of the excellent and easily worked western woods like Douglas fir or cedar. Choose a simple but handsome pattern like the board-on-board, vertical

louver or spaced slat, and you're on your way.

Don't worry about painting this fall. If you want to paint, you can do it early spring. In the meantime, you'll have had a chance to see what weathered wood looks like. If it pleases you, you'll be dollars and hours ahead.

If fences are already in at your home, the next job on the priority list is the wood lounge deck. Three or four weekends should see this job completed, and accessories like seating benches and screens can wait till spring. Douglas fir, or other desirable western woods, is the wood to use for this job, both for framework and deck boards.

The best part about getting your deck done in the fall is that you'll feel so smug about it when you move the lounge furniture outdoors next March. The neighbors will be green-eyed.

If the deck is already done and accessories have been built, the job that needs attention is the storage unit for garden tools and lounge furniture. This can be built in conjunction with a fence, the garage, or the deck, whichever is most sensible for your yard.

Whatever the job that needs get with it. Those long winter evenings are close at hand, and you might as well enjoy them without regrets.

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Lagoon Living Lures Families To Waterfront Communities

Last year, the pleasures of lagoon living offered at Beach Haven West, N. J., lured back to the state 20 families who had moved to retirement homes in Florida.

Thirty-eight years ago the first lagoon-type vacation and retirement community to be built outside of Florida was begun at Beach Haven on Long Beach Island.

It thrived, and now Beach Haven West, across the bay on the shores of Little Egg Harbor, is attracting a growing number of families who are partial to lagoon living but prefer to remain in familiar surroundings.

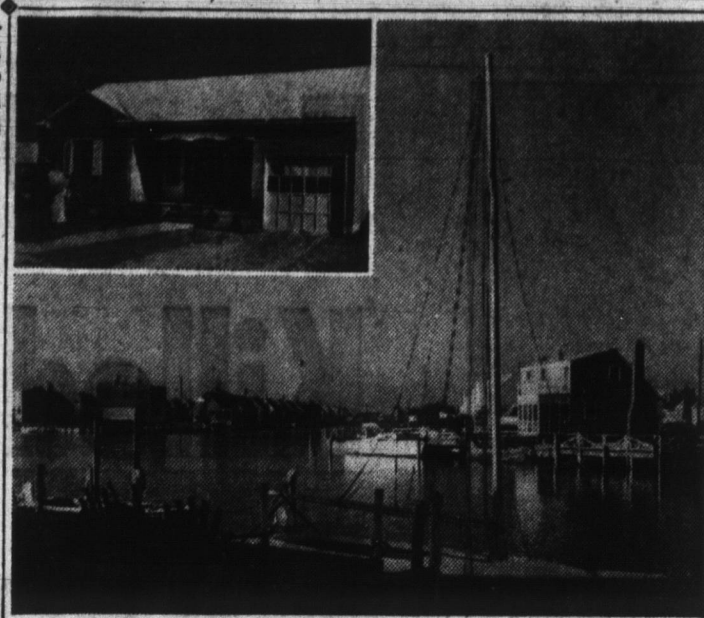
In 1963, 588 new homes were sold at Beach Haven West, bringing the total to more than 1,200. When complete, it will have 10,000 homes built on some 100 miles of navigable waterways.

According to builders Jerome and Herbert Shapiro, Beach Haven West has been designed as a complete community with shopping centers, schools, houses of worship and city water, sewers and gas.

Currently, seven different model homes designed and equipped for year-round living are being shown at prices ranging from \$8,990 to \$12,990.

"Great care was taken in the selection of materials for our homes," Jerome Shapiro said. "We kept in mind that vacationing families wouldn't want to waste their valuable time keeping a place in repair. And we knew that the retirement couples who buy here would especially appreciate the use of materials that would stand up with minimum maintenance."

One of the low-maintenance



Joys of sun and sea are attracting a growing number of families to Beach Haven West, vacation and retirement development on New Jersey shore. Insert shows House of Ease model which features electric heat and low-maintenance materials such as mineral fiber siding and wind-resistant asphalt shingles.

materials chosen for Beach Haven West-homes is mineral fiber siding with a new acrylic finish designed to lock in color and protect it from the ravages of salt air, Shapiro said. Modern mineral fiber siding doesn't require painting to prolong its effective life.

Windows in all models are stock units of ponderosa pine. "We find that the use of today's wood windows, which are chemically treated at the factory, virtually eliminates the problems that plague other windows, especially along the seacoast," Shapiro said.

"All our homes are equipped with electric heat," he added,

"and we like the heating economy that wood windows provide." They are carefully weather-stripped at the factory to reduce air infiltration to a minimum. In addition, wood is a natural insulating material, Shapiro explained.

Asphalt roof shingles approved by Underwriters' Laboratories for their ability to resist high winds are standard in Beach Haven West.

Other quality features include adequate insulation, copper plumbing, wood paneling, tile baths, hardwood floors, an electric range and sliding doors overlooking the bay and lagoons.

Storage House Very Popular

If you have a busy family that loves to be outdoors and which leaves a clutter of toys, games and sports gear all over the lawn and patio, then listen to this solution.

At one end of your patio, design a small enclosed structure about seven feet high with a slightly sloping roof that drains rainwater away from the patio. Frame the structure in easy-to-handle Douglas fir or other western softwood. You will find that 2x4s will be ample size for the framework.

The structure probably should be over three feet deep and you may wish to have it long enough to run along one edge of your wood patio. Side the small building with red cedar tongue-and-groove siding with narrow widths of west-boards for the best appearance and performance.

You can install shelves for toys, and racks for garden tools and sports gear. It is amazing how clean your yard will become when you provide an easy, handy, nearby storage house. Paint the structure the same shade as your home, unless you desire some other brighter color for contrast.

Good Weather's Building Time

Have you been planning a major addition to your home, like a new room, some extensive storage areas or a new paneled wall? Then, you better get going, because Indian summer days are a good time for such work.

You can leave your doors and windows open. If you have a remodeling job which requires removal of doors and windows already installed, then the fall weather is an ideal assist.

Some home owners will have a simple job such as installing wood paneling over the old paneled wall. New walls of the fine grained and lovely western softwoods, which are so easy to finish, make an old room look chic and exciting.

If you need to install storage units, any of the easy-to-cut western softwoods will serve your purpose. Of course, if you plan the addition of an entire room, or you have in mind turning garage, basement or attic into a play room, then you have a major remodeling job which requires good weather.

Again when finishing these rooms for play, you should select one of the western softwoods which has good wearing qualities. Douglas fir, hemlock or larch are good for wall surfacing which receives a lot of rough usage. These woods will resist kicks and knocks and generally as new after your children have just need going over with a damp cloth to make them as good as new housing.

Vacations

A vacation cottage in the popular A-frame built of easily obtained lumber like Douglas fir can provide as many as three levels for summer living.

Enclosed Patio Extends Season

Here's a way to extend your outdoor living into the early spring and late fall days and evenings when it is generally too cool for comfort.

Some enterprising home owners have built a covered patio with adjustable louvered wind screens at either end. With the adjustable louvers, air circulation can be controlled on the patio to keep it cool in the summer but snug and warm on cooler days.

The screens are generally built with the lower half in a solid board pattern of tongue-and-groove western wood. The upper half is built of louvers fitted on dowels so that they can be opened or closed. It is easiest to install the louvers vertically, and, again, western woods may be used. These wind screens may be painted, stained or allowed to weather.

The patio roof may also be built of louvers, but the adjustable feature is not needed. The louvers will work well to give a maximum combination of shade and air circulation on hot days, but will act to keep out cool breezes in the autumn and early spring, especially when the wind screens are closed.

The cost is small to build the patio cover and screens, particularly when you consider that the patio will be inhabitable at high noon or midnight and that the outdoor living season can be extended by several weeks.

Good Entry

A good wall surface in your home entryway is rough-sawn western red cedar, especially if you have used the same wood for your exterior siding. It brings the outdoors into your home.

Better Living

Lowest cost living area on a sidehill lot is a deck extended out from the downhill side of the home at living room level. Sturdy deck timbers of Douglas fir create inexpensive living area for the outdoor time of the year.

Inviting entrance area of this contemporary Colonial home features double wood doors with diamond pattern grilles. Adjacent bay window, with its traditional styling, is set off by fieldstone wall. Doors and windows are stock units of ponderosa pine.

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Colorful Roofing Aids in Styling Older Homes

Remodeling a home with color is an art, a science, and a hobby rolled into one.

Housewives find that color styling brings out dormant talents, results in new-found beauty for their homes. No other home project can produce such marked improvements at so little cost.

The approach to color styling must start with the house as it is. First comes an appraisal of obvious faults: is the house drab-looking, too low, too high or too shallow, or just too old-fashioned? Does it need accent to add character, or a harmonizing color to hide defects? What can be done about the problem?

The roof, which usually is the largest unbroken color area, helps set the tone of the entire house. The roof color and material should be chosen first—and with care.

The most popular roofing today, and one that offers the widest range of colors, is asphalt shingles. They are available in pastel shades, white, black, rich forest colors and blends which provide wide flexibility in color schemes.

New heavyweight asphalt shingles give years of extra service. In addition, their extra thickness provides a deep shadow line.

After the roof color is chosen, select the house body and trim colors.

If the basic shape and proportions of a house are good, they can be emphasized by trim color. If not, it's best to concentrate a strong color at one point, such as the entrance, to draw attention away from architectural flaws.

Thin Oyster Shells Passed for Glass

Many materials have been used as a substitute for window glass in the past. One of the oddest of these was oyster shells.

Back in the 1800's the thin, nearly flat shells of a variety of oysters found in Ceylon were widely used in China and other parts of the world. Although not quite transparent enough to see through, a number of these circular shells placed in a window frame would permit light to enter a house. At one time, the window oyster was one of Ceylon's most important exports.

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