

Careful Color Blending Helps Bring 'Outdoors Inside' Many Modern Homes

Nature's greens and golds can be as important colors as reds in rugs and white in walls in planning the interior decoration of homes having indoor-outdoor living features.

Where a window wall links indoor comfort with outdoor beauty in an unbroken feeling of spaciousness, skillful blending of natural and artificial coloring gives the home an added customized appearance.

"The trend to indoor-outdoor living not only has made the homemaker more aware of the landscape when she plans her interior coloring, but also has opened up many new ways to create color schemes surprisingly individualistic," according to Margaret Pilled, interior designer of Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Company.

"Flowers in your garden, lawn and shrubbery—even the exterior of the house itself—can be a basis for an indoor-outdoor color panorama that is an integral part of your overall living scheme," Miss Pilled emphasized.

For example, soft pastel shades of living room walls can be blended with flowers and shrubbery when the room and garden or lawn are visually linked by a window wall. Furniture fabrics can be blended with the tints and hues of outdoor plants.

Patios offer further opportu-

nities for an indoor-outdoor transition through the common bond of color. Many homemakers are using sliding doors of tempered safety plate glass to join the patio with the interior for a feeling of informality and casual living. They then are blending the material of the patio or the color of the patio furniture into the interior scheme.

Exterior building materials can be used for guidance in planning interior decor. When exterior portions of the home are easily seen indoors, try continuing the color or texture of the outdoor building material in your furniture or fireplace. Exterior siding material of a certain wood and interior paneling of that same wood offer a pleasing arrangement.

Don't overlook the kitchen as a place for blending indoor and outdoor colors to add new beauty. If a pleasing outdoor view is a highlight of your kitchen, skillful use of color can add to the living theme.

"In the past, homes and gardens rarely showed and evidence of pleasing color coordination. The few standard colors accepted as usual were repeated in home after home. But with the awareness of how expanses of glass can bring outdoor beauty into home life has come the development of color to carry out this theme of indoor-outdoor unity," Miss Pilled concluded.

Dreams Not the Stuff Homes Are Made Of

Do buyers cling to their "dream house" notions when it comes to signing a contract with the builder, or will they yield on some details for practical purposes?

Frank Cutolo, who knows from first-hand experience, says that in the final decision the home buyer will modify some of his original wishes for the sake of other features that are to his advantage.

As executive officer of Edlu Custom Builders in Nassau County, N. Y., Mr. Cutolo passes on all building contracts for his firm. In this role, he discusses the specifications with both buyer and architect and often makes recommendations on construction details and materials.

"The homes we build are as attractive as any in the area," he said, "but we keep a close eye on practical matters, too. Our homes combine good looks with value.

"Years of experience have shown us which materials stand up longer with minimum attention. We can be of real help to the buyer in this regard."

Mr. Cutolo recommends mineral fiber wall siding for homes built near the shore, as many of his houses are, because the acrylic color coating baked onto this siding stands up even in salt-laden air. He favors mineral fiber siding for other homes, too, for its quality appearance and minimum maintenance requirements.

A building material that costs



Recently completed center-hall home in Garden City, N. Y. points up the deep shadowline of mineral fiber siding.

slightly more than others is preferable. Mr. Cutolo says, if the added initial expense is going to result in long-range economy. An example is a roof of heavyweight asphalt shingles, which has an expected service life of up to 25 years. The heavyweight shingles are UL-labeled for fire and wind resistance, he points out to his customers.

Mr. Cutolo, whose firm builds homes-on-order in various parts of Long Island, reports that favorite models today are the two-story center-hall with attached garage at the side, and the "high-ranch" built over a street-level garage with utility and recreation room on the ground-floor. He says these are true urban types, developed from early ranch models to give the effect of many small rectangular panes.

Contemporary suburban may feature banks of awning windows, large casement or sliding windows, or double-hung windows with a single horizontal mullion in each sash. Modern designs often are characterized by strips of horizontal windows placed high on the wall for privacy. Floor-to-ceiling walls of windows are used where maximum light and a view are wanted.

The deftness of a designer in selecting and locating windows can do much to give a house individuality, especially in large suburban developments. The many styles of wood windows available

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New Home Opens Door To Better Family Life

BY WILLIAM BLACKFIELD
President, National Association of Home Builders

A new home is the key to better living. This theme of National Home Week, which is the 17th in the annual series, points up the advances in home design and construction that can contribute much to your family's comfort and well-being.

You're enjoying the modern improvements in practically every other sector of life today—the smoother and quieter cars, faster inter-city turnpikes, pleasanter factory sites, attractive and efficient electric appliances, the wonders in the fields of jet transport, communication, and electronics.

So, too, you will appreciate the new homes that embrace advanced architectural design, community planning, spacious push-button kitchens, practical room layouts and colorful, budget-saving building materials.

Consider the recent progress in land development and community planning. Streets are laid out for beauty, safety, control of privacy. Plots are arranged for privacy and maximum use. Service businesses are conveniently located, but do not infringe on the residential character of the neighborhood.

Home costs have increased a bit in recent years, at about the same rate as the prices of consumer goods, but with a difference: you get more house for your money now. Today's home is likely to have more and larger rooms, an entrance foyer, recreation room, better lighting, ade-

Use Care in Picking Out Siding for Room Addition

Planning that long—awaiting room addition? If so, don't take the exterior siding for granted.

This sometimes happens when the home owner gets absorbed in planning the interior, and it can lead to headaches and expensive upkeep later, points out John Concord of Masonite Corporation's Home Service Bureau.

Among the important considerations in selecting exterior siding are the amount of finishing involved; the durability in terms of cracking, chipping, splintering, and peeling; and the resistance to denting and abrasion.

If your back yard is a gathering place for neighborhood youngsters, resistance to denting can be doubly important when the baseballs, stones, and

other missiles begin flying.

Many builders now are advising a new, factory-finished Masonite siding called Colorlok

which is the first hardboard siding pre-finished with Goodyear's Videne film, a tough plastic material

and resistance to staining, chipping, abrasion, fading, and

industrial fumes.

Designed and built by Sandy Hawthorne of Beaumont, the house features an open central

section formed by the living room, family room and kitchen-dining area. It has three bed-

rooms and two full baths and

is well laid out for maximum privacy.

It's available, of course, for

siding new homes as well as for

remodeling.

The contest judges particularly

appreciated the restrained use of exterior materials and textures, including charcoal gray asphalt roofing shingles.

A growing number of new-

home builders are turning to

new, heavier asphalt shingles to

add a greater feeling of substance and eye-pleasing texture to a roof.

Because of their extra thick-

ness, heavyweight asphalt shingles provide naturally deeper shadow lines and have a life

expectancy of up to 25 years.

The house has approximately

1,875 square feet of living space

and sells for \$23,500 plus land,

and request AD-239.

Prize House Features Offer Cabinet Lean Look

A long, low and lean house in Beaumont, Texas, was rated one of the "best built" in a contest sponsored by American Builder magazine.

The awards, according to American Builder, were based on "quality of design, materials and the use of modern building methods."

Attractive sliding doors can be made from various types of Masonite products, including Peg-Board and textured boards. For the free plan, send a postcard to the bureau at 29 N. Wacker Dr., Chicago, Ill., 60606, and request AD-239.

It takes 16.8 man hours to convert 1000 board feet of timber into plywood.

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