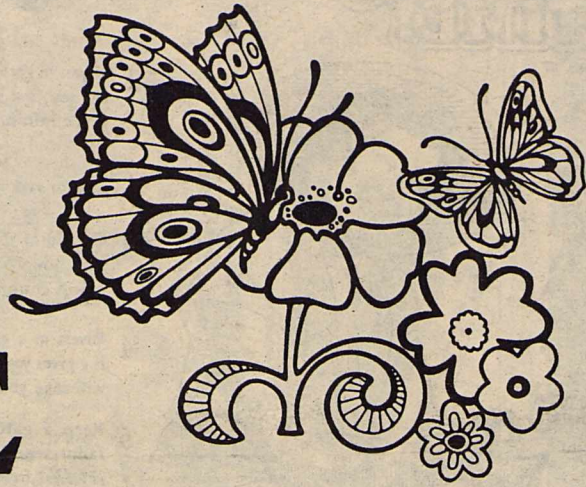
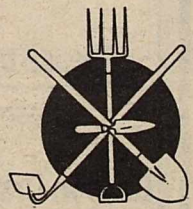
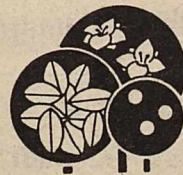
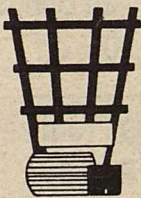
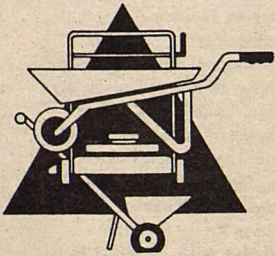


Spring
HOME
IMPROVEMENT



&

LAWN &
GARDEN
GUIDE



Special Edition:
Thursday, March 28, 1987

The Haskell Free Press

IT'S PLANTING TIME!

13.12 MAR '87



HERE'S YOUR SPRING...

Yard and Garden Guide

13.14 MAR '87

- 1 If you're getting a headstart on your planting, warm up the soil first with some hot water; let the water soak for a few minutes before planting your seed.
- 2 Brush your tools with oil to keep them from rusting; be sure to remove dirt beforehand.
- 3 Get rid of those pesky snails by spreading lime around your flowers and vegetables; it won't harm the plants, but it will eliminate the snails!
- 4 Invest in a greenhouse this spring. Greenhouse gardening gives you an early start, and starting plants from seed will save you money as well.
- 5 Keep a garden journal to record your successes and failures and other pertinent information that can be referred to next season.
- 6 If you want to encourage youngsters to garden, start them off with large seeds such as squash or pumpkin, rather than hard-to-handle smaller seeds.
- 7 Store your vegetable seed in your freezer or refrigerator to prolong its life; seed stored in this manner can last for years.
- 8 If part of a bulb has decayed, no need to throw it away; just cut out the decayed part and dust the cut portions with sulphur.
- 9 Even if your houseplant is not in need of repotting, it will benefit from top dressing with fresh, rich soil; remove old surface soil, taking care not to damage roots.
- 10 When you divide old perennials, keep the outer, more vigorous part of the clumps, and discard the older, inner portions.

Your plants can survive the move to a new home!

Ⓜ If you're planning to move this spring, even just down the street, it's wise to give some thought now to preparing your plants for the move. After all, plants are an important part of your home decor, and are expensive to replace.

Advance planning

"Preparing your indoor garden for a move and the adjustment to a new environment is no cause for panic," says Robert Maronde, indoor gardening expert for *Garden Scene* planterware. "It's really quite simple if you follow some basic rules of thumb."

There are two key elements to a successful plant move, according to Maronde. One is to retard excessive growth prior to the move. The second is to allow plants adequate time to adjust to their new environment.

Stop fertilizing your plants several weeks before the move. By eliminating fertilization, your plants have a chance to rest.

"A resting period," says Maronde, "will make your plants more resilient to any drastic changes. Don't worry. They'll continue to grow, just at a somewhat slower rate."

"Also, don't water plants just before

the move. Large plants can be difficult to maneuver and the additional water weight will only add to the problem."

If you plan to repot during the spring, wait until after you are in your new home. That way, not only will your plants have more time to acclimate to their new environment, but you'll have a better idea of what planter colors and sizes will best accommodate your new decor.

"When you repot, select planters with the same care you give your plants," Maronde advises. "*Garden Scene's* extensive variety of planter sizes, colors and styles makes it easy for plants and planters to reflect your decorating style, from subtle to dramatic."

When making arrangements with your mover, let them know the number and sizes of plants included in the move. Plants can't be stacked, so they not only take up floor space but air space in the moving van.

Proper packing plans should be made so plants are situated in a no-shift position within the truck.

Small plants can be grouped carefully in boxes. Medium and large plants should either be twist-tied in large plastic bags or securely wrapped in plastic or

brown kraft paper.

If the move will be longer than a few hours, make several small airholes in the plastic. Don't worry. The plants will not suffocate.

"And remember," warns Maronde, "never, ever, allow large plants to hang out of a moving vehicle unless they are protected from the wind. Wind will tear and irreparably damage a plant's leaves."

If you are not planning your move until the fall, follow the same basic procedures, but be sure the plants are not exposed to cold drafts.

Whenever you move, plants should always be the last items on the truck and the first off the truck and into a warm, protected space inside.

Settling in and readjusting light

Once in your new home, unwrap your plants, place them where you think you want them, and give your thirsty plants a drink!

"Be careful about where you put your plants for at least the first few weeks," says Maronde. *Garden Scene's* plant expert stresses the importance of allowing plants at least four to six weeks to adjust to their new environment.

If a plant had a lot of sun in your pre-

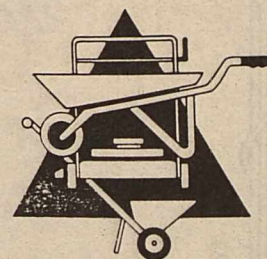
vious home, and you place it in a less sunny area, keep it as close to a window as possible.

On the other hand, if it had limited light before and you want it in a bright room, slowly move it toward the light source.

Don't fertilize again for several weeks. You may change your mind as to where you want to put certain plants while you settle in.

By holding off fertilization, the plants will have a better chance to reacclimate. Once reacclimated, continue normal fertilization and repotting when necessary. Remember, fertilizer is salt and too much salt is bad for your plants.

"The bottom line," according to Maronde, "is to protect your plants, the investment they represent and the beauty they afford your home, by being smart, cautious and gentle. It's simple enough. And you'll be glad you did."



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FLORAL ABC'S...

A is for aster, so pretty and blue,
B is for begonia, it's lovely, too;
C is for cosmos, which grows quite tall;
D is for dahlia, a favorite of all.
E is for Easter lily, graceful and white,
F is for fuchsia, with color so bright!
G is for gardenia, and its sweet perfume,
H is for hyacinth, the first springtime bloom.
I is for impatiens, flowering all year,
J is for jasmine, drawing you near;
K is for kalanchoe, no Johnny-come-lately,
L is for larkspur, so tall and so stately.
M is for marigold, sunny and bright,
N is for narcissus; give it indirect light.
O is for orchid, that classical flower,
P is for pansy, brightening many a bower.
Q is for quiesnelia, the Grecian vase plant,
R is for rose, too lovely to scant!
S is for sunflower, with its happy face,
T is for tulip, cheering up every place.
U is for Unicorn plant, so wild and free,
V is for violet, always charming to see.
W is for wallflower, fragrant and tall,
X is for xanthisma, a Texas annual.
Y is for yesterday, today and tomorrow,
Z is for zinnia, it'll cause you no sorrow!

An important question: Which home improvements are best?

Residential remodeling and repair work are booming. In fact, figures recently released by the U.S. Department of Commerce showed that more than \$80 billion will be spent this year on home improvements and repairs.

A big factor in the remodeling surge is that many homeowners are staying in their present homes longer and are therefore fixing and improving them more than in the past. With the interest in home improvements, come questions from concerned homeowners as to which projects offer the most value.

The following is a listing of four different project types — additions, minor remodeling, outdoor and energy saving — which are expected to give the most return at resale. Figures were compiled by the CertainTeed Home Institute from *Remodeling Contractor* magazine.

Additions

Additions are the most popular type of remodeling projects homeowners engage in today and they also offer the most value. The best additions are fireplaces, full baths, greenhouses and skylights.

Fireplaces average \$3,000 to install, and offer an average value at resale of \$4,000, a 133 percent return on your investment.

The average cost to add a full bathroom today is \$7,500, but it offers a resale value of \$8,000. If your home

doesn't have two bathrooms and you find you always wish it did, now's the time to add one.

Greenhouse and skylight additions are also quite popular and provide good resale values. Installing a skylight costs about \$3,000, but offers a return when selling of \$2,000.

Greenhouse additions, which offer extra living space and year-round outdoor atmosphere, cost approximately \$13,500 to add on, but provide a \$12,000 resale value.

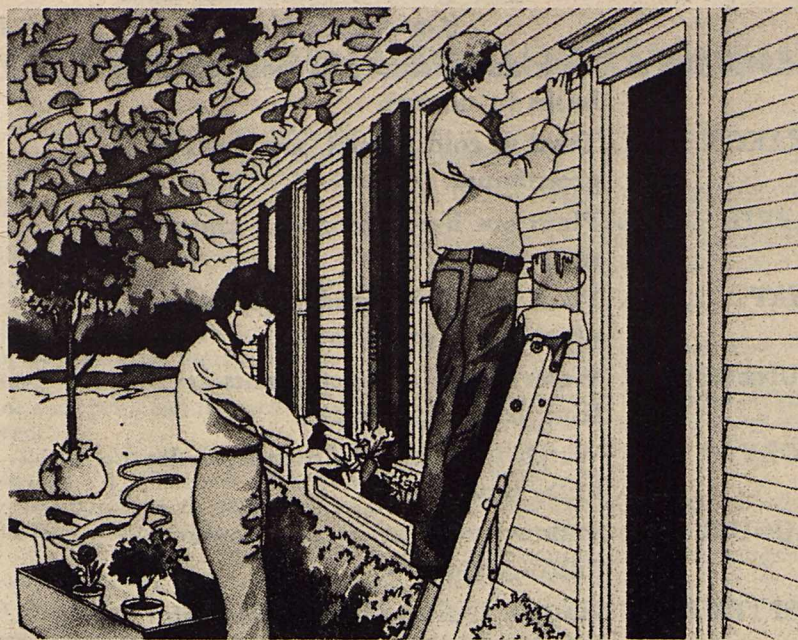
Minor remodeling projects

Other home improvements besides additions that have gained popularity are minor kitchen and bath oriented projects. Improving cabinets, counters, wallcoverings or paint and installing an energy efficient range may cost you about \$7,000, but the return at resale is \$6,500.

In the bathroom, consider such items as a new bath or whirlpool tub and new fixtures. The average cost of a project like this is \$6,000, but its value at resale is \$4,500.

Outdoor projects

More and more homeowners are engaging in outdoor home improvement projects as well. The best of these by far, for comfort purposes, is the building of a deck. Decks are a good way of adding living space and are popular with pro-



spective home buyers. They run approximately \$5,000, but offer a return on investment at resale of \$3,500.

Energy-saving projects

Adding extra insulation to a home to bring it up to today's energy standards is a very easy task and it also provides a good return on your investment. The average cost of adding insulation to your home is \$1,200 but the average return at

resale is \$1,000.

Upgrading your Insulation is also important because, according to a recent survey by *Professional Builder* magazine, energy efficiency is still a top priority among new home buyers.

Therefore, prospective buyers may ask about insulation levels, heating costs and the overall energy efficiency of your home.

Don't move — improve!

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GARDENING CALENDAR

JANUARY Plan your garden, order seeds now.

(Gardener's Note:)

FEBRUARY Take an inventory of tools, check bulbs in storage.

MARCH Tend to cold frames, sow seeds in greenhouse.

APRIL Plant out hardy biennials and perennials now.

MAY Plant out flower and vegetable plants from greenhouse.

JUNE Water, fertilize, keep plants free from pests and disease.

JULY Watch for signs of drought, order bulbs now.

AUGUST Follow a regular spraying and dusting schedule.

SEPTEMBER . . . Harvest fruits and vegetables, sow new lawn.

OCTOBER Clean up garden, plant hardy bulbs.

NOVEMBER . . . Make cold frames snug for winter.

DECEMBER . . . Care for houseplants and Christmas gift plants.

For more fun,

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Ⓜ "Lightscape" your garden, patio, porch or deck. It will enhance your garden after dark and even create an extra room for playing, relaxing and entertaining after the sun goes down.

Around a pool, hot tub or sauna, lighting will provide an outdoor spa useful all hours of the day.

Spot and floodlights will make a garden come alive at night and provide a charm very different from its daytime beauty.

An extra outdoor dining room can be created with an umbrella table on the patio, or a barbecue area centered around a small stone or brick fireplace.

Provide good visibility, without harshness, in the table area, and transitional lighting on the fringes, so there is no abrupt change from the intimate eating space to the darkness beyond.

By installing outdoor lighting fixtures now, you will enjoy your yard or patio this summer and, come next winter, you can set up a lighted holiday scene.

For a fact sheet on outdoor lighting, send a stamped self-addressed envelope to: American Home Lighting Institute, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611.

Spring - time to clean carpets, etc.

As spring cleaning time approaches, don't forget about your carpeting and upholstery.

After all, they represent two of the most expensive investments you've made in your home. And dull, dingy carpets and upholstery can ruin the appearance of an otherwise lovely house.

Even so, many homeowners go about traditional spring cleaning chores like washing their windows and walls without considering a thorough cleaning of their carpets and upholstery.

According to officials at Stanley Steemer Carpet Cleaner, that's a mistake. Winter, they say, takes a heavy toll on carpets and upholstery.

Dirt, mud and — in some climates — snow and salt, have been tracked in. Woodburning stoves and heating units leave a heavy residue of dirt.

In addition, homes are closed tight during cold winter months, leading to an accumulation of dust and odors. They may not be noticed right away but they build up.

As spring nears, thawing snow and frequent rain often cause new problems like the "browning of carpeting," resulting from excessive dampness.

According to Wes Dvorak, Training Director of Stanley Steemer, a thorough, professional carpet cleaning is needed this time of the year. This should reach deep into the carpet fibers and remove the dirt and spots.

Vacuuming alone, he says, isn't enough. A vacuum removes surface dirt and should be done twice weekly, more frequently in high traffic areas.

But no matter how often or how thoroughly you vacuum, soil accumulates. This dulls the color of the carpeting and builds up in the fibers.

Sand, gravel and mud tend to settle deep in the carpet. Along with greasy particles from cooking, smoking or tracked-in asphalt, they're very difficult to remove and can damage the carpet fiber or color.

Dvorak says a professional steam cleaning is the best way to remove the soil and restore the color. He adds that people aren't aware of the dramatic difference this type of cleaning can make on carpeting . . . and upholstery.

"Most people seem to think there's nothing they can do for furniture upholstery short of reupholstering or recovering when dirt builds up. But, in most cases, a good cleaning can make it look like new."

Dvorak cautions people about do-it-yourself carpet cleaning methods. Many of these methods leave a residue of soap which can actually attract dirt. This is harmful to the long term life of the carpeting.

If you have used this method in the past, the Carpet and Rug Institute says steam cleaning is the best way to remove the residue.

Steam cleaning extracts ground-in dirt, which has been loosened or dissolved by highly effective detergent solutions.

Dvorak says Stanley Steemer uses various cleaning agents for spot removal, depending on the type of spot, the fiber or fabric, and the dyes that have been used.

Dvorak recommends a professional steam cleaning at least once a year, to prolong the life and appearance of the carpeting and upholstery. Other options to be considered at the time the carpet is cleaned include:

- Scotchgard Brand Protector, to resist stains, and
- Lysol Brand Deodorizer, to neutralize odors.

Not everything should be left to the carpet cleaner, though. The homeowner has some responsibilities, too.

They include vacuuming regularly and thoroughly, protecting high-traffic and entrance areas, covering arms of upholstered furniture, and removing stains and spots promptly.

The reward will be a more beautiful home for many years to come. And less money from your pocketbook for new carpeting and upholstery.

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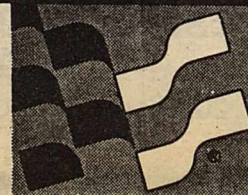


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Furniture Care

While many homeowners concentrate on major repairs when it comes to home improvement, there's a simple way to make any home look 100 percent better.

Proper care and an occasional beauty treatment for wood furniture, paneling and kitchen cabinets can make a world of difference in how a home looks.

According to the makers of Old English® Furniture Polishes, there are simple steps to follow to improve the appearance and protect fine wood furniture.

1. Wood furniture has a complexion — heat and bright sun can make it dry out. The function of furniture polish is to protect the finish from scratching, provide water repellency, moisturize the wood to help keep it from cracking, and enhance the beauty of the wood grain.

Several times a year, it's a good idea to use an oil polish for moisture seal and to help conserve oils in the wood which may "steam out" over the years.

For weekly dusting, an aerosol works well; dry dusting can cause hairline scratching of the finish.

2. As furniture ages, it may become "checked" after long exposure to changing temperature and humidity. "Checking" is a natural phenomenon in which the smooth lacquered surface becomes disrupted by tiny lines and cracks.

Checking can make furniture more susceptible to water damage and, if untreated, further damage to the finish can result.

Oil polishes will seep through the cracks of the furniture to provide protection from spills and help keep the furniture looking great.

3. Furniture in a busy household can occasionally become scratched or damaged. There are many "home remedies" for covering scratches, from shoe polish to children's crayons.

James Peek, a New York antique dealer and furniture refinisher, recommends Old English Scratch Cover — a liquid polish designed especially for covering unsightly scratches that have broken the furniture's finish.

Using a clean cloth, apply a little Scratch Cover to the damaged area, then spread over the entire surface. Using another cloth, wipe dry and buff until the finish becomes lustrous.

The Scratch Cover actually seeps into the abrasion to hide it and protect the wood. Both light/medium and dark Scratch Covers are available from the makers of Old English.

Unless you have experience with furniture refinishing, it is probably better not to attempt to repair serious damage — deep abrasions, marking caused by liquids that have eaten through the finish or deep cigarette burns.

First try the Scratch Cover method. If the damage is still visible, consult a furniture repairperson, as some "do-it-yourself" remedies may cause even more unsightly damage than they fix. For valuable pieces, consult a furniture repairperson.

4. Wood paneling and kitchen cabinets can be forgotten in the regular routine of housecleaning. Yet, like any other wood surfaces, they are susceptible to the effects of heat, humidity and hot sun.

Use cream or oil polishes to rejuvenate and bring out the shine, protect and beautify. If damaged, Old English Scratch Cover can be used to hide nicks and scratches.

5. Finally, when polishing furniture, remember to use two clean cloths. Old T-shirts, flannel nightgowns or towels make good dust cloths; avoid synthetics, permanent press or any fabric with scratchy decoration.

Use the first cloth to apply the polish; wipe and buff the shine with the second. Polishes include a solvent to pick up soil and old polish. Keep the cloths clean to avoid redepositing what you've just picked up.

A fast and easy facelift for wood furniture can be a snap with the right polish and a few tips from the experts. And the soft shine of the wood furniture will make it look like you worked harder than you did!



How to shop for a reputable contractor

When the time comes to replace the roof on your house, do you know what to do? Many people don't.

If you have to choose a roofing contractor, for instance, you'll want to pick one who is well qualified. You'll want one who has an established business in the community, who has a reputation for getting the work done on time, who backs up his work with service, and who is willing to provide customer and credit references.

One way to find a contractor, says the Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association, is to ask neighbors or friends who recently had their homes reroofed. Try to get the names of several.

ARMA says it's also a good idea to get more than one written estimate for comparison. Don't base your decision on

price alone, however, and make sure all candidates are bidding on the basis of the same quality of materials and workmanship.

Before signing a contract, be certain the contractor is licensed and insured, and that the contract specifies the work to be done, materials to be used, completion dates, any warranties or guarantees of the contractor and roofing manufacturer, the removal of any waste materials, the final price and the method of payment.

Remember also that a professional contractor is an excellent source of information on how to use roofing to improve the looks of your home.

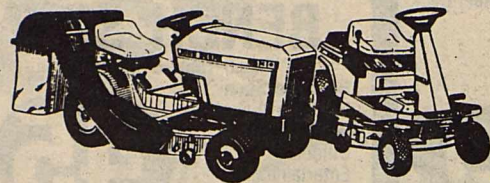
The roof, as the largest outdoor expanse, is the key to exterior decoration. A professional roofer is an expert in the

art of color and roofing design as well as application.

He may suggest a new generation of prestigious, three-dimensional organic or fiber glass-based asphalt shingles that create a long-lasting roof with dramatic bold texture and a distinctive appearance.

Designed to last 25 years or more with little maintenance, these shingles come in attractive shades of browns and beiges that help relate a home to its environment, yet set it apart from other homes in the neighborhood.

For more information on the role of roofing in exterior design, send 50 cents for "A Homeowner's Guide to Quality Roofing" to ARMA, Box 3248, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.



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Cleaning tips for pet owners

Nearly one-half of the 83.5 million households in the U.S. have two things in common: Pets and a pet's odors. According to the Humane Society, Washington, D.C., there are 57 million pet dogs and 33 million pet cats in the U.S., alone.

"Most pet owners share a common challenge — keeping their carpets free of stains and odors," notes Frederic Rench, chairman of Racine Industries, Inc., a leading manufacturer of dry carpet cleaning products.

Accidents are unavoidable. They happen during pet training, and even the best-trained pets become ill. For accidents, notes Rench, keep several tips in mind:

- Unless water is specified by your carpet's manufacturer, avoid using wet towels to remove or blot a stain. Water generally dilutes and spreads the spill deeper into the carpet.

- Use an old spoon and scoop up a solid spill immediately. Absorb urine spills by placing pressure on dry, white towels; then wet towel with diluted vinegar solution and blot area.

- Cover spills with a dry cleaner (absorbent compound), working it through the spill with a brush; let cleaner dry completely, then vacuum away.

- Substitute a layer of paper or cloth towels if dry cleaner is not available. Weight down towels overnight to absorb moisture.

Dry cleaners consist of millions of tiny sponges that dissolve soil and spots before absorbing them.

Dry cleaning works effectively for spills and spots, since cleaned areas can be blended in with surrounding carpet or used to clean wall-to-wall.

Carpet discoloration can occur if you are not able to get to a spill soon after it happens, according to Rench. When it occurs, he suggests the following, if dry cleaner is not immediately available:

- Mix one tablespoon of liquid dishwashing detergent into one-half cup warm water. Moisten white towel and alternately dab spill and blot with a dry towel. If the spot's color transfers, continue; then pack with towels as described above.

- For tougher stains, dab and blot with solution of half-cup white vinegar in half-cup water. Pack overnight with towels (or dry cleaner).

- If neither method shows color transfer, apply an all-purpose spot remover to the towel. Never pour the spot remover directly onto the carpet. Cover the spot overnight with towels or dry cleaner.

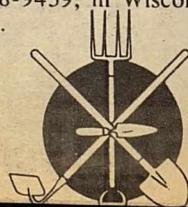
If these fail, the stain may be permanent; call your professional carpet cleaner. When odor persists but no visible spot is found, furniture legs and planters may be hiding your pet's surprise.

Pets also create lounging and sleeping areas. These dull and matted areas can be cleaned, giving the whole room a new appearance and fresh scent.

Caution is advised when choosing a carpet cleaner. "Wet cleaning methods can carry dissolved soil and stains down the sides of the fibers, trapping them in the backing," notes Rench. "And they can wick back up the fibers and smell even more potent."

Prompt action and an effective cleaning strategy — including regular vacuuming of doorways and traffic paths — ensure a pleasant living environment for residents and pets.

For more information, send \$1 for "Carpet Care Made Easy" to Host/Racine Industries, Inc., 1405 Sixteenth Street, Racine, WI 53403. Or call toll free to find the nearest Host dealer 1-800-558-9439; in Wisconsin, 1-800-242-2023.

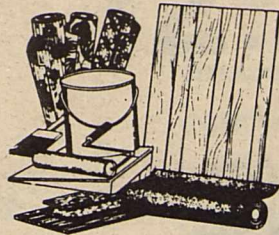


Shop and Save March 26 - 27 - 28

HOME IMPROVEMENT TIME

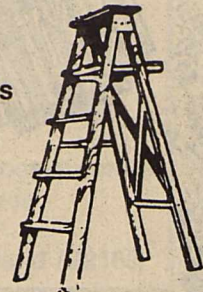


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- Steel side spreaders
- Full sized rails /G7006

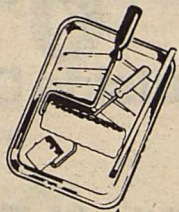


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Outside Latex Paint

Gal **\$10⁹⁵**



9 inch Paint roller & Tray Set

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1 gal. **\$2⁷⁹**

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Latex Caulking

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Caulking Gun

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3/4" Masking Tape

each **59¢**

1" Masking Tape

each **79¢**

1 1/2" Masking Tape

each **\$1²⁹**

2" Masking Tape

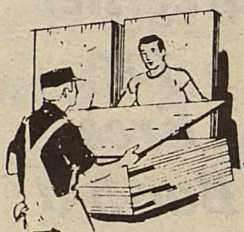
each **\$1⁵⁹**



Klean Cutter per gallon **\$8⁴⁹**

Strypeeze per gallon **\$9⁹⁵**

9 x 12 Drop Cloths **39¢**



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6' Pecan Trees
Burket, Choctaw, Western Schley

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8' to 10' Fruitless Mulberry
Growing in 5 gal containers

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6' to 10'
Growing in 5 gal containers

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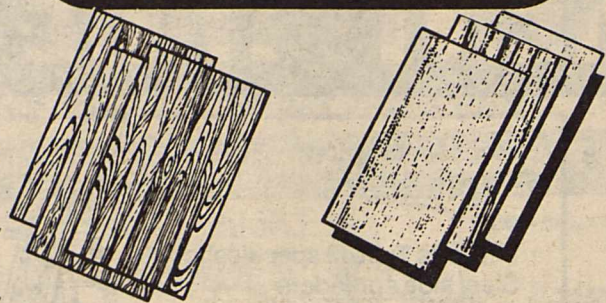
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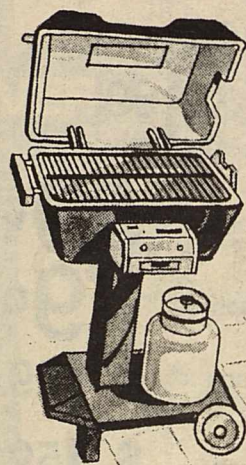
Your Choice **\$4⁴⁹**

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\$3⁷⁹ per 10' pc.

-  Passage 200T **\$4⁹⁹**
-  Privacy 300T **\$5⁴⁹**
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Tylo Locksets**
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FIX-UP TIME

3 Big Days
March
26 - 27 - 28

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26" 8 pt. Challenger II Handsaw

- # CH 11
- All-purpose utility handsaw
- Tempered steel blade for added strength
- Rugged, molded plastic handle for balanced comfort /G2048

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 80 lb Bag



Ready-Mix Concrete

- 80 lb bag
- Just add water /G7108

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Cordless Screwdriver

- #2105
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- Unique power screwdriver
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Cooler King Little Giant Air Conditioner Pump

- Saturates pads completely and thoroughly
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- # 300
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- Weighs 16 ounces /G2071

#835 \$8⁴⁵
 50 Ft.



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- Heavy duty flat yellow vinyl cord
- Solid molded plugs and fine stranded all copper conductors
- Resists deterioration caused by oil, grease, moisture and abrasion

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NELSON Poppy® Square Pattern Sprinkler

- N-54
- Covers area 5' x 5' to 45' x 45'
- First and most popular whirling square sprinkler ever built
- Easy-to-move zinc wheel base
- Rust proof construction /G1032

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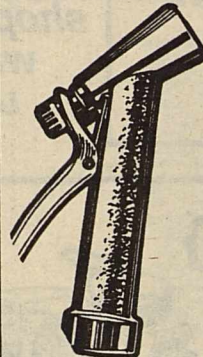
White Closet Seat

- #XM20TM
- Square back
- Baked-on enamel finish
- Top mounted hinge /G5109

4 x 8 Treated Lattice

\$15⁰⁰

NELSON \$1⁸⁸
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Pistol Nozzle

- # 2216
- Chrome-plated zinc body
- Polycarbonate nozzle parts
- Nylon selector knob controls spray
- Stainless steel clip locks nozzle open
- Metal handle /G1030

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Closet Combination

- # 108WS
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Free Storm Door Skil Twist Screwdriver

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NELSON Oscillating Sprinkler

- #1015
- Exclusive heart-shaped cam eliminates puddling for uniform coverage
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- Maximum coverage: 2,550 sq. ft. (39 x 66 ft Effective Coverage) /G1031

Rugged ABS housing

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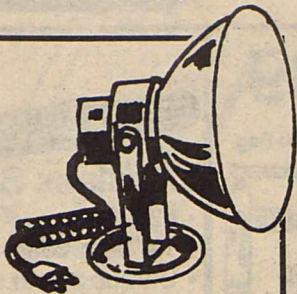
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- Will handle up to and including 300 watt lamps
- Medium base
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12" Turbine Vent # BRV-12 **\$17⁹⁹**

Adjustable Base # AJ-12 **\$5⁹⁹**

Coolcrafter Wind-Braced Turbine Vent/Adjust. Pitch Base

- Galvanized steel
- Silent and smooth operating
- Self-lubricating turbine vent
- Easy to install
- Positive locking system on base /G7048

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\$39⁹⁵

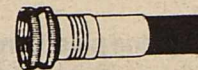
Contractor Wheelbarrow

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- Extra bracing-heavy duty
- Durable enamel finish
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Gates 1/2" x 50' Vinyl Hose



- A versatile hose designed for light watering usage
- Lightweight construction
- Not recommended for use with nozzle shutoffs
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Gates 5/8" x 50'

Flexogen® Hose

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- High burst strength construction
- Brass couplings

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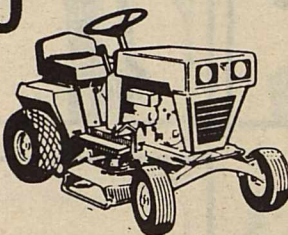
- 2 gallon polyethylene tank
- Corrosion-resistant
- Lightweight



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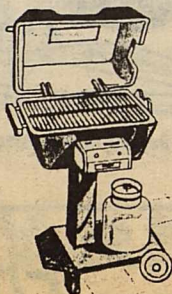
Hurry - Sale Ends March 28

Thanks For Supporting Us For 13 Years

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Bar BQ Grill, Storm Door,
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Need Not Be
Present To Win

FREE Cokes



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Stop weeds before they start

Love to garden? Hate to weed? Here's a hint from commercial growers and landscapers: Mulch film, a type of polyethylene plastic sheeting, will keep any size garden weed-free safely and economically.

Simply lay the mulch film down on the soil, anchor the sides and ends with a bit of dirt, and punch holes with a scissors where seeds or plants will grow.

Mulch film will keep weeds from reaching the surface for the easiest gardening ever. It is unaffected by most garden chemicals, so there's no need to change your gardening practices.

Look for mulch film in hardware stores, home centers or wherever garden supplies are sold. The mulch film should be 1 to 1.5 mil thick and black in color, according to Poly-Tech, makers of number-one selling Film-Gard® mulch film.

Black mulch film blocks the light, so weeds don't have a chance to grow. Black also retains more moisture than white or clear plastic sheeting, and blends in with the soil better.

Some gardeners toss a bit of dirt over their mulch film to conceal the film; others leave their weed-free garden as is.

QUICKIE REPAIRS WITH CAULK ON A ROLL

Try caulk on a roll to stop air leaks by bridging the gaps made when an air conditioner is mounted through a wall. It can also be run down the back of the risers on a flight of stairs, to keep dust from drifting down on objects stored beneath them.

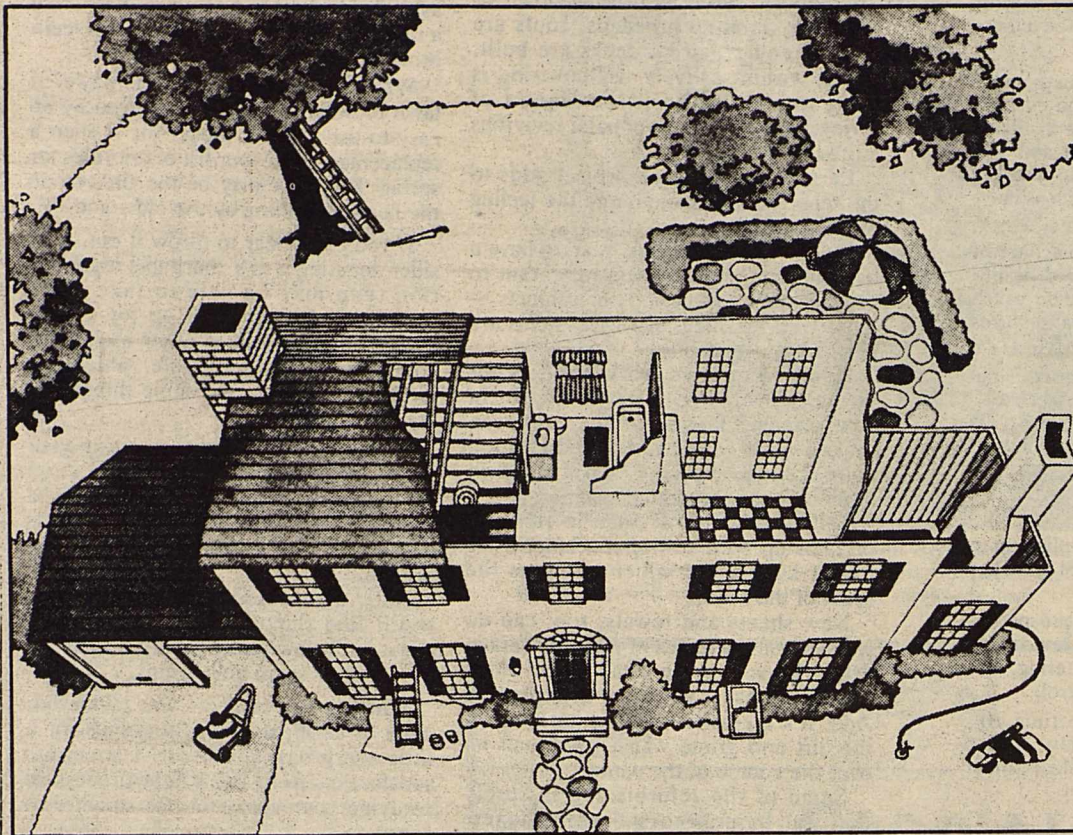
Select the 1/2" or 3/4" width of Elmer's Place and Seal, depending on the width of your gap. Run it along the gap and press it firmly into place. It can be used inside or outside, and is ready immediately for painting.

MODERN SHINGLES THAT ARE DESIGNED TO LAST

Asphalt shingles are designed to provide excellent service for up to 25 years or more.

To help determine the kind of protection you are buying, remember that the cost of application is often the same, regardless of the life expectancy of the roofing.

To estimate the probable annual cost of a new roof, add the cost of labor and materials and divide the result by the number of years the shingles are expected to last.



Spring Time Is Home Improvement Time

Inside The Home

Upgrade your attic insulation with CertainTeed Fiber Glass Insulation to save on cooling costs

Clean carpets and curtains

Install a new kitchen floor

Spruce up your bathroom

Add new paneling or wall-covering to a den

Stow away winter clothing in attic, bring down summer wardrobe

Lawn & Garden Care

Water trees and shrubs

Prune dead tree limbs

Apply fertilizer on lawn

Seed and water lawn

Lower mower height

For The Home's Exterior

Paint the outside of your home or clean siding

Remove, clean and prime storm windows before storing away for the summer

Install screens

Turn on outside water faucets

Patch any bad spots in the roof to avoid leaks

Clean gutters of any leaves and debris left over from the fall and winter months

Clean air conditioner condenser coils of dust, leaves and grass clippings

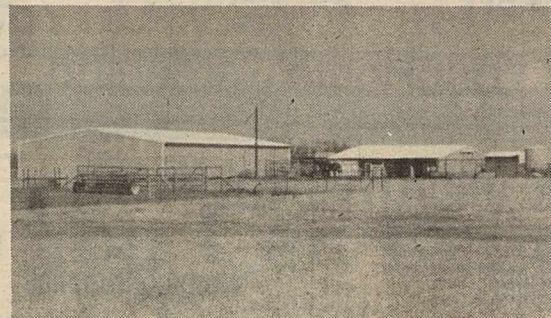
It's Home Improvement Time!

and

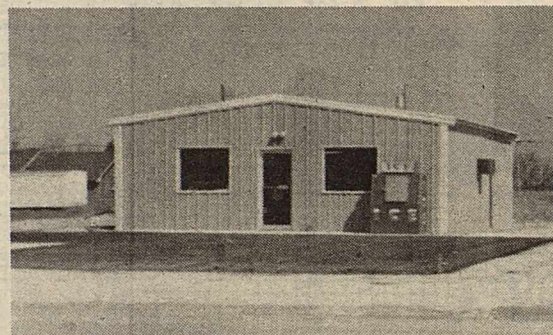
We can help you with your home improvement plans.
Whether you need a



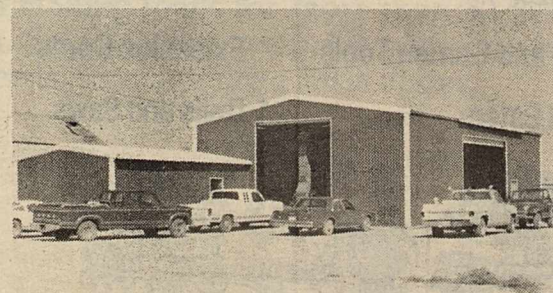
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It
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Learn how basic care can help make your rose garden flourish

Roses are delicate, beautiful flowers that look like they can be grown only by professional gardeners.

But, by becoming knowledgeable of the five basic steps to rose care — planting, watering, fertilizing, pruning and pest control — you can grow your own vibrant rose garden.

Planting

The ideal location for a rose garden is a spot with an eastern exposure that provides at least six hours of sun a day.

However, the absence of an ideal spot shouldn't discourage anyone — roses are hardy flowers and can thrive almost anywhere.

One of the most important steps toward ensuring a healthy rose is the planting hole. A hole approximately 2 feet wide and 1½ feet deep will provide the rose with plenty of room to grow.

Watering

Roses are thirsty plants that require a lot of water. As a general rule, roses should be watered once a week throughout the growing season.

During the hottest part of the summer when the roses are in flower, you may want to water everyday. Be sure the surrounding ground is thoroughly soaked.

Morning is the best time to water roses because leaves dry quickly — preventing diseases from developing.

Fertilizing

Most garden roses require regular feeding. Nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium are the primary nutrients roses need for proper growth.

Whether organic or inorganic, fertilizers help grow sturdy plants with green leaves and vibrant flowers. It is best to fertilize once a month throughout the growing season.

Pruning

The best time to prune is in spring just

as the buds are beginning to swell. The first step when pruning any rose is to cut the dead canes to the crown. Remove all of the weak, spindly growth that tends to crowd the center of the bush.

Pest protection

A rose's most feared enemies are aphids and mites. If your roses are left unprotected, these two pests may drain the life from the rose bush.

Aphids are easily recognized as tiny insects which primarily cluster on soft, new growth. Mites are almost invisible; however, their presence is made evident by the fine webs they make on the undersides of leaves.

Two of the most popular methods of pest protection are spraying and dusting. Most spray and dust products available contain toxic chemicals which not only kill the most harmful pests but also kill the rose's natural protectors such as ladybugs and honeybees.

Reuter Laboratories, a manufacturer of natural pesticides, has developed Aphid-Mite Attack™, a natural pesticide which protects roses from aphids and mites without affecting beneficial insects.

Aphid-Mite Attack is an insecticidal soap sprayed directly on the insects, killing them instantly. In addition to its quick-killing capabilities, the product is biodegradable.

No harmful residue

The natural spray can be applied up to harvest time because it does not leave behind a harmful residue.

It is not difficult to grow a prosperous rose garden if you follow the few simple steps discussed (planting, watering, fertilizing, pruning and pest control).

Realizing it takes a little time and knowledge, you, too, can have a rose garden that looks like it was taken care of by professionals.

Fortune hunters scribble

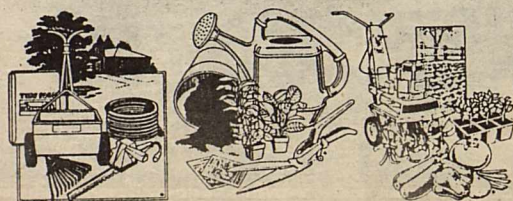
In the '70s, homeownership was seen as a solid investment and the best hedge against inflation. Now that inflation has been tamed, homeownership, though still a good investment, is increasing in value at a much slower pace than in the '70s.

The road to a fortune in real estate these days, apparently, is to write a best-selling book about making a million in real estate in the '70s and conducting seminars about it in the '80s.

Springtime

For All Your Home Gardening and Home Improvement Needs

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- * Insecticides
- * Fertilizer
- * Lawn and Garden Tools
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- * Plumbing Supplies
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- * Extension Cords
- * Drills and Saws



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Renewing home's appearance is a time-honored rite of spring

Spring is a time of renewal. Since ancient days, when the reality of the seasons was explained by the myth of Demeter, the goddess of the crops, mourning for the absence of her daughter Persephone who was constrained to spend three months of every year in the Underworld (corresponding, in calendar terms, to the winter), people have rejoiced when spring returns.

The first pointed crocus buds are an indication that it's time, once again, to make the house sparkle.

Closets are cleaned out, spring clothes pulled out of mothballs and, from attic to cellar, the work of refurbishing proceeds.

Outdoors, siding is washed down or installed, painting proceeds, roofs are cleaned and repaired, decks are built, while, within, a lively wallcovering is hung to reflect the joyous mood of spring, and a fresh coat of paint revivifies a tired corner.

Large or small, each project adds to the sense of anticipation, and the feeling of a job well done.

If you can't afford, this year, to have a new kitchen installed, you may want to consider new countertops or cabinets — those with ingenious storage systems are particularly appealing.

New curtains can work wonders for virtually every room in the house; in your cleaning forays you may discover, tucked away, ones which didn't look quite right several years ago, but which suddenly seem attractive again.

Failing that, it's a cinch to run café curtains up on a sewing machine, using bright new fabric which captures the spirit of the season.

New sheets and towels, too, can do wonders, and a bunch of fresh flowers in a favorite vase are a small touch which has big impact, wherever it's placed. And, it's a great reward for tackling all the dirt and grime which have built up over the course of the winter.

Some of the refurbishing is purely practical. In spring, as well as fall, for example, smart homeowners check to make sure their insulation is adequate; after all, keeping cool air in during the summer months is as important as keeping it out during the winter.

New windows can give a house a whole new look; they can also add energy-efficiency and, depending on the material of which they're made, serve to reduce maintenance time in future years.

Then, there's cleaning out the garage, sorting through the eccentric accumulation of months or — in some cases — years. Do you really need the first rake

you ever owned — sentimental value aside (and who can really get attached to a rake?), is it functional with half its teeth broken off?

What about the old, muscle-powered lawn mower? If it's been replaced by an easy-to-use electric model (or if such a replacement is on your list of priorities for spring '87), now may be the time to do the honorable thing by the old stand-by.

If you can't bear to throw it out, consider donating it to a charitable organization (you may be able to take a tax deduction), or putting it up for sale — along with a myriad of other useless-to-you items — at a yard sale, which can yield extra revenue for some things you really can use.

If you're really assiduous during your spring cleaning marathon — and strict with yourself, in addition — you may be able to collect quite a number of objects which you can turn into capital in this fashion.

And, undoubtedly, in the process, you'll find things you've forgotten all about, and which have been put away for so long they seem new again!

Whether the projects you tackle are large or small, done on weekends, or a little every day, you'll derive a certain satisfaction from the whole process of readying your home for the summer to come.

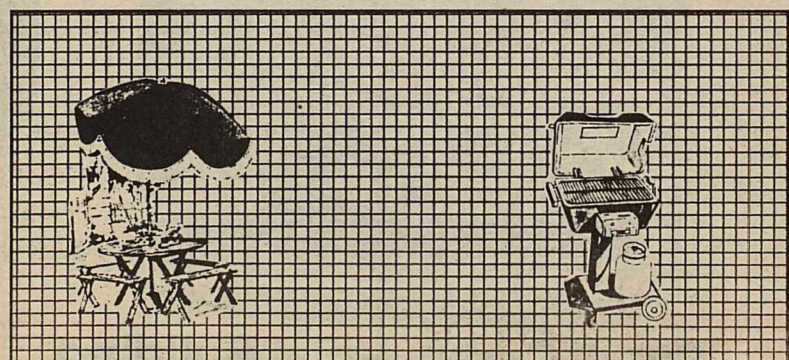
In the process of beautifying it, you will be part of a continuum that stretches all the way back to the dawn of recorded history, participating in the spirit of renewal which has been a springtime ritual ever since man has been able to define the difference between winter and spring.

Now, doesn't that thought make all those hours spent working on a ladder — or with sleeves rolled up, and hands in a bucket of soapy water — worth every minute of it!

Now Is The Time! For Your Patio or Sidewalk

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Anderson Construction Co.

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Haskell

New paneling over old can rejuvenate an outdated family room with ease

When a family room is decorated with paneling that still looks good but boring, often it is left alone...and unused. An updating of the overlooked room can provide usable space at less cost than an addition.

"Usually, what keeps people from redoing a family room is their reluctance to change serviceable walls," says designer Michael Cannarozzi. "With the new plywood wall paneling designs, you can have both practicality and an up-to-date look. Any room that has been paneled can be transformed with new plywood paneling."

Proving his point, Mr. Cannarozzi re-decorated a family room for the Plywood Paneling Council, that started with dark woodgrain paneling.

Light real wood oak veneer paneling, interestingly grooved every two inches, was applied as a wainscot around the room. The same paneling was used to fashion contemporary valances around the windows and to build a new snack center.

The woodgrain paneling is complemented by plywood paneling in a floral design. The light beige background is matched in counter stools, while the flower colors are echoed in both French blue trim and warm peachy pinks used in the upholstery and game table chairs.

"To panel over paneling, use the old paneling as a pattern for laying out and cutting to size," the designer explains. "The new paneling can be attached with either nails or paneling adhesive. Remove the baseboard and ceiling moldings, repaint them to match the new scheme and reattach them over the new paneling."

"Working around windows and doorways is a little bit trickier, but worth it. Butt thin paneling flush to the molding, and then cover the seam with small molding, such as a quarter round, or lattice painted to match."

"With thicker paneling, remove molding, fur out the door jamb with lattice, then reattach molding over the paneling and jamb."

"Light switches and outlets can be raised to accommodate the additional thickness by adding outlet box extensions. With thinner paneling, sometimes switch and outlet covers can simply be reinstalled once the new paneling is in place."

Another update for the traditional family room is adding a snack center that

suits today's new eating styles. This snack center is tucked into a corner with ample space for storage. A lowered ceiling line makes it scale lightly into the rest of the room.

A game table can double for eating, and is placed nearby. Set in its own area is comfortable seating for video viewing.

Furnishings combine contemporary, as in the Parson's table, with traditional, such as the sofa upholstered in country checks.

For more information and tips on plywood paneling, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Plywood Paneling Council, 1633 Broadway, New York, NY 10019.



OLD PANELING DISAPPEARS behind light-toned real wood wainscoting and a contemporary floral design, both plywood wall paneling. Small molding strips hide butted plywood ends around door and window frames.

Thermostats lower bills

New advances in electronics and microprocessor technology have made possible a new generation of thermostats which can help you cut your home heating and cooling costs without sacrificing your comfort.

Robertshaw's electronic Energy Manager™ thermostats incorporate state-of-the-art circuitry that allows you to program them to cut back automatically on heating (or cooling) when you don't need it, and return it to a comfortable level when desired.

Following the simple programming instructions and using the push button controls, you can program up to two economy and two comfort periods per day. You decide when each period should begin, when it should end, and what temperature will be maintained during each period.

The savings in heating costs alone, from automatically cutting back on the heat at night and when no one's home during the day, can be as high as \$300 (ASHRAE Journal Studies, 1978).

Although your actual savings will vary according to lifestyle, climate and home insulation factors, the Energy Manager thermostats are guaranteed to pay for themselves in fuel savings in one year.

Easy to install using just a screwdriver, Energy Manager thermostats are available for heating only and combination heating/cooling systems.

Designed to replace most low-voltage thermostats, Energy Managers are part of a full line of Robertshaw thermostats which fit virtually any comfort/budget needs. These money-saving thermostats are sold at hardware and home products outlets nationwide.



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Poison Ivy: Handle with care

While many plants thrive only in rarified climates, the hardy poison ivy, oak and sumac exist in almost every state of the U.S.

Exposure to these plants results in an estimated 18 million annual cases of severe plant dermatitis — an extremely annoying, painful and persistent skin rash caused by contact with poison ivy, oak or sumac.

Proper attention important

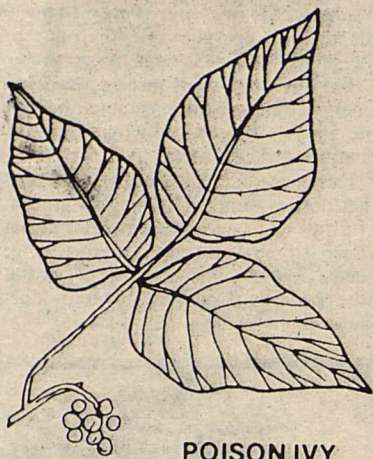
For gardeners and others who are exposed to poison ivy or other strains of the pesky allergy-causing plant, proper and immediate attention can alleviate much of the discomfort, according to Charles Zugerman, M.D., assistant professor of clinical dermatology, Northwestern University Medical School, and consultant to Blistex Inc., makers of Ivarest: The Poison Ivy Expert.

Poison ivy and poison oak rashes consist of varying amounts of redness, weeping and blistering. All or one symptom may be present. Itching is always intense and unbearable. The classic lesion is a linear stripe of rash due to brushing against the leaf.

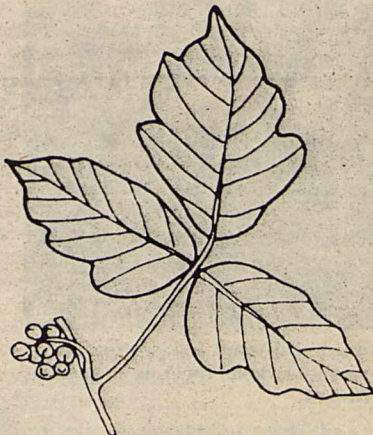
Dr. Zugerman advises gently washing the affected area with plain soap and water immediately following exposure to remove plant oil, applying a medicated cream or lotion, and washing all exposed clothing as soon as possible. Use separate and thorough cleaning methods for clothing.

Long-lasting relief

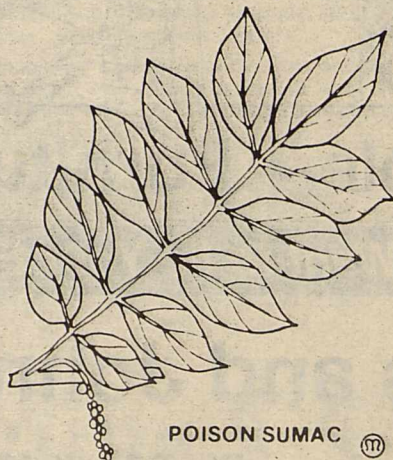
A non-prescription medication such as Ivarest provides long-lasting relief of itching and inflammation, reduces the rash and helps prevent secondary infection.



POISON IVY

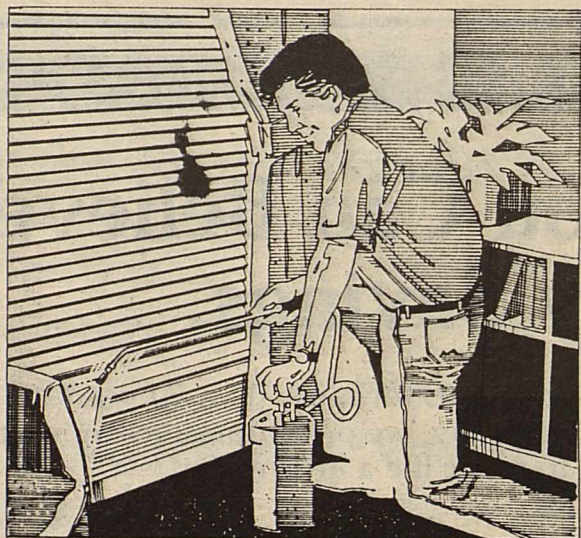


POISON OAK



POISON SUMAC

TO AVOID being counted among an estimated 18 million annual cases of severe poison ivy dermatitis, it is wise for gardeners to learn to identify the allergy-causing plants: Poison ivy grows as a bush or climbing vine. Each leaf has three leaflets with ragged edges. Small greenish flowers grow in bunches attached. Poison oak is more of a low, branching shrub. Each leaflet is shaped somewhat like an oak leaf. Poison sumac is a long stalk with six or seven spade-shaped leaves attached to either side. (Illustrations courtesy of Ivarest.)



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Southwestern style gains in decorating popularity

The style of the American Southwest is fast becoming a sought-after decorating look in homes all over the U.S.

No wonder. Southwestern flavor can add drama to any room with its exciting combination of desert colors, rich textures and native artifacts. Proof is the family room decorated in the Southwest style by the pros at Armstrong.

The interior designers picked a color scheme for the room of red and sand, set off by teal blue. First, a red no-wax floor in a ceramic tile design was put down. On the flooring sit wicker chairs whose cushions are covered in a deep-red Navajo Indian fabric. Woodwork around the doors and windows is painted teal blue.

The primary reds and blues come to life against sand-colored stucco walls and textured ceiling tiles. Rustic beams accent the tile ceiling.

Wood shelving on the upper part of one of the long walls adds architectural interest, and provides a place for collectors to display leather-bound books, wooden boxes and woven baskets. An authentic Indian water jar made of clay nestles in a wall niche.

Other touches reinforce the Southwestern look. Examples: A black wrought-iron sconce on the wall, a wooden stool with leather-strap seat, and a kettle of hammered copper hanging from the wall shelf.

Much of the remodeling for the Southwestern look can be done without professional help. The basics involve brushing on stucco paint, installing the no-wax floor and fashioning ceiling beams by nailing together one by six and one by four boards.

Putting up the ceiling tiles is no problem either with an Easy Up kit, which consists of lightweight metal tracks, clips and nails. You simply nail the 4-foot tracks in place and secure the 12 by 12-inch tiles with the clips.

An added bonus is a no-fault guarantee

when you install an Armstrong ceiling with an Easy Up kit. If you make a mistake, the damaged materials are replaced free, on the spot, by the dealer. Another advantage is the ceiling's 10-year warranty against defects.

To help you get started on your own remodeling project, write for a free copy of the Consumer Guide to Ceilings at Armstrong World Industries, P.O. Box 3001, Lancaster, PA 17604. Or call 800/233-3823 toll-free and ask for a complimentary copy of the Consumer Guide to Ceilings.

VINYL SIDING CAN REDUCE YOUR MAINTENANCE COSTS

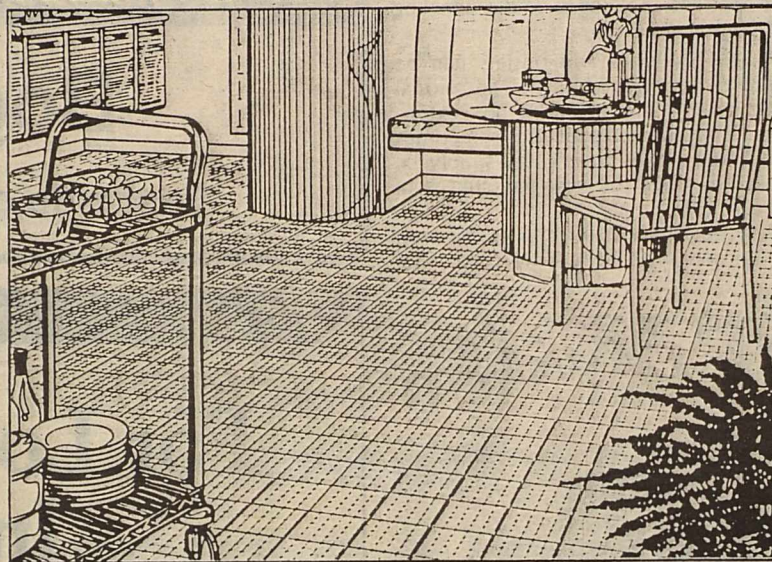
Solid vinyl siding, which eliminates the cost, time and bother of painting every few years, is available with a complete line of matching accessories.

These include shutters, fascia, downspouts, gutters and other solid vinyl trim to help reduce exterior maintenance.

DECORATIVE WOOD MOULDINGS SUIT HANDYMEN

Because they are easy to cut, fit, glue, nail and finish, wood mouldings are ideal do-it-yourself materials. Ideas for their use are described in "Design and Decorate With Wood Mouldings." To get a copy, send 75 cents to the Wood Moulding and Millwork Producers Association, Dept. HP, P.O. Box 25278, Portland, OR 97225.

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Your garden should be a beautiful reflection of your personal style

One of the most enjoyable aspects of gardening is the pure physical work that is involved. This, coupled with being outdoors among the flowers and trees, makes gardening one of the most relaxing and therapeutic pastimes imaginable.

Nothing clears your head of the everyday trivialities and problems of life better than getting out in the air, working with the soil, and being able to enjoy the fruits of your labor.

The ultimate retreat

For many, a garden is the ultimate retreat. It is an expression of nature that is at once peaceful, beautiful and pure.

And, whether you are a city or country dweller, you can have a garden in some form or another.

The other wonderful aspect of having a garden is that you can create your own. Whether it be a flower, vegetable, herb, rose, Japanese or English cottage garden, it can be a true expression of your own individual style.

Factors to consider

When deciding what type of garden you will create, a few factors should be taken into consideration. Climate, type of soil, drainage, position, and access to direct sunlight are all important factors.

Consider how large you would like your garden to be, being careful to note how much time you have to devote to it. You can then draw a diagram of your garden on paper, noting the space you wish to assign to each flower or vegetable. This will enable you to decide how much seed and how many plants you need to buy.

Protecting your garden

To avoid damage by small animals such as dogs, rabbits or moles, protect your garden with a fence that is fairly high and tightly woven.

The time you will need and the method of preparing a garden for planting will depend heavily on the type of soil you have and the geographical location. However, there are a few hard and fast rules pertaining to soil preparation that work for most all areas.

Soil that is fertile with organic matter, well-drained and relatively free of rocks is necessary for a successful garden.

Good air and drainage — that is, free movement of air to lower levels — are necessary to lessen the damage that can be caused by frost.

There are many things that you can do in the spring to protect your seedlings from frost.

If you are able to, plant your garden on a high spot; a south-facing slope or a spot along the south wall of a building is warmer than most places and will provide some protection for your plants.

Coverings for plants — whether they be old blankets, buckets, baskets, sheets or black plastic — will trap heat that rises from the earth while allowing some air to circulate, discouraging the formation of ice crystals.

A myriad of possibilities

The varieties of gardens you could plant are endless, but one of the prettiest, most natural and easiest to create is the English cottage garden.

Informal, colorful and fragrant, this type of garden provides a natural environment for flowers and shrubs. Wisteria, climbing roses, delphiniums, bachelor buttons, daisies, daylilies, basil, mint, lavender and sunflowers are just some of the flowers and herbs that make an English garden special.

Very often these gardens look as though they must have been very carefully planned, given the overall harmony of the flowers and the resemblance to an Impressionist watercolor.

Natural beauty

The truth is that nature, more times than not, is a better orchestrator than we are, allowing the natural beauty of wild flowers to come through.

Whichever method of gardening you choose and whatever type of garden you create, enjoying the creative process and the beauty of the flowers and plants is the true purpose of this wonderful pastime.

The tomato: A favorite of the country's gardeners

The nation's number one vegetable is ripening on the vine from coast to coast. According to the National Gardening Survey, 33 million American households or nine out of 10 gardeners are growing tomatoes, the nation's number one home-grown vegetable.

As harvest time approaches, those 33 million gardening households are looking for creative uses and ways to preserve what amounts to over four billion pounds of tomatoes.

Answer for tomato growers

"We have just the answer," says Charles Scott, president of The National Gardening Association, based in Burlington, Vermont, "*The Gardens for All Book of Tomatoes*."

"This 36-page book on tomatoes covers helpful information on harvesting, fall tomatoes and step-by-step tips for preserving by canning and freezing

methods," Scott says.

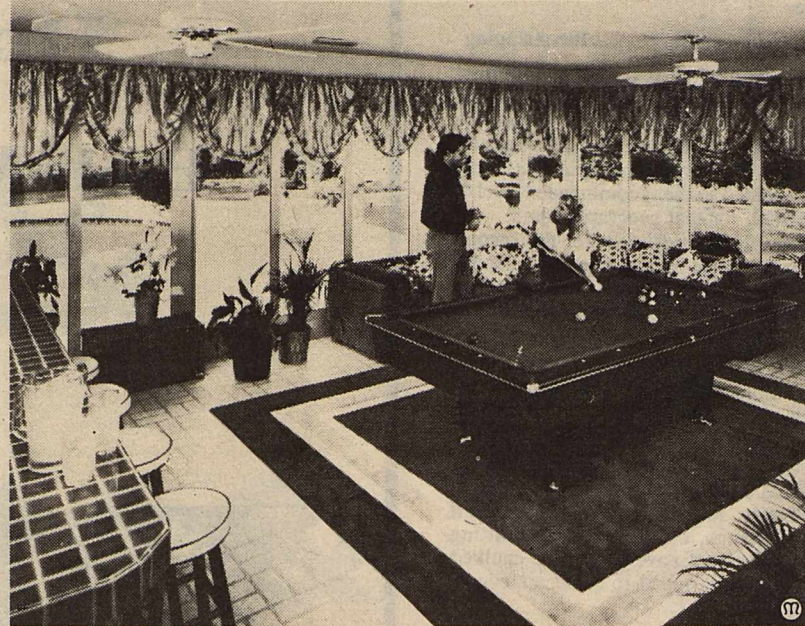
The Gardens for All Book of Tomatoes includes favorite tomato recipes such as Tomato Sauce, Paste, Gazpacho, Relish and even Tomato Jam and Bread, among others.

Useful to gardeners

"Our book is useful to gardeners, year round," says Scott. "It features information on everything about tomatoes from varieties, growing steps and new ideas to harvest, preserving and even recipes."

NGA is offering this book free to all interested gardeners looking for ideas and information on ways to make the best use of the nation's most popular garden vegetable.

Send \$1 to cover postage and handling to National Gardening Association, 180 TMS Flynn Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401.



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Don't forget the four areas of energy efficiency when buying a home

Buying a home is the largest and most important investment decision most people ever make. And one of the most influential factors in that decision today is the energy efficiency of the house.

Why? Because by not considering the energy efficiency of a home, a prospective homeowner could make a costly mistake. Mortgages offering a low interest rate are no bargain if oversized cooling and heating bills chew up the gains.

When looking at homes, the CertainTeed Home Institute recommends prospective home buyers examine four basic areas of energy-efficient construction before making a decision.

These are: 1) Insulation, caulking and weatherstripping, 2) storm windows and doors or double or triple-pane windows, 3) an efficient cooling and heating system, and 4) efficient lighting and appliances.

Insulation, caulking, weatherstripping

Attic insulation is the most important thing to look for when evaluating the energy efficiency of a home. Check the attic (including the attic door). If it has 6" or less of fiber glass insulation, it should be upgraded to the recommended level of insulation for that geographic area.

After attics, sidewalls are the second most important area to check for insulation. Since you can't see inside to determine how much insulation exists, press your hand on the wall.

If it feels hot in the summer it may need more insulation. Properly insulated walls will not only help save energy, but improve comfort in your home.

Next, check for adequate levels of insulation under floors and crawlspaces.

Finally, make sure all window and door facings, corner trim and siding joints and roof eave joints are caulked and weatherstripped to avoid air conditioning loss.

Windows/doors

Standard windows and doors can lose approximately five to eight times more energy than an insulated wall area of the same size. Therefore, it's important to check for storm windows and doors. They can help reduce energy loss by as much as 25 percent.

If the home doesn't have storm windows, look for double or triple-paned glass. It offers double and triple the thermal efficiency of a regular window.

Central heating and cooling systems

The efficiency of a central heating and cooling system will have a major impact on annual energy bills.

Check the efficiency rating on the furnace and boiler. It should have an AFUE (Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency) of 80 percent or higher.

If you're looking at an older furnace, check to see if it runs smoothly or quietly. Look for oil stains and signs of wear. Ask how old it is. The average furnace can be expected to last about 25-30 years.

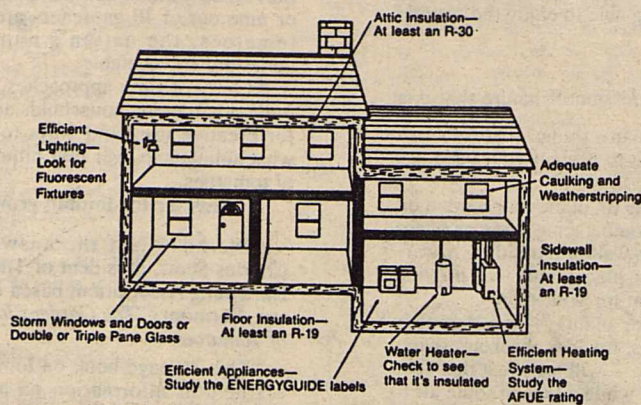
If the home has a heat pump, check its Heating Seasonal Performance Factor (HSPF) rating. A HSPF rating of more than 7 is excellent. A Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER) rating measures a heat pump's cooling efficiency. The higher the SEER, the more efficient it is at cooling. A SEER rating over 9 is excellent.

Lighting and appliances

The lighting and appliances in a home, to a lesser degree, also affect the amount of energy consumed, so look for efficient ones. A good way to evaluate efficiency of major appliances is to look for the bright yellow and black ENERGYGUIDE label to help you determine estimated annual operating costs. Look also for fluorescent fixtures.

For more tips on buying an energy-efficient home, write to the CertainTeed Home Institute, P.O. Box 860, Valley Forge, PA 19482, for a copy of the "Energy Checklist For Home Buying And Selling."

An Energy Efficient Home Has:



FOR BIRDLIVERS

Americans reportedly spend \$90 million yearly on birdseed for their fine-feathered friends. However, much of the money is wasted because some species don't eat seeds. Woodpeckers and hummingbirds are two examples.

Those who would like to help birds make it through the winter should visit their local library and read up on the feeding habits of local species.

MEASURING UP

For more than one-hundred years, Lufkin tapes manufactured by Cooper-Tools have been meeting the measuring needs of surveyors, carpenters, architects and do-it-yourselfers.

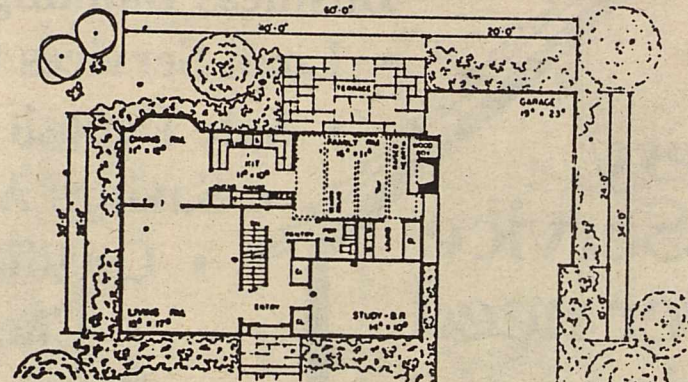
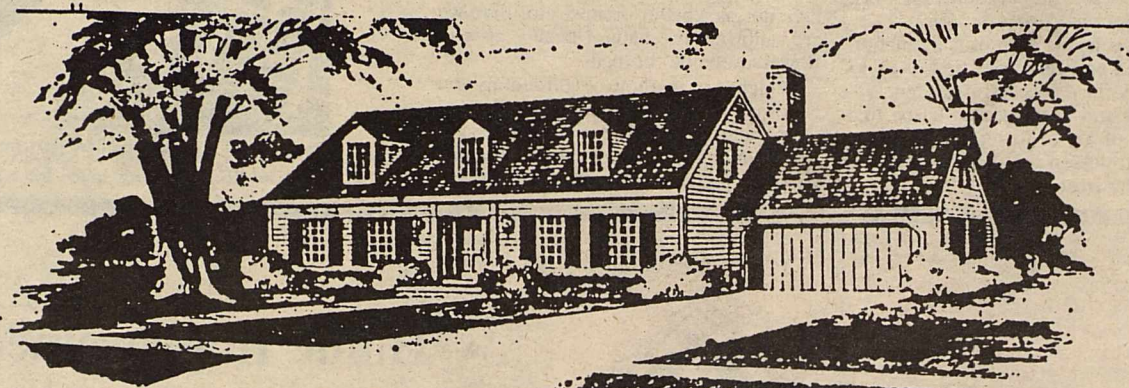
With tapes designed for easy reading and durability, Lufkin has been supplying measuring tapes to the Olympics and is the official supplier to the U.S. Track and Field Team.

Home of the Month Featured by Bob Wood Construction

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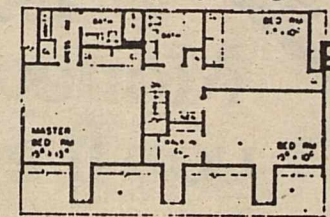
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