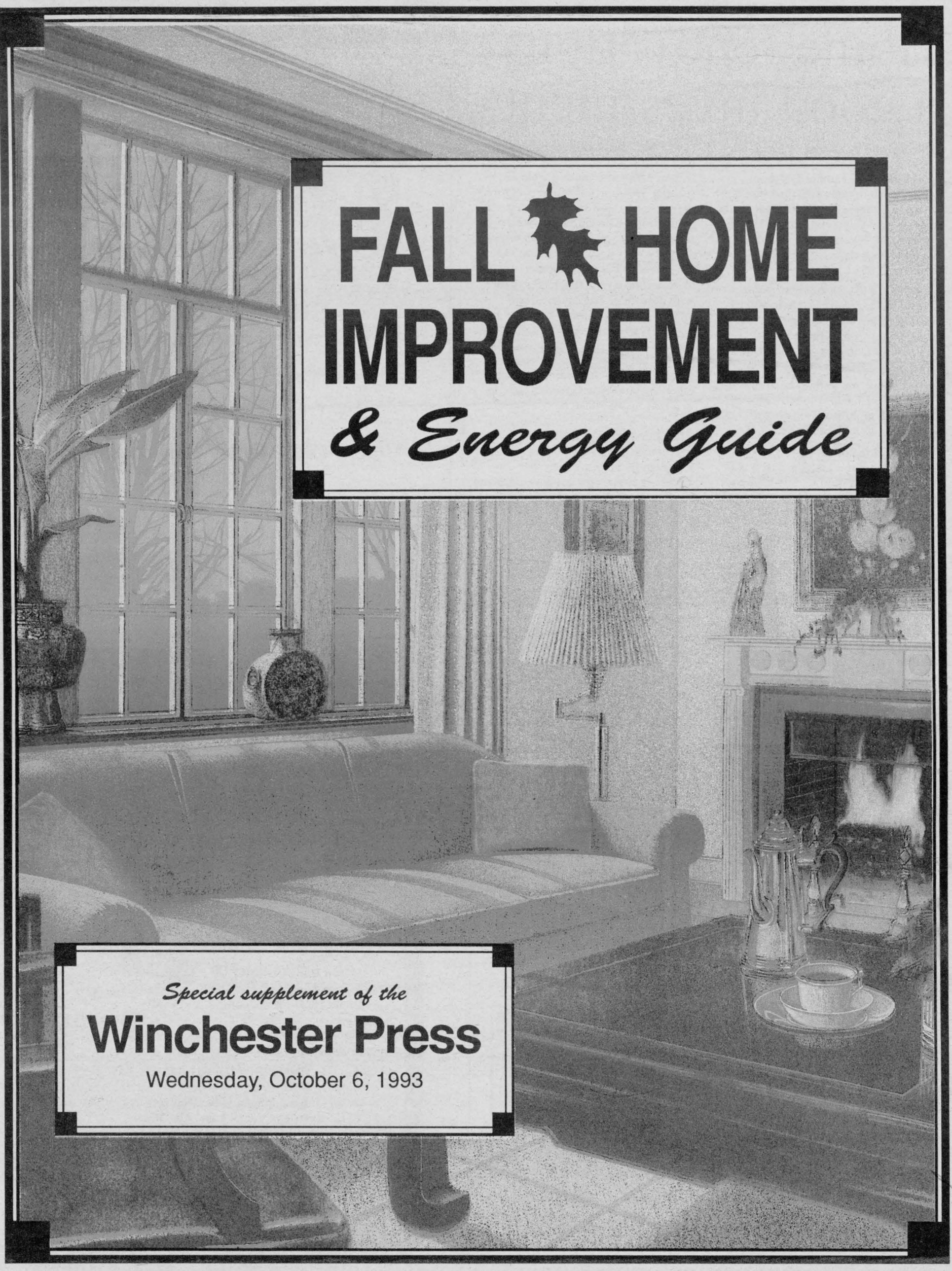


FALL HOME IMPROVEMENT

& Energy Guide

Special supplement of the

Winchester Press

Wednesday, October 6, 1993

Home renovations a good investment

The decision to renovate a home often starts with a dream: a new kitchen, a new bathroom, another bedroom, and so on. Such dreams are often based on a sound business decision. Renovating what is probably your biggest and best investment — your home — can increase both its value and your enjoyment of it.

Planning the financing of your renovation carefully can help you to maximize the benefits, and prevent your dream from turning into a nightmare. Consider the following scenario.

You think you know what you want. You talk to friends who have already renovated, and then you invite a contractor to look at the house.

The contractor asks for a description of the job. The south wall has to go, you tell him. The kitchen should be extended at least 12 feet. You want an island in the work area, pot lights in the ceiling.

The contractor scratches his chin and muses about, "the high cost of everything today". Your tentative budget is $15,000. His estimate is $25,000.

Now what? Scale down the job, or put it on hold until you save more money? Your dream slowly fades into the future. However, waiting may not be the solution. The cost of the work may well increase by the time you save the extra cash. One well-known consultant in renovations says this is a common dilemma.

HOW TO PLAN

Many of us embark on renovations without a carefully laid-out plan that protects against additional costs, time losses and other unforeseen situations that sometime give renovating a bad name. To avoid surprises and complications, draft a blueprint that includes the specs for the job as well as a clear picture of the funds available and repayment terms that fit your budget and lifestyle.

For your financial blueprint, the first person you should talk to is your lender. More and more people are seeking pre-approval of loans before they discuss the work with prospective contractors. Knowing exactly how much money you have available will simplify your decision-making as to the extent of the renovation.

Reviewing your financial situation with a professional lender offers another benefit: it helps you take stock of the effect of the borrowing on other aspects of your life. You may want to ensure that the renovation doesn't mean giving up the yearly vacation or other activities you consider essential to a reasonable lifestyle.

THE BEST WAY TO BORROW

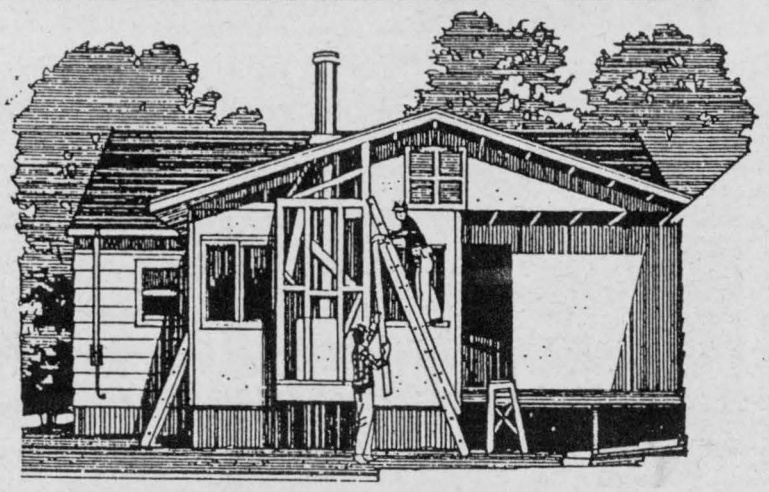
The discussion with a lender may also help identify avenues for financing that might not have occurred to you. For instance, as an alternative to a loan you may wish to consider increasing an existing mortgage. This can often be done easily and at low cost.

You may also want to consider taking on a second mortgage, or using the equity in your home as security to arrange a longer repayment period, or to borrow a larger amount than would be available through an unsecured loan. All of these possibilities have to be balanced against what you anticipate to be the added value resulting from the renovation.

Another financing option is a line of credit. This allows you to have a set amount 'on tap' to use as you need while the job progresses.

No matter what you decide, the important thing is to line up your financing and have it pre-approved so that you are sure of your position going into discussions with prospective contractors. The chances of realizing your dream are much more likely if you start with the money.

(This article was supplied by John Campeau, Bank of Montreal, Winchester branch.)



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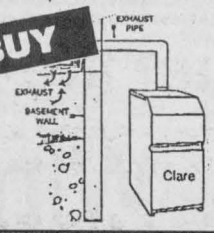
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Shine on

The luster of a hardwood floor such as this is not out of the reach of the average home renovator. By expending a little work and energy, almost anyone can install this feature, adding extra value to a house.

Let wood's beauty shine through

It's been said that the art of wood finishing is "making do" with what you have, rather than buying new. Thanks to the recession, back-to-nature movement, casual styles and new technologies, "making do" has never been more popular.

As proof, most manufacturers of wood-finishing products are seeing a 10 to 30 percent sales increase for '93. And a few are calling this their best year yet.

Also positioning their products are some of the newer finishes, such as tintable stains, pastels, whitewashes and pickling stains.

The look of pickled wood on kitchen cabinetry is a case in point. Clean and fresh-looking, the finish is a top seller, particularly in model homes. In addition to cabinetry, these products are being used increasingly on flooring, furniture, paneling, railings and trim.

As the economy has tightened, consumers have found a variety of other uses for wood finishes. An application that continues to gain popularity, for example, is wood graining on steel and fiberglass entry doors to resemble expensive woods such as oak and mahogany.

But at the same time, the real thing is gaining interest. Clear finishes, in particular, are in big demand because they allow the natural grain of the wood to show through. A favorite finish for flooring, ceiling beams and trim, clears are popular not only in country decors, but wherever a warm, inviting ambiance is desired. Tinted stains, which are transparent but with just a touch of color, likewise are on the rise.

While nature's "imperfections"—knots, deep grains and soft spots—may add rusticity, some consumers prefer a bit more polish. To meet this need are a variety of products that improve on Mother Nature, such as stain controller and wood filler. Suitable for all woods, this last product is especially useful for oak which has a deeper grain.

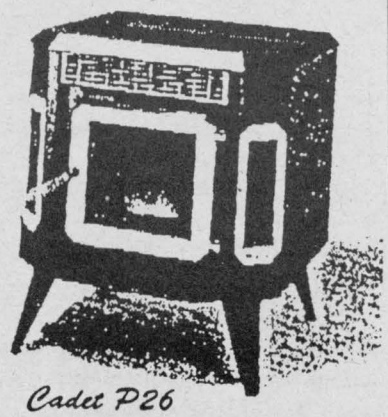
Yet another popular style is the combination of paint and stain. Combinations of the two on coffee and end tables, bedroom ensembles, dining suites and other furniture pieces are now common.

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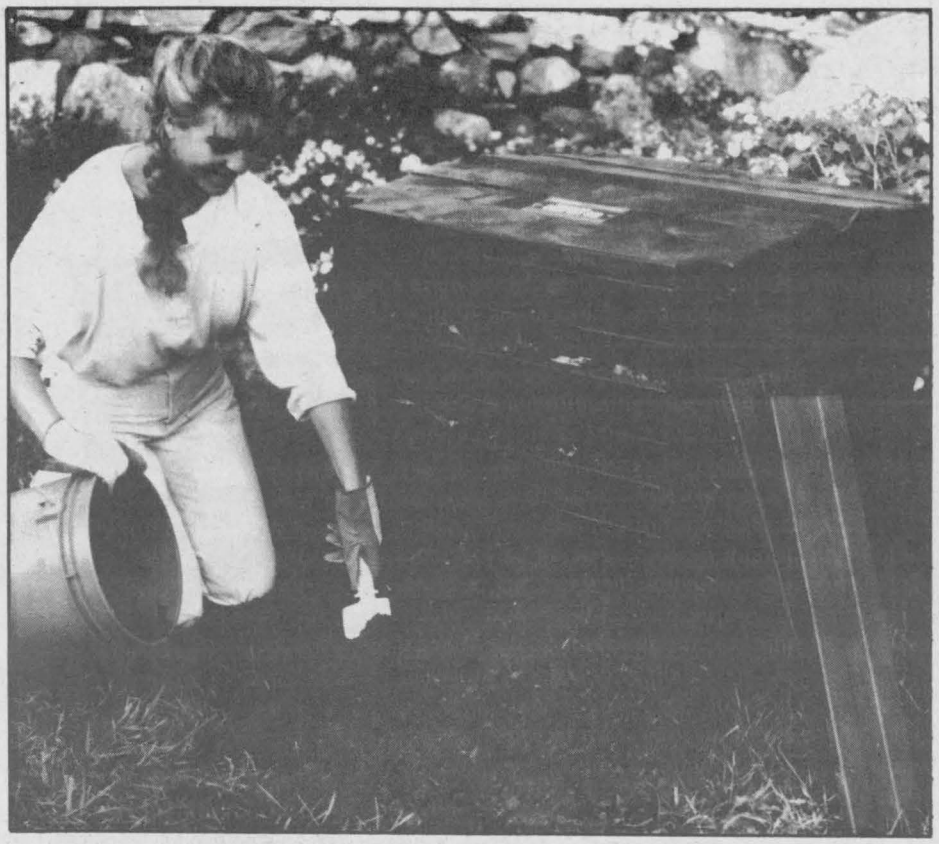
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By starting a compost heap in your backyard, you can aid in the recycling of lawn, food and paper wastes. When used as a means of disposal, composting can reduce the amount of garbage that your family actually has to put out at the curb by 25 per cent or more. For quick and effective composting, you can purchase a compost bin at a garden centre or hardware store.

Stenciling: unique and inexpensive

For those who have had unfortunate experiences attempting to wallpaper a room, take note. Modern-day technology has allowed stenciling to become a goof-proof home dec technique that makes no demands for artistic ability and yet offers the superior decorating tool of hand-painted design.

When buying stenciling supplies, be sure your chosen stencils lie flat against the wall. This prevents any paint build up. One of the most recommended paints to use is quick-drying Japan paint, since it literally dries as fast as it is applied, thus eliminating the chance to smudge the newly painted surface. This, together with the use of a China bristle brush, is the real secret behind beautiful stenciling and will also considerably decrease the amount of time required to finish the project.

Another plus to stenciling is that it is extremely cost effective—stencils can be used over and over again, and a 2-fluid-ounce jar of Japan paint will get you through a border stenciling design for three 9' X 12' rooms or more.

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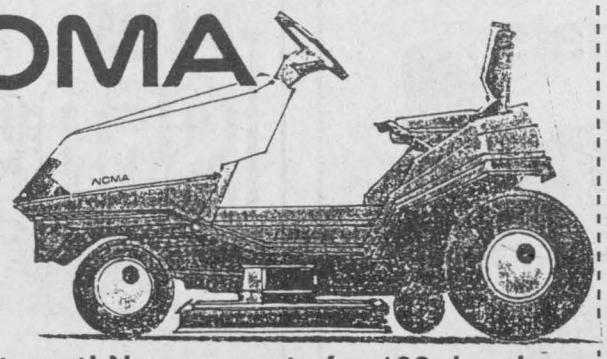


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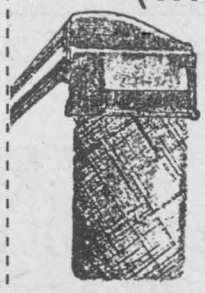


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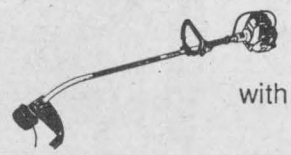


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Getting the most from your kitchen

by Jean Wiseman

If you're like most of us, you spend a third of your life asleep, but do you know how much time you spend in the kitchen? Considering the kitchen is often the central gathering room in the house, it's worthwhile to make it both a practical and pleasant environment.

Whether your kitchen layout was carefully planned, or whether it just grew, you can make life easier by focusing on the room's organization.



Kitchen ideas

Many building centres have kitchen consultants to help pick out what's right for your home.

Press photo — Edwards

Here are a few tips:

- Store items close to where you will be using them—pots and pans near the stove, tea, coffee and sugar close to the counter.
- Good lighting is not only for convenience, it prevents accidents when chopping or slicing food. Fluorescent strip lighting actually uses less power than ordinary light bulbs.
- You can enliven the "ambiance" with pots of herbs, hanging bunches of garlic or onions or one or two pretty hanging plants.
- A row of your favorite coffee cups—together with other favorite items—personalizes the space.

Small kitchens are not always a disadvantage. They just need good planning. Shelving provides storage without robbing floor space. Even high shelves have their use, if you have a compact, sturdy step stool. Smaller appliances take up less space (and take less time to clean!). Try door-mounted racks inside cabinets for even more storage.

There are under-cabinet-mounted coffee makers and wall-mounted microwaves available—just avoid the temptation of buying equipment that you may seldom use. With a small kitchen it's essential that every item pays for its own space!

Your color scheme can make the kitchen look larger if you keep to light colors. Strong colors can be overpowering in all but the largest of kitchens. Blue is a good color but may feel cool in winter; yellow is cheerful but may attract insects—the last thing you want in a kitchen!

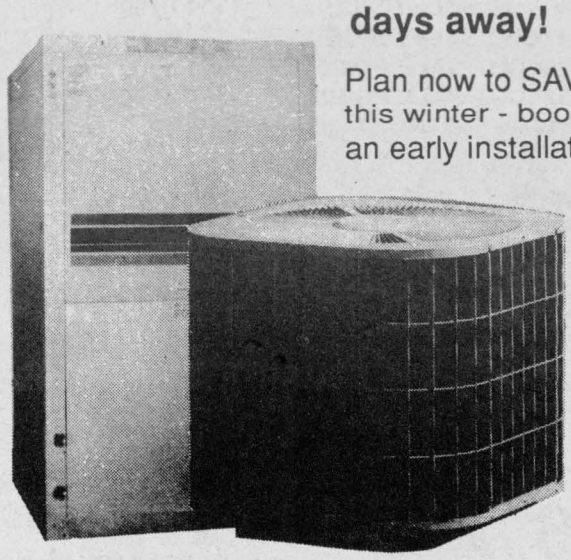
If you're buying a new kitchen table and chairs, study them carefully. Tables that fold and chairs that stack can be big space-savers.

Choose a simple menu when entertaining. A dish that can be cooked in a minimum of dishes—or that will go from oven to table—is ideal. Well-planned meals mean you won't have messy pots and pans around when the visitors arrive.

Organization and a willingness to experiment go a long way to creating a truly inviting kitchen—the heart of your home.

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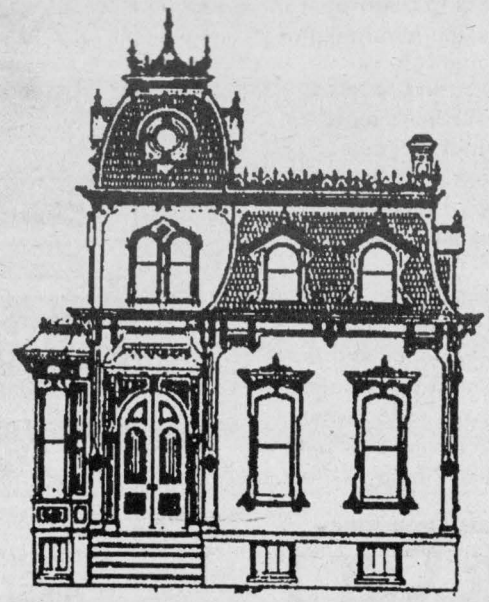
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Indoor air pollution

You've just returned from the doctor who has told you your three-year-old is allergic to dust, molds, pet hair and 89 other things found in a normal household. Or, your new housemate smokes, yet just looking at a cigarette can trigger your coughing fit. Or, perhaps, your kids are begging for a new puppy, yet you-know-who will be the one to keep up with the constant vacuuming of carpets and upholstery.

The answer may lie in an electronic air cleaner. Once considered a luxury, electronic air cleaners are becoming more affordable, and are often offered as standard equipment in new homes. As homes become better insulated and more airtight to save on heating and cooling loss, more particles are trapped indoors creating 'indoor air pollution'.

Electronic air cleaners can remove up to 95 per cent of the dust, dirt, smoke, pollen, grease and micro-organisms that are circulating within a typical home.

Working on a principle similar to a magnet, electronic air cleaners use a four-step cleaning process to electronically 'scrub' indoor air. First, large particles such as lint are screened out of the air by a pre-filter. Next, the remaining smaller particles, too small to be seen with the naked eye, receive an electronic charge in the ionizer section.

These charged particles are then magnetically trapped in the collector, before passing through a charcoal filter which further cleans the air. The fourth step neutralizes the charged air before it is recirculated into the room or air duct.

The ionization process allows electronic air cleaners to remove particles as small as one-hundredth of a micron, which includes most tobacco smoke, fumes and bacteria. On the other hand, the best, most efficient mechanical air cleaners, which use a filter similar to the pre-filter in the first step of the electronic process, will remove particles a half micron or larger.

Because they dramatically cut down on indoor grime, electronic air cleaners can save you money and time spent cleaning walls and furnishings, replacing furniture, and redecorating. Additionally, an air cleaner attached to a central air system will help pay for itself by maintaining the peak operating efficiency of your system.

Depending on the amount of pollutants in your home, the air cleaner's filter has to be cleaned every month or so. Most air cleaners come with an easily accessible filter cartridge for easy cleaning. Purchasing an air cleaner is much like purchasing an air conditioner — you need to pay attention to efficiency ratings.

Electronic air cleaners that are attached to central air systems should rate at least 65 per cent efficiency at the higher airflow rating of your system. Airflow, which is measured in cubic feet per minute (cfm), measures the rate that air circulates within your system's air ducts. Your air conditioning dealer can help you choose the model that is properly sized for your system.

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The Doxtaters and certificates, with Oxford's Nik Wellstein: making R2000 affordable for the first-time home buyer.

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The completion of the 960 square foot energy efficient home was commemorated by two framed certificates signed by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Bill McKnight.

In a small ceremony held recently, the Doxtaters were presented with the certificates by Nik Wellstein, president of Oxford Construction. Oxford has been building R2000 homes since 1989.

"We've shown that people do find value in an R2000 home," says Wellstein. "Yes, there are some extra costs initially, but between the added energy efficiency and the resale ability, the value is definitely there."

Wellstein's company custom builds affordable conventional and R2000 homes in Eastern Ontario. In addition, they offer a choice of homes in their Tanager Woods subdivision (recently featured in an area paper), and a Kemptville subdivision called Victoria Park.

"We are definitely catering to the first-time home buyer," added Wellstein. He feels that what makes his company different is that he leads his clients 'step-by-step' through the home-buying process. "We try to take the mystery out of the process. I think people like that."

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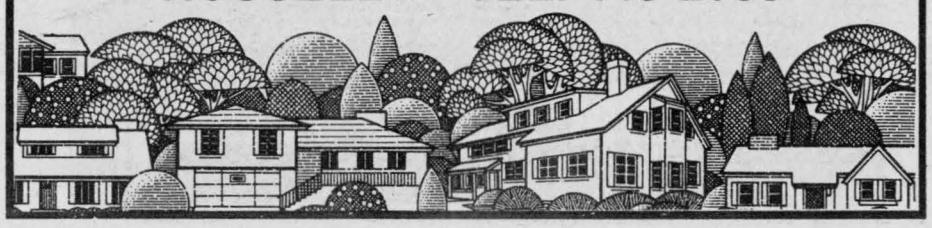
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October right for pruning

by Arthur Hines

October means pruning season. Even the smallest garden seems to have at least one shrub or tree in need of attention.

The most obvious candidates for pruning are fruit trees, but don't forget the other candidates. For example, many roses need to be cut back to the ground.

Deciduous trees also need to be evaluated. And the pruning technique is little different from that used with fruit trees. Dead material should be neatly trimmed back to the next branch or trunk. Be prepared to cut live growth, too, if the center of the tree is becoming tangled or branches are crossing and rubbing, but do consult a specialist if the tree is mature and valuable. Finish the job with pruning paint to deter rot and disease.

A lot of pruning technique is simply common sense. Make clean cuts, never cut close to fragile buds, never cut too far from shoots (the wood dies back) and always make a sloping cut to avoid the rot that sets in when water can't drain away from the area.

But there is a skill in shaping trees to fit their surroundings, and these can be particularly effective in small gardens where modest gardeners might be unaware that they can grow fruit trees. There are several methods for pruning and training trees. Of course, you'll want to research the subject in greater depth, but here's a brief description of three popular styles.

FANS. As the name suggests, this fan shape stretches out from a short trunk. Fans are popular for cherries and peaches which enjoy the shelter and warmth of walls and fences. Such trees are especially decorative at blossom time.

ESPALIERS. Used for apples and pears, this method features long main branches which exit a central spine at right angles. Well-pruned secondary branches actually bear the fruit.

CORDONS. Less decorative, this method involves concentrating on training one branch against a wall or fence and pruning it down to short fruit-bearing spurs.

Pruning technique with blackcurrants does vary with varieties, so do some research; the general rule is to cut back old wood which fruited this year.

It's a similar story with blackberries and raspberries—cut old fruiting wood back to ground level.

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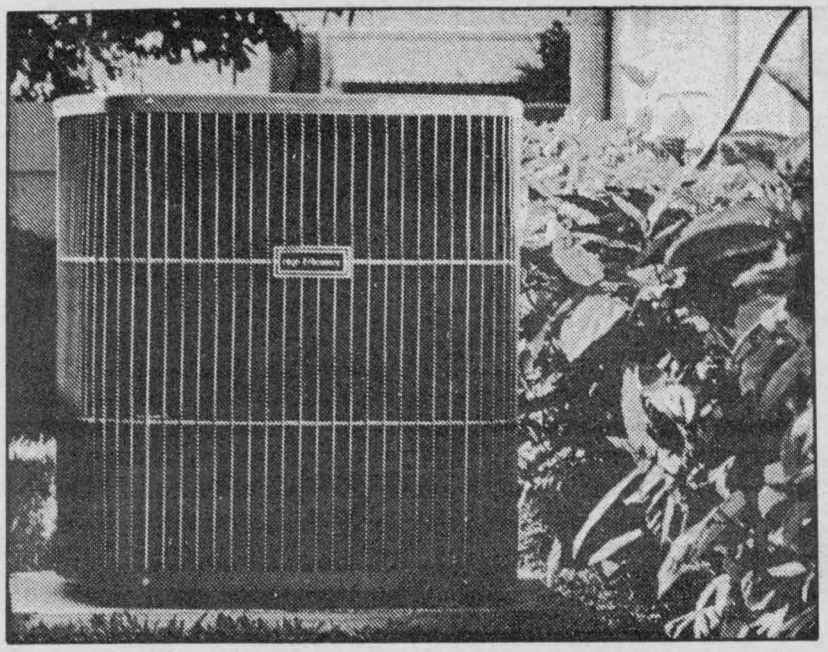
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Many of the latest models have super-quiet scroll compressors containing fewer parts. Fewer parts mean fewer components to break down and a more reliable machine.

How to decide if a heat pump is for you? The best way is to contact two or three contractors in your area to estimate the cost of a heat pump versus the cost of an alternative system. Your contractor can also calculate the payback time period, which is the extra first cost of a heat pump divided by the estimated annual savings on your utility bill.

For example, if it initially cost you $1,200 more for a heat pump and you save $400 per year on your utility bill, the payback time is three years to recoup your investment.

Here are some other questions to help you decide if a heat pump is best for your situation:

- Do you live in a part of the country that has a long cooling season? Heat pumps also cool a home during the hot weather months, by pumping warm air out of your home. You simply flip a switch.

- Does your local electric utility offer a rebate or other incentive program for installing energy- efficient heat pumps? Also, if you are buying or building a new home, check with your lender to see if they offer Energy Efficient Mortgages.

Many lenders will allow you to amortize the cost of installing or upgrading to high-efficiency heating and cooling equipment. Your lower monthly utility bills may qualify you for a larger mortgage, and perhaps a more expensive home.

Decorate like a pro

(NU)—Decorating an entire house, remodeling a single room or simply refurbishing a small hallway is exciting, but can be intimidating for first-time decorators.

Yet, there's really no mystery in choosing the right wallpapers, fabrics, floor coverings, window treatments and accessories. Just borrow a few ideas from professional decorators:

• First, look closely at model homes and rooms to decide specifically what pleases you. Is it the colors? The drama of the wallpaper? The grouping of the furniture? Figure out what you think works and what does not.

• Cut out pictures from decorating magazines or newspapers and keep a "Design Ideas File." Collect swatches of fabric and wallpaper designs from local decorating stores so you can check colors and patterns against the furniture you already have. Tape wallpaper samples on the wall and throw fabric samples on the sofa to test your short- and long-term reactions—you'll know whether you like them or not after "living" with them for a few days.

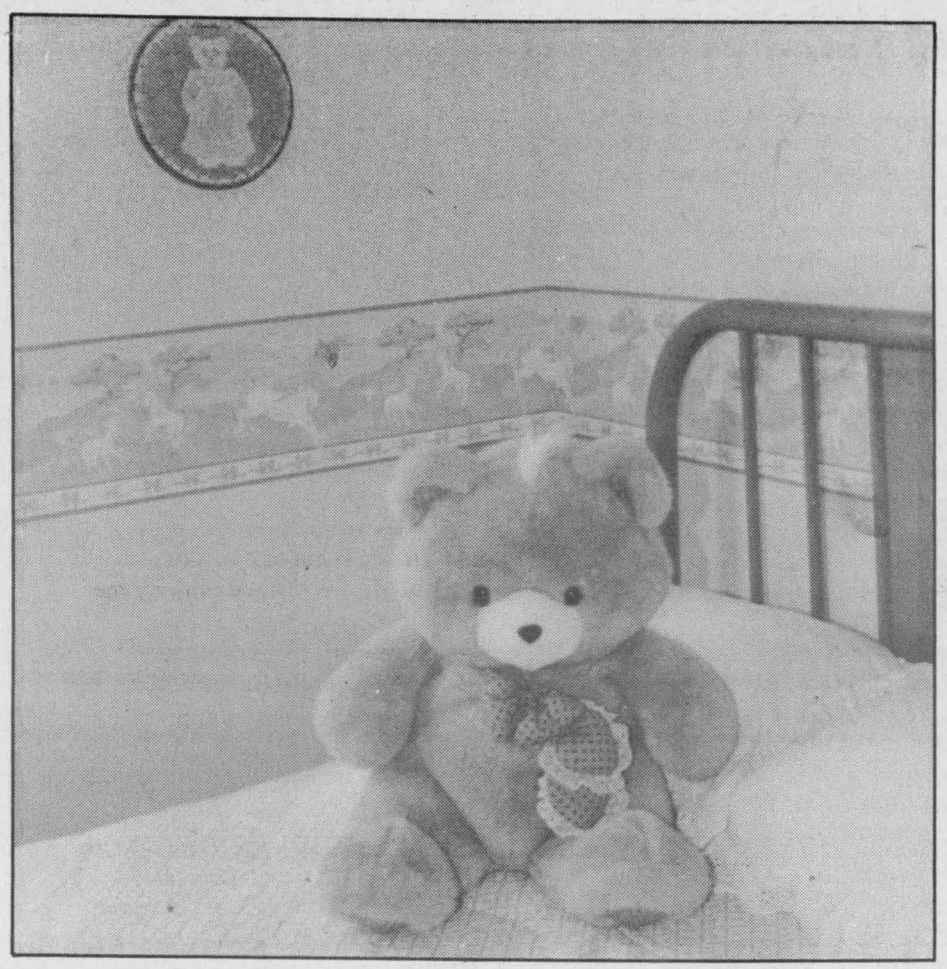
• Retail stores often have booklets or brochures that you can add to your clip file. And retailers are a good source of information, advice and ideas.

• Use graph paper to make a rough sketch of your room to experiment with different ways of placing furniture. Precise measurements aren't as important as the general idea.



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Kids' stuff

Have fun with the selection of borders available for children's rooms.
Press photo — Edwards

Accent rooms with borders

Wallpaper borders are a decorator's secret—making ordinary rooms look extraordinary.

Borders can edge floors, chair rails, stairwells, kitchen counters, windows, decorative moldings, picture groupings, fireplaces, even entire rooms. Just apply your favorite border around the ceiling and repeat the treatment vertically in each corner. It's an easy way to give a boxy room architectural detail.

Borders, properly placed, can also correct a room's proportion problems. Give a low ceiling the illusion of height by placing the border directly on the ceiling, drawing the eye upward. With a high ceiling, run the border along the top of the door frame for a warm, dramatic effect.

For a custom look, cover the walls with a crisp stripe, and use a coordinating border for edging.

Borders can also be used to mat a picture frame, dress up a plain folding screen, decoupage a toy box, nightstand or wastebasket. For a neat trick in the kitchen, wrap wooden or ceramic canisters with the same border you've used on the walls.

Borders are an easy, inexpensive way to give the decorator touch to every room in your house.

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Decorative mouldings add the finishing touches

Liz Edwards
Press Staff Reporter

WINCHESTER — Thanks to some bad apples, a lot of homes are looking better than they normally would.

When a crop failed at Mountain Orchards six years ago, owners Bob Hobson and Phillip Lyall made ends meet by installing mouldings — the wooden trim that adorns doors, windows and walls as a decorative extra.

Not satisfied with the quality of interior mouldings they were getting from the lumber yards, they decided to make their own.

"We just weren't happy with it. We thought we could do better than this," says Hobson.

Little did they know they would be getting themselves into a full-time venture. Mountain Mouldings, as they call their business, now handles regular mouldings orders for an area that encompasses everything from Trenton to North Bay to Lachute, Quebec.

"We've retrimmed the Weston Hotel, the Hilton Hotel, the Chinese Embassy...it's unreal when we start to think about it. We didn't realize what a demand there would be. It's the sort of thing that makes you wonder why you didn't do it 20 years ago," says Hobson.



Mountain Mouldings have added a final touch of elegance to the interior and exterior of many homes and offices. A prime example is this home built by Jim McGill Construction Ltd.

Press photo — Edwards

The company doesn't advertise often. Word of mouth and quality are usually what sells the product.

All of the company's moldings are three-quarters of an inch thick while the regular lumberyard mouldings are about three-eights of an inch thick. The more substantial ones look better, according to Hobson.

"It creates a look of luxury, craftsmanship and quality."

The whole point of mouldings is to give a house or office a finished look. The company has 250 different profiles from the very simple to detailed. What can be done with mouldings is limited only by the imagination.

"It takes a plain house and makes it look exceptionally good," says Hobson.

And he adds while it can cost about $300 more for a home builder to add the mouldings, depending on what is done, it can adds thousands to the overall value of a home since the finishing touches are what usually attracts homebuyers.

Mountain Mouldings makes interior mouldings but will do exterior ones on request.

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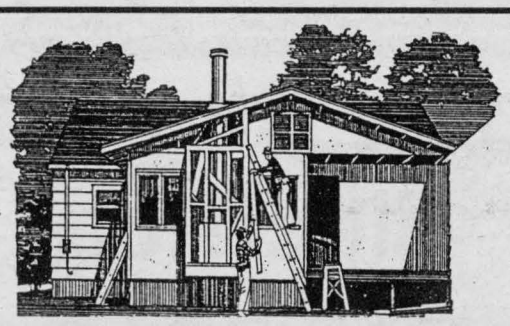
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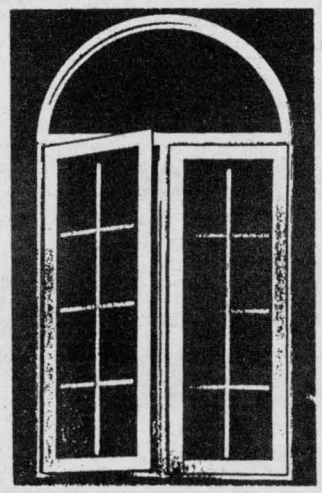
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Plan for lifestyle changes

As you age, your lifestyle changes and so should your home. Looking to the future means using today's technology to make your home warmer, cozier, safer and easier to live in.

Several home improvement projects can make life easier in later years. For example, a downstairs toilet allows you to avoid climbing the stairs, while gradual slopes indoors and outside, instead of steps, are quick to install and easier to walk or negotiate later on in a wheelchair.

A shower with a built-in seat is a boon for anyone who finds difficulty in standing too long or getting in and out of the bath. There are many bathroom manufacturers which offer a wide selection of showers in square, rectangular, circular and curved shapes, with non-slip floors. Bath and support grips for the bathroom are also available.

With increased leisure time on the horizon, you can look forward to indulging in longer baths and showers, so make sure your bathroom has the latest technology, insulation and elegantly designed fixtures. If you really want a treat, install a whirlpool to relax the muscles at the end of the day. It's just the thing to soak away aches and pains acquired in the garden.

Gardening, of course, is a great pleasure for many people, but all that bending and stretching can become a little arduous. Think about raising some of the flower beds so they can be tended at waist height, or even better, while you're sitting down. Think too about creating a patio area for a spot of quiet reading or snoozing in the warm sunshine and repair paths for cracks and bumps which could cause nasty falls.

Now, before you retire, is the time to convert the loft or space under the stairs into a study or storage area, showroom or well-organized hobby area, while a new garden shed or greenhouse will keep you happy for hours.

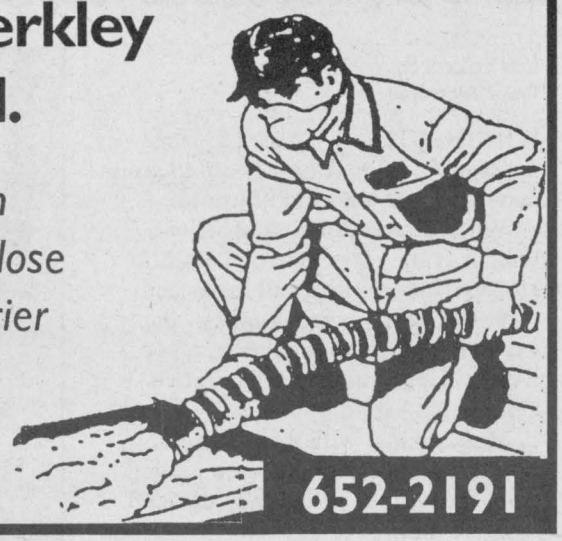
Inventors have worked overtime in recent years to make the retired life easier. You can install a smooth sliding garage door with an automatic door opener, improve the access to your attic, install electrical outlets at convenient heights and places and install a variety of labor-saving equipment for any room in the house.

Plan before you retire—the money and effort you'll save will be your own.

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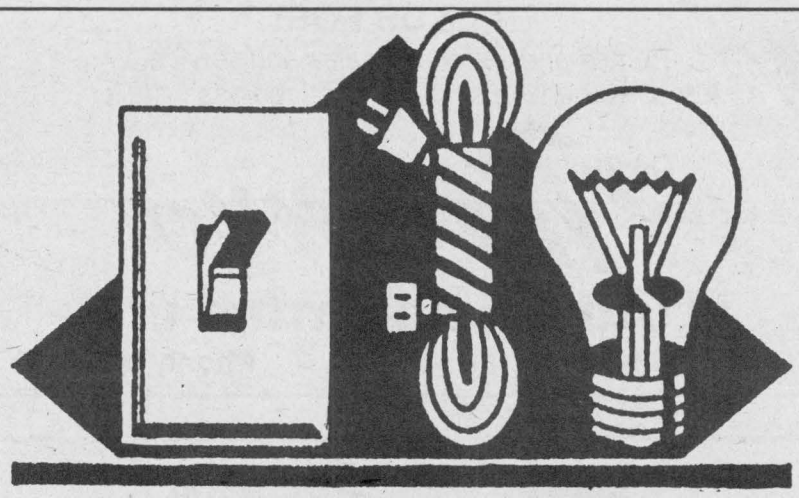
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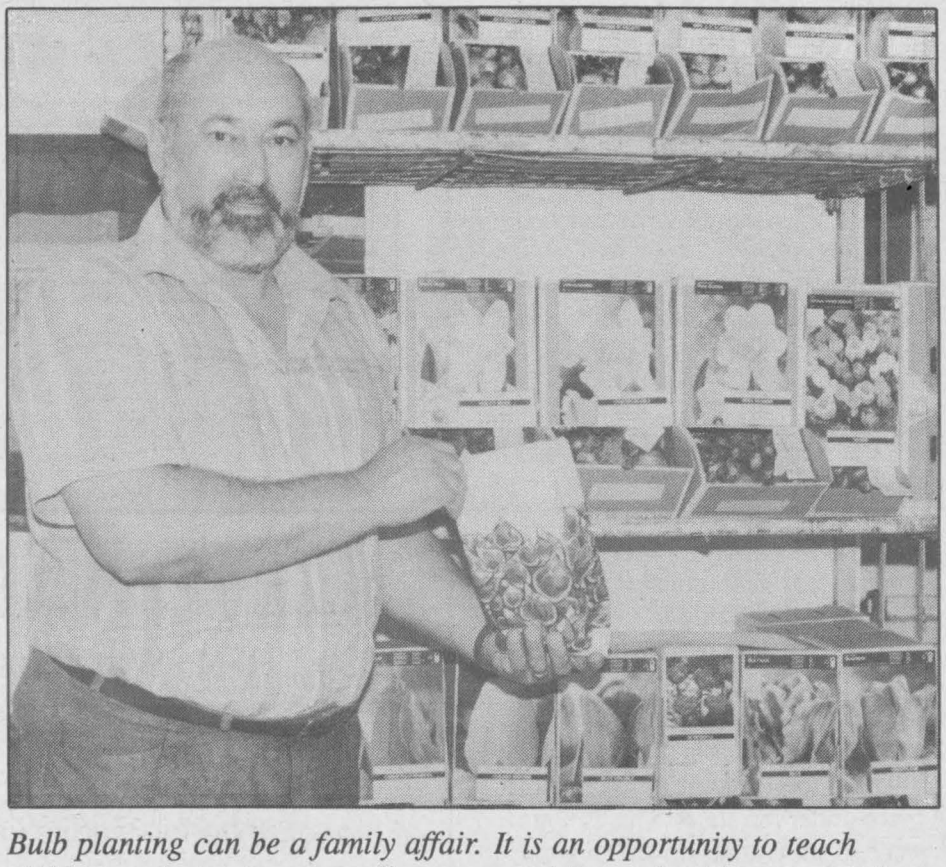
Gardening with kids is great outdoor fun

TORONTO — Given half a chance and a little direction, kids can be great gardeners. For many parents, gardening provides the perfect opportunity to awaken their youngsters to an awareness of the environment and to get in touch with nature as a family.

In the process, they create more pleasing surroundings for their home and have fun together.

The celebrated English garden writer, Gertrude Jekyll, felt that the pure fun of digging in the dirt was the real key to getting children interested in gardening. Jekyll suggested that children begin their gardening experience by helping parents tend existing plants.

Later, she advised that they be given a spot of their own in which to create a small garden. She counselled her readers not to put the youngsters' plots in a marginal area or back corner, but rather to give them a prime location where they can take pride in showing off their accomplishments.



Bulb planting can be a family affair. It is an opportunity to teach children to be environmentally aware and in touch with nature. John Knier displays some of the many varieties of bulbs available at C & L Feeds in Winchester. *Press Photo — Holmes*

SAFETY FIRST

A few simple steps will ensure that gardening fun does not result in accidents or tragedy. Like the inside of the home, the yard must be child-proofed, too. Follow a few simple precautions to keep youngsters safe.

- Never allow children to eat anything from the garden unless an adult is supervising them. Although eating fruits and vegetables you've grown yourself is part of the joy of gardening, many common ornamental plants can make you quite sick if you eat them; others are very poisonous.

- Never leave a toddler or young child outdoors unattended. Though no substitute for a watchful eye, fences are a good way to help keep a wandering young one in bounds.

- Point out any potential hazards to the child, such as thorn bushes or poison ivy. Fence off areas or plants that should be avoided, if necessary.

- Be careful with sharp tools and discuss with children which tools are safe for them to use and which are not.

- Be especially watchful of young children around lily ponds, wading pools, large puddles, buckets and large containers of any sort. Small children can drown in even small amounts of water.

- Use tall stakes for plants which need support. Short stakes can cause eye injuries.

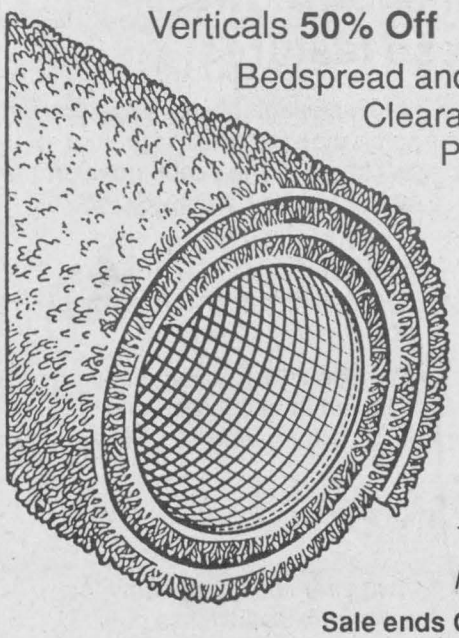
- Always wash hands after gardening.

- Check your children for ticks, insect bites and allergic reactions. If Lyme's Disease is a problem in your area, enforce special precautions such as wearing long pants in wooded areas and tucking pants' legs into sock tops.

With the right attitude, the yard, just like a properly child-proofed home, can be a safe and happy place ready for hours and hours of family fun in all seasons.

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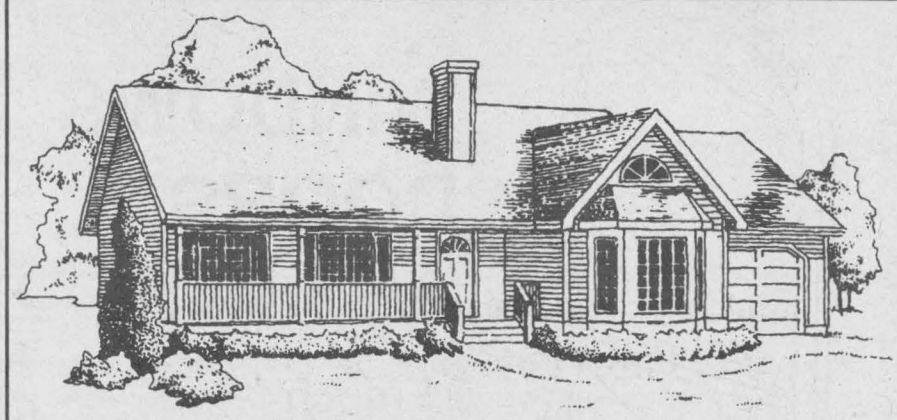
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Every homeowner can use additional storage space

by Jean Wiseman

Whether you live in a castle or a Cape Cod, one thing is likely—you're always short of space.

What can you do when you're out of space? Create more space with a few organizational techniques and some comfortably affordable devices.

Space-saving sweater and shoe racks add a lot of utility to small closets. In addition, wire baskets, which can be found in hardware shops, can be stacked up to hold everything from shoes to scarves.

Outside the bedroom closet, bunk beds are a natural for children's rooms, while in your own bedroom, a chest-like blanket box can be a handsome piece of furniture and, at the same time, create room for storage where none existed before.

Shelves are a useful addition to any room or closet. They're easy to install and take up little floor area. If you don't have enough cabinets in the kitchen, consider an attractive rolling cart.

Organization is important outside the house, too. A spacious garage has room for your car and for outdoor equipment. But having the room isn't enough. Potentially dangerous power tools and lawn and garden chemicals should be placed on high shelves or—best of all—under lock and key. Not enough room? Consider a small garden shed.

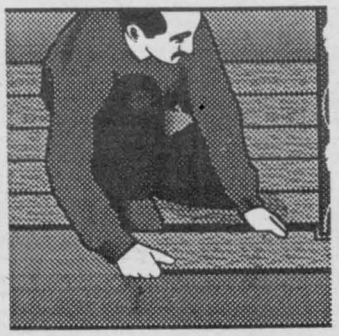
When you buy a desk for your home office, pay close attention to the drawers. You should have enough room to store everything you're liable to need while at the desk. In addition, consider a drawer that doubles as a file cabinet.

Try to separate your workspace from the rest of your living area in order to leave complicated projects in place without getting in everyone's way. If this is impossible, look for folding tables and spacious cabinets which can be altered to fit your particular hobby or home business.

Don't forget about the odd-shaped space under the stairs. This is a great place to store items on shelves and wheeled carts without losing an inch of useful floor space.

Creative thinking goes a long way in space "creation." After determining what you need to store and how to do it, you'll be surprised at how much room you really have.

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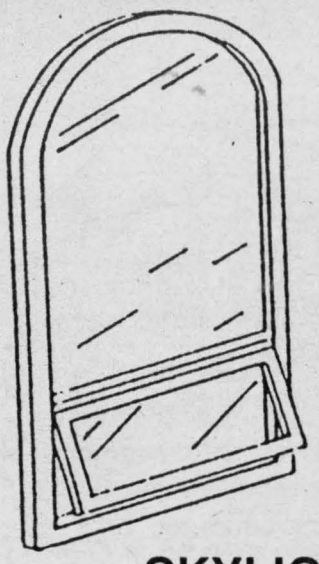


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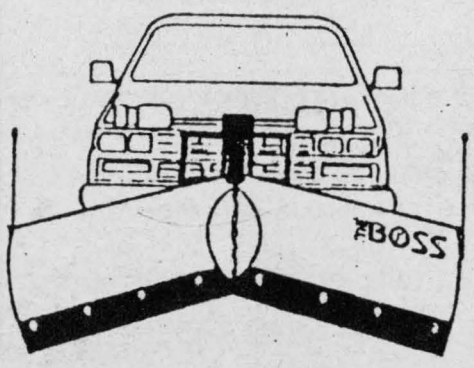
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Energy saving tips will save money too

By Carolyn Henderson

Your home is the biggest investment you'll ever make. Maintenance is essential, even if you don't have a lot of money to spend on such obvious improvements as a new garage or room addition.

Especially at this time of year, small external repairs are the most important ones to make. If you do your work now, winter weather can't make cracks, splits or gaps worse. If you leave them for a few months you'll need to replace stucco or brickwork—and you might even have a few interior repairs to make as well.

The largest monthly expense for any homeowner in a northern climate is usually heating. Fortunately, a little attention to energy efficiency often helps reduce bills. Energy-efficient operation also helps the environment because it saves on natural resources and causes less pollution.

While you often have to spend money to save money, there are plenty of experts to advise you on the latest energy-saving systems. Ask your local electricity and/or gas utility whether they offer free energy-use audits. An audit is a great way of finding potential money- and energy-wasting problems around your home.

There are two main ways of using energy wisely. First, make sure your home is as well insulated as possible. Places to check include walls, windows, roof, floors and doors.

Make sure that the heat you pay for stays where it is doing the most good. If your insulation is inadequate, your heat and your heating bills can go right through the roof.

Second, use your thermostat with conservation in mind.

Whatever fuel you use, make sure your system is fitted with temperature and timing controls. Thermostats can be fitted to individual radiators so that different rooms can be heated to the desired level. Many people prefer a bedroom to be cooler than the rest of the house, for instance.

As a general rule, halls, passages, laundry rooms and sometimes kitchens can be cooler than the rest of the house, either because they are only used in passing or because they contain other heat sources. Living rooms will need to be well heated in the evenings, because the occupants will be sitting down (therefore generating little body heat) and because there will be no natural warmth from the sun.

Timing controls mean your home is heated only when you need it. For instance, if parents are out at work and children at school, the timer can be set so that the room temperature is lowered after everyone leaves and raised again just before the first person returns at the end of the day.

Check that your appliances are in good order. Dripping hot water taps, leaking radiators or cracked windows all waste energy. Fix them now to prevent loss of energy and further damage this winter.

Saving energy isn't just a good idea—it's downright economical!



Warming trend

More and more home owners are warming up again to the use of fireplaces and stoves. Left, Jack Faulkner, of the Winchester Fireplace and Stove Centre, shows off an open hearth model. Below, a few of the many makes and models available at Faulkner's store.

Press Staff Photos

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R2823	8"	31.55	**29.49**
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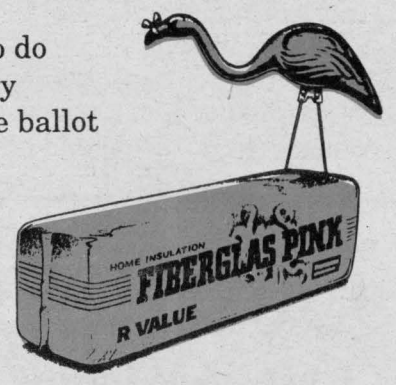
WIN FREESTYLE CLOTHING AND LUGGAGE

In association with Canada's world-leading Freestyle Ski Team, we are proud to offer you the chance to take home stylish Freestyle Clothing and Luggage absolutely free.
No purchase required.

A Prize Package Worth Over $1,000.00

- Jacket in luxurious lamb leather
- Ski shell of tear-resistant nylon
- 100% cotton Freestyle Cap
- 3-piece Luggage Set of sturdy ballistic nylon with real leather detailing

To enter, all you have to do is fill out the ballot entry below and place it in the ballot box located in the store. So show your pride in the world's best – enter today!



This event is sponsored by Owens Corning Fiberglas Canada Inc

Proud Sponsor of Canada's Freestyle Ski Team since 1986.

FREESTYLE WARDROBE CONTEST

Name_____

Address _____ Apt.____

City _____ Province _____

Postal Code _____ Tel( ) _____

Skill Testing Question: 24 x 5 + 20 - 3 = _____

See store for complete details. Offer ends Oct. 9, 1993.