

Learning to conserve energy with fire's help

What makes fireplaces and wood-burning stoves so popular these days? There's no question that burning fires have captured man's imagination — not to mention cooked his food and warmed his dwellings — for thousands of years.

Latter-day woodburners, too, look to the family fireplace or wood stove as a source of fascination and comfort. But with the enormous selection of styles and installations offered by the factory-built fireplace and stove industry today, woodburning appliances offer home decorating potential that our ancestors never dreamed possible.

A reasonably-skilled do-it-yourselfer

can add a prebuilt fireplace with only simple tools.

Fireplaces have moved beyond the living room and into the kitchen, the bedroom, the summer cottage, the ski lodge — there are even models that can be installed in a mobile home. And they have evolved from a primitive pile of stones and later massive brick constructions to modern pre-built metal units that come ready-to-install.

"Zero-clearance" is the key phrase in understanding the advantages of a "built-in" factory-built fireplace. It means the fireplace unit may be installed on or against existing walls and floors. The outside of the heavy metal

insulated fire chamber and chimney remain safely cool while the fire burns, and there's no need to knock out walls, do any other major remodeling or build a special foundation.

Add a fireplace to a wall or corner, face it with brick, stone or any other attractive non-combustible material to match the decor, and you've made that space the focal point of the room.

Arrange groupings of chairs and sofas around the fireside and the hearth becomes the center of attention. Some fireplace models can be installed between two rooms as a divider.

Freestanding fireplaces also offer countless ways to add warmth and

good looks to virtually any room of the house. Many fireplace shoppers go the freestanding route because of the contemporary look and brightly colored finishes many models feature. Your own taste will determine whether the popular conical style, a box-shaped model, or a freestanding fireplace designed for corner installation has the most appeal. Or consider a round freestanding unit that hangs from the ceiling — a full-circle view of the flames creates a dramatic effect.

WOODBURNING STOVES are bought primarily for heating, but there's no need to sacrifice beauty for

function. "Traditional" never goes out of style, as seen by the popularity of old-fashioned Franklin stoves, modeled after a home heating device invented by Ben himself.

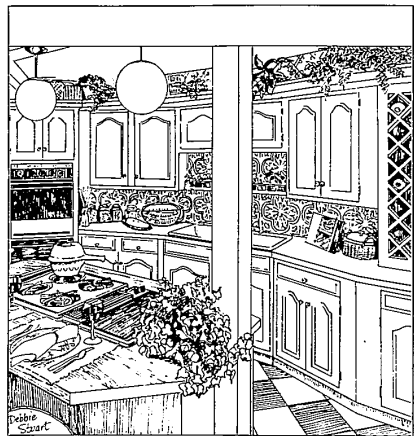
In addition to the still-favored Franklins, stove manufacturers offer many other styles — box stoves (some of which are beautifully embellished), pot-bellied types reminiscent of old railroad stations, parlor stoves and others. Many wood stoves can be used for cooking as well as heating — just the right authentic touch for a country kitchen.

Although stoves heat best with the doors closed, some models can be oper-

ated with open doors for a fireplace look. And manufacturers have introduced several models with specially tempered glass doors to display the beauty of the flames.

How to decide what type of wood-burning appliance to buy? The decorative effect you want to achieve is certainly a major consideration, but so are the size of the room you want to heat, where you intend to put the appliance and your heating needs.

Discuss all of these factors with an experienced, reputable fireplace or stove dealer to make the best buying decision.



Own an Original Hunter Olde Tyme Ceiling Fan

The 1903 classic, now back in vogue, comes to you from the original manufacturer. Complete with pull-chain switch, real wood blades.

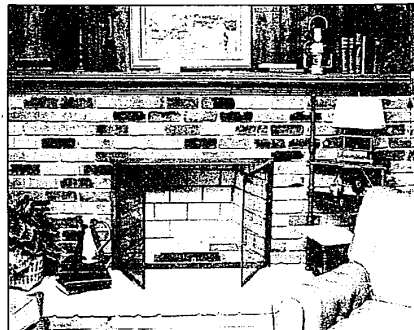
Many combinations of brass, brown and colored finishes. 36 and 52 in. sizes. Light adapter & globe optional.

52" fan with wood blades, from *239
36" fan with wood blades, from *169

Send 50c for brochure

SHAVER SHOP

61 W. HURON ST.
1/2 Bl. E. of Wide Track
PONTIAC, MI. 48058
Hours: 9-5 Mon. thru Fri. 9-1 Sat.



The family room fireplace demonstrates the fresh air intake and glass doors.

High costs may delay use of solar energy

(Continued from page 1B)

Murray, Edison's solar energy expert. "Particularly in this part of the country, where we may not see the sun for many days in winter, the energy is there, it's just very diffuse. The problems in generating energy are very complex. It's more complicated than just throwing a light switch at 2 a.m."

The problems with solar energy are today's as well as tomorrow's. The largest may be cost.

"We're trying to figure out cheap ways to make it feasible for the consumer. We're doing a lot of troubleshooting before we recommend a system to our customers," said Murray.

Goetz reported the solar conservation materials added \$10,000 in additional expenditures to the cost of this

home. That compares with a typical heat job of \$2,300 for a home of this size.

Before Edison will advocate a costly outlay of this type, they are investigating it thoroughly.

"We're going through a learning process. We're not sure how long these parts will last, and we have questions about the reliability and performance of them," said Murray.

Yet, he is optimistic.

"We think there will be a real savings in the use of solar energy over conventional sources, but we really don't know."

The federal government's faith in the solar concept is backed by encouraging early users with a tax incentive. On the first \$2,000 spent there is a 30 percent tax credit, followed by a 20 percent tax credit on the next \$6,000 spent. There is no saving thereafter. On this system, the total savings would be \$1,800 reducing the actual cost to \$8,200, still a hefty sum.

But Goetz had words of caution.

"There are several hidden problems, such as landscaping. Neither your trees, nor your neighbors can block the sun's light. You have to plan carefully for the full height of the trees. Also, the angle of the house has to be favorable so that the solar collectors receive the most sunlight. Finally, Michigan winters are the biggest obstacle to solar heating."

MICHIGAN PROVIDES a discouraging one-two punch to solar heating with its combination of sunless days and cold temperatures. Not only is there no long-term way to store the energy released by the sun, there is no way to even collect it on many winter days, Murray said.

"When temperatures are below 20 or the winds are very cold, there is no way to collect energy."

"Also, there are the winter months when we only see the sun for two or three days. At these times the system relies on the conventional backup energy sources."

Still, there is a bright side. At present, it is both practical and feasible to use solar energy for a home water heating system.

"People don't realize that the water heater carries a big load. Twenty percent of the energy of the house goes to heat water. High water users would benefit most from a solar water heating system. We feel this is a good application of solar power," said Murray.

You may see both systems in operation at the experimental house Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays through Oct. 14 from 1-7 p.m. It is located in Northville Colony Estates just south of Six Mile, about one mile west of the Six Mile exit of I-275.

Update 1979 —

Baskets — bread, trunks, flower, bushel, tomato, etc., can serve varied purposes in and around the house.

Odd shaped bread baskets hung around the kitchen are a decorative touch and can be taken down to use for their original purpose.

Basket trunks make unusual coffee tables; flower baskets can hold magazines on a table or floor; bushel baskets filled with dirt and summer flowers are inexpensive and useful to decorate a porch or patio.

LEATHER IS ALIVE!

4535 N. Woodward
(2 Blks. South of 14 Mile)
\$49-3000

TURN YOUR LIVING ROOM INTO AN EVENT...

Imaginative furniture with meticulous detail, exceptional comfort and classic design for those who appreciate fine craftsmanship at affordable prices.

Above, Leather Sofa and 2 Lounge Chairs,
SPECIALLY PRICED AT \$1099⁹⁹ (Regularly \$1399.00) Matching Table \$139⁹⁹

AMERICA'S LARGEST SELECTION OF FINE LEATHER FURNITURE

MON., TUES., WED., SAT. 10-6 THURS. & FRI. 10-9

Circa 1910 —

Cane-seated chair bottoms that have sagged may be made as tight as ever by washing them with hot water and leaving them to dry in the open air.

Come in now...and make your choice from a fabulous assortment of patterns and colors!

Certain floor designs copyrighted by Armstrong

Designer Solar Fan... the only no-wax floor with the beautiful richness of INLAID COLOR!

Not just printed-on color...but deep-down Inlaid Color that glows from within, for a dramatic, three-dimensional effect that no printed-on pattern can achieve! It's remarkably rich, thanks to the buildup of thousands of varicolored granules.

And, the Armstrong Mirabone® wear surface keeps its sunny shine, without waxing or buffing, far longer than ordinary vinyl floors.

DAVIS FLOOR COVERING

29721 Northwestern Hwy. at Inkster
Southfield, Michigan
in the Applegate Square

358-2200
Detroit Phone Number 535-1000

Sale 25% Off

Customer Bonus

25% Off

Any Regularly Priced Item

Redeem this certificate with your purchase at your local Pier 1 Imports. Discount not applicable to sale items. Customer must pay any sales tax. Coupon void where prohibited, taxed or restricted by law.

Limit one coupon per customer. Offer expires Nov. 1, 1979

Sale Good at
TROY COMMONS STORE ONLY
793 E. Big Beaver
524-1256

Pier 1 IMPORTS • EXPORTS • IMPORTS • EXPORTS