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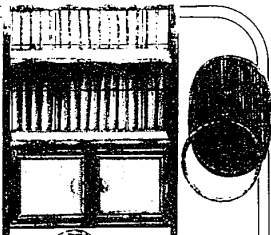
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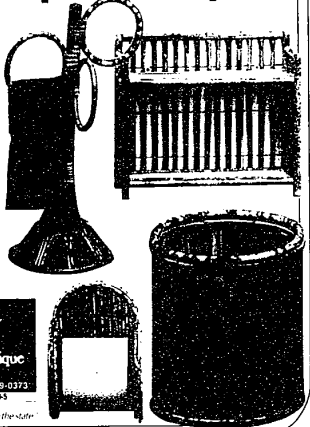
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Homeowners are ready to conserve on energy

Most homeowners consider energy conservation so important that they are willing to spend an average of \$1,360 to make their homes more energy efficient.

A survey of nearly 3,000 homeowners in 30 cities conducted by a prominent polling organization found that 95 percent of those surveyed would be willing to spend such sums if the energy conservation package trimmed their annual heating and cooling bills by 25 percent.

Anderson Corp., a leading window manufacturer, reports that it's easy to understand homeowner concern over energy costs when the annual cost of heating and cooling a typical home is expected to top \$1,200 this fall.

Top rated conservation features according to the study are attic and wall insulation; weather stripping and caulking; storm windows and doors; and basement insulation. Insulation experts recommend R-30 in attics; R-10 in walls; and R-11 over unheated basements or crawl spaces.

One way to get tight weatherstripping and the effect of separate storm windows without the bother is with factory-built windows designed with energy conservation in mind.

An important element to a well-made insulating window is a sash and frame of wood, a natural insulator, or vinyl sheathed wood, which provides an additional thermal barrier. Two other major elements of an insulating window are double-pane insulating glass and snug factory-applied weather stripping.

As natural insulators, wood and rigid vinyl sharply reduce conducted heat loss through the sash and frame.

Double-pane insulating glass — two panes of glass with an insulating air space between — has the same effect at reducing heat loss and heat gain through the glass area as separate storm sash, but without the seasonal bother of putting them up and taking them down.

Clean surface before painting

Did you know that the aluminum siding on your home can be repainted?

Many homeowners don't realize that aluminum siding can be repainted just as effectively as any other surface. In fact, most of these factory-finished metal sidings need to be repainted eventually because years of harsh weather causes the finish to become faded or stained. Or, maybe you're just ready for an upbeat, new color scheme.

Whatever the reason, here are some tips for a successful job.

It's vitally important to paint on a clean surface — so scrub off oil, grease, dirt or caking (powdered paint) with a household detergent, warm water and a stiff brush. Remove mildew with a commercial mildew wash available at most paint stores.

Since paint doesn't adhere well to a slick surface, rub the siding with steel wool or fine sandpaper. Sand smooth any areas that are pitted, rough or corroded. Then, wipe the entire surface with mineral spirits to remove sanding dust.

Prime any bare metal areas with a solvent-thinned primer. When that's dry, simply brush on one or two coats of any type of exterior house paint. Ask your paint dealer to help you with product color and selection.

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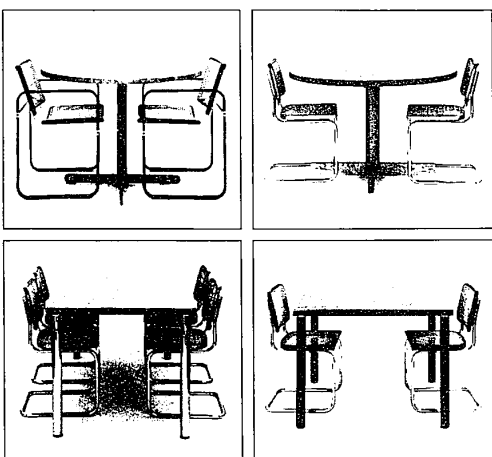
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