

# Builders show heralds spring's arrival

**T**HE 1991 International Builders Home, Flower and Furniture Show comes to Detroit's Cobo Exhibition & Conference Center March 16-24.

This year marks the 73rd anniversary of the builders show, which has become the largest home show in the world, all under one roof.

Local folks consider the builders show to be the first official sign of spring with its lavish and extravagant gardens and hundreds of home improvement exhibits spread over 600,000 square feet, using the entire main floor of Cobo.

If you're considering buying a home you'll be able to get some ideas from the display of three full-size, modern manufactured homes in the builders show.

The homes range in price from \$25,000 to \$50,000 and are part of an exhibit sponsored by Michigan Manufactured Housing Association.

Showgoers will find that today's manufactured homes offer many amenities of conventional stick-built homes, but are at prices attractive to many first-time home buyers.

The builders show is sponsored by the Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan (BASM). This year, the builders association's Remodelers Council will give attendees a visual example of what a big difference a little remodeling can do. The council is sponsoring an

exhibit of "before" and "after" projects to give the public ideas on the variety of remodeling magic available to spruce up a home.

**MORE THAN 500 exhibitors** will show off their wares, offering the best

in home renovations, furnishings and accessories.

Among the exhibitors are:  
• **Architectural Roof Tile** — A Kalamazoo-based company offering colorful and stylish alternatives to traditional asphalt shingles.

• **Michigan Bathtub Liners** — featuring its new custom-fitted wall systems that can revive the look of an old shower. The Auburn Hills company also markets a similar

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## Credits

**INTERNATIONAL BUILDERS HOME FLOWER FURNITURE SHOW COBO CENTER MARCH 16-24**

IT'S A lavish harbinger of spring. And it's chock-full of springtime magic: lush gardens, fresh flowers, home displays, remodeling tips, futuristic technology, kitchens and spas.

It's the 73rd annual International Builders, Home, Flower and Furniture Show March 16-24 at Detroit's Cobo Center.

The garden and home improvement spectacular has come to be recognized as a national-caliber "fix-up, spruce-up" show. Attendees often are treated to demonstrations of products and services brand-new to the industry.

As always, the do-it-yourselfer will find a host of "how-to" workshops and demonstrations.

The gardens will boast an international theme representing various countries, including Japan, Holland, England and Italy.

In the Smart House playhouse

area, Detroit Edison will provide a peek at futuristic user-friendly devices that give homeowners fingertip control of their kitchen, living room, bedroom and home office.

Within this backdrop the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and the HomeTown Newspapers, both part of Suburban Communications Corp., have put together this special builders show section.

It's geared to homeowners looking for builders, products, property and a lot of advice. It's loaded with helpful hints, whether you're moving or improving.

You'll also be introduced to a sampling of the 500 exhibitors offering the latest in home renovations, furnishings and accessories.

Read on for a preview peek at what has become the largest home show in the world, all under one roof.

— Bob Sklar

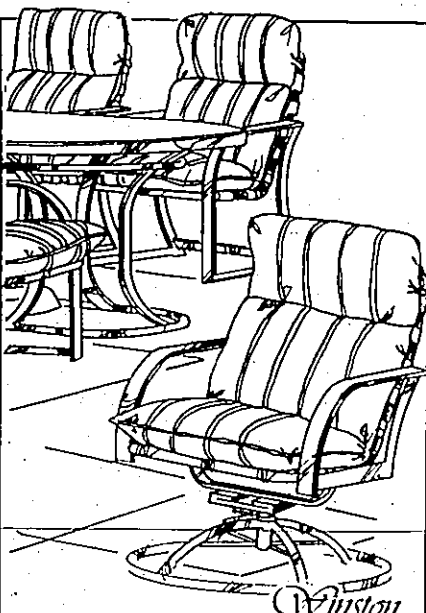
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Bob Sklar coordinated this special section with assistance from staff writer Gerry Frawley and copy editor Beth Sandra. Glenn Meritt, O&E creative services supervisor, designed the cover. Advertising coordinators were Roy Meadows and Marsh Stamps. Direct queries to Bob Sklar, 953-2113.

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