

The Weekly Do-It-Yourselfer

Glass gets a break in home decor

By BARBARA MAYER
FOR AN SPECIAL FEATURE

The use of glass is clearly a trend in home decor. There's renewed interest in the Victorian-era mercury glass globe as a focal point in the garden. In blue, red, green or silver, each sits atop a decorative concrete pedestal.

Indoors, glass takes on modern dimensions in furniture and accessories because their reflective surfaces add sparkle to decor.

"We have been seeing more glass in both decorative and architectural applications lately," Metropolitan Home editor Donna Warner says, adding that they can range from glass tables and colored glass dinnerware to glass brick walls and unusual windows.

Warner's magazine recently photographed living rooms at opposite ends of the country for two separate issues. It wasn't by design, but they had identical cocktail tables. The modern classic, by Italian designer Gae Aulenti, is a large slab of glass on four industrial wheels of black metal.

"What's wonderful about glass furniture is that it is there, and yet it is not there," furniture designer Dakota Jackson says. "Glass is heavy and strong, yet you can see through it."

Jackson regards glass as "the quintessential modern material — transparent, clean and architectural" and recently introduced the three-tiered Self-Winding Cocktail Table.

"It is a reverse Lazy Susan," he says, "in which the top is stationary and the bottom two levels revolve 360 degrees in both directions. The transparency of the glass lets you see all the

operations at once, and shadows are created as light hits each layer."

While Jackson puts himself in the modern camp, Lynn Hollyn likes glass because it is, she says, "traditional and contemporary in the same moment."

Hollyn, a designer of interiors and home furnishings, says she's using more glass in both arenas. As an example, for clients she installed stained glass windows and etched glass panels over a mantelpiece.

Hollyn also made extensive use of glass in her new home in Palo Alto, Calif. Two dining room tables are 48-inch squares of 1-inch glass, each on a metal base in a weathered copper finish. A table on the terrace is a piece of glass, 9 feet by 4 feet, resting on three cement urns. The urns are filled with river-washed stones, visible through the glass. Also visible are the flowers planted between patio stones and curled around the urns.

In Hollyn's kitchen, custom cabinets above a center island have bubble glass panes on all four sides. The bubble glass adds texture without obscuring glass shelves lined with collectible glassware. Other wall cabinets have bubble glass doors.

Such custom designs don't come cheap. For those who don't want glass to shatter their budgets, there are plenty of less expensive ideas. Marshall Watson, a New York designer, suggests an engorged with glass shelves for collectibles.

"The furniture disappears and lets you focus on the objects on display," he says.

A glass server on casters is a widely available design. The one Watson often specifies has two

shelves and doubles as a side table.

"It is elegant sitting against the wall or in a corner but can be moved to wherever it's needed," Watson says. "I often use two of these servers in front of a sofa instead of a coffee table."

As an accessory, Watson says, any collection of art glass, even inexpensive pressed glass, "adds a glow, especially when bright halogen lighting, which brings even more sparkle to the glass, is used."

Watson offers a couple of tips for using glass:

■ Shelving that is at least three-quarters of an inch thick has a beautiful green edge that enhances whatever is displayed on it.

■ For tables, an interesting edge on the glass — beveled or rounded — creates a finished look and makes it clear that you haven't merely slapped a piece of plate glass on a base.

Modular gazebo picnic deck

Complete your perfect deck in stages or all at once. Start with whichever module fits your needs for the moment, then add on at your leisure. There are three different modules for you to choose from. A main deck module that comes in two sizes, a 10-foot-diameter picnic area deck and a 10-foot-diameter gazebo deck. Two complete sets of the plans are included: one for you or your builder and one for the building department.

Plans include clearly labeled, detailed drawings along with full framing instructions. Illustrations are drawn three dimensionally with full elevations and cross sectional diagrams. Step-by-step comprehensive instructions are included to aid you in construction. A full materials list will make your trip to a local lumberyard for building materials another easy step toward the completion of your new project.

- Send me the Project Plan #90035 Construction Package (ready-to-build blueprints). Includes 2 prints and complete materials list . . . \$21.40.
- Send me Garlinghouse Project Plan Information Package (3 brochures featuring complete line of 53 project plans including decks, garages, room additions, gazebos and much more . . . \$3.50

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Phone () _____
Fill out info above and make check or money order payable to and send to: The Garlinghouse Co., Dept OEC, P.O. Box 1717, Middletown, CT 06457

Millcrest Moors: Move-in Ready!

Select from a dozen NEW homes under construction, some with 30-day occupancy.

from \$160,000's

- NEW Models
- NEW Spacious Floorplans

Exquisite homesites set amid rolling hills and suburban tranquility. Quality constructed ranch, 1 1/2 and 2-story ranging from 1450-2600 sq. ft. on 1/2 acre lots. Pinnacle schools and a short drive to Ann Arbor or the Detroit metro area.

Take US-23 to I-436 west 7.2 miles to Piquette Rd. north 1.5 miles to Millcrest. Sales Center open Mon-Fri 10-6, Sat-Sun 12-5, closed Thursday. For information, call Tracy at (313) 878-4963

QUENTNER BUILDING CO.

Conserve your energy when you weatherproof

(NAPS) — With a few simple steps, you can benefit the environment while making your home more comfortable and energy efficient. Home experts estimate that up to \$360 a year of heated and conditioned air literally goes out the window . . . and doors and other spots in homes that aren't properly sealed. If you totaled all the areas around the house that need caulking and weatherstripping, you'd have the equivalent of a three-foot gaping hole in the wall.

These helpful do-it-yourself tips from the experts at DAP, a leader in home improvement and repair, can help cut your home energy costs:

■ Leaky windows cause 15 to 35 percent of total home heat loss. Use insulating foam sealant or caulk to seal cracks and gaps around window frames and where glazing meets the sash and the sash meets the jambs on windows.

■ Seal around door frames and add weatherstripping at the bottom or sides if needed (new doors typically come weatherstripped). Use insulating foam sealant when installing or replacing storm windows or doors. For additional draft protection, tightly fit shrink film over windows.

■ Seal and insulate inside and out. Fill in tiny cracks and big gaps. While most people routinely check windows and doors, exterior leaks also demand attention. Use foam sealant to fill big gaps around your foundation. Any opening in the frame of your house needs a sealant. Experts point out that all this is a lot simpler thanks to new easier-to-use products such as DAPtex, a latex-based insulating foam sealant that washes up with soap and water, and Alex Plus Easy Caulk, neither of which requires a caulking gun.

■ Seal from bottom to top — basement to attic. In the basement, check along the floor as well as basement windows and doors. Use foam sealant to close gaps and cracks in crawl spaces.

An informative brochure about weatherproofing and other useful home maintenance advice for do-it-yourselfers is available free by calling 1-888-DAP-TIPS.

THE MASTER PLAN THAT BRINGS IT ALL HOME



A charming gate house sets the tone for a true master planned community complete with its own village shoppes and swim club. Collector's Edition condominium residences in ranch, loft and two-story plans display Herman Frankel's design mastery. Discover the community that will bring you home...to Village at Simsbury.

Priced from the low \$300,000's

Village at Simsbury
The herman frankel Organization

Farmington Rd., just north of 14 Mile Rd.
(810) 851-3500



Surround yourself with the splendor of northern Michigan's breathtaking beauty, pristine great lakes and spectacular sunsets. Exquisite Boyne resort living means a sense of community without sacrificing privacy. Each residence is carefully planned and crafted to reflect desires of the luxurious lifestyle of which you've always dreamed. The lifestyle you deserve.

Boyne USA properties range from majestic waterfront suites to charming fairway cottages and convenient slopeside condominiums. Each elegant Boyne community is enhanced by the opportunity to enjoy prestigious Country Club of Boyne privileges.

Choosing a Boyne USA resort home offers freedom from the ordinary and appreciation for the extraordinary. 162 holes of championship golf, the Midwest's best skiing, gourmet restaurants and specialty shops are yours to enjoy. Par for the course.

Boyne exceeds your expectations of quality.



BOYNE REALTY

1-800-GO-BOYNE

Boyne Realty 102 E. Main Street Harbor Springs, Michigan 49740