

Fabulous FURNITURE 2001

Good storage holds key to good organization

BY PAT STEIN
COPY NEWS SERVICE

It's an unwritten law: There's no such thing as too much storage space.

While the feng shui concept of home decor that enhances body, mind and spirit calls for spacious areas free of clutter to avoid stagnant energy, we are a nation of consumers and most of us continue to accumulate "stuff."

Creating adequate storage does more than get clutter under control, it also promotes calm in the household and makes it possible for all members of the family to be more productive and happy, according to Damian

Tuggey, a San Diego interior designer who specializes in space planning.

"When shelves, cabinets and drawers are so stuffed that you can't find anything, it makes life chaotic and when life is chaotic, you can't get much done," Tuggey said.

Storing all our stuff - from kids toys to home appliances - is a challenge that's addressed room by room by space designer Kasha Harmer Hirst, author of "Storage" (Chronicle Books, \$14.95).

"Good storage is both the art and science of making space work... (to) make the house a

living machine customized to fulfill the needs of our individual lives," Hirst says.

While built-in storage makes the most efficient use of existing space, unless it's well planned, it may not serve the changing needs of a growing family. However, space planners at home improvement stores can help you plan new built-in cabinetry for home office, living room, dining room, kitchen, kids room and even garage storage that won't cost the world. At the very least, a free session with one of their consultants will give you some ideas, options and price points.

A consultation with an interior designer or a firm that specializes in space design (which is all about storage) can also give you ideas on creative use of existing space and they need not be pricey.

An often overlooked area for storage is the stairway, according to Hirst. Staircases can be built or redesigned with storage boxes beneath each stair step.

The kitchen is the room where adequate storage is the highest priority. If you're lucky enough to be designing a kitchen from

scratch or remodeling an existing kitchen, Hirst suggests that a kitchen island with plenty of storage beneath the working countertop is a good option. Shallow built-in floor-to-ceiling shelves make good use of space.

"A new kitchen is about the most expensive home improvement that you can make but it's also the quickest way to add value to your home," she said.

Kitchen remodels range from about \$25,000 to \$50,000, but if a total remodel is not in your

budget, she suggests customizing existing cabinet interiors to make more efficient use of existing space, putting up new shelving and utensil racks.

Floor-to-ceiling units provide lots of space where infrequently used items such as turkey roasters and punch bowls can be stored on high shelves while more frequently used items can be stored on lower shelves where they are within easy reach.

Visit Copley News Service at www.copleynews.com

Personal from page J9

lot more homeowners adding glass accents to their kitchens. "Your countertops - going to Corian or granite - really put in a nice touch, too," Fekorn said, adding that moldings also play a big role in making the kitchen look stylish.

Homeowners are looking for high end, rich effects.

"In the past we used to sell far more entry level type cabinets in the showroom," Fekorn said. "Customers are taking their equity and putting it into their homes. They're going for custom and semi-custom cabinets."

"Believe it or not, even though everyone says sales are down, maybe the traffic isn't what it used to be, but people are spending money," Fekorn said. "They're making their homes, their homes and giving it a nice custom look."

Homeowners are also opting for highly decorative cabinets with elaborate trim, moldings and appliques.

This trend is also seen in the Tuscan-style kitchen, known for a tremendous amount of detail, especially in the cooking area around the range. It calls for decorative housing for the ventilation system and it lends itself to more bulky looking cabinets.

Islands have become as common in kitchens as the sink. They come in all different styles and colors and take up more space than they did in the past.

One island type gives the appearance of floating, because they're placed on bun legs so the cabinets don't go to the floor.

"The one thing that doesn't change in the kitchen, is that it is still very much the heart of the home," Hancock said.

"Families are smaller and kitchens are becoming larger to accommodate activities; eating and entertaining. Everyone still ends up in the kitchen. We're talking about rooming and knocking down walls and making additions to increase the size of our

kitchens." Do your homework about what is available so you won't be disappointed after the job is done, said John DeGiulio, owner of DeGiulio Kitchens in Dearborn.

"The important thing is to visit the showrooms before you decide on anything," he said. "Get some design expertise with in-home consultations and see the designs before you actually buy. They must see the door sample and, most importantly, they should have a design before they buy the kitchen."

DeGiulio also sees more and more kitchens designed for two people. When the husband and wife are working they also share the duties of cooking, DeGiulio said.

"There's still some movement toward contemporary designs... but I think the traditional, solid woods, like the light maple, cherry and light oaks are taking over right now," he said.

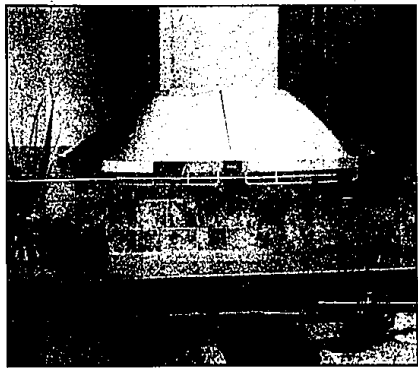


PHOTO COURTESY EXPO DESIGN CENTER

Stylish hood: A ventilation hood like this free-standing Best Island hood from EXPO Design Center is a design element all its own.

The Holiday entertainment season is fast approaching!
Does your bathroom have the blues?

Budget Bathtub Liners

A Company that has the solutions for your tub trouble

When was the last time you did a bathtub job? Did you find it tedious to realize the tub still looked less than stellar?

If the finish on your bathtub is chipped, peeling, faded or permanently stained no amount of cleaning and scrubbing will do the job. The bathtub needs to be fixed.

Visit our 12,000 sq. ft. factory showroom located in Madison Heights where we sell over 6,000 bathtub liners and wall surround systems annually. We also sell a complete line of whirlpool, soaker tubs and hydrotherapy massage tubs.

Replating is an option, but only a temporary one. There's no guarantee the finish won't go bad again and the replating process is difficult and involves many dangerous chemicals.

The bathtub could be replaced, but there is even more mess involved, not to mention the cost.

There is another solution, though, and Budget Bathtub Liners Co., with showrooms in Lincoln Park and Madison Heights, has the answer: a new bathtub liner or total complete system consisting of bathtub

liner and wall surround system.

One of the hottest trends in bathroom remodeling, bathtub liners and wall systems fit over not only existing bathtubs, but also coracore walls in your bathroom. That means less mess and less time between when the tub looks like new and a completely new appearance.

For a limited time only, bathtub liners are on sale from \$399 installed. Complete systems, which include bathtub liner and wall surround, are on sale from \$1299. That's about 50-75% less than the cost of replacing an old tub and ceramic tile which averages about \$1,000 to \$15,000 and more.

Budget Bathtub Liner is able to offer the low prices, according to Dean Hartley, because of the large volume of business it does.

He is the largest distributor of Acrylic Bathtub Liners and Wall Surround Systems in the country," Hartley said. "I'm proud of that."

When a homeowner places an order for a new liner, employees take 15 different measurements and several photographs of the existing bathtub. The measurements

and photos are then sent to the company's factory where a custom liner is made using one of 750 molds in stock.

In addition, seven colors and four marble finishes are available along with a complete line of Delta and Kohler fixtures.

All Bathtub Liners and Wall Surround Systems are made of DRYABS Owens Corning High Impact Acrylic and carry a Lifetime Warranty. This is the same material used in boat hulls, and bowling balls are made from the same resin. The resin is about three times the thickness of those found at home improvement stores and are guaranteed not to chip or peel and to retain their finish. In addition, installation, which can usually be done in one day, is guaranteed.

Budget Bathtub Liners Co. is at 25170 John R. Madison Heights and 3287 Fort St., Lincoln Park between Emmons and Champaign adjacent to Mickey Short. The showroom is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sundays. For more information, call Budget Bathtub Liner at 1-800-BATHTUB.

- Advertiser -

Bathtub Liner & Wall Surround Sale!

Factory Direct Pricing To The Public

Cut Out The Middleman...

Save Up To 50% Off Retail Prices!

CHECK THE BUDGET ADVANTAGE

- ☒ Tough acrylic won't chip, crack or fade.
- ☒ Easy cleaning with safe cleaners.
- ☒ Classic neutral color choices.
- ☒ Optional non-slip bottom promotes home safety.
- ☒ The glossy acrylic is non-porous and does not allow growth of mold and mildew.
- ☒ Acrylic is scratch-resistant, the finish can also be polished to an ultra-shine.
- ☒ Priced 10 over old tub.
- ☒ Highly affordable.

• Lifetime NON-PRORATED Transferable Warranty

• COMPLETE LINE OF:

• Bathtub Liners • Shower Base Liners • Bath Wall Systems

• Shower Doors • Vanities • Countertops

Your Choice

FREE Free Delta Chrome Shower Fixtures

When purchased with complete system. (Excludes tubs from other additional charge)

One tub liner 1700 or other similar

ONE DAY INSTALLATION

Use and Enjoy your bathroom the same day!

NO MESS • NO INCONVENIENCE

FREE Estimates • Special Senior Discounts

Budget™

BATHTUB LINERS

1-800-BATHTUB (228-4882)

Visit Our Beautiful Showrooms... Open Sunday 11-5

25170 John R. • Madison Heights • 248-546-8300

Lincoln Park • Grosse Pointe • Dearborn • Toledo

313-382-8100 • 313-882-4454 • 313-561-7789 • 419-886-4211



- Fine Designer Furniture
- Imported Leather
- Sofas
- Love Seats
- Tables
- Wall Units
- Comfy Chairs
- Solids
- Stripes
- Plaids
- Special Orders
- Professional Interior Designers
- Friendly Experienced Staff
- Beautiful Accessories
- Pictures
- Lamps
- Wall Decor
- Unique & Unusual Gifts
- Fun Gifts
- Collector's Items
- Bridal Registry
- Stainless Serving Pieces
- Picture Frames
- Picture Albums
- Hand-Crafted Items
- Magnificent Crystal
- Candlesticks
- Vases
- Mezzuzahs
- Whimsical Tea Sets
- Sculptures
- Menorahs
- Jewelry Boxes
- Decorative Pottery
- Complimentary Gift Wrapping

sherwood studios

6644 Orchard Lake Road
at Maple
West Bloomfield
248 855.1600
Mon & Thur 10-9
Tue-Wed-Fri-Sat 10-6
Sun 12-5
Furniture & Accessories
always 20% off mfr sugg retail
Gifts always 30% off mfr sugg retail
All this and more at...