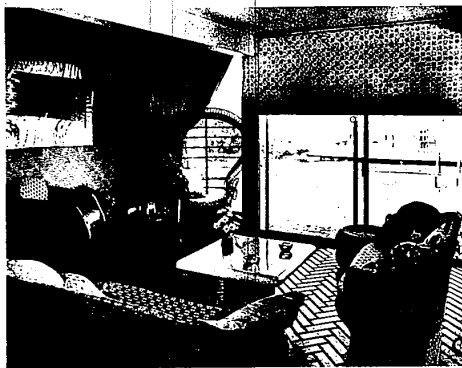




WICKER FURNITURE combines with cool cotton shades for an airy summer look. Cotton-covered floor to ceiling panels on either side of the window act as connecting links to matching tie-back curtains.

Does Your Landscape Meet Family's Needs?

Did the recent mild weather give you a premature case of spring fever? Do you find your thoughts wandering to backyard picnics and other warm weather activities?

Joe Cox, Michigan State University extension specialist in landscape architecture, suggests you put your daydreaming to work and take a mental inventory of your landscape. Ask yourself if each area of your landscape is meeting the real needs of your family and guests.

Entrance areas should provide easy movement for people and vehicles. For "people traffic" this means short, wide, unobstructed walks. For vehicles - the family car, the kids' bikes and that nifty little garden tractor you've had your eye on - you need adequate room for parking, turning and storing.

Since the entrance area gives your guests their first impression of you and your life style as reflected by the home environment, you've designed, appearance is important.

Evaluate your use of landscape plants objectively. Have you placed trees properly to relieve bareness or do they rob the home of its rightful dominance? Are they in harmonious proportion with other landscape elements like house style, height and existing vegetation? Have you taken advantage of the variety of landscape plants available to provide color in spring and fall, natural snow fences and all-year greenery to break winter's white monotony?

What about your outdoor living area? Cox suggests that if it isn't a convenient place for casual activity, there may be something missing. Does it offer shade for hot summer days, plenty of open space, closeness to nature, all-weather surface and privacy? Does ready access contribute to the area's usability in encouraging outdoor meals and relaxation?

Work and storage areas are important to the successful use and upkeep of your property, Cox points out. Easy access is a must. Since storage for equipment and containers for refuse are usually more functional than decorative, screening provided by hedges or fencing can contribute immensely to the appearance of your grounds. There is every reason to seek the beauty in functional design.

If your landscape does not measure up to these basic requirements, now may be a good time to evaluate where it falls short and plan some alterations. Don't be handicapped by what has been done before. Cox advises, consider re-designing your landscape to meet the needs of you and your family.

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Cotton Window Shades Cooling, Decorative

Cotton window shades have become so highly decorative that some of their major benefits are often overlooked. Chief among these is the contribution shades can make to conserving electrical power.

With the onset of summer fast approaching and bringing with it a heavy drain on power for air conditioning, homemakers might do well to include window shades in their summer decorating schemes.

Studies show that shades keep out summer heat and can reduce air-conditioners' power usage by as much as 50 per cent. Besides helping to conserve the nation's critical energy supply, there's the extra bonus of personal savings that result from lower utility bills.

Molding Tips

Use of wood moldings to decorate walls, dividers, entryways, fireplaces, other areas is shown in eight-page color booklet available for 25 cents a copy from Western Wood Products Assn., Dept. M2-P, Veon Bldg., Portland, Or. 97204.

Cloth window shades have long been noted for their ability to keep household furnishings and even wood floors from fading.

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for better sleep in daylight saving time.

Besides conserving electrical power, window shades can go a long way towards easing the homemaker's personal energy crisis, too.

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