

THE LADY IS ... A CARPENTER



SO SIMPLE ... just like measuring for a pattern, explains Joyce Hartwell, the Lady Carpenter, as she instructs one of her pupils in the fine art of measuring for wall paneling.

As more and more of today's modern women, formerly adept at wielding a crochet hook, knitting needles and sewing machines, discover that the same skills and techniques can be readily adapted to using small hand power tools, their enthusiasm for home renovation projects grows, according to Joyce Hartwell, known professionally as the Lady Carpenter.

Mrs. Hartwell recently initiated a series of carpentry classes in New York City. "If registration for the course is a sample of the ladies' interest, they are even more enthusiastic to learn carpentry than they were to jump in the family car and head for the department store or shopping center on 'daisy sale' days."

THE LADY CARPENTER commented that those enrolling in the course do not seem to be content with plans for "puttering projects." Most of them have a definite interest in carpentry.

The interest is partly because of their own creative urge and also the problem of hiring a professional carpenter for the home projects they want done.

The ladies are interested in learning to build, to panel, to decorate a wall, to handle a partition.

They want to learn how to create dividers, customize closets and how to assemble furniture. They want to know how to seal, stain, varnish and paint their finished products, too.

They are tackling these projects with the same gusto and verve that they once used on the mound of baby diapers, the family lunch boxes, the draperies and bedspreads that they whipped up on the trusty family sewing machine.

Mrs. Hartwell, whose appearance is a constant surprise to people with a preconceived idea of what a carpenter should look like, is a statuesque, striking brunette usually attired in a flowing feminine maxi-skirt with turtle necked sweater.

HER LONG, JET BLACK HAIR hangs midway down her back and is normally held back with a colorful headband.

She, herself, has had a most interesting and diversified career in carpentry. As early as grammar school she took shop courses usually confined to the boys in school.

Because of a family illness, Joyce was forced to go to work earlier than usual and found herself in a series of boring, unexciting jobs that rarely utilized her natural creative talent and ability for carpentry.

At one point, as a photographer's assistant, she discovered that she could build better props for photography than she could buy.

She then decided to open her own shop where she both designed and sold furniture. Before long, however, the customers began to look more at her custom carpentry and cabinet work than at the furniture for sale. And so, ten years ago, The Lady Carpenter was born.

In discussing the role of women in the field of carpentry, Joyce feels very strongly that many women only need the right opportunity and the chance to become acquainted with the tools.

She insists that many show real genius once they learn to master power tools, which in her opinion are as easy to operate as the sewing machine and the electric knife in the kitchen.

Although the Lady Carpenter's scrapbook is filled with photographs of rooms she has created and built, although she handles the tools of her trade with ease and great efficiency, Joyce ruefully admits that some customers are reluctant to hire women for major projects.

IN THE CLASSROOM, The Lady Carpenter moves easily from student to student calling out advice and suggestions. Seeing her manipulating the power tools almost effortlessly, the students gain confidence. Once that happens, the ladies are ready.

In the event women feel that the world of carpentry might damage their winsome feminine appeal in the eyes of their menfolk, they can take note the tall, striking brunette with flashing eyes and classic profile is indeed a Mrs., a carpenter--and, a lady!

Shortcuts ... To Home Beauty

TAPE IT!

When painting windows and doors, use masking tape to keep paint off glass and walls. Any accidents should be wiped off quickly to make clean-up easier.

CARPET CURIO

Adhesive backed carpet tiles can do more than sit on a floor. Use them on window sills, on the back of a curio cabinet, as protective spots on doors that come into contact with furniture.

FOAM PLANKS

Planks for the ceiling which resemble limed and weathered wood are now on the market as well as "hand-hewn" beams molded of lightweight plastic foam. These "planks" are easy to handle, and

cost much less than their natural wood counterparts.

CARPET VERSATILE

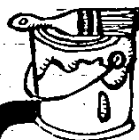
Keep worn out carpets for other purposes: to save garage floors under the car, for a pet mat, to protect the floor on rainy or snowy days, as a floor covering for a tree house or play house.

STOP LEAKS

Aluminum tape is effective for stopping leaks in metal downspouts.

KITCHEN HELPER

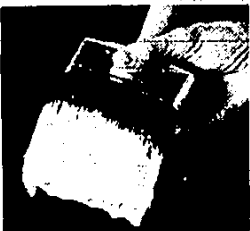
A pegboard in the kitchen can be utilized for spoons, spatulas, etc. that should be within quick and easy reach.



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