

Ancient day gypsies carried their houses on their backs as they moved from town to town.

Modern day people lead an equally nomadic existence but with one exception. We must put away all our household equipment rather than keeping it on our backs. "Where to put what" is always a problem but can be solved with little space and money.

Take the accompanying idea picture as your example. It has all the modern day conveniences and practicality necessary for a workable food preparation-serving-eating area. It still provides adequate and attractive storage space.

**THE IMPROVISED UNIT** shows how you can create a low cost area

for storing everything from cumbersome entertainment-gourmet items, like fondue pots, to everyday essentials like dinner plates.

Often when incorporating eating areas into kitchens, valuable storage space is lost. But you can get more by improvising a room divider from second-hand filing cabinets.

To duplicate this look, remove all shelves from cabinets but leave the grooves or lips to serve as support for shelves once you determine the proper height to accommodate all your hard-to-store items. The cabinets have been spray painted enamel red to carry through the country casual look of dark latticed windows and patchwork covered table.

Finishing touches that give a decorator look include inexpensive

porcelain knobs available in hardware or variety stores; lining shelves with red and white check, self-adhesive vinyl for quick damp-mop clean up; and simulated, plastic wood grain beams on ceiling.

**ADDITIONAL COUNTRY COUNTRY CHARM** is achieved with the use of a mock-chandelier made from recycled tin milkcan containers, here used as an eye appealing place to store and dry fresh herbs.

The storage-serving area is eye appealing but even more important it works!

By placing heavy electrical appliances, trivets and serving pieces on bottom shelves, casserole or heavy pots on middle shelves, the storage squeeze is eased. The top shelf con-

tains a workable turntable that gives finger tip convenience to salt and pepper shakers, cream and sugar set or even table top centerpieces. This low cabinet also provides space to serve food from.

Equally useful is the tall cabinet that stands alongside the serving island. On the bottom shelf a lid rack caddies everything from large pot lids to platters or occasional serving pieces. Slide out drawers in the middle portion provide double the storage space to hold linens, hand and dish towels or even cans and boxes.

**THE DIVIDER KEEPS** everything within fingertip reach yet provides an attractive way to keep the dining area a little apart from the hustle of the kitchen.

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