

# A New Home Deserves Modern, Best Possible Kitchen Appliances

A new home deserves new kitchen appliances. Don't make the mistake of trying to econ-

mize by installing your old range, refrigerator, and dishwasher in your new home.



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When you add the moving costs to the increasing service cost of aging appliances, you may find that the savings aren't great.

Most important, though, are the appearance and efficiency of your kitchen. The past few years have seen many improvements made in electrical kitchen appliances. Because there are many more styles, colors and operating features available, it may take longer to make a choice, but you will be able to find the right units for your individual taste and requirements.

styles—free-standing, compact "drop-in," separate built-in, and combination—available in a variety of styles, including new console or "break-front" models much like the eye-level oven ranges in appearance.

Freezer sections may be at the top, the bottom, or beside the refrigerator section. Thinner walls, made possible by an efficient foam-type of insulation, provide considerably more food storage space in a case that has the same exterior dimensions as an older unit.

Shelves arrangements and special compartments make good food storage easier and more efficient. The old problem of ice cubes has been taken care of by cleverly designed trays and bins on some units and automatic ice makers on others.

The most wanted improvement of many current refrigerators—freezers is the frostless feature which completely eliminates the messy job of defrosting.

New automatic dishwashers have been improved inside and out. Portable and convertible models are popular with apartment dwellers and families who don't want to change their kitchens.

A built-in dishwasher is preferable in a new home. Washing power has been increased to eliminate hand rinsing and more cycles have been added for special purposes such as scrubbing pots and pans, gently washing fine china and glassware, and rinsing and holding dishes for later washing. New rack designs make loading easier, and many models now can handle larger loads efficiently.

If a dishwasher isn't to be installed in a new home until later, a 24-inch cabinet should be put in the space where it will eventually be located. By having the plumbing and wiring for a built-in dishwasher roughed in now, along with the other plumbing and wiring, the cost of installing the dishwasher later will be kept to a minimum.

# Get Ready Now for Winter Combination Laundry Center Is Easy, Inexpensive to Make

How do you add a complete, modern laundry center to your home without getting involved in the expense of building a costly room addition?

The problem is not unusual. It's faced by many families who want the convenience of a well-planned laundry, but simply do not have room for it on the first or second floor of the existing house.

In many older homes, the solution is to modernize a section of the basement.

That's exactly what the Alex Bremers of Tacoma, Wash. did. They worked with Walt Widmer, AIA, to plan a combination of laundry, playroom and homemaker's workshop in approximately 120 sq. ft. of space in an unsightly corner of the basement.

Previously this area contained tubs, obsolete models of both a set of old fashioned laundry washer and dryer, miscellaneous odds and ends of furniture and the general clutter typical of so many basements.

In designing the remodeling job, Widmer worked closely with experts from the Mustang Home Laundry Idea Center and the American Plywood association.

The success of his plan is attested to by the fact that the editors of "American Home" magazine chose it for a feature article in a recent issue.

Widmer provided space for six generous-sized soiled-clothes sorting drawers installed beneath a plastic-laminate counter top.

A sink—for use in pretreating excessively soiled clothes before laundering—is mounted in another counter on the same wall.

Between the two counters are an all-fabric automatic washer and a matching clothes dryer.

Ample storage for detergents, bleach, rinse conditioners and other laundering aids as well as for temporary placement of clean, but unworn, clothes is available in sets of wall-mounted cupboards located above the two counter areas.

A nearby closet provides space for hanging wash-and-wear clothes as they are taken from the dryer, storage of iron and ironing board, and storage of small household cleaning supplies in handy shelves built onto the inside of the closet door.

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**Shutters Add Color To Home**

In the past, wood shutters on windows were functional. Nowadays they're not used so much to protect today's tightly built houses from winter's worst as they are to make them look their best.

To be architecturally correct, exterior shutters should be used with most traditional home designs to add authenticity. And, although shutters are optional with contemporary architecture, many families use them to add interest to severe looking exterior walls.

The wide variety of factory-made powder-coated pine shutters, with most traditional, solid today provides an inexpensive way to give a plain house individuality and style.

Wood shutters, available from building materials dealers, come from the factory chemically treated for longer life, sanded and ready for final finishing in the color that fits best with the exterior color scheme.

In most cases, they are painted in the accent color that's used on small but important areas such as doors and trim.

When an extension is added to a house already has shutters, it's a good idea to add new shutters, painted to match the existing ones, at windows in the addition. This is an effective way of integrating old and new elements of the house.

Full length shutters used at the sides of a garage door will dress it up and make the garage look more like part of the house.

**Thin Oyster Shells Passed for Glass**

Many materials have been used as a substitute for window glass in the past. One of the oddest of these was oyster shells.

Back in the 1800's the thin, nearly flat shells of a variety of oysters found in Ceylon were widely used in China and other parts of the world. Although not quite transparent enough to see through, number of these circular shells placed in a window frame would permit light to enter a house. At one time, the window oyster was one of Ceylon's most important exports.

People must have a vivid imagination or they wouldn't be able to see the things they hear.

**It's Time To Service Furnaces**

It's the warm part of the year now and your heating system is inactive. But now is the time to make sure it's ready for next winter's "battles."

The advantages of the current fall season for planning improvements and regular maintenance with a qualified heating contractor.

These improvements may include the installation of a new, automatically-fired boiler, a new fuel burner, the replacement of old side radiators with modern attractive baseboard units, or the zoning of the entire hydronic (hot water) heating system.

Zoning is particularly recommended as an improvement that will provide the ultimate in temperature control, comfort and fuel economy.

With zoning, even though there is just one heating plant, it is possible to have two, three or more different temperature control areas in the house.

Thus, you can regulate warmth according to varying requirements in individual sections of the house.

Often, in a long, ranch-type house, the side exposed to cold northerly winds can be zoned to receive extra heat. The effect of zoning on fuel consumption is significant — no fuel is wasted in supplying heat to the unheated areas.

In other words, you don't have to overheat some rooms to get enough warmth in others. The kitchen can be set at 70 degrees, the living room at 72 degrees, and the bedrooms at 68 degrees, for example.

Qualified plumbing contractors will be glad to explain how hydronic zoning works and which arrangement would be best for your home. Many contractors are able to handle financing of the installation, as well.

**Homeowners' Question Box**

Q. We just bought a house which has yellow mineral fiber siding. Personally, I do not like yellow and would like to repaint it a different color. Are there problems in painting mineral fiber?

A. No problem: Mineral fiber is extremely stable in comparison to other siding materials, and is easily painted. Use a brand-name masonry paint that can be either a solvent-thinned paint, a latex-base paint or an oil-base masonry paint. Paint when the siding is dry for best results. The paint job should last many years.

Q. How do you remove a greenish film from copper pipes?

A. Oxidation causes this unsightly green deposit. Try washing the pipes with ammonia.

The way of the transgressor is a one-way thoroughfare.

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**On the lawn WITH LARRY LAWRENCE**

What can you say to a friend who shows you a really hope-less lawn and ask what to do about it? It's a question I used to dread. With an ordinary run-down lawn you can usually recommend a program to bring it back. But when it's a mess of weeds and the grass itself is sparse and unattractive, what then? Might as well start over. But that's a discouraging thing to tell anybody.

At least it used to be. It has been easier since Scott's, the lawn people, introduced Erase three summers ago. This was the first product ever designed to get rid of an old lawn without digging it up and, so far as I know, is still the only one available. It wipes out all lawn vegetation in a few days but without harming the soil. You plant the seed for the new lawn right in the dead stubble of the old one.

The reason I mention it now is that there's not much sense in using Erase unless you're going to reseed a week or so later. And when is the very best time for seeding? That's right; the most important 45 days in the life of your lawn is the period between late August and early October. It's the ideal time for wiping the slate clean and starting afresh. And don't be afraid. Thousands have already done it and been glad.

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