

Three Important Steps To a Good Enamel Job

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Observer Newspapers HOME and GARDEN page

Alphabet Carries Key To Plans For Home

Modern homes have many intriguing features, not the least of which is their identification by letters.

Starting at the beginning of the alphabet, there's the popular A-frame. This modernized version of the ancient Indian tepee rises from its foundations in the shape of the letter "A." Such placement of wood beams which form is gained by the diagonal convergence at the roof apex.

Wood roof decking is applied to the beams and over that, roofing materials. With outer walls and roof one and the same, the system is simple and economical.

Beams and wood decking can be beautifully finished and exposed on their underside to decorate the interior. By such means, joint utilization is made of the high strength and natural beauty of lumber.

Because of its natural charm, the A-frame is well adapted to vacation homes in secluded woodlands or lakeshore settings.

Further along the alphabet, we find H-homes, L-homes, U-homes and T-homes. In each instance, the reference is to the floor plan, with the shape designed for maximum space utilization and outdoor living in privacy.

The H-home is formed by two parallel wings with a corridor or enclosed living area connecting the two. As a rule, one wing houses living, dining and kitchen areas and the other holds sleeping quarters. The "H" provides two patios—one on either side of the corridor connecting the wings. Thus, each patio is surrounded on three sides by the house.

With either an "L" or "U" design, main living areas are oriented away from streets toward an inner courtyard or patio secluded in the heart of the "L" or "U." Rooms are grouped around the patio and share the outdoor extension. Such plans are ideal for the inclusion of a home swimming pool.

The "T" plan is similar to the "H" in that it provides two separate outdoor living areas. Most homes which follow the T, L, U, or H patterns, utilize wood plank-and-beam construction.

The ceiling system of horizontal beams and roof decking is attractive, functional and assures maximum space utilization.

It is also flexible and easy to add to, thus simplifying the provision of separate wings, as in the "H" plan.

Workmanship Important in Installing Floor

Floor installation specialists working as consultants to the U. S. Service Committee of the Maple Flooring Manufacturers Association, have some very definite observations to make concerning floor laying procedures in today's modern buildings.

They emphasize the fact that sound floor installations are the result of just two things — quality materials and efficient workmanship, according to NFMA.

The specialists point out that two floor installations may look alike, but one floor lasts a few years and the other floor lasts "a lifetime." The explanation: "One floor was installed right and the other wasn't."

Poor installation methods are the biggest cause of floor headaches. Building and home owners invest in quality flooring, but they often minimize the importance of workmanship. Floor installation is a job for skilled labor and for professional supervision.

Plastic Hardboard Popular for Teens

One of the most popular planks for a teen's room is plastic-surfaced hardboard, which comes in easy-to-handle 18"x36" planks.

Lumber dealers carry the panning in 12 colors, which can be alternated to achieve interesting decorative treatments.

In a girl's room, for instance, one wall can be done in alternating pink and aqua planks. Gray with aqua or yellow also is popular.

Alternating two colors creates a "barber pole" effect that is eye-catching.

Observations, not old age, brings wisdom. Publilius Syrus

Trussed Rafters Important Today

Turkey roosts are what some architects facetiously call those little gimcracks which are used to break the sometimes stiff lines of the contemporary house.

Actually, these little shadow frame roof extensions, which is the form most of them take, add a lot of charm and interest to houses which needed just that.

Made of small 2x2 pieces with necessary lengths of boards, these small concessions to variety are becoming more and more popular with the new home set. You can build them with an Oriental flavor, or you can use your own imagination to get variety.

It looks like the turkey roost style of gimcrack is here to stay

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See First Page Section 6

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