

# Home Improvement Guide '66

## Tips on Gardening

By Betty Frankel

**SPRING FLOWERS**  
Spring is here in all its glory. A gossamer veil of green has been flung across the tallest tree tops. The fruit trees in the orchards, flowering peaches, cherries and crabapples in home gardens are crowned with ethereal clouds of bloom; and the flowering quince are ablaze. Lilacs are ready to burst into bloom, while beneath them all

tulips, narcissus, creeping moss phlox, golden alyssum and sky blue forget-me-nots paint pictures that sing of Spring.  
**MAHONIA—A SHRUB FOR ALL SEASONS**  
Mahonia shrubs are now studied with sweet-scented clusters of yellow blossoms, making them one of the most attractive plants in the garden. The bright flowers contrast dramatically with the deep green foliage that remains on the plant all year. This evergreen is a close relative of the common barberry but looks so much like holly that it is popularly known as "grape holly."  
There are close to two dozen varieties of Mahonia, but only a few are hardy in this part of the country. Most popular is Mahonia Aquifolium, the Oregon grape holly. It is a native of the Pacific Northwest, but grows well in this area. It is a handsome shrub that reaches six to eight feet tall but can be kept pruned to a lower height, even as low as eighteen inches. The leathery leaves of the Oregon grape holly are com-

### Build Cabinet To Store TV

A television set is nice to have — but they've never contributed more to the decor of a room.  
Most people would like to have their TV and get rid of it, too. But building it in isn't the only answer.  
The better idea is to mount the set on a roll-around stand, with good ball casters, then incorporate it into a storage unit for folding tables and chairs, books, and what-have-you. Tailored in a prestige western soft-wood lumber, the storage unit would be a handsome addition to any room.

### Accessible Tools

Spring gardening is easier when tool storage is accessible. Best idea is to build a storage shed against the back wall of the garage, doors opening to the yard. Extend garage roof to provide protection and use weather-proof western red cedar siding on the storage unit's exterior.

### Wall-Hanger

Hang storage on a wall and make use of lazy space. For ideas, as well as all the how-to on four wall-hung storage units, write for a copy of "Storage Units," Dept. 520-F, Western Wood Products Association, Yeon Building, Portland, Oregon 97204.

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**REMEMBERS**  
Last call to plant dormant trees and shrubs. . . Plant a broad-leaf and needle evergreen. . . Plant roses and perennials. . . May 19 is the average date for the last killing frost, but it is wiser to wait until near the end of the month before setting out tender plants of flowers or vegetables. . . Wait a week or two before sowing seeds of tender plants, but hardy plants can be seeded now. . . Continue spray program on fruit trees. . . Begin regular spray or dust program for roses. . . If the lawn has not had a Spring feeding, it is still not too late. . . Established trees and shrubs benefit from having fertilizer worked into the ground around them or placed in deep drill holes beneath the outer branches.

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### Build, Then Plant

It's wise to complete garden building projects—fence, deck, arbor — before tackling the planting beds so that tender young plants aren't trampled during construction.

### Post Holes Easy

Building a fence? Post holes are easier to dig when the ground is softened by spring rains.

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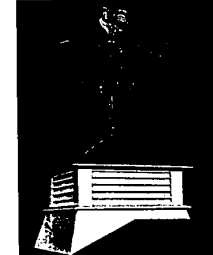
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