

Mirror 'Sleight Of Hand' Aid In Decorating

When performed correctly, magic is an art which produces illusions and extraordinary results.

A leading supplier of raw glass to mirror manufacturers, encourages you to try a little magic of your own by using mirrors: watch rooms grow, spaces change, discover infinity.

By using mirrors you, too, can become a "sleight of hand" master. For example: •The oldest mirror trick still works: Use a mirror to make a hall look longer or a room seem larger.

•Place a mirror on a dark wall the sun never reaches. Watch that mirror snare the light.

•Stretch the boundaries of a narrow wall with a mirrored wall.

•Enjoy your home's favorite view, even if furniture ar-

rangements force you to sit with your back to the wall. Reflect the view in a mirror.

•Enlarge your apparent dining area by setting your table against the mirrored wall of a tiny dining alcove.

•Mirrors do more than provide reflection and decorative wall touches.

They actually can double the apparent size of a room, extend the expanse of walls, ceiling and floor, and give an illusion of greater spaciousness to areas that would otherwise be boxlike and confining.

Take, for example, the case of a small foyer. A mirrored wall enlarges the apparent size of the room and also provides arriving guests with a sneak preview of your home.

In a room this size, an antique mirrored wall is most

subtle, yet effective. A handy console table placed in the foyer doubles with the mirror as a grooming aid for making that last-minute check before leaving the house.

Today decorative framed mirrors are being created for every room in the house. Whether a person's tastes are delicate, colonial, modern, traditional or whatever, a framed mirror can be found to answer his needs.

Although the quality of the mirror itself is the prime consideration, a handsome frame will greatly increase a mirror's beauty.

Choose a frame that's the right feeling and the right size for your room and its furnishings — a slender, vertical mirror over a wide chest will look spindly, a huge mirror over a small table will dwarf it.

More and more decorators are using framed mirrors as though they were pictures. In fact, in busy rooms that require simple wall treatment, mirrors often are more effective than pictures.

Reflect something lovely in your mirror — a bowl of flowers, a sparkling chandelier. Or if you have a big sofa or table, hang a collection of assorted mirrors above it just as you would put up a picture group.

Experiment with mirrors as a stage director does with light — try various places to see what drama their reflected light gives.

Over a dining room buffet, for example, an unusual arrangement can be made by hanging a decorative mirror off center and standing a single candlestick on the other end of the buffet.

At night this irregular balance is especially striking as the light from the candle is combined with the room light reflected in the mirror.

In a living room mirrors can provide a modern look for traditional furnishings.

Try hanging a framed mirror at one end of a sofa or

table and balancing a more-or-less equal mass at the other end. This could be a picture, a handsome floor lamp or a vase of flowers on an end table.

In a bedroom, mirrors can double as sliding closet doors. Not only will they serve as a great grooming aid, but they also will catch and increase the sun's light.

The one room in the home which always seems to have a mirror of some sort is the bathroom. If your bathroom is somewhat small, once again a mirrored wall will do the trick.

A medicine cabinet with a decorative frame then can be mounted within the mirror wall. This mirror-on-mirror effect provides a real decorator focal point and increases the light where you need it most.

The most neglected room when it comes to mirrors probably is the kitchen. Yet, wouldn't this be the perfect place to install a small vanity mirror and shelf so a busy housewife can comb her hair and re-apply makeup after finishing her kitchen duties?

To remedy the blash caused by a kitchen sink and cabinets that face an interior wall, install mirrors on the wall along the perimeter of the counter and below and above the cabinets. The mirrors will reflect the light and the view from kitchen windows on the opposite wall.

The sparkling mirrors are so much easier to clean than painted or papered walls since all the mirrors will retain their beauty by cleaning with a soft cloth and weak solution.

Mirrors weigh about four pounds to the square foot, a good fact to remember when you hang a decorative framed mirror.

For a mirror weighing less than 35 pounds, use twin-strand wire over two wall hooks, four inches apart.

If you have a heavier one,

place hooks farther apart to size by your mirror dealer since cutting requires special tools and techniques.



UNUSUAL MIRRORED living room wall was created with beveled glass of various shapes and forms installed around an existing fireplace. The apparent size of the room is multiplied, and a lovely second view of outdoors is provided, reflecting the changing seasons.



IMAGINATIVE ARRANGEMENT of decorative framed mirrors and art objects forms a dramatic accent wall. An otherwise harsh, cold den is warmed by the simple composition of shapes on a fabric surface.



The Green Thumb

By GEORGE ABRAHAM

Christmas Floral Workshop At SC

Schoolcraft College will offer a special workshop on creating Christmas floral designs on Wednesday, Dec. 12. The afternoon workshop, to be held in room 400 of the Forum Building from 1:30 to 4:30, has a \$10 registration fee.

Mrs. Marie Bush is the workshop instructor; she has taught floral design classes previously for the community services program.

Purpose of the workshop is to teach new techniques of floral design and decoration for the holiday season. Each

student will complete and take home a basic floral arrangement.

Demonstrations will be a part of the instruction and will include construction of garlands (roping), wreaths and floral arrangements.

Registration checks should be made payable to Schoolcraft College and mailed to the Director of Community Services, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, Mich. 48151, by Dec. 7. According to Ron Griffith, director, enrollment will be limited to the first 40 who enroll.

Now that the heat's on in our homes, we can expect some house plant troubles.

Here are a few symptoms to watch, and what to do about them. Bottom leaves turn yellow and drop. It may be due to overwatering, or poor drainage, or plant may be potbound. Dropping of leaves, especially the lower ones, may be due to too much water or poor drainage.

Wilted leaves may be due to too much or too little water, or plant pot is too small or too large.

Dropping of foliage may be due to insect water. Stunt growth; look for tiny white worms in the soil. If present,

soak cigar or cigarette butts in water and drench the soil surface.

When all leaves suddenly drop, look for cold air, gas injury, lack of water, or fertilizer injury. Sometimes when you bring plants in from the outdoors, the sudden change will cause leaves to drop.

Leaves drying at the edges or tips may be due to humidity being too low, soil too dry or too wet. Direct sun on leaves may also cause burning around the edges.

Brown spots on leaves may be due to sun burning or fungi or foliar nematode. Avoid getting water on foliage, especially in evening. Light specks on foliage indicate aphids. The specks are skeletal casts. Wash them off with warm water and soap.

Cobweb growth on tips indicates red spider mites. Hold plants under shower and wash them off.

Home gardeners who try to store dry beans often get irked to find their crop has small holes in them. These holes are due to weevils, and they can ruin a jar of dry beans, making them unfit for food or seed.

Let's see how the weevil gets inside the jar. The weevil begins its work by attacking the growing pods in the garden.

When the dry beans are hulled and stored they are already infested with the small white grubs. When beans are stored in a warm place the grubs mature and eat their way out of the dry bean, leaving small holes in the beans.

Here's how to thwart the weevil: (1) Store beans in cans in an unheated room or porch (beans won't freeze). (2) Dip the beans in boiling water for one minute and then spread them out to dry (not usable for beans to be used for seed). (3) Or heat the beans in a shallow open container in an oven for 30 minutes at 130 degrees F.

Seeds may be heated to a temperature of from 130 degrees to 145 degrees F. without affecting their germination.

GREEN THUMB CLINIC: "We have some citrus plants

growing indoors. Someone said to put muriatic acid around the roots. True?" NO, it'll cook your plants to death.

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