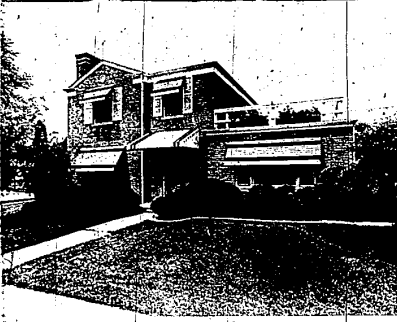


Home & Garden



MODEST TWO-STORY Georgian home was greatly increased in value by converting attached garage into an attractive, functional 12x20 family room. The garage transformation involved replacement of overhead garage door with canopy covered bay window. Driveway was removed and replaced by sod. Aluminum awnings were installed on the rest of the windows and new shrubbery was planted.



CONCRETE BLOCK WALLS of garage were furred with 1x2 strips and covered with prefinished, woodgrained hardboard paneling by Masonite. The paneling is mounted with adhesive or by nailing. Storage cabinets were built along one wall and bright-patterned linoleum was installed over the concrete floor. A space heater completed the project.

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Vegetable cousins thrive in containers or gardens

Peppers and eggplant are both good vegetables for most home gardeners to include in their gardens since they are closely related, require identical growing conditions, and give worthwhile yields for the kitchen table.

The most widely grown peppers are the sweet bell peppers which develop large green fruits that turn red when completely ripe. It's possible to pick the fruit at the green or red stage, but don't let them stay red too long as they soon deteriorate after ripening. Golden yellow bell peppers are also available.

Chili peppers are the hot kind, and Red Cayenne is one of the popular varieties. They are smaller than the bell peppers, turning from green to red, and forming long slender fruits.

Both peppers and eggplant grow bushy and compact, occupying very little space for the yields they give. For this reason they are ideal subjects for growing in containers, or mini-gardens.

A sunny location is necessary, and a light, rich soil. They need 65 to 80 days from transplanting to form fruit and they thrive during the hot, humid conditions of Michigan summers.

When harvesting, use scissors or pruning shears to separate the fruit from the plants, since the branches are brittle and may break if pulled.

Pods of the hot peppers dry easily, and can be strung together to make decorations for fall and Christmas.

Eggplants mature into large pear-shaped purplish black fruits, creamy white on the inside. One fruit is enough to serve four people, and there are several interesting ways to serve it.

One is to chop into sticks, then fry in a breadcrumb batter until golden. Another is to slice into circles and

cook in a casserole with chopped nuts, cheese and tomatoes.

Both peppers and eggplants are easily grown in containers, and they require no staking, since they form sturdy bushy plants that are highly ornamental.

Plant outdoors after all danger of frost in a sunny location at least 1 1/2 feet apart in rows two feet apart. If root - high plants make the best transplant.



GOLDEN YELLOW PEPPERS make a welcome change from the usual green and red. A typical eggplant fruit (at right) is ready for picking.



Easter lily may bloom next year

The fresh appearance and unusual fragrance of the Easter lily offers you indoor and outdoor decoration, say Michigan State University horticulturists.

For a longer life indoors, keep the flowering plant out of direct sunlight and drafts. A temperature between 60 and 70 degrees is best for keeping the flowers fresh. At night, the horticulturists suggest placing the lily in a cool room - about 60 degrees.

Your plant will need watering, but be careful not to overwater or allow the plant to remain in water. Pour just enough room temperature water to moisten the roots so that about

one-half cup drains out through the pot's bottom.

Once the lily plant has turned yellow and all the flowers have withered, clip both the flowers and brown leaf ends. And when the danger of frost is over you can plant it outside.

Close back window of station wagon

Open rear windows of station wagons permit exhaust fumes to be drawn into the vehicle, according to auto experts. Best policy is to keep the back window closed when the motor is running or to open a front window as well.

Power reduced

Autos start quicker and easier if accessories and headlights are turned off before ignition is turned on, recommend auto experts. The additional drain on the battery reduces the power needed for the hot spark to start the engine.

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