

# Washing's No Chore In New Laundry Center

How smoothly a homemaker sails through the family laundry depends upon the location and arrangement of the laundry harbor.

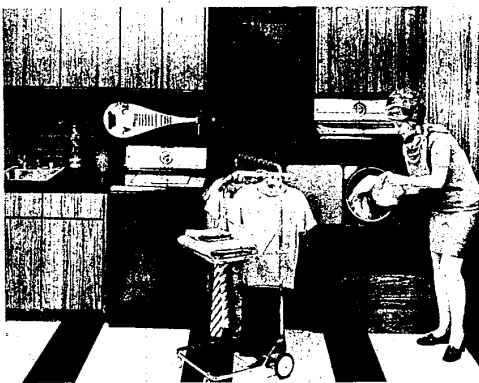
The ideal location from the standpoint of laundry function is near the bedroom-bath area, where the bulk of the laundry accumulates and is stored.

Also practical, however, is a location near other homemaker tasks—near the kitchen or family room, for example. This allows the homemaker to do laundry with preparation of meals, sewing, house-cleaning, etc.

NO ONE rule can apply to all situations. According to laundry experts, available space, proximity to plumbing, individual family needs and activities are all factors that need to be considered in planning a laundry location that is convenient.

Actual location, space available and any other activities that are planned for the area determine what actually needs to be included within the area itself. But certain elements are essential for efficient laundering.

In addition to laundry equipment, these essentials are: storage for soiled laundry, a place for sorting and folding, space for laundering aids and provision for hanging permanent press garments after they



FASHION IS FINDING its way into the laundry more and more. Here the laundry setting provides the home-makers interest in Oriental art objects. Also, elevating the dryer knows a special convenience for old or mature homemakers. The 15-inch-high platform conceals a storage bin for bedding or bulky items.

are removed from the dryer.

AN OPTIMUM laundry center also would include a small sink, space for laundered items

that might require ironing, plus facilities for any ironing necessary. Ideally, the various essentials should be arranged in the

order in which the various laundering steps are performed—usually from right to left for right-handers and from left to right for southpaws.

## Boy's Room Is Paneled

An outdoors feeling in a boy's room will be popular with a youngster and his parents, too. By installing a rugged, prefabricated exterior siding, the room gains in appearance and easy care.

The siding may be applied right over old walls, or over studs in new construction.

Since the colors are identical regardless of the style, the home planner can mix the panels and the lap siding effectively. In the panel style, battens cover the joints, which fall at four-foot intervals, and at desired intermediate locations.

Since the colors are fade-resistant, the panels will retain their original appearance for years. Their finish permits easy cleaning by wiping with a damp cloth. Common stains yield to mild detergent.

Using a siding like this in a boy's room assures a sturdy, boyish appearance, unusual durability and inexpensive upkeep.

## Panel Doors Set Fashion Note

Wood panel doors, always popular with Colonial and traditional house designs, are now available in a variety of new styles suitable for contemporary decor.

For example, panel doors of ponderosa pine now come in fashionable Spanish and Mediterranean motifs—some with as many as 30 panels and with ornate grilles and decorative insets.

They can be obtained at local lumber dealers in stock sizes. It is possible to get the door as a single unit, or as part of a complete entryway with features such as sidelights.

## The Green Thumb

By GEORGE ABRAHAM

Geraniums: Seed vs Cuttings: This is the time to be thinking about increasing your geranium plants.

Which is the best way—seed or by cuttings? I'd say try both ways. Not many gardeners have tried growing their own geraniums from seed, a rather radical departure from the time-honored method of starting this popular Memorial Day plant. If you want to try the geranium seed, keep in mind these facts: Germination is best if you use a warm soil or germinating medium. Best temperature is around 75 degrees or higher.

Seed like constant heat and adequate moisture. Don't try starting the seed in soil scooped up from the garden. Such soil is loaded with harmful organisms. Better use a mixture of sand and peat moss, or perlite or vermiculite. Hybrid seed sown now should give you flowering plants by July 4. Don't let the cost of the seed scare you—around 50 seeds per \$3.50. It's still a bargain.

Cuttings can still be taken now to produce flowering plants by June 1. Take cuttings from healthy plants and insert each in a box of moist sand, perlite or plain tap water. Rooting takes place in about three weeks, after which they can be potted up in a soil mixture of one-third each sand, peat and loam. Be sure to bake the mixture in an oven at 180 degrees for one-half hour.

DO YOU WATER WITCH? Water dowsing (also called

"water witching" or water dowsing) is a method some use to locate water in the ground. Does it really work, gardeners ask?

Many believe it is a fool proof way to locate water. Professional dowsers tell us that amateurs should stay out of the business, but amateurs (and there are plenty) tell us they water dows mostly for pin money or for helping their friends pinpoint water underground.

Water witching consists of taking a forked peach twig (or any other wood) and hold it out at arms length, arms outstretched, elbows away from the body and thumbs up. If you try it, see how it will pull the pointed stick downward. If you believe in water witching, please write and tell me your experience.

yellow. What's wrong?" Chances are the room temperature is too high. Move plant to a cool window. 70 degrees or less, and at night even lower. A lack of light will cause yellowing so keep it in a bright window.

If drooping sets in, soak the pot in a pan of water for one-half hour. When flowering is over, keep the soil dried off until warm weather and then put pot and all outdoors until fall.

## Bathtub Bar

Safety's reason for a bar attached to the bathtub rim. Small children and elderly persons grip the thing when stepping into and out of the tub.

One dual-purpose unit provides a 13-inch bar with space underneath for soap and bathing accessories. Easily sponged clean, the vinyl bonded tray is water and rust-proof.

## Oldsters Can Get Exemptions

Would \$100 come in handy? If the answer is yes, the Michigan Commission on Aging reminds you that if you're 65 or over, you may be eligible to join over 150,000 other senior citizens who are taking advantage of the property tax reduction under Michigan's homestead tax exemption.

The applicant, who must file for the exemption each year at his city or township assessor's office, can file anytime between Jan. 2 and sometime in March—a date set by the local assessor's office.

TO BE ELIGIBLE, residents must have lived in Michigan for over five of the last 10 years, and have a total yearly income of not more than \$10,000—including social security payments, inheritances, pensions, or proceeds from life insurance.

It is also required that the applicant have owned property in his name by Dec. 31, and the value of that homestead and real property does not exceed \$10,000 in state equal-

ized tax valuation. Those who are over 65 and are living in a cooperative housing facility or mobile homes are eligible in some instances.

THE APPLICANT must supply a deed; birth certificate (a driver's license is not considered legal proof of age); land contract or mortgage; a recent tax bill for all real property owned, and his social security number.

He should also be prepared to give the true cash value of property owned out of the State of Michigan and a statement of income.

There are no lien provisions attached to the homestead tax exemption act and there will be no attempt by state or local governments to collect from the heirs or otherwise attach the property. The Michigan Commission on Aging is also supporting the bill before the current Legislature which would raise the upper limitations on property value restrictions, and would increase the income allowance from \$5,000 to \$6,000. This, however, does not affect the current homestead tax exemption requirements.

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## UF Hits Tax Bill

Officials of Detroit's United Foundation, the world's largest united fund, have joined hundreds of others across the country in voicing "considerable concern" regarding the federal tax legislation pending in Congress.

They charge that House Bill 12270, now before the Senate, could reverse long-standing government policy of encouraging voluntary philanthropy to help meet the nation's health and welfare needs.

Copies of the statement have been mailed to Michigan Senators Hart and Griffin as well as House representatives. The STATEMENT was accompanied by a letter from UF Executive Vice President Jacques Cousin expressing "a definite belief that much of this legislation will blunt voluntary efforts to resolve today's social ills."

Cousin's letter called attention to the vital role philanthropy has played in American life and noted that the UF in 21 years of existence has brought in nearly \$400 million for health and social services. "This legislation appears designed to thwart any bold, new innovative programs by imposing penalties on foundations and their officers if funds are spent in ways which it does not meet the requirements of the legislation," Cousin declared. "And it comes at a time when this nation needs the enthusiastic cooperation and participation of all its citizenry in a dedicated effort to improve life in America and when there is great need for realism in our approach to the difficult problems," he added. The UF statement attacked the complexity of the proposed

legislation and declared: "A donor will have a hard time determining what and when to give to a charity."

IT CALLED FOR modification of provisions relating to appreciated property gifts, extension of the standard deduction, and limitation of income, gift and estate tax deductions on trusts under which an individual is paid the income for life with the principal or remainder paid to charity.

"Legislation affecting the philanthropic gifts should be clarified and simplified at the outset," the UF statement declared.

It proposed postponing the effective dates regarding transactions involving appreciated securities so as not to apply to those taking place prior to the passage of the act. "Persons making pledges to a charity on the basis of existing laws should not be penalized by having to pay these pledges on the basis of the new law," it added.

## Cheap Fixtures More Costly

When you plan a new bathroom, it's for the lifetime of your home, so don't rush into it without preparation. Consult your plumbing contractor. Visit his store to see what styles and colors are available. Be sure to ask him about the differences in fixtures quality. The best water closet, for example, is the siphonjet because it's the quietest and has the best flushing action. Cheap fixtures are always more costly in the long run.

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