

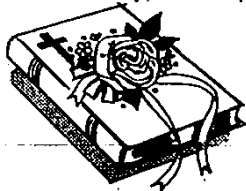
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Make Art Part Of Your New Life

Buy it (for under \$25, if you like), or lease it. Try prints or originals. A painting on the wall makes even the sparsest furnishings look elegant.

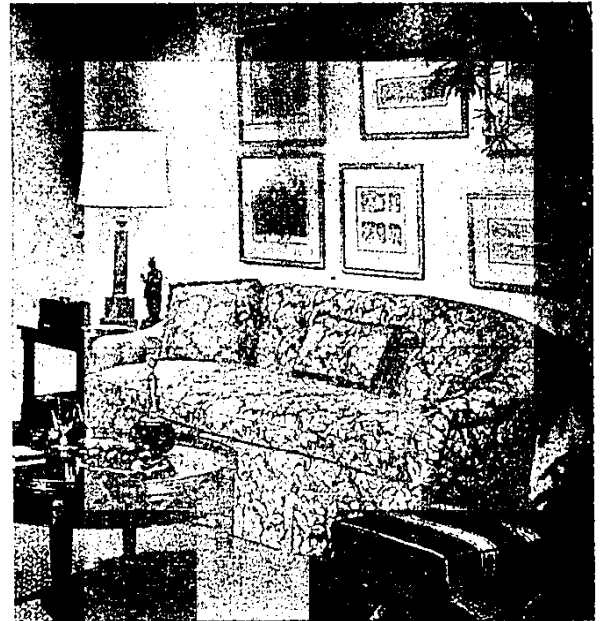
Their parents may have waited years before they were able to afford it, but a combination of new technology which has made prints more popular, and new buying plans which make originals more accessible, has made art part of many newlyweds' home furnishing plans.

New art galleries are no longer the elite, only-for-the-wealthy-connoisseur places they once were, but have knowledgeable personnel eager to help the young couple without pushing a purchase. Plans for leasing and buying on time make art acquisition a painless pleasure.

If you buy your art in the right place, you will have an opportunity to try it out in your own home. For example, Manny Gorman, owner of the new Gault Galleries in Birmingham, says his gallery will even help you hang your new acquisition.

You will probably place your first painting over the sofa in the living room, but don't center it. That look is static and old-fashioned. By placing your first picture in a more advantageous spot, you'll be able to add others easily in an attractive arrangement, and even a single picture will show up well.

Don't be afraid to mix prints and originals. Top contemporary artists are doing exciting lithographs and silkscreen prints which



ART CAN BE MIXED in untraditional ways, even in traditional rooms. The necessary elements are simple frames, a wall of neutral background, and enough different shapes to make the arrangement look dynamic. Originals and prints are combined. Furniture is by Baker.

are less expensive than their paintings. Often, these are available only in limited editions which make them every bit as good an investment as a painting by a lesser light. Even if they're not in limited editions, many of today's prints are of superb quality, displaying them with originals will make them look even better. Don't underestimate the importance of the frame in which your painting is placed. It should fit the mood of the art. A different frame can make the same painting fit a different period or style of furniture.

If your painting does not come already framed, be sure to get the advice of the gallery. A poor frame can destroy the effect of a painting. Changing the frame on a piece of art can actually change the look and mood of an entire room.

Use the colors of your painting in your decor. Blending is often better than matching, especially as the same color looks different in different materials.

Sometimes even the heavenly painting you have selected is no longer as desirable within a short time after you've purchased it. Talk to the gallery before you do buy it. A good one will accept it back within a reasonable period. Investigate leasing plans.

Gault Galleries, for example, has a system which permits you to credit most of what you pay out in your lease program toward purchase of that painting. It literally permits you to try before you buy.

Try to get the history of the artist and the story of the painting. It will add so much to your enjoyment of your new acquisition, and will start you on your way to becoming an art connoisseur.