Let the sun in — through the roof

If the windows in your home don't provide enough daylight, skylights may be the most efficient way to brighten the rooms and create a feeling of drama and excitement. They not only provide natural daylight from the ceiling area but visually enlarge small spaces.

Skylights have become increasingly popular just about everywhere in a house — hallways, dens, kitchens, bathrooms and even bedrooms. They are also being installed in additions to older houses where structural problems limit light from windows.

The most efficient skylights have double or triple glazing and thermalized frames. This means the frame has a built-in insulating barrier between the inside and outside surfaces. The break in the frame prevents the cold outside air from being conducted inside the house through the frame.

Most skylights are prefabricated in a wide variety of sizes and shapes, but some are custom-formed. Flat tops seems to be preferred over domed units because they are unobtrusive and blend more easily into the roof.

THESE SKYLIGHTS incorporate tempered glass or plastic set into a rigid frame which has a self-flashing perimeter and permanent weather sealing. Interior frames have either aluminum or wood finishes.

Clear or tinted panels are available. Tinted or reflective glass or plastic allows for greater sun control without changing colors inside or outside the room.

In winter, well-insulated skylights reduce some of the need for electric lighting and admit solar hear to keep the room warm. Although most skylights are permanently sealed into the roof, some have vents and screens. These are particularly effective for removing smoke and cooking odors.

WHENEVER POSSIBLE, a skylight should be installed flush with the roof of a building. Where the roof is pitched or there is an attic above the room, a skylight can be tunneled from the ceiling to the roof.

Such "vaulted" skylights were installed in a recent kitchen addition where there was a structural problem.

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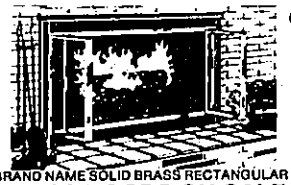

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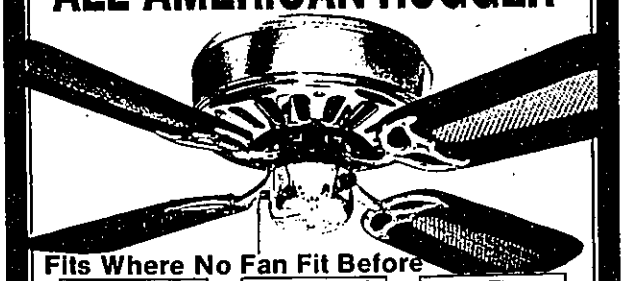
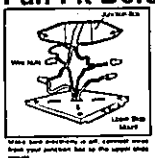
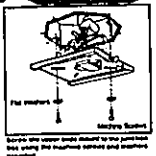
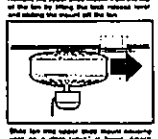


Fits Where No Fan Fit Before







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