



KAREN'S SUNKEN LIVING ROOM is decorated in rich tones of blue and gold. She envisions it as an elegant setting for parties.

Plymouth Teen Details Plans For Dream House

Karen Grimmer, a senior at Plymouth's Salem High School, is a girl with a dream.

Unlike most dreams, however, Karen's has been carefully planned, measured and coordinated on paper—a project which took her an entire semester of work to complete.

Karen's dream, a romantic styled English tudor mansion, came about as a result of a home economics course she took in "Housing," taught by Plymouth instructor Merle Atchinson.

Working within a budget, each student was required to design a house for an imaginary family, specifying locations of furniture on a specially drawn-up plan. Styles and colors of the different pieces of furniture were represented by magazine pictures pasted in a special album. Swatches of drapery and upholstery fabrics were included as well.

Karen admits that her four bedroom dream house, estimated at a cost of \$103,000 is a bit high for the average budget. But the budget of her imaginary family is far from average.

The head of Karen's mythical family is an attorney, "Brian" who makes a tidy \$90,000-per-year. The wife, "Karen" holds down a job as a home economics teacher. The two children, "Kimberly Anne" and "Christopher Alan," are outdoorsy types who enjoy horseback riding and swimming in the country setting of their idyllic home.

To accommodate the needs of her make-believe family, Karen has planned a library/study for Brian on the nights when he brings home his briefcase. The wife can enjoy her own sewing room as well as a kitchen that was planned for elaborate cooking projects.

Because they entertain a lot, Karen's family enjoys a 23' by 17' sunken living room complete with a grand piano, fireplace and bay window. To complement the grandeur of the room, Karen has chosen upholstery fabrics of royal blue and gold for



KAREN GRIMMER

the richly dark pieces of Jacobean furniture.

Karen carefully planned a color scheme of blue, yellow and green throughout the entire house, except in the sewing room for which she has selected yellow and orange.

Her scrapbook, "Our Home," is filled with samples of drapery fabric for every room. Furniture, selected to go with the exact dimensions of the house, is represented in her scrapbook by magazine pictures that she felt suited her needs.

Karen's course in "Housing" has given her some concrete ideas on home planning. "I think everyone should do this," she advised. "So many people start out with bare rooms and then begin accumulating things—that they're sorry about—later on. Good planning can eliminate many mistakes."

What about you? Even if your budget falls short of a \$103,000 house, there's nothing to prevent you from dreaming of what you'd really like and then trying to achieve it with the available funds.

If you don't have a dream, after all, how are you going to make a dream come true?

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