

Many do-it-yourself hobbyists are learning the hard way that it pays to shop around when buying supplies. For instance, most small home projects take short-length lumber. Bargains can be found at most lumber yards by digging around in the short length bins for Douglas fir 2x4s or boards. You can generally find just the length you need with no waste.

RAIN LEACHES FOOD IN PLANTS, RESEARCH SHOWS

Rain will not only leach plant food from the soil - it removes nutrients from the plant itself. That's what three horticulturists at Michigan State University found when they used radioactive isotopes to trace what happens to plant food in a four-hour simulated rain.

W. G. Long, D. V. Sweet and H. B. Tukey found that 71 per cent of the potash was removed from plant leaves. And the chemical analysis also indicated that nitrogen, calcium, magnesium, boron, manganese, iron and copper may be lost.

The discovery indicates, the researchers say, that a continuous rain may reduce plant growth severely. And supplemental fertilizer may be necessary to get satisfactory yields.

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Homes and Gardening

Wallpaper Design Follows Oriental Motif Trend

Wallpaper design has been affected by the trend to the Oriental motif, presently being expressed in modern architecture and interior decorating fabrics. Miss Jean McLain, prominent New York decorator, says that there is a new subtle richness in wallpaper patterns that become subordinate to the natural architectural materials of wood, cork and stone.

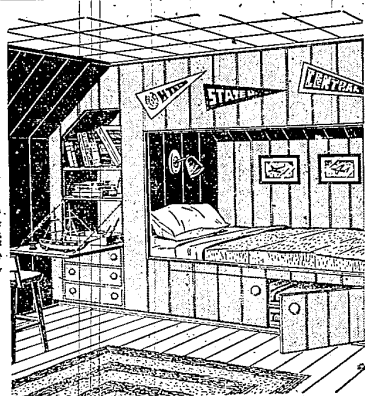
The Far Eastern approach to architecture is in using actual structural members as the decorating motif - such as exposed beams, purlins and paneling in natural finishes. American architects are utilizing such native materials as Douglas fir and western red cedar in effectively interpreting this trend.

Thus, reports Miss McLain, a wallpaper design that emphasizes this naturalness is found in the widely spaced small patterns as opposed to large dramatic design. A coin print in greenish turquoise blends beautifully with natural woods and stone, the noted decorator points out. "This paper may be used in conjunction with another paper presently on the market - a replica of the Japanese shoji screen," she suggests.

"Wallpaper need not dominate the room in which structural materials are exposed, nor need it make a paneled room look noisy," Miss McLain explains. "Rather, it is used effectively to emphasize points of interest, or to add color spots to the neutrality of wood tones."

Anytime is poultry time since most stores are selling turkey and chicken in pieces. If the family likes white meat you can buy all breasts - if they prefer dark meat purchase the thighs and legs. Regardless of their choice, don't overlook the economical backs and necks for your home cooked turkey or chicken broth.

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If your growing child is getting too large for his room, here's a room stretching idea. Tip the furniture up into the wall and give them more floor space. This is easy to do with softwoods like Douglas fir or best cost hemlock which works easily. They can be cut and shaped to fit any space. In this unit is a comfortable bunk bed, study table, and storage for shoes, books, linens and hobby gear all sandwiched nicely into one wall.

New Carpet Squares In 12 Colors Now Available In Local Markets

Newcomers to the growing field of "do-it-yourself" products are cotton carpet squares that can be laid by an amateur.

This new carpet, product consists of 18-inch squares of cut-pile, tufted cotton carpet bonded to a "bulletin" padding. The back of the padding has a pressure-sensitive adhesive which causes the carpet to adhere to the floor when lightly pressed.

The squares are aimed at "forgotten rooms," such as children's rooms, dens, and playrooms which are rarely carpeted.

The theory behind the development of these squares is that consumers can afford to put carpeting into secondary rooms at a moderate price and without any cost for installation or padding.

The adhesive on the back of the squares, it is said, will never mar any floor. A square will adhere to any clean floor, though concrete floors must be primed before installation.

"The squares can be taken up and replaced a reasonable number of times," Bally soiled or marred squares can be removed easily and replaced at any time, it is reported, and the squares can be cleaned by normal on-location methods recommended for cotton carpet.

"The carpet is made in 12 colors,

MARCH OF DIMES



JANUARY 3-31

PORK GETTING CLOSER FAT TRIM, SAYS SPECIALIST

Pork cuts are getting a "new look."

Consumers are seeing more and more cuts of pork with a thinner fat trim, according to Ed Miller, extension swine specialist at Michigan State University.

Many packers are now leaving only one-quarter inch fat trim on pork cuts instead of one-half inch. This leaner look is particularly apparent on hams and loins, says Miller.

A producers' group, the National Swine Growers Council, helped initiate the closer trim of fat reports Miller, who is a director of the organization. The council worked closely with packers and processors to start the leaner look fashion.

By providing a product more suited to consumer desires, the council hopes this closer trim will boost the use of pork.

Miller points out that Michigan has a swine evaluation station in operation to locate strains of meat-type hogs within breeds. Cuts from meat-type hogs will not need trimming to achieve a leaner look. Other council projects include making uniform standards for meat-type hogs in all states and developing uniform health standards for easier inter-state shipment of breeding stock.

CHAMPION FLOOR

The world's largest log cabin, built in Portland, Oregon, in 1905 for the Columbia Exposition World Fair, has become a popular tourist attraction with an estimated 150,000 visitors annually. Interesting is the fact that the floor of Douglas fir is still in excellent shape after 50 years of hard usage and more than 5,000,000 users.

Colored Light Bulbs Add Charm To Home Decor

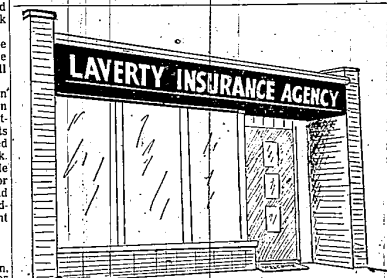
With the new pastel pink colored bulbs on the market, M.S.U. home furnishing experts have a few tips on using them to best advantage. Use them to enhance warm colors in fabrics, foods and furnishings. Pink bulbs provide a soft light, reduce glare and shadows, flatter complexions and produce a pleasing atmosphere for comfortable living. Don't use them in reading or sewing lamps, or when applying make-up.

Man across the desk from us wants to bet that you'll still be picking up pine needles about the house come Easter time.

CHANGE DRAB ROOMS

Many people who are remodeling their older homes frequently turn to wood paneling to give new life and sparkle to once-drab rooms. For more formal rooms, clear, straight-grained boards of Douglas fir, western red cedar or west coast hemlock can be used. For family rooms, dens or kitchens, lumber can be selected which enhances the beauty of grain, texture and color.

Zero degrees F. is the temperature recommended for foods in home freezers. Temperatures above zero don't hold food quality and those lower don't keep food enough better to be worth the extra operating expense.



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