

**Observer**  
**HOME IMPROVEMENT**  
 Do-It-Yourself • Decorating • Remodeling  
 Page 2-B Wednesday, May 25, 1966

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# Do-It-Yourself - Save in Decorating Home

The easiest and most expensive way to decorate your home with fabric on the wall is to have it done by a professional wallpaper hanger. For the budget-minded and adventurous homemaker however, with a handy hand, there are ways to do yourself with a professional look.

Although primarily used for decorative purposes, fabric on the wall can also conceal cracks or damage, correct awkward architectural areas, or add cozy warmth to a drab room.

A few points should be kept in mind when selecting fabric:

- A tightly constructed fabric will be the easiest to work with when applying the adhesive.
- Choose a fabric with a pattern which lends itself to cutting and matching in the area to be covered.
- Before ordering the fabric, learn the measurements of the wall.
- Select a fabric protected with "Zepel" fabric fluoridizer to guard the wall covering from accidental spills and splashes.

Before tackling the job make sure all the necessary tools are on hand. For example, a paste adhesive is being used, a paste brush, sweeping brush, sponge, and plastic pail are needed in addition to razor blades and a smoother or seam roller. These tools are usually available at hardware stores in an inexpensive wallpapering kit.

Examples of techniques for professional looking do-it-yourself work are described and illustrated here:

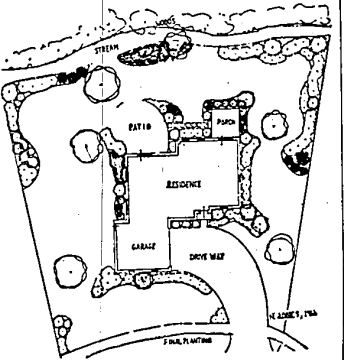
To add warmth to a dark, cold-looking traditional dining room, a fluoridized cotton steamed by Waverly, featuring fruit and floral bouquets in red and olive tones on a champagne tinted ground, is selected. After careful measurements of the wall the fabric is cut to fit its length.

The repeats are then lined up in the fabric length, and the lengths are sewn together to conceal the selvedge as well as match the repeats. One cup of molasses is added to each gallon of wheat paste to slow the drying, thus allowing extra moments to line up the pattern and straighten the seams after the fabric is hung.

Once on the wall, the sweeping brush is worked from the center out to smooth all wrinkles, and the seam roller or smoother. A chair rail conceals the raw edges of the fabric and adds a finishing touch to the room.

To decorate a romantic bedroom with a perfectly suited panel-printed Everlast chintz in shades of blue, lavender, olive and white on a simple technique of applying fabric to wall and strips of plywood. The fabric is cut to fit the window wall, after removing the old wallpaper. Stove-drying cellulose paste is brushed on the wall surface and allowed to dry.

A second coat of paste is applied and while still wet the fabric is hung. If the fabric is



WITH A BASIC PLAN, the homeowner can plant the materials in steps to fit his pocketbook, and time available. The design should take into consideration the homeowners likes of plant materials and his desires for the use of the area surrounding his home. This may include a service, garden or play area, patio, swimming pool, etc. The first two plantings which were illustrated in previous weeks are now completed by the third and final planting. This completes the landscape, tying in the house to the surroundings, offsetting unpleasant heights, relieving bareness, adding a touch of decoration, giving privacy, and increasing value of the home.

## Kingsize Furniture Provides Comfort

Room to stretch out and get comfortable is the theme of 1966 furniture designs. New upholstered pieces are kingsize. They are comfortable and luxurious. And they all look expensive, even if they look like cardboard.

Chests, tables and sideboards have been large-sized for some time, and the upholstered pieces are now catching up. Cushions have been getting softer, plumper and thicker for several years, but now they are positively cloud-like.

One manufacturer has a new cushion design made out of layer after layer of latex foam rubber. The result is a cushion nearly a foot thick. A favored feature is that the cushions never need to be plumped—they recover their shape instantly.

Dominant furniture styles are: Mediterranean and Spanish, plump modern designs with poufy seating and arms, and Colonial designs. A new note is English furniture, mainly from the 18th century, but reaching back into the 17th century.

No matter the style, cushioning is rounded and sumptuous. Seats are closer to the floor (and so are tables). Sharp angles are out, softened corners are in. And contemporary designs show the influence of many, many other styles.

Furniture designers have come up with some surprises. For 1966, they have introduced the "wrapped" look, where the entire chair is upholstered right down to the floor, even the legs.

Some 90 per cent of the national gas supplied customers by Consumers Power Company comes from outside the state, brought to Michigan by transcontinental pipelines. The rest is produced in Michigan gas fields located near Fort Huron, Clare and Albion.

the wall coloring, are framed with the panels with fine hood do-it-yourselfers. This method of applying fabric to the wall permits easy removal for washing or dry cleaning.

A handsome display of fabric on the wall can easily be the

Care should be taken to place the fabric on the boards so the pattern will match where the boards meet. The covered wallboards are then attached to the wall with brads in the middle and at spaced intervals to avoid buckling. Painted two-inch strips of lumber are nailed to the wall to form the main support of the boards.

To solve the decoration problem of an entrance foyer, framed fabric panels of a Pre-Tiffany floral design by Bloomcraft are adopted. In determining the size of the panels bear in mind that they should be equivalent from each other, the ceiling, and the chair rail. Their locations should then be pencilled off on the wall.

Strips of molding, mitered for the corners and painted in

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