

# Young Homeowners Undaunted By Lack Of Space And Charm

There once was a time when houses were great rambling affairs, complete with interesting attics, beamed ceilings and nooks and crannies. Even apartments came equipped with their share of window seats and ornate moldings which gave them character.

When faced with little more than four blank walls, turning a box into a livable, alive room involves skill, imagination and perseverance.

Turning a nondescript shell into a colorful, personalized

home is easy if you remember the dos and don'ts:

DO work with a variety of potent colors when decorating your home. Warm, vibrant hues will help take the chill off antiseptic, impersonal rooms.

DO choose a selection of textures, especially natural ones, for areas throughout your home.

DON'T fill your home with plastics or imitation wood grains which make a room feel impersonal and cold.

DON'T be afraid to change the character of your home by altering the size or shape of your rooms.

DO use genuine hardwood paneling to create a mellow atmosphere with any type of decor.

DO try using a bright printed fabric or paper on ceilings, windows and upholstery.

DO feel free to add moldings, wood beams and other architectural details to make a plain room look less boxy.



**KITCHEN RENOVATION** -- Bob Haas was not satisfied with the old cupboards. First he covered the old doors with paneling then added the molding with mitered corners. The molding was stained and elegant new hardware installed. He built the snack bar (lower left) and topped it with avocado and white Formica flecked with gold to match the avocado appliances. The counter tops match.



**LORRAINE HAAS** chose autumn hues for the family room with a Mediterranean flavor to the decor. The Vermont maple vinyl paneling and the walnut and beige, nylon indoor-outdoor carpeting (both installed by her husband, Bob) are a mellow background for the warm autumn tones of the furniture. Son Donald, 4, catches up on his reading on the sofa.

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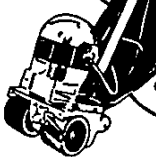
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