

A woman in a pink dress and a young child in a black dress are standing in a garden. They are surrounded by various potted plants, including yellow chrysanthemums. In the background, there is a wooden pergola structure with a lattice roof. The scene is set in a lush garden with large trees and a clear sky.

Late Spring, 1955

Popular Home

Your How-to-do-it Magazine

**Oakridge Builders
Supply Co.**

**INSPIRATIONS FOR
OUTDOOR LIVING**

21 Back-Yard Bargains
An Easy-to-Build Cottage

Save a Place For Us...



when you sit down to plan that
new home, or modernizing project

Think what we can bring to such a planning session! The *experience* we've gained through years of helping folks like you, on projects like yours. The *knowledge* of how to go about the job—whether you are doing the work yourself or need the help of reliable contractors.

All this—and more—we'll bring with us when we sit down with you to help you plan that new home, or modernizing project. Don't you think it will pay you to "save a place for us"—as it has already paid so many of your neighbors? Then let's make it a date. Come in or phone!

SEE OUR NAME AND ADDRESS ON THE COVER

POPULAR HOME MAGAZINE: Late Spring Issue, 1955, Vol. 12, No. 3; Mailing Date: May, 1955. Copyright 1955 by United States Gypsum Company, publisher, 300 W. Adams St., Chicago 6, Ill. Sent to you eight times a year through the courtesy of the firm named on the covers of this issue. Printed in U. S. A.

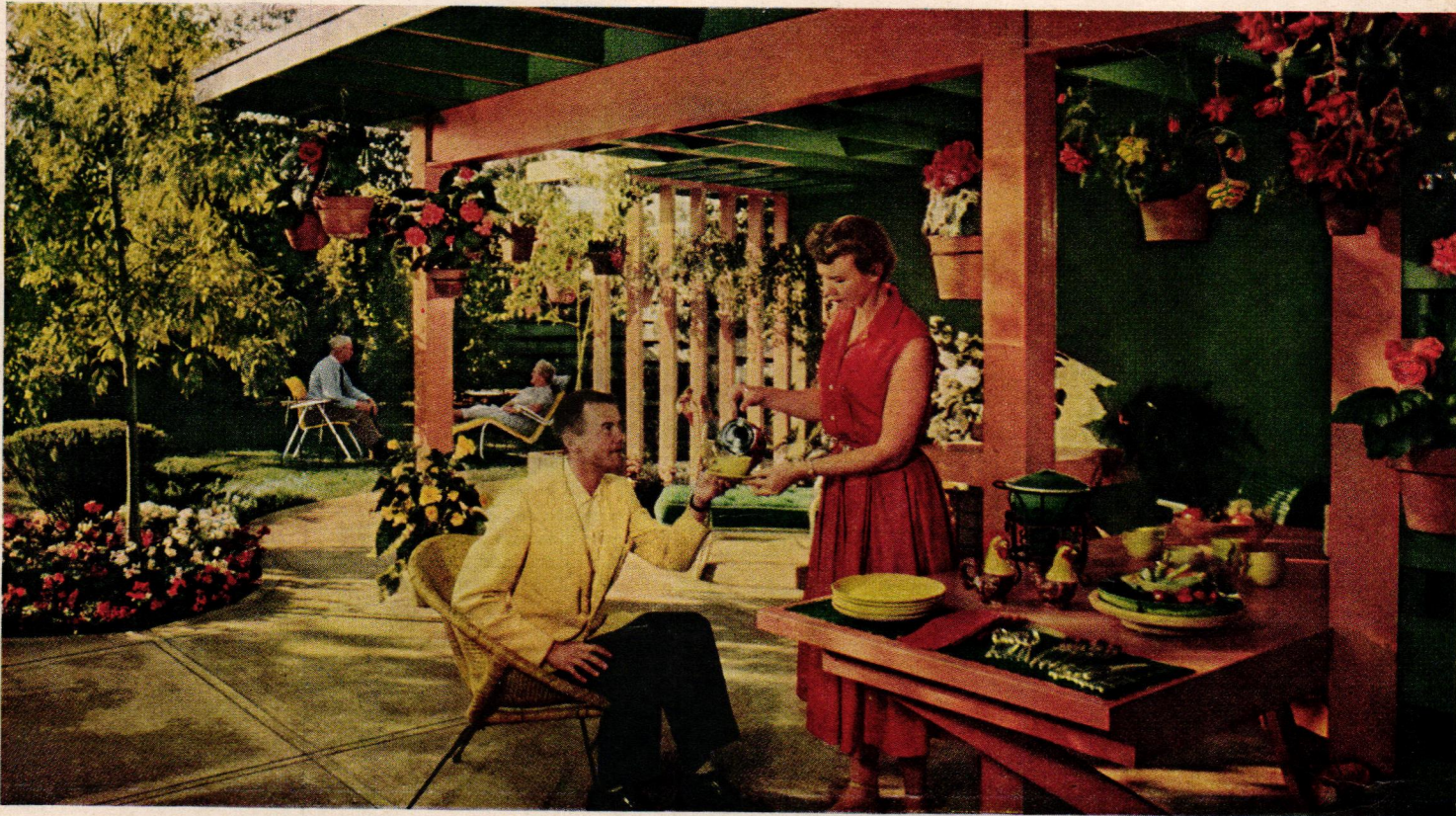
COVER PHOTOGRAPH: HEDRICH-BLESSING

Popular Home LATE SPRING
ISSUE 3 • 1955



Back-yard Bargains

Welcome your family to outdoor living
with easy-to-build structural features



HOME OF MR. & MRS. C. E. MCADAM

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT: LELAND H. NOEL, AIA

A shady retreat comes first on many families' list—either porch, breezeway, or a separate sun shelter out in the yard as shown in the lovely setting above. Shelter like this can be screened or equipped with roll-down blinds, can serve as an outdoor sleeping room or children's play area. Here, a standard flush door makes sturdy serving table, ideal for use with portable barbecue.

PHOTO: PHIL FEIN

DATA: BOB GILMORE

How to put every corner of your yard to work for the pleasant months ahead

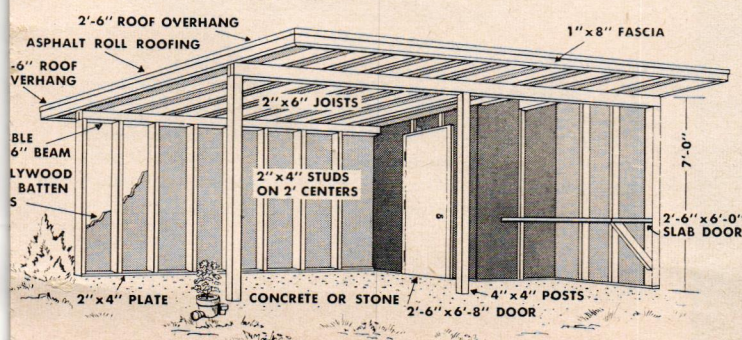
THERE'S JUST ONE PLACE to begin when you set out to equip your home for outdoor living. That's with a well-organized plan based on the needs and preferences of your family, and on the physical limitations of your property. It can be the professional work of a landscape architect, or a sketch of your own.

Just think of your yard as you would of rooms in a house—for it can serve you in almost as many ways. Check off the features you'd like most:

- A shady spot to relax and entertain. ☐
- A barbecue-picnic center. ☐
- Comfortable, inexpensive furniture. ☐
- A garden—with a work center. ☐
- A service yard for drying clothes, enjoying hobbies. ☐
- A corner for sunbathing. ☐
- Flowers—and lots of them. ☐
- A play yard for the children. ☐
- Storage space for tools. ☐
- Privacy—from the street, and from neighbors. ☐

In your plan, put each feature where you want it. Then tackle them one at a time. Start with the help of the firm named on the covers, and you'll be living outdoors—soon!

(Continued on next page)

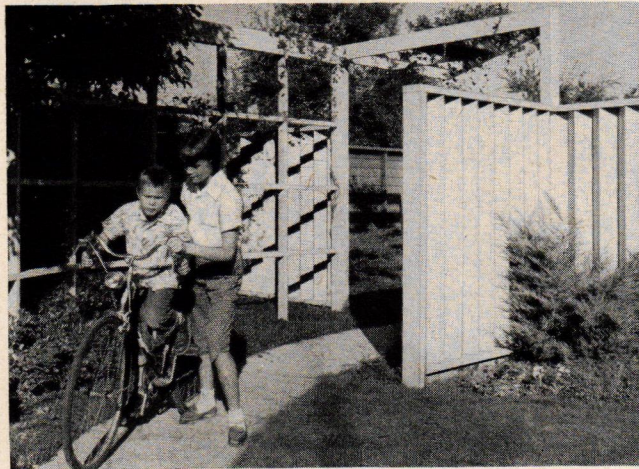


BACK-YARD
BARGAINS

How to Organize for Work and Play

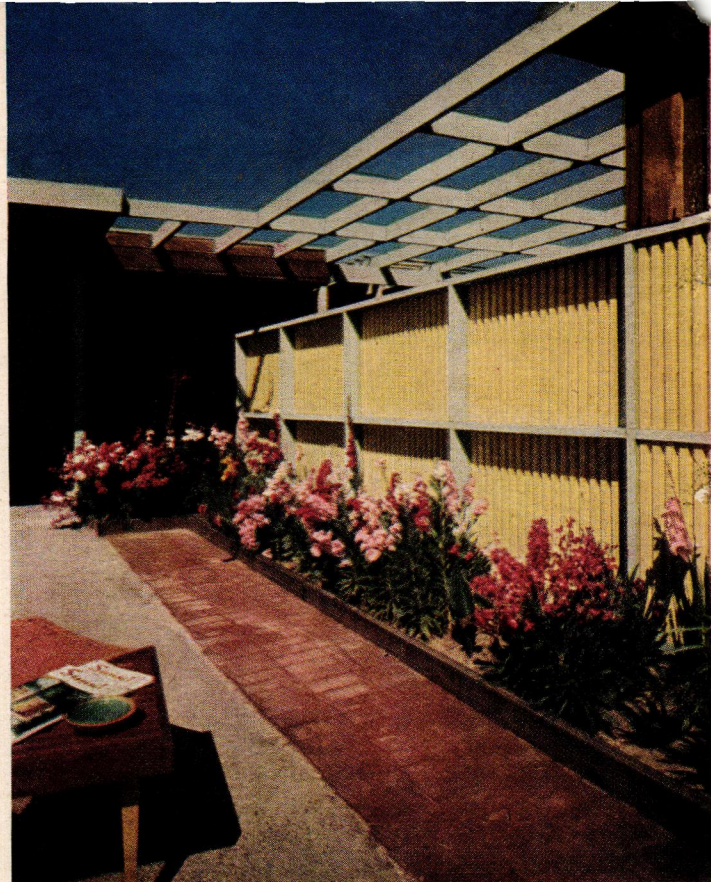
Distinguish the entrance with an attractive gate, or as in this case, with a good substitute. You can angle the fence to form a baffle, as shown here, screening entrance into yard. Vine trellis at left of entrance is of 2x4 lumber, while decorative fence is of 1x6 boards nailed to 2x6 sill and cap in zig-zag fashion. This is a variation of basic fence designs shown in a new Handyman Plan on Wood Fences, available free from your POPULAR HOME sponsor. Stop in soon and get acquainted!

HOME OF MR. & MRS. ARTHUR B. SIRI



HOME OF MR. & MRS. A. G. DONNERBERG

PHOTO: HEDRICH-BLESSING

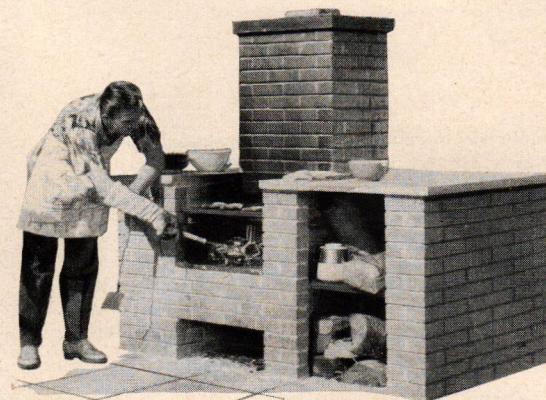


ARCHITECT: HAROLD EKMAN, AIA

PHOTO: FRANK L. GAYNOR

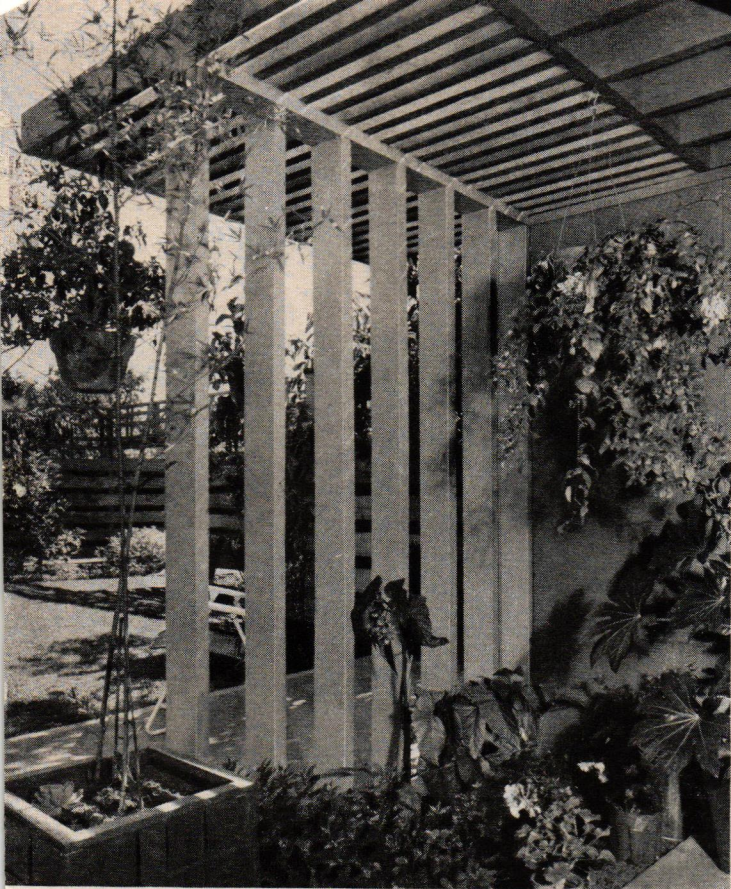
Separate the areas you'll be using for different purposes. Here, sunny patio in foreground is screened from service yard by striking wood fence that repeats grid pattern of decorative overhead trellis. Fence is built of 1x2 batten strips nailed over plywood panels within frame of 2x6 lumber. Note brick paving and 2x8 header boards used to edge flower beds.

Prepare for picnics if you want the neighborhood's popularity prize. Back corner in this Oregon yard was given unique arbor, over which vines will be trained, supported by 4x4 posts. Bricks laid in concrete form floor, and horizontal slat fence gives privacy without shutting out the breeze. Center of action is handsome masonry fireplace of type you can build yourself (below).



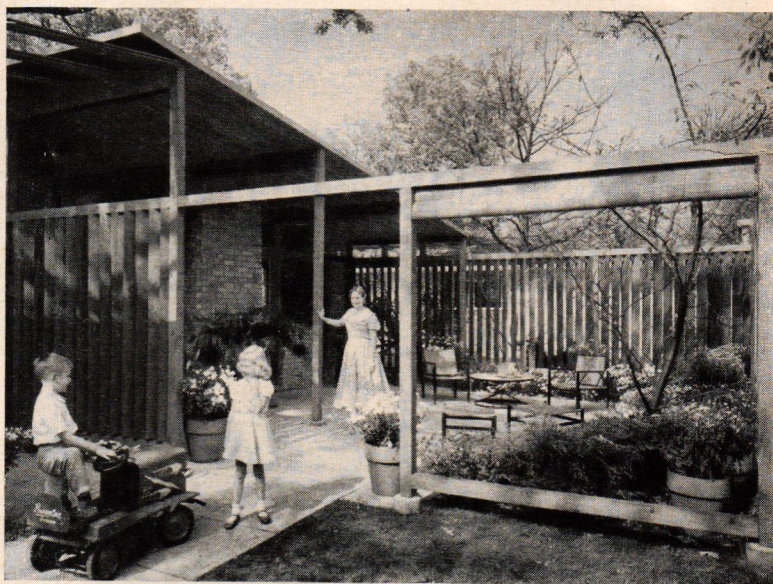
You can have this if you build POPULAR HOME'S BarbeQueen fireplace, another of the outdoor living features shown in Free Handyman Plans at your local firm named on covers. BarbeQueen has wide work top, storage compartment, and adjustable grate positions for charcoal or wood. Designed to use standard materials, it is 76 in. wide, 40 in. deep and 35 in. high plus chimney.





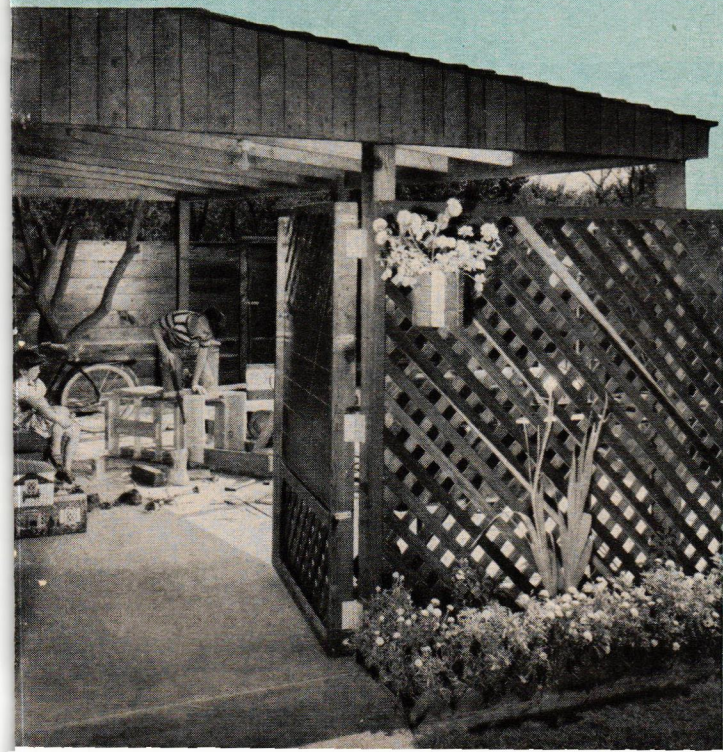
Do something unusual with the structural features of your yard, such as latticework above from the McAdams' sun shelter (page 3). Overhang is framed with 2x6's, interspersed with 2x2's for partial shade and hanging plants. Vertical framing is of 2x6's, and can be used for climbing plants. Plant pocket at base has bed of gravel and sand to provide drainage.

Enclose one portion for family lounging and entertaining. On the cover you saw this unusual patio—from the house designed by Architect Harris Armstrong for United States Gypsum's Research Village near Barrington, Ill., featured in the Spring issue of **POPULAR HOME**. Frame of 4x4 rails and posts is used for vertical wood louvers which admit the breeze but screen the view, and for open sections with bamboo roll blinds.

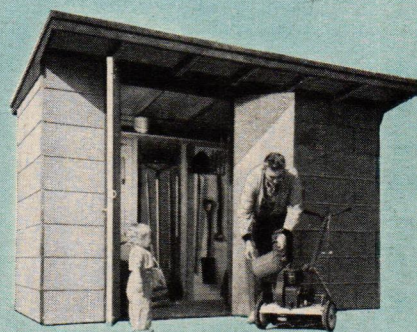


A place to work is important in any yard. It can be combined with the drying yard, should be screened from rest of yard, and should be located near house. Here, carport roof is extended to rear for shelter where Jared and Susan Ball build soap-box racer. Lath-lattice fence and eye-pleasing gate of redwood keep it private.

HOME OF MR. & MRS. CHARLES BALL



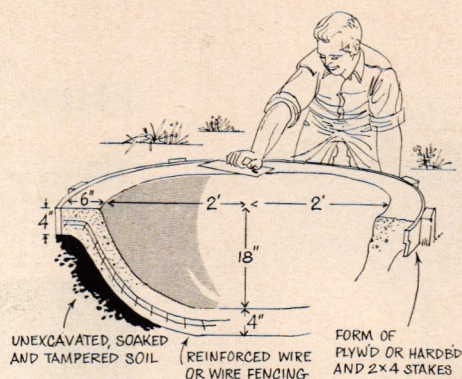
Work Center for you to build is 4½x12 feet, includes tool storage space plus potting bench and bins. Unit can be built against house, garage or carport. How to do it? See the Handyman Plan on Outdoor Storage—at firm named on covers.



Gardener's delight is portable 5-foot potting bench, for garage or out in yard. It has counter 33 in. high, and four bins for compost and soil mixtures. Construction employs 2x3 framing, plywood sides and dividers, counter of 1x6 boards, and 1x12 shelving.

(Continued on next page)

FROM CALIFORNIA SPRING GARDEN SHOW



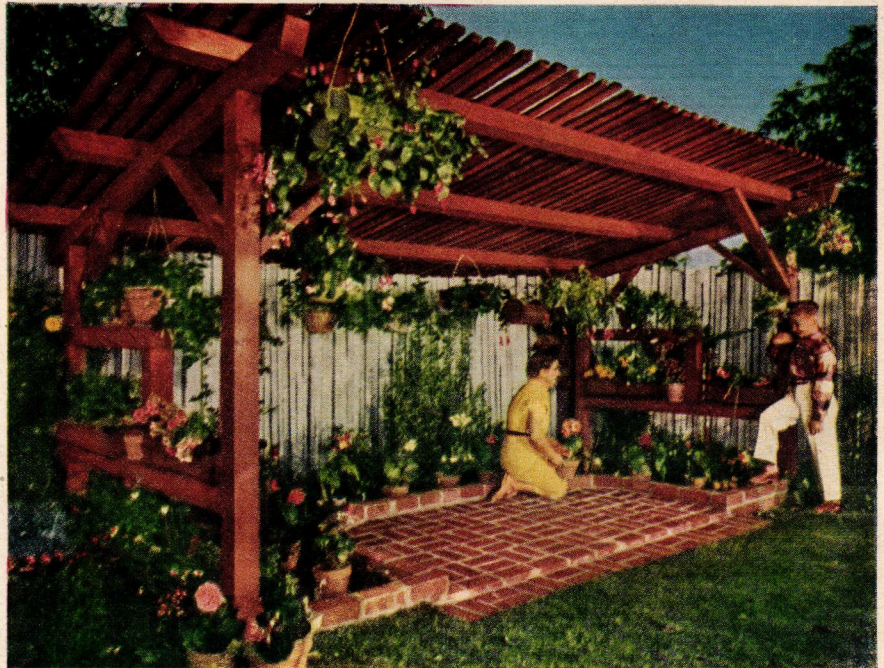
Why not a pool as a permanent beauty spot in your garden? This one is 18 in. deep with 48 in. inside diameter. In excavating, disturb earth as little as possible, wet down and tamp, and pour mixture of 2½ parts concrete, 3½ parts gravel, minimum water. Reinforcing wire is held off bottom by pieces of brick or stone. Drain and outlet piping can be added if desired to eliminate difficulty of changing water.



How to Parade Your Plants

*These 5 ways provide
for colorful display
and better growth*

Bring them together in a plant shelter which protects against sun and makes a lovely setting for a few chairs. This shelter is simple combination of 4x4 posts and beams with 2x4 corner braces, grapestake roof. Horizontal crosspieces serve as shelves for pots, and other pots are suspended by hooks. Paving is brick laid in concrete, and posts were treated with preservative, then set into ground.



HOME OF MR. & MRS. MARIO BASTONI PHOTO: PHIL FEIN

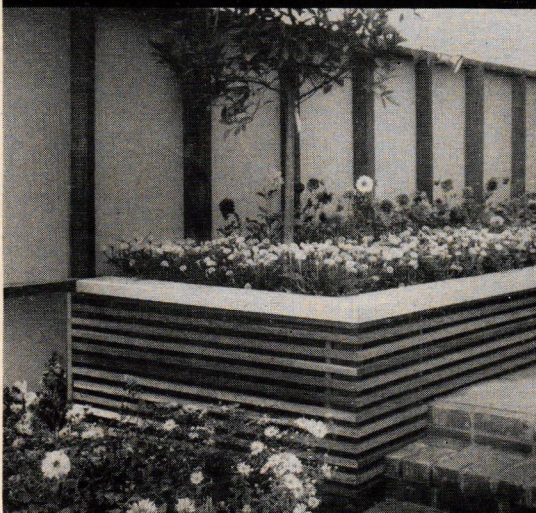
HOME OF DR. & MRS. W. J. NEWMAN



Pots hung on fence, with sunshade above, make interesting display. Sunshade is made with 1x6 outside frame, 2x2 crosspieces and posts, and interwoven redwood battens. Fence is of 1x6 boards, and begonia pots are attached with metal brackets.

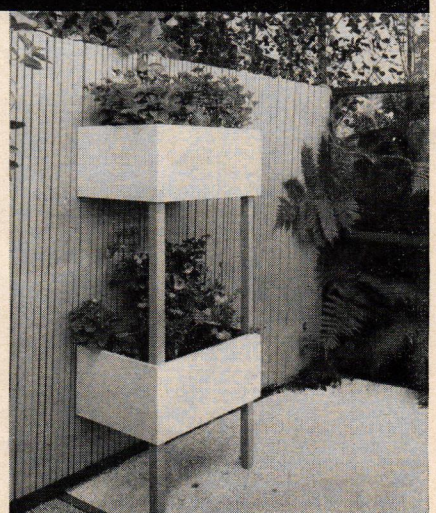
Unique plant ladder adds exciting touch against side of house or fence. Just nail together 2x8 planks, and nail or screw ladder to wall at top. Redwood, cypress or cedar lumber is preferred for outdoor use, but other species are satisfactory if stained or painted.

HOME OF MR. & MRS. IRVING B. BROWN



Raised planting beds make flowers easier to care for, better protected, and more spectacular. Here, 1x2 wood battens are spaced for outside trim, nailed to 2x4 posts. Inside is plywood sheathing, coated with roofing asphalt. Cap, of 2x6 lumber, is mitered at corners and nailed to posts.

Small plant boxes are easy to make, can be cleated and set on ground, or stacked vertically. Bottoms can be of exterior plywood, sides of 1x8 boards, posts of 2x2 lumber. Use non-corrosive nails and wood preservative, drill drainage holes in bottom 5 in. apart, and cover with base layer of gravel or broken pottery.



2 PHOTOS FROM SAN MATEO FIESTA

Fun-in-the-Sun Furniture

FRESH-AIR CHAIR

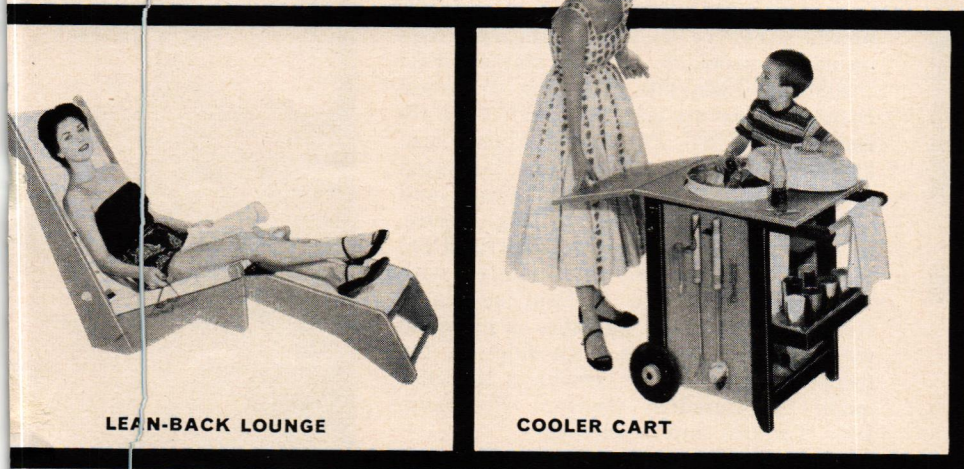


FIXING UP THE YARD for outdoor living has one objective: to enjoy it all. To complete the job, here is POPULAR HOME's Fun-in-the-Sun Furniture—five pieces that fill the bill for comfort, convenience and durability.

They are exclusively designed to be easy and inexpensive to build, from stock materials available from your lumber dealer. You can build the Fresh-Air Chair, Terrace Table, Lean-Back Lounge and Chair-side Table for less than \$30—and add the handy Cooler Cart for \$15 more. All the simple directions are in Free Handyman Plan No. 353, just received by your local POPULAR HOME sponsor. Stop in for a friendly visit—and get five Fun-in-the-Sun bargains!

Designed for POPULAR HOME
by Lerner Design Associates

PHOTOGRAPHY: ILLUSTRO, INC.



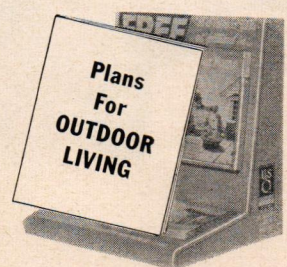
Rest in comfort, entertain as you wish! Lightweight Fresh-Air Chair (above) has comfortable 20-in. width, reinforced canvas seat. Sturdy Terrace Table is 35 in. square, 14 in. high—same height as the handy 12x24-in. Chair-side Table. Canvas-covered Lean-Back Lounge (far left) tilts automatically to two positions, is 24½ in. wide and 48 in. long. All four will do double duty on your porch or in recreation room.

Refreshment on wheels is yours with the unique Cooler Cart, 29x19x29 inches, which employs standard garbage pail as cooler compartment. Cart has sides of perforated DURON* hardboard for utensils, two shelves, and a drop leaf which raises to form serving table. Get the how-to-do-it in your Free Plan, and you'll have the star attraction!

*T.M. REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

You're invited to join the crowd!
Pick your project from our
Handyman Plan Library
(see our name and address
on the covers)

All-time champion of lawn furniture popularity is the famous Picnic-King table-bench. Back tilts up, it's a table; down, it's a bench! Build two, and you have a 3x6-foot table or benches for six persons. Again available—in a Free Handyman Plan!



Living on top of one another? Ask your U.S.G. building materials dealer about new



As fast as youngsters shoot up, the shout goes up for room—more room for living, learning, working and playing, so the home must grow with the family.

Somewhere in every home there's room for expansion. It may be a cluttered attic, a crowded basement or garage. In fact, most any *unused* space can be made into *living* space with proper ideas and products.

And that's where your U.S.G. building materials dealer comes in with his wonderful "room-makers for homemakers." He has SHEETROCK*, the fireproof gypsum wall-board. You can have it in a choice of pre-decorated wood grain finishes, or decorate it yourself in any one of 126 gorgeous colors with TEXOLITE* DURAVAL* latex paint.

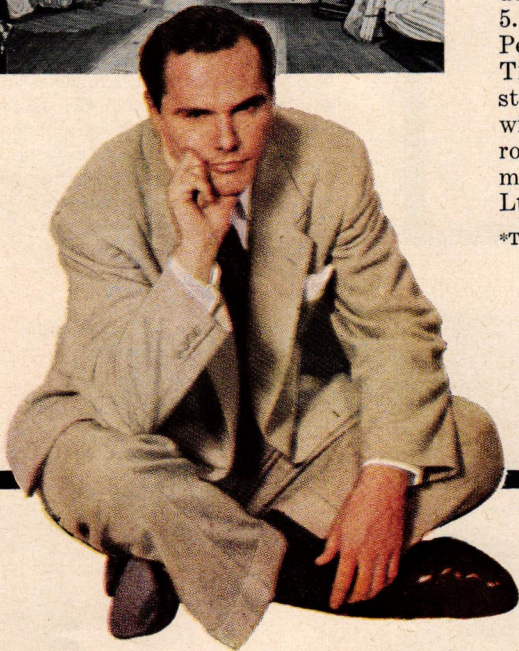
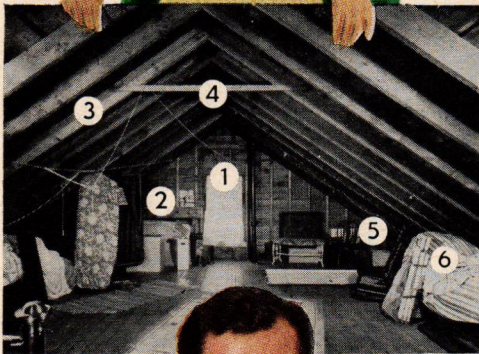
These are only two of a long line of new "room-makers for homemakers" you'll find at the Red, White and Blue sign of your U.S.G. dealer. Hurry over and see them all!

how to make living space out of inactive attic space

1. Let daylight in with a picture window, topped with a triangular glass area.
2. Staple RED TOP* Insulating Wool between the wall studs. Nail Bleached Mahogany-finish SHEETROCK gypsum wall-board directly to the studs over the insulating wool.
3. Nail or staple USG* Insulating Twin-Tile to the wood framing. Goes up fast—has high light reflection.
4. USG Perforated Hardboard, finished with TEXOLITE DURAVAL latex paint, conceals an unsightly beam and doubles as an indirect lighting fixture.
5. Built-in bookcase is backed with USG Perforated Hardboard and painted with TEXOLITE DURAVAL.
6. Easy access to storage space under the eaves is provided with folding doors on both sides of the room.

Many of these products are also made by Canadian Gypsum Company, Ltd., Toronto and Montreal.

*T. M. REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.



The Greatest Name in Building



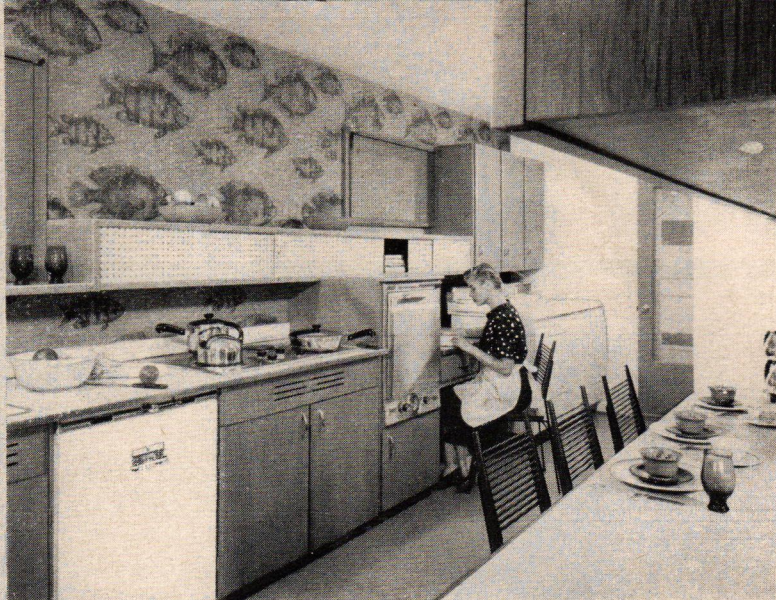
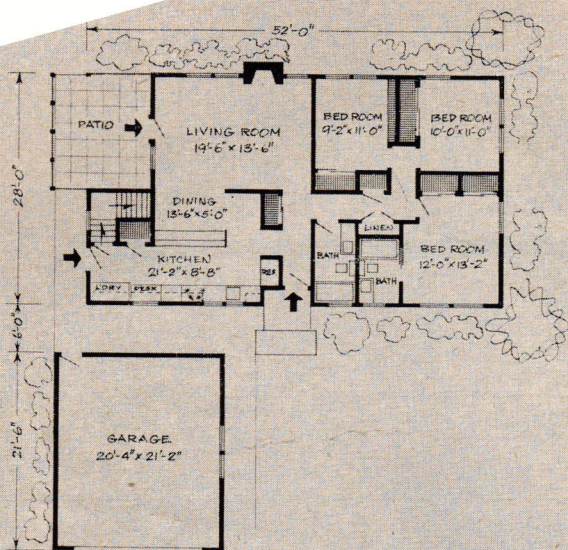
ROOM-MAKERS for HOMEMAKERS!



FREE HANDYMAN PLAN!

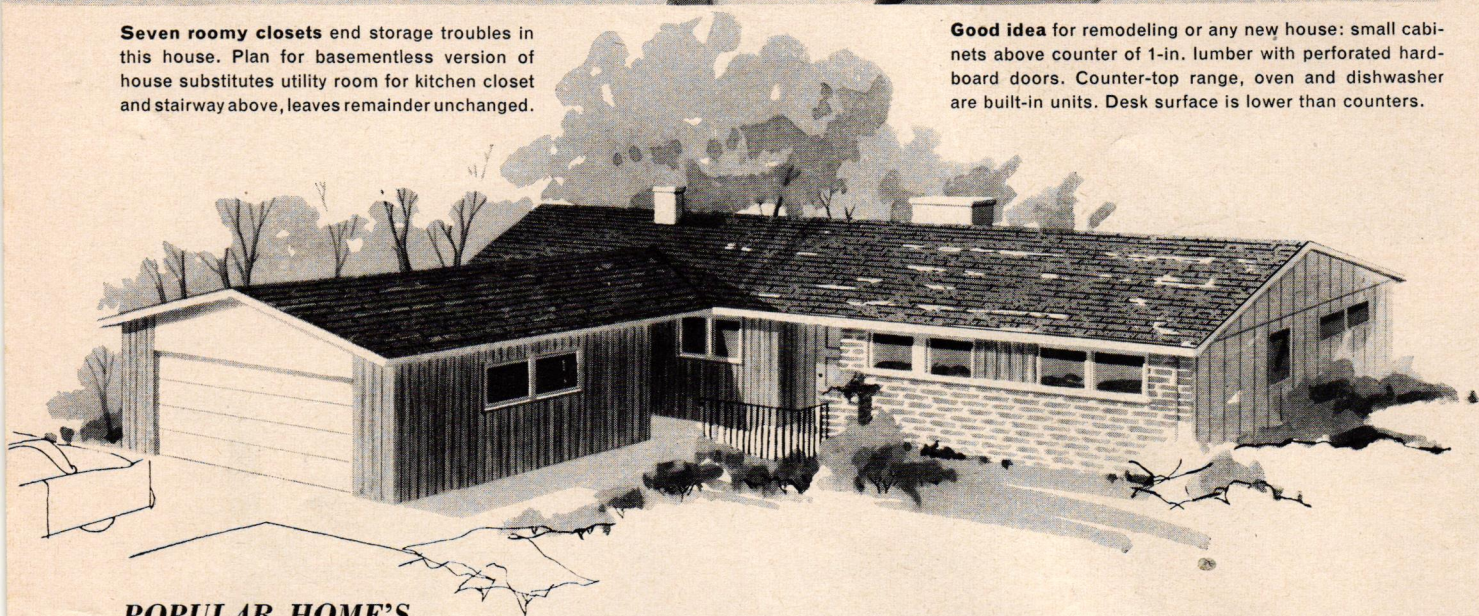
Get your copy of this valuable 6-page booklet on remodeling from the local firm, named *Handyman*, which will guide you through the major steps of remodeling: selection of built-ins; finishing of walls, ceilings, floors, and trim. Ask for Handyman Plan No. 351.

Handyman
on the c
of walls, ceilings, floors
Plan No. 351.



Seven roomy closets end storage troubles in this house. Plan for basementless version of house substitutes utility room for kitchen closet and stairway above, leaves remainder unchanged.

Good idea for remodeling or any new house: small cabinets above counter of 1-in. lumber with perforated hard-board doors. Counter-top range, oven and dishwasher are built-in units. Desk surface is lower than counters.



POPULAR HOME'S

House of Fine Features

PHOTOGRAPHY: HEDRICH BLESSING DECORATOR: BEATRICE WEST

WHEN an architect and builder team up to develop a house, they must concentrate on two things: building costs, and a plan to fit the family living needs.

POPULAR HOME'S House of Fine Features is a successful blend of these two important elements. Its plan uses but 1,344 sq.ft. of floor space, exclusive of the garage, and yet includes three spacious bedrooms, two full baths, and an uncrowded, well-organized family living area. The remarkable kitchen, two-car garage, sheltered rear patio, and efficient center hall entry are other evidence of value. It's no wonder the house is the pride of the F. F. Mosely Co. and Architect Louis H. Geis, who designed and built it in Kansas City, Mo.

Is it right for your family? You can have it built...

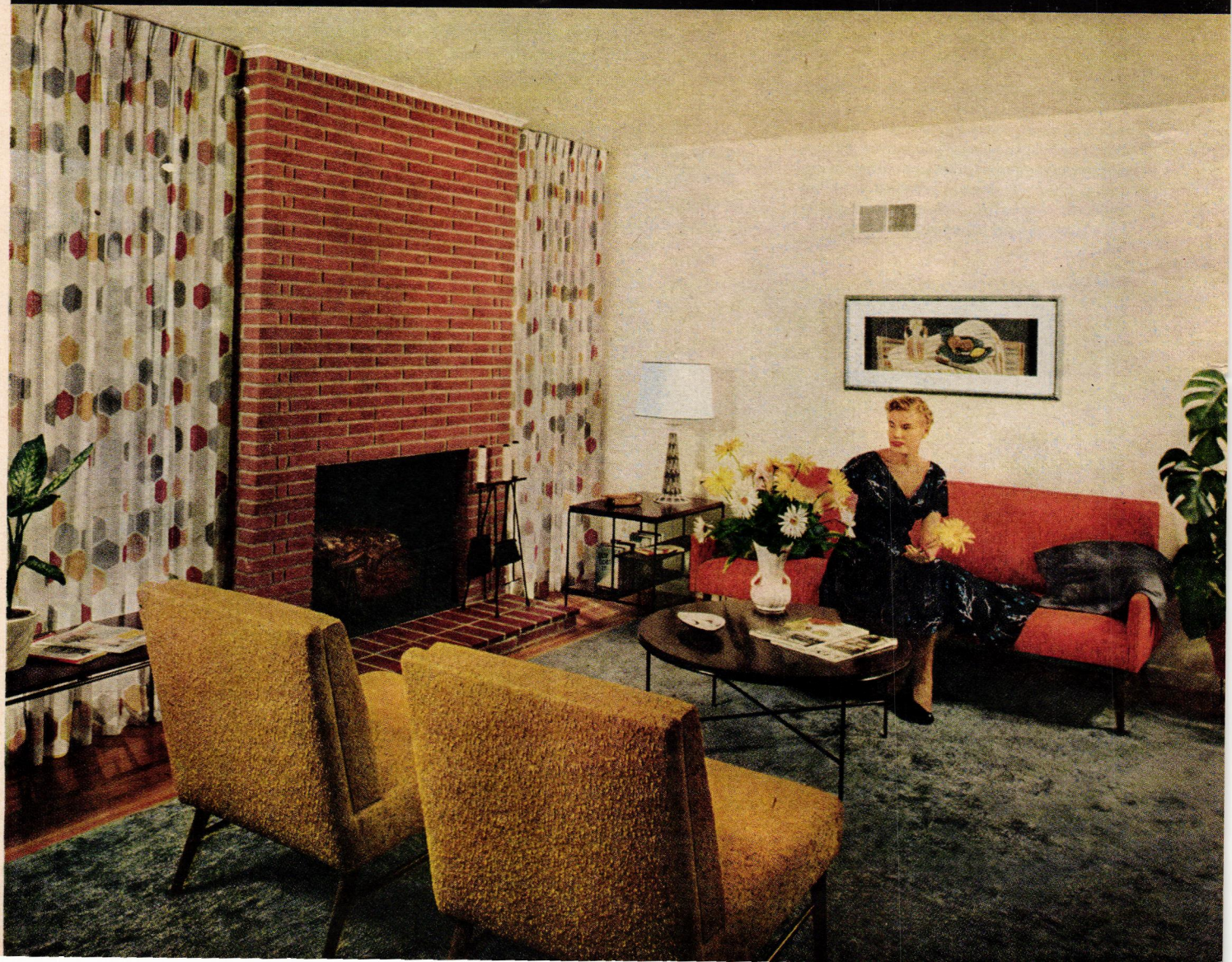
Prize kitchen (above and opposite) pleases any woman's fancy with step-saving layout and array of features like planning desk, easy-reach cabinets and snack bar. Windows overlook covered walkway between house and garage. Laundry and utility closet near rear entrance make it complete. Seen from living room, snack bar also serves as counter and pass-through to dining area with cabinets above that open to both rooms.

Hidden patio (right, above) is well-planned surprise at rear corner of house. Opening off living room, this delightful spot is a perfect place for children's play, relaxing, and entertaining friends. Decorative screen for privacy employs 4x4 posts, 2x4 dividers, and plywood panels. Note board-and-batten siding of house.

Rear living room (right) centers on friendly fireplace, accommodates a variety of furniture arrangements. Floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking garden have awning vent sections below large fixed panes. Attractive ceilings throughout house are of SHEETROCK® Gypsum Board with PERF-A-TAPE® joint system.

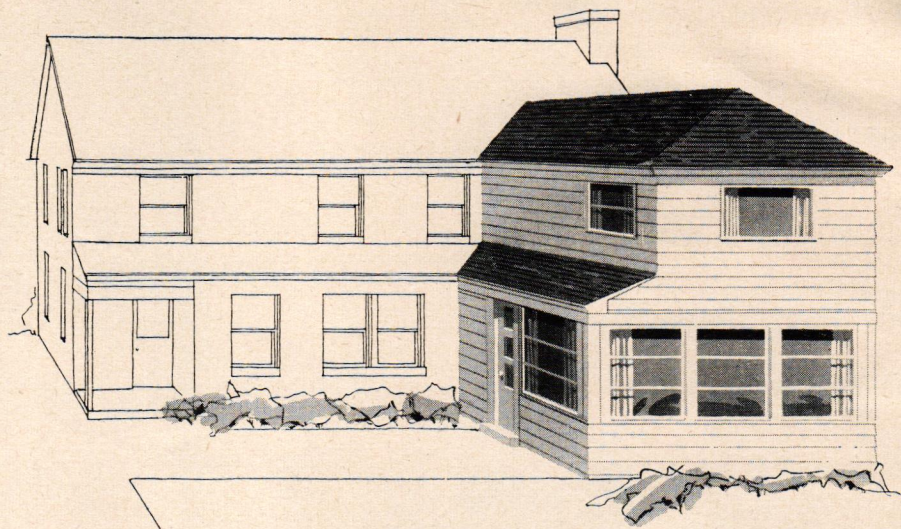
*T. M. REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

garden... Plan... (with... reversed... through courtesy of local company... on front and back covers



When you build another room,

why not
add **TWO**



*An addition equipped like this
fits the house to the family*

YOU'LL NEVER GET TWO for the price of one, but you can come close. That's why it's wise, when you think of the other room your house *must* have, to consider adding something extra. A structural addition of a single room requires foundation, floor, walls and roof regardless of its size, plus the tearing out and remodeling necessary to attach it to the house. There's comparatively little extra expense in adding a second new room while you're doing the job. And the time to change your plan is *before* you start work.

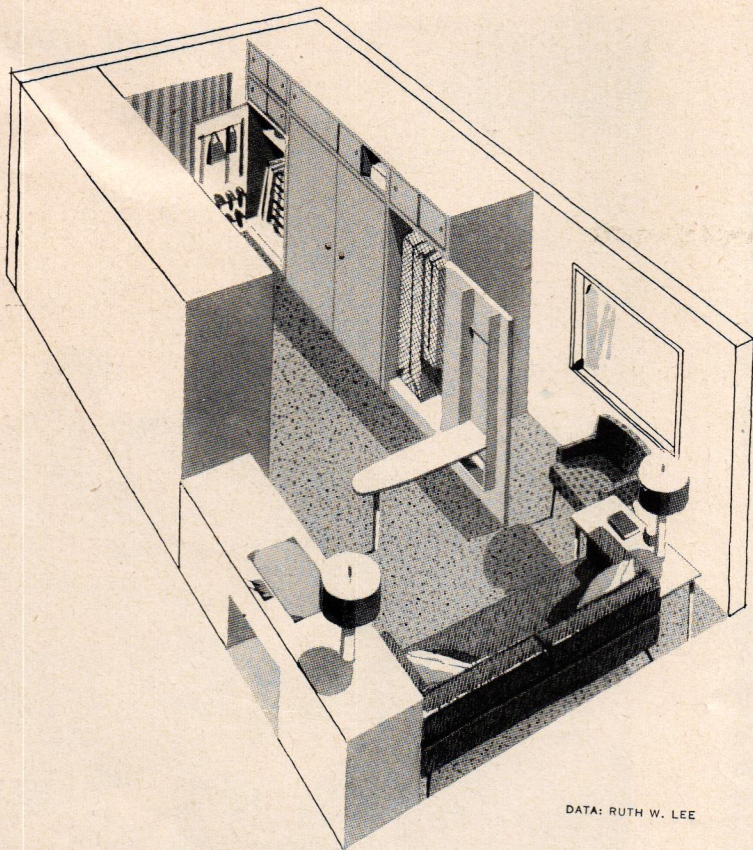
Besides the new room you need most, think of the livability and family service one of these would mean to your house: a recreation room, bathroom, study, breakfast or dining room, utility-storage room, or entrance foyer with guest closet. Any of them can be incorporated in either a one- or two-story addition, located preferably to the rear for appearance's sake. And the chances are your building materials dealer can recommend both a reliable contractor and an easy-payment financing plan to make the job easier for you to handle.

Here's what Architect Joseph C. Hayes did with just such an addition in Glencoe, Ill.—just an example of what *your* family can have!

Before. A screened porch—nice, but a part-time luxury. What about a TV room where the youngsters can gather, or the bedroom and storage space needed upstairs?

Busy and beautiful is new second-floor room, as study, sewing and ironing corner, and guest bedroom. Desk and drawers were built in as part of closet installation, and picture window overlooks rear garden. Decorating idea is use of rose chintz in valance, repeated in accent cushions. Above gypsum wallboard ceiling are insulating wool batts between joists.





DATA: RUTH W. LEE

Here's what happened upstairs in new addition—two banks of closets to serve all the family, in a room that's also very useful for other purposes. Inside surface of doors is put to work for shoe and accessory racks, even a hideaway ironing board. You can build closets like these from plywood and hardboard—see the Handyman Plan library at your POPULAR HOME sponsor's place.

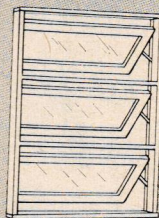
Second part of the answer provided by Architect Hayes is this wonderful 13x16-foot room on the first floor which replaced screened porch. It's for full-time family relaxation, with awning windows all around for through ventilation in summer, heating extended from house in soffit above doorway. In place of former French doors, new opening was built out for bookcases with cabinets below.



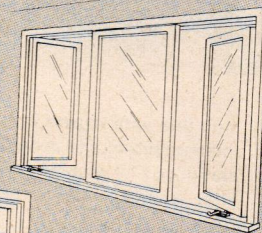
New Windows? take your choice

BOTH the comfort and appearance of a new addition can be greatly influenced by your choice of windows. Here are some recommended planning principles:

- In choosing types and location of windows, consider the view and the need for privacy.
- Locate ventilation openings to take full advantage of prevailing breezes.
- Place principal window areas toward the south, except in warm climates where north facing is favored.
- Group window openings in the wall.
- Place windows as high in the wall as possible, except where floor-to-ceiling windows are desirable.



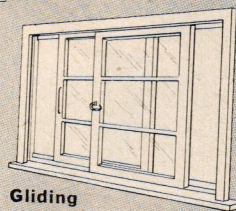
Awning Type



Casement



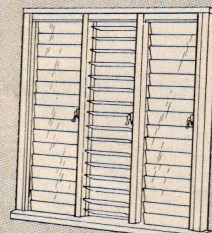
Double-hung



Gliding



Fixed, Louvered



Jalousie

Six common types of stock windows, above, are usually available from your lumber dealer in a variety of sizes in wood or metal. They can be used in multiple and in combination—in a corner, in a window wall, or in high horizontal strips. Get your dealer's advice **first** on the types best suited to your job—and take your choice!



You live with nature in this Fancy-Free Cottage, thanks to open interior (above) and generous use of glass. Two built-in couches are hinged for storage in base, and one is backed by bookcase. Fixed table separates kitchen from living area, seats eight persons.

PHOTOGRAPHY: JERRY COOKE



Heat-circulating fireplace (above) serves living area, is finished in Pewter Gray of TEXOLITE CEMENTICO* Masonry Paint. Cantilevered sun deck and overhead trellis extension of shed roof are features of exterior (below). Kitchen entrance is at right rear corner.

*T. M. REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.



Fancy-Free Cottage

This do-it-yourself project for the handy family is a summer retreat that meets a tight budget

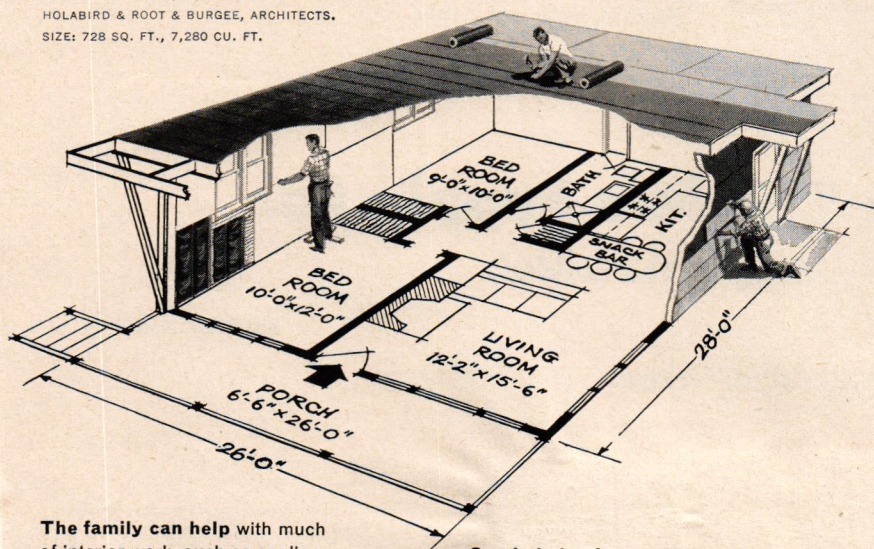
SOMEWHERE, close to the water or in the mountains, there's just the spot that every family needs to get away from life in town. If you've found the site, POPULAR HOME has the summer home for it: the Fancy-Free Cottage.

This trim, modern-looking cottage has two bedrooms and will sleep six persons comfortably. It's easy for mother to keep clean and orderly—and easy to build, because of simplified framing and the use of standard materials stocked by your lumber dealer. That's why it's an ideal project either for the family's handyman talents, or for local labor to construct. Mr. and Mrs. John F. Leich of New York City proved that it's practical and economical by building it themselves in the Litchfield hills of Connecticut.

You can purchase building blueprints, and spend your week-ends and vacation in your own Fancy-Free Cottage this summer. Just ask the helpful firm named on the covers to order Plan No. PH 12-3D, also available with reversed layout. The time is right!

Job for the expert handyman in Fancy-Free Cottage is roofing application. After insulation board is applied over wood deck, asphalt-saturated felt and USG* selvage edge roll roofing are nailed and cemented down.

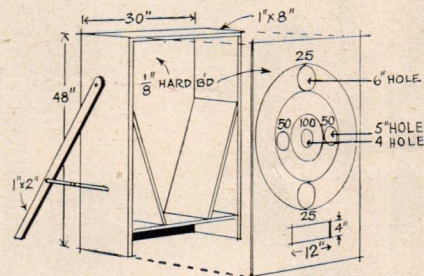
ADAPTED FOR POPULAR HOME BY
HOLABIRD & ROOT & BURGEE, ARCHITECTS.
SIZE: 728 SQ. FT., 7,280 CU. FT.



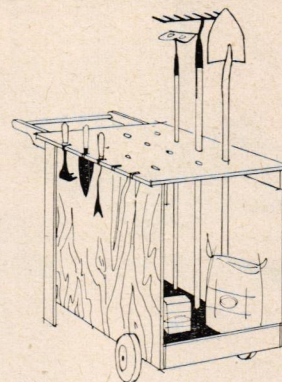
The family can help with much of interior work, such as application of big sheets of fire-resistant SHEETROCK* gypsum wall-board. After board is nailed to studs, joints are taped for smooth, ready-to-decorate wall surface.

Good choice for exterior is new Shake-Design GLATEX* Siding, which goes up fast, never needs paint. SHADOW-LOCK* attachment system for shingles is used in application here, over base layer of fireproof USG* gypsum sheathing.

*T. M. REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.



Bean bag game for indoors or out is resurrected by reader Victor J. Lamoy of Upper Jay, N.Y. You build the box of 1x8 boards, then attach face and back of 1/8-in. DURON Hardboard. Use storm sash hardware to hold pivot leg braces in position. Paint target in bright colors. Make 3x5-in. bags from denim cloth, fill with dried beans.



Home-made garden cart hauls and stores tools for K. S. Crammond of Houston, Tex., and it can do the same for you! Cart is 24 in. wide, 30 in. high and 36 in. long. Build of 3/4-in. exterior grade plywood and 1x4 lumber. Handle is 1-in. dowel rod, wheels should be 6 to 8 in. in diameter and may be made or purchased. Cut holes in top with keyhole saw, attach hooks at sides.



This is easy way to make concrete stepping stones, according to Harry J. Miller of Philadelphia, Pa. Just invert the garbage can lid, using several sizes if desired. Fill lid with concrete mixture of 2 parts cement, 3 parts fine sand and gravel, minimum water. Mix small batches for best results. Embed wire reinforcing mesh in concrete, level by screeding with board across lip. Permit concrete to set firm, then turn cover and remove stone.



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