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"BUILDERS OF QUALITY HOMES"
There were two great ambitions in Yogi Berra's life. One was to hit a home run in his first big league ball game. The other was to own a home of his own. Yogi Berra achieved both. Here, in this first of our series on homes of famous people, and with the cooperation of CES-TV, the Yankee catcher and slugger opens his doors to our readers. Here we see the fulfillment of a dream that is universal—a home of his own.

Yogi Berra, his wife Carmen, and their two children Larry and Timmy, live in a seven-room house in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey, not too far from Yankee Stadium. It is a charming but simple ranch home that nestles snugly among the hills and woods of the Jersey countryside. It has a frame exterior, which is divided into horizontal clapboard and vertical cedar plank. Most of the windows, following the trend in modern single-story home design, are high in the wall, permitting ample light for all rooms with complete privacy when viewed from outside. A low-pitched roof sets as neatly and tightly on the house as a baseball player's cap.

A wide lawn slopes downward from the front of the house to the quiet little road lined with slender young trees. And from this road curves the driveway up toward the attached, two-car garage. Closely clipped evergreen plantings hug the sides of the house. The neighborhood where the Berras live is new, carved clean and fresh out of the hillside.

At the back of the Berra's house is a porch, protected in the summer with a canvas awning. The lawn is well groomed, and they are separated from their nearest neighbor's house by a white picket fence.

Inside, the Berra home reflects the warmth and comfort of any good, typical American home. The furnishings are simple and modern. There is a large, stone fireplace in the living room, with a big, soft hassock in front of it. There are three bedrooms in the house, a living room, kitchen and dining room, and a den. When Ed Murrow was interviewing Yogi Berra on his "Person to Person" program, he was particularly careful to show his viewers this den. It is done in knotty pine, and the center of attraction is the bar, over which hangs some of Yogi's trophies . . . several baseballs signed by each major league baseball club, the World Series bat, baseball caps from each major league, and the old glove that Yogi used in the 1951 and 1952 World Series. ("When you get an old glove like this you kind of hate to get rid of it," said Yogi). The glove has been bronzed. ("I really treasure it from my heart. It is one of my best trophies.")

As can be expected, the Berra kitchen is equipped with all the latest appliances. The Berras dine home most of the time, contrary to the belief that famous people spend a great deal of their time away from the house. They have a cook and housekeeper named Julia, but Mrs. Berra supervises meals—and watches Yogi because he has a tendency to eat too much bread. ("When we were first married he didn't drink any milk at all and he was always getting split fingers so I told him he should have milk and now he takes a glass of milk every day and wouldn't go without it.")

The Berra youngsters, of course, plan to follow in their father's footsteps. Both of them plan to be baseball players. Yogi doesn't care whether they become baseball players or not so long as they receive the education which he never had. Above all, Yogi has given them the assurance of a safe and happy future in the home that he has built.
WANT TO KEEP YOUR HOUSE COOL?

A comfortable home during the hot summer months is essential for the enjoyment of work, relaxation and sleep. The temperature desired for comfort depends, in part, on the amount of moisture in the air. The drier the air, the higher can be the temperature without discomfort to occupants. Generally, temperatures of 75° to 80°F. and relative humidities of 60 per cent are desirable.

Any enclosure, such as a house, is a “heat trap.” Like an automobile which is closed but is exposed to summer sun, a house accumulates heat through windows, doors, walls and roof. Heat from appliances, electric lights and bath water also adds to this heat load. This accumulated heat results in interior temperatures which can be uncomfortable for occupants long after the sun has set and the outdoor temperature has dropped.

Keeping the heat out of the house is the most important step toward achieving summer comfort. If the sun’s rays can be kept off the walls, glass areas, and the roof, and if the hot outdoor air can be kept from penetrating the house, the indoor temperature can be more easily kept in check. Shading the house and the use of sun controls (roof overhangs, sun screens, louvers) are the principal means of protecting the house from the sun’s rays. Insulating the walls and the roof helps to retard the flow of heat from the sun and the hot outdoor air.

If heat does get into the house, the problem of summer comfort becomes one of removing the hot air through ventilation when the outdoor air is relatively cool, or of reducing the indoor temperature by means of an air-conditioning system or an evaporative cooler. An air-conditioning system can also remove the amount of moisture in the air.

Houses can be oriented and designed to exclude the sun from the house during the hottest months of the summer and yet allow the sun to enter the house during the winter when the heat from the sun is desirable.

From the standpoint of summer comfort, the major walls and glass areas should be on the south where they can be protected from the sun or on the north where the effects of the sun are negligible. The walls and glass areas should be kept at a minimum on the east and on the west since these walls are more difficult to protect due to the low angle of the sun in the early morning and late afternoon.

Devices to shield the house from the sun should be designed into the structure and the lot in the early planning stages. Controls on the outside of the house keep the sun from striking the windows and walls, and thus keep heat out of the house.

In developing a house plan, take care not to put a paved terrace, driveway or other similar surface directly in front of south- or west-facing glass areas. The reflection of heat rays can counteract the effect of controls.

While sun controls are primarily designed to keep the sun’s rays away from glass, which transmits heat readily, they also shield exterior walls effectively. If not protected...
from the sun, outside wall temperatures may reach as high as 135°F.; when protected, the temperatures are only slightly higher than those of the surrounding air.

The various kind of controls used for sun protection include overhangs, trees and other tall plantings, exterior window louvers and venetian blinds, awnings, louver-type insect screens for windows. Light colors are also affective. The heat load on exterior walls exposed to the sun can be reduced slightly by painting them white, cream or other white colors. A light-colored roof surface absorbs only half the amount of heat that a dark one does.

A house which is ventilated only by means of open windows, louvers and doors on a calm summer night will not cool rapidly due to lack of air circulation. By operating fans —attic fans or window fans—throughout the night, large quantities of the cooler night air can be circulated through the house, and the indoor temperature can be decreased more rapidly. If the windows and louvers are closed early in the morning with only enough openings for ordinary ventilation, the house can then “coast” into a hot day at much lower temperatures than if the house were still overheated from the previous day. If there is a cool breeze, the windows, of course, can be kept open during the day.

Night air-cooling can reduce the indoor temperature to one or two degrees above the outdoor night temperature. Sudden breaks in outdoor temperature which may cool a house below a desired level, can be taken care of by a thermostatic control which turns the fans off at a predetermined temperature.

The size of the attic fan required for night air-cooling depends on the floor area of the house, and the number of air changes desired. Where the night temperatures do not drop much below 75°F., a large amount of air must be circulated. In the gulf coast areas one air change per minute is recommended; in cooler regions, one air change each two minutes is recommended.

Where the desired comfort cannot be obtained solely by house design and ventilation, the use of an air-conditioned system is suggested. Insulation, roof ventilation, and shading of the glass and wall areas are, of course, necessary for an efficient and economical operation. Sometimes with night air-cooling, it is possible to reduce considerably the number of hours that the air-conditioning system operates during the day.

While it is desirable to install central air-conditioning at the time of construction, this is not always possible. Space, however, could be provided when the house is planned so that future installation may be made without undue convenience. An air-conditioner for a house with a floor space of 800 to 1400 square feet requires 5 to 7 square feet excluding access space; for a house 1400 to 1900 square feet, 7 to 9 square feet. There should be access to the equipment from one or two sides.

Central air-conditioning equipment is available in many different sizes and shapes to suit the location—basement, first floor utility rooms, and attic. Size of conditioners are generally given in terms of “tons of cooling capacity”—a one-ton capacity being equivalent to the melting of a ton of ice per day.

The cooling equipment can be a separate unit called a summer air conditioner, or it can be combined with the heating equipment in a single unit, a year-round air-conditioner. Air-conditioning equipment is manufactured for use with both warm-air and hot-air heat circulation systems. The general principals of operation are the same for both.

Air-conditioning systems cool and dehumidify the air in the house by passing the air over a cooling coil. This cooled air is then circulated throughout the rooms. The heat removed from the room air must eventually be discharged from the house by means of an air-cooled or water-cooled condenser.

Window and cabinet-type air-conditioning units can be used to cool small sections of a house.

The window units fit into an opening of a standard double-hung window and vary in size from 1/3 to 1 ton of cooling capacity. Room air is circulated through the unit where it is cooled, dehumidified and filtered. No water pipes are necessary since the condenser is air-cooled.

Cabinet units stand on the floor and require an opening in the wall through which air to cool the condenser is brought in and discharged.
SHARING a room with another member of the family may be a serious handicap to a growing boy who is acquiring hobbies, friends, books and musical instruments, or who is attending high school and needs a quiet place in which to study.

The obvious thing, of course, is a room of his own, where he can pursue his own brand of recreation or entertain friends to his heart's content without disturbing other people in the household. And that isn't asking too much—not for a boy whose mind is beginning to grow along with his body.

But where am I going to put him, you might well ask. There are just so many rooms in the house, just enough to go around by pairing off the youngsters, but not enough for each one separately.

If your house is filled to capacity you are caught in a jam. But don't give up. There is always an odd corner somewhere that can be screened off from the rest of the room. Such an arrangement, however, has its limitations. For absolute privacy the boy will need a room, and your best bet is to look toward the basement or attic.

Here, generally, you'll find space galore. If your basement is finished already you need do little more than partition off one room, making sure that at least one window is included. You might also put a window in the partition to give more light.

The attic, of course, is the choice location for a boy's room. You can make a really snug retreat here by finishing off the walls and ceiling, and by adding a dormer if one does not already exist. Insulation should also be included to keep out heat in the summer, and cold in the winter.

Shown above is a perfect example of such a room.
TWO attractive kitchens pictured here feature the use of clay tile in walls, floors, counter and cabinet tops. There are several excellent reasons for using this material. Tile has a very durable finish and never requires painting, waxing or refinishing. A going over with a damp cloth and a good cleanser quickly restores its bright, new finish. Since clay tile is manufactured in a wide range of sizes, colors and patterns, almost any design can be worked out with it, or any surface covered, whatever its shape or size. The material is now being made in more than two hundred hues of basic colors, and many manufacturers are also turning out lines of decorative tile, with designs specially suited to the kitchen. If it is not possible to use tile throughout the kitchen, you can always tile surfaces which are most often splattered or stained. The space back of the stove is one of the first to need it, for both cooking fats and steam affect ordinary finishes here. A tiled panel extending a few inches beyond the stove will permanently remedy this situation.

Prominently displayed in this modern kitchen is the tile countertop. You’ll note, too, that it has a tile floor.

This is practically an all-tile kitchen, for not only is it featured on countertops and floors, but walls too.
How does a designer get his inspiration? In the case of Everett Brown, designer of the unusual clocks shown on this page, inspiration for the one shown at the right came quite by accident. One day a member of Brown’s organization found a giant redwood ball which had been washed up by the tide on a California beach. He was immediately struck with its possibilities as the basis for a new clock idea... and so the process began. Careful study of materials, painstaking workmanship and infinite patience went into the design. Finally there emerged this unique “hanging ball” of simulated weathered redwood, with brass trim and antique silver dial. Other selections on this page include a “diamond” portable electric clock that is decidedly three-dimensional and geometric in character, designed by George Nelson. Cartographer’s pins tell the time story. Another by the same designer consists of a central “axle” dial with twelve radiating spokes, each tipped with a round ball. The balls take the place of numerals. Interesting too is the oval-shaped clock made with Swedish raffia.

The use of Swedish raffia makes this a perfect decorative accessory for the casual modern interior.

The “Berkley”—black ball with brass trim 30” hanging chain and wall bracket. Dial of antique silver 5” in diameter.

Decidedly three-dimensional and geometric in character, is this “diamond” portable electric clock.

A particularly unusual design consisting of a central “axle” design with twelve radiating spokes.

The “Celestial”—white case with black steel frame. Stars, hands and rays are gold. White dial is 9” in diameter.
THANKS to modern materials, today’s bathroom can be as pretty as it is practical. You can say goodbye to the cold and dull looking bathroom of the past and make yours as smart and attractive as other rooms in your house. One basic idea which helps a lot is this bathroom’s strategic arrangement of plumbing—tub, toilet, and lavatory pipes are concentrated in a very few square feet of space. Moreover, the plan accomplishes other desirable objectives. The small wall panel which houses the medicine cabinet and forms the backdrop for the lavatory also creates a separate alcove for the toilet. Now the window end of the room is available for a luxurious dressing table and chair which enables this bathroom to double as a lovely powder room. The mirrored frame for the medicine cabinet is bedecked with hand-painted sprays of Lily of the Valley. A judicious use of deep dark green and glowing coral in details and accessories contributes that final finesse to his bathroom, which is both pretty and practical.

Photo courtesy Armstrong
A nuclear bomb to most of us would mean fire. If the atom bomb were dropped on an American city, this is what we can expect, the Federal Civil Defense Administration says:

Complete devastation for a half-mile around a direct hit. Hundreds of fires—big and small—for seven to eight miles beyond ground zero. The tremendous heat generated within two miles of an atomic explosion would start many of them. Most of them, however, for the next five or six miles would spring from simple household disruptions, such as dislocated furnaces, stoves and other heating appliances.

No outside help will be available immediately. Therefore, the householder must expect to be on his own—and be prepared for it.

The major preparation of a family would be to remove as much combustible material from the house as possible. For emergency use, the National Board of Fire Underwriters recommends a home emergency kit which should include flashlight, portable radio, first aid kit, several days supply of canned food, drinking water in closed containers.

It would be foresighted also to install some form of safe emergency heating. Above all, families should try to retain as many of the ordinary comforts of life as possible. Additional household items, such as mattress, raincoat, rubbers, boots might be kept in the basement, which is about the safest floor in the house in an actual bombing.

Minimum home fire-fighting equipment recommended by the National Board consists of a five-gallon hand pump, hose, several buckets of water and sand, and a shovel. Have the buckets filled and placed in halls or wherever they will be conveniently found. Bathtubs should be filled with water after the alert to guarantee a few days' emergency supply, should utility service be disrupted.

Every home should have an emergency kit on which the family can rely for a couple of days. This one which is kept in the basement contains several days supply of canned goods, a first aid kit, flashlights and extra batteries, a portable radio, portable stoves with canned heat and drinking water.

Minimum fire-fighting equipment which will be essential in any bombing attack: a stirrup pump with hose, several buckets of sand and water and a shovel. Each member of the family should learn to operate the hand pump.
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