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Is Your Garage Big Enough?

T F YOU have purchased a new car within recent months, you may find, with considerable dismay, that it does not fit into your garage, assuming further that your garage was built several years ago. The overall length of many new cars has been increased by quite a few inches over that of earlier models, and the garage that was built to accommodate the earlier model just isn't long enough any more. The problem, however, is not difficult to overcome. At no great expense, the length of your garage can be increased to proper size. Your builder can do it for you in just a few hours, and if by some chance your garage doors are also outmoded, here is a good chance to replace them with new overhead doors.

If you are starting out from scratch, building an entirely new garage, make sure that the garage is not only long enough, but also wide enough to allow your car doors to open so that you can get in and out comfortably in the garage. Some sport models and two-door models have very wide doors and if you customarily drive such a model, you should plan your garage space accordingly.

When you have provided ample space for your car or cars, the next consideration is to provide sufficient space for all of the various kinds of equipment which you would logically store in the garage as a matter of convenience, such as, bicycles, lawn furniture, lawnmower, hose reel, step ladder, and various other items.

Of course, all of these various items are not in the garage at one time. When the storm doors and sash are in storage, screens, awnings and porch equipment are out, but even at that, what's left is enough to require substantial storage space.

Another factor in your garage planning may be the desirability of providing a place where youngsters can play without their activities disturbing the rest of the household.

Where the house has a recreation room, sheltered play space may be no problem, but many houses have no such room and the basement space is often not adaptable to making one.

In such cases, the answer may be the addition to the garage or a porch-type playroom with large screened windows to admit light and air and a door with a lock to keep the children out of the garage proper.



Copyright 1957 by Builders Publishing Co., Inc. • 100 Stevens Avenue, Mount Vernon, New York • February, 1957 Harry Bernstein, Editor • Frank Angelini, Art Director • Dave Fleming, Production Mgr. • Marie George, Plans Editor This attractive cotton rug, Checker, makes a good decorative background for almost any type of room, and will point up interesting floor surfaces, or unite furniture groupings. Here, it adds a distinctive note to the handsome modern furniture.



Photos by Delta

ere do you STAND?

I F YOU are faced with the problem of selecting a soft floor covering on a modest budget, there are several different kinds of rugs that offer a practical solution. A fibre rug is one of them. What is a fibre rug? Actually, there are two types. One kind is woven of tough strands of kraft, a wood product of extraordinary strength that is given additional strength through twisting. The other kind, slightly more expensive, is made from these kraft fibres interlaced with wool-rayon-acetate yarns for added warmth and softness.

While fibre rugs of either type are the least costly of all woven rugs, this is not as important to many persons as their practicality and versatility. The phenomenal strength of kraft fibres gives these rugs a lengthy life span. And since most fibre rug patterns are reversible, the rugs can be flipped over for extended beauty as well as durability of service. Families with children and pets find these rugs most practical. "Accidents" are harmless to them.

Cotton rugs are also very economical, and extremely attractive. An example of one is shown above. It is a Checker pattern, with large alternating blocks of looped pile.



In this attractive room refinished as a combination den and recreation area, a fibre rug adds beauty, warmth and comfort at low cost. Its reversible pattern promises long wear. Taking care of it is easy.

TWO New KITCHENS



Heart of work center in this kitchen is two-oven electric range, matching yellow steel cabinets and built-in blender, mixer and sharpener. Note squared-up styling of refrigerator with flush fit. Step saving work area at right features under-counter dishwasher, food waste disposer and stainless steel sink.

Two NEW KITCHENS are introduced this month, one of them featuring a peninsula unit, with built-in gas stove, stainless steel sink and plenty of counter space, the other with electric range and step-saving work area featuring undercounter dishwasher, food waste disposer and stainless steel sink.

Both kitchens are attractive and offer separate advantages. In the one pictured at the lower right, work space is confined to one area in the center of the room. In the other, pictured above, work space is compactly arranged along the walls in an L-shape.

Storage space is ample in both kitchens. A double tier of cabinets from floor to ceiling in the peninsula kitchen will appeal to many housewives. In the other kitchen storage space is available in wall cabinets for "everyday" dishes, while sliding shelves and a variety of divided drawers offer a "place for everything." There are sliding shelves for ladles and mixing spoons; vertical dividers to hold travs and cookie sheets; divided drawers for all manner of cooking needs. Deep drawers are metallined to hold flour, bread, meal and sugar. A full-height storage unit serves as a pantry with space for bulk storage of dry vegetables in removable wire baskets. A stationary dining table is set against a room divider. The white matte-finished formica table is supported by tapered satin chrome legs. Set into the divider is open shelving to hold colorful glassware and decorative ceramic accessories. On the reverse side of the divider is a small buffet which provides lock-and-key storage for silver, fine linens and trays.

A built-in gas range is part of the peninsula unit, which is the main feature of this attractive new kitchen. There is ample work space here, plus lots of storage, and good lighting.

St. Charles



A PLACE FOR EVERYTHING

IN NEARLY every home, whether it be house or apartment, there is some wasted space that can be pressed into service for storage by the simple expedient of builtin closets or cabinets. Frequently there is a hall or corridor that is too wide that will lend itself ideally to the creation of a storage wall. In making plans for such a project the possibility of enhancing the appearance of the room should be considered as well as utility. For this reason the woods of the western pine region are in great demand for home building projects. They have a natural tone that adds warmth to any room and they accept a great variety of finishes beautifully.

Shelves and compartments are easy to build and inexpensive. Doors of the same material may be hinged or sliding, solid or shuttered. The shuttered variety adds a note of novelty that is increasingly popular.

In the case of a storage wall, the Western Pine Association suggests that plans should include the whole distance from floor to ceiling. The area at the top, too high to be reached without a ladder or stool, might be earmarked for out-of-season clothing or bedding. This section should be enclosed by sliding doors or hinged doors that are narrow and do not protrude far when open. For lining, incense cedar is recommended as it will impart a pleasant fragrance to stored clothing.

The requirements of the members of the family who use the closets will vary, but there is sure to be a need for the shallow type shelves that afford a high degree of visibility for such items as hats, shoes and pocketbooks, or handkerchiefs, shirts, socks and a tie-rack. Therefore at least one bank of these shelves should be included. They should run from the floor up to the height the users can conveniently reach.

Contrary to prevalent opinion, full-length items of apparel, such as dresses and suits, are not handiest when they hang at eye level, but should be slightly above waist level, on a rod that can be pulled out for greater visibility. For this reason it is wise to reserve the lower left hand section of your storage wall for the full-length clothes and install one of those handy sliding metal rods in the center of the top.

A storage wall such as this must be enclosed, both from the standpoint of appearance and cleanliness. If sliding panels are feasible, they are preferable to hinged doors as they don't hinder traffic. They should be of the same wood as the rest of the exterior of the wall. In instances where construction renders sliding doors impractical, the hinged doors that swing outward can be used, and a wise homemaker will attach a full-length mirror to the inside of the door for that reassuring full-length glimpse at herself before sallying forth to a club meeting or a shopping spree.

In a dining room, a series of shallow drawers will keep linens crisp and flat and also store flat silverware, while open or closed cabinets above will take care of china and tea sets.





A well-designed storage wall can change the atmosphere of a room or corridor. If space permits, a second unit for outer clothing and long garments is desirable as shown above. Separate but matching shuttered doors extending to the ceiling provide storage for little-used household items and clothing.

Shallow type shelves afford a high degree of visibility for such items as hats, shoes and pocketbooks. These shelves should run from the floor up to the height the users can conveniently reach. As space is limited, the left hand section of the wall is utilized for full-length clothes.

In a dining room, a series of shallow drawers will keep linens crisp and flat and also store flat silverware, while open or closed cabinets above will take care of china and tea sets. When quick visibility is a factor, as it is with books, records and bric-a-brac, then shelves are most practical. These are best located above the drawer section, leaving an open area between drawers and shelves for display of hobby collections, silver or decorative china. Since it may be desirable to use the shelves at the top as a catch-all at times, it is advisable to enclose them with solid rather than glassed doors.

When the cabinet is completed any finish that blends with the decor of the room can be selected and applied. In the cases of the three western pines—Idaho white pine, ponderosa pine, and sugar pine—and three other species white fir, Engelman spruce, and lodgepole pine natural color is light enough to brighten a corner that may be dark. Simply use a water-clear lacquer or clear sealer, and then wax to get a most attractive finish. For darker, natural effects, try larch, Douglas fir, or inland red cedar.



FUEL FOR THOUGHT

GAS, OIL COAL, ELECTRICITY -

These are the four basic types of fuel for your heating system. Which one will you use?

BASIC TO THE CHOICE of a proper heating system is some knowledge of the different kinds of fuel available. For household furnaces and heating systems these are coal, oil, gas and electricity.

The kinds of coal are anthracite, semi-anthracite, bituminous, sub-bituminous and lignite. Anthracite is hard coal. It is delivered screened, the pieces or lumps are all of about the same size, and there is very little coal dust. It is free burning; that is, the pieces of coal do not soften, swell or cake together. It burns with a blue flame without smoke and has very little "volatile" or smoky gases that are driven off when the coal is heated.

Semi-anthracite is almost as hard as anthracite. It is delivered screened, but contains more coal dust. Having more volatility than anthracite, it burns at first with a yellow flame which changes to a blue one. It kindles more readily.

Bituminous coal is a "soft" coal containing considerable volatility. It is referred to as low-, medium-, or high-volatile bituminous, depending on the amount of gas. Subbituminous coal is a lower-grade bituminous which contains considerable water "combined" with the coal substance. Such water is not visible, and does not wet the surface of the coal. Sub-bituminous tends to slack or break down on exposure to the air. Lignite is a brownish to black coal, frequently of a woody appearance and lower in rank than sub-bituminous coal. It is generally more than one-third water. When exposed to the air it loses water easily and "slacks" or breaks down to fine sizes.

Anthracite, and semi-anthracite, too, is sold in seven sizes ranging from "broken," the largest, through "egg," "stove," "nut," "pea," "buckwheat" and "rice."

Domestic furnace-fuel oils are sold in three grades: No. 1, a light-volatile fuel oil somewhat like kerosene; No. 2, a moderately volatile oil; No. 3, a heavier, "thicker" oil. In general, the heavier the oil, the higher its heating value per gallon.

There are two kinds of household fuel gas, natural and manufactured. The natural, of course, is that found in the earth. It has a relatively high heating value. Manufactured gas is made by various processes from coal, coke, etc. The heating value can be varied considerably in the process of manufacture. The minimum heating value is frequently established by local law.

Heating by electricity is a comparatively new system, and is becoming popular in many parts of the country. Glass panels installed in walls diffuse the heat, which is supplied by regular house current. The cost will vary with the price per kilowatt hour of the current.

The comparative cost of fuel is a factor to which the



home owner should give attention, since it is a continuous factor and a variable one in terms of weather conditions, supply and demand. Dealers' estimates, balanced with the actual experience of other home owners, can be helpful in weighing this factor. For those who wish to arrive at a reasonably accurate estimate some relatively simple figuring is necessary, taking into account the delivered unit cost of the fuel, the total heat it contains, and the efficiency in the use of this total heat.

"Is your Home a Burglar's Delight?"



I N ITS annual crime report, Mr. J. Edgar Hoover's Federal Bureau of Investigation announced that 492,530 burglaries were reported by local police departments during the year. Reports also indicated that the burglar's principal ally, surprisingly enough, is the person he victimizes. If it were not for the errors of omission and commission plus mistakes in judgment made by property owners, the burglary rate would be much lower.

Here are some things you can do to make things very difficult for housebreakers:

1. Keep at least two interior lights on when you leave the house for the evening. An unlit home is a signal to the night-time burglar that he can move in more easily.

2. Leave shades up when vacating the house. Ask neighbors to pick up all mail and circulars that may have been placed at your front door so that your house has a "lived in" look.

3. Call police to check on all strange solicitors not carrying proper credentials. Many thieves pose as salesmen or repairmen while "casing" an area for future lucrative jobs. Never allow a salesman or repairman without good credentials to enter your home.

4. Make certain that basement and second story windows are just as securely locked as those on the first floor. Keep ladders locked up in the garage, or if they must be kept outside, securely fasten them to the side of the house or garage with a length of chain and a good quality padlock.

5. While talking to a strange caller at your door, stand in front of the locking mechanism. A favorite trick of burglars is to engage a prospect in conversation while flicking the push buttons below the bolt of a mortise lock and thus unlocking the door.

The burglar hopes that the householder will not notice that the door is unlocked and will return later. If the door is still unlatched, he finds a clear path to the interior of the house.

6. Most important of all, make certain that high-grade locks are on all exterior doors. The pin-tumbler type cylinder lock, invented by Linus Yale, Jr., makes good lock security available to everyone at a reasonable price.

7. A very economical method of protecting your exterior doors from intruders is to install auxiliary nightlatches with a deadlocking mechanism on these doors.



Courtesy Yale & Towne

The burglar's principal ally is the person he victimizes.



Salesmen lacking proper credentials should be reported to Police.



Accumulated milk bottles and newspapers invite the burglar to a vacant house.



Leave lights on when out for evening, shades up when on vacation, to help foil the burglar.





Fir the Tools to the Job

I F YOU ARE PLANNING to add power tools to your workshop, you will find four basic tools capable of doing 98 per cent of all your projects. They are listed as follows, together with the jobs they perform:

1. SAW—Every job begins with a saw cut. The main use for the saw is cuting lumber to size. For ripping boards lengthwise, cross cutting and angle cutting, the power saw is accurate, effortless. It is the most used tool in the workshop.

2. PLANE—Planing always follows sawing. The powered counterpart of the hand plane is the jointer. Its primary function is dressing lumber to exact size. Surfacing or planing a working face is a standard jointer operation. If a board has warp or twist on the surface it must be flattened for working.

3. DRILL—For making perfect holes properly aligned, the drill press is fast and true. This is one of the most versatile tools in your workshop. It's really several machines in one, performing such varied operations as drilling, routing, mortising, shaping and grinding.

4. SAND—Every finished job requires sanding. A power sander gives you straight, curved or angular surfaces more accurately than by hand. It's the best way to get a true cabinet maker's finish. With a miter gage and tilting table on the sander, the angles obtainable are unlimited.







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