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Blend Home To Neighborhood

And A Attractive More Stable

When building a new home the buyer should choose an architectural style similar or suitable to that of other houses in the immediate vicinity. To be considered as a part of the whole community rather than as a separate and distinct entity, the design selected for the house should conform in general to the design of the other houses in the immediate neighborhood.

To illustrate, say that because nine-tenths of the houses in a block are Cape Cod cottages it would not be necessary for the home builder to select a Cape Cod cottage. It does mean, however, that if the majority of the houses are unpretentious and informal in design, the architectural style of the house should be simple and restrained.

Conversely, if the majority of the houses in the community are pretentious, sophisticated, and formal, it would be unwise to choose to build a Mexican farmhouse, a Cape Cod cottage, or some other informal house.

A neighborhood developed with houses of similar appearance is more stable, more attractive, and more permanent.

There are other factors to consider in selecting the exterior plan of your house. One is the contour of the land and the natural growth of trees, etc. Some houses look well on trees and while other require more of a rolling landscape, terraces, etc. to bring out their best. It wouldn't be considered good taste to place a house with a large pillared porch on a narrow level lot. A house of this type needs land and both sides and plenty of lawn in front to bring out its typically Southern character.

If you are fortunate in having several large trees on your lot, select a house plan that will fit into the frame these trees make, rather than cut them down or crowd them too much with a lot of house. Some houses look better with low plantings while others need large shrubs to set off their features. It is a good idea to blend your plantings with others in the same lot and naturally the proper house must fit the planting.

Don't be the only person on the street to have a garage all done in a broad sweep of well planted back yards, or the only one to have an attached garage when others have theirs in the back with wide open spaces in between their houses.

It is also well to consider the commercial conveniences you need near your home if these are necessary. Briefly fit your new home to the neighborhood, and put the neighborhood to fit your home into.

Beat the Flies This Year With Home-Made Screens

One of the best "dividend" items that you can build at home in your own workshop is screens. Stock material for tailor made screens is available in any lumber yard, hardware store, or paint store. Before beginning your screen job make sure that you have the few tools necessary. You will want a miter box, a hack saw, a square, a tack hammer, a regular screwdriver, a screwdriver, corrugated corner fasteners, or angle iron, carpet tacks, brads, and paint.

Stock 1 in by 2 in. material will do for your frame. You have your choice of either regular screen mauling or ordinary 1/2 inch half round, to use as a covering strip around the edges of the screen wire. If you use regular screen mauling it is well to rabbit the corners of the frame 2 in. frame to make a seat for the mauling so that it fits flush with the edge of the frame. The job is easier.

Good strong corners can be made in our frame with two corrugated fasteners per corner, but even stronger screens with permanently square corners can be made with the angle iron.

Use plenty of extra large carpet tacks in fastening your wire to the frame. One of the weaknesses of many screens is wire that pulls away from the frame after the children have leaned on it.

As there is great variation in the size of windows, don't take for granted that two windows can use the same screen. Measure each separately and make each screen for a particular window. Number the frame and mark the outside window all with the same number so that you can save time next spring when they come out of storage.

Save yourself the trouble of doing your screen job over again by buying good wire in the beginning. Black iron screen will rust through quickly, galvanized will last longer, but good copper or bronze will outlast your interest in the house.

Good Driveway A Convenience

A good driveway is not only a thing of beauty but also one of convenience. A good driveway soon pays for itself in the convenience one gets out of it.

In wet and snowy weather the elimination of holes and mud is a saving grace. A good driveway stays where it should and is not shoveled away with the snow. In summer it is much easier to keep not only the driveway, but also the lawn in better condition as the edges will trimmer. Asphalt mixers are usually used, according to the Permanent Roadways Inc., where a hard surface driveway is desired.

Permanent driveways of the hard surface variety require a solid foundation as do those of the stone surface type to be lasting. Drainage is equally important to eliminate danger from frost. Unless you are an accomplished road builder the best way to get a lasting drive is to consult one who specializes in this work.

Keep Stairways In Good Repair

Stairs and stairways are important factors in the safety of a home and should always be in first-rate condition.

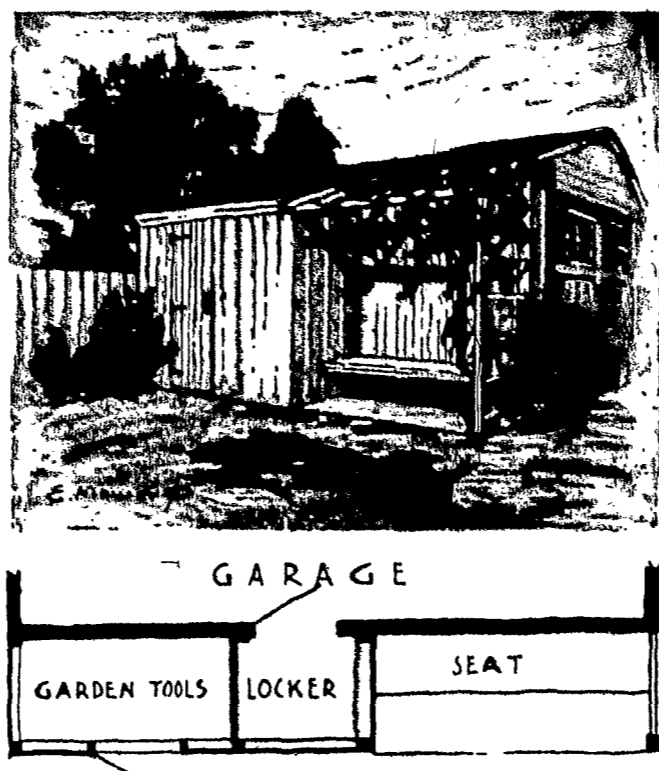
1. Replace worn-out treads on stairs.
2. Give attention to creaking stairs.
3. Give additional support to rickety cellar steps.
4. Install railing on cellar stairs to prevent accidents.
5. Transform closed stairways into open stairways by removing one or more walls.
6. Replace old posts and railings with modern types.
7. Install disappearing stairs to attic.

Check of Property Accident Insurance

Constant watchfulness on the part of the home owner will aid in a large measure the protection of his investment. Consistent vigilance will also safeguard him against the danger of accidents occurring on his premises.

Adequate inspection, made periodically, will prevent casualties that may result through the falling of bricks, stone trimmings, and other materials which may become loosened through age and weathering.

A STORAGE SPACE FOR GARDEN TOOLS



A GARAGE which is 10 feet wide will accommodate a car, but it will also accommodate garden implements, lawn mower, camping outfit and fishing tackle.

If a garage is going to be a storage house as well as a garage, it should at least be 12 feet wide on the inside. But this is of little help if your garage is already too narrow.

The above illustration is one solution to the storage problem and requires only a simple continuation of the garage roof. Since the new shed does not need to occupy the full length of the garage, the roof has been cut out in lattice form to provide a grape arbor and thus kill two birds with one stone. It is simple to proceed one step further and with the aid of a couple of planks provide the new arbor with a seat.

Although vertical matched boards are illustrated in the drawing, regular siding to match either the house or the garage may be substituted. Valuable equipment items can be kept in the locker space without danger of theft when the garage doors are left open.

The Putterer's Corner
For Men Only

A column devoted exclusively to men who like to "putter" around the house making minor repairs to home and furnishings. (Gleaned from reliable sources.)

A brother "Putterer" asked us last week to give him a list of tools one should have around the house for small repair and puttering operations. A government publication lists the following as woodworking tools commonly used and recommended for the home workshop.

One nail hammer, 12 oz., one two-foot rule, assorted sizes of screw drivers, (three or four), one panel saw, (22 in.), one compass saw, one ratchet brace, several Anger bits, one block plane, 7 in., one jack plane 11 1/2 in., one wood chisel, one wood level, marking gauge (wood), try and mitre square, side cutting pliers, two foot or other rule, one hand drill, drill bits, assorted sizes, one chipping hatchet, one bench vice, one nail set, one putty knife.

Recommended additions:
One coping saw (6 1/2 inch), screw clamps, cabinet scraper, sharpening stone, back saw 12 in., mitre box (wood or metal), pair dividers (6 inch), Smooth plane, 8 inch.

And it goes one and one One will find that additions are made almost unconsciously. The putterer who really gets serious will also find himself accumulating a large assortment of hardware, such as hinges, nails, screws, bolts, etc.

As a final tip, when you buy your tools, get the best you can afford. Good work cannot be done with cheap tools. Good tools last longer and are much easier to use. Get a good tool chest or construct a tool board and keep them in their place. Well kept tools are always ready for use and last longer.

Good Window Frames Cut Out Dust, Draft

A window in a home is a mechanical as well as an architectural feature.

The trend to more and larger windows—corner, bay, casement, and panoramic—calls for the installation of properly constructed window frames which will keep out dirt and drafts by making a weathertight joint with the walls.

Window sashes are next in importance to window frames. Sashes must fit properly in the window frame to eliminate a big source of drafts.

300 REPAIRS HOURLY
An average of more than 300 home owners, farmers and business men improved their properties each working hour with procedures of a FHA Modernization Credit Plan loan during the 60 business days ended December 4.

Add Porch For Summer Living

Is Center of Many Activities

Practically every new home constructed thirty years ago was automatically equipped with a fancy Victorian "Veranda" of little value except as a place on which to hang much of the ginger-bread associated with that period.

A modern porch with a little thought, can be the center of good weather living a good place to eat, to read, to entertain, and even to sleep. When constructing your new porch observe these precautions:

Make the new porch as private as possible . . . face it toward the garden if possible, but keep it away from the source of the road traffic past your house . . . you will feel more like using it.

Easy Access
Make the porch pass as many rooms as possible . . . the porch is more usable for all functions and more convenient if it opens from several rooms. If it opens into the dining room it can, without many extra steps, be made to serve as a summer eating place.

Keep the porch down close to the ground . . . it will seem more directly connected with the outside doors if it is not too high off the ground.

Make the porch wide enough . . . do not build the porch less than eight feet wide. Make it ten if you possibly can as it will greatly facilitate its use for many purposes (bridge games for instance). Screening Essential

Make it easy to screen . . . the best improvement in porches in ten years has been the practice of complete screening. See that your porch is wide enough for good vision and eliminate the usual rail and balusters if you can . . . they only add expense.

Watch electrical outlets . . . in addition to ceiling lights, provision around the walls should be made for plugs so that lamps can be used wherever you need them.

Paint the porch a light color . . . the rooms opening onto the porch will not be too dark and shaded if you use light-reflecting colors for the porch.

Construct Pter Properly
Be sure the floor is properly sloped . . . water is bound to get onto the porch. Be sure that it drains away from and not toward the house. This will make it easy to clean with the hose.

Plan in advance . . . be sure you know prior to building if it will ever be desirable to enclose the porch and supply heat for use in the winter. Money can be saved if this matter is planned out before construction starts.

Remember it is not necessary to build a complete new house to have a modern porch . . . add one or repair and improve the old one.



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