

# Proper Insulation Cuts Down Operating Costs of the Home

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effort of this country during the coming Winter, when greater economy in household heating will mean more to the national economy than to the individual. In an effort to reduce the demand for fuel for domestic purposes, both Government and private engineers have announced plans to check home-heating wastes.

One simple suggestion is the installation of reflective shields behind radiators to reduce the heat losses to walls. FHA officials recommend that the heating plant be checked by well-equipped heating service men to assure maximum efficiency of the heating system. This should include investigation of fuel combustion and, if necessary, the adoption of methods for improving its efficiency.

Considerable heat is lost through single-glazed windows and leakage through badly fitted doors and windows.

In urging the use of insulation as an effective conservation measure, the Bureau of Mines points out that if less fuel is used for civilian needs, augmented requirements for defense can be met without unduly increasing the number of men needed at the coal mines or oil wells or adding new producing units that might complicate ultimate readjustment to peacetime conditions when the emergency is past.

Moreover, it was declared, reducing the running expenses of homes by proper heat insulation helps home owners to maintain payments on their properties, and by minimizing foreclosures helps to stabilize the financial structure of the country.

Homes may be insulated and weatherstripped through the use of loans insured by the FHA under Title I of the National Housing Act. Funds for work of this type may be obtained from qualified lending institutions.

## Solutions To Floor Problems

Whether building a new home or modernizing an old one, the selection of floors and floor coverings offers perplexities to the home owner. However, of late, various processes have been developed to combine design, durability, and economy.

Popular among these is patterned hardwood, which permits individuality in floor design and at the same time gives a durable hardwood surface. Available in a variety of woods, the patterned hardwood floors are scientifically finished, waxed, and polished at the factory.

## High Windows Offer Benefits

There is a growing trend toward higher windows, according to home-building technical experts. Higher placement of the windows offers the triple advantage of better lighting, better ventilation, and better heating. It is pointed out:

The ideal height of windows from the floor is 25 inches. However, many homes have windows set 20 inches from the floor, and correspondingly lower at the ceiling.

When opened from the top, high set windows permit the hot air under the ceiling to flow out more readily, thus assuring more rapid cooling of the room in warm weather.

Another factor, from the standpoint of comfort and physical well-being, is the fact that high windows permit radiators or convectors to be placed under the windows. This is considered a good location because it permits heat to meet the cold air where it comes in.

By locating the heating units under the windows drafts are often prevented, providing more healthful and comfortable environment. Furthermore, full utilization of the desirable space near the windows for chairs is possible, adding to the size and usable space in a room.

## Home Planning Principles Cited

A few principles of bedroom planning offered by the Federal Housing Administration are:

Economy in the area of sleeping rooms, as well as improvement in their convenience, is obtained by correct location of door and window openings to assure maximum wall space for furniture.

Convenience in use of bedroom is increased when the dresser and the closet are reasonably close together.

Housekeeping convenience is increased when there is sufficient space to permit the bed to be made from two sides.

Window openings should not occur immediately over a bed, especially near the head of the bed.

## Linoleum Walls

Linoleum wall coverings are recent innovations in house interiors. When properly installed they have the advantage of high durability and are easily cleaned. Funds for doing over walls and employing wall linoleums may be obtained from approved lending institutions under the FHA Modernization Credit Plan.

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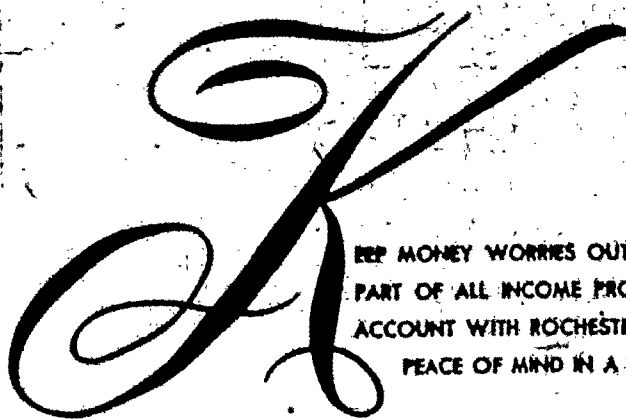
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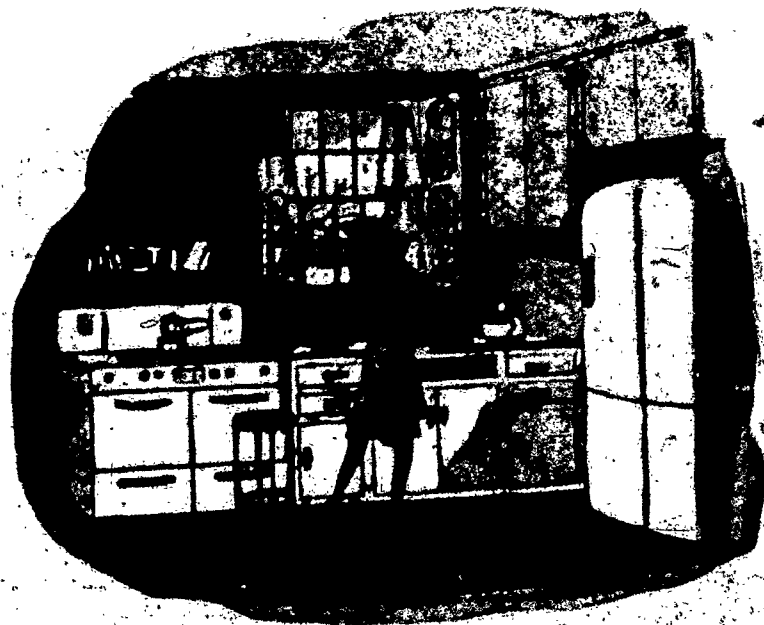
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