

Bathroom Modernization Is One of Top Items in Many Improvement Plans

When remodeling is undertaken, the bathroom is generally the last room to be considered — and it's a shame. For, the bathroom of today can be one of the most attractive rooms in a home.

The most important innovation of this modern era, as far as decorative bathrooms are concerned, is the color of fixtures. Now you can choose matched fixtures in almost every color anyone could desire.

A modern bathroom will do more for you than just add to the beauty of your home, how-

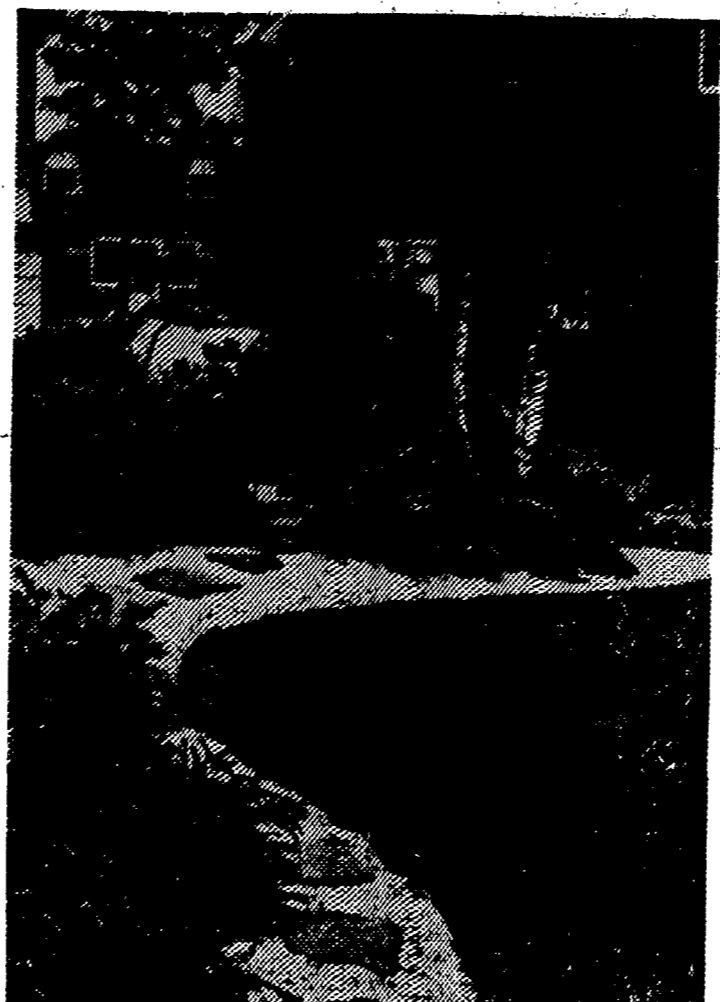
ever. With plenty of convenient facilities, the family's morning and evening "line-up" will soon be a thing of the past.

When you get ready to remodel your bathroom, it would be wise to consider adding an additional bath or half bath at that time. It is often less expensive to have the two jobs done at the same time, and is sometimes simpler if you plan to have the work financed.

Most homes do have the space for this extra bathroom — in unused closets, under stair ways, in an unnecessary pantry, and sometimes even in an extra-large bedroom. If you are in doubt, a contractor can give you the answer and the estimates quickly.

The most important step toward making sure that yours is just the bathroom you want, is advance planning. Before any work begins, see to it that all the plans are on paper. It's much more economical to make changes on paper than after construction has started. So, make sure it is all there, and that the contractor fully understands what you want.

Take a look at your bathroom today. If your home is not fully modern, why don't you begin planning right away.



CURVED PLANTINGS, for the informal setting, look leveler and more professional than an arrangement that simply follows the straight lines of the house and fence. Low shrubs provide lush beauty and a natural look; they may be combined with taller trees and effectively, too.

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Landscaping Important In Fix-Up Plans

It's easy to plant the home property from a plan and, in the long run, it is more economical. A good plan will tell you what and where to plant so you are certain when the planting is completed, to have a far more beautiful and valuable property, providing more gracious living than ever.

There are basic steps to be followed in assuring top grade landscaping, according to William Lauweret, local nursery man.

If you are building a new house, it is wise to consult with your landscape nurseryman. For older homes whose landscaping is overgrown, a plan is just as necessary as with a new home. Oftentimes, sound planning of re-landscaping will save many overgrown plants. They can be transferred to locations where they will serve a definite purpose.

Once you have a good plan, the rest is easier. First comes the planting of one or more



A SPLASH OF COLOR around pool or patio or fencing is easy to achieve with exquisite flowers, such as roses, planted against the backdrop of an attractive wood fence.

shade or flowering trees, depending on the size of your property.

Make a good lawn. Your nurseryman will advise open lawns for several reasons, mainly because open lawns are more attractive and are easier to mow.

The foundation planting comes next. If your planting has become scraggly and unmoded it may be best to tear it out and start all over.

As for the overall design, modern practice prescribes curved lines. Plants should not be higher than the bottom of ground floor windows. Larger plants at the corners are "tied together" by planting low-growing plants between them.

Specimen plants and special gradens provide for a gracious outdoor living area. Roses are a "must" somewhere in this space.

Perennials, flowering trees and shrubs should be planted to give a long blooming season to have something in flower at all times. Use the very best plants available for this purpose. Dwarf fruit trees can be mighty attractive when in flower and in fruit.

Problem plantings come next. If you have an undesirable view of somebody's backyard — you can use plants to shut it off — at the same time providing beauty. Traffic noises can also be screened off by certain types of plants that are sound barriers.

Improvements Add Home Resale Value

The home that is well maintained and periodically improved often brings a much higher resale price than the owner's total investment.

Oftentimes, a home improvement project undertaken to add comfort, beauty or convenience provides the homeowner with an unexpected bonus in the form of financial gain.

The amount that a remodeling job adds to the home's value depends on how badly the home needed that improvement. An added bedroom is of greater value in a two-bedroom home, for example, than in a home that already had six or eight bedrooms.

Here are some of the remodeling jobs that should prove to be good investments for your

1. A second bath or powder room.
2. Modern kitchen.
3. Central, automatic heating and/or cooling.
4. An additional bedroom.
5. Playroom or family room.
6. Carpeting and vinyl floors.
7. Built-ins.
8. Modernized exterior.
9. Landscaping.
10. Outdoor living facilities.
11. Adequate wiring.

As you yourself that your home are you will have picked the best investments. improvement.

Outdoor Mass, First In Miami
Miami, Fla. — (RNS) — The first outdoor Mass in Miami history had the Torch of Friendship monument in Bayfront Park as a backdrop while the city celebrated Pan American Day.

BEFORE THE MASS and speeches by dignitaries were over, 125 persons collapsed — victims of the bright sun. Most of them were students from Catholic high schools who were among the 7,500 persons who watched Miami Bishop Coleman F. Carroll celebrate the Pontifical Mass in the presence of church leaders from other countries.

Korea School Pusan, Korea — (NC) — Bishop John Choi, Vicar Apostolic of Pusan, blessed a new \$150,000 girls' school to be operated here by Franciscan Missionaries of Mary, headed by Sister Mary Richard Cummings of New York.

Piano New Heart Of Family Living

With "sound" judgment and imagination, "music" can become the focal point in your home decor plan.

If you're one of the 13-million persons who own a piano or an organ — you're off to a good start! Set it anywhere in a room and build your music center.

A series of prefabricated cabinets on either side of the piano will give continuity and symmetry to the plan. There are a vast number of modern and traditional cabinet styles from which to choose.

With pre-fabs, you can add to the music wall as your collection grows, and as space permits.

Music walls are functional as well as attractive — they provide compact storage facilities for all types of equipment, help preserve the life of musical instruments and provide a convenient center for all musical activities.

Overhead lights may be installed above the piano niche and the switches may be hidden in one of the cabinets.

Indirect lighting may be installed on top or behind the cabinets. With modern rheostat switches, you may control the brightness of room light to fit the musical mood desired.

START WITH A PIANO then plan the music center from there. High F1 speakers can be hidden behind fabric panels that attractively extend wall areas.

If the home improvement you are contemplating doesn't add at least one of three basics: space, convenience and comfort, then — reconsider your projects.

The improvements you've planned may be of doubtful benefit to the family now, and chances are that the investment may not add to the resale value of the home.

Fortunately, improvements that add space, convenience and comfort to the home are the same ones that means added dollars when resale time comes.

Buying a Home Then Check This List

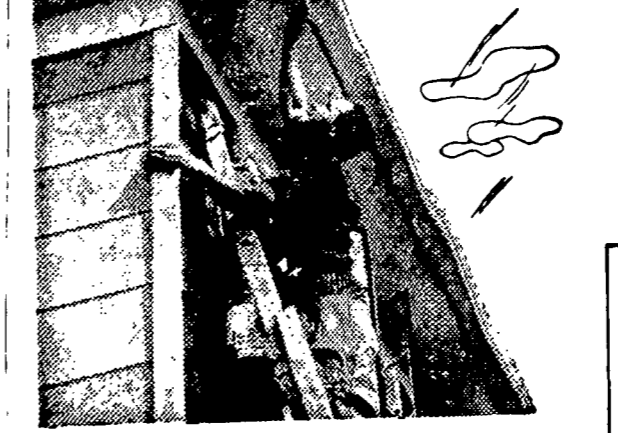
If you check these items prior to moving into your new home, considerable moving pains can be eliminated, some expense can be avoided, and more pleasure is in store for you.

Plumbing fixtures and faucets. • Outside utility connections. • Check all floors extremely carefully. • If there are built-in kitchen fixtures, check each individual compartment or cabinet to see if all doors work properly, that all partitions are in place. See that there are no smudges remaining on wall finishes. (You should be able to move into a spotless new home.) Check all windows, to be sure they raise and lower naturally.

Although you may not use all your electric outlets as soon as you move in, all should be tested anyway for workability.

Check all doors to see that they swing properly; a dragging door not only is a nuisance, but it ruins the floor. If you have central heating or air conditioning — or both — make sure you understand how they operate and that they are in operable condition. If there's an attic fan, check that it works properly. And be sure your thermostat functions. • Finally, how about the yard and premises, generally? If shrubbery was included in your arrangements, see that all plants and shrubs are living and growing. See that all waste materials have been cleared from the lot.

SAVING TIP If you remind your builder, or the man who sold you your house, and insist that these things be accomplished by subcontractors before you sign final papers and move in, you go a long way toward avoiding those "new home blues."



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