

Porches

'Versatility' Is the Byword

You may have the basic structure for that extra room you need without even realizing it. If you own an older home that has a porch, enclosing it could give you year-round, extra living space.

Some basic essentials such as a roof, floor, supports and one wall already exist. A porch enclosure, therefore, should be a more economical home improvement than an add-a-room project in terms of material, time and labor.

All-year porch

To make a porch enclosure liveable year-round, insulation will have to be added to the floor, walls and ceiling, a method devised to heat the room — such as baseboard heating — and windows installed.

Ample use of windows can retain the advantageous qualities of broad views, fresh air and sunshine that a porch offers.

These benefits are best achieved by installing good ventilating windows such as wood casements or slider units. Both styles in

ponderosa pine with insulating glass — two panes of glass with an insulating air space between — can be purchased in a variety of sizes at local home centers or building supply dealers.

Other benefits

Wood windows have additional benefits. The insulating glass in combination with factory-applied weatherstripping and the natural insulation provided by the wood sash and frame guard against excessive heat loss and assure snug closure. Windows of ponderosa pine with insulating glass also put an end to the spring and fall job of taking down and putting up storm sash. And these units are easier to clean because there are only two surfaces to wash instead of four.

CHILD'S BATH

If your home has a bath for the children or even if you want to liven up the family bath for the kids, try putting decals of animals, cartoons or funny stick figures or storybook characters on the ceramic tiles.



Power Vent Saves Energy

The electric energy supply crisis has diminished, but costs have skyrocketed. So wise and economy-conscious homeowners are installing power roof vents with automatic thermostat controls to exhaust super-heated air from the attic and cool the entire house. The air mass acts as a blanket, combating the efforts of even the most efficient home or room air conditioner. The result is a heavy load on cooling equipment, increased maintenance costs, high operating expenses, and serious waste of short-supply energy.

Home centers and building supply dealers have a new high-powered vent engineered by Leigh Products that draws little amperage. It can easily be installed by handy homeowners.

Kitchens

Divide and Conquer Those Cooking Chores

Kitchen planners continue to recommend incorporation of the "work triangle" in plans for an efficient kitchen, according to the National Home Improvement Council.

A truly working kitchen is no accident, but begins with three well-planned work centers.

The sink should be the first of the work centers to be placed. Traditionally, the sink is found under a window, but if locating it there puts it out of reach of the refrigerator, it can be located on an inside wall or island, which would make the window space available for a dining or seating area.

The second work area or center is the refrigerator. It should be placed so the door, or doors, open away from counter serving it.

The cooking area is the third center, completing the work triangle. This is the path walked as the homemaker works in her

kitchen.

Professional kitchen planners advise starting at the center front of the sink, measuring to the center front of the range, then to the refrigerator and back to the sink. If the distance between any two of these work centers is less than four feet, sufficient counter or storage space serving each center will be missed.

If any one path is more than seven feet (with the exception of the distance between refrigerator to range which can be as much as nine feet) unnecessary walking distances will result. All of these paths together should not be less than 12 feet or more than 22 feet.

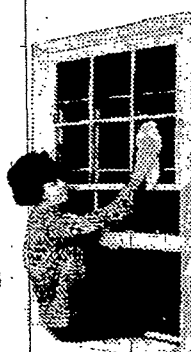
CORRECT HAMMER

Most people will use a hammer for home improvement projects. Since there are different hammers for different jobs, make sure the proper hammer is used.



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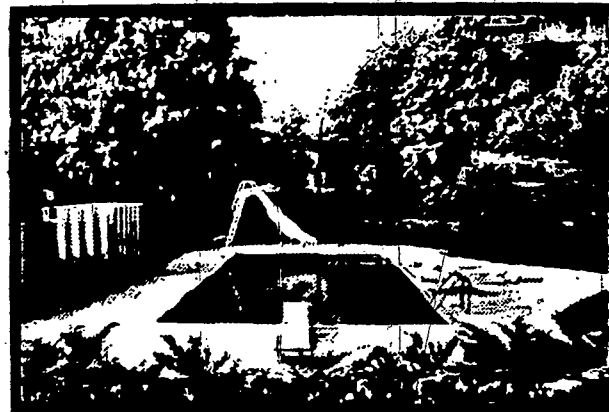
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