

Are raindrops falling on your head? Check for roof damage before storm

One sure way to discover whether your roof is leaking is to look for signs of water damage during a heavy rain. The problem then becomes one of waiting until the rain stops, since you can't get the roof fixed while it's raining.

On the other hand, when the weather is nice and the roof isn't leaking many people have a tendency to ignore the problem.

Actually, it isn't wise to wait until the roof leaks before doing something about it. It's better and often less costly to give the roof a "going over" every now and then. But do it from the ground, using field glasses, advises the Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association. It's easy and far less dangerous than walking on the roof.

Besides a leak, other signs that a roof might need to be replaced include cracked, curled or missing shingles. Best of all, try to determine the age of the roof. If it's of standard shingles, 15 years



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old or older, it's probably due for replacement.

In any event, it's a good idea to call a professional roofer who can conduct an on the roof inspection. He can tell you if minor repairs are called for or whether the roof has to be replaced.

Should the situation call for reroofing, the profes-

sional roofer is also a good source of information on how to use roof design and color to improve a

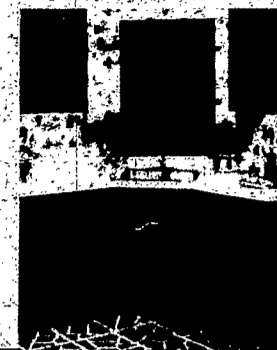
home's appearance. Asphalt shingles, for instance, now come in heavy textures and earthtone colors that add dimension and depth to a roof. The rustic shades and deep shadow lines create attrac-

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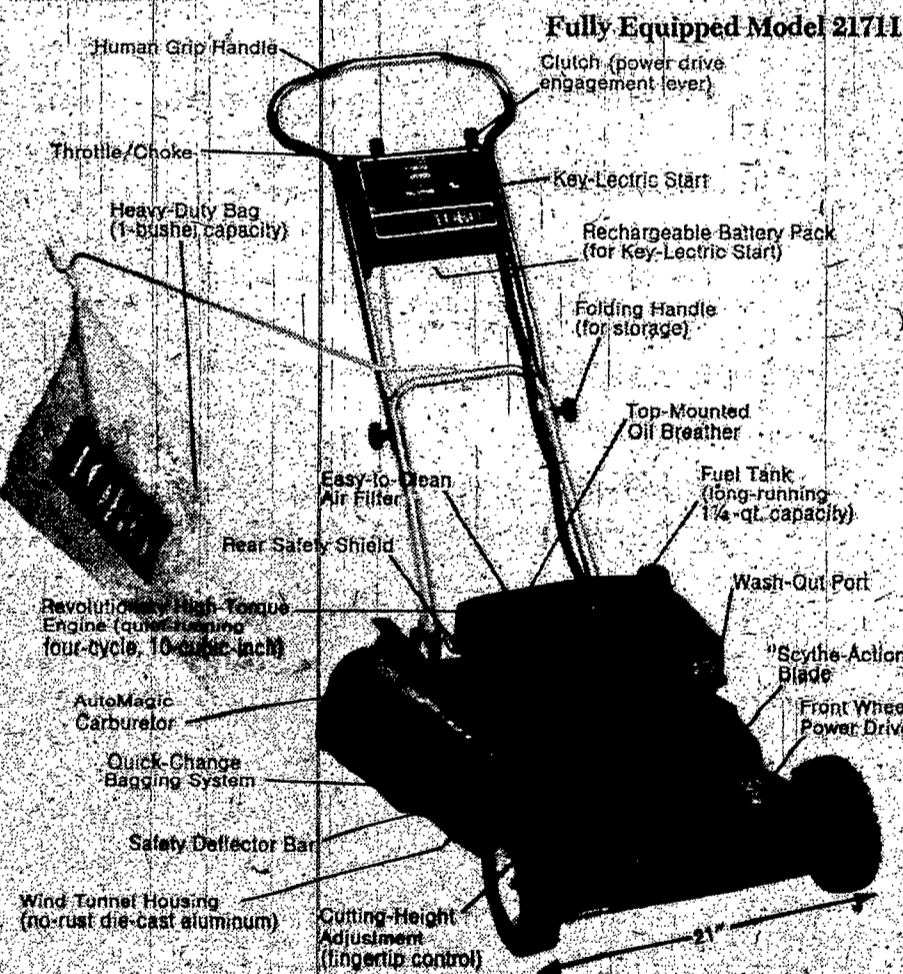
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