Wallpaper is budget remodeler's

best tool!

By LIS KING

Call on color and pattern if you're looking for ways to remodel without taking out a hefty home improvement

For a couple of rolls of wallcovering, a few yards of fabric and a can of paint can perform outright miracles

.. such as playing down a room's defects, playing up its assets, creating illusions of space and depth, concealing architectural shortcomings, elending distinction to nondescript rooms, unifying clutter and even reshaping

From the drawing board

To learn how it's done. check these ideas from the drawing board of David Hardie, director of design for Style-Tex wallcoverings.

• Few rooms need more cheering up than kitchens. Bombard the walls with a sensational pattern and make curtains or window shades to match.

If you don't have much wall space, think of covering the ceiling, too. Scarred cabinets can also benefit from a wallcovering facelift. Choose a fabric-backed vinyl product for toughness and easy care.

• Don't limit yourself to "kitchen patterns." A ban-dana, patchwork, Aztec geometric or floral design is right as rain for your kitchen . . . as long as you like it.

Pattern power

• Pick a dominant geometric or small over-all patterned wallcovering for difficult-to-decorate attic rooms with dormer walls. The pattern power will make an asset of the architectural defects.

• Cover ugly ducts and pipes to match the walls. They'll "disappear" out of sight.

 A lattice-design wallcovering will lead the eye beyond the wall, and so seem to stretch vour space.

• A dark wallcovering on the two short walls of a long, narrow room will make it seem wider.

•Geometric patterns give a room an orderly, architectural look.

' • To raise a ceiling, use a vertical, striped pattern. It'll lead the eye upward. Or use a sky-blue pattern on the ceil-

• To give a boxy room architectural interest, add a chair rail (molding from the lumberyard will do it) and hang wallcovering above it. Or think of adding wallcovering panels, each surrounded by molding.

· Use patterns with red, pink, terracotta or peach accents to warm a room. Blue, green and grey are cool colors for a too hot room.

Go with the sunniest yellow in a dark, northern room. Those popular earth colors are serene, but dull unless you use some bright accents.

Bathroom boldness · Pattern power is terrific in the bathroom. Since this is a room where you don't spend that much time, not even the

boldest design will tire you. · Settle clutter and confusion with one great pattern. That means not stopping with the walls and draperies. Cover valances, lamp shades, pillows and tired furniture, too.

• To save important dollars, do it all yourself. Hanging wallcoverings and stitching draperies are easy ways to express your creativity.

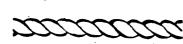


'Tis sweet to hear the watch dog's honest bark Bay deep-mouth'd

welcome as we draw near home; 'Tis sweet to know there is an

eye will mark Our coming, and look brighter when we come.

---George Gordon, Lord





INDIAN-INSPIRED walk vering design, "Navajo" by Style-Tex, brings chie n an architecturally awkward attic room. Do-it-yours platform bed is covered to match the walls. Beams re painted to emphasize the wallcovering's most important color.

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