

Plan Your Room Improvement Program From Floor Up; New Flooring Is Simple To Install And Also Economical

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Some old homes have worn floors of a type that cannot be restored to good condition. If your home answers that description, it may be a relatively simple matter to install gleaming new oak floors right over the old.

Lumber dealers point out that the cost of such modernization is substantially less than the price of good quality floor covering for a similar area.

Oak in the popular strip style is especially well suited to remodeling. It can be obtained either in unfinished or prefinished style. The job requires more time for completion when the former type is selected, since all finishing must be done after installation. Unfinished flooring, of course, is lower in initial cost. Another advantage is that any desired color treatment can be employed in finishing.

If you're planning to modernize an old home or gain needed space for an expanding family by adding

a room, use materials that will lend permanent beauty and value to the house is the advice of real estate appraisers.

This is particularly true in such items as flooring, subject to more wear than any other part of a home and a major factor in the appearance of rooms. A floor of handsome oak or other attractive hardwood not only contributes charm and dignity to its surroundings, but lasts the life of the building.

Such a floor is an especially sound choice for an added room, the experts say, where the rest of the home is equipped with hardwood floors, as are most dwellings. Besides adding value to the house, it would serve as a unifying decorative force between the new room and the main structure.

With the prefinished variety, a room can be put back into service immediately after the flooring is laid. No further treatment is neces-

sary. The wood is expertly finished at the mill, even to the waxing and polishing. A skilled flooring mechanic can complete an average size room in a single day.

The do-it-yourself enthusiast who is experienced at working with wood also should be able to handle the project successfully, provided he follows carefully the approved procedures and exercises the proper precautions. One important point to remember is this: when a new oak floor is laid over an old floor, it may be necessary to plane the door bottoms to compensate for the higher level of the new floor.

Most lumber dealers can provide installation information helpful to the do-it-yourselfer.

Furnishing the smaller, more compact home calls for ingenuity to make the most of all available space.



WELL-CARED-FOR TREES, handsome plantings of roses, shrubs and lawn plus attractive concrete walls and walks give a look of distinction to an older home. That's why experts agree that investments in landscaping, good masonry and regular home fix-up projects pay big dividends in increased value, comfort and beauty.

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