

Paints Available To Change Color Of Steel Cabinets

By Virginia Hart Wheeler
Noted Kitchen Planning Consultant

Editor's note: Mrs. Wheeler is author of "How to Choose Plan, Equip and Decorate KITCHENS," a definite treatment of all phases of kitchen planning, decorating and remodeling. Ablesco, Inc., New York, 1954.

It's as easy to change the color of steel kitchen cabinets as it is to paint kitchen walls. Alkyd-resin paints specially developed for repainting steel cabinets are now manufactured by several major paint companies and can be purchased at most paint and hardware stores.

Although baked-on enamel finishes on steel cabinets are designed for long, hard wear, a simple coat of paint can often bring new life to any kitchen. And the expense, trouble and problems are gone from this job. In fact, the homemaker can do the job herself without difficulty.

Not Limited
Now selection of new appliances in striking or unusual colors to replace current kitchen equipment is not limited by present kitchen colors. Instead the housewife has a chance to create an entirely new and distinctive kitchen color scheme to fit her personal way of living. Alkyd-resin paints are available in colors to match, harmonize or contrast with colors of other major appliances. (Note—Ranges and ovens should not be repainted because of their high operating temperature.)

Here are a few simple guides for the housewife or professional painter in repainting steel kitchen cabinets:

1. Glossy surfaces should be roughened (the same as with glass-finished walls). Sandpaper moistened with turpentine does an excellent job.

2. All dirt and grease should then be wiped away with turpentine.

3. Alkyd-resin paint in any desired color is brushed on quickly. Most paint suppliers will give detailed instructions for each specific steel cabinet repainting job.

These modern finishes—grease and stain resistant and easy to clean—will keep steel cabinets sparkling and colorful for years.

Interesting New Group Of Pieces in Rattan

An interesting new group of rattan furniture pieces is characterized by the simplicity of single rattan bars curved into graceful lines. In accordance with the current trend, all pieces are built off of the floor.

Included in the group, which is available in an exciting new blue-green finish, are a settee, chaise longue, three lounge and two pull-up chairs, desk and desk chair, occasional tables and an ottoman. Inviting to would-be floor sitters—as well as being a handsome accent piece—is a rectangular "pouf" of detachable cushions on a rattan base.



INTEGRATED GROUPINGS—This setting is typical of the many integrated groupings, possible in a new group of living room, dining room and bedroom furniture designed for young families. Modern in design and priced for the middle income family, the group is outstanding for its flexibility. The versatility

of the pieces allows for custom arrangements. (Young Family, Inc.; sofa, Kroehler Mfg. Co.; occasional tables, Martinsville Novelty Co.; armchairs and dining chairs, Modern Upholstered Chair; round dining table, Basic-Witz Furniture Industries, Inc.)

Greater Choice of Carpets This Year

There is news in color, texture, and pattern in carpets for any decorating need—but more important, there is built-in performance.

Thanks to American technicians at work with dyes and at looms, and to designers at their drawing boards, there is a greater choice in carpets to suit any need, than ever before.

The color range in all fibers is wide. Blue and rose and gold lead the field as companions in decorating. The warm wood tones, like sandalwood or the many shades of beige, form an alliance with green and gold. These are country colors that connect with the out-of-doors, and belong with the scenery that meets the window-wall.

There are subtle, special colors that suit a city dweller, bright as red can be, or slightly off-beat, like a soft melon or a bronzy-gold.

With all the color available, white has taken on new prominence. This, and the whole freedom with lighter tones and color shading, is possible because resistance to soil and easier cleanability is built into the new carpets.

Therefore, there are carpets in pure white, with flecks in other colors to key to a room. There are textures and patterns that feature white, to give a lightness to the design, with the white cleverly built into the lower level.

Wrap your tools individually in a rag soaked with linseed oil and place in an empty coffee can. This will prevent the tools from getting dulled by striking against each other.

Contemporary Designs Are Becoming More Popular

Spring is a creative time of the year—everything seems to be growing. It is also a good time for the homemaker to bring some of that spring feeling into her home. The world takes on an appearance of newness and, with very little effort, you can bring that same freshness into your home with even a few new furnishings.

When visiting the furniture stores this spring, you will see many new styles that will excite you. The popularity of contemporary design is growing by leaps and bounds and many new groups are now available.

Traditional styling is not being neglected, however. Italian provincial, a newcomer last year, now appears in many price ranges and a number of variations can be seen. Early American furniture continues to be a favorite, as does French provincial. Making a return visit to the style scene is 18th century furniture.

More and more emphasis is being placed on correlated groupings these days. These groups consist of dining room, bedroom and often living room furniture which can be "mixed and matched." Various chests and tables can be used in any of the rooms and can be moved comfortably into another room for a change in scenery. In most cases, chests are scaled so that they may be grouped in any number of ways to create interesting wall arrangements.

Another trend is toward natural finishes on wood furniture, allowing the inherent beauty of the wood to show. The patterns and grains in the wood are used to create a design in chests and table tops.

Color news lies in the blue family. Clear, true blues top the list for spring. The perennially favorite beiges and browns continue to be strong as basic colors. Various shades of red, too, are being used in occasional chairs to create a bright spot of color in a room.

Light scaling typifies most of the new furniture. It is not massive and overpowering but fits well into today's smaller homes. A great deal of attention is paid to detail in design. Today's furniture need not be expensive to be beautiful.

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New Furniture Is Child, Mar Proof

It's an easy task for a young homemaker to have almost child-proof furniture these days. And it is the scientists who have freed her from the worry of mars and scratches on her wood furniture and spills on upholstery.

New developments have made it possible to have real wood furniture—no imitations—that will never collect cigarette burns or beverage glass rings or scratches. A hostess can truly enjoy a party now without having to think about damaged spots which she may have to cover up after the guests have gone home.

A carelessly left cigarette can actually burn completely to an ash without harming today's newest furniture made with an amazing new type of genuine wood top. These worry-free wood furniture tops are protected by a special "beautyguard" process that gives you the inimitable beauty of genuine hardwoods, plus the abuse-resistance required for today's casual—and sometimes careless—way of living.

You can top worrying about upholstery, too. A recently developed process acts just like an invisible slipcover to protect the fabric from damage through careless accidents. Spills remain on the surface and are easily wiped away without a trace.

In using hand saw or hack saws you can cut with less effort, if you apply pressure only on the cutting or forward stroke. Lift up slightly when drawing the saw back. This method will also prevent wearing down the cutting teeth needlessly.

Proper Kitchen Lighting Often Neglected in Homes

An essential, but often neglected aspect of electrical living, is proper lighting. A kitchen can help you live better electrically only when its lighting matches its appliances for efficiency and convenience. Insufficient or incorrectly placed lighting is as out of step functionally in today's electric kitchen as using a treadmill worked by squirrels to run a modern factory.

A ceiling fixture is still mandatory to provide general lighting that is evenly distributed and creates a cheerful atmosphere. Superseding the harsh ceiling fixture of yesteryear are non-glaring ceiling fixtures in several styles and types to suit today's more scientifically planned kitchens.

Larger Kitchen
For a larger kitchen or one oblong in shape, a longer ceiling fixture fitted with fluorescent tubes provides illumination adequate to reach corners, cabinet interiors and drawers. For smaller or more squared-off kitchen, incandescent bulbs behind glass or plastic shields are fully adequate. In many new homes, recessed ceiling lighting is popular and gives a kitchen an up-to-date appearance.

Characteristic of today's more functional kitchen is "extra" lighting for special work centers. Full working ease and efficiency can only be achieved when light is individually provided for range, sink and work counters. **Fluorescent Tubes**
For counters or food preparation centers, fluorescent tubes should be matched in length to work area, so that shadows are

Decorating Scheme Can Start With Carpeting

Carpeting can be the basis of your decorating scheme. Recent technological advances—new dyes, man-made fibers, new ways of handling the favorite perennial wool—have opened the way to greater freedom in color and texture.

You can choose a carpet in almost any color of the rainbow and be sure that its beauty will last. Carpets can have the handloomed or home-spun look, and can be loosely or tightly constructed. They almost look handmade, but machines did all of the work.

When driving nails in hardwood, dip the nails in linseed oil, immediately before driving. The oil will lubricate the nail.

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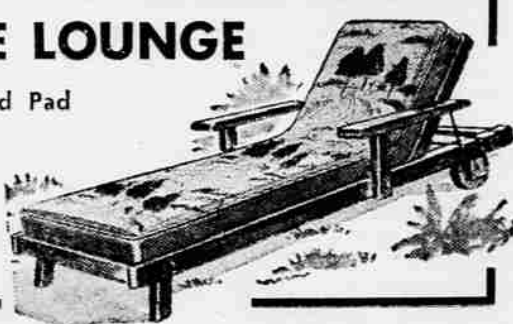
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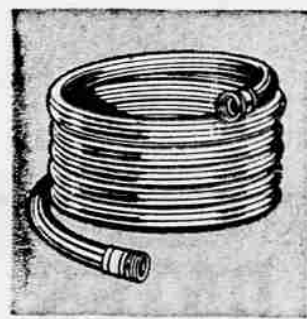
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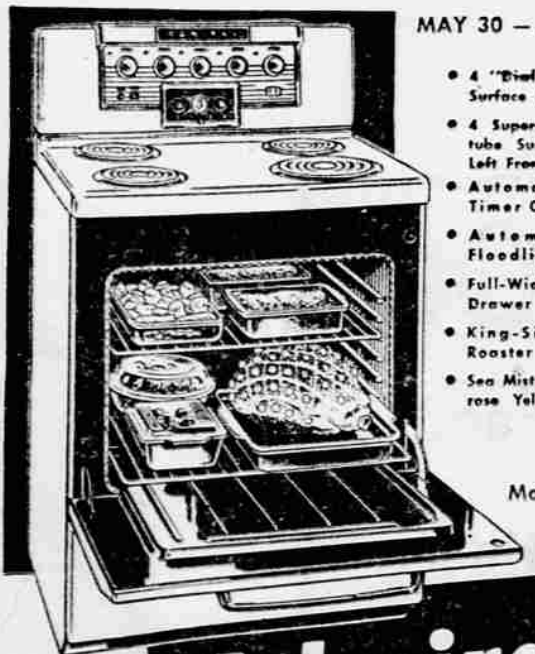
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