

Growing Lawn Takes Care, Many Hours

Growing a lovely lawn takes lots of care and many hours of hard work. You don't have to be an expert, but do follow sound establishment and maintenance practices.

First, be sure to test your soil to discover if soil is acid and its degree of acidity. (Inexpensive testing kits are available.) The type of soil determines how much lime to apply.

To sandy or gravelly soil, add peat, well-rotted manure, or well decomposed sawdust. To clay soil, add sand, perlite, vermiculite, or scoria. Just before planting, apply and rake in a complete, inorganic fertilizer (one containing nitrogen, phosphorus, and potash) at a rate that will provide the amount of actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet.

The first step in preparing to select high quality seeds of grasses that are adapted to your soil and climate.

After sowing, the seed should be covered lightly by

hand raking from 1/4 to 3/8 inch deep in the case of large seeds, and 1/8 to 1/4 inch deep, when small seeds are used. Mulching with a light covering of weed-free straw or hay or with open-meshed sacking cloth will prevent the seed from washing away during watering or rain.

If the gardener thinks his job is finished when the seed are in—well, he's wrong.

New seedlings must be kept moist until well established. Once seeds have begun to germinate, they must not dry out or they will die. (Avoid excessive moisture, however).

Early spring and fall are the times to fertilize bluegrass, fescues, and other cool-season grasses (those making their maximum growth in spring and fall).

Do not apply fertilizers—particularly inorganic—when the grass leaves are wet. Water the lawn immediately after applying fertilizer to wash off the leaves and thus prevent burning.

Heating System Should be Made To Serve House

If you are installing an automatic heating system, it must be tailored to the size and design of a home and to the family's living habits.

In a compact home, containing less than 1,000 square feet of floor area, normally a single comfort system—if it is properly sized and adjusted—will provide adequate indoor comfort.

Today's trend toward rambler and split-level homes has created the need for a new comfort concept known as "zoning."

Zoning is necessary in approximately 20 per cent of the homes with 1,200 to 2,500 square feet of space. In houses larger than this, "zoning" is virtually mandatory.

Two or More Houses Large or irregularly-shaped homes in many instances actually are two or more houses from a heat gain or loss standpoint.

The "arms" of "L"-shaped "T"-shaped or "U"-shaped homes have different heating requirements than the main portion of the home.

When "zoning" is necessary, it is accomplished through use of two or more thermostats. This can be done with multiple heating units or a single heating unit with the necessary mechanical equipment to apportion the amount of heat required in each zone.

In a particularly large home or one in which living areas are widely separated, it sometimes is economical for the homeowner to install multiple heating units.

Concrete Chunks Make Flagstone-Type Walk

Love to have a flagstone walk or patio, but find it would be a bit too expensive?

Check local builders and building wrecking firms, what you may find are concrete chunks that were once a floor or retaining wall.

If they are of different texture and color, all the better. Laid in an informal pattern, the effect will be charming.

Make a hoe do the work of a rake too by welding a steel blade to one end of the rake. Any flat piece of steel or iron, slightly narrower than the length of the hoe teeth, will do when sharpened at one end. Great for weeding!

Wallpaper Lovelier, More Decorative

Wallpaper today is lovelier, more decorative, longer lasting and much easier to keep clean than in years past. Its easy care virtues are a boon to the housewife in her endless bout with household grime.

Not all wallpaper can be cleaned in the same manner; you will have to learn what kind you have selected, and how it can be kept fresh and new-looking. There are many different "kinds" of wallpaper on the market.

More and more of the available wallpapers are plastic-treated. These are either coated with plastic or plastic-impregnated and are highly resistant to stains and soil.

The plastic "guard" makes it easy to remove children's fingerprints or "scribbling" kitchen greases, etc. If the soil has not been permitted to "soak in," the paper can be scrubbed with soap and water or a detergent solution, again and again.

Specific Instructions These wallpapers usually have specific instructions on their care wrapped in the roll. This is the ideal paper for

dirty-and-grime-prone areas such as kitchen, bathroom, entrance hall, child's room or playroom.

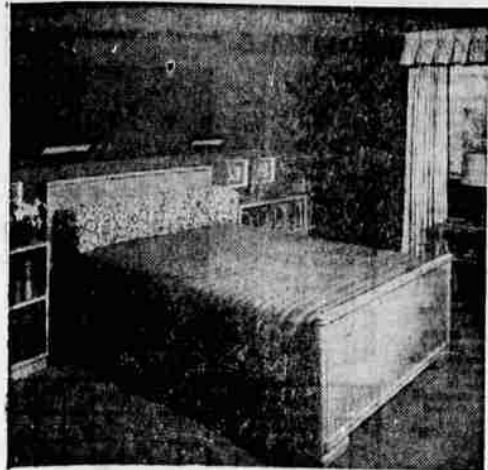
Although water-resistant wallpaper is often called "washable"—it should not be confused with the plastic-treated types.

To clean—all surface dirt and soil should be removed with the vacuum. Then applying a mild soap solution with a cloth or sponge, the paper is cleaned from the baseboard, up—in long, free strokes. It is best not to scrub.

sensitive wallpaper is non-washable; requiring a commercial preparation, much like putty, for the job.

Small soiled areas can be cleaned with stale bread. However, whether it's the commercial or the "home" variety, always work with a clean, fresh surface of the cleaner.

Work from ceiling to baseboard; use wide sweeping strokes that overlap the clean portions of the paper.



'ADD A ROOM' YOU ALREADY HAVE—For instance, an unused attic makes a most suitable and attractive bedroom, when finished properly. Gypsum board is one of the least expensive wall finishing materials . . . and very easy to install. Big panels equalling 48 square feet, quickly cover wall and ceiling surfaces.—Photo Courtesy Gypsum Association



CEILING TILE—Quiet the kitchen by installing colorful, patterned ceiling tile. The comfort of quiet is simple and inexpensive to have in your home. A handyman can easily wash or repaint. Many patterns and colors are available for your choice. See your lumber dealer for details.

—'Hush-Tone' by the Celotex Corp.

Professional Advice Desirable in Plan

Professional advice in landscaping the home property usually is more desirable for the home owner, says the American Association of Nurserymen.

However, there are some simple rules which every home owner should know.

The purpose of landscaping is to tie your home into the surrounding land area in such a way that it will create a pleasing picture to you, and your neighbors.

• Frame the house with plants and trees.

• Foundation plants should be low growing in order not to obscure windows as the plants mature.

• Trees should be off the corners of the house so that they serve as a frame rather than obscuring the home. Stand directly in center front of your house; then look at the corners of the house. Trees should be placed outside the triangle formed by your position on the sidewalk and the two corners of the house.

• Garden living is a studied way of life. The garden "living room" should be planted for family dining and entertaining in privacy. This can be achieved with low plants in the foreground and higher plants in the background.

• Landscape nurserymen are

professionally trained in landscaping and perhaps can do the best job for you.

Many do-it-yourselfers working together with their nurserymen, can achieve proper and good-looking results.

It is an established fact that good landscaping helps increase the resale value of the home, 25 per cent or more.



EASY TO DO—"Scored tile," an easy-to-install 4 1/4" tile—go from carton to wall in one motion, with no soaking necessary. They may be set vertically or horizontally without affecting joint alignment, say their manufacturers, American-Olean Tile Company

Laundry Center Now Is Available in One Piece

One of the major frustrations for a modern homemaker is to go without a much-wanted convenience because of lack of space or storage space.

This is particularly true when the homemaker is confronted with the problem of where to install a washer and dryer into a cramped house or an apartment.

Luckily today, all the necessary equipment for a complete laundry center now comes in a single unit—a combination washer-dryer.

This compact blessing can be installed in the kitchen, bathroom, utility room or even a closet. The Maytag company says that all recent indications point up a definite trend to "move the laundry upstairs," and out of the basement.

Homemakers have come to realize how much time and effort can be saved by locating the laundry center as close as possible to the clothes and linens to be washed.

The new combination washer-dryer installs flush to walls and counters, needs only normal plumbing facilities and requires no venting—which makes it ideal for inside wall installations in the kitchen.

Another popular choice for the laundry is the bathroom—Maytag's Research department says—offering easiest of all access to clothes hampers, linen storage, and often the bedrooms.

A bathroom may also be the ideal spot for the combination unit if the baby's room is nearby.

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Gas Incinerator Does Smokeless Work

Just turn the knob—and the ingenious gas-fired incinerator does all the rest. It's smokeless and odorless! It burns up a bushel and a half of household combustibles at a time. Then it turns itself off at a pre-set time.

By preventing accumulation of paper boxes, wrappings and other combustibles in or near the home, they eliminate a fire hazard.

Guy up young trees as a protection against winter winds. Be certain to pad wire where it loops the tree so it doesn't tear the tender bark.

Tamp soil gently with the hoe blade after sowing seeds in rows. You'll provide close contact between soil and seeds; get flower or vegetable seeds off to a far stronger start.

Set strawberry plants so that crown is even with soil level. If it is higher, roots dry out; if lower, crown may smother and the plant die. Firm soil around roots; water plant.

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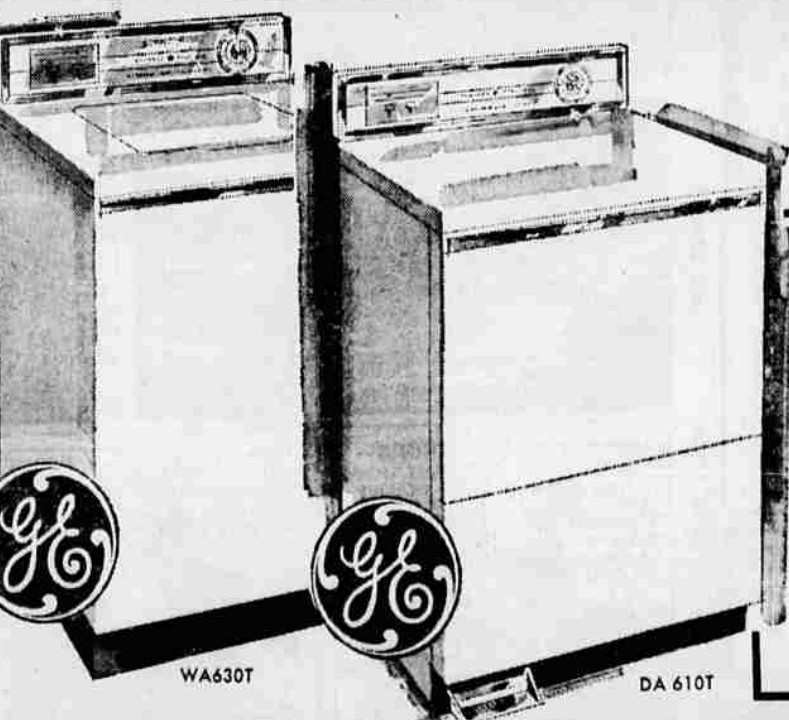
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