

Appliances, Fixtures Make Debuts In Bright Colors

The American home is ablaze with color. And in spite of the lavish use of white, the flame will not be quenched. It has raced from bathroom to living room and now to kitchen and bedroom. It has captured the imagination of the conservative.

Kitchen appliances make their debut in every hue from turquoise to wood brown. And rumor has it that small appliances will follow suit shortly.

Plumbing fixtures in lollipop colors have brought the rainbow to the bathroom where no color seems to be too gay or too glamorous. It has glorified pumpkin, flamed purple, played up metallics.

Bedrooms are reveling in painted furniture—pink, blue green and believe it or not, flame red. Black and white furniture with spatter-dash jet and gold lends to the Hollywood setting now apparent in the average home.

TRENDS IN FURNITURE

Every period and furniture style seems to be in vogue at the moment. Even a dreary wood like mission oak is revived with a mat paint finish of white, pink, blue, yellow to serve as an accent piece in any room whether its lines are English, Spanish or early 20th Century. Old Jacobean pieces of heavy carved oak are being resurrected from the cellar or bough for a song at auctions and perked up with white, Juba blue or Comanche red paint to become conversation pieces.

The Southern market loves upholstered pieces at the moment and this is a trend becoming nationally apparent, partly due to video viewing. Lounge type chairs with foot sections that slip into place for cat naps or just lazy comfort are back in the living room. In the West there is a trend to modern design.

The East takes its contemporary furniture built for service. These days there is little of the modern that used to shriek of discomfort or impracticality. Bureaus have drawers of various sizes—some deep enough for hats and purses, others shallow for holding gloves, belts, scarves, stockings.

COLORS IN ANTIQUES

Even the well-heeled choose antiques today with an eye for color. Director dining chairs are likely to sport new backs and seats of lemn, red or turquoise leather. Hepplewhite and Sheraton, favorites of small homes and apartment owners, are being used with black and colorful lacquered accent pieces. Chippendale is still the darling of those who can afford it and have the space to play it up.

Redwood and white birch are popular in the West (and the hardware is sometimes massive—huge drawer pulls of pewter, silver, copper).

Rattan is becoming increasingly popular because it goes so well with all the colors now being tossed about the house. A new knock-down group offers five semi-finished pieces of hickory and rattan for outdoors.

All painted furniture is popular.

and this includes primitive furniture popular with young people who want it as-is—faded, worn, whether handpainted or stenciled.

There is lots of emphasis on odd dual-purpose seating arrangements such as small benches that can double as snack tables or small folding seats that can be utilized in emergencies and stored away in between times. Along these lines the massive coffee table seems to be popular only when it is sectional.

The trend to garnering more space for seating arrangements in the home will no doubt cause the new tilt-top dining room tables to be popular.

There is no such thing as a popular color combination in the home. It is whatever you like with whatever you like.

West Shows Building Rise

SEATTLE (AP) — Total building starts in five Western states were up sharply in January from a year ago and from the previous month, but they dropped in Washington from 1955.

The Pacific Architect and Builder reported the five-state total of 266 million dollars in new construction starts was 32 per cent higher than December and 15 per cent above January, 1955.

The trade publication survey covered Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California and Montana. The increase for the region reversed a trend which the publication said had started last October, when monthly dollar volume began to drop below the previous year's figures.

Washington was the only one of the five states to show a drop from the previous January. It was 25 per cent lower. Percentage gains for the other states were: Idaho 2, California 23, Oregon 15, Montana 5.

In comparison with the December totals, Montana dropped 60 per cent and Idaho 59, while Oregon was up 67 per cent, California 34 and Washington 21.

Comparison given for the four major Northwest cities are: Portland, Spokane and Tacoma up from both the previous months and previous January; Seattle up from December down sharply from a year ago.

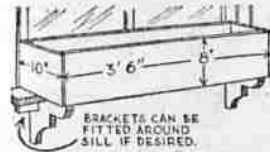
VETS SET RECORD

War veterans are setting a record in payments on their home mortgages. The Mortgage Bankers Assn., surveying 1,700,000 home loans, found GI payment delinquencies of two months to be less than one-half of 1 per cent.

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A window box should decorate the house.



Working drawing of Window Box

phlox, and zinnias can be grown.

Boxes which spend most of the day in shade offer a special problem. If the shade is that of a building, perhaps only foliage plants can be grown, such as ferns, fancy leaved caladiums, crotons, rubber plants and other florists' subjects.

OVER THE GARDEN GATE

There is no denying it, a modern functional type house is rather a "plain Jane" to look at from the street, compared with the attractively symmetrical and ornamental facade of traditional design.

It may never have the dignity of a pillared southern mansion, but its informal air and spreading lines can be made home-like and inviting by growing flowers in window boxes and plantups such as the architects often provide.

If your architect forgot this detail, it is a simple do-it-yourself job to make them and fill them with floral color during the summer, and evergreen boughs in winter.

For a standard single window, a box 3 1/2 feet long, 8 inches deep and 10 inches wide is a good size. But measure your windows and make boxes to fit. Even longer porch planters need not be deeper or wider for good results.

Think of the box as a decoration of the house; make it of a suitable size and a color to match the house color or trim.

Rich soil, of the type which florists call potting soil, must be used for window boxes. Because there is so little of it to feed the flowers, it should be well fertilized. A tablespoonful of balanced plant food for each square foot of soil should be used.

For most annual flowers, at least six hours of sun a day is necessary and this requires a south exposure. The best subjects are those of dwarf or trailing habit, the latter drooping festoons of bloom from the boxes. Petunias of the balcony type are excellent, as are the tall nasturtiums, the petunias, marigolds, ageratum, calliopsis, annual pinks, lobelia, dwarf morning glories, phlox, and zinnias can be grown.

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THE USE OF HARDWOOD PLYWOOD wall paneling in "tall" living rooms for an atmosphere of dignity and charm is a new trend that has interested architects and builders in many parts of the nation. The formula is the same used in many churches. The attractive setting in this home shown above features a balcony on the second level, a technique possible with tall living rooms in larger homes. The paneling is oak plywood in a plank effect.

1906 ↔ 1956

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