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ON THE HOUSE

The type of house you're going to build is more important than its style. You can visualize how the house is going to look and you can even make changes in its style later on if you want to do so. But its type of construction will determine how well it is going to fit your needs over the years.

There are many styles in houses—ranch style, bungalow, Cape Cod, Tudor colonial, early American and Georgian, just to mention a few. However, there are only four basic types of houses.

Each basic type can be varied to suit a particular style. Also each basic type has certain advantages as well as some drawbacks. This should be considered when you're deciding on the type of house you're going to build.

The following guide can be helpful in selecting the type best suited to your needs.

The one-story: All of its habitable rooms are on one floor. The roof usually is pitched low because there is no headroom requirement between the ceiling and the roof. The roof height may vary according to the desired exterior design. The roof also may be constructed as a flat deck. The ceiling may be flat or it may follow the lines of the rafters.

Advantages of the one-story house: There are no stairs to climb. Housekeeping fatigue is reduced. The single floor reduces repetition of installations required in

houses with more than one floor such as baths, linen closets and telephone extensions. An impressive length of front exterior is possible. Outdoor living areas may be placed off bedrooms as well as off the other rooms. Its low height provides ease of maintenance.

Disadvantages of the one-story house: Bedrooms are not removed from the living and service areas and the bedroom windows are close to street eye level. This reduces bedroom privacy. Construction costs may be higher because of the size of the foundation and roof required and because of the additional land required for a greater house length. It is costlier to operate because of the heat loss in winter and the close proximity of the roof and sun to living quarters during the summer months.

The story-and-a-half: Here habitable rooms are on two floors, one above the other and the roof usually is high pitched with the eave just above the first floor windows. The high roof houses the second floor and because of its pitch the room area under it is smaller than the room area below. The room arrangement usually follows this pattern: the living and dining rooms plus the kitchen, bath and one or more bedrooms on the first floor; two or more bedrooms and a bath on the second floor.

Advantages of the story-and-a-half: There is a saving in construction cost. The foundation size is much less than it would be if all rooms were on one floor. Exterior wall framing is minimized because the roof does two jobs; it is a cover and it forms the second floor living area. The second floor takes advantage of heat which normally would be lost through the roof of a one story house. Some bedrooms may be removed from living and service areas to permit privacy and quiet.

Disadvantages of the story and a half: The housekeeper must climb stairs. The height of the roof is such that it gives a top heavy appearance. With heat coming up from the first floor, it is more difficult to cool the second floor. Maximum insulation is required for the upper area because of its proximity to the roof.

The two story: In this type habitable rooms are on two floors, one above the other, and its floors usually are on the second floor. Its upstairs rooms usually have level ceilings, and the roof sits on top of the upstairs rooms.

Advantages of the two story: You get maximum square foot living area for the cost of the house; the foundation and roof are just half the size of the over-all square footage. All bedrooms can be removed from the living and service areas for quiet and privacy. Heating costs are reduced because the second floor gets the advantage of rising heat from the first floor. This type permits a large house to be built on a modest sized lot.

Disadvantages of the two story: Its tall, narrow exterior appearance usually demands an additional expenditure to "dress up" its facade. Exterior maintenance is difficult because of the height of the second floor and the roof. The housekeeper must climb stairs. Resale may be difficult because statistics show that the two-story house is not the preferred type of home for the average American family.

The split level: Here habitable rooms are on three or more levels, each level being about a half flight up or down from its adjacent level. The grade level, with its concrete floor, usually is occupied by the garage, a play or family room and other areas for informal living. The living and dining rooms and the kitchen are on the next higher level. The next level up provides bedroom space and, occasionally, still another level above offers additional bedroom space.

Advantages of the split level: The various areas of the house can be set apart effectively. Stair climbing is held to a minimum because adjacent levels usually are only half a flight up or down. Garage cost is reduced by having an area within the main structure for auto storage. Many possibilities for interesting exterior

design are offered because of the different roof heights.

Disadvantages of the split level: Construction is more costly because the various levels complicate framing and break up continuous finishing. Heating installations are complicated because of the length of the house and the various levels; insulation becomes an important factor. Exterior grading of the land is more involved.

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OSC To Study Hill Soils

A long-range economic study of soil fertility problems and forage crop production potential of Willamette Valley hill soils has been started by Oregon State College under a cooperative agreement with the Tennessee Valley Authority.

TVA will contribute \$33,500 toward the study during the next five years.

Findings will help the college pinpoint the economics of fertilizer recommendations for the hill soils and help lead to expansion of forage crop production in western Oregon, soil scientists point out.

More and more hill soils will have to be—and can profitably be—utilized in the future for forage crop production as the population continues to grow in the valley, they explained. Inadequate information on soil fertility is one of the drawbacks at present.

The need for lime, phosphorus, sulfur and boron on hill soils has been demonstrated. More facts are needed, however, on best rates of application of these and other nutrients from the standpoints of yields and dollar return, taking fertilizer costs, crop prices and other factors into consideration.

Alfalfa will be the test crop and trials will be conducted in cooperation with farmers in various locations. Soil samples will be moved into OSC greenhouses to help speed up screening work on soil deficiencies and fertilizer needs. Greenhouse experiments will be followed by field experiments. Fundamental lab studies and relationships of

yield to soil tests are also planned. Soil tests will be made in the college's soil testing laboratory.

The study will involve the combined efforts of several research workers in soils and agricultural economics. Soils department staff members are Moyle E. Harward, Tom Jackson, Lawrence A. Alban, Ellis G. Knox, and David James. Roger G. Petersen, experiment station statistician, will direct the mathematical analyses and William G. Brown, agricultural economist, will handle the cost-return phase of work.

The DEW (Distant Early Warning) line is composed of radar bases from Alaska to Baffin Island (just short of the coast of Greenland on the west side). The line follows the 70th Parallel. These electronic signals will give Canada and the United States from four-to-six hour warning in case of attack over the North Pole.

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By Hilda Howard, 1946, Cleveland Plain Dealer

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