

DO-IT-YOURSELF

Perforated Board Can Expand Cabinet Space In Your Home

By J. RALPH DALZELL
Confusion and clutter in kitchens, laundries, utility rooms and recreation areas can be avoided by using the inside surfaces of floor cabinets as storage spaces. Picture A shows how perforated board can be applied to the interior surface of a typical floor cabinet door. The perforated board is available at lumber yards along with a great variety of hooks, small shelves and other devices

which fit into the perforations in the board and can be used for hanging and storing all sorts of items. When applying, leave a three-eighth inch space back of the perforated board so the hooks can be inserted into the perforations. To provide the space, construct a three-eighth by three-quarter or one-half by one inch frame as shown. Screw the frame to the inside surface of the cabinet door.

Leave space at 2 and 3 so the door can be closed. Then use three-quarter inch brads to fasten the perforated board to the frame. The board can be painted to match the color of the cabinet.

Dress up roughly built or worn stairs using inexpensive materials as shown in Picture B. Little work is required and the materials are inexpensive. Where spaces between treads (where you walk) are open, they can be improved by adding risers (see picture B) made of quarter-inch plywood nailed to the stringers.

If the treads are badly worn they can be reversed and the smooth side placed on top. Or, as shown in picture B, nail thin pieces of tempered pressed wood to the treads. If the screened side of the pressed wood is placed up the treads will not be slick and will be more safe. Bevel the edges of the board, and use one-inch brads to fasten to the old treads.

Asphalt treads make a better appearance. Cut the tile to fit and then cement it to the treads. A more expensive improvement is to add the plywood risers, reversing the treads and then laying carpeting. For maximum safety add a hand rail.

Door hinges are easy to install if the hints are followed as pictured at C. Measure seven inches from the top and eleven inches from the bottom of the door to locate hinge positions. Place a hinge leaf below the top mark and use a sharp pencil to make lines as shown at 4. The depth of cut, 5, should be equal to the thickness of the leaf. Use a sharp knife to deeply score the marks

at 4, and then a chisel to remove the necessary amount of wood. Cut about a sixteenth inch inside the scored lines. Then hold the chisel at an angle and make several cuts. Finally, keeping the back of the chisel flat, remove the wood with paring cuts.

Picture D shows how metal flashing can be effectively used to waterproof the exteriors of frame walls at points where the siding meets trim above doors, windows or foundations.

Trash Hazards Pose Problems

Basements and attics in many homes are veritable fire traps because they are collection points for rubbish and trash. Fire safety officials urge that all such materials be removed from homes at regular intervals.

This recommendation also applies to such things as old furniture, magazines, newspapers, empty paint cans and many other items which accumulate in utility and storage rooms.

One of the few safe ways to store flammable materials is to keep them safely confined in covered steel containers. Safety officials suggest the use of galvanized steel garbage cans. These are equipped with snug-fitting covers.

In disposing of trash, the householder is warned against using open bonfires. Many destructive fires are caused by gusts of wind spreading the contents of trash fires to nearby roof tops and other flammable places.

A safe procedure is to use a steel rubbish burner. These containers permit rubbish to burn safely within the safe confines of a covered galvanized steel can.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q.—Is it necessary to oil hinges?
A.—American Standards Testing Bureau recommends that hinges be oiled every three months. Outside hinges should be oiled once a month.

Q.—Is winter ventilation really important?

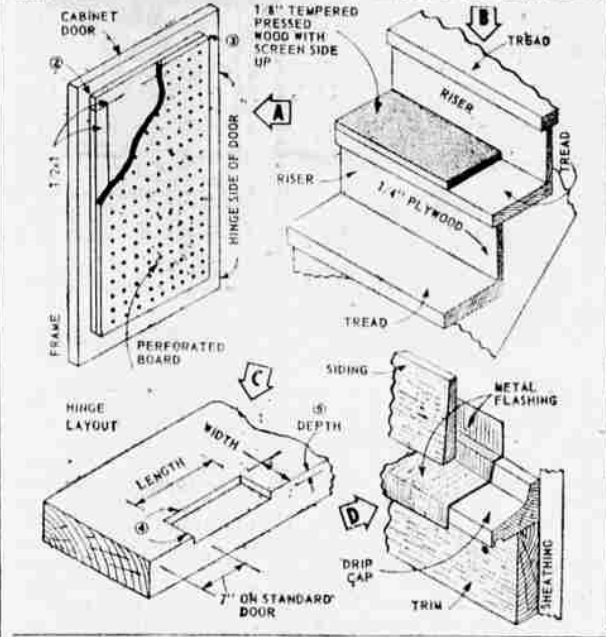
A.—Yes. Excessive vapor causes dry rot, mold and warping, and may cause paint to peel on the exterior of the house. Ventilate twice a day. Exhaust fans in the kitchen, bathroom and attic aid materially.

BOOK ANALYZES THEATERS

NEW YORK (AP) — The special problems of proscenium theaters, from acoustics to walls, are analyzed in a how-to-do-it booklet just prepared by the Greater New York Chapter of the American National Theater and Academy. The group's board of standards expects to issue a series of books with the aim of encouraging "the better planning of new professional theaters." Docketed in the agenda are volumes concerned with theater-in-the-round and the growing on-stage movement which is modeled on the showmanship format of Shakespeare's day.

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Ideas For Room Decorations

By KAY SHERWOOD

Between the busy, social autumn and the flowering spring lies a long stretch of quiet midwinter, a good time for the housebound homemaker to clean up the little jobs she has been postponing for months.

My list includes: Bringing order to the catch-all drawers, sifting through pictures and snapshots to glean the best, tidying the family living room to the point where I can sit down calmly without noting a dozen little chores to be done.

One major collection I find filling up drawers is the pile of papers and pictures the children bring home from school.

School reports of progress are filed for each child. For their own future amusement I like to file some of their work papers.

Some homemakers keep scrapbooks; so far, I've kept ours in standard file folders until I figure out a better storing system.

Art work seems to deserve more public attention. It's satisfying to

little egos to have a corkboard or similar panel where the latest crayoned landscape can be displayed.

As youngsters grow older, trophies and ribbons are added to the accumulation. With so many activities for youngsters and so many competitions, growing families can compile a listful of various honors, all of which deserve display. After discussing the matter with friends, I find that some of their suggestions give possible solutions to display such items.

Making a trophy corner in a playroom or family room permits you to gather the proud display in neat array.

To give personality an added interest to a showing of medals, ribbons and cups, add framed pictures of the children in poses suited to their favorite activities.

A really good snapshot of a youthful horseback rider, a triumphant tennis player or Little Leaguer can be enlarged for mat printing and framing.

If the stock of snapshots does not yield a good one, it may be worthwhile to have a portrait photograph made. Some portrait photographers are very skillful in combining an outdoor setting with portrait quality.

Pull ribbons and trophies, the special citations or autographed baseballs out of the drawers and arrange them on a table, first.

Simple displays can be made with a plywood panel covered with a colored felt and mounted over a fireplace or couch.

Pictures and ribbons can be placed against this background and small brackets added for cups. Pegboard, spray-painted in color and framed, makes a simple backdrop for a collection.

One clever idea I saw in use recently used four pieces of rough board, nailed together in an open copy of a country fence. Dangling from the boards were ribbons won by the little horsewoman in the family and her brother.

Pictures of the happy winners were also hung from the "fence."



TROPHIES, RIBBONS AND PHOTOGRAPHS that reflect outdoor enthusiasms keynote the decoration of this room. The rough wood frame over the fireplace ties what could be a clutter into a portrait of family activity.

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