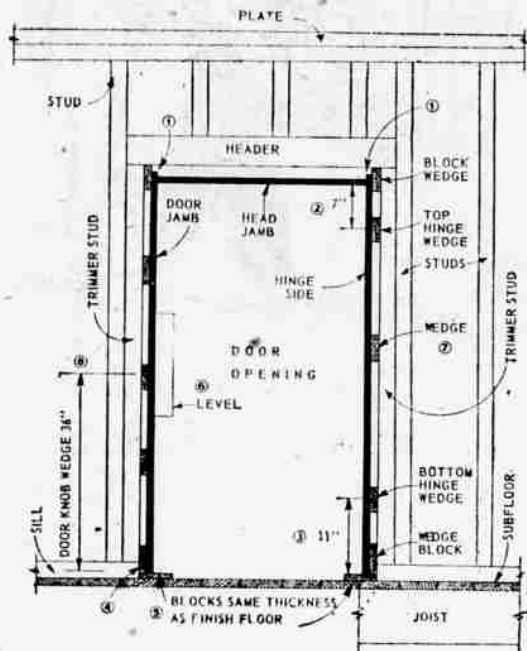


DO-IT-YOURSELF

When Setting Door Jambs Framing Job Is Important



By J. RALPH DALZELL

Many readers working on interior remodeling during the winter frequently asked about the setting of interior door jambs in frame partitions. The procedure is not difficult if the rough opening in the partition has been well framed.

Let's assume that the door jamb indicated by the heavy lines in the picture has been purchased with the door and is ready to install. The trimmer studs should be farther apart than the overall width of the jamb framing as indicated in the picture. The picture indicates all other members of the framing as they should be: the trimmer studs are in place in addition to the regular studs around the door opening, and the header is made of two studs or one 4x4 inch piece.

First, measure the width of the framed opening (between the two trimmer studs) and the outside width of the door jamb frame at its top near the head jamb. The difference between these measurements, when divided by two, gives the thickness for the blocks shown at the top of the jambs.

Ordinary wood shingles can be used for making the blocks. Two of them when used together can be adjusted to make any required thickness. The blocks should be about four inches wide. Nail one block at point 1. Nail a second block at the bottom, on the same side, as shown at 4. The bottom block should be plumb with the top block, so test it with a level and straightedge. Next, place the jamb frame in the opening between trimmer studs. The bottom ends should rest on blocks having the same thickness as the floor will be. See 5 in picture. Use 8d finishing nails to fasten one side of the jamb frame to the blocks at 1 and 4. Make sure the edges of the jamb are flush with the surface materials on the partition and that the head jamb is level (see 6).

Cut a board to the exact width of the inside of the jamb frame as measured near the head jamb, and use it as a spreader at the bottom to assure dimensions. Then insert a wedge at 7 and nail the jamb lightly to the trimmer. Then install wedges at 2 and 3 for the hinges and at 8 for the door knob.

Use a straightedge equal in length to the distance from the block at 5 to the head jamb. Place this edge along both side jambs to test plumb. Any low points in the jambs can be corrected by driving in wedges. The top of the side jambs (1) should not touch the bottom of the header. Test the corners with a steel square. Extreme accuracy is recommended. If the jambs are set out of plumb,

or if the head is not level, the casing (trim around the door) joints will not fit properly when cut in a miter box. If the side jambs are not perfectly plumb, difficulty will be experienced when the door is being hung.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q.—Is it a good idea to paint old brick walls?

A.—Yes. Not only does the paint brighten dull brick, but scientific experiments have proved that they become cooler and less humid inside. However, if a brick wall is still in good condition, a clear coating can be used which gives the same protection but allows the original appearance of the brick to show.

Q.—Can latex paints be used anywhere in the interior of a home?

A.—Yes, except on floors and furniture. After using latex paint use soap and water to clean the brush, and clean quickly because this paint hardens rapidly.

Plastic Flower Aids Research

Some of the dry, barren stretches of Arizona are "blooming" this spring and summer with plastic flowers developed by U.S. Department of Agriculture bee-culture specialists.

The artificial flowers were invented by Dr. A. W. Woodrow of USDA's Agricultural Research Service for use in bee-feeding experiments at the Southwestern Bee Culture Laboratory in Tucson. The scientists are setting out the flowers along with bee colonies in isolated and barren areas of Arizona.

Many studies have been made of caged bees, but USDA agriculturists point out that they do not provide conclusive information, because bees are "social" insects and cannot lead a normal life when caged. In such situations the bees are deprived of a queen, must partake of an enforced diet, and are restricted in their movement. Artificial flowers will permit the specialists to study bees in the wild, and at the same time control their diets since few other sources of nectar are available in the Arizona areas chosen for the experiments.

The "flowers" are lucite blocks with holes drilled in them. The sirup the bees will sip in lieu of nectar is placed in a flat, shallow dish or pan, and a perforated plastic block is placed in it. The holes in the block allow the bee to reach the sirup with her proboscis just as she would take nectar from a clover flower. Equipment attached to the artificial flower automatically records on graph paper the quantity of sirup gathered by the bees. The formula can be varied to determine the bees' food preferences.

Such information will be useful in solving pollination problems of some plants, including forage and fruit crops, in determining the best places to locate bee hives for both honey production and pollination, and in finding out how to protect bees from insecticides.

OLD JOKE NAMES SHOW

NEW YORK (AP)—An old joke has supplied the name for an upcoming Broadway comedy. The play by Norman Krasna was originally entitled "My Wife and I," but Producer Leland Hayward has switched now to calling it "Who Was That Lady I Saw You With?" The show, starring Peter Lind Hayes and Mary Healy, is due in February.



COSMOS MANDARIN
Photo by Bodger



Over the GARDEN GATE

By RUTH KING

This may be a bit early to be talking about new developments in old flower favorites, what with prospects of snow bonnets on the daffodils almost sure fire in our Klamath climate, but...

Some interesting information turned up on the garden desk this week that has intrigued me. Cosmos, the pink and white flowers of old, that made quaint hats for cornucopia dolls back in the plains country, long neglected by many gardeners, has gone glamorous as a beauty queen.

The plants of older strains, with sparse foliage that became shaggy even while in bloom, are being outshone by new varieties, among them, Cosmos Mandarin, a brilliant orange with double blooms, some with as many as 40 petals

and with dense, persistent foliage that won't let you down as a background planting when the hot days of summer rush toward fall.

With the improvement developed by Bodger Seeds, Ltd., of California, these oldtime favorites will make a bid for a spot in modern flower borders.

If you're a zinnia fan, you'll want to add gorgeous Pride of Eldrin. Its four to five inch blossoms have twisted and pointed petals, bicolored with vivid scarlet flame centers and a collar, golden as the noonday sun. We sow a row of zinnias each spring among the cabbage and the cauliflower, or in any other spot in the vegetable garden where the "Mister," grants us space. Last summer some stray plants showed up in the cucumber row and were a source of delight the summer through, especially in the early morning as we plucked pickles before hitting for the typewriter at the H and N.

Mice have riddled the lawn and cut many choice plants in the flower border off below the surface of the ground in spite of a "never-let-up" poisoning program during the winter, but the daffodils and the narcissus, the crocuses and hyacinths are popping up and buds are showing. The bare spots can be filled... there's always a silver lining to the clouds if you look above the treetops... happy gardening!

Mortgage Plan Growing Popular

The "open end" mortgage program is continuing to gain acceptance throughout the country, a national builders' magazine reports. Under this type of mortgage, for example, a family wishing to replace an out-of-date kitchen with a modern wood one could utilize the long term equity it has in its property, spreading out the cost of the improvement over the length of the mortgage.

SOLE IMPEACHMENT

Only instance of impeachment proceedings against a member of Congress was in the case of William Blount, Tennessee senator, in 1798. The charges were dismissed.

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