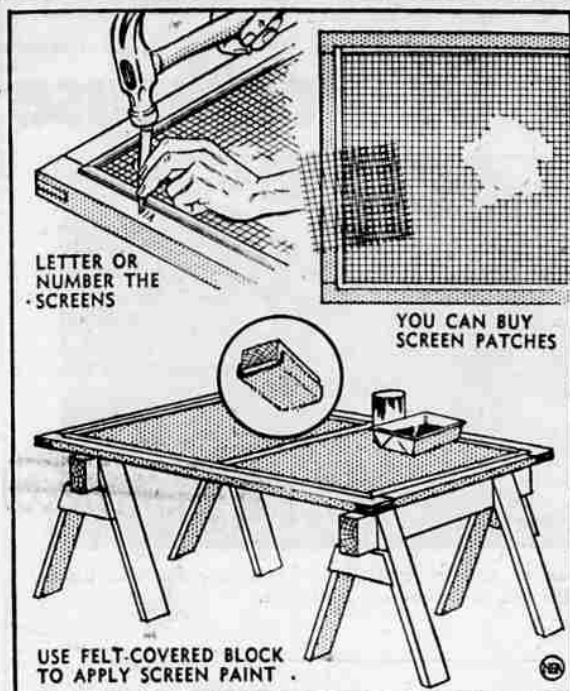




BEAT THE BUGS TO THE PUNCH this year. Have your screens in readiness for hanging well ahead of the time when you will need them.

ON THE HOUSE

If you washed, repaired, marked and wrapped your screens last fall, congratulations. You're one of the select minority among handymen.

For the majority of us, it's time to get the bug armor in shape for another season.

First thing is to wash screens with a detergent-and-water or soap-and-water solution. Use a brush to do the job. Rinse thoroughly and air dry.

Next, check the frames. If loose and wobbly, reinforce with angle irons or corrugated fasteners at the corners. Flat metal mending plates will add strength at other joints. The loose joint may have to be knocked back into place first. Use a mallet for this operation to prevent damaging the wood.

Check screening for holes and tears.

These can be patched with small screen patches made for that purpose and sold by almost all hardware stores. The patch hooks into the screen over the tear. Or, you can make your own patches from odd bits of screening.

Cut the patch larger than the tear. Remove a strand of wire from each edge, bend the exposed ends so that they form tiny hooks which will grip the screen.

If you have plastic screening, you will have to darn each patch in place by lacing a piece of fine wire through the patch and through the screening.

To replace a badly damaged screen, first carefully pry up molding that holds mesh in place so it can be used again. Remove all old brads and staples. The new piece of screening should be about an inch wider and longer than the inside dimension of frame.

Tack or staple the screening securely at one end of the frame. Roll out the screening to make certain that the weave is parallel to ends and sides of the frame.

Pull the screening as tight as you can before fastening the other end.

Here's a simple way to get screening taut:

Set the frame on a pair of saw horses. Hang equal weights on the frame, one on each side at the centers. They should be just heavy enough to cause the frame to bend slightly.

Stretch screen, fasten at the free end and remove the weights. Frame will then spring back to normal.

Fasten the screening to the molding.

Replace the molding.

Have galvanized screens, painting them just about

every other season. Don't paint aluminum or bronze screening.

If you find that the bronze screening is causing stains, coat it with spar varnish.

To paint, use a well-thinned screen paint and apply with a screen applicator made of a block of wood on which you've tacked a piece of felt or short-napped scrap of carpet.

If you plan to spray-paint screens, do the work out of doors on a windless day.

In either case, unclog holes with a toothpick, pin or bit of wire as you paint. Be sure to do this before paint sets.

You can buy large-head tacks that are numbered with which to locate screens. Drive one tack in screen and one, with an identical number, to window frame into which the screen goes. You can, too, use a numbering system of your own and mark the screen at some point on the frame with a cold chisel.

Eye Lumber Grade For Cutting Costs

Rare is the housewife who will go to the butcher and order filet mignon for stewing. The same attitude ought to prevail in buying lumber.

The important principle to remember, says the Western Pine Association, is to key the lumber to its use.

For a child's bookcase that is to be painted, there's no need to invest in top-grade lumber featuring knot-free stock suitable for fine furniture.

Lumber of the western pine region includes Common and Select grades. The highest grade—and the most expensive—is B and Better Select, C and D Selects, although less perfect, are still suitable for projects requiring a fine finish.

But the big lumber bargains are in the less expensive Common grades, ranging from No. 1 down to No. 5. They are becoming increasingly popular for certain finishing purposes—for example, paneling.

A good choice of quality for knotty western pine paneling lies between No. 2 and No. 3 Common. These grades have the desired attractive knot patterns and at the same time are priced within the average homeowner's means.

New Home Cleaning Aids Help Ease Spring Chores



CLEANING A NYLON RUG. A detergent solution will remove most spots. Oil or grease stains respond best to household spot remover or a dry cleaning solvent used with a sponge.

The poets say lovely things about spring, but just ask any housewife what's on her mind, come those first few balmy days. She's thinking, no doubt, that it's dust-ridding time—time to air the house, ferret out cobwebs, make refurbishing plans.

One clue to a good housecleaning program is to assemble a collection of work aids. These should make cleaning a breeze, if you use cleaning accessories properly.

Tune up those old standbys, the vacuum cleaner and mop. Make sure your vacuum cleaners accessories are in good shape, that you have bag refills for the cleaner. If your mop needs a new sponge, replace it. If you are partial to string mops, there are new string type mops of sponge.

Stores should be combed for new cleaning aids that help lighten work. Be wary of some cleaning aids that advertise miracles in cleaning upholstery and rugs. Most housewives have had the fill of these cleaners which clean, but then manage to attract more dirt by the very chemicals that helped the cleaning action.

There are special cleaners available designed for specific ac-

tion—cleaners for hard-surface flooring, linoleum, vinyl tile, asphalt tile, that require just a quick once-over mopping and no rinsing to clean the floors perfectly.

There are cleaners designed especially for painted surfaces and kitchen fixtures. New window cleaners may be sprayed out of a can and wiped off with a clean cloth or a paper towel.

A chamois buffer wrapped around a shoe or scrubbing brush is a wonderful duster to produce a mirror-like gloss on furniture. The little sueded fibers in the oil-

SHORT STOP

No moving object can reverse its course completely without first coming to a standstill. Even a bullet, fired straight up, stops for an infinitesimal period before it begins to descend.

tanned chamois help keep a lovely sheen on furniture.

It's a good idea to have an assortment of sponges in your work basket. Large sponges are ideal for cleaning walls and woodwork, smaller ones are good for cleaning bathroom fixtures, window sills and small areas. Strips of sponge glued to a long stick are good for hard-to-get-at corners.

Sponges come in handy, too, for spot cleaning of rugs. Nylon rugs may be cleaned easily with a soft brush and a diluted detergent solution applied with a sponge. A dry cleaning solvent may be necessary for oily or greasy stains.

Cotton rugs may be more difficult to clean on the floor, but a new type of rug cleaner with a built-in detergent vehicle makes the job easier. Vacuum the rug first, then use the rug cleaner. Let it dry, then vacuum again to remove excess detergent.

One big lift for the housewife's morale is that cleaning accessories have taken on color. Hand cleaners and dust mops of nylon are in luscious pastel hues, may be removed from their handles and washed in sudsy water, dried in a jiffy and returned to their place. Pails come in chic colors, too, and are lighter in weight.

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