

THE HOUSE OF THE WEEK

# Four Bedrooms on a Budget

By DAVID L. BOWEN

A painful paradox frequently plagues the search for a perfect home plan.

The reason most people want a new house is that their present quarters are too small. And here's the paradox:

They're looking for a new home because the family is big. But big houses usually have big price tags. The houses they can afford don't provide them with enough bedrooms; the houses that provide the needed bedrooms are beyond their price range.

Because of this, many people endure cramped living because they don't believe they can afford a house that would make them comfortable.

Architect Samuel Paul had the family in this predicament in mind in designing X-43 in the House of the Week series. He set out to use his architectural skill to achieve the greatest amount of house for the least amount of money.

The home that came off his drawing board has four bedrooms, 1½ baths, living dining and family rooms, kitchen, recreation, utility and laundry rooms. He used the split-level framework and gave the house an appearance as modern as tomorrow.

**Minimum Excavation**

X-43 yields an exceptionally

large amount of area on a minimum amount of costly excavation and foundation work. Basement space is required only under the living room. The house has a carport instead of a garage. Clean, simple roof lines save labor and materials. The prefabricated fireplace called for in the plan requires no elaborate brick chimney work. It also can be placed anywhere desired along the outside living room wall.

"The separate levels and individual areas set apart on these levels produce a great deal of personal privacy and interest where required," Paul explains. "This is a feature overlooked in too many modern, large family houses."

**Open Kitchen**

The main entrance opens on a large foyer, containing both a big closet and a lavatory easily reached from the working and entertaining areas. The dining room, kitchen and family room are on this entry level.

The big open kitchen is tied in closely with the family room, separated from it only by the useful family dining bar. The kitchen is equally convenient both to the dining room and the outdoor terrace in the rear.

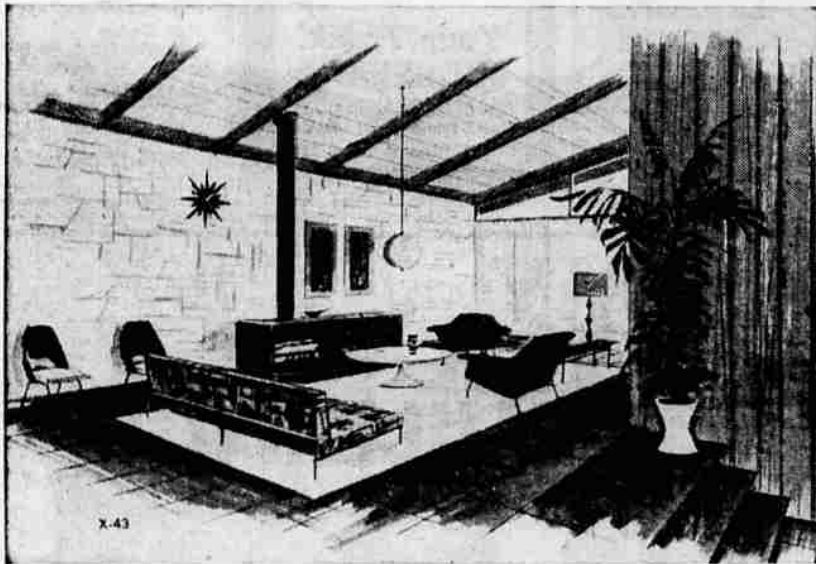
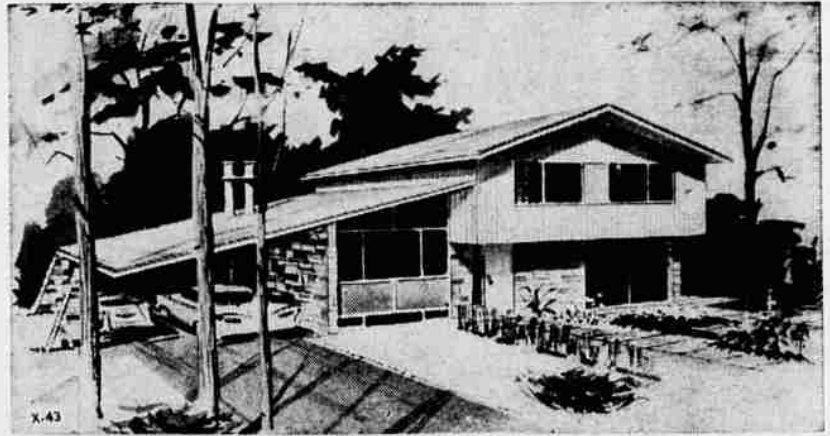
Sliding glass doors in the din-

ing room open on the terrace, setting the stage for pleasant outdoor living.

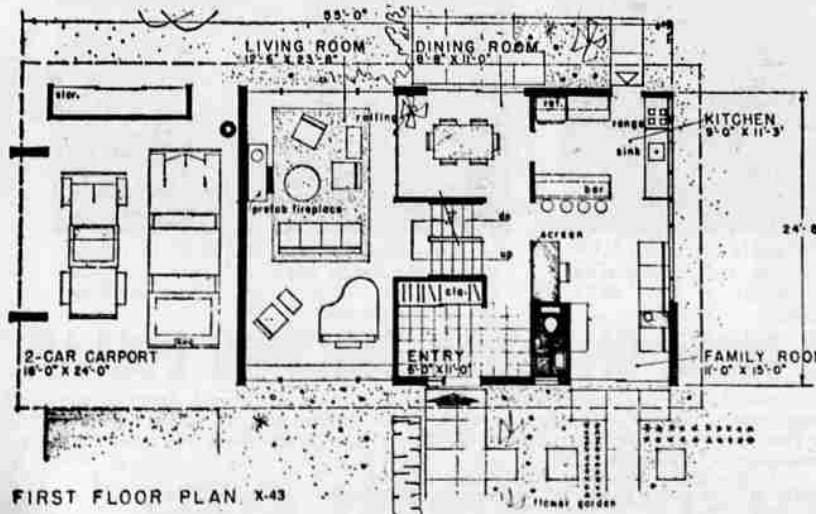
**Dramatic Living Room**

The living room is large and completely cross-ventilated. It runs the entire depth of the house on the middle level and at one end looks down—through an iron railing—upon the dining room.

**STRIKING MODERN LUXURY:** This impressive four-bedroom house has a rich appearance that belies the cost-cutting that went into its design. Slab construction under most of the house holds expensive excavation to a minimum. The habitable area is 1,639 square feet. It was designed for a big family building on a budget.



**A CATHEDRAL CEILING** heightens living room glamor. Since it is not an integral part of construction, the wood-burning prefabricated fireplace can be put wherever the builder desires.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN X-43

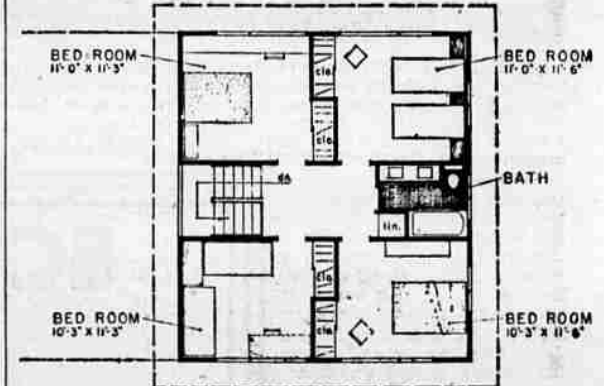
**FLOOR PLAN:** Large living room gains glamor by its elevation a few steps up from the entry level. Kitchen and family room blend together to give warm air of spaciousness to both areas. Sliding glass doors in dining room open on inviting outdoor terrace.

The upper level contains a bath and four bedrooms, each with its own built-in storage unit of closet and drawers. The hall and stairwell are dramatically lit by the high full-width window over the stairs.

The small basement contains laundry and utility rooms, plus a second recreation room. This

space, of course, could be left in an unfinished state for completion long after original construction.

Bedroom, living room and entry levels have a total of 1,639 square feet of space. The basement offers 295 more square feet. The house is 55' wide and 23'8" deep.



**BEDROOM LEVEL:** Each of the four bedrooms has its own built-in storage unit of closet and drawers.

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Building Editor:  
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