



ALL DECKED OUT — What could be nicer after a hard day at the office than to spend an hour unwinding outdoors on your own luxurious deck? Homeowners who want maximum outdoor living benefits would do well to outfit their home with porch deck like this one of tough, 2x8 Douglas fir planks. Planks have been allowed to weather naturally and are spaced a quarter inch apart for water runoff. Deck railing with graduated posts adds decorative interest.

Porch Offers Comfort At Home-Level In New House

When the work day is done, what could be more pleasant than kicking off your shoes and going out on the back porch for an hour's relaxation? Or for the whole evening, if you can wrangle it.

Although for a time, builders considered the back porch obsolete and left it out of house plans, it wasn't long before they learned that porch-setting was an engrained habit in American life. Now, of course, they hasten to include the porch or deck as a necessary element of the modern home.

Design for the porch has changed somewhat since Grandpa's day, but it's probably even more popular now than then, for moderns put it to use every hour of the day—from breakfast coffee to evening star gazing.

Much of the porch's present popularity stems from its accessibility and convenience. Nowadays, the porch is built on the same level as the interior floors, so that it is really just an extension of the indoor living areas, and it usually extends the full width of the house with access from more than one room.

The modern porch version or deck is floored with 2x4, 2x6 or 2x8 inch planks of Douglas fir,

and the deck boards are spaced a quarter inch apart for water drainage. Because of this construction, cleaning it consists only of an occasional bout with the garden hose, a process which could hardly be termed fatiguing.

Even repainting chores are eliminated with new porch design, for usually, the deck boards are simply allowed to weather naturally, though in some cases, homeowners prefer to start them out in life with a coat of natural wood stain and let them weather from there.

Shapes for the porch or deck vary widely, and hardly a soul sticks to the common rectangle. Porch railings offer an opportunity for interesting designs; the posts can be straight 2x4 or 4x4 inch fir or they can be graded in size from wide at the base to narrow at the top so that the railing appears to slant away from the porch decking. The top rail should be wide and low enough to double as extra seating space.

Furnishing the porch has become quite a game, and anything goes as long as comfort remains the keynote. Manufacturers of outdoor furniture are now providing pieces which offer distinctive design and gay colors, as well as solid comfort.



OVER THE MOON?—Engineer Richard G. Peoples demonstrates personal rocket for the infantryman of the future. Called "Aeropak," the plumber's nightmare would allow soldier to jump over ravines, rivers, mine fields. Angle of liquid rockets is controlled by left hand while throttle in right hand controls speed.

Husbands On Timid Side

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Meek husbands are contributing to the rising rate of false crime reports received by police, says Detective Capt. Richard Doyle.

In a typical instance, says Doyle, hubby has lost a good part of his pay check gambling and just doesn't have the nerve to tell the little woman the truth.

"In most cases," he explains, "the man comes into headquarters with his wife. He is worried and nervous. She is indignant and determined. She is the one who demands that police find the criminals who attacked her husband and took all his money."

Frequently the man admits in private questioning that his story was a fake. He pleads with police to keep his secret.

"He'd rather face us than face his wife," says Doyle.

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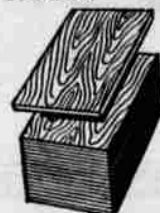
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