

THE HOUSE OF THE WEEK

Big Family House Comes in Small Package

By DAVID L. BOWEN

Split-level designs fall into two basic classes side-to-side or front-to-back.

The standard version is side-to-side. This home is one of the less common front-to-back splits and the fresh, dramatic room arrangement it produces makes you wonder why split levels are not handled this way more often.

The most spectacular effect occurs in the living room, which has luxurious length, a high sloping ceiling, a 14-foot raised fireplace hearth, and a glamorous upper level balcony.

The balcony hall leads to three well-shielded bedrooms. There's a fourth sleeping room on the ground level, which also contains a large playroom adjacent to the rear terrace.

"Splitting the house this way makes possible an attractive solution to the problem of the extra bedroom and playroom without increasing the perimeter of the house," says Architect Alfred H. Ryder, designer of X-94 in the House of the Week series.

"Perimeter expansion is always expensive," he adds. "The arrangement of this house makes possible low cost expansion space. It could be used to provide growing youngsters with a well insulated recreation area or to give

grandparents a spacious and private garden apartment."

Another advantage of the front-to-back split is exterior appearance. From the front, the house has the popular ranch look and would not appear out of place in a neighborhood of low houses.

X-94 has a total of eight rooms with generous dinette space in the long kitchen and a separate dining room. There are 2½ baths.



LOVELY OUTSIDE, DRAMATIC INSIDE: This front-to-back split level has a spectacular living room below a high sloping

ceiling. There are four bedrooms, 2½ baths, plus large kitchen, dining room and playroom.

Additional Details

The dining room projection at the front provides space for a roomy foyer, with large entrance closet. It's 24 feet from the kitchen wall to the opposite end of the living room. The stunning fireplace faces a wide front picture window. The dining room is to the right of the entry with window walls on two sides.

Counters, cupboards and appliances are arranged "pullman" fashion in the long kitchen. A door which slides into the wall closes off the kitchen effectively from the reception foyer area and another of the same type opens

into the dining room. The breakfast end of the kitchen is open and uncluttered and provides access to the side entrance.

Bedroom Privacy

The bedrooms across the back on the upper level are divided into two zones. The parents have the left "wing" to themselves, with a fireplace in their bedroom and a built-in desk and bookshelves. There's a private bath and a big walk-in closet.

The other two upper bedrooms are self-contained at the other end of the bedroom hall and blocked from view from any point in the living room by a door across the hall.

Major feature of the ground level directly beneath these bedrooms is the playroom, measuring 23 by 17 feet and centered in the rear of the house. Sliding glass doors lead to the terrace. A corner fireplace

guarantees a cheerful atmosphere all winter long.

On one side of this big room is the fourth bedroom, with its own half-bath. On the opposite side is a heater room offering extra space for shop and hobbies.

Over-all dimensions are 65' 8" by 39' 9". Exterior is distinguished by tasteful use of shingle, stone veneer and wrought iron columns.

X-94 STATISTICS

This front-to-back split level has eight rooms, with four bedrooms and 2½ baths.

Habitable area of living and bedroom levels is 1,637 square feet. Another 808 are contained on the ground level and the two-car garage covers 437 square feet.

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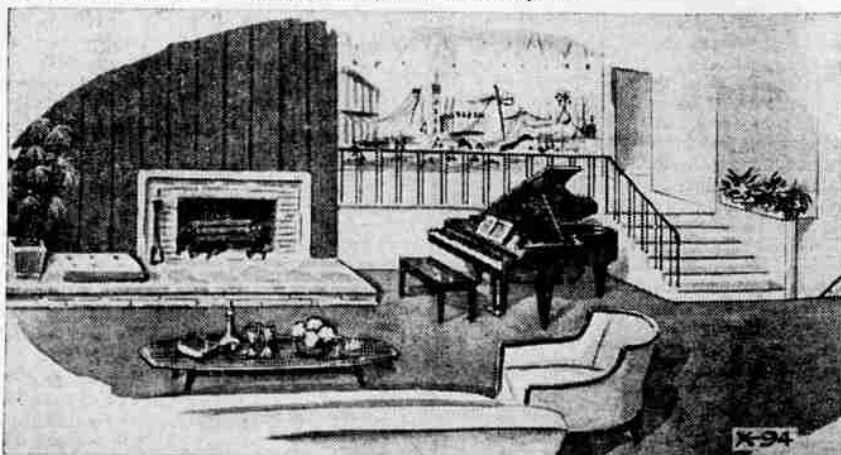
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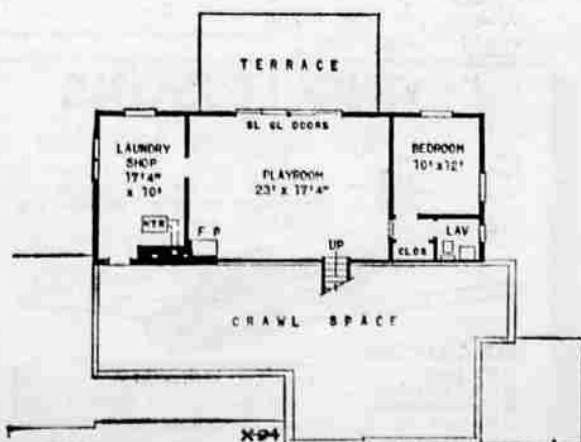
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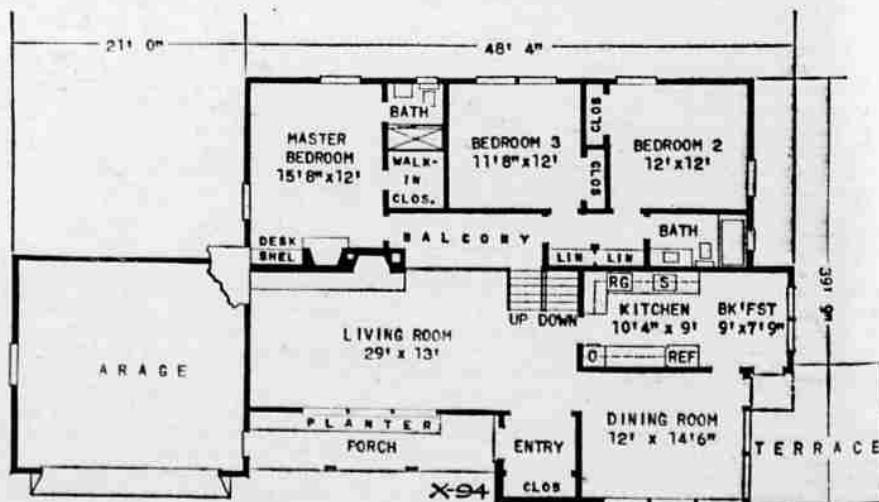
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SETTING FOR SOCIABILITY: This artist's view looks toward the dramatic balcony overlooking the long living room. Fireplace has a 14-foot raised hearth.



GROUND LEVEL: Big playroom is centered on lower level. Fourth bedroom has closet space and its own half-bath.



MAIN LEVELS: Three of the four bedrooms are in line across raised rear half of house. Master bedroom has a private bath and main bath is hidden from living room.