Monterey Peninsula Herald. April 25, 1952. SUPP. P16

Very often older homes have old-fashioned fireplaces that are unused in various rooms. Sometimes the mantels are especially attractive and add definite charm that you may be reluctant to sacrifice. The removal of an old fireplace and plastering and redecorating the wall can amount to an expensive operation. Still the draft, dirt and heat loss must be reckoned with.

In such cases there are several ways to close the opening and retain the old marble, Dutch tile or carved mantelpiece.

In some old bedrooms the fireplace flue has been sealed and the firebricks covered with highly glazed colored tile, which is easy to keep dusted.

A Panel Can Close Opening

More economical, however, is the use of a panel fitted into the fireplace opening. These panels are easily cut out of tempered hardboard sheets, available at any well stocked lumber supply house. A frame of 1x2 lumber is built in the fireplace opening and the panel is attached with screws. Chromium plated roundhead or Phillips screws in cup washers, or flathead screws slightly countersunk and covered with wood filled make a neat job.

Some people decorate such panels with a hand painting. In these cases, two coats or more of flat white paint are used as a sealer to give the artist a suitable surface. Amateur photographers often use a mural blowup of a favorite snapshot, mounted on the panel with rubber cement. Photographic murals displayed in offices and public places are nearly always mounted in this way on hardboard panels.

Cornices for Windows

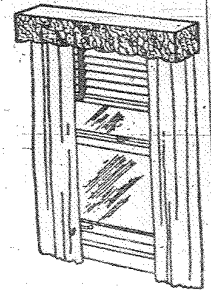
Other easily built features for the home are window cornices. These permanent valences ,boxing the tops of drapes and curtains and hiding curtain rods and raw cords, are easily made with a shelf of one-inch lumber around which ½-inch-thick pressed wood is nailed or screwed.

The shelf is made with ends dropping down in the form of an inverted U. These ends provide secure fastening for the hardboard facing. They also provide anchorage for combinations of curtain rod fixtures, accommodating both drapes and glass curtains.

The lower edge of the hardboard facing can be cut in a simple scallop design with a scroll saw or coping saw. Leatherwood, an embossed pressed wood, simulating the grain of Spanish leather can be given a two tone finish that is very effective. Or the cornice can be decorated in harmony with the drapes, woodwork or other interior motif.

Sanitary Dog Bed

And while you're building things, you might turn out a bed for the dog. When Junior comes home with a pup, you have to train the newcomer to get used to sleeping in his regularly appointed corner. A box or a basket may do in a pinch, but a permanent bed that can be easily kept clean and free from odors will keep more peace in the family."



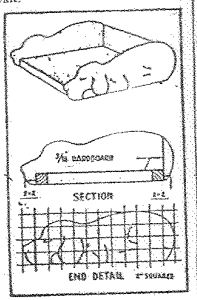


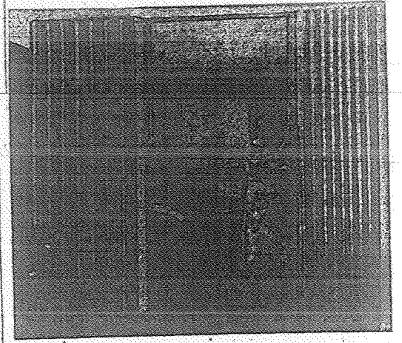
You can make a square frame out of 2x2 lumber, figuring about 18 inches wide and 20 inches long to take care of a small dog. Over the frame, one sheet of 3/16-inch hardboard, nailed or glued in place, will provide a seamless and splinter-free floor.

Sides for the bed can be cut out of the same material in the pattern of a sleeping pup. Two pieces of 1x2 lumber reinforce the back corners and provide fastening framework for the sides and back. The front is left open.

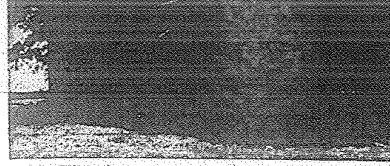
WHAT'S NEW IN PAINTS

New paints make it easy to finish home woodworking projects as well as to do your own interior decorating. One of these, odorless paint, is now available in about every color you can think of, in both enamels and flat finishes. It's manufactured the same as any quality paint and then deodorized before a synthetic rubber emulsion base paint that leaves no brush marks or lap marks and produces a satin-like finish. You can stop painting when you are only part way across a wall, pick up the brush at any time—the next day if you have to wait.





MODERN FOLDING doors are smartly plastic covered with sound-deadening air space between the two surfaces. They can close off an end of a living room to create an emergency spare bedroom.



BEFORE REMODELING this old farmhouse had little in e

Remodeling Can Be

Remodeling can very well be the best housing investment you can make today. It can give your family better living facilities for a fraction of what a new house costs.

You may feel that you have lived in your house long enough to know its shortcomings—maybe long enough to think the one small bathroom and old-fashioned kitchen are hopeless. But to duplicate the size of that house under present building costs might amount to two or three times what you paid for the place.

For a fraction of that outlay you can accomplish a lot of remodeling, increasing livability and resale value.

What to remodel depends on the individual house, on your needs and your budget.

Check With Architect

If you plan exterior changes, or want to remove a wall, it's a good idea to see an architect. If you are handy with tools and want to

New Roof Less Costly

Before buying or remodeling a house, it's always prudent to examine the roof—inside and out.

Occasionally, continued neglect of a leaky roof will result in rotting of the roof boards or framing that supports the deck. When this happens, reroofing is costly, since a new deck is necessary before the new roofing can be applied.

For this reason it pays to put on a new roof before the first leak has a chance to develop in an old and weatherbeaten roof.

If the deck is sound, has good nail-holding power, and will safely support the weight of the men applying the new roof, it's comparatively easy to prepare the old roof to serve as a deck for the new. The main thing is to get the old roof as smooth as practicable.

All curled, warped or loose shingles should be straightened and renailed. Loose and protruding nails should be removed. Missing and rotted shingles should be replaced and tapered wood strips, called feathering strips, should be nailed against the butts of each course of old wood shingles.

Some Roofing Rules

Since asphalt shingles are now used for some 80 per cent of all house roofs, rules for reroofing compiled by the Asphalt Roofing Industry Bureau are widely applicable for reroofing jobs. These are:

1. Cut back old wood shingles at eaves and rakes about 4 inches to 6 inches, and nail a new 1 by 6 inch wood strip along the eaves and rakes in place of the old shingles.

2. Nail a metal drip edge 2 to 4 inches wide over the edge of the new wood strips, allowing it to extend so that it can be bent down ffar enough to be even with the eave and rake lines.

3. Apply an eaves flashing strip of 65 to 90 pound roll roofing. This strip should be no less than 36 inches wide, and should extend up the roof to a point at least 12 inches beyond the inside of the outer wall of the house.

Pitch Determines Roofing:

The pitch of a roof is the first consideration in selecting asphalt roofing. If the slope of your roof is less than 4 inches per foot, don't use asphalt shingles. Roll roofing, with a 19-inch selvage edge, is best for pitches of less than 4 inches and more than 1 inch. Below 1 inch of pitch, use built-up roofing.

Most homes, particularly older houses have roofs with a relatively steep pitch. This makes the roof particularly visible and therefore it lends itself to the decorative colors and textures of asphalt shingles.



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