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**Sawhorse, T-Bar Useful In Doing Plywood Ceiling**

Paneling a new room in the basement or finishing a roughed in room in the attic is a job most handymen are prepared to tackle.

If you plan to panel both walls and ceiling it is best to put on ceiling panels first. A few tips on how to handle fir plywood ceiling panels are illustrated here.

First, blocking will be needed at the top plate where walls join the ceiling joists. This 2 x 4 blocking placed between the joists will provide a nailing surface at the perimeter of the room to which ceiling panels can be attached.

Blocking between the joists is also recommended at four foot intervals to provide additional nailing surfaces.

With joists on two foot centres and blocking on four foot centres, the 4 x 8 foot plywood panels will then meet on solid nailing surfaces. Handling fir plywood ceiling panels at left is a simple T-bar which will be of great assistance. A cleat nailed to the top plate

of the wall will also make the job easier.

A bench made of sawhorses with a fir plywood panel laid on 2 x 4s makes a solid stand from which to proceed. The handle of the T-bar should be approximately one inch longer than the distance from the bench to the ceiling.

Nails as small as can be conveniently handled are best for nailing up the quarter-inch plywood panels. A good-size finishing nail for the job is 1 1/2 inch.

**Check Roof For Loose Shingles**

Now's the time to fix up around the house after the hard winter. Fortunately, most of the repair jobs you can do yourself.

For example, shingle take a beating. Replace bad shingles with new ones, using hacksaw or nail puller to cut old nails flush, then inset new shingle.

**Landscaping Can Increase House Value**

Increase the value of your property by 15 to 20 per cent by landscaping it properly! You'll also get a bonus of gracious living for your whole family with a yard you can enjoy and be proud of!

Modern landscaping will help to keep your property from deteriorating in value for many years.

If your property is overgrown from hit-or-miss, outmoded plantings 10 to 20 years of age, you can relandscape it to make the property more beautiful and livable.

Modern shrubs, many unknown even ten years ago, grow more slowly and stay shorter than many plants put in the ground years ago.

Often it is more economical to call in a landscape nurseryman to plan the job right from the start. You not only avoid mistakes, but the overall effect is far more pleasing.

Once you have a good plan, you can plant or relandscape in piece meal fashion until the who's work is finished.

**Heat-Blocking Glass Brick Ideal For Kitchen Lighting**

Prefabricated skylights of hollow glass block, containing built-in prisms which admit daylight while blocking off the sun's heat and glare, can be used to good advantage in solving some of the lighting problems of the home builder or remodeler.

These attractive top lighting panels are ideal for illuminating kitchens, bathrooms, corridors and other areas where windows are lacking or undesirable.

The glass blocks are sturdy and partially vacuumized, giving them insulating qualities equivalent to those of an eight-inch brick wall.

The panels are especially suitable for rooms or areas inside the home; such as hallways, bathrooms and closets, which cannot receive window light because of their location. They are also ideal for outside rooms like kitchens which do not receive sufficient window light.

For a decorative "change of pace" which preserves unity of appearance, areas of block panels can be combined with planks. The blocks, adaptable to many arrangements, can serve to emphasize a fireplace wall or an alcove, or to provide an end-wall variation. Blocks are also used for ceilings.

**Old Door Can Make Table For Laundry**

A roomy sorting table is essential in any home laundry. One method of building one is to remodel an old table. Or, an old door can be turned into a satisfactory table.

In using an old table, eliminate possible snagging of clothing by topping it with a panel of pressed hardwood, available at most lumber dealers. The pressed board may be fastened with finishing nails or an adhesive. Round off the exposed edges.

With an old door, it is simple to attach legs for a permanent table. If there is no room for a table, try hanging the door, horizontally, to a wall so that it can be stored out of the way. Again, a smooth working top may be obtained by covering the door with a pressed board panel.

A smaller sorting table may be made by covering stationary tubs with a panel of pressed board. Cleats of wood on the underside of the panel will prevent it from slipping.

**Stone Facing Gains Favor As Veneer**

Stone, the most ancient of materials for home building, is gaining favor with decorators as a veneer in home remodeling.

Both interiors and exteriors acquire new beauty through the effective use of the colors, textures and varied shape of stone wall facing and blocks.

Resembling natural flagstone, this moulded building material lends itself to either formal or informal treatment, depending upon the way it is set and the room in which it is used.

Throughout your home you'll find innumerable places where this attractive material can add beauty and character to colorless rooms.

If you have an outmoded, unattractive fireplace, try facing it, floor to ceiling, with stone.

For striking beauty extend the fireplace facing to cover the entire wall, with, perhaps, a built-in niche for your television set, for books, or for shelves on which to display family treasures.

**COUNTERACTS DRABNESS**

To add distinction to an otherwise drab living room, try a stone facing planter-wall to define the entry or to give semi-privacy to the dining area.

The rough natural texture of stone is ideally suited to the more informal rooms of your home—the rumpus room, play room, or family room.

Give your family room a casual air with a counter-bar of stone. Veneer one wall adjacent to a picture window.

As practical outdoors as in doors, you may wish to extend your "stone wall" across the end of a porch or patio to achieve the airy "open" look.

Weather resistant and fireproof, this material requires no painting nor upkeep and can be applied over walls of any type.

The insulative value of stone facing will reward you with more even indoor temperatures in hot or cold weather, and its beauty will increase the value of your home.

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**Floor, Wall Tile Beautify Bathroom**

Ceramic or plastic floor and wall tile provides a beautiful as well as practical finish for the bathroom. These easy-to-clean materials shed water and moisture and are available in colors and patterns to blend with fixtures and accessories. Acoustical tile can be used for an attractive sound-proof ceiling. Storage closet placed against an inside wall further isolate noise between the bathroom and adjacent rooms.

Mirrors add an atmosphere of luxury, as well as to make small bathrooms or powder rooms appear larger. Warm tints in fluorescent lighting or a combination of fluorescent and incandescent lighting placed near mirrors help illuminate the entire bathroom.

Today you can find every type of bathroom fixture in the size, style and color you need.

**HOME improvement IDEAS**

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