

## Planning Aids In Reroofing Your Home

Planning to reroof this spring? Having a new roof of asphalt shingles applied on your home is as easy as telephoning a roofing contractor, but you may be happier with the job if you take a few preliminary steps.

Here are some suggestions:

1. Find a reliable roofing contractor who will apply your asphalt shingles skilfully. A proper application insures that they will give the trouble-free service and long life for which they were designed.

2. Decide on a color. Asphalt shingles come in a wide range of colors, and the materials dealer or roofer can show you samples. Choose a dark color if your house is tall, a light color if it is low.

3. IF YOUR house is in an area subject to high winds, give some thought to a wind-resistant application of asphalt shingles to insure protection from your home even in gales of hurricane force.

4. Ask the roofer if he can apply your new roof over the old one. Asphalt shingles can be applied directly over old roofing in most cases. This saves the mess and expense of ripping off the old material and provides a measure of protection in case of rain before the job is finished.

5. A new roof of asphalt shingles is less expensive than you may think because it is low in applied cost. But if you want to finance it with a loan, ask your bank for an FHA-insured home improvement loan. These are available for reroofing and other modernization at low interest and may be repaid over a period of five years.

## Roof Repairing May Start Leaks

Repairing an old roof generally is a waste of time, says Andrew C. Lang, authority on home maintenance.

"Walking on an aged, weathered roof to make repairs here and there may open up new leaks," says Lang, "that will show up at the first rainstorm."

THAT'S WHY roofers generally recommend applying a complete new roof of asphalt shingles directly over the old material.

This is the most economical measure in the long run, since an asphalt shingle roof will give years of protection from all kinds of weather.

# Household Noise Problem Doesn't Have to Continue

If you're planning to build a new home soon, take another hard look at the building plans and ask yourself this question: "How much of a noise problem will I have in this house?"

Chances are, unless some form of sound conditioning has been included in those plans, the answer is "far too much for comfort." Back in Grandpa's day, household noise was nothing like the problem it is today. There was no television sets, automatic washers, disposals, mixers and grinders to create noise in the home. Moreover, homes themselves were built of heavier materials which effectively prevented outside noise from filtering indoors.

CONTRAST THAT with today's sleek one-story or split-level home, filled to the brim with noise-making devices and gadgets, and containing all types of hard sound-reflective surfaces which help transform everyday sounds into a cacophony of noise. No wonder sound-conditioning is coming into such widespread practice.

Actually, sound-conditioning is neither difficult nor expensive to build into a new home, but it does require advance planning.

There are probably two basic types of noise that have to be considered: (1) noise produced within the house itself and (2) noise originating outside the house.

THE PROBLEM inside the home is essentially one of reverberation. Sound waves tend to bounce off the walls, ceilings, and other hard room surfaces, producing a constant jumble of discordant sound. If nothing is done to control this situation, noise simply races around the house unchecked, often resulting in strained nerves and an occasional short temper.

The solution is to absorb these sound waves before they have a chance to build up to irritating noise levels.

SPECIAL ATTENTION should be given to the arrangement of rooms within the home, making sure that the quiet rooms are located as far as possible from those where most household noise originates.

If this can't be done in every instance, the placement of closets between rooms is another effective sound isolating technique.

Don't overlook doors. A lightweight, ill-fitting door will let almost as much sound pass through when it is closed as when it is open. Be sure the doors selected for the home are heavy enough to afford adequate sound protection, especially those leading into the

bathroom, bedrooms and study. NOISES originating outside the house are usually the most difficult to control at the source, so it is better to avoid them in the very beginning, if at all possible. Choose a building site which is well away from any potential noise source, such as a busy highway or airport. Always check local zoning regulations to make sure no industrial locations are nearby.

Pay particularly close attention to the orientation of your home on the lot. Turn the quiet areas, such as the bedrooms and study, away

from the street, and if possible, plan to have a garage, porch, or breezeway separating the living quarters from neighboring properties.

IF YOU DO have to build on a noisy street or thoroughfare, you can still keep outside noise from filtering into the house through the use of extra heavy wall construction and double glass windows tightly sealed around the edges.

Outdoor fences or masonry walls can also be effective in reducing the amount of street noise that reaches the house.

## Wash, Wear Labels Should Be Complete

Wash and wear summer suits must be wash and wear down to the last pocket lining, waistband, interfacing and shoulder pad.

Mrs. Eleanor Mullikin, home economist at Michigan State University, says labels should tell you EVERYTHING in the suit is washable before you attempt to wash it.

## What's Board Foot?

What is a board foot of lumber? It is a unit of measure by which lumber is sold and generally is considered to be a board one foot square and one inch thick.



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