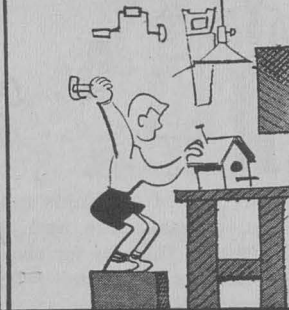
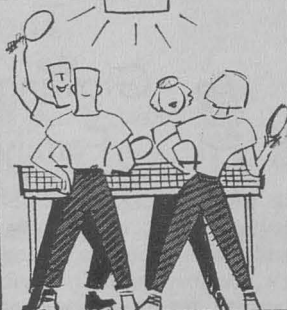
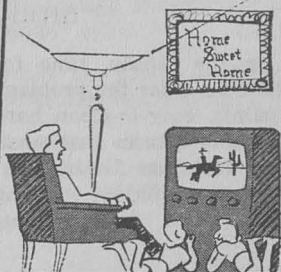
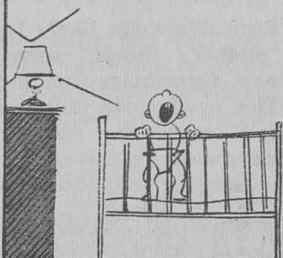
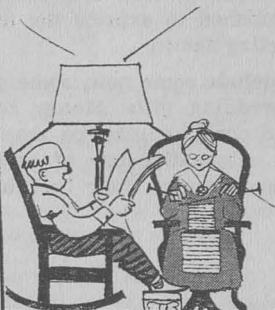


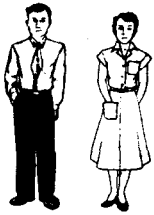
UNIVERSITY OF MINN-SOTA
 AGRICULTURE
 NOV 4 1953
 LIBRARY

The House
 Your Family Lives In
 Charlotte Kirchner



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Agricultural Extension Service
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

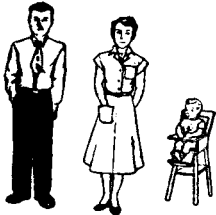
Who Lives In YOUR House?



The Newlyweds

The house may be new and built to their planning, but more probably it is an older house or even rooms into which they move on a rental basis and which must be decorated and furnished to express the individuality of a newly starting family

Furnishings are likely to include some new, some of "mother's things," some wedding gifts. Money for new furnishings and for decorating may be scant. The newlyweds will find imaginative use of color and inexpensive finishes and fabrics their best investments.



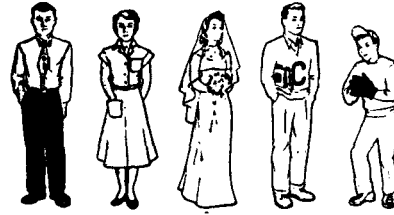
The Beginning Family

With babies and toddlers in the family, time for Mother to get everything done becomes the problem. Washable wallpapers and paints, easy-to-clean hard surface floor coverings, household fabrics that wash easily and don't need ironing, furniture finishes that won't mar easily, smart use of color, efficient working equipment—these will be the choice of the parents of young children.



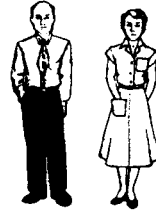
The Growing Family

Activities of all kinds mark this growing age—hobbies, games, radio and television, 4-H, and Scouts. Furniture that fits for size and use, finishes that stand the knocks, color that reflects the growing individual, a room of his own is important for the youngster in this stage.



The Maturing Family

Older children's pride in their home and their need for a place to entertain often make new furnishings a consideration in this phase of family life. A different color scheme, more elegance in furnishings, and modern styling are the choice of this age, which numbers 33 per cent more boys than girls between 14 and 19 years in Minnesota farm families.



The Contracting Family

Less room is needed for the family. Social life and increased community activity may reflect into size and use of rooms and furnishings. Energy of the homemaker is often lower. More and better equipment may be indicated. Individual parental preferences in furnishings may replace the things "the children liked."

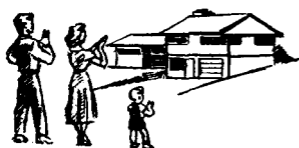


The Older Folks

The percentage of people over 65 has increased in Minnesota by 26 per cent since 1940. Grandparents or other older relatives are being added to more and more family groups.

Sufficient room, safe construction and finishes (of floors and storage units for example), adequate heat, easy use of equipment and facilities are some of the special considerations older people require.

What Do They Need?



For the
Whole Family

Beauty and pride in possession.



For the
Homemaker

A well arranged and equipped kitchen.

An adequate service room.

A house that is planned for comfort and easy upkeep.



For Each
Family Member

A place to sleep



Approximately one-third of our lives is spent in the sleep needed for health and efficient living.

Comfort in springs and mattress are more essential than "sales appeal" in a bedroom set.

Carefully planned placement of windows for ventilation, light control, and adequate wall space will pay dividends.

New ideas in easy-to-keep floor coverings, window curtainings, and wall finishes should be explored.

A place to eat



An eating space that is colorful and cheerful will help make mealtimes pleasant.

Attractive glass and table ware are available at low costs and are worth investigating.

Adequate eating space should be close to the kitchen.

Providing the kind of a table that will open to receive friends and selecting table appointments that will teach appreciation of beauty and manners are as essential in family development as providing for consumption of food.



A place to live

Television does more than bring news, entertainment, and education. It is also a piece of furniture. It requires space for vision, planned seating, and consideration of wear and tear on floor and furniture coverings.

An easy chair, an efficient lamp, storage for books and magazines add up to a good reading center.

The musical members of the family will want space planned for the radio, record player, and musical instruments.

Dad will want an office.

Family and friends will appreciate a "just talk or lounge" space.

Games and cards could have their own permanent corner and equipment.

The whole family will ask for a living room so planned that entertaining can be enjoyed without a complete rearrangement of the furniture.

A place to be themselves



The home provides the first place for personalities to emerge and grow.

Each family member will appreciate a space where he can—

Develop and house his individual hobbies.

Have privacy—both physical and as a personality.

Be quiet—for rest, for study, for contemplation.

Plan Your House for Living

People, not things, are the important consideration in furnishing a home.

Make your home

efficient

Save steps and energy with a ground level utility room.



Keep everything handy for each job by arranging kitchen equipment in work centers.

Select only equipment that is indicated by the size of the family and the work to be done.

Keep equipment close to where it is to be used.

Provide ample, easily accessible storage space for every room in the house.

Adjust kitchen working heights to the homemaker. Supply hot water.

Make your home

easy to care for

Have only enough furniture.

Look for smooth, non-mar furniture surfaces.



Keep window dressing simple in style.

Investigate materials for window curtainings that do not need ironing.

Avoid clutter. Too much furniture, too many knick-knacks, too many fussy accessories mean too much dusting.

Make your home

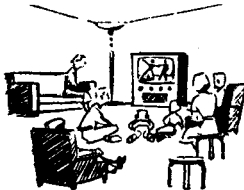
comfortable

Group furniture for use.

Let chairs have a table and lights where people may read.

Make writing and business easy with a desk, chair, and lamp.

Put the TV where it can be viewed from practically any chair in the room.



Encourage conversation with seating grouped so individuals can see each other.

Plan a game unit of table and chairs.

Survey the family—check each member's needs, place furniture groups to meet these needs.

Keep passageways clear between and around furniture.

Play safe—don't have furniture jutting into doorways, or small items placed where they become "stumble overs."

Keep shelves and cupboards and drawers easy to get at.

Arrange furniture in line with walls to keep a feeling of spaciousness.

Make your room restful with well selected color, thoughtful arrangement of furniture, well managed lighting.

Make your home

lighting effective

Provide good general lighting with ceiling fixtures, cove lighting, or floor lamps.



Spotlight work centers, reading units, and close work areas with built-in fixtures or with table lamps, pin-up lamps, or floor lamps.

Use bulbs of adequate wattage.

Equip lamps with diffusion bowls.

Choose lamp shades for effective diffusion of light first—for decoration second.

Use light reflecting colors on ceilings and walls.

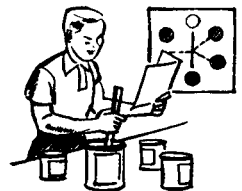
Regulate daylight with draw curtains, shades, or blinds.

Make your home

colorful

Let the whole family plan for colorful living.

Unify the color scheme of the house by developing plans around only a few colors (two to three).



Keep large areas softer and more neutral in color.

Use bright colors for accents.

Let color help modify poor room proportions.

Brighten or lighten dark rooms with wise selection of color.

Would YOUR Family Agree?

Give yourself 10 for each yes answer.

- | | | |
|---|-----|----|
| 1. Our entire house is planned for family activities. | — | — |
| | yes | no |
| 2. Our entire family helped plan color schemes and room arrangements in our house. | — | — |
| | yes | no |
| 3. Finishes and furnishings are easily kept clean in our house. | — | — |
| | yes | no |
| 4. There is ample storage space in every room in our house. | — | — |
| | yes | no |
| 5. The furniture in our house is arranged for comfort and easy use. | — | — |
| | yes | no |
| 6. There is space in our house for each family member to pursue his or her hobby. | — | — |
| | yes | no |
| 7. The lighting in our house eliminates eyestrain, adds to safety, and is pleasant by night or day. | — | — |
| | yes | no |
| 8. Our house has a kitchen and service room planned for step saving and equipped for efficiency. | — | — |
| | yes | no |
| 9. Older family members find comfort and privacy in our house. | — | — |
| | yes | no |
| 10. Our house is made cheerful and livable with imaginative use of color. | — | — |
| | yes | no |

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE, ST. PAUL 1, MINNESOTA

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

25M-9-53



3 1951 D01 931 454 U