

In this variety of fence panels designed for home gardens, landscape architects Bettler Baldwin and Owen Peters made extensive

TOUR DE FORCE: Here are 17 different

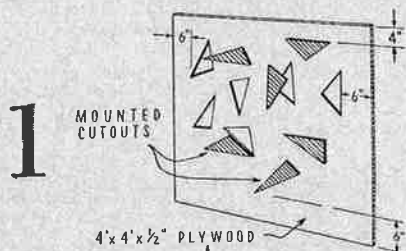
There are 17 fences in this one fence in the *Sunset Magazine*-Arboretum Foundation Home Demonstration Gardens in Arcadia, California. Here are some notes on each fence design shown.

Regardless of how you cut, weave, or finish plywood for a garden fence, make sure that you use exterior type plywood. It is joined with waterproof glues so that the individual layers won't separate when exposed to weather.

If you want to eliminate all checking (the tiny cracks that weather causes even in exterior plywood), use a resin-overlaid plywood. This is becoming more commonly available to the home owner. Its surface of plastic and wood fiber fused to the plywood is smooth and ideal for painting. The grade to ask for is medium density overlaid plywood. Cost is about 35 per cent more than for standard plywood.

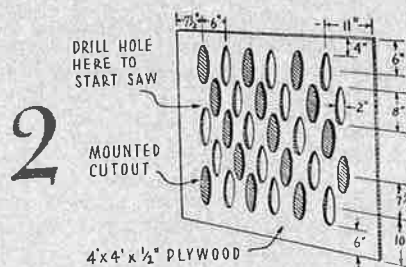
Here is how the panels were made:

1 • The triangles of plywood were cut from the panel with a portable electric jig saw, then mounted back on the panel with waterproof glue and nails (1/4-inch holes may be drilled in the panel to get the saw

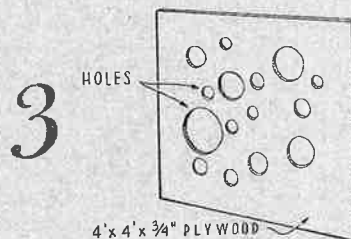


started). Many interesting light and shadow effects can be created this way.

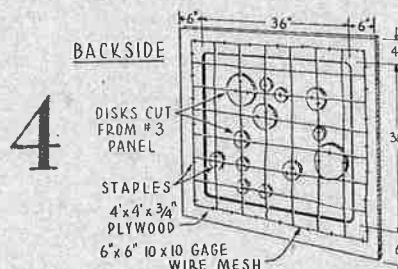
2 • Ellipses measuring 8 by 2 inches have been cut out, then mounted as indicated on the sketch below. Shaded areas in the



sketch indicate those ellipses that were mounted back onto the panel.

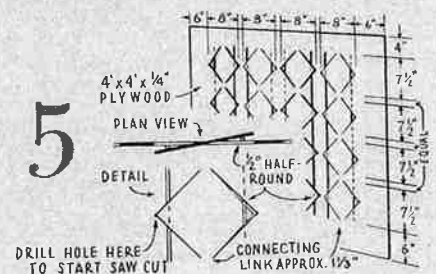


3 • Holes 1 to 6 inches in diameter were cut out of this panel. "Swiss cheese" fashion. To cut different sized circles, you may use a "hole saw" attachment for a 1/2-inch drill (which you may buy or rent); or drill starter holes, scribe outlines with a compass, and saw cut-outs with a portable jig saw.

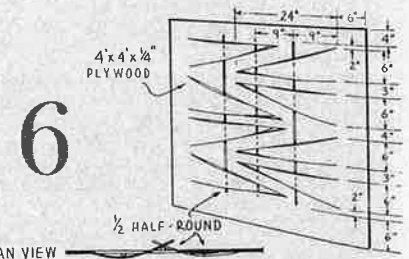


4 • Open panel has 6 by 6-inch, 10-gage woven wire mesh mounted on the back of the cut-out plywood frame. Hole "plugs"

cut from panel 3 were mounted to the wire mesh with staples.



5 • The landscape architects call this pattern "twisted diamonds." To create one of the twisted-texture panels, first drill small holes (big enough to get a keyhole or portable jig saw started). Then saw as indicated above, leaving connecting links as shown. Diamonds are twisted out of flush position by 1/2-inch half rounds slipped in under the plywood "tabs." It is important in this and any of the following warped panels to make all long cuts parallel to the grain and make all bends across the grain wherever possible.



6 • Another twisted pattern was created here with saw cuts and dowels. The woven effect here creates long, deep shadow lines. Drill and saw procedure was the same as for panel 5.

7 • This is another variation on the warped-texture pattern. This time 1 by

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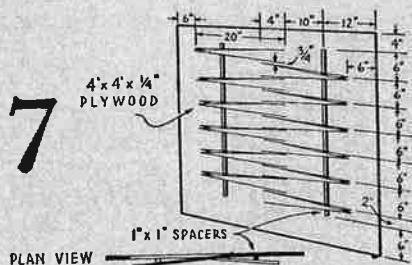
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WILLIAM APLIN

use of Douglas fir plywood—plain, with cut-out plugs mounted as decorations; cut, grooved, and twisted for special effects

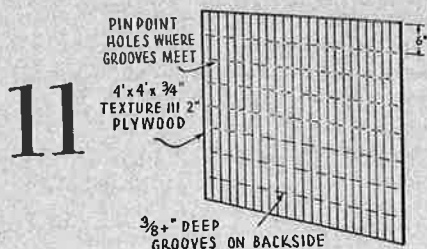
ways to use plywood in a fence

1-inch garden stakes, rather than dowels, were used to spread the plywood.



8 • This patternless panel is medium density overlaid plywood painted white.
9 • A plain see-through panel, this one has 1 by 1-inch, 10-gage woven wire mesh mounted on the plywood frame.

10 • Called "Texture One-Eleven" by manufacturers, this exterior plywood is ready-grooved on one side. Available only in $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch thicknesses, it comes in 3 widths: $16\frac{3}{8}$, $32\frac{3}{8}$, and $48\frac{3}{8}$ inches. (The $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch surplus allows you to shiplap separate pieces with an almost invisible joint.) Grooves are $\frac{3}{8}$ inch wide and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch deep. In this panel grooves are set at 4 inches on centers.

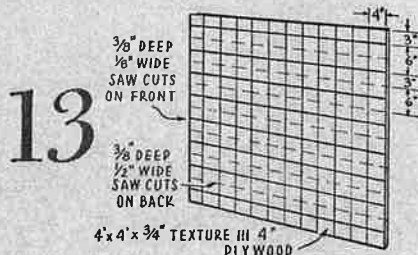


11 • Texture 111 (with grooves set at 2 inches on centers) was used for this panel. To achieve the tiny pinpoint of light, you'll need a power saw. Follow the dotted lines shown above and cut the

back side just deep enough so the kerfs will clear through the ready-made grooves on the front side (at least $\frac{3}{8}$ inch). The saw chews out tiny holes at the intersections of the grooves.

12 • Texture 111, with grooves 2 inches on centers, was used here with no further treatment.

13 • Texture 111, with grooves 4 inches on centers, was used for this panel. So it would have both linear pattern and tiny holes, panel was resawn on both sides. In the sketch below, vertical lines indicate grooves already built into Texture 111. Heavy horizontal lines indicate saw kerfs $\frac{1}{8}$ inch wide and at least $\frac{3}{8}$ inch deep on the front side. Horizontal dotted lines represent $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch-wide saw kerfs on the back side, cut at least $\frac{3}{8}$ inch deep. With your power saw, use a router attachment or additional blades to make up the $\frac{1}{2}$ inch width.

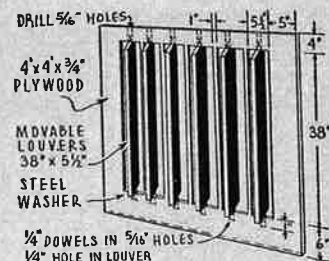


14 • Another see-through panel, this one has 1 by 2-inch woven wire mesh, stapled to the back side of the plywood frame.

15 • The louvers open for ventilation or view, close for privacy or wind control. Mark outline of each louver, and its pivot centerline, on the panel; then saw out louvers. Following centerlines, drill $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch holes 1 inch into both ends of each louver, and glue 2-inch lengths of dowels into bottom holes of louvers. Then drill

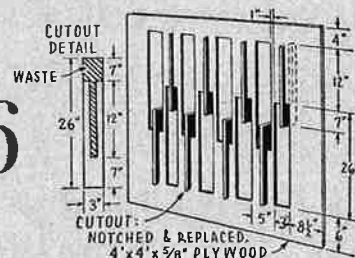
$\frac{5}{16}$ -inch holes 1 inch into bottom of frame and through top as shown. Slip washers into place and fit louvers into bottom holes on frame. Slip 2-inch dowels through top holes and force into louvers. Plug holes with $\frac{5}{16}$ -inch doweling.

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16 • See-through panel has an interesting sculptured effect, especially handsome when a side light creates shadow patterns. To build this one, cut out the 26 by 3-inch panels as shown in cut-out-detail below. Next, trim off the waste material and notch as shown. Then paint intersecting edges carefully with waterproof glue, and fit into place. Secure with small finish nails.

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17 • Last panel, just visible in the photograph above, is painted overlaid plywood. Each panel in the fence above is attached with six aluminum bolts to two $1\frac{1}{4}$ -inch galvanized pipe columns set in concrete footings. Because front and back panels overlap, bolts do double duty. The columns are visible only near the ground.