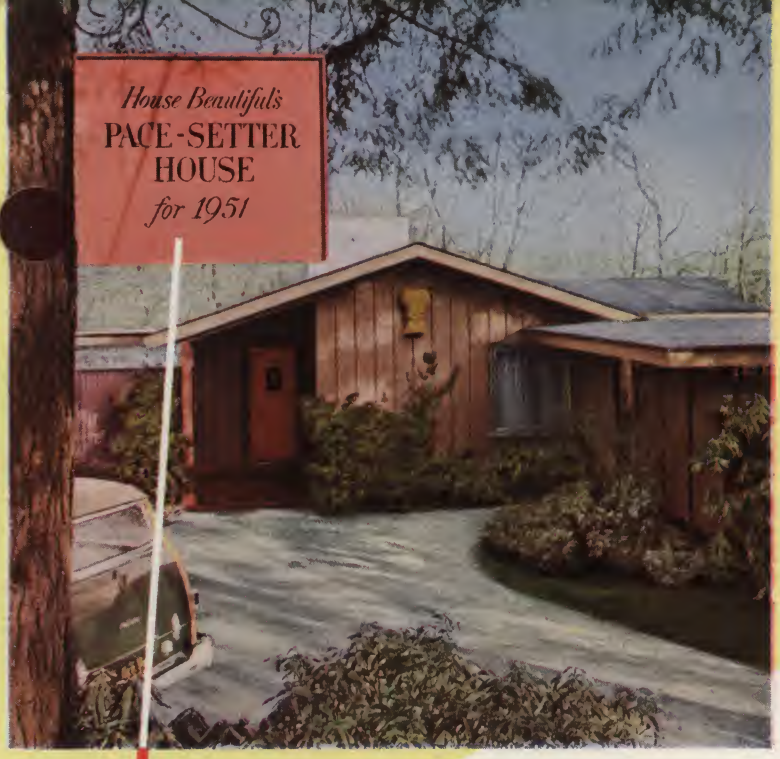


ideas

to help you build a better home... selected from *House Beautiful's* Pace-Setter House

The House Beautiful Pace-Setter House

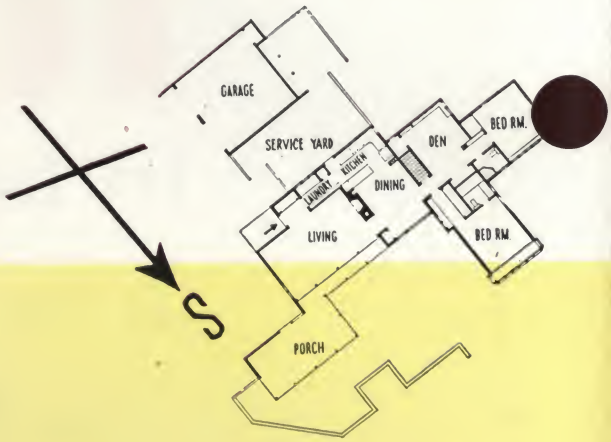
ONCE EACH YEAR, the editors of *House Beautiful Magazine* build a "Pace-Setter" house . . . a house designed to represent the best in current values and to offer a contemporary standard by which to measure your own home plans, dreams and present realizations.

This Pace-Setter house was built in Dobbs Ferry, New York. And while it is a home for a family with a "two-car income"... costing a shade more than $50,000 including cost of land, landscaping and fees . . . it contains scores of ideas in both design and structural features which can be easily incorporated into a home of any size, in almost any price class.

Among the most important features are multiple-use rooms. planned storage, a site and house plan which affords both climate control and privacy, and the careful selection of building materials which contribute to lasting value, comfort and beauty.

This booklet covers some of the more important Pace-Setter features presented in detail in a fifty-page section of *House Beautiful*. These ideas are presented as a yardstick against which to measure your own building plans and mode of living. Even if your plans include only a simple remodeling project, the Pace-Setter offers several ideas for better living. In these pages you will find ideas on making bedrooms double as sitting and television rooms. You'll find new decorating ideas in the full color pictures, and a new concept of the value of abundant built-ins. The Pace-Setter also shows what an important role structural materials play in better building.

In all, the Pace-Setter is more symbol than house. It represents a standard of design . . . a standard of good building . . . a standard of good and gracious living.



This Pace-Setter is a large, rambling, three-bedroom, two-bath house which contains over 1,733 square feet of enclosed living space . . . although careful planning and ingenious design make it belie its actual dimensions in comfort and livability. In addition to the enclosed space, there are 1,112 square feet of semi-enclosed or partially developed space: porch, garage, breezeway, and basement. This plan is for a west facing lot; for a lot facing east, it could be reversed—flopped over, so to speak.

The architect who designed the house in cooperation with the editors of *House Beautiful* was Julius Gregory, New York, N. Y. Landscape and site planning were done by Thomas Church of San Francisco, Calif. Contractor for the house was the Robert Chuckrow Construction Company of White Plains, N. Y. A special message of appreciation is extended to the editors and the staff of *House Beautiful*, who very graciously furnished all illustrations of the Pace Setter House used in this booklet. Photograph herein Copyright, Hearst Magazine, Inc. (*House Beautiful*).

THE ENTRANCE GARDEN sets the tone for the Pace-Setter House. Contrast the effectiveness of this type of planting with the usual "foundation planting" of little globes and spires. Notice, too, the neat youthful lines of the Exterior Plyshield and batten siding. A layer of economical plywood sheathing behind the siding gives the house extra strength and rigidity and helps make it warm and comfortable.

THE PACE-SETTER LIVING ROOM mixes old and new furnishings without self-consciousness. Because a living room that is truly American in style is made of easy-to-maintain materials it does not need the coddling of the "period parlor." Nor does it have the frigid formality of extreme modern. Instead it has an informal character all its own that is easy to live with. Part of this concept are the rich, oak plywood paneled walls. Under-layer of inexpensive fir plywood assures long-lived beauty of oak paneling by providing firm, solid backing. Besides adding needed stiffness to thinner oak paneling, economical plywood backing simplifies construction... permits far greater freedom in panel arrangement, because joints need not fall over studs.

LIVING ROOM of the Pace-Setter helps merge indoors and out. The entire battery of doors which line the patio side of the living room open at the turn of a knob. This in turn produces entirely new ways of handling heating and screening. (For details on climate control see page 8.) Notice tough, maintenance-free tile flooring.

Here's one of the neatest space-saving tricks of the year—a hall that isn't there except when you want the room to be private. Folding partition turns generally wasted hall space into part of the room. When not in use, folding partition disappears into wall pocket.

Ideas on *Double-Use Rooms*

THE PACE-SETTER HOUSE snows you how to use rooms and floor space so your house has greater livability through better planning and more efficient use of space. The Pace-Setter bedrooms make one room do the work of two or three. They're not just sleeping rooms. Careful planning and choice of furnishing makes them *living* rooms as well . . . and one of the bedrooms also serves as a combination television theater and library. In this triple-use room, shown on the opposite page, in the two black and white pictures above and the three color pictures below, notice how generous seating permits uncrowded televiewing for eleven people.

The Pace-Setter bedroom at right doubles as a daytime sewing or sitting room. At night, traverse-drawn draperies cover broad windows to give privacy and coziness. The third bedroom is a full scale living room by day with the twin beds rolling under wall-hung cabinets to form comfortable sofas.

Roman-stripe design of tile seat gives upholstered look. Note storage space underneath window seats.

This room looks like another living room. High sills make walls 100% usable, give added seating space.

Bed makes up for guests at night, with partition drawn. Note fabric motif embroidered on sheet and pillowcase.

In the back of the garage is this neatly engineered outdoor storage unit which contains space for gardening tools, hoses, patio equipment, etc. Related items such as pruning shears and trowels are stored together. Floor of this outdoor storage unit is located at ground level so that heavy lawn mowers and fertilizer carts may be easily wheeled out. Notice how the plywood shelves are divided into compartments of varying sizes. (For all outdoor uses—even when behind doors—be sure to use the waterproof Exterior-type plywood. See the inside back cover for details and identification mark.) Inner walls of this space-saving outdoor storage unit are also tough, puncture-proof Exterior-type plywood.

Color scheme of this Pace-Setter outdoor storage unit received the same care accorded paint choices inside the house. Storage unit looks attractive even when doors are open. Note smooth, unbroken Exterior plywood soffit which shades strong mid-day sun.

Ideas on *Storage Space*

THE LINEN CLOSET below is a handy, systematic filing cabinet. Every inch of storage space is carefully utilized to fit specific items. Note how tablecloths hang unwrinkled from the three removable racks. Storage unit (above) on top of the linen closet is for suitcases and hatboxes. Sliding doors, sides, back and bottoms of sliding trays are plywood.

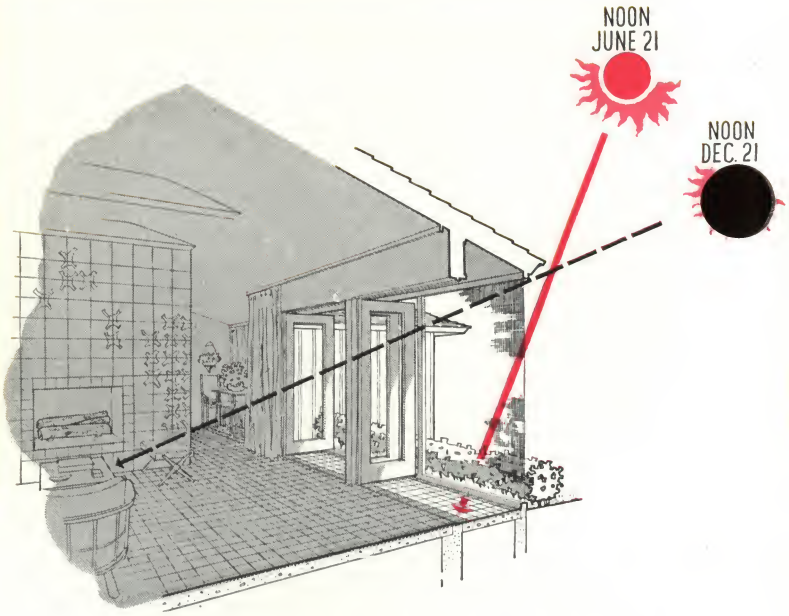
AT RIGHT is the beautiful and business-like built-in cabinet-buffet. This carefully engineered storage unit holds everything needed for table setting. Spaces are sized for specific jobs: the sliding trays hold table mats and napkins; long drawers hold tablecloths; candelabra and silver service are stored in specially designed shelves. Hinged doors and drawer bottoms of this ingenious cabinet-buffet are plywood.

IF EVER there was a house that had a "place for everything," this is it. Be it needle and thread, ball and bat, electric mixer, spices or a power mower, every storable item not only has a place where it belongs but a place *where it fits*. This precise degree of organization is possible because it was carefully thought out in advance.

Consider carefully these Pace-Setting storage ideas. Perhaps they will give you an important clue how to give your home more convenience and livability with planned storage when you build or remodel. Structural design in the Pace-Setter provides ample space for custom storage walls. They are handy to areas serviced without taking up space in the rooms themselves. Two shallow medicine cabinets, for example, for extra bath supplies and sewing equipment are recessed in wall space that is otherwise wasted.

To make storage units as unobtrusive as possible, many of the built-in storage units have sliding closet doors of large, light plywood panels which blend with the paneled walls. Easy to cut, fit and fasten, plywood is ideal for all types of built-ins. Because it has both appearance *and* structural value, plywood simplifies construction . . . builds smart, eye-appealing built-ins.

Ideas on *Climate Control*



By careful attention to window placement and width of overhanging eaves, the Pace-Setter House is sunny, cheerful and comfortable the year 'round. Eaves shield the living room from high summer sun, keeping the room shaded and cool. Low winter sun fills room, affording maximum light and heat.

WHETHER your house is comfortable the year 'round depends upon a lot of things—big and little. And very often the performance of big things like the heating plant is affected by the "little" ones such as the width of an eave or the manner in which the roof is vented.

Most American climates, with their big differences between winter and summer extremes, demand close attention to these little things. And by such attention the living areas of the Pace-Setter House are cozy and snug in winter and shaded and breezy in the summer. To achieve this flexibility careful study was made of these many little things —glass, weatherstripping, width of eave, screen and even colors of the painted walls.

Materials used in the Pace-Setter were selected by their fitness to the climate. Plywood siding, sheathing, roof decking and panel backing, for example, were chosen to help make the house snug, warm and weathertight.

Selection of site and proper orientation also play an important part in Climate Control. To make the most of its southern exposure, the Pace-Setter House is situated close to the north property line. Living areas of the house enjoy sun both winter and summer.

This ingenuity in siting the house, the use of climate-wise materials like Douglas fir plywood and double seal glass, and other climate control tricks, all will modify climate in your favor, but there's no substitute for a good heating plant.

In the Pace-Setter House radiant heating coils in both floor and ceiling keep both surfaces warm to the touch. This arrangement minimizes heat lag effect when sun comes out in cold weather. Hence the house does not overheat in cold but sunny weather.

Smooth, unbroken line of Exterior Plyshield porch ceiling continues out into soffits under eaves (above).

Bedrooms are cooled in summer by big attic fan circulating air through ceiling louvers (right). In winter, Exterior plywood sheets (right, below) close louvers as ventilation for coolness is not required, although some circulation of air in attic is prerequisite to good construction. Note interesting texture contrast between smooth plywood soffits and plywood and batten siding.

Exterior plywood siding first got a white priming coat (above), then a solid coat of flat apple green. After second coat was dry, a coat of earthy brown was applied. Before it was dry, it was dry-brushed to permit green to show through. Trim got a standard 3-coat paint job.

Ideas on *Painting*

All colors and paints used on the Pace-Setter House were chosen to weather well. Color scheme makes it blend with woodsy setting. Textured effect was achieved by base coat of green (see below), plus coat of earth brown.

THE PACE-SETTER HOUSE was color-styled to blend with nature all year 'round. Colors chosen are predominantly those of earth, rock, wood and foliage.

The Exterior Plyshield and batten siding was first given a coat of high grade exterior primer. The prime coat was thinned with one pint linseed oil per gallon of primer to permit the primer to penetrate further, giving better protection. After the prime coat had dried thoroughly, the plywood was given a solid coat of flat green paint. When dry, a coat of earth brown was applied. Before this coat had dried, it was gone over with a dry brush to give the striking two-tone effect.

A few general suggestions about painting plywood siding have been developed through laboratory studies and actual weathering tests. Basically, they are the same for any quality wood siding.

High grade exterior house paints of either TLZ (titanium, lead, zinc) or white lead and oil formulation give excellent service. Paints which set to a hard brittle finish should be avoided because they chip and crack rather than take up minute expansion of the wood due to climatic changes.

A 3-coat paint job is the best conventional paint job for Exterior plywood. The first coat is the prime coat thinned with linseed oil as described above. Other primers such as one made by mixing aluminum paste and long oil spar varnish may also be used. The prime coat is very important; brush it on well. The second and third coats should be applied according to directions on the can.

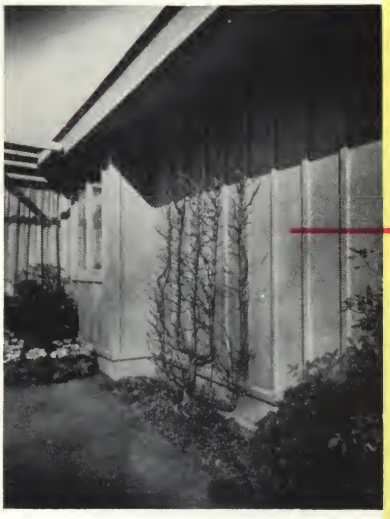
Special 2-coat TLZ house paints also give good service on plywood. However, each coat must be proportionately thicker to give the same protective coating as the 3-coat system. For finishes like that used on the Pace-Setter House, where the third coat is brushed off to let the second coat show through, a two-coat paint should be used.

In addition, all plywood edges should be sealed to protect the wood. This may be a heavy coat of high grade exterior primer, aluminum or heavy lead and oil paint. This should be done before applying the siding; in unusually damp localities, the panels should be back-primed during construction.

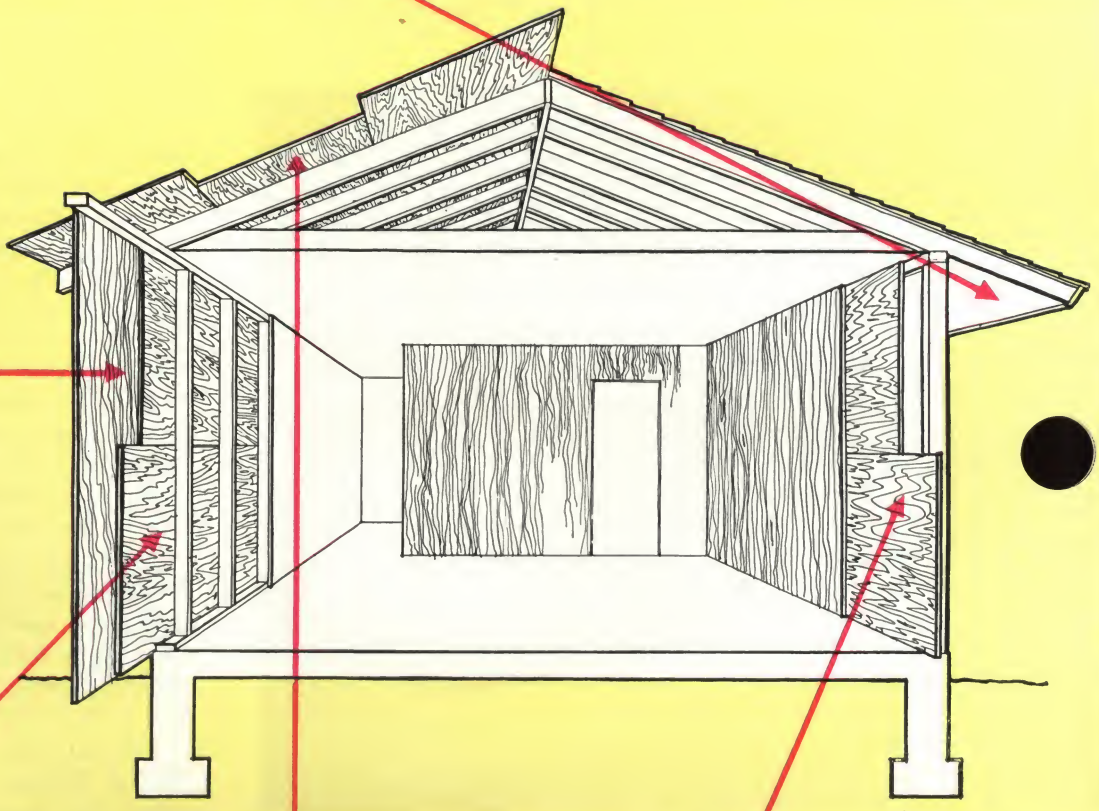
Fir Plywood was used in the Pace-Setter House for:

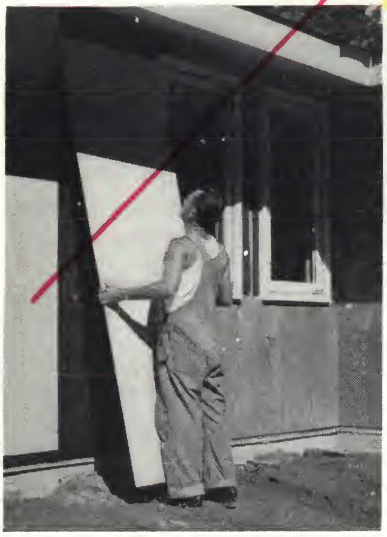
1. SOFFITS
2. SIDING
3. WALL SHEATHING
4. ROOF SHEATHING
5. PANEL BACKING

1 *Smooth soffits and breezeway ceilings are Exterior Plyshield*



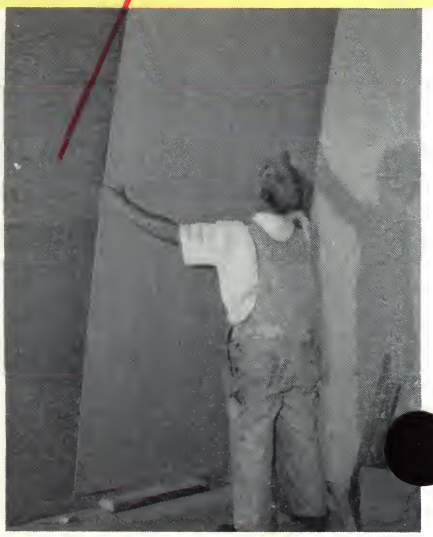
2 *Exterior Plyshield creates attractive, durable, weather-wise siding*





3 *Plyscord wall sheathing adds warmth, extra strength and rigidity, saves labor*

4 *Plyscord roof sheathing is easy to apply, provides superior base for roofing*



5 *Plypanel provides a firm, solid backing for finish wall surfaces, adds rigidity*

INSTEAD of the thousands of small pieces used on Grandfather's house, the Pace-Setter is built of big, labor-saving sheets of plywood. These large, rigid, real wood panels offer the happy combination of beauty and great structural strength in one lightweight, easy-to-use material.

The Pace-Setter takes advantage of the clean, youthful lines and great structural strength of these sleek, modern panels.

Exterior Plyshield, for example, was chosen for siding, soffits and breezeway ceilings primarily for its crisp modern beauty. Plyscord wall and roof sheathing and Plypanel backing for walls, on the other hand, were specified because of the extra strength and stability imparted by the panels.

If you could cut through a Pace-Setter wall, you'd have a sandwich construction of plywood . . . two layers on either side of the studding form the inner and outer walls.

The outer layer is 3/8" thick Plyshield—the siding grade of weather-wise Exterior plywood. (See grade detail at right.) To add texture and interest to the smooth surface, narrow wood battens were placed vertically every 16 inches.

Next a layer of 3/8" thick Plyscord sheathing adds strength and rigidity and contributes to warmth and comfort by providing insulation and a protection against unwelcome drafts. As a sheathing material, Plyscord stands supreme. Government tests prove it to be *twice* as strong, *twice* as rigid as construction previously considered superior—*extra* protection against windstorm or earthquake shock.

Inner walls of the Pace-Setter are also surfaced with two layers of plywood. The inner layer (again the economical Plyscord grade) gives a firm, solid backing for the finish oak paneling. Three-eighths inch thick Plyscord gives the walls greater strength and stability, but even more important, it provides the extra stiffness needed to keep the thinner, more costly oak paneling firm, rigid and perfectly flat.

Vapor barriers (a plastic membrane between backing and oak paneling in the Pace-Setter) are easily and quickly applied over the solid Plyscord surface. Application of finish paneling is also speeded and simplified. Because joints of finish paneling need not fall over studs. Plyscord backing permits far greater freedom in panel arrangement. Tile in the Pace Setter kitchen and bathrooms is backed with waterproof Exterior Plyshield because of moisture encountered in these rooms.

Stronger, lighter and faster to install than ordinary roof sheathing, 3/8" Plyscord was used for both the sloping shingled roof (see photo on opposite page) and the flat, built-up porch and garage roofs. Plyscord roof sheathing gives extra strength, holds nails well and, because it resists swelling and shrinking, is a superior base for roofing materials which would be damaged by buckling.

Specify plywood by these registered* grade-trademarks

EXTERIOR FIR PLYWOOD
PLYSHIELD
DFPA INSPECTED
EXT-DFPA

This trademark — stamped on the panel back—identifies Plyshield, the versatile "one-side" grade of Exterior-type Douglas fir plywood with 100% waterproof bond. The panel face is of the highest appearance quality; the back contains certain limited wood characteristics such as knotholes. Use Plyshield for exterior siding, outdoor storage units and for inside uses such as drainboards, showers, etc., where water or moisture is encountered.

INTERIOR FIR PLYWOOD
PLYSCORD
DFPA INSPECTED

This trademark—stamped on the panel back—identifies the unsanded construction grade of Interior-type plywood bonded with water-resistant, but NOT waterproof, glue. Use Plyscord for hidden structural uses — wall and roof sheathing, panel backing, subflooring. Plyscord is also used as a one-use concrete form panel, then re-used as subflooring or sheathing.

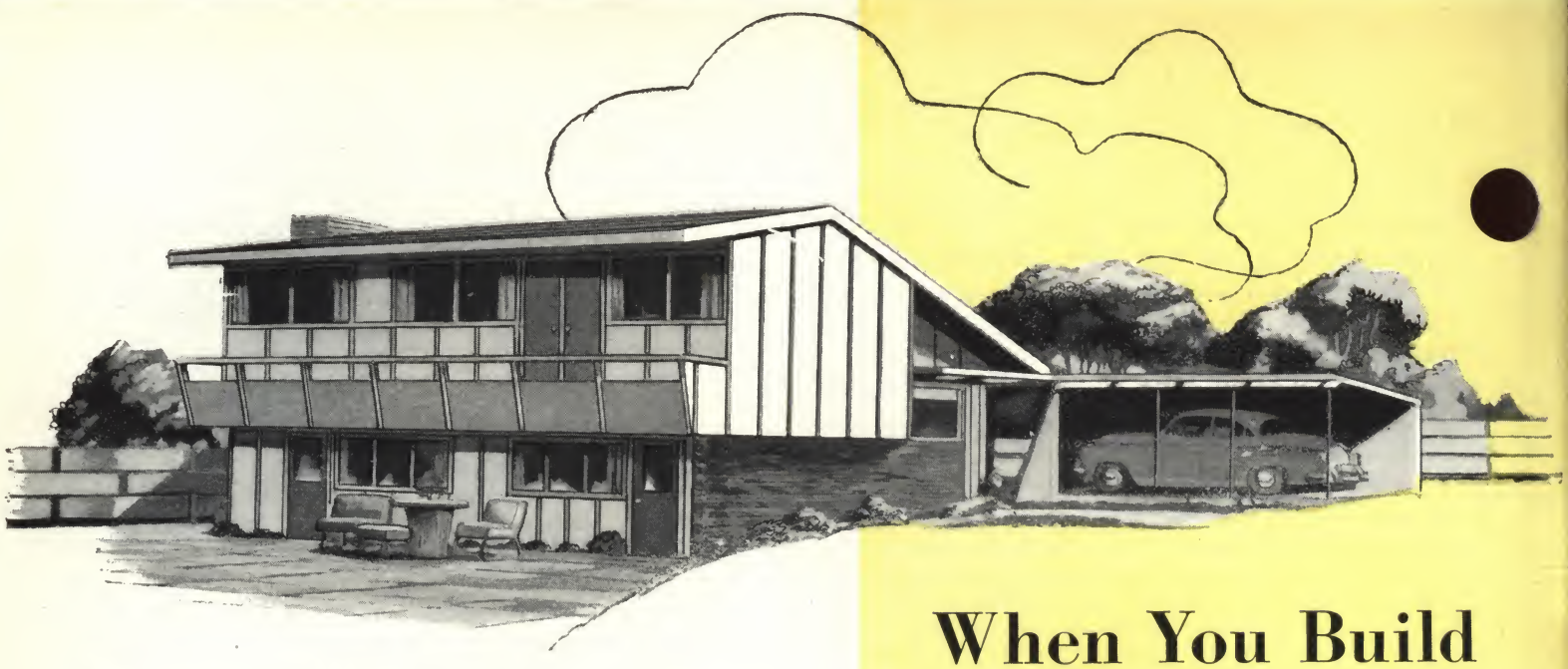
INTERIOR FIR PLYWOOD
PLYPANEL
DFPA INSPECTED

Stamped on the panel back, this grade-trademark identifies Plypanel the "one-side" grade of Interior-type plywood. The face is smooth, paintable; also with selection for uniformity and appearance, beautiful light-stain finishes may be used. The face of the panel may contain neatly-made repairs. Use it indoors only—for wall paneling, built-ins, and other uses where only one side of the panel will be in view, as well as for the finest linoleum base.

OTHER GRADES

In addition to the above fir plywood grades shown, there are other appearance grades within BOTH the Interior and Exterior type, including those with both sides of highest appearance—the A-A grade, and its alternate A-B grade. Use these grades where BOTH sides of the panel will be in view—for cabinet doors, single panel partitions, etc. For all outdoor uses or indoor applications where water or moisture is encountered, be sure and use waterproof, weatherproof Exterior plywood. The EXT-DFPA® trademark on panel edges is your positive identification.

**These grade-trademarks shown above are registered by the Douglas Fir Plywood Association (DFPA). They provide positive identification both as to grade and type and indicate manufacture and inspection in strict accord with rigid industry performance standards.*



When You Build Or Remodel Include All These Pace-Setting Plywood Features In Your Plans

COTTAGE or MANSION . . . from basement forms to kitchen cabinets . . . versatile Douglas fir plywood sets the pace for better building. When you build or remodel, be sure to ask your architect, builder or lumber dealer about plywood's advantages for *all* these building jobs.

For Smart, Modern Exteriors Weatherwise Exterior Plyshield siding fits *every* architectural style, *any* design treatment. The big panels applied vertically with wood moldings form the picturesque board and batten siding used on the Pace-Setter House. Cut into third panel widths, plywood creates attractive wide lap siding. Or it can be used for smooth, modern flush surfaces. Plyshield is ideal for gable ends, soffits and other architectural trim . . . for modern patio fences, outdoor storage cabinets.

For Space-Thrifty Built-Ins Plywood built-ins give you more livability by making better use of available floor space. They help avoid clutter . . . give you finger-tip convenience and storage aplenty. With plywood you have your choice of size, design, finish and color.

For Rich, Real Wood Paneling Plypanel gives you the luxury of real wood paneling at budget-kind cost. Plywood walls are kick-proof, damage-proof. The big, easy-to-apply panels go up quickly . . . eliminate a long "dry-out" period because they *go up* dry.

For Strong, Rigid Sheathing and Backing Government tests prove Plyscord sheathing is *twice* as strong, *twice* as rigid as construction formerly considered superior. Big, labor-saving panels cut construction time by over 25% . . . mean warmer, more comfortable homes. Plyscord roof sheathing is a superior deck for all types of finish roofing . . . offers excellent nail holding qualities. Plyscord is an ideal backing material, too. Use it behind expensive hardwood paneling, cork, tile or other wall coverings.

For Firm, Solid Subfloors Plyscord subfloors provide a tight, firm base for finish flooring . . . protect from drafts below . . . give extra strength and lateral rigidity needed to withstand earthquake shocks. Plyscord saves money, too! Subfloors can be laid in half the time required for conventional subflooring. Plywood underlayment provides a smooth, tight, solid surface for wall-to-wall floor coverings. Result: floor covering looks better . . . lasts longer.

Douglas Fir Plywood Association
TACOMA 2, WASHINGTON

Form No. 51-60 — Ptd. in U. S. A.