

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Writing an Owner's Manual for a House

Shouldn't the largest investment most people ever make come with a big, thick instruction book?

John Abrams March 1998 Business

Parallel-Chord Floor Trusses

Strong and efficient, floor trusses may someday replace wood joists as the builder's favorite floor frame

E. Kurt Albaugh January 1986 Framing | Truss Framing

Portable Power Planes

How these versatile tools can true framing lumber and clean up trim

Geoff Alexander May 1983 Tools | Power Tools

Block Planes for Carpenters

A veteran carpenter surveys the current offerings and tells how he gets the best performance from his planes

Rex Alexander March 1999 Tools | Hand Tools

Building a Butternut Kitchen

Hand-planed hardwoods and high-grade plywood coupled with dowels and dovetails

Rex Alexander September 1991 Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

Building a Crosscut Sled for a Table Saw

Making square cuts on wide stock is quick, safe and easy with this simple jig that you can build in a day

Rex Alexander July 2001 Tools | Power Tools







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Building a Lazy-Susan Cabinet

Revolving shelves on heavy-duty carousel hardware make the most of a kitchen corner

Rex Alexander September 2000 Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

Building Wood Baseboard- Radiator Covers

A little easy-to-assemble trim dresses up these homely metal heaters

Rex Alexander May 1998 Mechanical Systems | HVAC Trim Carpentry | Other Trim Carpentry

Making Storm Windows

Wood storm windows look better and seal tighter than massproduced aluminum and vinyl units

Rex Alexander November 1997 Energy Issues | Insulation & Weatherstripping Millwork | Window

Poured-in-Place Concrete Countertops

Getting a durable kitchen work surface starts with careful form work and the right concrete

Rex Alexander September 1999 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete Interior Finish | Countertops

Refacing Kitchen Cabinets

A veneer face-lift makes a 'new' kitchen affordable

Rex Alexander
May 1993
Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets
Remodeling | Kitchen & Bath

Two Projects Customize a Kitchen

A spiceshelf and a decorative steam-bent dish rack improve the looks and the utility of any kitchen

Rex Alexander
July 1996
Cabinets | Built-ins
Remodeling | Kitchen & Bath







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Working With Melamine

Laminate-covered substrate produces a bright, clean and washable cabinet at a lower cost than hardwood panels Rex A. Alexander

January 1996 Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

Engineered Nail, The

Ten steps to secure connectionsEdward Allen
July 1987
Design | Structural Design

Installing Grab Bars

These safety devices aren't there for looks-they must be well anchored to help prevent bathroom injuries
Paul Althoff

Paul Althoff
January 2001
Design | Kitchen & Bath Design
Trim Carpentry | Other Trim
Carpentry

Making Lumber With a Bandsaw Mill

One alternative to the high cost and poor quality of lumber these days is finding the trees and cutting them into boards yourself Doug Amsbary May 1998 Millwork | Door

Framing With a Crane

For lifting beams, walls or material, cranes can save your wallet and your back

Jim Anderson July 2001 Framing | Roof Framing

Table-Saw Molding

The secret is in the order of cuts
Bruce Andrews
May 1981
Millwork | Molding









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Retrofitting a Foundation

Digging and pouring a foundation with the house suspended in the air require patience, great subs and a little slight of hand William Anthony March 2000 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete

Addition Foundation, An

Grafting the right foundation onto a house that's neither square nor level

Rick Arnold March 2002 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete Remodeling | Structural

Building Hip and Valley Roofs With Trusses

Keep the numbered trusses in order, and entire hip sections can be assembled on the ground and lifted as single units

Mike Guertin Rick Arnold March 1996 Framing | Roof Framing

Built-up Center Beams

These simple site-built beams are the backbone of the house, so make sure you build them straight and set them level Rick Arnold Mike Guertin January 2002 Framing | Floor Framing

Finishing Basements

Despite the obstacles, converting that dark, scary place into comfortable living space is much cheaper than adding on Mike Guertin

Rick Arnold
July 2000
Water & Moisture Control |
Basements









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Forming and Pouring Footings

Fill up a trench with concretewhat's to know? If a house is going to stand on those little sidewalks, they'd better be straight, level and correctly placed.

Rick Arnold Mike Guertin November 1998 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete

Forming and Pouring Foundations

They hold up the house, hold back the earth and keep out the water. If they're not level and square, you may end up custom-cutting every rafter.

Mike Guertin Rick Arnold January 1999 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete

Framing and Sheathing Floors

If you do the layout carefully and precut all the joists, the floor will go together quickly like a giant jigsaw puzzle

Rick Arnold Mike Guertin July 1998 Framing | Floor Framing

Framing Floors With I-Joists

Whether you're building a new house or remodeling an old one, engineered lumber can give you squeak-free floors with fewer callbacks

Mike Guertin May 1997 Framing | Floor Framing

Rick Arnold







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Framing With Nail Guns

They're as common on job sites as circular saws, but if you're not using your pneumatic nailer properly, maybe you should stick with your hammer

Mike Guertin Rick Arnold July 1999 Tools | Power Tools

Installing a Rubber Roof

Forget the mess of roll roofingfor flat or low-slope roofs, EPDM membranes are the way to go Mike Guertin Rick Arnold January 1998 Roofing | Membrane Roofing

Installing Housewrap

When properly detailed, hightech wrappings can reduce the flow of air into outside walls while allowing moisture to escape

Mike Guertin Rick Arnold March 1997 Energy Issues | Air Sealing

Installing Vinyl-Clad Windows

A nailing flange makes installation quick and easy; but pay attention to the details, or you'll never get the windows open

Mike Guertin Rick Arnold March 2000 Doors, Windows, Skylights | Windows









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Installing Wood Clapboards

How a seasoned crew uses a story pole and an efficient work sequence to install this traditional siding

Rick Arnold Mike Guertin November 1997 Siding | Wood Siding

Raising Roof Trusses

Careful preparation and wise use of a crane can allow a good-size roof to be framed and sheathed in a day

Rick Arnold Mike Guertin January 1996 Framing | Roof Framing

Squaring and Leveling Mudsills

If you assume the foundation is accurate, you may end up custom cutting each rafter and fussing with every miter in your trim

Mike Guertin Rick Arnold September 1995 Framing | Floor Framing Framing | Wall Framing

Putting on a Concrete-Tile Roof

It takes nimble feet, a strong back and attention to flashing details to do it right

J. Azevedo March 1991 Roofing | Tile Roofing

Tile Roofing

Clay or concrete, a tile roof will outlast the next generation
J. Azevedo

May 1990 Roofing | Tile Roofing







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Quality Deck, A

Built-in benches, recessed lights and a spacious spa highlight a high-class deck

John Baldwin September 1991 Porches & Decks | Decks

Building a Helical Stair

Laying out a spiral stringer with a little help from the trig tables Rick Barlow September 1983 Stairs

Foundations on Hillside Sites

An engineer tells about pier and grade-beam foundations

Ronald J. Barr September 1983 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete

More Than One Way to Case a Window

You can vary the look with simple combinations of flat boards and stock moldings Joseph Beals, III November 1995 Trim Carpentry | Door & Window Casings

Shop-Built Window Frames

Simple joinery, #2 pine and stock sash make inexpensive custom windows

Joseph Beals, III November 1993 Millwork | Window

Building Interior Doors

Using a shaper to produce copedand-sticked frames and raised panels

Joseph Beals March 1992 Millwork | Door







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Designing and Installing Baseboards

With stock moldings and simple milling, you can create a variety of designs, but they all require careful fitting

Joseph Beals May 1997 Trim Carpentry | Baseboards

Greek Revival Addition, A

Joining stock and custom-milled trim to make a formal entryway Joseph Beals July 1989 Remodeling | Additions Trim Carpentry | Exterior

Installing Crown Moldings

Careful layout and accurate miters make installing a two-part trim an easier process

Joseph Beals May 2000 Trim Carpentry | Molding

Making Classical Columns

Interior detailing with a router and lathe

Joseph Beals January 1991 Millwork | Column

Building a Modular Retaining Wall

Stacked on a stable base, interlocking concrete blocks offer a mortarless solution to common landscaping problems

Andy Beasley September 2001 Sitework

Gate That's Built to Last, A

Weather-resistant construction means this driveway gate will stand up to Rocky Mountain storms for years to come

Andy Beasley March 2000 Sitework







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Rules for Finish Carpentry

A veteran builder and teacher shares the rules that shape his work

Will Beemer January 1998 Trim Carpentry | Baseboards Trim Carpentry | Door & Window Casings

Storage Stair

An alternative to conventional framing takes advantage of normally wasted space

Tom Bender July 1983 Stairs

Introduction to Timber Framing, An

Learning this traditional method begins with the mortise-and-tenon joint

Tedd Benson
January 1983
Framing | Timber Frame & Log
Framing

Timber-Frame Layout

Systems for labeling the timbers and adjusting the joinery keep the frame plumb and true despite variations in dimensions

Tedd Benson September 1983 Framing | Timber Frame & Log Framing

Metal Connectors for Wood Framing

Galvanized steel folded into sturdy, time-saving devices Bruce R. Berg January 1988 Materials & Products | Structural Material & Fasteners

Rammed Earth

An ancient building method made easier by new technology Magnus Berglund November 1982 Foundations & Masonry | Alternative Foundations & Masonry







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Building a Curved Stair on Site

A stick-framed stair lifts the eye upward while keeping the costs under control

Russell O. Bessonette September 1995 Stairs

Framing Corners

A survey of methods and materials used to build warm, inexpensive and strong corners Charles Bickford January 1998 Framing | Wall Framing

Gallery of Favorite Bath Details, A

It's the little things that make a good bathroom great
Charles Bickford

Winter 2001
Design | Kitchen & Bath Design

Hollow-Wall Anchors

When you're installing a towel bar and solid blocking is just a rumor, this inexpensive hardware will do the trick Charles Bickford May 1999 Materials & Products | Structural Material & Fasteners

Look Through Patio Doors, A

The Door Frame Should Be Sturdy, Stable And Rotproof Charles Bickford

September 2000
Materials & Products | Doors,
Windows, Skylights

Preventing House Fires

Knowing where fires commonly start can help builders to avoid tragedy during construction and even after the job is finished Charles Bickford July 1999 Design | Other Design







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Shopping for Interior Doors

There are lots of choices between expensive wooden style-and-rail and cheap hollowcore doors

Charles Bickford May 1998 Materials & Products | Doors, Windows, Skylights

Tools on Board

A builder's truck or van is a mobile workshop. Here are five approaches to making the most out of that valuable space.

Charles Bickford January 2000 Tools | Storage

Getting a Deck off to a Good Start

Framing the perimeter first helps to ensure that the posts will land squarely on their piers

Peter J. Bilodeau May 1999 Porches & Decks | Decks

Elegant Site-Built Door, An

Build a custom interior or exterior door with common jobsite tools and readily available materials

John Birchard September 1993 Millwork | Door

Installing Board-and-Batten Siding

Plan for the windows and doors first

John Birchard July 1992 Siding | Wood Siding

Making Wooden Light Fixtures

With nice ones so hard to find, creating your own makes sense John Birchard July 1985 Lighting







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Choosing and Using Wall Jacks

Costing less than last month's truck payment, these jacks enable small crews to lift walls that weigh a ton or more

Jim Blodgett

Jim Blodgett May 2001 Framing | Wall Framing

Retrofitting a Curbed Skylight

Get the flashing right to ensure leak-free skylights

Jim Blodgett
September 2001
Doors, Windows, Skylights |
Skylights
Framing | Roof Framing

Trimming Windows

Get the jambs flush with the drywall, and the miters come easily

Jim Blodgett March 2001 Trim Carpentry | Door & Window Casings

Curved Baseboard Corners

Biscuit joinery and a simple jig solve a perplexing trim problem Eric Blomberg September 1994 Trim Carpentry | Baseboards

Decorative Floor Inlays

A simple technique with elegant results

Don Bollinger November 1990 Interior Finish | Floors

Floor Sanding

Follow a pattern with powerful machines for best results
Don Bollinger

May 1983 Interior Finish | Floors

Hardwood Strip Flooring

How to lay out and install it Don Bollinger March 1983 Interior Finish | Floors







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Installing a Plank Floor

Wide boards demand careful persuasion

Don Bollinger November 1988 Interior Finish | Floors

Installing Hardwood Floors over Radiant Slabs

It can be done successfully if your floor isn't too hot, and the wood is put down dry on a dry slab and subfloor

Don Bollinger March 1994 Interior Finish | Floors Mechanical Systems | HVAC

Preventing Job-Site Knee Injuries

An orthopedic surgeon explains what goes wrong with knees and suggests ways to protect them Steven D. Bond May 1999
Job Safety

About old pocket doors

(included in Pocket Doors)
James Boorstein

July 1989 Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors

Framing a Second-Story Addition

A quartet of gables is linked by California-style valleys

Alexander Brennen March 1990 Remodeling | Additions

Site-Built Stair, A

Using readily available materials and on-site carpentry techniques to build a tasteful staircase Alexander Brennen September 1990 Stairs









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Bench-Built Window Trim

How one trim carpenter turns jamb extensions into an advantage by using them to reinforce preassembled window casings

Jim Britton
July 1998
Trim Carpentry | Door & Window
Casings

Installing Bifold Doors

Preassembling the jambs and the casings makes for a faster, more accurate job

Jim Britton
July 1997
Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors

Installing Prehung Doors

An accurate level and a bucketful of shims will correct just about any out-of-plumb condition

Jim Britton

July 1995

Designing Roofs for Snow Country

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors

The right roof slope, materials and venting will lengthen the life of the roof and the structure under it Henrik Bull

July 1999
Design | Other Design
Water & Moisture Control | Ice Dams

Rumfordizing Brick by Brick

How to convert an energywasting fireplace to an efficient heater

Kent Burdett
July 1981
Foundations & Masonry | Fireplace &
Chimney

Installing Glass Block

Privacy and light in the same package

Michael Byrne March 1987 Foundations & Masonry | Alternative Foundations & Masonry







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Laying a Tile Floor

Epoxy mastic on a plywood subfloor is a durable alternative to the traditional mortar-bed method

Michael Byrne November 1983 Interior Finish | Tile

Mortar-Bed Shower, A

Building the critical parts--the pan, the wall membrane and the mortar bed

Michael Byrne May 1986 Interior Finish | Tile

Tiling a Mortar-Bed Counter

How one tile setter builds the classic kitchen work surface Michael Byrne March 1985 Interior Finish | Countertops

Tiling a Tub Surround

Interior Finish | Tile

Substituting backer board for the traditional mortar bed makes the job easier without sacrificing durability

Michael Byrne January 1995 Interior Finish | Tile Remodeling | Kitchen & Bath







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Tying a Bow to an Eyebrow

Carpenters mix compound curves to build a bow window topped by an eyebrow roof

Joseph Wood Robert Caine March 1988 Framing | Roof Framing

Building a Fold-Down Bed

A simple two-part bed hides away to maximize space in a small room

Patrick Camus May 2001 Cabinets | Built-ins

Maintaining a Plunge Router

For trouble-free operation, avoid oil lubricants, replace worn brushes and keep the collet clean Gregg Carlsen March 1993 Tools | Power Tools

Building an Exterior Newel Post

Redwood boards and custom moldings decorate a pressuretreated post and anchor the front-porch steps

Peter Carlson November 1993 Exterior Finish | Trim

Simple Curved Corners

Bending plywood and joint compound make graceful curves in white walls

Scott M. Carpenter September 1993 Interior Finish | Drywall & Plaster

Cutting Drywall Marking and cutting in a single

knife stroke and using a router to incise for electrical boxes make a tedious job faster and easier Pat Carrasco November 2000 Interior Finish | Drywall & Plaster







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Solo Drywall Hanging

Get help when you can, but if you have to install these unwieldy sheets by yourself, it pays to rent a lift

Pat Carrasco July 2001 Interior Finish | Drywall & Plaster

Asphalt Shingling From the Top Down

On steeply pitched roofs, working from the ridge down is faster, safer and easier on the shingles

John Carroll May 2002 Roofing | Asphalt Shingles

Different Approach to Rafter Layout, A

Measuring along the bottom of the rafters and using a site-built jig simplify the process

John Carroll May 1998 Framing | Roof Framing

Flashing a Chimney

Installing the flashing along with the bricks makes for a more secure and much better-looking job

John Carroll
January 2001
Foundations & Masonry | Fireplace & Chimney
Water & Moisture Control | Flashing

Laying Out Three-Tab Shingles

Spend a little time measuring and striking lines, and the rest is fairly easy

John Carroll September 1994 Roofing | Asphalt Shingles

Laying up Concrete Block

Get evenly spaced courses and consistent mortar joints by using the proper layout, mortar consistency and troweling techniques

John Carroll September 1997 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete Block





Choosing and Installing a Bathroom-Vent Fan

Pick a fan that's quiet and powerful, and keep the duct short

Rex Cauldwell May 1998 Venting

Ground-Fault Protection

An inexpensive electrical device saves lives and is required by building codes

Rex Cauldwell March 1994 Mechanical Systems | Electrical

Installing a Portable Standby Generator

When the power goes out, a generator can handle your electrical essentials, but it must be wired correctly

Rex Cauldwell January 2000 Mechanical Systems | Electrical

Installing Electrical Boxes and Receptacles

Keep boxes straight and splices tight for safe, trouble-free circuits

Rex Cauldwell July 1996 Mechanical Systems | Electrical

Ten Common Wiring Problems

A master electrician details some frequently found mistakes that could cost you your house or your life

Rex Cauldwell January 2001 Mechanical Systems | Electrical

Ten Tips From a Home Inspector

Whether you're buying, selling or building, here are a few clues to some of the things that can go wrong in a house over time Rex Cauldwell

September 2001 Mechanical Systems | Plumbing Remodeling | Structural







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Wiring Stoves and Dryers

Code now requires a four-slot receptacle to provide both 120 volts and 240 volts

Rex Cauldwell September 1999 Mechanical Systems | Electrical

Building Concrete Countertops

A carefully constructed mold is the key to creating a beautiful kitchen counter from everyday materials

Fu-Tung Cheng
Eric Olsen
May 2002
Foundations & Masonry | Concrete
Interior Finish | Countertops

Deck Railing Without Fasteners, A

Top-grade lumber, clever joinery and some unexpected materials take the place of the traditional stuff on this Oregon deck

Arthur Chenoweth May 2002 Porches & Decks | Porches Trim Carpentry | Railings

Installing Elegant Wainscot Paneling

This three-part system is fast to install, flexible in design and practically unaffected by changes in humidity

Jim Chestnut November 1996 Trim Carpentry | Wainscotting

Ticksticking

Sam Clark May 1984 Tools | Layout

When Block Foundations Go Bad

Steel bracing and improved drainage give new life to cracked and wet walls

Donald V. Cohen July 1998 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete Block







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Installing Floor Trusses

Parallel-chord floor trusses are more stable and span greater distances than stick framing, and speedier setup offsets their higher cost Brain Colbert March 1998

Restoring a Porch

Framing | Floor Framing

A fast, inexpensive method that doesn't require house jacks Roy F. Cole, Jr. May 1981 Porches & Decks | Porches Restoration

Shingle Thatch

Steam-bent shingles, curved framing and wave coursing create a roof with character Gary Cooke Barry Huber Mike Lienemann November 1984 Roofing | Wood Roofing

Building Barrel Vaults

Trusses and Plywood GussetsGerry Copeland
March 1989
Framing | Roof Framing

Reglazing Windows and Doors

Replacing glass in wooden frames is painless with the right tools and techniques William T. Cox, Jr. January 1996 Energy Issues | Air Sealing

Disappearing Attic Stairways

Millwork | Window

Stairs

Folding stairs are the most common, but sliding stairs are easier to climb William T. Cox July 1994









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Choosing a Kitchen Sink

There are lots of shapes, sizes, materials and accessories available today, but it's still a good idea to get what suits your needs

Steve Culpepper November 1995 Materials & Products | Kitchen & Bath

Synthetic Stucco

Exterior insulation and finish systems provide an attractive, energy-efficient, low-maintenance siding; but should you trust them on your house given their recent failures?

Steve Culpepper
November 1996
Siding | Other Siding





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Drywall Detailing

An alternative to wood trim around doors, windows and skylights

Dennis Darrah November 1990 Interior Finish | Drywall & Plaster

Exterior-Trim Details That Last

Flexible caulk joints combined with a drainage path for moisture keep vulnerable trim elements rot-free lohn Michael Davis

September 2001 Exterior Finish | Trim

Furniture-Grade Finish for Trim, A

Applied in layers, alcohol-based dyes and stains make for a beautiful job

Steve Davis July 1994 Interior Finish | Paint, Stain, Varnish, Caulk

Choosing and Using a Miter Saw

These indispensable tools come in many shapes and sizes; here's how to get the most from them. Clayton DeKorne

May 2002 Tools | Power Tools

Rick Duncan

Arbitration

If you can't resolve your differences in the field, here's an alternative to court

Andrew H. Diem January 1990 Business

Repainting Kitchen Cabinets

A rentable sprayer and good surface preparation are keys to a new-looking kitchen Mark Dixon

Bob Heidt May 1998 Interior Finish | Paint, Stain, Varnish, Caulk





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Raising an Eyebrow

Two methods used to frame wave-like dormers

James Docker March 1991 Framing | Roof Framing Remodeling | Dormers

Choosing, Using and Maintaining Paintbrushes

The right brush for the job and the right technique can make painting go more quickly and give you a better-looking paint job

Brian J. Doherty November 1997 Interior Finish | Paint, Stain, Varnish, Caulk

Painting Walls and Ceilings

A professional's tips for rolling and edging paint as efficiently as possible without making a mess Brian J. Doherty January 2000 Interior Finish | Paint, Stain, Varnish, Caulk

Raised Paneling Made Easy

A combination of built-up moldings and layers of plywood duplicates a traditional look Jim Donnelly May 1995 Trim Carpentry | Wainscotting

Designing Forms for Tall Concrete Walls

Site-built panels that hold up under stress

William Doran January 1993 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete

Curved Doors

A design with a circular closet in the center of the house calls for some special techniques

Thomas Duffy January 1983 Millwork | Door









Painting Exteriors

Surface preparation is the name of the game

Robert Dufort September 1990 Exterior Finish | Painting

Raising Finished Walls

Siding, trimming and painting are easier when the walls are still flat on the deck

Jean Dunbar March 1990 Framing | Wall Framing

Furniture-Grade Finish for Trim, A

Applied in layers, alcohol-based dyes and stains make for a beautiful job

Rick Duncan Steve Davis July 1994 Interior Finish | Paint, Stain, Varnish, Caulk

Building Coffered Ceilings

Three framing methods Don Dunkley

Greg Lawrence
Jay Thomsen
July 1992
Framing | Ceiling Framing

Floor Framing

With production techniques and the right materials, a solid, squeakless floor is a day's work Don Dunkley March 1984 Framing | Floor Framing

Framing a Bay Window With Irregular Hips

How one carpenter calculates the tough cuts
Don Dunkley

January 1990 Framing | Roof Framing









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Plumb and Line

Without this final step of straightening the walls, the care taken during framing will have little effect

Don Dunkley November 1984 Framing | Wall Framing

Putting the Lid On

A primer on production cutting and raising a hip and gable roof Don Dunkley September 1982 Framing | Roof Framing

West Coast Overhang

A framing technique for soffitcovered eaves

Don Dunkley November 1990 Exterior Finish | Trim

Built-Up Cedar Roofing

Common shingles mimic a traditional reed thatch Steve Dunleavy March 1990 Roofing | Wood Roofing

Avoiding Back Pain

For trouble-free service, stretch, exercise and watch your posture Chris Dunn January 1994 Job Safety

Ouiet Please

Strategies for toning down sound transmission in wood-framed floors and ceilings Russell DuPree March 1990 Interior Finish | Soundproofing







Roofing with Sod

Beneath the surface, it's not the same as it used to be

David Easton November 1989 Roofing | Membrane Roofing

Ten Important Elements of a Good Bathroom

A little planning along with a thoughtful selection of fittings and fixtures can make all the difference

David Edrington Winter 1999 Design | Kitchen & Bath Design

Hanging a Wall Railing

Get it at the right height and make sure it's fastened to the framing; someone's life may depend on it Sebastian Eggert September 1999

Installing Manufactured Stair Parts

Stairs

Laying the handrail on the stairs is the first step Sebastian Eggert May 1987 Stairs

Re-creating Victorian Trim

Complicated profiles require custom knives, but installation is a cinch

Sebastian Eggert January 2002 Millwork | Molding

Making Storm Shutters

Simple to build and more attractive than plywood, these shutters are also easy to secure when the big one is closing in Jake Ehlers September 2000 Millwork | Window









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All About Driveways

Handsome, safe and durable driveways provide room for parking, turning and play, and are built on a stable, welldrained base

Andy Engel September 1998 Sitework

All About Rain Gutters

Whether aluminum, copper, steel or plastic, gutters need good design and proper installation to put roof runoff where it belongs Andy Engel September 1999 Water & Moisture Control | Gutters

Insulated Concrete Forms

Assembled with regular building skills, ICFs form airtight, insulating concrete walls that finish with standard materials Andy Engel January 2000 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete

Residential Steam Showers

Once limited to spas, steam showers at home are good for relaxing, easing a cold or impressing the neighbors Andy Engel Winter 2001 Materials & Products | Kitchen & Bath

Job-Site Foot Injuries

What to do when you've stepped on a nail or dropped a 6x6 on your toes John England

John England March 1993 Job Safety

What's Hot in Bathroom Heaters?

There are lots of options for taking the chill off. Which one fits your house?

David Ericson

Winter 2000
Materials & Products | Kitchen & Bath









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Brick-Mosaic Patios

Creating patterns and pictures with dry-laid brick and a diamond-bladed saw Scott Ernst January 1991 Sitework

Installing a Geothermal Heating and Cooling System

Ground-source heat pumps rely on buried water loops to heat and cool efficiently and economically William J. Evangelist

Mechanical Systems | HVAC

September 2000

Classical Style in a Porch Addition

Tips from a restoration expert on deck construction, column building and weatherproof design Ted Ewen

January 1982
Porches & Decks | Porches
Restoration







Controlling Moisture in Deck Lumber

Many problems associated with deck deterioration can be traced to the original moisture content of the lumber

Bob Falk Kent McDonald Jerry Winandy September 1995 Porches & Decks | Decks

Details for a Lasting Deck

Government scientists study outdoor structures and report on which details, fasteners and finishes hold up best Bob Falk

Sam Williams May 1996 Porches & Decks | Decks

Job-Site Safety

The caliber of your work may have a lot to do with the future of your fingers

Mark Feirer

September 1986 Job Safety

Why Exterior Finishes Fail

Government scientists explain why paint cracks, blisters and peels on your house, and how you can prevent it

Mark Knaebe

William Feist Sam Williams July 1997

Exterior Finish | Painting







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Soil: The Other Half of the Foundation

Understanding the stuff the house sits on may prevent cost overruns, callbacks and neighborhood gossip

Robert M. Felton
January 2001
Design | Siting Design
Foundations & Masonry | Concrete

Quick Way to Build a Squeak-Free Stair, A

Using plywood instead of framing lumber can guarantee a stable and accurate staircase that won't break the bank

Alan Ferguson September 1996 Stairs

Building Drywall Archways

With flexible 1/4-in. drywall and a variety of bendable corner beads to choose from, creating the perfect curve is easier than ever

Myron R. Ferguson March 2000 Interior Finish | Drywall & Plaster

Decorating With Drywall

Drywall panels and innovative corner beads turn a former living room into a formal dining room Myron R. Ferguson January 2002 Interior Finish | Drywall & Plaster

Handling Big Sheets of Drywall

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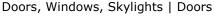
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How to Avoid Common Flashing Errors

Building paper and adhesivebacked bituminous tape are vital ingredients in protecting a building from water damage James R. Larson May 1998 Water & Moisture Control | Flashing

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How to connect the new pipes to the old ones Steve Larson

November 1983 Mechanical Systems | Plumbing









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A close look at some old and new designs

Tom Law November 1985 Tools | Hand Tools

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(included in Roof Framing Simplified)
Tom Law

September 1982 Framing | Roof Framing

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Care and use of a tool that gets little attention these days

Tom Law May 1984 Tools | Hand Tools

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Upside down and backwards is the secret

Tom Law March 1989 Trim Carpentry | Molding

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How to fit and fasten cabinets to wavy walls and floors

Tom Law January 1994 Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets Remodeling | Kitchen & Bath

Roof Framing Simplified

This direct approach involves full-size layouts and stringing rafter lines

Tom Law September 1982 Framing | Roof Framing







Sawhorse

A traditional approach to the simple trestle

Tom Law January 1988 Tools | Benches & Stands

Simple Workbenches

These site-built benches are easy to make and simplify many jobs

Tom Law May 1993 Tools | Benches & Stands

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On a flat lot, footings can be oriented with precision using batter boards, string and a water level

Tom Law November 1982 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete Tools | Layout

Building Coffered Ceilings

Three framing methods
Don Dunkley
Greg Lawrence
Jay Thomsen
July 1992
Framina | Ceiling Framing

Making Window Sash

How to do a custom job with ordinary shop tools and a router John Leeke January 1984 Doors, Windows, Skylights | Windows

Tools on Wheels

Four custom rigs for moving the tools of the trade William Lego September 1991

Tools | Storage

Tearing Off Old Roofing

The best reroofing jobs start with a clean roof deck

Jack LeVert March 1994 Roofing | Asphalt Shingles







Curved Timber

How one timber framer hews, bandsaws and steambends straight stock into curves Ed Levin September 1988 Framing | Timber Frame & Log Framing

Flush-Fit Cabinet, The

Custom building with techniques well suited to the small shop Paul Levine January 1986 Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

Frameless Cabinets With a Traditional Look

A professional cabinetmaker describes his simple methods for making cases and doors Paul Levine May 1995

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Hardwood Edgings for Plastic Laminate

The secret is to glue on oversized pieces, then trim them flush Paul Levine January 1993 Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

Shingle Thatch

Steam-bent shingles, curved framing and wave coursing create a roof with character

Gary Cooke Barry Huber Mike Lienemann November 1984 Roofing | Wood Roofing

Pickup-Truck Tool Storage

Long sliding drawers let a builder get to his tools, even under a stack of plywood

Ray Lincoln September 1987 Tools | Storage







On the Edge

An overview of grinding and honing for the carpenter, wherein the author argues for more skill and fewer gadgets John Lively January 1984 Tools | Hand Tools

Concrete

Understanding the characteristics of this material can take some of the anxious moments out of your pour and ensure a finished product of high quality

Trey Loy March 1983 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete

Plumb Bobs, String and Chalkboxes

Working with string and the tools that hang from it

Trey Loy March 1985 Tools | Layout

Raising Heavy Timber

Tools and tips for maneuvering big beams

Trey Loy May 1982 Framing | Timber Frame & Log Framing

Hollow-Post Spiral Stair, A

If you keep it simple, you don't need much more than a table saw and a drill to build one Peter Lucchesi, III September 1988 Stairs

Installing Kitchen Cabinets

Careful planning and knowing exactly where the framing is help factory-made cabinets go in quickly and easily for a custom look with no nasty surprises Kevin Luddy July 2000 Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets







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Pair of Built-in Hutches, A

Faced with spaces that weren't close to square, this carpenter judiciously applied trim and careful scribing to hide the worst of it

Kevin Luddy September 1999 Cabinets | Built-ins

Fixes for Damp, Moldy Houses

Drying the foundation and sealing air leaks make houses durable and healthy

Fred Lugano September 1999 Energy Issues | Air Sealing Venting Water & Moisture Control | Gutters

Fixing a Cold, Drafty House

Forget about weatherstripping doors and windows. Sealing and insulating the attic are the keys to lower heating bills and a more comfortable house.

Fred Lugano November 1996 Energy Issues | Air Sealing Energy Issues | Insulation & Weatherstripping

Insulating With Cellulose

Blown in behind the drywall, high-density cellulose air-seals as it insulates

Fred Lugano
May 2000
Energy Issues | Insulation &
Weatherstripping

Replacing a Chimney Cap

Homeowners rarely see their chimney caps, and few people have ever called me to repair them. But when I'm asked to inspect a roof or an attic, I generally find myself looking down at the top of the chimney.

Fred Lugano
July 1998
Foundations & Masonry | Fireplace &
Chimney









Porches That Won't Rot

For a long, healthy life these structures need a breath of fresh air

Kevin M. Mahoney May 1993 Porches & Decks | Porches

Mill for the Chainsaw, A

With this easily made accessory, you can mill your own boards and beams

Will Malloff September 1982 Tools | Power Tools

Controlling Air Leakage

These simple techniques save energy in new construction
Jim Maloney

November 1992 Energy Issues | Air Sealing

Fire-Safety Alarms

An electrician describes what kinds to get, where to put them and how to wire them to save lives and homes Robert Marino

May 2002 Mechanical Systems | Electrical

Caulk-Free Corners

A technique for folding skylight flashing

David Marshall November 1988 Doors, Windows, Skylights | Windows

Water & Moisture Control | Flashing

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Select the right tool to get a grip on your work

Felix Marti May 1992 Tools | Hand Tools







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A carpenter's tricks for accurately laying out, cutting and fitting the classic wood siding Felix Marti July 1995 Siding | Wood Siding

Table-Saw Tools

Simple jigs that turn a table saw into a safe and precise crosscutting tool
M. Felix Marti

M. Felix Marti May 1989 Tools | Power Tools

Avoiding Common Mistakes in Concrete and Masonry

An engineer offers a few simple changes to make walls and foundations much sturdier
Thor Matteson
July 1996
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Building a Winding Outdoor Stair

Fitting stairs to a complicated site called for an accurate sketch and some job-site improvising Thor Matteson March 1989 Stairs

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If you don't want the roof to leak, careful flashing details and a watertight membrane should be your primary concerns
Keith J. Mazzarello

March 2001 Porches & Decks | Decks

Aligning Eaves on Irregularly Pitched Roofs

Making soffits and fascias line up when intersecting roof pitches aren't the same

Scott McBride November 1994 Framing | Roof Framing









Builder's Screen Porch, A

From a hip-framed floor that slopes in three directions to a coffered ceiling, a veteran carpenter builds his porch his way

Scott McBride March 1994 Porches & Decks | Porches

Building a Timber Retaining Wall

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Good drainage and a stout connection to the hillside are keys to a long-lasting wall Scott McBride July 1999

Chimney Cricket

rooftop watershed
Scott McBride
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Soldered copper flashing for a

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Using a layout rod and shaper joinery to build outwardswinging windows with dividedlight sashes and insulated glass Scott McBride January 1989 Millwork | Window

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A two-piece sill, 5/4 casing and a backband flesh out stock windows' narrow exterior profile Scott McBride
July 1999
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Falling Eaves

One carpenter tries five methods of framing a tricky roof Scott McBride May 1992 Framing | Roof Framing









Flashing Walls

Keeping water moving out and down is the key to effective sidewall flashing

Scott McBride March 1996 Water & Moisture Control | Flashing

Framing a Bay-Window Roof

It's only a small hip roof, but its 45° corners befuddle many carpenters. Drawing bay roofs out full scale is key to fast and accurate framing.

Scott McBride March 2000 Framing | Roof Framing

Framing a Cross-Gable Roof

One good valley rafter supports another

Scott McBride September 1992 Framing | Roof Framing

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Framing a Gable Roof Over a Bay

Letting ceiling joists cantilever beyond the walls makes this challenging roof detail stronger and easier to build Scott McBride July 1995

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Two ways to frame a basic gable dormer

Scott McBride September 1987 Framing | Roof Framing Remodeling | Dormers

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Speed and efficiency are the results of a careful, well-thought-out layout
Scott McBride
July 1993

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Framing around an existing roof requires different skeletons for two similar structures

Scott McBride

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Meticulous layout and milling yield new doors to match the original windows of a 19thcentury Greek revival Scott McBride January 1997

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With careful detailing and proper flashing, exterior woodwork should last for decades

Scott McBride November 1991 Exterior Finish | Trim Water & Moisture Control | Flashing

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Standard ogee gutters can mimic this classical detail Scott McBride November 1992

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Installation details can make the difference between a troublefree roof and an expensive callback

Scott McBride March 1997 Water & Moisture Control | Flashing

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A graphic way to lay out rafters without using tables

Scott McBride September 1985 Framing | Roof Framing









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What goes up mustn't come down accidentally Scott McBride January 1987

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Shed-Dormer Retrofit

Turning your attic into living space may be the remedy for your growing pains Scott McBride November 1986

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Using Chainsaws on the Job Site

These cordless tools will help you cut your way out of tight spots and through thick timber Scott McBride January 1993 Tools | Power Tools

Framing With Steel for the First Time

A builder accustomed to wood framing tells about the differences between wood and steel construction Robert McCullough May 1995 Framing | Steel Framing

Straightening Framed Walls

Blame it on sloppy framing or lousy lumber, but many stud walls need some remedial work before the drywall goes on Derek McDonald September 2000 Framing | Wall Framing









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Controlling Moisture in Deck Lumber

Many problems associated with deck deterioration can be traced to the original moisture content of the lumber

Bob Falk Kent McDonald Jerry Winandy September 1995 Porches & Decks | Decks

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Helical piers go in like giant drywall screws to support a sinking house and a new addition Jerry McSweeney

Eric McGaw September 1996 Foundations & Masonry | Alternative Foundations & Masonry

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Fixing a House With a Bad Foundation

Helical piers go in like giant drywall screws to support a sinking house and a new addition Jerry McSweeney Eric McGaw September 1996 Foundations & Masonry | Alternative Foundations & Masonry Remodeling | Structural

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Finishing on schedule and within budget demands careful planning at the start

Stephen Mead September 1991 Business









Light-Gauge Steel Framing

Inexpensive, stable and easy to install, steel is becoming popular for interior partitions

Steve Mead May 1986 Framing | Wall Framing

Putting Tile to Work in the Kitchen

The right tile in the right place can make or break the look as well as the function of your kitchen

Lane Meehan Winter 1999 Interior Finish | Tile Materials & Products | Kitchen & Bath

Different Approach to Tiling Floors, A

Unlike a plywood or backerboard substrate, a modified mud job might be more reliable over the long haul

Tom Meehan January 1997 Interior Finish | Floors Interior Finish | Tile

Installing a Leakproof Shower Pan

A thick mortar bed over a vinyl membrane makes a sturdy base for tile, but it pays to test for leaks

Tom Meehan September 2001 Interior Finish | Tile

Tiling a Backsplash

Decorative tiles liven up a kitchen

Tom Meehan July 1991 Interior Finish | Tile

Tiling a Shower With Marble

Take the time to get your tiles tight and flat, and your shower will look as if it had been carved out of solid marble

Tom Meehan November 1995 Interior Finish | Tile







Tiling With Limestone

An earthy alternative to the cold, austere look of marble, limestone is easy to work with and maintain

Tom Meehan September 1998 Interior Finish | Tile

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How a traditional stonemason quarries and dresses sandstone Charles Miller November 1986

Foundations & Masonry | Stone

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Sifting through the wreckage of Hurricane Andrew to learn why some houses survived and some didn't

Charles Miller January 1993 Design | Siting Design Design | Structural Design

Protecting Your Lungs on the Job

Know the risks, and if you can't eliminate them, choose the right respirator

Charles Miller May 1994 Job Safety

Installing Synthetic Crown Molding

You can't cope polyurethane molding, but a template, a simple jig and a little bit of luck make it possible to preassemble perfect miter joints

David Mills January 2000 Trim Carpentry | Molding

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Thoughtful details designed to beat the weather

R. W. Missell May 1988 Porches & Decks | Decks









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A belt sander will be your best friend when fitting factory-made laminate countertops to wavy walls

Steve Morris March 1999 Interior Finish | Countertops

Installing Two-Piece Crown

A method for running wide, paint-grade crown moldings Dale F. Mosher January 1992 Trim Carpentry | Molding

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Cabinet-grade trim meets
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Terry Murphy
March 1994
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A carpenter uses shop-built sections and sturdy foundations for a traditional structure George Nash May 1997 Sitework

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It may be time to abandon the time-honored toenail Stanley H. Niu

May 1992 Framing | Roof Framing

Interlocking Weatherstripping for Doors

Arguably the best protection against wind and rain penetration, two-piece bronze can be finicky to install

Chris Norris November 1999 Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors

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Calculating miter and bevel angles so you can cut crown on compound-miter saws Stephen Nuding July 1991 Trim Carpentry | Molding

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Proper siting and design strategies enhance energy efficiency M. Joe Numbers

March 1995
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Prescription Safety Glasses

They can be hard to find, but today's safety glasses are as attractive as designer street glasses and offer much better protection

Tom O'Brien November 2001 Job Safety

Remodeling With Metal Studs

Skyrocketing lumber costs make steel studs an enticing, easily installed alternative to wood Tom O'Brien September 1995

September 1995 Framing | Steel Framing Remodeling | Additions

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Instead of tearing out and replacing rotten wood, you can fix damage and make wood look as good and last as long as new Tom O'Brien
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OSHA and NAHB team up to identify the key safety issues for residential builders Tom O'Brien May 2000 Job Safety

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A carefully constructed mold is the key to creating a beautiful kitchen counter from everyday materials

Fu-Tung Cheng
Eric Olsen
May 2002
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Fabricating Box-Beam Trusses Edwin Oribin January 1992 Framing | Truss Framing

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Formal or not, comfortable, thought-out dining spaces add to the pleasure of a good meal Robert Orr May 2000 Design | Other Design

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Quiet and almost invisible in the kitchen cabinetry, today's dishwashers are made to clean and not be heard

Roe A. Osborn Winter 2001 Materials & Products | Kitchen & Bath

Burner Basics

If you think the choice is as simple as gas vs. electric, you could end up with a great-looking stove that takes forever to boil water and even longer to clean

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Finding the Right Refrigerator

Cold, hard facts about the biggest, most-used appliance in your kitchen
Roe A. Osborn

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Overhead Garage Doors

They're the largest and most visible moving parts of your house, but with all the options out there, don't leave the choice up to someone else Roe A. Osborn

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Shedding Light on Skylights

New options in glazing, sizes and flashing systems can have you scratching your head when trying to choose the right skylight

Roe A. Osborn May 1996 Materials & Products | Doors, Windows, Skylights

Using a Cargo Rack

Organizing the load and knowing the right knots are the keys to transporting building materials safely

Roe A. Osborn March 1994 Tools | Storage

Walk Through Wood Floors, A

Strip oak is not the only option, but without some guidelines, choosing among strip, plank, prefinished, solid and engineered floors can be tough

Roe A. Osborn September 1997 Materials & Products | Floors & Walls









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Thin stock, waterproof glue and a big 1x4 compass simplify deck curves

Scott Padgett January 2002 Porches & Decks | Decks

Clear Wood Finishes

How one painter applies lacquer and varnish to interior woodwork and camouflages the nail holes

Byron Papa September 1988 Interior Finish | Paint, Stain, Varnish, Caulk

Draining Gutter Runoff

Once the water's gone down the downspout, inexpensive plastic pipes carry it away from the house

Byron Papa September 1999 Water & Moisture Control | Gutters

Making the Most of a Laundry Room

A laundry chute, a custom-built towel drawer and a fold-down ironing board ease the tedium of wash day

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Rolling Interior Latex Wall Paint

A professional painter's hardwon lessons for applying the ubiquitous wall finish

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Spray-Painting Trim

Preparations and priming make or break the job

Byron Papa November 1987 Interior Finish | Paint, Stain, Varnish, Caulk









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This simple system could help to restore order under any camper shell

Byron Papa March 1997 Tools | Storage

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From cracked fingertips and contact allergies to cement burns and skin cancer, the prevention is better than the cure

Art Papier

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How one sheet-metal contractor fabricated and installed a leadcoated copper drainage system Rob Paral July 1990 Water & Moisture Control | Gutters

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Prevention is easier than repair Kip Park September 1988 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete Remodeling | Structural

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A demonstration house in Canada shows new approaches to energy-efficient, environmentally sensitive construction

Kip Park January 1995 Energy Issues | Insulation & Weatherstripping Framing | Wall Framing

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A stud wall, not a laminated stringer, shapes these stairs Scott Paschal July 1997 Stairs









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Jud Peake July 1984 Tools | Layout

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The new generation of cope-andstick bits will make frame-andpanel doors on site

Jud Peake September 1994 Millwork | Door Tools | Power Tools

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Jud Peake July 1981 Framing | Wall Framing Tools | Power Tools

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Laying out a roof with this basic tool and a new generation of accessories

Jud Peake September 1982 Framing | Roof Framing Tools | Layout

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Using site-built jigs, bearingguided bits and a router table to make precise cuts in wood Jud Peake

September 1989 Tools | Power Tools







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Jud Peake May 1982 Tools | Layout

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A professional takes the fear out of sanding and shows how to get great results with waterborne finishes

Charles Peterson March 2002 Interior Finish | Paint, Stain, Varnish, Caulk

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Careful prep, layout and tight nailing make a wood floor last for years

Charles Peterson January 2002 Interior Finish | Floors

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A straight run of basement steps provides a useful lesson in calculating rise and run, and in cutting stringers Fric Pfaff

March 1996 Stairs

Rainwater-Collection Systems

When water is scarce, collecting rain in a cistern and pumping it into your house make good sense Peter L. Pfeiffer November 2001 Water & Moisture Control | Gutters

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Bill Phillips March 2002 Remodeling | Structural

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Knowledge of the code and a few tricks ease wiring circuits for standard receptacles and lights Clifford A. Popejoy January 2002

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Vladimir Popovac January 1992 Foundations & Masonry | Fireplace & Chimney









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Made from cast concrete, socalled phony stone is good looking, affordable and easy to work with, but best of all, gravity is not required

Vladimir Popovac May 2000 Siding | Other Siding

Refacing Concrete Steps With Brick

A level may be a mason's best friend, but to cover up an unsightly set of concrete steps, an experienced eye takes over Vladimir Popovac May 2001 Foundations & Masonry | Brick

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A California mason combines the adobe look of a kiva with the heating efficiency of a Rumford Vladimir Popovac January 1998 Foundations & Masonry | Fireplace & Chimney

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Charles Prowell March 1996 Millwork | Door Sitework

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An experienced fabricator explains the process from the templating to the final setting of the slabs

Joe Ranzoni March 1996 Interior Finish | Countertops Materials & Products | Kitchen & Bath

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A new second story on independent footings straddles an old house

Eric K. Rekdahl July 1982 Remodeling | Additions

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James C. Rice May 1994 Porches & Decks | Porches Remodeling | Additions

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Dan Rockhill January 1983 Porches & Decks | Decks Roofing | Membrane Roofing









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If cracks and crumbling plaster have you down, here's a remedy that uses basic methods and materials, and that requires no sanding

Mario Rodriguez July 1996 Interior Finish | Drywall & Plaster

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Think of the ground around the house as the roof that keeps the foundation dry
William B. Rose
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Sean Sheehan September 1990 Framing | Wall Framing

Installing a Sheet-Vinyl Floor

Whether flat-lay or coved, use a felt-paper pattern for best results

Terry Shrode September 1984 Interior Finish | Floors

Choosing Boilers and Controls for Warm Floors

John Siegenthaler July 1998 Mechanical Systems | HVAC









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Hydronic Radiant-Floor Heating

Concrete slabs, thin slabs and metal plates offer different ways of routing radiant heat underneath every floor in the home

John Siegenthaler November 1996 Mechanical Systems | HVAC

Skylights in the Eaves

Creating private, light-filled spaces when houses are close together

Anthony Simmonds November 1991 Doors, Windows, Skylights | Skylights

Adding a Second Story

You can save time and avoid weather worries by building the new roof before tearing off the old one

Tony Simmonds May 1996 Remodeling | Additions

Bed Alcove

Convert wasted attic space into a bed that has drawers, bookshelves and a vanity
Tony Simmonds

September 1992 Cabinets | Built-ins

Dining Deck, A

A deck that's built to withstand the weather is united with a small dining room

Tony Simmonds March 1995 Porches & Decks | Decks

Rethinking the Garage

Three projects illustrate how a room over the garage can be the best room in the house

Tony Simmonds November 1997 Design | Other Design









Site-Built Kitchen

Construct base cabinets with a carpenter's pragmatism and a cabinetmaker's precision
Tony Simmonds
March 1993

Plumbing, Lining and Bracing Framed Walls

Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

A framing contractor explains his efficient sequence for keeping walls straight and true Scot Simpson January 1995 Framing | Wall Framing

Drainage Systems

On sizing, laying out and choosing the right fittings for a residential waste system George Skaates November 1985 Water & Moisture Control | Drainage

Installing a Toilet

It's mostly in the flange George Skaates May 1988 Mechanical Systems | Plumbing

Roughing in Drain Lines

Advice on Assembling a residential drainage system with plastic pipes George Skaates May 1987 Mechanical Systems | Plumbing

Decorative Sidewall Shingles

Custom-cut wood shingles make a variety of complex patterns Dave Skilton July 1989 Siding | Wood Siding







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Soundproofing a Music Studio

Some practical solutions to noise pollution

Gene De Smidt November 1986 Interior Finish | Soundproofing

Roofing With Slate

With the right fasteners and flashings, you'll get a roof that can last a hundred years Terry A. Smiley July 1995

Roofing | Slate Roofing

Site-Built Footbridge

Using backcountry lamination techniques to span a creek in style

Henry Smith May 1995 Sitework

K'ang

An under-the-floor masonry stove

Jeffrey J. Smith January 1987 Foundations & Masonry | Fireplace & Chimney

Roofing with Asphalt Shingles

There's more to laying three-tab shingles than just nailing them on as fast as possible

Todd A. Smith January 1990 Roofing | Asphalt Shingles

Raised-Panel Wainscot

Traditional results with table saw and router

T.F. Smolen March 1984 Trim Carpentry | Wainscotting









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All About Roof Trusses

Trusses can be used to frame even complex roofs, but they must be installed and braced properly

Stephen Smulski July 1994 Materials & Products | Roofing, Siding, Decking

Detailing for Wood Shrinkage

If you think ahead, you can avoid nail pops, cracked drywall and sloping floors

Stephen Smulski May 1993 Design | Structural Design Trim Carpentry | Door & Window Casings

Ensuring the Durability of Energy-Efficient Houses

Why are so many of today's homes plagued by rot, mildew and stale air, and what can we do about it?

Stephen Smulski July 2000 Design | Other Design

Glue-Laminated Timbers

Designing and building with engineered beams
Stephen Smulski

January 1992
Materials & Products | Structural
Material & Fasteners

Rain-Screen Walls: a Better Way to Install Siding

Spacing the siding away from the housewrap promotes ventilation and drainage for long-lasting siding and paint

Mark Averill Snyder
March 2001
Siding | Wood Siding
Water & Moisture Control | Drainage

Laying up Stone Veneer

A masonry facade is an economical way to give wood-frame walls the look of solid stone

Steven Snyder November 1994 Foundations & Masonry | Stone Siding | Other Siding







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Facing a Block Wall With Stone

A good rock supply, tight joints and hidden mortar are the secret to the solid, structural look

Tim Snyder March 1983 Foundations & Masonry | Stone

Veneer Plaster

Getting the look and texture of plaster on lath with gypboard and mud

Tim Snyder
July 1983
Interior Finish | Drywall & Plaster

Pier and Grade-Beam Foundation

Advice from a contractor on one way to build on a steep slope Michael Spexarth September 1983 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete

Circular-Saw Basics

A sidewinder is the most important tool on the job site, but did anybody ever teach you how to use one safely and effectively?

John Spier May 1998 Tools | Power Tools

Cutting and Setting Common Rafters

Rafters are the most basic element to a gable roof, so measure and lay them out carefully to make your roof look like it grew there

John Spier November 2001 Framing | Roof Framing

Framing an Elegant Dormer

Flanking a shed dormer with a pair of gable dormers adds light and space inside while jazzing up the roofline

John Spier May 2000 Framing | Roof Framing Remodeling | Dormers







Installing Baseboard

One builder's take on installing this fundamental trim element John Spier May 2002 Trim Carpentry | Baseboards

Raising a Gable Wall

Framing the entire gable while it's flat on the deck is fast and easy. Raising it is a challenge and a danger.

John Spier May 1999 Framing | Wall Framing

Stud-Wall Framing

With most of the thinking already done, nailing together a tight frame requires equal parts of accuracy and speed Paul Spring September 1984 Framing | Wall Framing

Framing a Gambrel Roof

Site-built trusses are a speedy way to frame this traditional barn-shaped roof Joe Stanton

September 2001 Framing | Roof Framing

Working Safely on the Roof

Complying with new OSHA fallprotection regulations takes more than the correct safety gear, it takes a commitment to using the gear correctly Howard Stein January 1996 Job Safety

Working With Rebar

The bones beneath concrete's muscle, rebar has to be cut, bent and tied properly to do its job Howard Stein March 2001 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete









Fanciful Built-in Beds

A look at the design and construction of Scandinavianinspired bed alcoves

Jean Steinbrecher September 1998 Cabinets | Built-ins

Rebuilding a Federal-Period Fence

Meticulous shopwork and careful on-site planning recreate a local landmark

Stephen Sewall David Stenstrom March 1985 Sitework

Stair in the Air, A

Southern yellow-pine treads hide welded-steel brackets that make these stairs appear to float in space

Glen Stewart July 2001 Stairs

Flashing Brick-Veneer Walls

Good masonry work blocks most rainwater, and proper flashing details expel what does get through

Douglas R. Stieve November 2001 Foundations & Masonry | Brick Water & Moisture Control | Flashing

Guide to Exterior Lighting,

Safety, security and aesthetics all play an important part in illuminating the outside of your house

Martha Tuzson Stockton March 1998 Lighting

Double-Hungs Restrung

More than just fishing for sash weights

David Strawderman January 1991 Doors, Windows, Skylights | Windows Restoration









French-Door Retrofit

Opening up a wall to bring the outdoors in

David Strawderman July 1991 Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors

Different Approach to Frame-and-Panel Doors, A

A three-layer sandwich takes the place of complicated joinery Gary Striegler March 2002 Millwork | Door

Simple Approach to Frameand-Panel Trim, A

Assemble the frames with pocket screws and trim plywood panels with molding for a traditional look

Gary Striegler July 2000 Trim Carpentry | Other Trim Carpentry

Hinge Butt Mortising Templates

The perfect tool for a quick and accurate hinge job: a product comparison

Stephen Suddarth March 1986 Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors

Levels and Transits

Shooting lines and grades involves nothing more than what meets the eye

Stephen Suddarth March 1987 Tools | Layout

Curing Concrete

Keeping it warm and wet for a week will make concrete stronger and more watertight

Bruce A. Suprenant September 1989 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete







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Building a Fireplace

One mason's approach to framing, layout and bricklaying technique

Bob Syvanen May 1984 Foundations & Masonry | Brick Foundations & Masonry | Fireplace & Chimney

Casing a Door

Work carefully, and save the wood filler for the nail holes Bob Syvanen January 1986 Trim Carpentry | Door & Window Casings

Casing a Double-Hung Window

A job you can do quickly and well Bob Syvanen July 1986 Trim Carpentry | Door & Window Casings

Cornice Construction

Building the return is the tough part

Bob Syvanen
July 1983
Trim Carpentry | Exterior
Exterior Finish | Trim

Designing and Building Stairs

Stairways can be minimal or very elaborate, but they're all based on simple geometry and accurate finish work

Bob Syvanen November 1983 Stairs

Dummy Rafter Tails

A useful technique for old-house remodelers and those who build alone

Bob Syvanen July 1985 Exterior Finish | Trim









Fireplace Chimney, The

Flashing and capping are the tricky parts of the job

Bob Syvanen
July 1984
Foundations & Masonry | Fireplace & Chimney
Foundations & Masonry | Brick

Flashing

Anticipate the flow of water to keep it outside your house, where it belongs Bob Syvanen

July 1982 Water & Moisture Control | Flashing

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Installing Baseboard

There's a tad more to it than coping the joints

Bob Syvanen September 1986 Trim Carpentry | Baseboards

Installing Stair Skirtboards

Notching the skirtboard over the risers for a better-looking job Bob Syvanen July 1991 Stairs

Insulating and Parging Foundations

Covering concrete walls with rigid foam insulation and troweling on stucco requires experience with the materials Bob Syvanen
January 1984
Foundations & Masonry | Concrete

Putting Down a Brick Floor

The mason's craft is easier when the bricks are laid on a horizontal surface

Bob Syvanen May 1983 Foundations & Masonry | Brick Interior Finish | Floors









Roof Shingling

With only a few rules to follow, putting on a wood roof can be relaxing work with pleasant materials

Bob Syvanen January 1983 Roofing | Wood Roofing

Shed-Dormer Addition, A

Extensive remodeling triples the space of a small Cape

Bob Syvanen January 1985 Remodeling | Dormers

Sidewall Shingling

Siding | Wood Siding

For that authentic Cape Cod look and low maintenance, you can't beat cedar siding Bob Syvanen September 1985

Siding with Clapboards

Up one side or down the other, apply them correctly Bob Syvanen July 1988 Siding | Wood Siding

Small-Job Concrete

Site-mixed mud can be batched as accurately as ready-mix, given a strong back and a few guidelines Bob Syvanen

March 1983 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete





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Venting the Kitchen

To expel kitchen moisture and grease efficiently, select an appropriate exhaust system and make the duct run short and straight Wendy Talarico

July 1995 Venting

Stairs

Cooperative Craftsmanship

Distinctive wood detailing, tile work, stained glass and carving in a California living room Ben Tarcher January 1982 Framing | Truss Framing

Trimming the Front Door

Ripped, mitered and reassembled interior moldings add a custom look to a front entry Richard Taub March 1993 Trim Carpentry | Door & Window

Adding a Seasonal Porch

A timber-framed, screened-in porch with an awning roof keeps out insects but comes down easily to let in winter sun Ken Textor

July 1996 Porches & Decks | Porches

Casings

Building a Cupola

The proper proportions and longlasting materials make a structure that looks good and helps ventilate house, barn or shop

Ken Textor May 1996 Exterior Finish | Trim

Extension-Cord Basics

Wire size, jacket materials and voltage drop are important, often-ignored features of these ubiquitous job-site umbilicals Ken Textor

March 2000 Tools | Power Tools









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Curbless Skylights

Insulated glass mounted flush with the roof in a low-cost, site-built design

Rob Thallon January 1984 Doors, Windows, Skylights | Skylights

Dry-Stack Block

Precision-ground concrete blocks make it easy to build a wall Rob Thallon

September 1983 Mechanical Systems | Plumbing

Framing Headers and Corners

A summary of framing details for strength and energy efficiency Rob Thallon March 1992 Framing | Wall Framing

Framing Gable Ends

You can use a story pole and a level to lay out accurate cuts without a tape measure
Jim Thompson

May 1994 Framing | Wall Framing

Building Coffered Ceilings

Three framing methods Don Dunkley Greg Lawrence

Jay Thomsen
July 1992
Framing | Ceiling Framing

Daylighting Strategies for a Ranch-Style House

A kitchen cupola and bedroom/bath clerestories bring natural light into a suburban ranch

Anni Tilt March 2001 Design | Other Design Lighting

Care and Feeding of Wooden Decks, The

Frequent cleaning and periodic refinishing are the best ways to ensure a long and happy life for these vulnerable creatures

Jon Tobey May 2001 Porches & Decks | Decks







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Spray Everything

Careful preparation and a boatload of masking tape are the keys to high-quality, highproduction interior painting Jon Tobey November 2000 Roofing | Metal Roofing

Basic Scribing Techniques

A finish carpenter shares his secrets for fitting trim to uneven, unlevel or unplumb surfaces Jim Tolpin November 1992 Trim Carpentry | Baseboards Trim Carpentry | Door & Window Casings

Hybrid Cabinet Construction

This system combines traditional looks with efficient assembly techniques

Jim Tolpin May 1992 Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

Making Curved Crown Molding

Glue-laminated trim can be shaped on a table saw John La Torre, Jr. May 1992 Millwork | Molding

Avoiding Common Framing Errors

By paying attention to some basic details, you can avoid the framing mistakes that building inspectors encounter most frequently Rick Tyrell

January 1997
Framing | Roof Framing
Framing | Wall Framing









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Designing and Building Leak-Free Sloped Glazing

Error-free projects demand careful detailing

Fred Unger March 1992 Doors, Windows, Skylights | Windows

Common Engineering Problems in Frame Construction

From undersize nails to overloaded trusses, here's a look at what builders get wrong when they wing it without an engineer David Utterback January 2000 Design | Structural Design





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Period Moldings

A primer on these touchstones of Neo-Classical architecture Norman L. Vandal May 1984 Millwork | Molding

Decorative Post Cap, A Making caps for decks and fence posts

Robert Vaughan November 1989 Sitework

Rubble-Trench Foundations

A simple, effective foundation system for residential structures Elias Velonis January 1984 Foundations & Masonry | Alternative Foundations & Masonry

Veteran Stairbuilder's Tools and Tips, A

Modified tools and custom jigs expedite staircase assembly Michael von Deckbar-Frabbiele January 1995 Stairs



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Trimming Out the Main House

Building a Victorian headquarters for George Lucas

Rick Wachs March 1986 Millwork | Molding

Laying Up Brick Bovedas

Inwardly leaning arches defy gravity

E. Logan Wagner January 1989 Foundations & Masonry | Brick

Forming Concrete Walls

Building forms stick by stick can save on labor and materials Arne Waldstein July 1990 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete

Breath of Fresh Air, A

Making a Victorian screen door Alasdair G.B. Wallace January 1987 Millwork | Door

Installing Drywall

How to keep the sheets flat and the seams to a minimum Charles Wardell May 1993

Interior Finish | Drywall & Plaster

Taping and Finishing Drywall

How to get smooth walls with minimum sanding Charles Wardell

Charles Wardell July 1993 Interior Finish | Drywall & Plaster

Stone Veneer on Concrete Block

The right mortar and care in laying stone are the keys to a beautiful job

M. Scott Watkins November 1993 Foundations & Masonry | Concrete Foundations & Masonry | Stone







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Victorian Brackets

Bandsawing gingerbread takes method and practice

Simon Watts November 1986 Exterior Finish | Trim

Running Exterior Trim

Fascias, rakes, soffits and corner boards aren't scrutinized like interior woodwork, but they still have to look good and stand up to weather Robert Weatherall

September 2000 Exterior Finish | Trim

Sheathing a Roof

You're 30 ft. in the air, walking on narrow framing members and manhandling sheets of plywood that'll catch the wind like canvas sails. You'd better know what you're doing.

Robert Weatherall November 1998 Framing | Roof Framing

Classical Details in a Harsh Environment

Craftsmen build a coastal house to withstand hurricane winds, meticulous architects and exacting clients Robert Weinstein

Robert Weinstein
May 1994
Exterior Finish | Trim
Water & Moisture Control | Flashing









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Kitchen Cabinets from Components

With careful layout and efficient assembly, you can piece together affordable cabinets from mixand-match doors, drawers and boxes

Sven Hanson Joel Wheeler November 1994 Materials & Products | Kitchen & Bath

Freestanding Spiral Stair, A

Using stock lumber and common shop tools to build an elegant circular staircase

Steven M. White November 1991 Stairs

Building a Grand Veranda

A New Jersey design/build team re-creates a large, comfortable porch with 19th-century details built to last into the 21st century and beyond

Kevin Wilkes July 2000 Porches & Decks | Porches

Carpenter's Lumber Rack, A

A two-level welded-steel rack boosts even a small truck's carrying capacity and pops out easily when you don't need it Gary Williams July 2000 Tools | Storage

Replacing Rain Gutters

A professional's advice on installing aluminum and galvanized-steel gutters Les Williams May 1991 Water & Moisture Control | Gutters

Details for a Lasting Deck

Government scientists study outdoor structures and report on which details, fasteners and finishes hold up best Bob Falk Sam Williams May 1996 Porches & Decks | Decks









Why Exterior Finishes Fail

Government scientists explain why paint cracks, blisters and peels on your house, and how you can prevent it

Mark Knaebe William Feist Sam Williams July 1997 Exterior Finish | Painting

Inexpensive Strategies for Green Building

Yes, recycled lumber and plantation-grown lumber cost more, but designing smaller houses, orienting them for solar gain and minimizing job-site waste don't

Alex Wilson September 2000 Design | Other Design Design | Siting Design

Insulation Comes of Age

Thermal insulation is changing for the better, becoming more user-friendly and safer for the environment

Alex Wilson March 1996 Energy Issues | Insulation & Weatherstripping

Primer on Heating Systems, A

You'll save money and stay more comfortable by matching the heating system to your climate, your house and your needs

Alex Wilson March 1997 Mechanical Systems | HVAC









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Controlling Moisture in Deck Lumber

Many problems associated with deck deterioration can be traced to the original moisture content of the lumber

Bob Falk Kent McDonald Jerry Winandy September 1995 Porches & Decks | Decks

Built-In Hardwood Hutch,

When working with solid wood, joinery techniques must accommodate seasonal movement

Stephen Winchester January 1994 Cabinets | Built-ins

Making a Bullnose Starting Step

You don't have to buy this classic detail; kerf-bending oak is easier than it looks

Stephen Winchester July 1993 Stairs

Safety Fixtures for Table Saws and Shapers

Push sticks, push blocks and featherboards keep work on the table and against the fence, with your fingers at a safe distance Stephen Winchester January 1996 Job Safety Tools I Power Tools

Working Without Pain

From carpal tunnel to tendinitis-cumulative injuries and the building trades

Daniel Wing January 1991 Job Safety









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Pattern Routing Exterior Details

This production-line method of shaping helped put a new deck on a Tudor house

Joseph Wood July 1994 Exterior Finish | Trim Tools | Power Tools

Tying a Bow to an Eyebrow

Carpenters mix compound curves to build a bow window topped by an eyebrow roof

Joseph Wood Robert Caine March 1988 Framing | Roof Framing

Choosing a Lavatory Faucet

Before you're sold on style alone, consider how the faucet is made, the type of valve it uses and the finish

Andrew Wormer January 1998 Mechanical Systems | Plumbing

Innovative Deck Railings

Using wood, glass and steel to build deck railings that stand out from the crowd

Andrew Wormer September 1996 Exterior Finish | Trim Trim Carpentry | Railings

Look at Bathroom Lighting,

Choosing lamps and fixtures that will give you the most natural-looking and energy-efficient lighting

Andrew Wormer
Winter 1999
Design | Kitchen & Bath Design
Lighting

Sawhorse Roundup

A selection of new and traditional designs for sawhorses that are easy to build, strong and lightweight

Andrew Wormer
July 1996
Tools | Benches & Stands









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Designing and Building an Entertainment Center

Housing electronic equipment, routing wires, storing CDs and dealing with that big TV are all part of the challenge Brian Wormington

January 1999 Cabinets | Built-ins

Building Square Columns with Entasis

A little math and a shop-made router template give classical curves to plywood box columns Scott Wynn January 2001
Millwork | Column
Trim Carpentry | Other Trim Carpentry

Designing and Building a Carpenter's Toolbox

The best ones are sturdy, lightweight and compact Scott Wynn January 1997 Tools | Storage

Hand Planes for Trim Carpentry

Tuned and adjusted right, these planes will save time and improve your work Scott Wynn September 1992 Tools I Hand Tools









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Job-Site Shack

A modular tool shed that's roomy, well lit and secure Bill Young July 1984 Tools | Storage

Plunge-Router Stairs

An adjustable mortising jig simplifies the construction of an open-riser stairway Bill Young September 1985 Stairs

Chainsaws Come Out of the Woods

A log builder tells about chainsaw safety, maintenance and how he uses chainsaws to work logs and timbers Larry S. Young July 1990

Chinkless Log-Building

Tools | Power Tools

Coping logs with chainsaw and scriber Larry S. Young May 1989 Framing | Timber Frame & Log Framing



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Silicone Caulking Basics

For caulking around bathroom and kitchen fixtures, nothing lasts longer or keeps out moisture better than silicone Brian Zavitz September 1997 Interior Finish | Paint, Stain, Varnish, Caulk

Getting More out of Your Rafter Square

If you understand the twelfth scale, your square becomes a durable calculator that never needs batteries Greg Ziomek

September 1997

Tools | Layout

