

## Topics:

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**Arbitration****If you can't resolve your differences in the field, here's an alternative to court**Andrew H. Diem  
January 1990  
Business**Job Closeout****Finishing on schedule and within budget demands careful planning at the start**Stephen Mead  
September 1991  
Business**Organizing the Project****How one builder creates order at the job site**David Gerstel  
March 1988  
Business**Running the Company****Ideas on organization and management for builders**David Gerstel  
July 1988  
Business**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

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**Bed Alcove****Convert wasted attic space into a bed that has drawers, bookshelves and a vanity**Tony Simmonds  
September 1992  
Cabinets | Built-ins**Bookshelf Basics****A guide to support systems, shelving designs and materials**Bruce Greenlaw  
July 1996  
Cabinets | Built-ins**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**Built-In Hardwood Hutch,  
A****When working with solid wood, joinery techniques must accommodate seasonal movement**Stephen Winchester  
January 1994  
Cabinets | Built-ins**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**Fanciful Built-in Beds****A look at the design and construction of Scandinavian-inspired bed alcoves**Jean Steinbrecher  
September 1998  
Cabinets | Built-ins

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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

**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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**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 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 Kitchen Cabinets on Site****Make face frames after the doors are hung for a perfect fit and quick, no-hassle installation**Joseph B. Lanza  
November 1999  
Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets**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  
Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets**Hardwood Edgings for Plastic Laminate****The secret is to glue on oversized pieces, then trim them flush**Paul Levine  
January 1993  
Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

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**Hybrid Cabinet Construction**

**This system combines traditional looks with efficient assembly techniques**

Jim Tolpin

May 1992

Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

**Inside Look at Kitchen Cabinets, An**

**Manufactured kitchens run the gamut on price, materials and craftsmanship**

Scott Gibson

Winter 1999

Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

Materials &amp; Products | Kitchen &amp; Bath

**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

**Installing Kitchen Cabinets**

**How to fit and fasten cabinets to wavy walls and floors**

Tom Law

January 1994

Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

Remodeling | Kitchen &amp; Bath

**Kitchen Cabinet, The**  
**How to design and build one with basic tools**

Will Hasson

July 1982

Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

**Making a Solid-Surface Countertop**

**Synthetic materials can be worked like wood and polished like stone**

Sven Hanson

November 1993

Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

Interior Finish | Countertops



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**Making Heart-Pine Cabinets****Recycled wood brings a warm glow to a Virginia kitchen**

Daniel Foster

May 1996

Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

**Refacing Kitchen Cabinets****A veneer face-lift makes a 'new' kitchen affordable**

Rex Alexander

May 1993

Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

Remodeling | Kitchen &amp; Bath

**Simple Frameless Cabinets Built on Site****Combining no-nonsense joinery with Baltic-birch plywood and concealed cup hinges in a contemporary kitchen**

Joseph B. Lanza

May 2001

Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

**Site-Built Kitchen****Construct base cabinets with a carpenter's pragmatism and a cabinetmaker's precision**

Tony Simmonds

March 1993

Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

**Traditional Cabinetry From a Modern Material****Raised-panel assemblies made from MDF are dimensionally stable, cheaper than solid wood and easy to mill**

Jay Goldman

March 1997

Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

**Updating the Kitchen Pantry****By using both manufactured and shop-built parts, these versatile cabinets can be made quickly and efficiently**

David Getts

March 1999

Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets



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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



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**Gallery of Favorite Bath Details, A****It's the little things that make a good bathroom great**

Charles Bickford

Winter 2001

Design | Kitchen &amp; Bath Design

**Getting Appliances to Fit****Careful planning from the start is the key to a functional, hassle-free kitchen**

David Getts

Winter 2001

Design | Kitchen &amp; Bath Design

**Installing Grab Bars****These safety devices aren't there for looks—they must be well anchored to help prevent bathroom injuries**

Paul Althoff

January 2001

Design | Kitchen &amp; Bath Design

Trim Carpentry | Other Trim

Carpentry

**Look at Bathroom Lighting, A****Choosing lamps and fixtures that will give you the most natural-looking and energy-efficient lighting**

Andrew Wormer

Winter 1999

Design | Kitchen &amp; Bath Design

Lighting

**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 &amp; Bath Design





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**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

**Designing Dining Spaces****Formal or not, comfortable, thought-out dining spaces add to the pleasure of a good meal**

Robert Orr

May 2000

Design | Other Design

**Designing Roofs for Snow Country****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 &amp; Moisture Control | Ice Dams

**Detailing Decks Over Living Space****When the roof pitch is shallow enough to walk on, clear drainage paths and careful waterproofing are essential**

John Phelps

November 1997

Design | Other Design

Porches &amp; Decks | Decks

**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



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**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

**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**

Byron Papa

March 1999

Design | Other Design

**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

**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



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**Hurricane Warnings****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

**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

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**Siting a House****Proper siting and design strategies enhance energy efficiency**

M. Joe Numbers

March 1995

Design | Siting Design

**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 &amp; Masonry | Concrete



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**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

**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

**Engineered Nail, The Ten steps to secure connections**

Edward Allen  
July 1987

Design | Structural Design

**Hurricane Warnings**

**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

**Riding Out the Big One**

**A structural engineer explains what happens to a wood-frame building in an earthquake and how it can resist collapse**

Ralph Gareth Gray  
January 1991  
Design | Structural Design



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**About old pocket doors  
(included in Pocket Doors)**

James Boorstein

July 1989

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors

**Door Hanger's Jigs, A****A door specialist reveals a few  
shop-made accessories that  
make the job faster and easier**

Larry Hart

November 1997

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors

**French-Door Retrofit****Opening up a wall to bring the  
outdoors in**

David Strawderman

July 1991

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors

**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

**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 Locksets****You can do the job freehand with  
a chisel and a drill, but jigs and  
routers are faster**

Gary M. Katz

March 1993

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors

**Installing Mortise Locksets****Whether you drill and chisel or  
rout with an expensive lock  
mortiser, cutting a big hole for  
the case is only part of the job**

Gary M. Katz

May 1993

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors



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

Jim Britton

July 1995

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors

**Installing Sliding Doors****Put the threshold in straight and level, plumb the frame, and the door should glide like a dream**

Gary M. Katz

May 1997

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors

**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

**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

January 1999

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors

**Pocket Doors****Should you buy a kit or build your own?**

Kevin Ireton

July 1989

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors

**Production-Line Jamb Setting and Door Hanging**  
**Time-saving techniques from the tracts**

Larry Haun

May 1989

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors



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**Retrofitting a Threshold****A three-piece threshold provides extra weather protection, especially in exposed locations**

Gary M. Katz

May 1996

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors

Millwork | Door



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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

**Flashing a Curb**

Jim Picton

November 1982

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Skylights

Water &amp; Moisture Control | Flashing

**Framing for Skylights****The trick is in laying out and building the splayed walls of the lightwell**

Doug Hopper

September 1994

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Skylights

Framing | Roof 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

**Skylights in the Eaves****Creating private, light-filled spaces when houses are close together**

Anthony Simmonds

November 1991

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Skylights





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**Building a Bow Window From Scratch****Lay out the curved plates with a trammel, then use them as a bending form for laminated trim**

Spencer Horn

May 1999

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Windows

**Building Louvered Shutters****Jigs and careful planning make quick, accurate work of a potentially tedious job**

Rob Hunt

November 1983

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Windows

**Caulk-Free Corners****A technique for folding skylight flashing**

David Marshall

November 1988

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Windows

Water &amp; Moisture Control | Flashing

**Designing and Building Leak-Free Sloped Glazing****Error-free projects demand careful detailing**

Fred Unger

March 1992

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Windows

**Double-Hungs Restrung**  
**More than just fishing for sash weights**

David Strawderman

January 1991

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Windows  
Restoration**Installing Arch-Top Windows****How one builder supports the loads without a conventional header, then uses a trammel jig to cut siding and casing**

Douglas Goodale

November 1989

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Windows



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**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**Leaded Glass**

**The tools, materials and  
techniques of this craft haven't  
changed much in 500 years**

Doug Hechter

November 1984

Doors, Windows, Skylights |  
Windows**Making Window Sash**

**How to do a custom job with  
ordinary shop tools and a router**

John Leeke

January 1984

Doors, Windows, Skylights |  
Windows

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**Air and Vapor Barriers**

**Understanding and preventing moisture movement are the first steps in protecting a house from water damage**

Scott Gibson

May 1994

Energy Issues | Air Sealing

**Controlling Air Leakage**

**These simple techniques save energy in new construction**

Jim Maloney

November 1992

Energy Issues | Air Sealing

**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 &amp; 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 &amp;

Weatherstripping



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**Installing Housewrap**

**When properly detailed, high-tech 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

**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

Millwork | Window

**Understanding Common Moisture Problems**

**Three case studies illustrate the importance of controlling humidity and air leakage**

Marc Rosenbaum

January 1996

Energy Issues | Air Sealing

Energy Issues | Insulation &amp;

Weatherstripping

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**Energy-Saving Details**

**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

**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

**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

**Making Storm Windows**

**Wood storm windows look better and seal tighter than mass-produced aluminum and vinyl units**

Rex Alexander

November 1997

Energy Issues | Insulation & Weatherstripping  
Millwork | Window



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**Putting Fiberglass  
Insulation in Its Place****Careful installation of fiberglass  
batts is likely to have a bigger  
impact on your life than tight-  
fitting miters**

Bob Kilian

November 1998

Energy Issues | Insulation &  
Weatherstripping**Three Ways to  
Weatherstrip a Door****Whether vinyl, silicone or bronze,  
an airtight seal is your best  
defense against the weather**

Gary M. Katz

September 1998

Energy Issues | Insulation &  
Weatherstripping**Understanding Common  
Moisture Problems****Three case studies illustrate the  
importance of controlling  
humidity and air leakage**

Marc Rosenbaum

January 1996

Energy Issues | Air Sealing  
Energy Issues | Insulation &  
Weatherstripping  
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**Cleaning Paintbrushes and Rollers****A spinner makes quick work of a messy task**Johnathan Roger Foster  
May 1994Exterior Finish | Painting  
Interior Finish | Paint, Stain, Varnish,  
Caulk**Painting Exteriors****Surface preparation is the name of the game**Robert Dufort  
September 1990  
Exterior Finish | Painting**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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**Building a Cupola**

**The proper proportions and long-lasting materials make a structure that looks good and helps ventilate house, barn or shop**

Ken Textor

May 1996

Exterior Finish | Trim

**Building an Exterior Newel Post**

**Redwood boards and custom moldings decorate a pressure-treated post and anchor the front-porch steps**

Peter Carlson

November 1993

Exterior Finish | Trim

**Building an Ornate Cornice**

**Cabinet-grade trim meets detective work when a carpenter restores a Victorian facade**

Terry Murphy

March 1994

Exterior Finish | Trim

**Classical Details in a Harsh Environment**

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

Robert Weinstein

May 1994

Exterior Finish | Trim

Water &amp; Moisture Control | Flashing

**Cornice Construction**

**Building the return is the tough part**

Bob Syvanen

July 1983

Trim Carpentry | Exterior

Exterior Finish | Trim

**Dressing up Stock Windows**

**A two-piece sill, 5/4 casing and a backband flesh out stock windows' narrow exterior profile**

Scott McBride

July 1999

Exterior Finish | Trim

Trim Carpentry | Door &amp; Window

Casings





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**Dummy Rafter Tails**

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

Bob Syvanen  
July 1985  
Exterior Finish | Trim

**Exterior-Trim Details That Last**

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

John Michael Davis  
September 2001  
Exterior Finish | Trim

**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

**Large Cornice Made From Built-up Moldings, A**

**A molding head on a radial-arm saw shapes the coves, and plywood forms support the moldings**

Barrie Graham  
May 1998  
Exterior Finish | Trim

**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

**Railing Against the Elements**

**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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**Rethinking the Cornice  
Return****Standard ogee gutters can mimic  
this classical detail**

Scott McBride  
November 1992  
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

**Victorian Brackets****Bandsawing gingerbread takes  
method and practice**

Simon Watts  
November 1986  
Exterior Finish | Trim

**West Coast Overhang****A framing technique for soffit-  
covered eaves**

Don Dunkley  
November 1990  
Exterior Finish | Trim



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**Deep Foundations****Using driven piles and grade beams to build on soft ground**

Alvin M. Sacks

September 1991

Foundations & Masonry | Alternative  
Foundations & Masonry**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**Framing a Crawl-Space Foundation****These timesaving tips make short work of setting sills, posts and girders**

Larry Haun

November 1992

Foundations & Masonry | Alternative  
Foundations & Masonry  
Framing | Floor Framing**Frost-Protected Shallow Foundations****Used overseas successfully for decades, this innovative foundation system uses carefully placed insulation and a slab with integral footings instead of conventional deep frost walls**

Christopher R. Kendall

March 1997

Foundations & Masonry | Alternative  
Foundations & Masonry**Installing Glass Block****Privacy and light in the same package**

Michael Byrne

March 1987

Foundations & Masonry | Alternative  
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**Rammed Earth****An ancient building method made easier by new technology**

Magnus Berglund

November 1982

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Alternative

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**Rubble-Trench  
Foundations****A simple, effective foundation system for residential structures**

Elias Velonis

January 1984

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Alternative

Foundations &amp; Masonry



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**Brick Floors****How a New Mexico pro lays a brick floor without mortar or string lines**

Douglas Ring

July 1986

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Brick

Interior Finish | Floors

**Bricklaying Basics****Tools, materials and techniques for building a brick wall**

Dick Kreh

January 1988

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Brick

**Building a Fireplace****One mason's approach to framing, layout and bricklaying technique**

Bob Syvanen

May 1984

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Brick

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Fireplace &amp;

Chimney

**Fireplace Chimney, The****Flashing and capping are the tricky parts of the job**

Bob Syvanen

July 1984

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Fireplace &amp;

Chimney

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Brick

**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 &amp; Masonry | Brick

Water &amp; Moisture Control | Flashing

**Laying Brick Arches****A masonry inglenook becomes the warm center of an architect's new house**

Elizabeth Holland

July 1982

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Brick



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**Laying Up Brick Bovedas  
Inwardly leaning arches defy  
gravity**

E. Logan Wagner

January 1989

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Brick

**Point of Repointing, The  
Renewing tired masonry joints  
can bring an old brick building  
back to life**

Richard T. Kreh

May 1981

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Brick

**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 &amp; Masonry | Brick

Interior Finish | Floors

**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 &amp; Masonry | Brick



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**Addition Foundation, An Grafting the right foundation onto a house that's neither square nor level**

Rick Arnold

March 2002

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Concrete Remodeling | Structural

**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

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Concrete

**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 &amp; Masonry | Concrete Interior Finish | Countertops

**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 &amp; Masonry | Concrete

**Cracked Foundations****Prevention is easier than repair**

Kip Park

September 1988

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Concrete Remodeling | Structural



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

Bruce A. Suprenant

September 1989

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Concrete

**Designing Forms for Tall Concrete Walls****Site-built panels that hold up under stress**

William Doran

January 1993

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Concrete

**Details for a Dry Foundation****Think of the ground around the house as the roof that keeps the foundation dry**

William B. Rose

September 1997

Foundations & Masonry | Concrete  
Water & Moisture Control |  
Basements**Easy Boring in Concrete, Masonry and Stone****Choose the appropriate drill and bit for the job, then respect their limitations**

Bruce Greenlaw

January 1996

Foundations & Masonry | Stone  
Foundations & Masonry | Concrete**Forming and Pouring Footings****Fill up a trench with concrete-- what'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 &amp; Masonry | Concrete





## Topics:

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**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 &amp; Masonry | Concrete

**Forming Concrete Walls**

**Building forms stick by stick can save on labor and materials**

Arne Waldstein

July 1990

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Concrete

**Foundations on Hillside Sites**

**An engineer tells about pier and grade-beam foundations**

Ronald J. Barr

September 1983

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Concrete

**Insulated Concrete Forms Assembled with regular building skills, ICFs form airtight, insulating concrete walls that finish with standard materials**

**Andy Engel**

January 2000

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Concrete

**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 &amp; Masonry | Concrete

**Making Concrete Countertops**

**Solid, durable and attractive, an uncommon countertop can be cast from common materials**

Thomas Hughes

September 1994

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Concrete

Interior Finish | Countertops



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**Operating a Power Trowel  
Pressure on the handlebars  
controls the machine, and the  
angle of the blades controls the  
finish**

John M. Schnittker  
September 1993  
Foundations & Masonry | Concrete

**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

**Placing a Concrete  
Driveway****Careful preparation of the soils  
and proper positioning of joints  
and reinforcement are keys to a  
driveway that lasts a lifetime**

Rocky R. Geans  
May 1996  
Foundations & Masonry | Concrete

**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

**Pouring Concrete Slabs****Tips on ordering, placing,  
screeding, floating and finishing**

Carl Hagstrom  
September 1993  
Foundations & Masonry | Concrete

**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



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**Site Layout**

**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

**Slab-On-Grade Foundation for Cold Climates, A**

**Proper drainage (lots of gravel) is the key**

George Nash  
May 1990  
Foundations & Masonry | Concrete

**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

**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

**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

**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



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**Building a Block Foundation**

**How to pour the footing and lay the concrete block, and what to do about waterproofing, drainage and insulation**

Dick Kreh

July 1983

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Concrete Block

**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 &amp; Masonry | Concrete Block

**When Block Foundations Go Bad**

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

Donald V. Cohen

July 1998

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Concrete Block

**Surface-Bonded Block**

**A strong, fast and inexpensive alternative to poured-concrete or block-in-mortar walls**

Paul Hanke

January 1983

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Concrete Block



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**Building a Fireplace****One mason's approach to framing, layout and bricklaying technique**

Bob Syvanen

May 1984

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Brick

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Fireplace &amp; Chimney

**Building a Tiled Masonry Heater****Hot combustion, heat-exchange channels and six tons of brick for energy efficiency and a clean burn**

Vladimir Popovac

January 1992

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Fireplace &amp; Chimney

**Building an Efficient Fireplace****A variation of the Rumford design reflects heat into the room rather than letting it disappear up the chimney**

Richard T. Kreh, Sr.

May 1997

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Fireplace &amp; Chimney

**Chimney Cricket****Soldered copper flashing for a rooftop watershed**

Scott McBride

July 1988

Water &amp; Moisture Control | Flashing

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Fireplace &amp; Chimney

**Fireplace Chimney, The Flashing and capping are the tricky parts of the job**

Bob Syvanen

July 1984

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Fireplace &amp; Chimney

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Brick

**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 &amp; Masonry | Fireplace &amp; Chimney

Water &amp; Moisture Control | Flashing



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**K'ang****An under-the-floor masonry stove**

Jeffrey J. Smith

January 1987

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Fireplace &amp; Chimney

**Renovating a Chimney****New flue liners convert fireplaces for woodstove use**

Joseph Kitchel

September 1981

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Fireplace &amp; Chimney

**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 &amp; Masonry | Fireplace &amp; Chimney

**Rumford Fireplace, Southwestern Style, A****A California mason combines the adobe look of a kiva with the heating efficiency of a Rumford**

Vladimir Popovac

January 1998

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Fireplace &amp; Chimney

**Rumfordizing Brick by Brick****How to convert an energy-wasting fireplace to an efficient heater**

Kent Burdett

July 1981

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Fireplace &amp; Chimney



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**Building Dry Stone Walls****A systematic approach saves time and turns beginners into artists**

Chris Kachur

November 1999

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Stone

**Easy Boring in Concrete, Masonry and Stone****Choose the appropriate drill and bit for the job, then respect their limitations**

Bruce Greenlaw

January 1996

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Stone

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Concrete

**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 &amp; Masonry | Stone

**From Boulders to Building Blocks****How a traditional stonemason quarries and dresses sandstone**

Charles Miller

November 1986

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Stone

**Guidelines for Laying Stone Walls****Master the basics and gravity will do the rest**

Joseph Kenlan

November 1988

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Stone

**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 &amp; Masonry | Stone

Siding | Other Siding



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**Pointing Stonework****A pastry bag speeds this tedious job and gets the work done cleanly and efficiently**

Christopher Kachur

May 1995

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Stone

**Repairing Old Stonework****With the materials already delivered and paid for, why not use them?**

Stephen Kennedy

March 1988

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Stone

**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 &amp; Masonry | Concrete

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Stone

**Structural Stone Wall, The****Save your mortar for pointing, bed your stones in concrete, and remember there's no substitute for gravity**

Stephen Kennedy

July 1985

Foundations &amp; Masonry | Stone





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**Building Coffered Ceilings****Three framing methods**

Don Dunkley

Greg Lawrence

Jay Thomsen

July 1992

Framing | Ceiling Framing

**Framing Cathedral Ceilings****The challenge boils down to keeping the walls from spreading during and after construction**

Brian Saluk

September 1998

Framing | Ceiling Framing

**Framing Kitchen Soffits****Full-scale patterns on the floor and prefabricated sections help you to build these small dropped ceilings accurately and efficiently**

Ralph Holloway

January 1999

Framing | Ceiling Framing



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**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

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**Decking and Sheathing**

**How one production carpenter puts the skin on wood-frame houses**

Jud Peake

March 1987

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**Don't Forget the Blocks**

**Blocking makes a house more stable and makes it easier to install drywall, plumbing and siding**

Larry Haun

July 1993

Framing | Floor 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 Crawl-Space Foundation**

**These timesaving tips make short work of setting sills, posts and girders**

Larry Haun

November 1992

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Foundations &amp; Masonry

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**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



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**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**

Rick Arnold  
Mike Guertin  
May 1997  
Framing | Floor Framing

**Framing With The Plumber in Mind**

**A few tips to help you keep your sticks and nails out of my way**

Peter Hemp  
November 1988  
Framing | Floor Framing

**Installing a Built-Up Girder**  
**From where and how you build it, to setting the columns underneath, the process goes smoother if you have a system**

Scott Knight  
July 1994  
Framing | Floor Framing

**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  
Framing | Floor 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



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## Supporting a Cantilevered Bay

**Before you build that eye-catching bay onto the side of a house, you have to get the floor framing right**

Mike Guertin

January 2001

Framing | Floor Framing



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### **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

### **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

### **Building an Arched Dormer**

**This unusual project took some concentrated thought about the framing and an interesting roofing material to top it off**

Bill Phelps

November 1984

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### **Building Barrel Vaults Longitudinal Wood I-Beams**

Lamar Henderson

March 1989

Framing | Roof Framing

### **Building Barrel Vaults Trusses and Plywood Gussets**

Gerry Copeland

March 1989

Framing | Roof Framing

### **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



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**Ceiling Joists for a Hip Roof****Three simple, problem-solving framing techniques**

Larry Haun

September 1991

Framing | Roof Framing

**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

**Cutting Multiples****A few tricks can save time when cutting studs, blocks and cripples**

Larry Haun

May 1994

Framing | Roof Framing  
Framing | Wall Framing**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

**Falling Eaves****One carpenter tries five methods of framing a tricky roof**

Scott McBride

May 1992

Framing | Roof 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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**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

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**Framing a Cold Roof**

**Preventing roof leaks caused by ice damming**

Steve Kearns

November 1990

Venting

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**Framing a Cross-Gable Roof**

**One good valley rafter supports another**

Scott McBride

September 1992

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**Framing a Dutch Roof**

**Hang a hip roof on a gable end for a dramatic roof form**

Larry Haun

March 1995

Framing | Roof Framing

**Framing a Gable Roof**

**Cutting and stacking the way pieceworkers do it**

Larry Haun

May 1990

Framing | Roof Framing

**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

Framing | Roof Framing



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**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

**Framing a Hip Roof**

**After you've framed a gable roof, rafter templates and rafter tables are all you'll need to make a hip**

Larry Haun

November 1995

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**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

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Remodeling | Dormers

**Framing Doghouse Dormers**

**Two ways to frame a basic gable dormer**

Scott McBride

September 1987

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**Framing for Skylights**

**The trick is in laying out and building the splayed walls of the lightwell**

Doug Hopper

September 1994

Doors, Windows, Skylights |

Skylights

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**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





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**Gable-Dormer Retrofit, A  
Framing around an existing roof  
requires different skeletons for  
two similar structures**

Scott McBride

November 2000

Framing | Roof Framing

Remodeling | Dormers

**Glossary of Roofing Terms,****A****(included in Roof Framing  
Simplified)**

Tom Law

September 1982

Framing | Roof Framing

**Putting the Lid On****A primer on production cutting  
and raising a hip and gable roof**

Don Dunkley

September 1982

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**Rafter Square, The****Laying out a roof with this basic  
tool and a new generation of  
accessories**

Jud Peake

September 1982

Framing | Roof Framing

Tools | Layout

**Raising an Eyebrow****Two methods used to frame  
wave-like dormers**

James Docker

March 1991

Framing | Roof Framing

Remodeling | Dormers

**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



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**Retrofitting a Curbed Skylight****Get the flashing right to ensure leak-free skylights**

Jim Blodgett

September 2001

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**Roof Framing Revisited****A graphic way to lay out rafters without using tables**

Scott McBride

September 1985

Framing | Roof Framing

**Roof Framing Simplified****This direct approach involves full-size layouts and stringing rafter lines**

Tom Law

September 1982

Framing | Roof Framing

**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

**Shed-Dormer Retrofit****Turning your attic into living space may be the remedy for your growing pains**

Scott McBride

November 1986

Framing | Roof Framing

Remodeling | Dormers

**Simplified Valley Framing****Build one roof on top of the other and skip the valley rafters**

Larry Haun

March 1993

Framing | Roof Framing



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**Strengthening Plate-to-Rafter Connections****It may be time to abandon the time-honored toenail**

Stanley H. Niu

May 1992

Framing | Roof Framing

**Valley Framing for Unequally Pitched Roofs****An empirical method that works**

George Nash

July 1991

Framing | Roof Framing

**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



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## 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

## Remodeling With Metal Studs

**Skyrocketing lumber costs make steel studs an enticing, easily installed alternative to wood**

Tom O'Brien

September 1995

Framing | Steel Framing

Remodeling | Additions



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**Chinkless Log-Building****Coping logs with chainsaw and scribe**

Larry S. Young

May 1989

Framing | Timber Frame &amp; Log Framing

**Curved Timber****How one timber framer hews, bandsaws and steambends straight stock into curves**

Ed Levin

September 1988

Framing | Timber Frame &amp; Log Framing

**Introduction to Timber Framing, An****Learning this traditional method begins with the mortise-and-tenon joint**

Tedd Benson

January 1983

Framing | Timber Frame &amp; Log Framing

**Raising Heavy Timber****Tools and tips for maneuvering big beams**

Trey Loy

May 1982

Framing | Timber Frame &amp; Log Framing

**Timbered Ceiling, A****Combining stick-framed walls with a timber-framed ceiling**

George Nash

March 1991

Framing | Timber Frame &amp; 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 &amp; Log Framing



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**All Trussed Up****Fabricating Box-Beam Trusses**

Edwin Oribin

January 1992

Framing | Truss Framing

**All Trussed Up****Steel-and-Wood Trusses**

Eliot Goldstein

January 1992

Framing | Truss Framing

**Cooperative Craftsmanship****Distinctive wood detailing, tile work, stained glass and carving in a California living room**

Ben Tarcher

January 1982

Framing | Truss Framing

Stairs

**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



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## 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

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## Balloon-Framing a Rake Wall

**How one builder stiffens walls by running studs from floor to roofline**

Sean Sheehan

September 1990

Framing | Wall Framing

## Building Rake Walls

**Two time-saving layout methods**

Larry Haun

March 1992

Framing | Wall Framing

## 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

May 2001

Framing | Wall Framing

## Cutting Multiples

**A few tricks can save time when cutting studs, blocks and cripples**

Larry Haun

May 1994

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## Economical Framing

**To conserve materials and save money, avoid overbuilding and design on 4-ft. modules**

E. Lee Fisher

November 1993

Framing | Wall Framing



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**Energy-Saving Details**

**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

**Fast and Accurate Framing Cuts Without Lines**

**They didn't believe it, so I cut this one by eye and took out my square to see how close I came.**

Larry Haun

September 1998

Framing | Wall Framing

**Framing a Walk-Out Bow Window**

**A full-scale drawing reduces the chance of error**

Carl Hagstrom

March 1994

Framing | Wall Framing

**Framing Corners**

**A survey of methods and materials used to build warm, inexpensive and strong corners**

Charles Bickford

January 1998

Framing | Wall Framing

**Framing for Garage Doors**  
**Think about the door before you pour**

Steve Riley

May 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





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**Framing Headers and Corners****A summary of framing details for strength and energy efficiency**

Rob Thallon

March 1992

Framing | Wall Framing

**Framing Walls****Speed and efficiency are the results of a careful, well-thought-out layout**

Scott McBride

July 1993

Framing | Wall Framing

**Laying Out and Detailing Wall Plates****How a seasoned framer quickly and accurately transforms blueprint dimensions into templates for walls**

Larry Haun

November 1999

Framing | Wall Framing

**Light-Gauge Steel Framing****Inexpensive, stable and easy to install, steel is becoming popular for interior partitions**

Steve Mead

May 1986

Framing | Wall Framing

**On-Site Carpentry with a Circular Saw****Cutting in place saves time and trouble**

Jud Peake

July 1981

Framing | Wall Framing

Tools | Power Tools

**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



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**Plumbing, Lining and Bracing Framed Walls**

**A framing contractor explains his efficient sequence for keeping walls straight and true**

Scot Simpson

January 1995

Framing | Wall Framing

**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

**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

**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

**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

**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



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**Wall Bracing**

**Wood, metal and plywood can all be used to keep walls from racking**

Larry Haun

January 1994

Framing | Wall Framing



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**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 &amp; Masonry | Concrete

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**Counter Act**

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

Steve Morris

March 1999

Interior Finish | Countertops

**Granite Countertops**

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

Joe Ranzoni

March 1996

Interior Finish | Countertops

Materials &amp; Products | Kitchen &amp; Bath

**Making a Solid-Surface  
Countertop**

**Synthetic materials can be worked like wood and polished like stone**

Sven Hanson

November 1993

Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

Interior Finish | Countertops

**Making Bevel-Edge  
Laminate Countertops**

**With store-bought moldings and a router, you can give laminate counters the monolithic look of solid-surface material**

Herrick Kimball

March 1998

Interior Finish | Countertops

**Making Concrete  
Countertops**

**Solid, durable and attractive, an uncommon countertop can be cast from common materials**

Thomas Hughes

September 1994

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**Making Plastic-Laminate  
Countertops****Cutting shears and spray  
adhesive are among the tricks  
that make the job easier**

Herrick Kimball

July 1992

Interior Finish | Countertops

**Poured-in-Place Concrete  
Countertops****Getting a durable kitchen work  
surface starts with careful form  
work and the right concrete**

Rex Alexander

September 1999

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**Tiling a Mortar-Bed  
Counter****How one tile setter builds the  
classic kitchen work surface**

Michael Byrne

March 1985

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**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 &amp; 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 &amp; 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 &amp; Plaster

**Drywall Detailing**

**An alternative to wood trim around doors, windows and skylights**

Dennis Darrah

November 1990

Interior Finish | Drywall &amp; Plaster

**Easy Textured Ceiling, An**

**Not just a cover-up for lousy drywall work, this approach creates the appearance of hand-troweled plaster using ordinary joint compound**

Robert A. Sanders

March 2001

Interior Finish | Drywall &amp; Plaster

**Handling Big Sheets of Drywall**

**Longer sheets mean fewer seams and simpler taping and finishing**

Myron R. Ferguson

January 1997

Interior Finish | Drywall &amp; Plaster



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**Installing Drywall****How to keep the sheets flat and the seams to a minimum**

Charles Wardell

May 1993

Interior Finish | Drywall &amp; Plaster

**Making Plaster Molding****Sometimes complex shapes and profiles are easier to make in plaster than in wood**

Frank C. Freyvogel

March 1995

Interior Finish | Drywall &amp; Plaster

**New Way to Repair Old Plaster, A****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 &amp; Plaster

**Ornamental Plaster Restoration****Making an impression with traditional techniques and materials, plus a few new twists**

David Flaharty

January 1990

Interior Finish | Drywall &amp; Plaster

**Repairing Drywall****Techniques for fixing everything from popped screws to big holes**

Myron R. Ferguson

May 1999

Interior Finish | Drywall &amp; Plaster

**Shop-Built Drywall Lift****An inexpensive alternative to a bad back**

Tim Hanson

January 1989

Interior Finish | Drywall &amp; Plaster



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**Simple Curved Corners****Bending plywood and joint compound make graceful curves in white walls**

Scott M. Carpenter

September 1993

Interior Finish | Drywall &amp; Plaster

**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 &amp; Plaster

**Taping and Finishing Drywall****How to get smooth walls with minimum sanding**

Charles Wardell

July 1993

Interior Finish | Drywall &amp; Plaster

**Two-Coat Plaster****How one builder avoids the drywall doldrums**

James Servais

March 1986

Interior Finish | Drywall &amp; Plaster

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

Tim Snyder

July 1983

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**Brick Floors****How a New Mexico pro lays a brick floor without mortar or string lines**

Douglas Ring

July 1986

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Don Bollinger

November 1990

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**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

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Interior Finish | Tile**Floor Sanding****Follow a pattern with powerful machines for best results**

Don Bollinger

May 1983

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**Hardwood Strip Flooring****How to lay out and install it**

Don Bollinger

March 1983

Interior Finish | Floors

**Installing a Hammer-Cut Stone Floor****Basic tools produce a quartzite surface that's easy on the toes**

Paul Holloway

July 1991

Interior Finish | Floors

**Installing a Plank Floor**  
**Wide boards demand careful persuasion**

Don Bollinger

November 1988

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**Installing a Sheet-Vinyl Floor****Whether flat-lay or coved, use a felt-paper pattern for best results**

Terry Shrode  
September 1984  
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**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  
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**Installing Laminate Flooring**

Robert B. Ruhl  
July 1998  
Interior Finish | Floors

**Installing Strip Flooring****Careful prep, layout and tight nailing make a wood floor last for years**

Charles Peterson  
January 2002  
Interior Finish | Floors

**Laying a Plank Floor****Economical and good looking, single-layer flooring is also easy to put down**

Paul Hanke  
July 1986  
Interior Finish | Floors

**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  
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**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

**Cleaning Paintbrushes and Rollers**

**A spinner makes quick work of a messy task**

Johnathan Roger Foster  
May 1994

Exterior Finish | Painting  
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**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

**Finishing Hardwood Floors**  
**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

**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  
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### Has Latex Won the Paint Wars?

**More durable and versatile than ever, water-based exterior house paints are pushing oil to the brink of extinction**

Zachary Gaulkin

March 1999

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### 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

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### 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

### Rolling Interior Latex Wall Paint

**A professional painter's hard-won lessons for applying the ubiquitous wall finish**

Byron Papa

May 1991

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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

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### Spray-Painting Trim

**Preparations and priming make or break the job**

Byron Papa

November 1987

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**Quiet Please****Strategies for toning down sound transmission in wood-framed floors and ceilings**

Russell DuPree

March 1990

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**Soundproofing a Music Studio****Some practical solutions to noise pollution**

Gene De Smidt

November 1986

Interior Finish | Soundproofing



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**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

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**Grouting Tile**

**Choosing, mixing, applying and sealing the messy stuff that goes between tiles**

David Hart

May 2001

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**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

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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

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**Mortar-Bed Shower, A**

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

Michael Byrne

May 1986

Interior Finish | Tile

**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

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**Tiling a Backsplash****Decorative tiles liven up a kitchen**

Tom Meehan

July 1991

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**Tiling a Bathroom Floor****Cementitious backerboard speeds up the job, but start with a subfloor that is firm and flat**

Dennis Hourany

July 1999

Interior Finish | Tile

**Tiling a Kitchen Counter****Start with a sturdy wood underlayment, and plan the layout to get cut tiles in the back**

Dennis Hourany

January 1999

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**Tiling a Mortar-Bed Counter****How one tile setter builds the classic kitchen work surface**

Michael Byrne

March 1985

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**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

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**Tiling a Tub Surround****Substituting backer board for the traditional mortar bed makes the job easier without sacrificing durability**

Michael Byrne

January 1995

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## Tiling Over a Laminate Counter

**Thanks to cement backerboard, you can make a new countertop without ripping out the old one**

David Hart

May 2000

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## 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

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**Arm and Hand Pain on the Job Site****A doctor's take on wrist, elbow and shoulder troubles common to builders**

John Fuhrman  
July 2000  
Job Safety

**Avoiding Back Pain****For trouble-free service, stretch, exercise and watch your posture**

Chris Dunn  
January 1994  
Job Safety

**Builder's Guide to Avoiding Skin Problems, A****From cracked fingertips and contact allergies to cement burns and skin cancer, the prevention is better than the cure**

Art Papier  
July 2001  
Job Safety

**Builder's Real-Life First-Aid Kit, A****Bandages, bee-sting medicine and everything else a carpenter shouldn't leave home without**

Jim Kelleher  
September 1998  
Job Safety

**Danger Can Be a State of Mind****When it comes to job-site safety, your emotional well-being is as important as earplugs and safety goggles**

Larry Haun  
January 1999  
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**Hearing-Loss Prevention****Earmuffs and earplugs provide inexpensive protection from job-site noise**

Ron Joines  
May 1995  
Job Safety



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**Job-Site Foot Injuries**

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

John England  
March 1993  
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**Job-Site Safety**

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

Mark Feirer  
September 1986  
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**Out in the Cold**

**Gearing up for cold-weather construction**

Scott Schuttner  
January 1989  
Job Safety

**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  
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**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

**Protecting Your Eyes**

**For \$10 or less, comfortable eye wear will guard against common job-site hazards**

Scott Gibson  
November 1994  
Job Safety



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**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

**Safer Job Site, A****OSHA and NAHB team up to identify the key safety issues for residential builders**

Tom O'Brien

May 2000

Job Safety

**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

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**Scaffolding****What goes up mustn't come down accidentally**

Scott McBride

January 1987

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**Working Safely on the Roof****Complying with new OSHA fall-protection regulations takes more than the correct safety gear, it takes a commitment to using the gear correctly**

Howard Stein

January 1996

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**Working Without Pain****From carpal tunnel to tendinitis--cumulative injuries and the building trades**

Daniel Wing

January 1991

Job Safety



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**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

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**Guide to Exterior Lighting,****A****Safety, security and aesthetics all play an important part in illuminating the outside of your house**

Martha Tuzson Stockton

March 1998

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**Look at Bathroom Lighting, A****Choosing lamps and fixtures that will give you the most natural-looking and energy-efficient lighting**

Andrew Wormer

Winter 1999

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**Making Wooden Light Fixtures****With nice ones so hard to find, creating your own makes sense**

John Birchard

July 1985

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**Is It Time to Switch to All-Vinyl Windows?****PVC extrusions offer low cost, low maintenance and thermal performance that rivals wood**

Scott Gibson

May 2002

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**Look Through Patio Doors,****A****The Door Frame Should Be Sturdy, Stable And Rotproof**

Charles Bickford

September 2000

Materials &amp; Products | Doors, Windows, Skylights

**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 &amp; Products | Doors, Windows, Skylights

**Shopping for Interior Doors****There are lots of choices between expensive wooden style-and-rail and cheap hollow-core doors**

Charles Bickford

May 1998

Materials &amp; Products | Doors, Windows, Skylights



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**Choosing Resilient Flooring****Because of environmental concerns, cork and linoleum now compete with vinyl as attractive, durable flooring alternatives**

Rick Gregory

July 1996

Materials &amp; Products | Floors &amp; Walls

**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 &amp; Products | Floors &amp; Walls



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**All About Dishwashers**

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

Roe A. Osborn

Winter 2001

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**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**

Roe A. Osborn

Winter 1999

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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

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**Choosing Kitchen Countertops**

**The perfect marriage of cost, aesthetics and performance is what suits your lifestyle and budget best**

Scott Gibson

Winter 2001

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**Finding the Right Refrigerator**

**Cold, hard facts about the biggest, most-used appliance in your kitchen**

Roe A. Osborn

Winter 2000

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**Granite Countertops**

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

Joe Ranzoni

March 1996

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**Inside Look at Kitchen Cabinets, An****Manufactured kitchens run the gamut on price, materials and craftsmanship**

Scott Gibson

Winter 1999

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**Kitchen Cabinets from Components****With careful layout and efficient assembly, you can piece together affordable cabinets from mix-and-match doors, drawers and boxes**

Sven Hanson

Joel Wheeler

November 1994

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**Plastic Tub-Showers****One-piece fixtures are quick to install, but should you buy a gelcoat or an acrylic model?**

Scott Gibson

November 1998

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**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

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**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

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**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

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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,  
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**Choosing Materials for Exterior Decks**

**From tropical hardwoods to man-made plastic composites, the choices are more varied than ever**

Scott Gibson

July 2000

Materials & Products | Roofing,  
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**Choosing Roofing**

**Up in the air about using asphalt, wood, slate, tile or metal to keep out the rain? There are lots of choices, and they all have advantages**

Jefferson Kolle

January 1995

Materials & Products | Roofing,  
Siding, Decking



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**Wall-Sheathing Choices**

**Today's sheathing materials offer strength, energy-efficiency, economy, and fire-and water-resistance-but not all in the same package**

Bruce Greenlaw

January 1997

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Siding, Decking



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**Concrete and Masonry Fasteners****A survey of anchors reveals some surprising alternatives to lead and plastic**

Kevin Ireton

September 1987

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**Designing and building with engineered beams**

Stephen Smulski

January 1992

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Charles Bickford

May 1999

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Material & Fasteners**Materials in Cold Weather**  
**Make sure they're a match for the weather**

Scott Schuttner

March 1989

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Bruce R. Berg

January 1988

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Material & Fasteners**Nailing Basics****Despite the advent of nail guns, sometimes you still have to hit the nail on the head**

Larry Haun

July 1997

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**Choosing and Installing a Ceiling Fan****The right fan in the right location will keep you comfortable in winter as well as in summer**

Fernando Pages Ruiz

November 2001

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**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

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**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

**Rough Electrical Wiring****Knowledge of the code and a few tricks ease wiring circuits for standard receptacles and lights**

Clifford A. Popejoy

January 2002

Mechanical Systems | Electrical



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**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

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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

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**Wiring Your House for Today—and Tomorrow**

**Structured wiring can link the phones, computers and TVs in your house right now, and who knows what else in the future**

Jerry Heesen

March 2002

Mechanical Systems | Electrical

**Working With Old Wiring**

**Careful testing is your hedge against frayed insulation, faulty splices and missing ground wires**

David E. Shapiro

January 1999

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**Building Wood Baseboard-Radiator Covers****A little easy-to-assemble trim dresses up these homely metal heaters**

Rex Alexander

May 1998

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Carpentry**Choosing Boilers and Controls for Warm Floors**

John Siegenthaler

July 1998

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**Choosing Ductwork****The kind of ducts you use and the number and types of turns they make dramatically affect HVAC-system performance**

John O'Connell

Bruce Harley

July 1997

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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

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**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

September 2000

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**Installing Hardwood Floors  
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**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

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**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

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## 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

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## Cutting and Soldering Copper Pipe

**Clean the fittings carefully and heat them completely to get neat, leak-free joints**

Peter Hemp

July 1995

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## Dry-Stack Block

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

Rob Thallon

September 1983

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## How to Install a Toilet

**Reinforce the floor and use the right components for years of trouble-free service**

Peter Hemp

March 1999

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## Installing a Dishwasher

**How one plumber hooks up the common grease-gobbler**

Peter Hemp

July 1989

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## Installing a Toilet

**It's mostly in the flange**

George Skaates

May 1988

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**Plastic Tub-Showers****One-piece fixtures are quick to install, but should you buy a gelcoat or an acrylic model?**

Scott Gibson

November 1998

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Remodeling | Kitchen & Bath**Remodel Plumbing****How to connect the new pipes to the old ones**

Steve Larson

November 1983

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**Replacing a Water Heater****By making a few simple upgrades, you can triple a basic water heater's life expectancy**

Peter Hemp

November 1997

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**Roughing in Drain Lines****Advice on Assembling a residential drainage system with plastic pipes**

George Skaates

May 1987

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**Ten Common Plumbing Mistakes****A building inspector reviews the most frequent violations of the plumbing code**

Redwood Kardon

November 1999

Mechanical Systems | Plumbing

**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

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**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

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**Making Classical Columns  
Interior detailing with a router  
and lathe**

Joseph Beals

January 1991

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**Batten Doors****Building a solid door from common lumber**Bruce Gordon  
March 1982  
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January 1987  
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March 1992  
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January 1990  
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January 1983  
Millwork | Door**Different Approach to Frame-and-Panel Doors, A**  
**A three-layer sandwich takes the place of complicated joinery**Gary Striegler  
March 2002  
Millwork | Door**Elegant Site-Built Door, An****Build a custom interior or exterior door with common job-site tools and readily available materials**John Birchard  
September 1993  
Millwork | Door

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**Making Cabinet Doors with Router Bits****The new generation of cope-and-stick bits will make frame-and-panel doors on site**

Jud Peake

September 1994

Millwork | Door

Tools | Power Tools

**Making French Doors****Meticulous layout and milling yield new doors to match the original windows of a 19th-century Greek revival**

Scott McBride

January 1997

Millwork | Door

**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

**Rail-and-Stile Garden Gate, A****Simple joinery techniques yield a memorable feature for any garden**

Charles Prowell

March 1996

Millwork | Door

Sitework

**Retrofitting a Threshold****A three-piece threshold provides extra weather protection, especially in exposed locations**

Gary M. Katz

May 1996

Doors, Windows, Skylights | Doors

Millwork | Door



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**Making Curved Casing****Strip-laminating arches to match straight casing profiles**

Jonathan F. Shafer

May 1991

Millwork | Molding

**Making Curved Crown Molding****Glue-laminated trim can be shaped on a table saw**

John La Torre, Jr.

May 1992

Millwork | Molding

**Making Trim From MDF****Medium-density fiberboard mills and paints well whether you're creating straight runs or curves**

Jay Goldman

September 1995

Millwork | Molding

**Period Moldings****A primer on these touchstones of Neo-Classical architecture**

Norman L. Vandal

May 1984

Millwork | Molding

**Re-creating Victorian Trim****Complicated profiles require custom knives, but installation is a cinch**

Sebastian Eggert

January 2002

Millwork | Molding

**Table-Saw Molding****The secret is in the order of cuts**

Bruce Andrews

May 1981

Millwork | Molding



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**Trimming Out the Main House****Building a Victorian headquarters for George Lucas**

Rick Wachs

March 1986

Millwork | Molding



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**Cranking Out Casements**

**Using a layout rod and shaper joinery to build outward-swinging windows with divided-light sashes and insulated glass**

Scott McBride

January 1989

Millwork | Window

**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

**Making Storm Windows**

**Wood storm windows look better and seal tighter than mass-produced aluminum and vinyl units**

Rex Alexander

November 1997

Energy Issues | Insulation &amp;

Weatherstripping

Millwork | Window

**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

Millwork | Window

**Shop-Built Window Frames**

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

Joseph Beals, III

November 1993

Millwork | Window

**Simple Joinery for Custom Windows**

**Time-saving lap joints can save money, too**

David Frane

September 1992

Millwork | Window





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**Building a Curved Deck With Synthetic Decking****A multilevel deck with built-in benches and a barbecue pit turns a backyard into a living room**

Ted Putnam

September 1997

Porches &amp; Decks | Decks

**Building a Deck Over a Living Space****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 &amp; Decks | Decks

**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 &amp; Decks | Decks

**Choosing Materials for Exterior Decks****From tropical hardwoods to man-made plastic composites, the choices are more varied than ever**

Scott Gibson

July 2000

Materials &amp; Products | Roofing,

Siding, Decking

Porches &amp; Decks | Decks



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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

**Deck Built to Last, A**

**Thoughtful details designed to beat the weather**

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

**Deck Design**

**A guide to the basics of deck construction**

Scott Grove  
November 1985  
Porches & Decks | Decks

**Deck Foundations that Last**

**Design footings and piers to match the load and bearing capacity of your soil**

Scott Schuttner  
March 1993  
Porches & Decks | Decks

**Deck Upstairs, The**

**How to combine a deck with a roof that won't leak**

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

**Detailing Decks Over Living Space**

**When the roof pitch is shallow enough to walk on, clear drainage paths and careful waterproofing are essential**

John Phelps  
November 1997  
Design | Other Design  
Porches & Decks | Decks



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**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

**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

**Furniture-Grade Deck, A****Hidden fasteners and integral lighting streamline a contemporary, Craftsman-style deck**

Scott Fleming  
January 1997  
Porches & Decks | Decks

**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

**Learning Curves for Decks****Thin stock, waterproof glue and a big 1x4 compass simplify deck curves**

Scott Padgett  
January 2002  
Porches & Decks | Decks

**Quality Deck, A****Built-in benches, recessed lights and a spacious spa highlight a high-class deck**

John Baldwin  
September 1991  
Porches & Decks | Decks



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**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 &amp; Decks | Porches

**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 &amp; Decks | Porches

**Building a Circular Porch**

**A curving plywood beam and laminated trim solve some of the problems associated with working in the round**

Len Schmidt

March 1999

Porches &amp; Decks | Porches

**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 &amp; Decks | Porches

**Classical Style in a Porch Addition**

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

Ted Ewen

January 1982

Porches &amp; Decks | Porches

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**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 &amp; Decks | Porches

Trim Carpentry | Railings

**Porches That Won't Rot****For a long, healthy life these structures need a breath of fresh air**

Kevin M. Mahoney

May 1993

Porches &amp; Decks | Porches

**Renovating Old Porches****Common problems can be solved with simple repairs**

George Nash

July 1992

Porches &amp; Decks | Porches

**Restoring a Porch****A fast, inexpensive method that doesn't require house jacks**

Roy F. Cole, Jr.

May 1981

Porches &amp; Decks | Porches

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**Screened-porch Addition, A****Simple detailing and inexpensive materials provide a shelter from the swarm**

Jerry Germer

March 1992

Porches &amp; Decks | Porches

Remodeling | Additions

**Two Lessons from a Porch Addition****A plumb-bob foundation layout and a cable-tensioned balustrade customize a tract house**

James C. Rice

May 1994

Porches &amp; Decks | Porches

Remodeling | Additions



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**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

**Adding Up**

**A new second story on independent footings straddles an old house**

Eric K. Rekdahl  
July 1982  
Remodeling | Additions

**Framing a Second-Story Addition**

**A quartet of gables is linked by California-style valleys**

Alexander Brennen  
March 1990  
Remodeling | Additions

**Greek Revival Addition, A Joining stock and custom-milled trim to make a formal entryway**

Joseph Beals  
July 1989  
Remodeling | Additions  
Trim Carpentry | Exterior

**Remodeling With Metal Studs**

**Skyrocketing lumber costs make steel studs an enticing, easily installed alternative to wood**

Tom O'Brien  
September 1995  
Framing | Steel Framing  
Remodeling | Additions

**Screened-porch Addition, A Simple detailing and inexpensive materials provide a shelter from the swarm**

Jerry Germer  
March 1992  
Porches & Decks | Porches  
Remodeling | Additions



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**Small Addition, Big Improvement****A new entryway dramatically helps the function and appearance of a small Cape**

Lynn Hopkins

November 1998

Remodeling | Additions

**Two Lessons from a Porch Addition****A plumb-bob foundation layout and a cable-tensioned balustrade customize a tract house**

James C. Rice

May 1994

Porches &amp; Decks | Porches

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**Building an Arched Dormer**

**This unusual project took some concentrated thought about the framing and an interesting roofing material to top it off**

Bill Phelps

November 1984

Framing | Roof Framing

Remodeling | Dormers

**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

**Framing Doghouse Dormers**

**Two ways to frame a basic gable dormer**

Scott McBride

September 1987

Framing | Roof Framing

Remodeling | Dormers

**Gable-Dormer Retrofit, A**

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

Scott McBride

November 2000

Framing | Roof Framing

Remodeling | Dormers

**Raising an Eyebrow**

**Two methods used to frame wave-like dormers**

James Docker

March 1991

Framing | Roof Framing

Remodeling | Dormers

**Shed-Dormer Addition, A**

**Extensive remodeling triples the space of a small Cape**

Bob Syvanen

January 1985

Remodeling | Dormers





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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

Framing | Roof Framing

Remodeling | Dormers



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**Installing Kitchen Cabinets****How to fit and fasten cabinets to wavy walls and floors**

Tom Law

January 1994

Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

Remodeling | Kitchen &amp; Bath

**Plastic Tub-Showers****One-piece fixtures are quick to install, but should you buy a gelcoat or an acrylic model?**

Scott Gibson

November 1998

Materials &amp; Products | Kitchen &amp; Bath

Mechanical Systems | Plumbing

Remodeling | Kitchen &amp; Bath

**Refacing Kitchen Cabinets****A veneer face-lift makes a 'new' kitchen affordable**

Rex Alexander

May 1993

Cabinets | Kitchen Cabinets

Remodeling | Kitchen &amp; Bath

**Tiling a Tub Surround****Substituting backer board for the traditional mortar bed makes the job easier without sacrificing durability**

Michael Byrne

January 1995

Interior Finish | Tile

Remodeling | Kitchen &amp; 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 &amp; Bath



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**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**Cracked Foundations****Prevention is easier than repair**

Kip Park

September 1988

Foundations & Masonry | Concrete  
Remodeling | Structural**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**Framing an Opening in a  
Bearing Wall****Before you slice through studs,  
make sure you've got the weight  
of the house well supported  
elsewhere**

Mike Guertin

March 2001

Remodeling | Structural

**Header Tricks for  
Remodelers****Creative responses to unusual  
specs**

Roger Gwinnup

September 1990

Remodeling | Structural



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**Installing a Long-Span Header****How to open up an existing bearing wall**

Matt Holmstrom  
September 1989  
Remodeling | Structural

**Replacing a Mudsill****Careful bracing inside and out holds a house steady as rot is removed**

Bill Phillips  
March 2002  
Remodeling | Structural

**Replacing Rotted Sills****It's a dirty job, but somebody's got to do it**

George Nash  
May 1989  
Remodeling | Structural

**Seismic Retrofits****Anchor bolts and shear walls are the way to beef up older homes in earthquake-prone areas**

David Benaroya Helfant  
November 1985  
Remodeling | Structural

**Taking a Load Off****Three basic shoring techniques for making structural repairs**

W. Whitie Gray  
September 1991  
Remodeling | Structural

**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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**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**Double-Hungs Restrung****More than just fishing for sash weights**

David Strawderman

January 1991

Doors, Windows, Skylights |  
Windows  
Restoration**Restoring a Porch****A fast, inexpensive method that doesn't require house jacks**

Roy F. Cole, Jr.

May 1981

Porches & Decks | Porches  
Restoration**Restoring Wood With Epoxy****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

March 1997

Restoration



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**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

**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

**Reroofing With Asphalt Shingles****Laying new shingles over old might avoid the cost of a tearoff, but you still have to replace the vents and flashings**

Stephen Hazlett

May 2001

Roofing | Asphalt Shingles

**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

**Tearing Off Old Roofing****The best reroofing jobs start with a clean roof deck**

Jack LeVert

March 1994

Roofing | Asphalt Shingles



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**Deck Upstairs, The****How to combine a deck with a roof that won't leak**

Dan Rockhill

January 1983

Porches &amp; Decks | Decks

Roofing | Membrane Roofing

**Roofing with Sod****Beneath the surface, it's not the same as it used to be**

David Easton

November 1989

Roofing | Membrane Roofing

**Installing a Rubber Roof****Forget the mess of roll roofing-  
for flat or low-slope roofs, EPDM  
membranes are the way to go**

Mike Guertin

Rick Arnold

January 1998

Roofing | Membrane Roofing



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**Classic "Tin" Lid, The  
Hand-forming a standing-seam  
metal roof**

Matt Holmstrom

May 1987

Roofing | Metal Roofing

**Installing Steel Roofing****A little more expensive but a lot  
longer lasting, steel roofing is an  
easy-to-install, attractive  
alternative to shingle or tile roofs**

John La Torre, Jr.

November 2000

Roofing | Metal Roofing

**Spray Everything****Careful preparation and a  
boatload of masking tape are the  
keys to high-quality, high-  
production interior painting**

Jon Tobey

November 2000

Roofing | Metal Roofing





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**Roofing with Slate****Shingling with stone will give you a roof that lasts for generations**

David Heim

May 1984

Roofing | Slate Roofing

**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



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## 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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**Built-Up Cedar Roofing****Common shingles mimic a traditional reed thatch**

Steve Dunleavy

March 1990

Roofing | Wood Roofing

**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

**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



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**Installing Manufactured-Stone Veneer**

**Made from cast concrete, so-called 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

**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

**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

**Working With Fiber-Cement Siding**

**Impervious to bugs and water, fiber-cement lap siding requires some special tools and techniques to be installed properly**

John La Torre, Jr.

July 2001

Siding | Other Siding



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## Decorative Sidewall Shingles

**Custom-cut wood shingles make a variety of complex patterns**

Dave Skilton

July 1989

Siding | Wood Siding

## Installing Board-and-Batten Siding

**Plan for the windows and doors first**

John Birchard

July 1992

Siding | Wood Siding

## Installing Horizontal Wood Siding

**A carpenter's tricks for accurately laying out, cutting and fitting the classic wood siding**

Felix Marti

July 1995

Siding | Wood Siding

## 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

## 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

## Sidewall Shingling

**For that authentic Cape Cod look and low maintenance, you can't beat cedar siding**

Bob Syvanen

September 1985

Siding | Wood Siding



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**Siding With Cedar Shingles****Woven corners are a good-looking and low-maintenance alternative to corner boards**

Oliver Govers

May 1996

Siding | Wood Siding

**Weaving Designs Into Sidewall Shingles****Simple shapes let ordinary sidewall shingles take flight**

Mike Guertin

January 2002

Siding | Wood Siding

**Siding with Clapboards****Up one side or down the other, apply them correctly**

Bob Syvanen

July 1988

Siding | Wood Siding



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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, well-drained base**

Andy Engel  
September 1998  
Sitework

**Brick-Mosaic Patios**

**Creating patterns and pictures with dry-laid brick and a diamond-bladed saw**

Scott Ernst  
January 1991  
Sitework

**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

**Building a Picket Fence**

**A carpenter uses shop-built sections and sturdy foundations for a traditional structure**

George Nash  
May 1997  
Sitework

**Building a Timber Retaining Wall**

**Good drainage and a stout connection to the hillside are keys to a long-lasting wall**

Scott McBride  
July 1999  
Sitework

**Decorative Post Cap, A**

**Making caps for decks and fence posts**

Robert Vaughan  
November 1989  
Sitework



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**Designing and Building a Water Garden****Spillways and pools enliven a courtyard-garden entry**

Jeff Gold

November 1995

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

**Gunite Retaining Wall****Sprayed-on concrete does more than just line swimming pools**

Ken Hughes

July 1987

Sitework

**Rail-and-Stile Garden Gate, A****Simple joinery techniques yield a memorable feature for any garden**

Charles Prowell

March 1996

Millwork | Door

Sitework

**Rebuilding a Federal-Period Fence****Meticulous shopwork and careful on-site planning recreate a local landmark**

Stephen Sewall

David Stenstrom

March 1985

Sitework

**Site-Built Footbridge****Using backcountry lamination techniques to span a creek in style**

Henry Smith

May 1995

Sitework





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**Building a Cantilevered-Tread, Spiral Staircase**

John Grunewald  
November 1986  
Stairs

**Building a Curved Balustrade**

**A carpenter uses router templates, laminations and fiberglass packing tape to trim a staircase.**

Jeffrey Janssen  
May 1994  
Stairs  
Trim Carpentry | Railings

**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

**Building a Custom Box Newel**

**A hollow post made of mitered panels is easily detailed with stock moldings**

Lon Schleining  
November 2000  
Stairs  
Trim Carpentry | Other Trim Carpentry

**Building a Helical Stair**

**Laying out a spiral stringer with a little help from the trig tables**

Rick Barlow  
September 1983  
Stairs

**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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**Building an Arts and Crafts Stair**

**An updated and code-compliant interpretation of the classic Greene and Greene Gamble House staircase**

Lon Schleining  
November 1996  
Stairs

**Building an L-Shaped Stair**  
**Basic construction techniques for a stair with a three-step winder**

Larry Haun  
May 1991  
Stairs

**Cantilevered Stairway**

**Steel brackets support cantilevered treads around a cylinder**

Rob Harlan  
November 1994  
Stairs

**Capping a Curved Stair Wall**

**Wide horizontal laminations show off the grain of the maple caps**

John Griffin  
September 1998  
Stairs

**Cooperative Craftsmanship**

**Distinctive wood detailing, tile work, stained glass and carving in a California living room**

Ben Tarcher  
January 1982  
Framing | Truss Framing  
Stairs

**Cutting out Basic Stairs**

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

Eric Pfaff  
March 1996  
Stairs



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**Design Guidelines for Safe Stairs****Getting the details right might save a life**

Gregory Harrison

March 1991

Stairs

**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

**Disappearing Attic Stairways****Folding stairs are the most common, but sliding stairs are easier to climb**

William T. Cox

July 1994

Stairs

**Double-Helix Stair****A cherry spiral built with divine inspiration, a little steam and a lot of clamps**

Robin Ferguson

November 1987

Stairs

**Framing Curved Stairs on Site****A stud wall, not a laminated stringer, shapes these stairs**

Scott Paschal

July 1997

Stairs

**Freestanding Spiral Stair, A****Using stock lumber and common shop tools to build an elegant circular staircase**

Steven M. White

November 1991

Stairs



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**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  
Stairs

**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 Handrails Made From Stock Parts**

**A full-scale drawing and some shop-built jigs can ease the assembly of expensive stair parts**

Lon Schleining  
March 1999  
Stairs

**Installing Manufactured Stair Parts**

**Laying the handrail on the stairs is the first step**

Sebastian Eggert  
May 1987  
Stairs

**Installing Stair Skirtboards**

**Notching the skirtboard over the risers for a better-looking job**

Bob Syvanen  
July 1991  
Stairs

**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



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**Making a Curved Handrail**

**With the stairs as a form, laminating commercially available bending rail is easier than it appears**

John Griffin  
March 2000  
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**Plunge-Router Stairs**

**An adjustable mortising jig simplifies the construction of an open-riser stairway**

Bill Young  
September 1985  
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**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  
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**Site-Built Stair, A**

**Using readily available materials and on-site carpentry techniques to build a tasteful staircase**

Alexander Brennen  
September 1990  
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**Southern yellow-pine treads hide welded-steel brackets that make these stairs appear to float in space**

Glen Stewart  
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**Staircase Comes Out of the Closet, A**

**An arts and crafts stair becomes the focal point of a house searching for a style**

Miles Karpilow  
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Tom Bender

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**Traditional Stairways Off the Shelf****About manufactured stair parts, and how they are made**

Kevin Ireton

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**Using a Story Pole to Lay Out Stairs****A simple full-scale pattern takes the confusion out of figuring consistent and safe stair-tread heights**

Lon Schleining

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**Veteran Stairbuilder's Tools and Tips, A****Modified tools and custom jigs expedite staircase assembly**

Michael von Deckbar-Frabbiele

January 1995

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Scott King

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**Exemplary Folding Workbench, An****Ingenuity, some scrap wood and \$60 of hardware are all it took**

Jefferson Kolle

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**Ladders****How to choose them, how to use them**

Bruce Greenlaw

November 1993

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**Sawhorse****A traditional approach to the simple trestle**

Tom Law

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

Andrew Wormer

July 1996

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

Tom Law

May 1993

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## Souping up a Chopsaw Stand

**To get all the features he needed in a chopsaw stand, one finish carpenter made his own extension tables and stops**

Gary M. Katz

March 1998

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

Rex Alexander

March 1999

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**Carpenter's Toolbox, The A close look at some old and new designs**

Tom Law

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**Clamps on Site**

**Select the right tool to get a grip on your work**

Felix Marti

May 1992

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**Hand Planes for Trim Carpentry**

**Tuned and adjusted right, these planes will save time and improve your work**

Scott Wynn

September 1992

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**Handsaws**

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

Tom Law

May 1984

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**Job-Site Sharpening Tips**

**The right tools and a few easily made jigs will give you an edge on your chisels, your planes and your competition**

Chris Green

September 2001

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**Lowdown on Levels, The****It may be the age of lasers and electronics, but a sturdy spirit level is still the job-site standard**

Scott Gibson

July 1998

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**On Pulling Nails****Use good tools and the right technique**

Gene Schnaser

May 1986

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**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

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### 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  
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### Laying out for Framing

**A production method for translating the blueprints to the wall plates**

Jud Peake  
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### Levels and Transits

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

Stephen Suddarth  
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### Making and Using Water Levels

**Low cost and low tech, these highly versatile tools can't go out of whack**

Herrick Kimball  
January 1994  
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### Plumb Bobs, String and Chalkboxes

**Working with string and the tools that hang from it**

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

Jud Peake  
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Jud Peake

May 1982

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**Simple Tools for Faster  
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to get more done in less time  
with the help of patterns,  
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Larry Haun

September 1996

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**Site Layout****On a flat lot, footings can be  
oriented with precision using  
batter boards, string and a water  
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Tom Law

November 1982

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**Ticksticking**

Sam Clark

May 1984

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**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

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**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

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**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

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**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

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**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

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**Faster, Better Drilling for Finish Carpenters**

**Specialty drill bits and accessories speed work and improve accuracy**

Bruce Greenlaw

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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

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**Maintaining a Plunge Router**

**For trouble-free operation, avoid oil lubricants, replace worn brushes and keep the collet clean**

Gregg Carlsen

March 1993

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**Making Cabinet Doors with Router Bits**

**The new generation of cope-and-stick bits will make frame-and-panel doors on site**

Jud Peake

September 1994

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**Mill for the Chainsaw, A**

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

Will Malloff

September 1982

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**On-Site Carpentry with a Circular Saw**

**Cutting in place saves time and trouble**

Jud Peake

July 1981

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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

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Kevin Ireton

November 1991

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**Portable Power Planes****How these versatile tools can true framing lumber and clean up trim**

Geoff Alexander

May 1983

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**Powder-Actuated Tools****Available as single-shot, semiautomatic or full automatic, these low-velocity tools are the ones carpenters choose when driving fasteners into concrete or steel**

Bruce Greenlaw

July 2000

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**Router Control****Using site-built jigs, bearing-guided bits and a router table to make precise cuts in wood**

Jud Peake

September 1989

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**Routers****Knowing the basic bits and how to guide the router will help you get the most from this versatile tool on site and in the shop**

Craig Savage

July 1985

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**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

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Bruce Greenlaw

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**Table-Saw Tools****Simple jigs that turn a table saw into a safe and precise crosscutting tool**

M. Felix Marti

May 1989

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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

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**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

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**Designing and Building a  
Carpenter's Toolbox**

**The best ones are sturdy, lightweight and compact**

Scott Wynn

January 1997

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**Job-Site Shack**

**A modular tool shed that's roomy, well lit and secure**

Bill Young

July 1984

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**Pickup-Truck Tool Storage**

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

Ray Lincoln

September 1987

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**Tool Storage for Pickups**

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

Byron Papa

March 1997

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**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

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William Lego

September 1991

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**Using a Cargo Rack****Organizing the load and knowing the right knots are the keys to transporting building materials safely**

Roe A. Osborn

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Jim Tolpin

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**Curved Baseboard Corners****Biscuit joinery and a simple jig solve a perplexing trim problem**

Eric Blomberg

September 1994

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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

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**Installing Baseboard****One builder's take on installing this fundamental trim element**

John Spier

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

Bob Syvanen

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Kevin Ireton

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

Will Beemer

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Jim Tolpin

November 1992

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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

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**Casing a Door****Work carefully, and save the wood filler for the nail holes**

Bob Syvanen

January 1986

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**Casing a Double-Hung Window****A job you can do quickly and well**

Bob Syvanen

July 1986

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**Detailing for Wood Shrinkage****If you think ahead, you can avoid nail pops, cracked drywall and sloping floors**

Stephen Smulski

May 1993

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**Dressing up Stock Windows****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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**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

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**Rules for Finish Carpentry****A veteran builder and teacher shares the rules that shape his work**

Will Beemer

January 1998

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**Trimming the Front Door****Ripped, mitered and reassembled interior moldings add a custom look to a front entry**

Richard Taub

March 1993

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**Trimming Windows****Get the jambs flush with the drywall, and the miters come easily**

Jim Blodgett

March 2001

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Bob Syvanen

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**Replacing an Oak Sill****Doing the job on a formal entry without tearing out jambs and trim**

Stephen Sewall

March 1984

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**Greek Revival Addition, A****Joining stock and custom-milled trim to make a formal entryway**

Joseph Beals

July 1989

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**Building a Federal-Style Mantel****Neoclassical detailing in poplar and ceramic tile**

Stephen Sewall

July 1989

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**Building a Mantel****A frame-and-panel base topped with a broad shelf dresses up a plain fireplace**

David Getts

November 1999

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**Building a Fireplace Mantel****Fluted pilasters and decorative trim make for a mantel that appears complicated but really isn't**

Gary Katz

March 1995

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**Cutting Crown Molding****Calculating miter and bevel angles so you can cut crown on compound-miter saws**

Stephen Nuding

July 1991

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**Faster, Better Drilling for Finish Carpenters****Specialty drill bits and accessories speed work and improve accuracy**

Bruce Greenlaw

March 1996

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**Installing Crown Molding****Upside down and backwards is the secret**

Tom Law

March 1989

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**Installing Crown Moldings****Careful layout and accurate miters make installing a two-part trim an easier process**

Joseph Beals

May 2000

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**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

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**Installing Two-Piece Crown****A method for running wide, paint-grade crown moldings**

Dale F. Mosher

January 1992

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January 2001Millwork | Column  
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**These safety devices aren't there for looks—they must be well anchored to help prevent bathroom injuries**

Paul Althoff

January 2001

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**Simple Approach to Frame-and-Panel Trim, A**

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

Gary Striegler

July 2000

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**Outfitting a Clothes Closet**

**If your clothes have that shelf and pole at their limit, a more complex system can help you put more clothes into less space**

Gary M. Katz

July 1999

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**Building a Curved  
Balustrade**

**A carpenter uses router templates, laminations and fiberglass packing tape to trim a staircase.**

Jeffrey Janssen

May 1994

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**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

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**Innovative Deck Railings**

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

Andrew Wormer

September 1996

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**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

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**Raised Paneling Made Easy****A combination of built-up moldings and layers of plywood duplicates a traditional look**

Jim Donnelly

May 1995

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**Raised-Panel Wainscot****Traditional results with table saw and router**

T.F. Smolen

March 1984

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**Recycled Redwood  
Wainscotting****A cabinetmaker re-creates period detail with redwood salvaged from wine vats**

Miles Karpilow

January 2000

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**Choosing and Installing a Bathroom-Vent Fan****Pick a fan that's quiet and powerful, and keep the duct short**

Rex Cauldwell

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**Fixes for Damp, Moldy Houses****Drying the foundation and sealing air leaks make houses durable and healthy**

Fred Lugano

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**Framing a Cold Roof****Preventing roof leaks caused by ice damming**

Steve Kearns

November 1990

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**Preventing Ice Dams****Proper insulation and roof ventilation can stop ice dams from forming, prevent damage and lower energy bills**

Paul Fiset

November 1995

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**Understanding Common Moisture Problems****Three case studies illustrate the importance of controlling humidity and air leakage**

Marc Rosenbaum

January 1996

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

Wendy Talarico

July 1995

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**Venting the Roof**

**With today's construction methods, the minimum code requirements may not be enough**

Kevin Ireton

July 1990

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**Details for a Dry Foundation****Think of the ground around the house as the roof that keeps the foundation dry**

William B. Rose

September 1997

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Mike Guertin

Rick Arnold

July 2000

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**Waterproofing the foundation walls is only the first step; you also need a system of drains around the foundation that silt won't render useless**

Larry Janesky

July 2001

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**Selecting a Moisture-  
proofing System for New  
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**New products from the latest  
technologies offer more effective  
alternatives to slopping sticky tar  
onto new foundations**

Bruce Greenlaw

May 1995

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George Skaates

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**Foundation Drainage****Retrofitting is doing it the hard way**

David Benaroya Helfant

January 1989

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**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

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David Marshall

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**Chimney Cricket****Soldered copper flashing for a rooftop watershed**

Scott McBride

July 1988

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**Classical Details in a Harsh Environment****Craftsmen build a coastal house to withstand hurricane winds, meticulous architects and exacting clients**

Robert Weinstein

May 1994

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**Flashing****Anticipate the flow of water to keep it outside your house, where it belongs**

Bob Syvanen

July 1982

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

John Carroll

January 2001

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**Flashing a Curb**

Jim Picton

November 1982

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

Douglas R. Stieve

November 2001

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

Scott McBride

March 1996

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**How to Avoid Common Flashing Errors**

**Building paper and adhesive-backed bituminous tape are vital ingredients in protecting a building from water damage**

James R. Larson

May 1998

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**Railing Against the Elements**

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

Scott McBride

November 1991

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**Roof Flashing**

**Installation details can make the difference between a trouble-free roof and an expensive callback**

Scott McBride

March 1997

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**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

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**Draining Gutter Runoff**

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

Byron Papa

September 1999

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**Fixes for Damp, Moldy Houses**

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

Fred Lugano

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**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

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**Replacing an Inlaid Gutter**

**How one sheet-metal contractor fabricated and installed a lead-coated copper drainage system**

Rob Paral

July 1990

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**Replacing Rain Gutters**

**A professional's advice on installing aluminum and galvanized-steel gutters**

Les Williams

May 1991

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## Designing Roofs for Snow Country

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

Henrik Bull

July 1999

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## Preventing Ice Dams

**Proper insulation and roof  
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from forming, prevent damage  
and lower energy bills**

Paul Fiset

November 1995

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