Italian ceramic tile as latest trend

You can increase the value of your home-one of the best investments to have these daysby decorating with ceramic tile, one of the latest trends in residential design.

The fastest growing tiles, in terms of sales, come from Italy. They are available in the U.S. in a wide range of designs and styles, enabling homeowners to create an individual and distinctive look while at the same time enhancing the intrinsic value of their property.

Italian ceramic tiles are renowned for their beauty and design, and their durability and easy care make them more practical than vinyl or carpeting.

Color photographs of different rooms incorporating Italian ceramic tile are shown and described in the 16-page booklet.

According to the Italian Tile Center, whether remodeling, redecorating or starting fresh. Italian ceramie tile can be used in any decorating scheme.

· Use vividly colored ceramic tiles in rooms which do not receive much sunlight to brighten them up.

· Transform an ordinary



THE CLASSIC LOOK OF CERAMIC TILE blends well with the contemporary furnishings of this living-dining room

bathroom with great flair by using patterned Italian tiles to create murals on the floors and walls.

· Glazed Italian ceramic tiles make highly practical and attractive kitchen countertops. They resist stains, and hot pots and pans will not leave scorch marks.

· If there is a large amount of floor space to cover, use a patterned tile or alternate with two different tile shapes, for example, a hexagon and square, to bring the floor and walls together.

· Create a "rug" on the floor of a family room using Italian tile. It is much easier to keep clean than the real thing and will not require rolling up for dancing or children's game playing.

· Construct a platform around a bathtub with Italian ceramic tile for a dramatic-and waterproof-look.

· Tiles can divide a multifunctional room into separate areas. For example, a different color or pattern under a conversation area will set it off from the dining area in a combined living/dining room.

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Avoid roofing problems by learning warning signs

problems by knowing the early warning signs of a damaged roof.

Leaks, unseen moisture and seepage can rot roof boards and rafters, reduce the effectiveness of insulation, and ruin stored possessions if a damaged roof remains unrepaired.

Since most homeowners may never have had to replace a mof, they are frequently not as well informed as they could be about available materials, their characteristics and costs. Hasty or uninformed decisions could be costly in the years to come.

Putting a roof over your head is no longer a simple matter of selecting a durable material at an affordable price.

The wide variety of colors, styles and textures currently available adds new dimensions to roofing selection which homeowners will want to consider.

A thorough examination of your roof will help you decide whether it is ready for retirement or simply in need of minor repairs.

According to roofing experts at Bird & Son, a leading manufacturer of roofing materials, hare spots where granules have worn off, shingles with broken or curled edges and missing tabs are all signs of roofing damage. Wooden shingles may be rotted, warped or split.

It may be a little more difficult to detect problems in the attic which are caused by water damage.

If there are any doubts about a roof's condition, it is advisable to call a reliable home improvement contractor. Most likely he will inspect your roof at no charge and prepare a cost estimate for repair or reroofing.

If it develops that your roof dues need repair or replace. ment, asphalt shingles offer ex-

WOOD LOUVER DOORS **OFFER ALTERNATIVES**

Closet doors don't have to be mundane.

Wood louver doors, for example, available as folding or stiding units; are ideal for closets in narrow hallways or foyers where there is little space for conventional swing-out

The louvers also permit the free circulation of air, which makes them ideal for high humidity areas like laundry moms, kitchens and baths.

You can avoid expensive ceptional durability and fire re- based mat is saturated with spe-

than 5,000 years, and walls built with asphalt binder in ancient Babylon are still standing.

Today, high quality asphalt shingles manufactured in the United States are available in a wide range of weights, textures, colors and styles.

An organic felt or a fiberglass

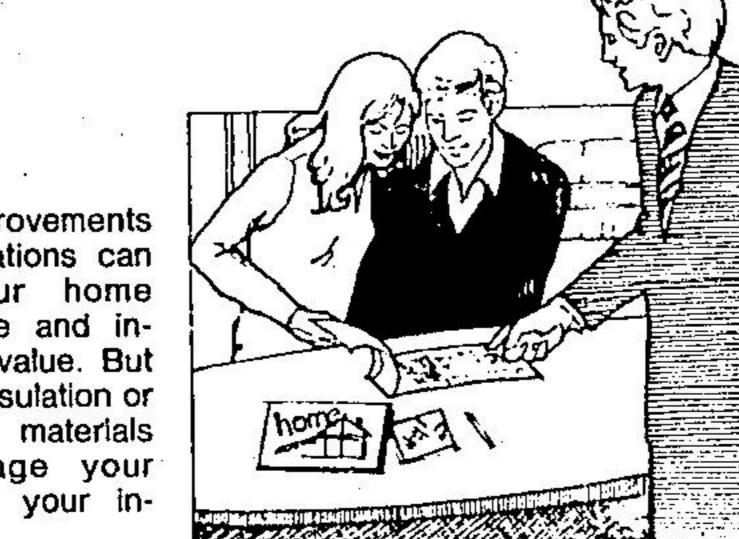
cial asphalts and covered with a Asphalt has been used as a thick coat of rock granules that waterproofing agent for more protect a shingle from its worst enemy, the sun.

> Then, spots of adhesive are evenly spaced on each shingle. Set into sticking action by the sun, these thermoplastic dots seal down every shingle with a grip that holds even when subjected to winds of hurricane

Most standard asphalt shingles are warranted for 15 years. However, it pays to investigate heavyweight, top-of-the-line asphall sningles which are usually covered by a 25-year limited warranty.

Check your roof for weather damage and consider all of the options before repairing or remofing. The time and effort you take now could mean a big savings in the long run.

SOME HOME IMPROVEMENTS DON'T IMPROVE ANYTHING



Home improvements and renovations can make your home comfortable and increase its value. But improper insulation or the wrong materials can damage your home and your investment.

That's why it's important to talk to someone who's knowledgeable when you select materials and equipment. And avoid making an expensive mistake.

Whether tou're doing the work yourself or hiring a subcontractor, Boehmers can give you the expert advice and the range products you need. We'll help you choose the best materials for the job.

And we'll explain how they should be used.

At Boehmers, we take the time to help you do it right!

DEHMERS **ALWAYS GLAD TO HELP**

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