

For cramped quarters...

Versatile hide-away table can solve space problem

Need a table in a basement recreation room that's already cramped for space? Then this easy do-it-yourself hideaway table project might be just the answer for you.

Opened, the table provides an ample surface (24" x 57") for playing cards or board games, informal entertaining, tracing sewing patterns, building models or other activities. Place a telephone nearby, and it serves as a temporary desk for conducting business.

When not in use, the table is hidden from view behind closed doors. Finishing the rear wall of the cabinet with wood paneling will enhance its appearance when opened.

How it works

The table operates like a Murphy bed or fold-away ironing board. Open the cabinet doors and pull the table down when it's needed; push it up and close the doors when it's not being used.

Construction of this weekend project is simple and straight-forward. There are two components: The table and the 11-

inch-deep closet in which it is stored when not in use.

Materials—easily obtainable through your local home center or lumber dealer—include 1/2" A-B plywood, 2" x 4"s, straight wood moulding, hardware and miscellaneous items.

Instructions available

Complete plans for building the folding table are available through Georgia-Pacific Corporation, the nation's largest manufacturer and distributor of building materials.

To obtain the plans, a \$3 rebate coupon for Georgia-Pacific building materials, plus a 20-page full color booklet illustrating several exciting basement renovation ideas and information on finishing basement walls, ceilings and floors, send \$3 to Georgia-Pacific Corporation, "Beautiful Basements," Dept. MT011, P.O. Box 2808, Norcross, GA 30071.

For the nearest G-P Registered Dealer, call 800-447-2882. In Illinois call, 800-322-4400.

How to clean your microwave oven

The time-saving advantages of microwave oven cooking may have changed the way America cooks, but that age-old ritual of cleaning the oven is still required.

While many conventional gas and electric ovens have convenient self-cleaning features, microwave ovens need some occasional cleaning attention to keep them in peak operating condition.

Much like residue in a dirty conventional oven can affect the way food tastes, spills left unattended in a microwave oven can produce lingering odors that alter the taste of fresh-cooked foods.

Steps to take

To help combat this potential problem, Janet Felmeth, director of home economics for White Consolidated Industries, Inc., the manufacturer of Tappan microwave ovens, suggests mixing two tablespoons of lemon juice or baking soda with one cup of water in a four-cup microwaveable bowl.

Program the microwave oven's timer to bring the mixture to a boil and keep it boiling for five minutes. The resulting steam will condense on the oven's interior walls.

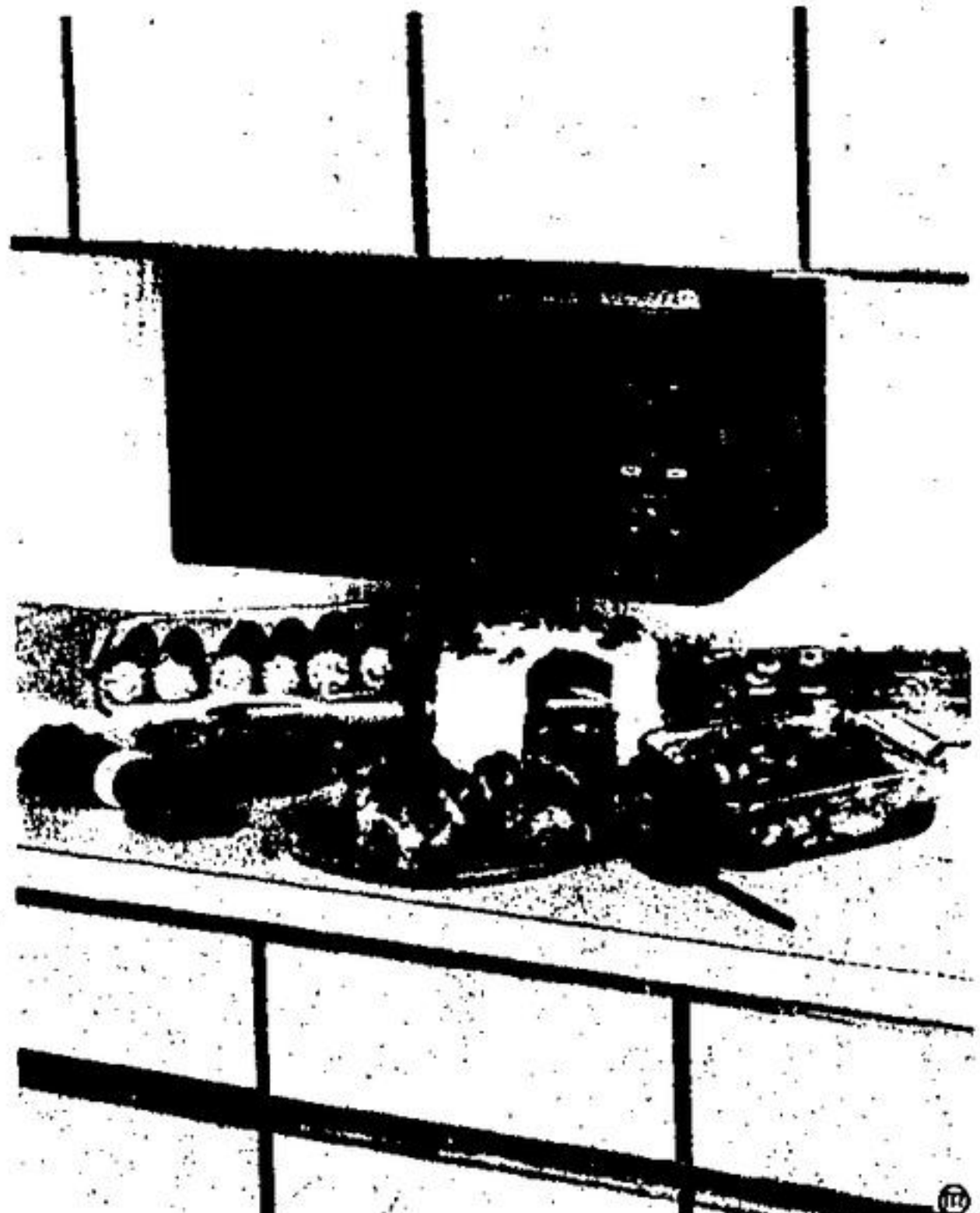
Wipe thoroughly with a soft, absorbent cloth. Also be sure to wipe off the microwave oven's door seals.

With the oven's cooking power concentrated in the food, the walls of a microwave never get hot. While spills and splatters do not bake on the microwave oven interior, they need to be thoroughly cleaned to keep the microwave functioning correctly, says Ms. Felmeth. This is especially important for the area around the door seals.

Things to avoid

DON'T use commercial oven cleaners, steel wool or other abrasives to clean these spills. She also stresses that attempting to scrape off the residue with a kitchen utensil can permanently damage the interior of the microwave. Instead, spills can be cleaned using a soft cloth or sponge with a solution of baking soda and water.

Some microwave oven models have a removable glass shelf for easy cleaning.



MICROWAVE OVEN MAGIC — This Tappan microwave oven conveniently installs under the cabinet, conserving valuable kitchen counter space.

This shelf can be washed in the dishwasher or with warm soapy water, but don't use abrasive pads or cleansers. These can cause the formation of tiny grooves in the glass surface, creating places where spills will collect, making cleaning much more difficult.

The microwave's exterior surfaces

should be wiped clean with detergent and water. Be careful not to let water drip down into the unit's ventilation openings. Rinse the panels with water and dry thoroughly.

A quick wipe-up each time the microwave is used will help keep the oven clean and looking brand new.

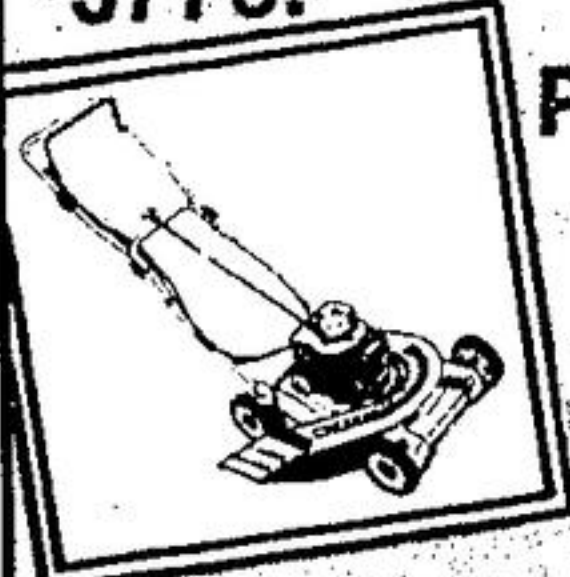
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