

The classic styles are forever stars in a floor show of fashion

Short, short skirts, frankly fake hairpieces and boldly colored eye shadow may be all the rage, but for most of us these styles are merely a passing fancy.

On the other hand, classic styles—a Chanel suit, a strand of pearls and impeccably understated makeup—have a timeless quality that makes them fashionable for years.

This classic approach is even more effective when it comes to choosing a vinyl flooring color or pattern.

Although a leopard-print miniskirt can eventually be hidden in the back of the closet, a too-trendy kitchen floor will be an expensive and constant reminder of a short-lived fad.

According to William Marley, Tarkett Inc. director of color and design-sheet vinyl, inlaid sheet vinyl flooring has been the "classic" of kitchen flooring materials for close to 20 years. "Inlaid is traditionally durable and easy to maintain," he explains.

Lifetime Inlaid Flooring™, a new inlaid sheet vinyl product from Tarkett, Inc., offers these important performance advantages plus one added bonus, notes



ADDING CLASS TO A CONTEMPORARY KITCHEN is a classic sheet vinyl floor. Called "Linden Court," from the new Tarkett Inc. Lifetime Inlaid Flooring™ collection, the bold quarry tile design is equally at home in traditional or country decorating schemes. Photo courtesy of Tarkett Inc.

Marley. "Lifetime Inlaid Flooring™ is now available in 12-foot widths to eliminate the need for unsightly seams in most rooms," he says.

Lifetime Inlaid Flooring™ features a unique three-dimensional quality that effectively recreates the color and texture of natural brick, stone and ceramic tile—the most popular vinyl floor patterns, notes Marley.

"Because of the product durability, we developed patterns and colors that would remain in style for the life of the floor," he says. "Each of these classic designs provides an elegant backdrop for any kitchen decorating scheme."

"The 12-foot width ensures a continuous flow of patterns and colors throughout most rooms," Marley adds.

Marley offers several suggestions on how to select a Lifetime Inlaid Flooring™ style to set the tone for a warm and welcoming kitchen environment that suits your style.

For the warmth and charm of an En-

glish country garden, he recommends Harrison, a geometric trellis pattern in soft blue, green, yellow or white.

Enhance the light and airy feeling with bleached wood cabinetry and white or almond appliances and countertops. Pastel floral patterns, botanical prints and masses of fresh flowers bring springtime indoors all year round.

Set a cozy country tone with Colchester Brick, a two-by-two paver pattern reminiscent of hand-hewn bricks. Each flooring color—colony red, Richmond beige, natural white or delta brown—coordinates beautifully with natural wood cabinetry, almond or brown appliances and butcher block countertops.

Country-style furnishings and accessories—stenciled wallcovering or calico fabrics, an antique oak table and ladder-back chairs—complete the picture.

For clean-lined contemporary style, select Millbrooke or Linden Court in a neutral sand, beige, almond, pearl or slate. Contrasting grout lines on these quarry tile patterns visually organize space for a sleek, uncluttered look.

Markets are normal after strong activity

The very strong levels of activity that characterized the housing market in Canadian cities during the spring have moderated back to more normal patterns with the onset of summer. Nonetheless, with few exceptions, housing prices are considerably higher than they were in October, 1986.

According to the October, 1987 edition of the Royal LePage Survey of Canadian House Prices released today, real estate sales and price trends in the residential real estate markets have shown surprisingly similar patterns.

"Although there have been noticeable differences in degree, most cities enjoyed bullish markets early in the year that tapered off to more normal levels in the second and third quarters of the year," comments Ozzie Jurock, President, Royal LePage Residential Real Estate Services. "It is rare that there is this much similarity in markets trends across the country."

Jurock's comments coincided with the release of the October, 1987 issue of the Royal LePage Survey. The quarterly, cross-Canada study tracks the estimated selling price of six categories of housing in over 180 communities from coast to coast.

Jurock adds that in a number of markets the moderation is welcome. "After the substantial increases in the value of homes in Toronto, for example, it is good for the market for price trends to revert to more affordable patterns."

"House prices in Alberta continue to recover strongly, Vancouver and Montreal are enjoying very good years,

and most other markets report healthy levels of activity."

The Royal LePage Survey is designed not only to track house price trends, but also to compare the value of similar homes in different communities across the country.

Condominiums continue to record strong gains in value, often exceeding the rate of increase of detached housing, according to the Royal LePage Survey. In a Montreal area like St. Lambert, for instance, a typical Detached Bungalow is up 11.5 per cent since last year to \$145,000. A luxury Condominium unit in the same area has increased 24 per cent to \$155,000.

In the Winnipeg neighbourhood of Fort Richmond, an Executive Detached Two Storey home has increased nearly four per cent to \$158,000 since October, 1986, while a Standard Condominium unit has risen just over nine per cent to \$68,000.

Resale housing values quoted in the Survey of Canadian House Prices represent the estimated current market value of typical homes and are compared to figures reported three months ago and a year ago. The prices cited are Royal LePage opinions of fair market value in each location based on data on market knowledge provided by Royal LePage residential real estate specialists.

Royal LePage is Canada's leading realtor, with approximately 10,000 employees in over 350 residential and commercial offices in Canada, the United States and overseas.

A complimentary copy of the Survey of Canadian House Prices is available from any Royal LePage real estate office in Canada.



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It is interesting to note that John Dayfoot's father, Michael, was the first deacon of the Georgetown Baptist Church.

Thank you for the very valuable help from Walter Lewis, Elaine Bertrand and John McDonald's "Halton Sketches". We appreciate your comments.



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