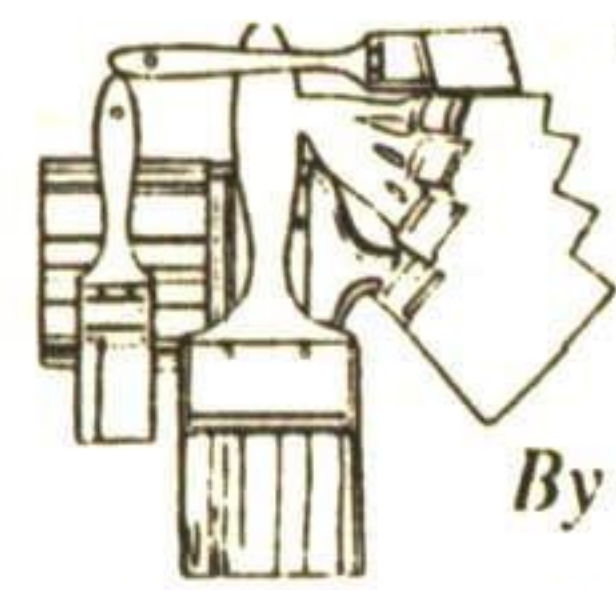
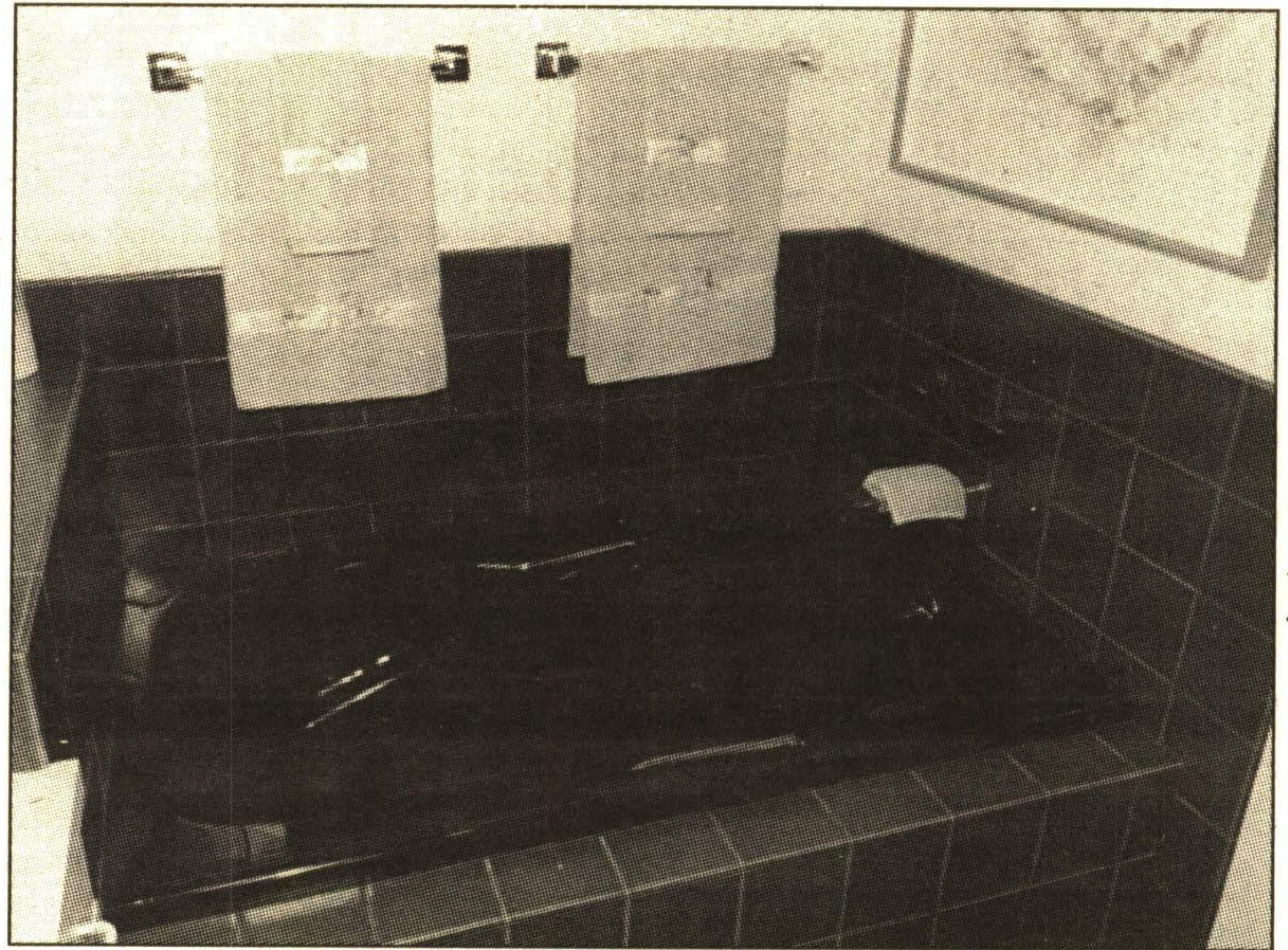


27 National Kitchen & Bath Association's Rules Of Bathroom Design

1. A clear walkway of at least 32" must be provided at all entrances to the bathroom.
2. No doors may interfere with fixtures.
3. Mechanical ventilation system must be included in the plan.
4. Ground fault circuit interrupters specified on all receptacles. No switches within 60" of any water source. All light fixtures above tub/shower units are moisture-proof special-purpose fixtures.
5. If floor space exists between two fixtures, at least six inches of space should be provided for cleaning.
6. At least 21" of clear walkway space exists in front of lavatory.
7. The minimum clearance from the lavatory centerline to any side wall is 15".
8. The minimum clearance between two bowls in the lavatory center is 30", centerline to centerline.
9. The minimum clearance from the center of the toilet to any obstruction, fixture or equipment on either side of the toilet is 15".
10. At least 21" of clear walkway space exists in front of the toilet.
11. The toilet paper holder is installed within reach of the person seated on the toilet. The ideal location is slightly in front of the toilet bowl's edge, the center of which is 26" above the finished floor.
12. The minimum clearance from the center of the bidet to any obstruction, fixture or equipment on either side of the bidet is 15".
13. At least 21" of clear walkway space exists in front of the bidet.
14. Storage for soap and towels is installed within reach of the person seated on the bidet.
15. No more than one step leads to the tub. The step must be at least 10" deep, and must not exceed 7/4" in height.
16. Bathtub faucetry is accessible from outside the tub.
17. Whirlpool motor access, if necessary, is included in the plan.
18. At least one grab bar is installed to facilitate bathtub or shower entry.
19. The minimum useable shower interior dimension is 32" x 32".
20. A bench or footrest is installed within the shower enclosure.
21. A clear walkway of at least 21" exists in front of tub/shower.
22. The shower door swings into the bathroom.
23. All shower heads are protected by a pressure balance/temperature regulator or temperature-limiting device.
24. All flooring is of slip-resistant material.
25. Adequate storage must be provided in the plan, including: counter/shelf space around lavatory, adequate grooming equipment storage, convenient shampoo/soap storage in shower/tub area
26. An adequate heating system must be provided.
27. General and task lighting must be provided.



Energy And Money Savers

Around The House

By Carolyn Henderson

Your home is the biggest investment you'll ever make. Maintenance is essential, even if you don't have a lot of money to spend on such obvious improvements as a new garage or room addition.

Especially at this time of year, small external repairs are the most important ones to make. If you do your work now, winter weather can't make cracks, splits or gaps worse. If you leave them for a few months, you'll need to replace stucco or brickwork—and you might even have a few interior repairs to make as well.

The largest monthly expense for any homeowner in a northern climate is usually heating. Fortunately, a little attention to energy efficiency often helps reduce bills. Energy-efficient operation also helps the environment because it

saves on natural resources and causes less pollution.

While you often have to spend money to save money, there are plenty of experts to advise you on the latest energy-saving systems. Ask your local electricity and/or gas utility whether they offer free energy-use audits. An audit is a great way of finding potential money- and energy-wasting problems around your home.

There are two main ways of using energy wisely. First, make sure your home is as well insulated as possible. Places to check include walls, windows, roof, floors and doors.



Make sure that the heat

you pay for stays where it is doing the most good. If your insulation is inadequate, your heat and your heating bills can go right through the roof.

Second, use your thermostat with conservation in mind. Whatever fuel you use, make sure your system is fitted with temperature and timing controls. Thermostats can be fitted to individual radiators so that different rooms can be heated to the desired level. Many people prefer a bedroom to be cooler than the rest of the house, for instance.

As a general rule, halls, passages, laundry rooms and sometimes kitchens can be cooler than the rest of the house, either because they are only used in passing or because they contain other heat sources.

Living rooms will need to be well heated in the evenings, because the

occupants will be sitting down (therefore generating little body heat) and because there will be no natural warmth from the sun.

Timing controls mean your home is heated only when you need it. For instance, if parents are out at work and children at school, the timer can be set so that the room temperature is lowered after everyone leaves and raised again just before the first person returns at the end of the day.

Check that your appliances are in good order. Dripping hot water taps, leaking radiators or cracked windows all waste energy. Fix them now to prevent loss of energy and further damage this winter.

Saving energy isn't just a good idea—it's downright economical!



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