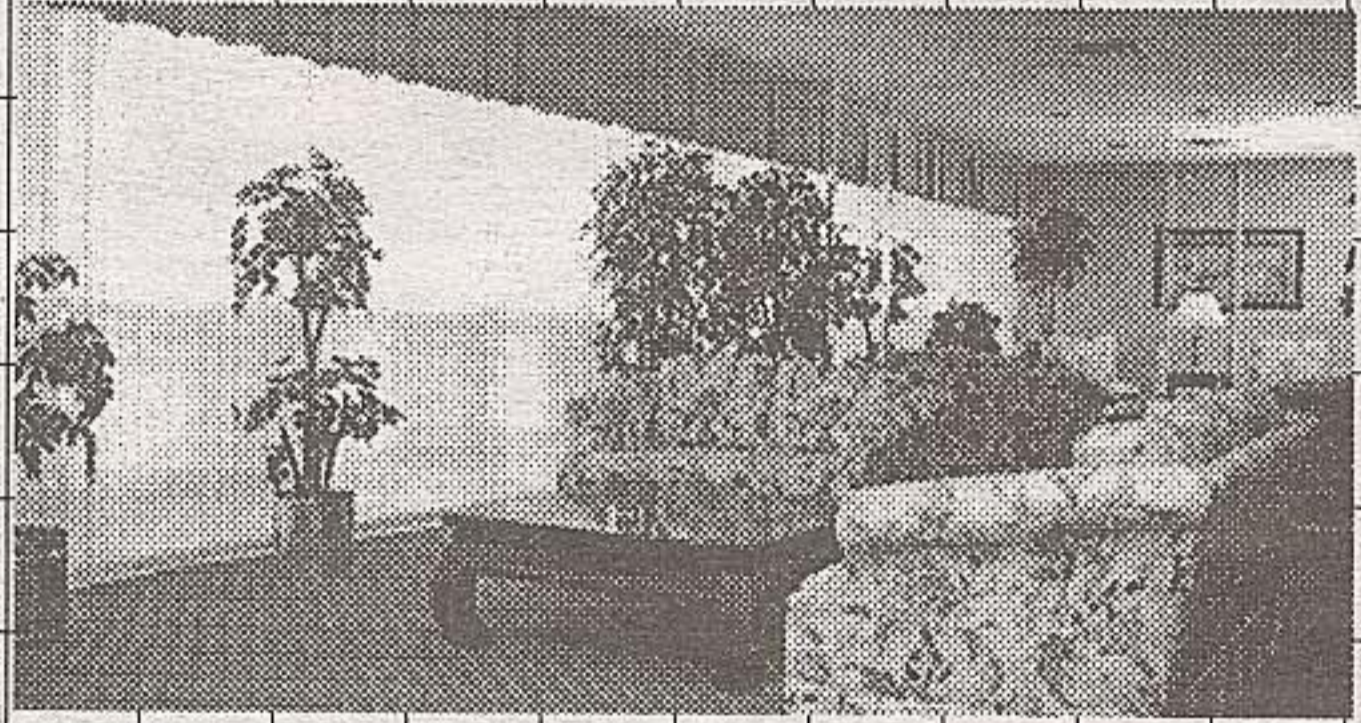
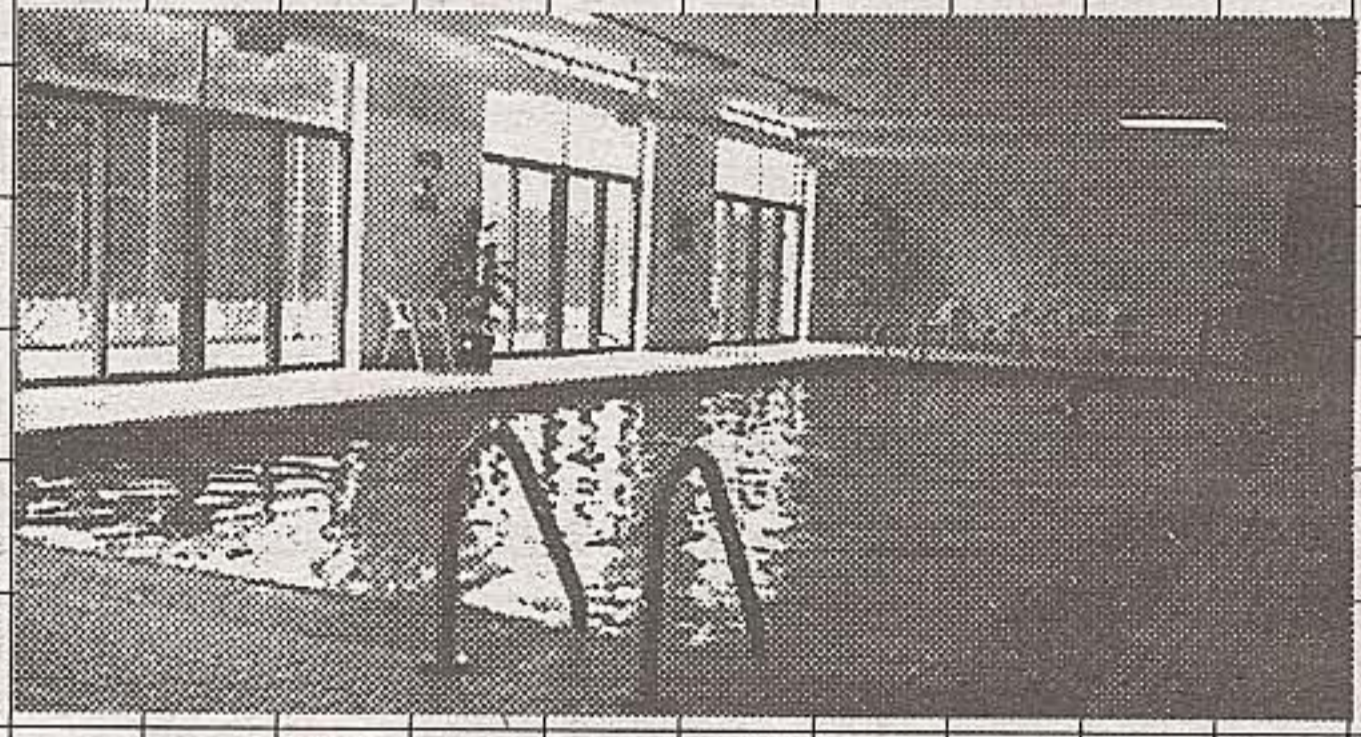
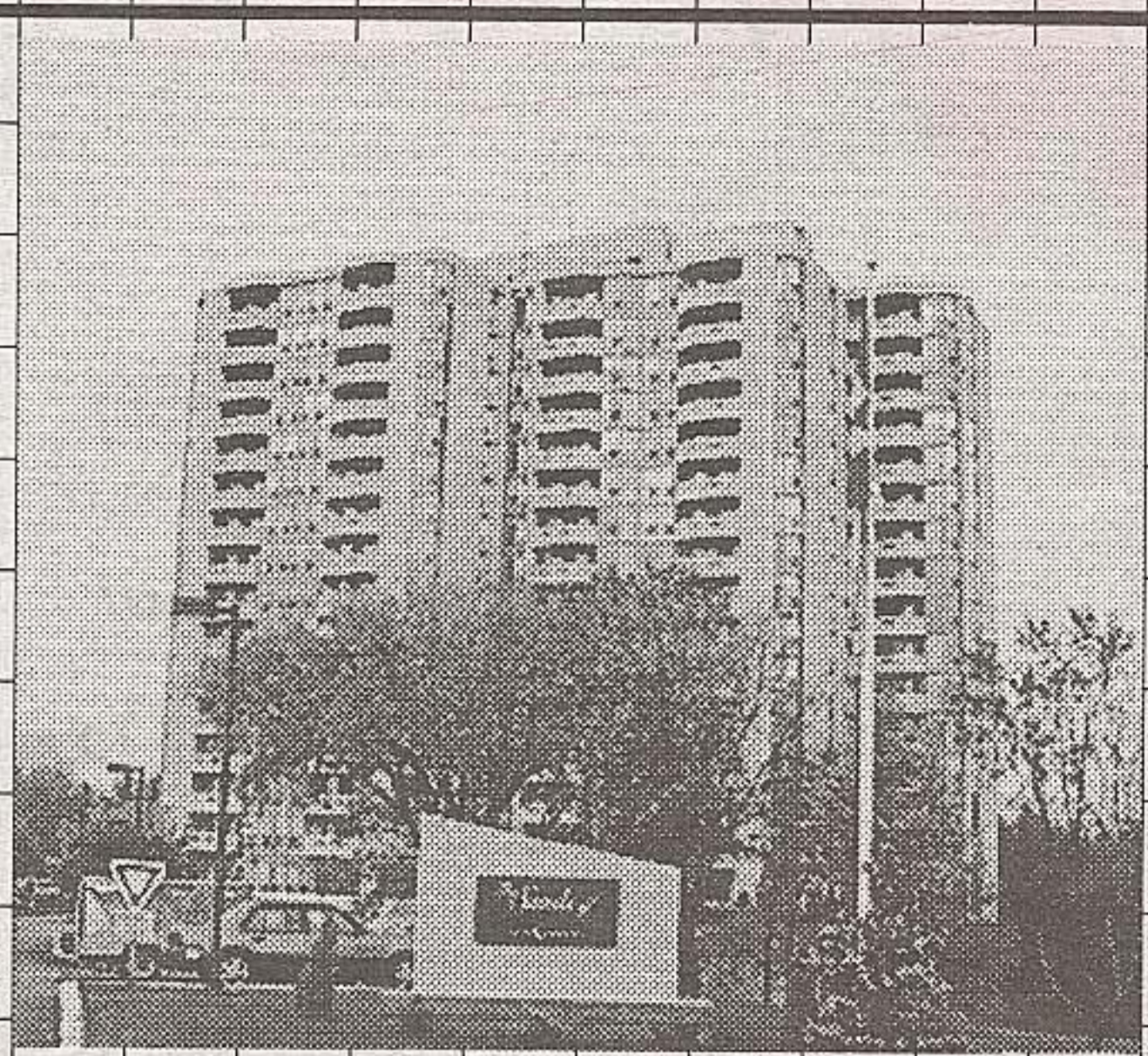


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These decorating hints can give your home decor some style

There is no magic formula for successful decorating, merely a few sound principles which lead the way. If you remember the following hints, you will find that the road to becoming confident at decorating will be well marked and easy to follow.

- **Clip File:** You will find the challenge of decorating easier if you constantly keep a file of idea clippings: photos, pages torn from magazines, swatches of fabrics, anything that strikes your fancy at any given time. You will find that these clippings will inspire you when you want to decorate.

- **Carrying Color:** Never try to remember what a color looks like when you are matching a chip or a swatch. Always carry color samples with you and review colors in the room where they will be used, in context with all the other samples visible in that space.

- **Don't Be Color-Shy:** Use color with confidence on your walls. It is smarter to spend \$100 on boldly colored paint for your walls than \$2,500 for a dramatic sofa, which you may quickly find out you do not like. Paint—one of the least expensive decorating tools—is a minimum investment with maximum impact. If you do not like a color you have chosen for your walls, you can paint over it at very little cost.

- **Let There Be Light:** Light affects how a color will appear. North light and daylight fluorescent bulbs bring

out more of the green or blue (coolness) in a color. Ordinary incandescent light bulbs bring out more of the red (warmth) in a color. Fluorescent bulbs that are fairly neutral are available, but expensive. It is possible to combine daylight fluorescent and incandescent bulbs to bring out both ends of the color spectrum, or you can mix daylight and cool white fluorescent bulbs. Rooms lit by natural north lighting are best for working in because the light remains fairly constant throughout the day.

- **Chip Change:** The color on a small paint chip is often not representative of its look when applied to a wall. Held in the hands, the chip receives almost 100 percent light reflection; on the wall, it will only receive between 40 and 70 percent light reflection, causing the color to appear darker.

Be sure to view chips in the room in which you intend to use the paint—not in the lighting of the paint store. To be really sure you like your choice, invest in a litre of paint in your color and finish selection and use it to paint a two-foot by two-foot board. Then place it against the wall in the room to be painted.

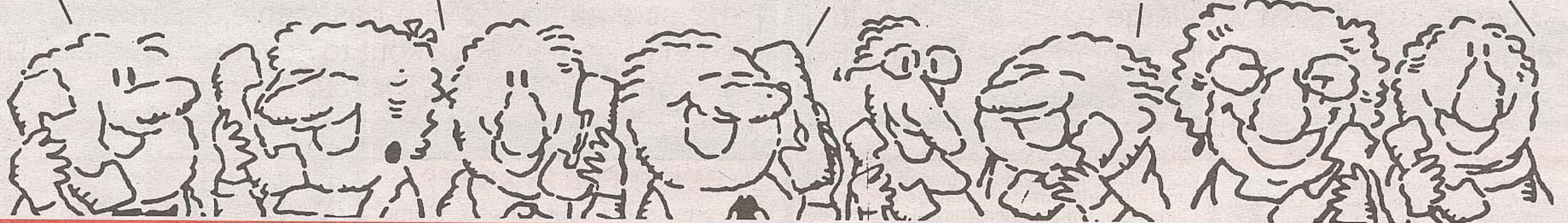
- **Night Moves:** Are you away from your home during the day? Then it is essential that you view paint chips both in natural daylight and in night light—the conditions in which you will be in the room. The color will appear different under these two lighting conditions.

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