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New Year's Facelift--For your Home!

Happy New Year! This year, instead of making that same old new year's resolution of losing ten pounds or going to the health club, resolve to give your interiors a new year's face lift! This is a resolution you will be pleased you kept for years to come.

Just a little updating is all it takes to ring in the new year right. A new sofa in the living room can bring new life to an old room. Or maybe you are not ready to replace the sofa, but would somehow like to give it a new look. Throw pillows will do the trick. Custom cover them in coordinating fabrics. If you would like different patterns for summer and winter, cover one

side of the pillows in a summery color and the opposite side in a more wintry hue. You can simply flip them over with the seasons!

When was the last time you thought about the walls of the room? A simple change of wall color makes a marked improvement upon a room. Or introduce a pattern to make your walls take on more of a starring role. With the countless wall coverings and designer paint colors available, you should have no trouble finding just the right look. As a rule of thumb, low ceilings should be painted a light shade to encourage a sense of height, while high ceilings can carry the deeper colors if you

desire is to visually bring down the ceiling height.

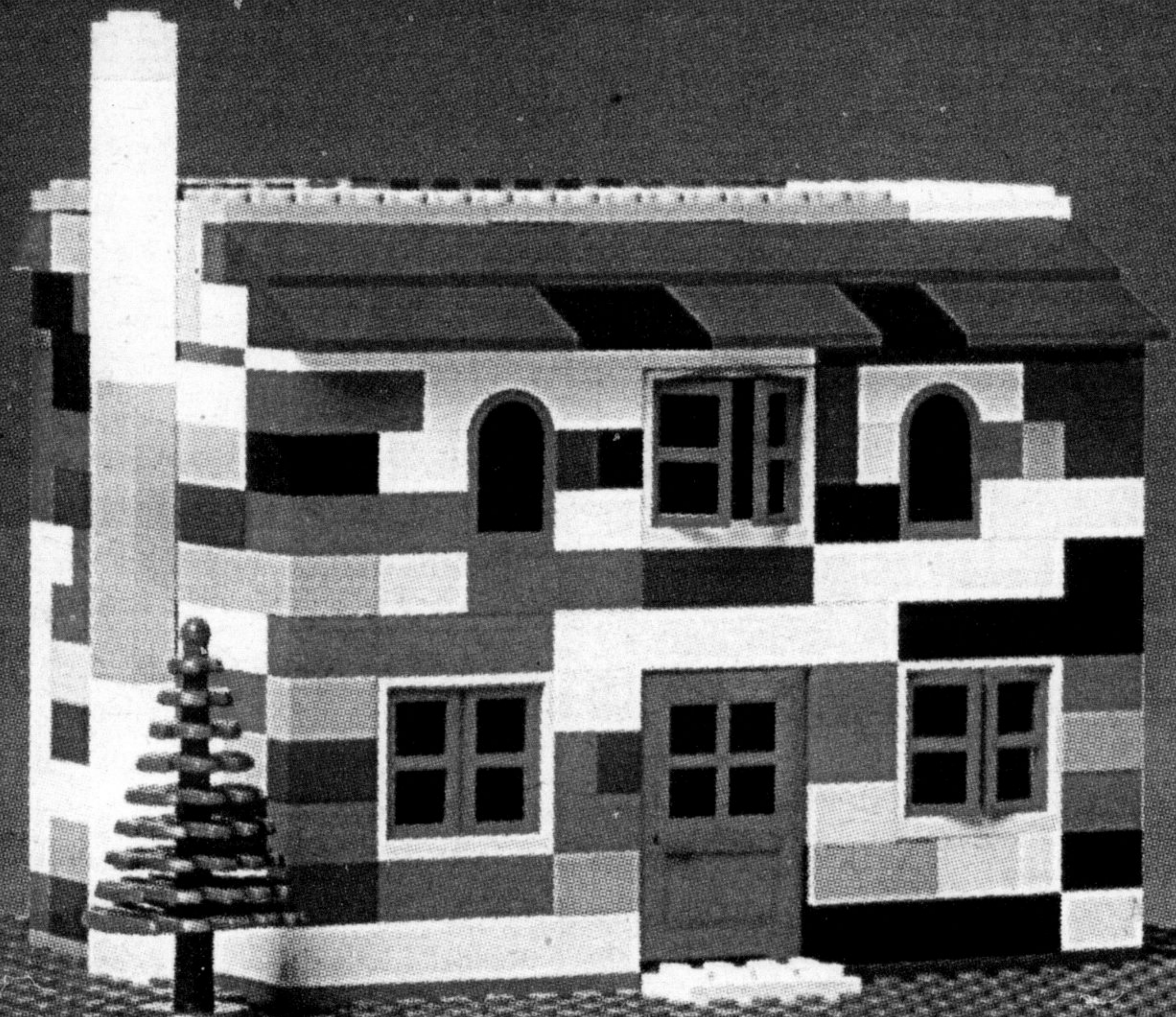
Let's turn to the windows. Are you looking through heavily draped window treatments that make you feel like something is overdue for a dusting? It's time--out with the old and in with the new. Many of today's stylish window treatment designs are refreshingly light. They say, "Look through me, not at me!" Of course, if the view is unappealing there are numerous ways to camouflage it, such as shutters or sheers.

The easiest way to accomplish a new year's facelift is with accessorizing. Sorry, but it's time to take down all the holiday trimmings. This time, rather than leave your home cold and empty, fill it with treasured collections, groupings of old family photos, and perhaps a colorful dried flower arrangement or two. Be sure you have enough lighting; it can chase away the winter doldrums by adding both visual interest as well as light. Add greenery to your home to give your house a summertime feeling throughout those dreary months of January and February. If you don't have a green thumb, purchase a few quality silk plants that will bring life to your interests--no fertilizer required!

It's easy to give your home a new year's facelift. From furniture and lighting to the simple detail of new accessories, there are countless ways to update your home's look without spending a bundle. (Or spend a bundle, if that's what you want!) This will be one new year's resolution you will thank yourself for keeping.

This article is provided by the Decorating Den.

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