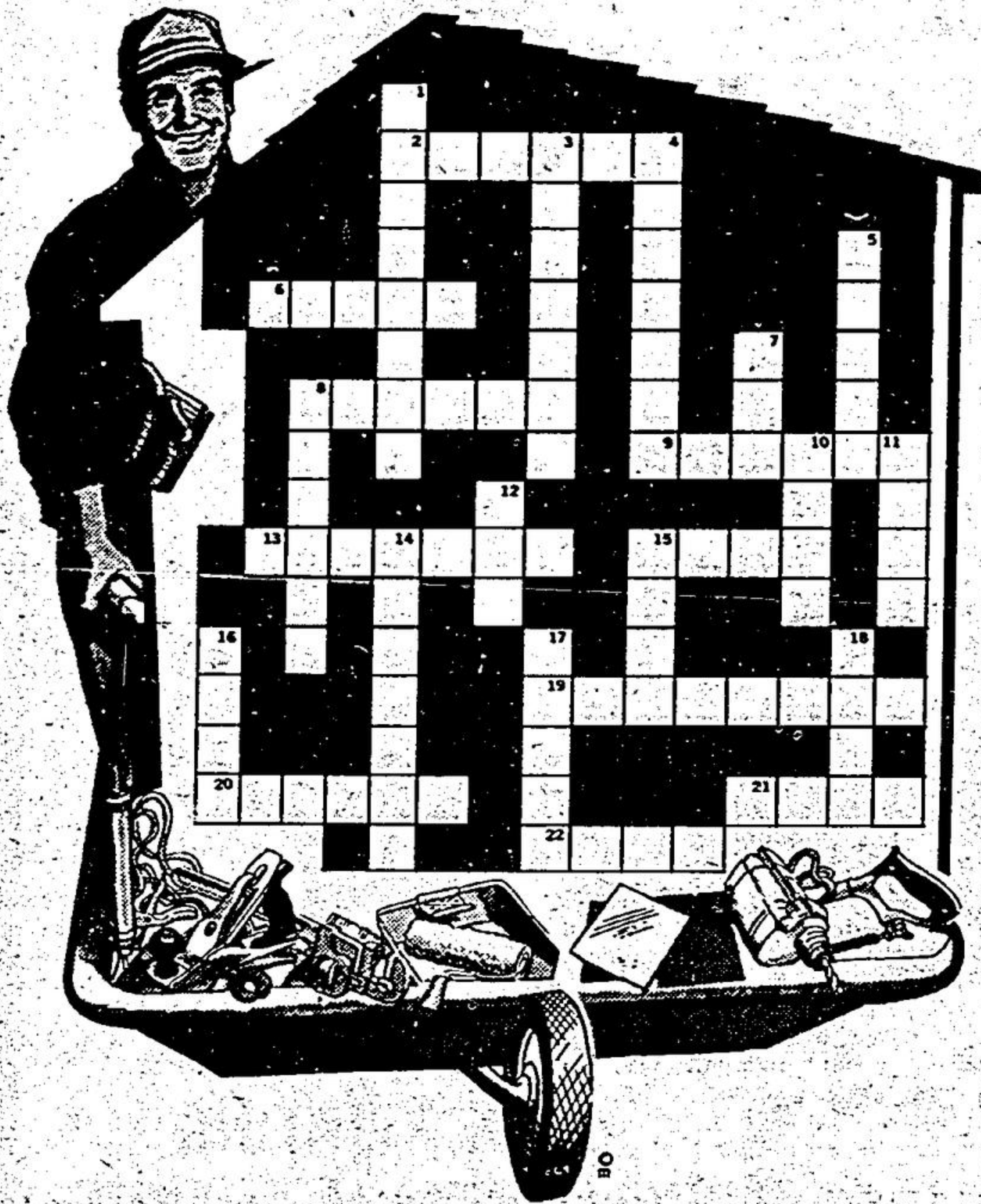


Home Improvement Crossword



Puzzle questions:

ACROSS

- 2 Building material.
- 6 Area for relaxing outdoors.
- 8 Type of stone ornamentation.
- 9 They keep the home bright.
- 13 Where the cooking is done.
- 15 Heating and insulation keep your home warm.
- 19 An extra room or part of a house.
- 20 Common floor covering.

- 21 Generally covers bathroom floor.
- 22 Type of wood for making furniture, flooring, etc.

DOWN

- 1 Metallic element used on a home's exterior.
- 3 Master or children's room.
- 4 To do over.
- 5 A living thing that's popular for home decorating.
- 7 Usually covers part of a floor.

- 8 Outermost covering on a house.
- 10 Improvements.
- 11 Found in kitchen and bathroom.
- 12 Playroom.
- 14 Storage area in kitchen.
- 15 Paneling is often made of it.
- 16 Latest look, fashionable, in style, in vogue.
- 17 Comes in pints, gallons, etc.
- 18 Cool off in the backyard.

For Correct Answers to Home Improvement Crossword Puzzle, See Page . . . 18

Get your pool in shape early

As warm weather approaches, swimming pool owners should be planning ahead, to assure themselves that the coming months will be enjoyed with a minimum of maintenance problems. Few pool owners, however, know as much as they should about pool maintenance. Yet this knowledge can save time and money, and make summer swimming a pleasure.

First remove any protective winter covers from pool and equipment. If pool was drained, sweep the inside and surrounding areas clean of debris and dirt. Then inspect exposed surfaces to determine if any cracking of walls or floor has occurred or if painting or refinishing is needed. Examine all valves, controls, and pipes for obvious deterioration.

If all seems proper, turn on water to fill empty pool. Again examine all exposed valves, controls, and pipes for leakage. Dried packings and gaskets may cause minor seepages that will stop by themselves as they absorb water and expand. If not, tightening with a wrench or replacing packing will be necessary. If any major leaks are observed, turn off the water and call for professional help.

While pool is filling, check the filtration equipment for operational readiness. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for oiling and cleaning required prior to putting your pool filter into operation, which can be done as soon as water reaches the filter intake pipe. Start up filter as prescribed by the manufacturer.

According to Johns-Manville, a major manufacturer of filter aids, filters of the diatomite type call for proper pre-coating of the filter elements with a filter aid that assures an efficient operation and crystal clear water. This water quality is obtained by circulating a slurry, or mixture, of diatomite and water into the filter to provide a coating about 1-16 of an inch thick on the elements.

A supply of diatomite should also be placed into the filter's body feed apparatus, if one is used. The body feed is a means of adding small amounts of diatomite at frequent intervals or continuously during the filtration cycle to separate slimes and other

dirt and prevent them from clogging the precoat layer.

When a filter goes into operation in a newly-filled pool, the advantages of proper filtration can be observed in a spectacular fashion. The water, though perfectly fit for drinking, may at first be cloudy and uninviting. As a result, the first few filter cycles may be shorter than usual.

As filtration progresses, the improvements in clarity and sparkle will be amazing. Complete filtration of the pool's contents may take up to 24 hours, depending on its size and the filter capacity. Chlorination of the pool water, and the addition of other chemicals or algicides, should be accomplished before the pool is used.

Be sure your pool is prominently marked as to water depth. And then take steps to make everyone, especially the youngsters, aware of how deep he may go before the water level becomes dangerous. The simple step of taking a six-foot length of wood and

marking off on it the heights indicating the same marking on water depth will help each child determine how far he can go. It is surprising how often even older children are now aware that water four feet deep will come up to their chins.

Depending upon the frequency with which the pool is used, the temperature, and the efficiency of chlorination and pH control, most pool filters will require cleaning at three to ten day intervals. Filter cycles can be extended by proper care of the pool.

Frequent hand skimming, if an automatic skimmer is not installed, and vacuuming will ease filter load, and careful control of algae by chemical treatment will cut operating expenses.

Filter should be run so that the pool water is completely filtered every 18 to 24 hours. Diatomite is not expensive, and the cost of proper filtration, says Johns-Manville, will be small compared with the pleasures of swimming in clear, inviting mountain spring type water.

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