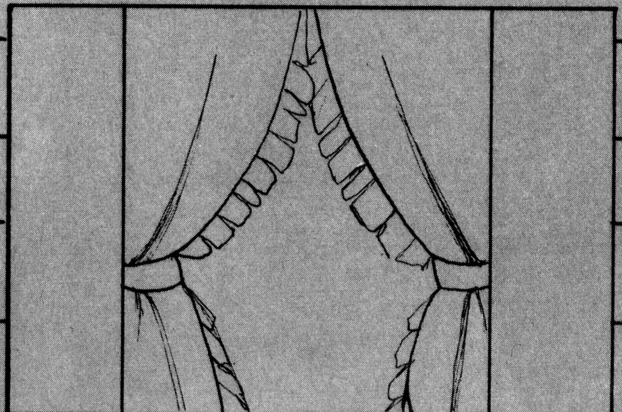
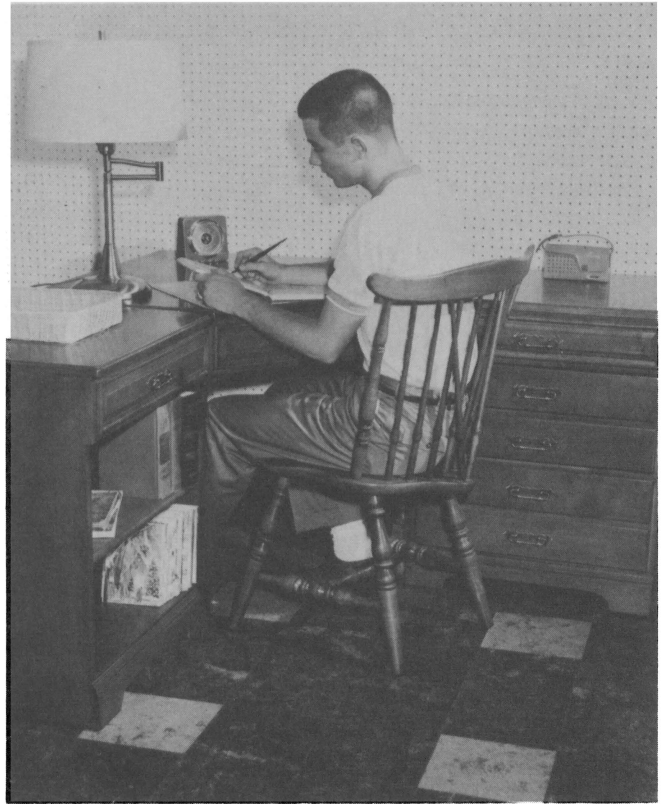


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PROVIDE A PLACE TO WORK OR PLAY



4-H Home Management Series



4-H CIRCULAR 153
SEPTEMBER, 1960
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

When You Provide a Place to Work or Play

All of us can work or play better if our surroundings are attractive and convenient. Homework, for example, can be accomplished in record time if your "study center" is well organized. The same thing applies to sewing, reading, or almost any activity.

How do you go about this organization? First, list the things you will be doing in this particular spot. What furnishings do you need? What accessories would you like? Get your plans on paper. Then start work!

You may find the items you are looking for in the most unexpected places. That's half the fun of doing things. And do use your imagination.

You may have difficulty deciding just which spot you might like to improve. If you choose one particular unit and really complete it, you'll get more effective results. The unit might be: a study center, a sewing center, or a retreat for a special hobby.

Your Project Requirements

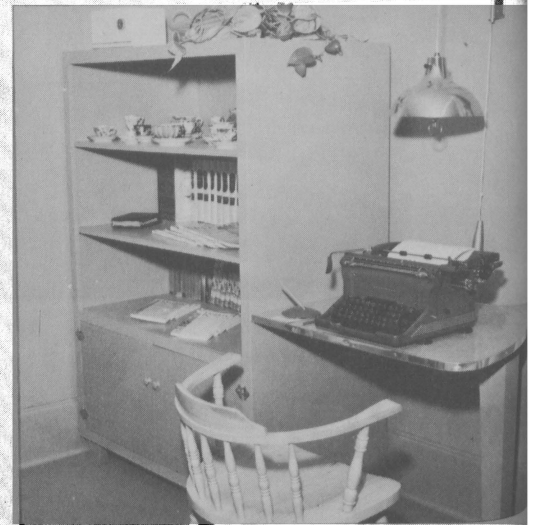
1. Make four of the articles listed under "Ideas for Things to Make." Select and buy as many additional articles as you wish or that your pocketbook allows.

2. Select at least three things to do from the "idea list" on page 4.

Add Your Own Ideas

In this leaflet, exact directions are not given for making the articles listed. The pictures should suggest some ways you can make them. Your leader will have some suggestions and reference materials are available which will be helpful—see page 4. You can also get ideas from books, magazines, store displays and interesting homes.

—By Alice Mae Alexander



AS FOR THINGS TO MAKE . . .

1. Remodel, refinish, or make furniture to be used in the unit you have chosen. Carolyn designed this combination desk and storage piece. She sanded and painted the chair as well as the desk and cabinet. Carolyn uses the lower part of the cabinet for sewing supplies. Does this give you an idea for something you can make?

2. A place to play! By all means. Here an unused area of the basement got a new face in the form of white paint on walls. Gay red wooden blinds make an interesting window treatment. Other furniture not seen in picture was painted and slip covered. The girls' smiles tell us "it was all worthwhile."

3. Upholster, reseat, or slipcover furniture. The simple washable slipcover Marilyn shows here is easy to keep.

4. A game table should have a cover. Here quilted cotton material was "boxed" at each corner and bias tape used to finish the edge. Don and Pat are all set for games or refreshments!

5. What accessories do you need, if you have chosen a study center?

- a. A wastebasket is a must! To be effective it must be sturdy and easy to keep clean. If you have used some particular decorative feature elsewhere, making or personalizing a wastebasket may be just the thing to do.
- b. A piece of cork framed makes an interesting bulletin board. It provides a place to display whatever happens to interest you at the moment. Or, consider a picture.
- c. Provide some means of keeping your books close at hand. Directions for making the first pair of bookends will be found in the 4-H woodworking bulletin. Mimeographed directions are available for the dowel-type bookends shown here. Next is a book stall. This particular one is made from a board 5" x 18" x 3/4". Two 1/2-inch dowels 6 inches long hold the books in place. Two 3-inch long dowels are used underneath to tilt the board.
- d. Make a habit of filing important papers. A cardboard box covered with interesting paper makes a good file box.

6. Make a file cabinet that plays a dual role. This one provides storage for important things and serves as a night table. Mimeographed directions are available.

7. Provide special storage for equipment and hobby supplies. This will vary, but remember the most important principle of good storage is "everything within easy reach and stored at point of first use".

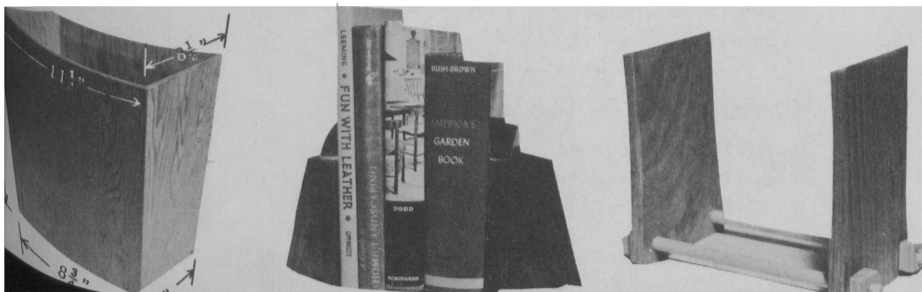
For a sewing center you will want a good light, a cutting table, storage boxes, or fitted drawers. Peg board makes an ideal background for sewing accessories.

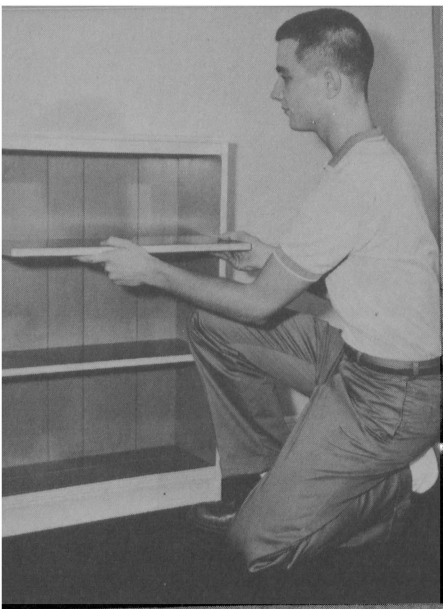


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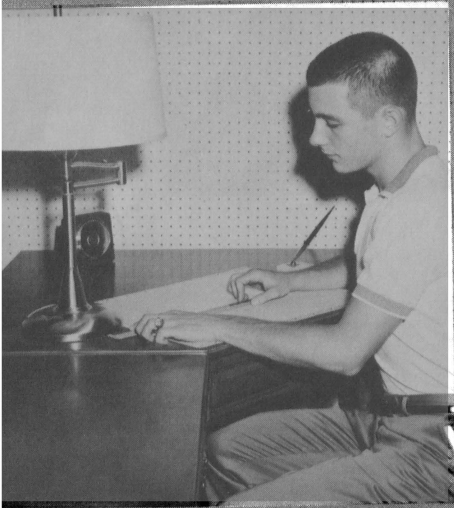


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8. Assemble and paint unfinished shelves. Don can use his for books and other articles. Perhaps you can make your own. Ask for mimeographed directions.

Ideas For Things To Do . . .

1. Arrange a study center, following the "recipe" to be found in the 4-H bulletin "Your Room." Don is shown in the cover picture working at his study center.

2. Clip a picture that illustrates the characteristics of a good study lamp. Mount it in your scrapbook.

3. Place a study lamp according to the recommendations for good lighting as found in "See Your Home in a New Light." Don is measuring the correct position for his desk lamp. (Fig. A).

4. Develop a filing system according to your own needs.

5. Experiment with different colors to determine their effect on lighting.

6. Provide storage for special articles that you use at any one center.

7. Keep this center in order, doing special cleaning when necessary.

8. Acquire the habit of prompt and courteous correspondence.

9. Develop an atmosphere of fun along with efficiency.

10. Begin a scrapbook where you can save ideas for your home of future.

You may get the following material at your county Extension office

BULLETINS

Extension Circular 564—Refinishing Furniture

Extension Circular 698—How to Upholster Dining Room and Kitchen Chairs

Extension Circular 690—How to Upholster Overstuffed and Occasional Chairs

Extension Circular 707—How to Upholster Cushions

Extension Circular 710-711-712—Picture Series

4-H Club Circular 103—Your Room

MIMEOGRAPHED MATERIAL

60-225 Book Shelf

60-226 File Cabinet

60-230 Colonial Book Ends