

Architectural Woodwork

by Clayton DeKorne



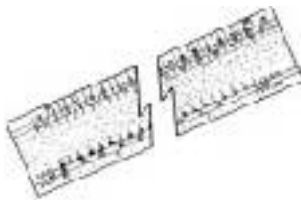
Traditional woodworking never seems to go out of style. Georgian, Federal, and Revival doorways are still being made by hand using time-honored methods of joining. *Kenmore Industries* produces historical entries with full mortise-and-tenon rails, true raised panels, and deep-cut moldings. The doorways feature hand-carved fanlights, pilasters, capitals, dentils, and transoms. The doors are made of solid mahogany but are generally painted to accentuate the shadows and highlights of the intricate design. For more information, contact *Kenmore Industries*, 1 Thompson Square, P.O. Box 34, Boston MA 02129; 617/242-1711.

Another old method of production is making a comeback. *Artistic Woodworking* has revived the lost art of die stamping to produce an array of embossed medallions, lacework, and moldings. The ornate "carvings" are made with hand-tooled brass dies purchased from a late 19th-century furniture maker. They can be applied to new or existing woodwork to give it a style true to the Victorian period. For more information, contact *Artistic Woodworking*, Rt. #2, Imperial, NE 69033; 308/882-4872.

Design Aids



Builders and designers both may find these tools useful. The *Design Works Home and Remodeling Kit* can help customers visualize a proposed project. The kit includes a cardboard clear-plastic grid for laying out different floor plan options, and materials to build 1/4-inch scale models of buildings up to 6,500 square feet. The cardboard model-building materials have a 1/4-inch grid on one side. The other side is illustrated to simulate brick, stone, clapboards, shingles, windows, doors, skylights, kitchen cabinets and appliances, stairs, bathroom fixtures, landscaping, or interior walls. The kit costs \$39.90 and is available from *Design Works, Inc.*, 11 Hitching Post Road, Amherst, MA 01002; 413/549-4763.



The *Gilco Scale/Ruler* was designed with builders in mind. It is a flat ruler with 1/8-, 1/4-, 1/2-, and 1-inch scales. For simplified reading, each scale reads the same from both ends rather than doubling up two scales as do most architectural rulers. In addition to length measurements, on-center spacings are marked off beneath each scale to help with material take offs. The spacings are based on even divisions of 8 feet: 12-inch for linear feet and 24-inch layouts, 16-inch for concrete block units and framing layouts, and 19.2 inches for truss layouts. It can be used on the job site for scaling plans or in the office for estimating and designing. For more information, contact *Gilco Design and Development Specialists*, 3656 Cahaba Beach Road, Birmingham, AL 35242; 800/874-4526

Architectural Audio

In-wall stereo systems are now on the list of amenities new homebuyers might find attractive. High-fidelity audio systems can be kept discreet using *Sonance In-wall Speaker Systems and Volume Controls*. Volume controls that resemble lighting dimmer switches can be installed in conventional



electric boxes to control stereo equipment hidden away in a cabinet. The speakers can be held in the wall by ABS plastic brackets that can be used in new construction or retrofit into existing walls. Stainless-steel and plastic construction reportedly allow for installation of these speakers in shower stalls and saunas. For more information, contact *Sonance*, 32992 Calle Perfecto, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675; 800/582-7777 (in California: 714/661-7558).

For the high-end market, the *Bose Acoustimass Music System* features a flush-to-the-wall music center including an AM/FM tuner with 12 station presets, a digital compact disc player, dynamic equalizer, and stereo ampli-



fiers that can power speakers in three rooms. A choice of integrated speaker configurations—surface-mount, flush-mount, or a ceiling-mount designed to resemble an "eyeball" lighting fixture—is available. A component speaker system includes a beneath-floor subwoofer (when finished it can be covered with a small heating grate) and high and midrange speakers that resemble track or monopoint lighting fixtures. For more information, contact *Bose Corporation*, Framingham, MA 01701-9168; 508/879-7330.

Space Saving Simplified



Pocket doors can be great spacesavers. But they can also be difficult to install and, over time, aggravating to operate. The *Johnson 1500 Series Pocket Door Frame* has several features that make a pocket door simple to install and maintain. The doors hang on three-wheeled rollers that can be mounted on any 1-3/4-inch or narrower door. The rollers glide on two sides of a boxed track. According to the manufacturer, this prevents the rollers from jumping off the track. Once mounted in the track, the door can be quickly removed by the "flip-of-a-clip." Steel stud stiffeners for both 2x4 and 2x6 studs are provided to keep nails out of the pocket and to resist warping of the studs. Self-adjusting floor anchors allow for settling of a floor without disturbing the horizontal alignment of the header and track. For more information, contact *L.E. Johnson Products, Inc.*, P.O. Box 1126, Elkhart, IN 46515; 800/348-7616 (in Indiana, 800/552-0782).

Poplar Appeal



Fast-growing trees can enhance new homes and developments and speed up the reclamation of land-fill sites. The *Frysville Hybrid Poplar* can be planted to provide shade, privacy screening, and windbreaks in a short time. According to *Mile W. Fry, Inc.* the broad-leaved shade variety will grow to full height in 3 to 6 years. The tall, narrow screen variety will reach maturity in 2 to 5 years. The trees reportedly show an amazing resistance to extreme pH conditions in the soil. These trees have been planted over coal mine spoils and experimental sewage-treatment facilities to decompose waste products and restore the land's vitality. For more information, contact *Miles W. Fry and Son Nursery*, 300 Frysville Road, Ephrata, PA 17522; 717/354-4501. ■