

HOW TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR HOME

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How to take care of your home by Douglas Tuomey

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DOUGLAS TUOMEY

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CARE OF
YOUR HOME**

The author extends his thanks to the following firms for their courtesy in permitting him use of the photographs in this volume: Congoleum-Nairn, Inc.; Plumbing and Heating Industries Bureau; General Electric Co.; Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co.

A large, bold, black graphic of the initials 'DK'. The 'D' is a simple, rounded shape with a vertical stem. The 'K' is formed by a vertical stem that branches into two diagonal strokes at the bottom, one pointing up and to the right, and one pointing down and to the right.

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HOW TO TAKE CARE OF

Your Home

Chapter 1

GENERAL HOUSEHOLD REPAIRS

THE AVERAGE homeowner approaches the subject of household repairs and maintenance with considerable skepticism. He is well aware of the fact that he knows nothing whatever about plumbing, heating systems, carpentry or any of the other branches of husbandry. He is in the class of the gentleman who once announced that he could keep his entire house in perfect order and excellent repair by using only one instrument—the telephone. There is plenty of humor in that, but little help in keeping the repair and maintenance bills down to a minimum. Nevertheless it is a fact that the average man can do a most excellent job in keeping his home in repair if he is willing to spend a few of his leisure hours in studying and learning the techniques and procedures which are used by the professional handyman or mechanic. You can take our word for it that there is absolutely nothing mysterious, complicated or beyond ordinary understanding, in anything that has to do with homebuilding, or with home maintenance. If the average citizen would only put his undivided attention to work on the subject, he would find that he could manage to do most of the small repair jobs around the house with very little trouble. When he

becomes proficient at repairing leaking faucets, replacing broken window panes and cleaning out gutters and downspouts, he will find that his ambition increases, and before long he will be painting his own house from top to bot-



The technique of good painting should be first practiced indoors where ideal conditions prevail, and where outside influences such as weather, wind and dust are not a factor.

tom. Not all at once of course, probably the doors and frames during one week-end and the window frames and sash the following week. In a month or so he will be doing the walls in sections. A job that would cost him \$400