

Spring Home Improvements Are a Wise Investment

Making space in the kitchen for today's 'cooking couples'

Today, with both husband and wife working, cooking and kitchen cleanup often involves two people working in the kitchen at the same time. Preparing a meal under these circumstances, while maintaining a spirit of friendly cooperation, requires a kitchen and appliances designed to help rather than hinder the process.

Kitchen design in flux
Kitchen Designer Ellen

tag, which recently entered the cooking appliance field with gas and electric ranges and microwave ovens, notes that kitchens are changing.

"In the past, design has been based on a family with two to five children, a full-time, stay-at-home housewife, and working husband," she points out. "Now, the arrival of shared cooking in the kitchen is causing a revolution in the way these areas are being designed."

model their kitchens to adapt them to today's lifestyles. Cheever suggests one way to make room for two cooks in a small kitchen is to consider an eye-level range that has a full-size microwave oven mounted over a full-sized conventional range, all fitting nearly into a 30-inch space.

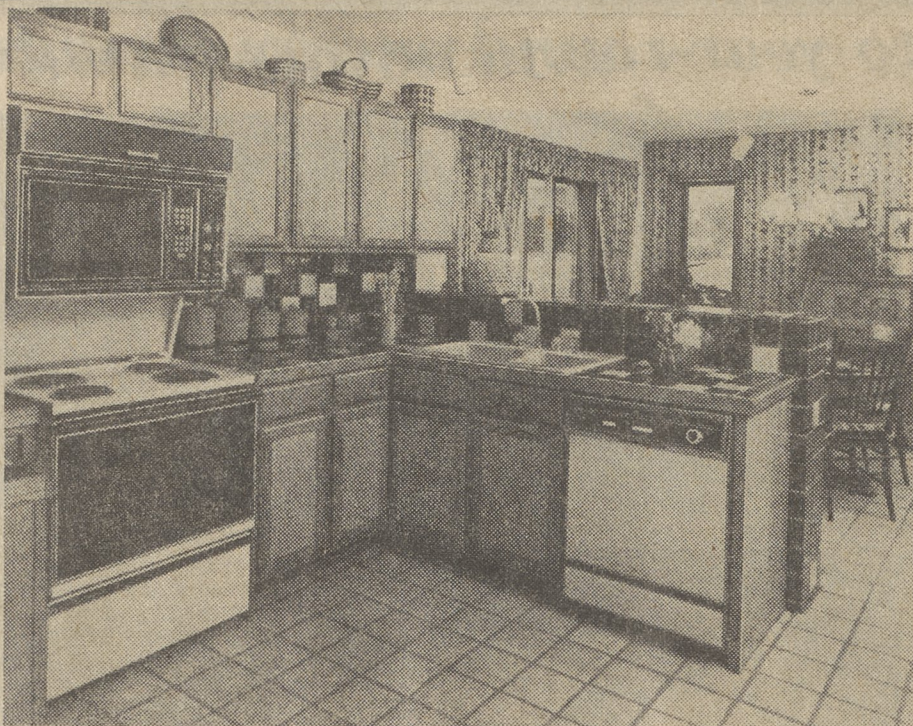
Dual preparation areas

The eye-level range should have 15-18 inches of counter space on each side so that two cooks can have their own food preparation area to use as they work with both the conventional range and microwave oven at the same time.

Cheever suggests that the appliances be arranged so that the cooks work from refrigerator to mix counter to sink to cooking appliance to table area.

The kitchen triangle

An imaginary line should be drawn from the center of the range, refrigerator and sink to form a triangle. If possible,



MAKING SPACE IN THE KITCHEN for today's "shared cooking" means selecting appliances with an eye towards efficiently utilizing every available inch. The Maytag Company's eye-level range provides a complete cooking center, with a microwave oven and a full-sized conventional range, all in one 30-inch space.

the triangle should be between 12 to 21 feet, with no leg less than four feet.

For more information on kitchen planning, send \$1.00 to: Kitchen Planning, The Maytag Company, Consumer Education, Dept. KP, Newton, Iowa 50208.

Appliances which the whole family can use

In the changing world of the Eighties, the predominant "typical" user of appliances in the home isn't mom anymore—it's just as likely to be dad or the kids pitching in to help with household and cooking chores.

According to Joy Schrage, Manager, Appliance Information Service (AIS) for Whirlpool Corporation, more and more members of the family are involved in the every-day operation of home appliances.

"That's why the AIS was developed," she said. "We think there is a need for new and expanded communications with today's changing

customer, and that the Appliance Information Service can help meet this growing need."

AIS booklets are now available on: Types of refrigerator defrost systems; How electronics are being used on appliances; The basics of microwave ovens; The language of microwave ovens; Preventing appliance service calls; and Energy saving tips in English and Spanish.

Single copies of each of these booklets are available free by writing to: AIS, Whirlpool Corporation, Administrative Center, Bentoh Harbor, MI 49022.

Energy audits yield returns

Putting out a little cash for a state supervised energy audit, could pay off nicely—as Connecticut homeowners recently discovered.

Energy audits of 36,000 homes conducted by Connecticut

utilities resulted in average savings of 25 percent on electricity, 40 percent on gas and 43 percent on oil for consumers who followed recommended conservation measures.

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