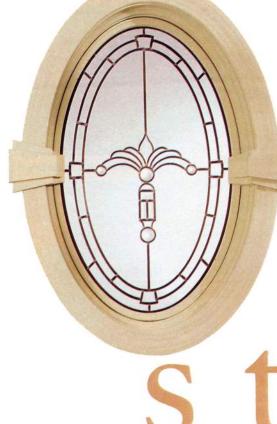




ig news is breaking on the home front! Exciting trends and products for builders and remodelers are setting new standards of quality and style, and recapturing the warmth and character of the homes we grew up in. Here's a sampling of what's generating all the stir.

Art glass option Art glass inserts are now available from Andersen. You pick the patterns from a catalog when you buy the windows.

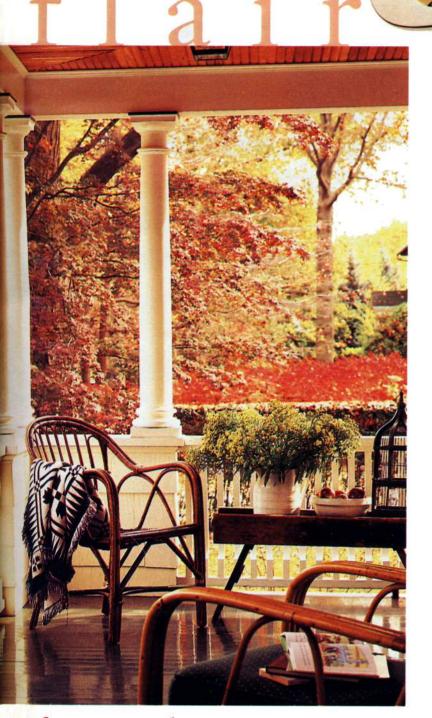
Trendy tiles Who says tile has to be a lesson in plain geometry? Imports fresh off the boat from Italy feature the hues and patterns of fine fabrics and wall coverings, plus sculpturings and glazings that resemble those on art pottery. Motifs include florals, stripes, garlands, and fish.







Lever latches An old idea makes a big comeback. Levers are not only easier to use than knobs, they're also great to look at. Schlage's "Mediterranean Collection" adds vintage grace and elegance even in a brand-new house.



front porches They're back by popular demand, and it's easy to see why. Nothing says welcome so simply yet graciously, and they're a great way to commune with nature and the neighborhood.



Shingle style Get ready for a major reprise of this vintage architectural style (above). Highly popular 80 years ago, its steeply pitched roofs, shingle siding, arched openings, and rustic stone chimneys make it a natural alternative for those who love living close



to nature. An offshoot of the Arts and Crafts movement, shingle style is building a broad following among homeowners who look for quality in craftsmanlike detailing, rich wood tones, and quiet patina.

Farmhouse style Country is bigger than ever in '96, and so are country-style homes (above right). What gives a house that bona fide down-on-the-farm flavor? Simple, sturdy two-story framing with a front gable, a wide front porch, and narrow clapboard siding.

BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS, JANUARY 1996