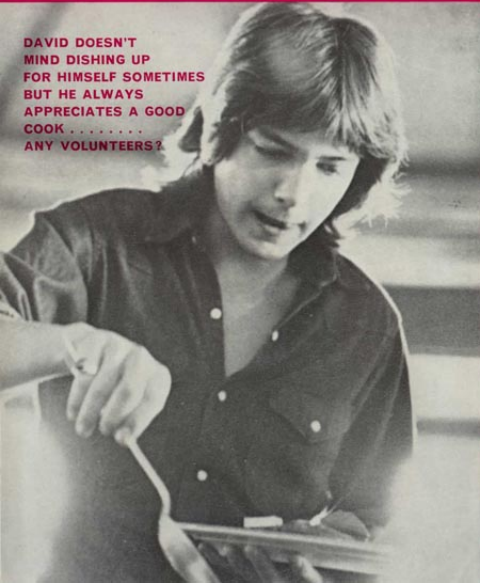


# COME ON A SPECIAL VISIT TO

DAVID DOESN'T  
MIND DISHING UP  
FOR HIMSELF SOMETIMES  
BUT HE ALWAYS  
APPRECIATES A GOOD  
COOK . . . . .  
ANY VOLUNTEERS?



# DAVID'S HOME

Sometimes you can't help wondering how some folks are so dumb about everything, while there are some guys who are equally talented at everything they turn their hands to . . . Like David, for instance!

Even when it comes to finding a place to live, he's got this talent of lighting on the perfect place every single time. And he's really had need to use it, too, with the number of moves he's been driven to make during the last couple of years.

His present home is a gorgeous Spanish-style house, way up in the hills above Hollywood. You don't really need to set foot inside the front door to decide that it must get pretty close to heaven, living here . . . The grounds are just beautiful with trimmed lawns surrounding the swimming pool which is only a running jump away from the sliding windows that lead into the cool of the house.

## BEATING THE HEAT

Of course, you don't need to go indoors to get cool . . . In fact some of David's favourite ways of cooling down after a hot day's work are either lazing in the shade under the trees or — better still — diving straight into the pool — and feeling the cool, sparkling water all over his body.

But, however much David enjoys the "outdoor" life, he still reckons that it's kind of a nice to be able to relax in the quiet of his own home from time to time — maybe with a few friends to keep him company, or maybe on his own.

Now David's got very definite ideas about how he wants his house to look. He reckons that it's very important that the decorations and furnishings in a home should reflect the moods

and personalities of the folks living in them:

"Otherwise, you might as well be permanently based in a hotel room some place," is his opinion, "if you just treat your home as a place to shack up in and don't put anything of yourself into it."

He was lucky with his present home because the taste of the last owner didn't seriously clash with David's own personal idea of what his home should look and feel like. There was a lot of wood in the house . . . on the floors, on the walls and on ceilings too. David really went for that in a big way, because he loves the warmth and richness wood brings into a room and he loves its natural texture too.

That's why the living room is one of David's favourites . . . "It's really beautiful, isn't it?" he asked me. "It kinda puts me in mind of an old English farm house — at least, this is how I'd like to imagine an old English farm house!"

In fact, you could say the room was more or less solid wood, because it's got a high, beamed ceiling that looks down onto a dark, stained wooden floor. And even most of the walls are wood-panelled! The big exception to the "wooden" rule is the fire place which is a massive stone one, surrounded by all sorts of really groovy antique appliances like genuine bellows and old iron pokers.

I asked David if he ever actually lit a fire in it:

"Oh, sure," he replied. "There wouldn't be much point in having it there else . . . It would be an awful waste. In fact, I've already had a fire roaring in there several times this year — specially during that cold, rainy spell we had early in November. Boy, it really does something for this room too . . . It kinda glows right through it, and it seems to bring out all the different tones in the wood — all that as well as giving out the most fantastic heat!

"In fact, while everybody else was grouching about the terrible weather for California, I was sitting in here basking in the heat and grateful for the excuse to see my fireplace in action!"

David smiled, and offered me some coffee, but I preferred to join him in a glass of iced tea with lemon. He headed into the kitchen to get it and I followed him . . .

By now, it came as no surprise to me to discover that there is a lot of wood in the kitchen too. Almost all of the walls are wood — quite a dark colour, in fact, while the work-surfaces are in a slightly lighter tone. All this rich, textured wood is thrown into relief by the one wall which is decorated in blue and white, matching up with the blue and white curtains. It's amazing how these touches of bright colour lighten the room and make it look miraculously clean and sparkling.

## AUTUMN TONES

"That was the ideal!" David laughed, when I commented on this, and he also pointed out how the red brick floors helped:

"It means I don't have to go about with ginger fingers in here, scarey of dropping everything," he explained. "Because when you do something — which is my speciality! — it only needs a quick wipe over and nobody ever knows the difference!"

The whole house has an atmosphere of relaxation — and yet someone, at the same time, it's a positively alive place to be in. After a while, I realised that the dominant colour scheme must be having this effect on me. But when I say "colour scheme", I'm giving you the wrong idea, because there's no formal colour pattern in any room. It's more in the style of a range of colouring that spreads right through the house. And the nearest I can get to it for you is "AUTUMN".