

**DO-IT-YOURSELF SYSTEM OPENS,
CLOSES THEM AUTOMATICALLY**

Automatic Draperies Bluff The Burglars

By C. M. Swenson

If your house has that "lived-in" look while you're away, thieves may go elsewhere for booty. Everybody knows that. But a savvy thief knows it, too, and it means that simple timers — to turn on lights periodically around your house — may no longer be enough of a bluff. For a more convincing "show", I installed automatic draperies.

The draperies open in the morning, close in the evening. And, as a bonus, the system also turns on a table lamp.

As shown in the drawings, the main components of the system are two lamp timers and a 100/100-hp, 25- or 30-rpm reversible motor. All are in a box mounted on the wall next to the drapes. The timers are set to open or close the drapes at a specific time by controlling the direction of the motor. The motor turns a bicycle sprocket that pulls a chain attached to the pull cords of the drapes.

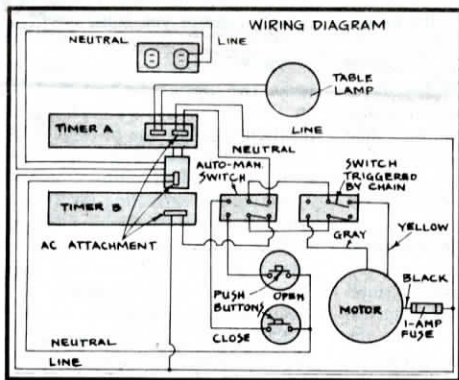
To get the correct speed, the sprocket should be 7½ in. in dia. if a 25-rpm motor is used; 5½ in. for a 30-rpm motor. The length of the chain depends on the sprocket size and traverse distance: Make it six inches longer than half the circumference of the sprocket, plus the distance needed to fully open the drapes. Form two 1-in. pieces of clothes hanger into L shapes and solder them to the chain. (File away the

anodized coating on the hanger wire and chain so the solder will adhere.) Position them so that the first piece trips the toggle limit switch down when the draperies are open (see drawing) and the second flips the switch up when they are closed.

All components mount inside an eight-by-eight-by-five-inch enclosure. Wire them according to the diagram. The double-pole double-throw toggle switch selects automatic or manual mode. In the manual mode, the draperies can be opened or closed by pressing one of the two exterior push buttons. Before mounting the enclosure, close the draperies and cut the opening pull cord at about 14 in. from the rod. Install the chain at its closed position, and fasten its long end to the cord. Finally, mount the box so the chain is taut; cut the second draw cord, and attach it to the short end of the chain.

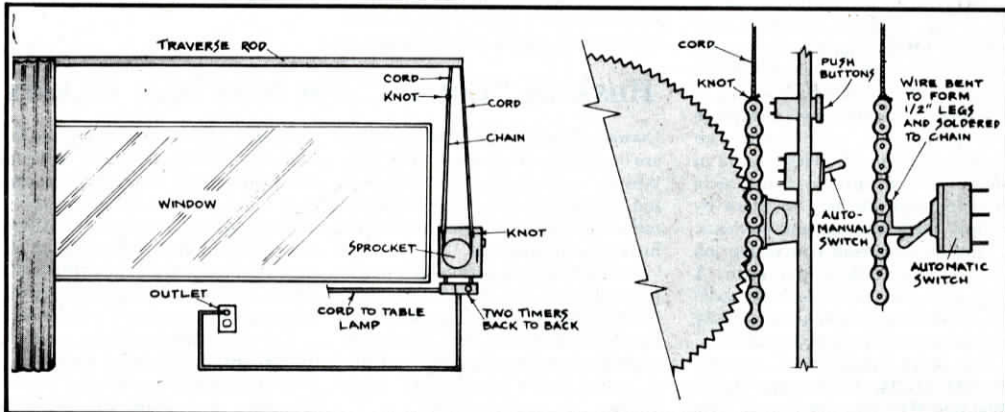
Most of the components are available through a local electronics store, such as Radio Shack. The sprocket and chain can be found in any bicycle shop. And the motor (I used a Dayton 27814; \$38) can usually be bought through an electrical-supply dealer. The total price of my system, including the motor, was \$85.

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Main components of system are two lamp timers and a small reversible motor. Total cost for parts was \$85.

Drawings by Ed Lipinski



FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND

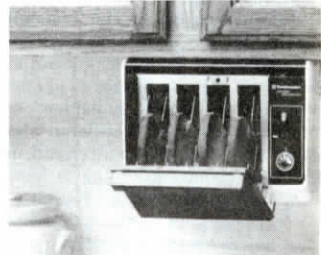
Under-The-Cabinet Spacesaver Toaster

You'll be able to get your toaster up and out of the way with a new "spacesaver" toaster developed by Toastmaster, Columbia, Mo.

The new toaster handles 4 slices at once with wide slots that can easily handle thick-cut home-baked bread. It's got an insulated top, back, and sides to protect cabinet from heat damage and hinged crumb trays for easy cleaning.

The toaster has a signal light that indicates when toast is done and a warning signal. It comes in a brown color with almond end panels that'll fit any decor. Comes with all mounting hardware and will retail for \$69.95. Toaster is scheduled to go into production this month.

For more information, contact:



Toaster's insulated top and sides protect cabinet from heat damage.

FARM SHOW Followup, Toastmaster Inc., 1801 N. Stadium Boulevard, Columbia, Mo. 65202 (ph 314 445-8666).

**"SKUNK KLEEN" GETS RID OF
OFFENSIVE ODOR IMMEDIATELY**

New Deodorizer For Skunk-Sprayed Dogs

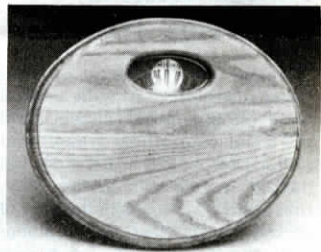
Two inquisitive Great Dane dogs that kept getting sprayed by skunks led George Bean, Brunswick, Maine to develop "Skunk Kleen," a fast, low-cost way to "disappear" the offensive odor.

You simply rub the victimized dog with the liquid. It works on any other animal that's been sprayed by a skunk and protects your hands from picking up the odor, says Bean. An 8-oz. bottle is enough for one big dog.

Skunk Kleen can also be used to deodorize carpet or other fabric which a skunk-sprayed dog has rolled on and left contaminated. Bean also markets "Urine Kleen" which has the same formula as Skunk Kleen.

Skunk Kleen is available in pet stores and catalog houses. Suggested price is \$5.00 for an 8-oz. bottle, plus \$1.75 for postage and handling.

If not available in your area, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, G.G. Bean, Inc., Box 638, Brunswick, ME 04011 (ph 207 729-3708).



Scale cover, hand-crafted from oak, is available in oval or square shape.

Wooden Bathroom Scale

"It adds a dressy touch to your bathroom," says the manufacturer of a new wooden bathroom weigh scale.

Hand-crafted from oak, the scale is stained and sealed to resist moisture and humidity, and has a sturdy steel under-housing. It's available in both oval and square models.

The wood housing on the scale is 1½ in. thick and is fitted with an easy-to-read magnifying lens. The scale's guaranteed accurate up to 300 lbs.

The square model retails for \$49.99, and the round model for \$59.99.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Counselor Co., 2107 Kishwaukee St., Rockford, Ill. 61108.