



Materials for Repair and Restoration Resources Guide

One of the most challenging tasks for homeowners of post-war residences is locating appropriate materials for repair or replacement in their homes. With considerable assistance from the **Architectural Services Division of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency**, we have compiled a list of potential products and services that can be used to repair, replace, or replicate original features in post-war residential properties. This is by no means intended to represent a comprehensive list, but it can serve as a good starting point when attempting to find a specific product or material.

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Appliances

Elmira Stove Works (the Northstar line features retro-inspired refrigerators, ranges, and range hoods appropriate for 1950s kitchens)
www.elmirastoveworks.com/northstar.aspx.

Big Chill Retro Appliances (vintage-inspired refrigerators with iconic 1950s styling and colors)
www.bigchillfridge.com/pages/fridges.php.

Chemicals

Soy Gel Paint & Urethane Remover

BEAN-e-doo Mastic Remover (both by Franmar Chemicals)

There are many commercially available paint and mastic removers but many are caustic, toxic and can cause damage to substrate and adjacent materials. Franmar Chemicals offers numerous products that, in addition to being extremely effective, are also natural and non-toxic, requiring only a water clean-up.

www.franmar.com

Cabinets

St. Charles

The legendary steel cabinets have recently been reintroduced to the general public, including some vintage designs and hardware. The new steel cabinets, particularly in one of the powder-coated finishes, are very appropriate for mid-20th century homes.

www.stcharlescabinets.com.

Countertops

Formica Laminates (Classics Collection featuring boomerang pattern by Brooks Stevens and Virr-Varr of 1958 by Sigvard Bernadotte)

www.formica.com/publish/site/na/us/en/index/laminate/series/patterns.html#.

Countertops of the 1950s featured stainless steel edging (rolled edge was not available until the late 1950s). We've been unable to locate a source for stainless steel edging but the resource below offers aluminum edges & corners:

Bars & Booths.com

www.barsandbooths.com.

Door & cabinet hardware, locks



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Amerock Hardware (discontinued and current cabinetry and door hardware including modern pulls and knobs)
www.stantheoldhardwareman.com.

Schuham's Builder Supply Co. (carrier of numerous hardware products including Schlage locks)
www.schuham.com/hardware.htm.

Security Shop (locksmith with great knowledge of 1950s hardware lines)
www.securityshopinc.com/htm/products.htm.

Doorbells

Knock Doorbells (new & vintage classic long-bell chimes)
www.knockdoorbells.com.

Modern Doorbells (new minimalist bells with chime notes)
www.moderndoorbells.com.

Doors

Midwest Jobbers (exterior flush door collection can be seen in the PDF document on the company's website. Pages 3-4 contain many door designs appropriate to ranch houses)
www.midwestjobbers.com/flush.htm.

Crestview Doors (solid-wood core entry doors inspired by 1950s and 1960s designs)
www.crestviewdoors.com.

Fabrics, wallpaper, rugs

Herman Miller
www.hermanmiller.com/CDA/SSA/CMF/0,,a8-c1347,00.html.

Knoll Textiles

www.knoll.com/products/productline_12.jsp.

Maharam (classic pattern designs by Alexander Girard, Charles & Ray Eames, Arne Jacobsen, George Nelson, and Verner Pantton)
www.maharam.com.

Kvadrat (classic fabric and textile patterns by Alexander Girard, Charles & Ray Eames, Ross Littell, and Verner Pantton)
www.kvadrat.dk.

Melina Made (reproducing original 50s and 60s barkcloth patterns and wallpapers)
www.melinamade.com.

Reprodepot Fabrics (many new fabrics in mid-century modern styles)
www.reprodepot.com

Cole & Son (great 1960s and 70s style wallpaper, including a Fornasetti collection and flocked paper)
www.cole-and-son.com

Lee Jofa (David Hicks fabric and soon-to-come carpet)



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www.leejofa.com

Lincrusta & Anaglypta wallpaper

Crown Decorative Products Ltd., in Darwen, Lancashire, England, began producing embossed wall coverings known as Lincrusta and Anaglypta in the late 19th century. In the 1960s and 70s, the company introduced several textures in keeping with current styles. These patterns, such as Phillip, Citrine, Cane, Chequers and Cordage, are still in production.

www.wallpapersplus.com/shopping/category.asp?id=1

Flavor Paper (new designs mimicking patterns from the 1960s and 1970s)

www.flavorleague.com

Secondhand Rose (more than 1,000 original vintage wallpaper patterns in original rolls, from Victorian to Art Deco to 1940s florals to 1960s Op Art to 1970s mylars)

www.secondhandrose.com

Wallpaper from the 70s (newly made wallpaper inspired by 1970s designs)

www.wallpaperfromthe70s.com

Bradbury & Bradbury (the Modernism collection includes Post-War Era and Atomic Age wallpaper patterns)

www.bradbury.com/modernism.html

Edward Fields (custom-made area rugs featuring designs from the mid-century modern era)

www.edwardfields.com

Flooring

Armstrong Linoleum

www.armstrong.com/resflram/na/linoleum/en/us/.

Second Hand Rose (collects and sells historic linoleum stock)

www.secondhandrose.com/linol/main.htm.

Marmoleum (Linoleum by Forbo Flooring)

www.themarmoleumstore.com.

Tarkett Commercial (Vinyl Composite Tile and Linoleum. Tarkett produces a line of solid linoleum called Etrusco. Put “etrusco” in the product search box.)

www.tarkett-commercial.com/us/.

Expanko (Cork. Their “traditional cork” texture is most appropriate for mid-century ranches)

www.expanko.com.

House numbers

Eichler Numbers (appropriate for 1960s ranch houses)

www.eichlernumbers.com.

Custom House Numbers (many available fonts and choices but the Neutraface font is appropriate for 1950s ranch houses)



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www.customhousenumbers.com.

House letters in the Ribbon Condensed font are very appropriate for 1950s ranch houses and are offered by several manufacturers, some of which are listed below:

Gemini Sign Letters

www.geminisignletters.com/03styles.htm.

West On

www.westonletters.com.

House Number Shop

www.housenumbershop.com/ribbonnumber1.html.

Lighting

Satellite (division of **Rejuvenation** devoted to mid-century lighting)

www.satellitemodern.com

Remcraft (Retro Collection includes a line of spun metal surface mounted fixtures)

www.remcraft.com/bullets/index.html.

A spherical pendant light in milk glass hanging from a single white cord was a typical interior and exterior fixture of 1960s ranch houses. These globe pendant lights are available in stores such as Menards, but online stores offer them in 8", 10", 12" and 14" diameters:

www.american-furniture-warehouse.com.

www.lampsontheweb.com.

Low voltage relays

General Electric RR7 Relays (replacements for older RR2) available at some online sources such as

www.dale-electric.com/gereplace.php.

Reliant Relay Company (replacements for GE RR7 and RR9 relays)

www.reliantrelay.com.

Remcon Momentary Switch Type Relays available at several online sources such as

www.alltestequipment.com/remconrelays.html.

Mosaic tiles

Unglazed porcelain tile popular in 1960s baths:

American Olean (look for Unglazed Ceramic Mosaics in the Designers Essentials Collection)

www.americanolean.com/series.cfm?cat=39&sid=53#holder1.

Hakatai (authentic mosaic tile reproduction; looks like paste glass from the 1950s)

Classic Standard Blend and *Classic Solid Colors*

www.hakatai.com/tek9.asp?grp=31.

Modernist Resource (authentic unglazed porcelain mosaic tiles as well as custom shapes and finishes)



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www.modernistresource.com/ceramictile.html.

Clear and frosted glass tiles are also available but are less authentic than paste glass:

Susan Jablon Mosaics

www.susanjablonmosaics.com.

ModWalls (ModWalls tile blends)

www.modwalls.com.

Paints

Sherwin Williams (SuperPaint and Duration exterior paints)

While numerous paint products are available, Sherwin Williams *SuperPaint* and *Duration* lines offer extreme durability and great color choices. Both products are self-priming and with proper preparation are guaranteed to last 25 and 40 years respectively.

www.sherwin-williams.com.

Preservation Briefs

Preservation Brief #12: The Preservation of Historic Structural Pigmented Glass (Vitrolite and Carrara Glass). Available for download at: <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/briefs/brief12.htm>.

Preservation Brief #13: The Repair and Thermal Upgrading of Historic Steel Windows. Available for Download at: <http://www.nps.gov/history/HPS/tps/briefs/brief13.htm>.

3-tab shingle roofing

Owens Corning (*Supreme AR* collection has the most authentic color selection)

www.owenscorning.com.

Wood conditioners

New Life (antique and fine furniture refinishing products; the furniture masque and wood moisturizer are particularly useful)

www.newlifewoodconditioners.com.

Wood restoration materials

Abatron LiquidWood & WoodEpoxy (by Abatron)

www.abatron.com.