

OREGON STATE  
AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE  
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LIBRARY

OREGON AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION  
W. A. Schoenfold, Director  
Corvallis, Oregon

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Radio Series  
Housing  
Supplement 7

Maud Wilson  
Home Economist  
Experiment Station

The Telephone and Its Installation

Objectives:

- Service suited to requirements of household.
- Installation suited to comfort and convenience of user and of person who has responsibility of tending phone.
- Installation economical as to room space, cost of installation, and cost of operation.

Services Available:

- Types of instruments - wall types, large and small
  - desk types, receivers separate and not separate from transmitter
  - special instruments for use of deaf persons
- Devices for increasing utility of phone - portable phones; extension phones; extension cords
- Bells - varying degrees of loudness; duplicate bells; bells located away from instrument
- Inter-communicating system

Telephone problems and their solution

Fatiguing to use telephone.

Have instrument installed at sitting height, and provide a table or shelf for convenience in writing and resting elbow.

If desired to have instrument at standing height, install for convenience of tallest person using it frequently, and provide platform or steps for other persons in family. Provide rest for left arm, and a writing shelf.

Inconvenient to have to answer telephone.

If desk phone or hand set is used, have the cord made long enough to permit phone to be carried to adjoining room. May have extension phones or portable phones installed.

Can't hear bell from all parts of house.

Locate bell box in a central place, or have an extra loud bell installed.

Often have to come in from outdoor work to answer phone.

Install phone near back door, in place where floor is easily cleaned. Or, install an opening in wall so phone can be reached from either side.

Telephone is source of family discord.

Remove instrument to place where user will be away from family, but where phone is convenient for person responsible for answering call. If possible, install a telephone booth with door. The newer types of phones make it possible for users to speak in a low tone.

Want telephone near at hand in case of illness at night.

Install "jack" for portable phone in upstairs hall or bedroom.

Inconvenient to write while using phone.

Provide place where pencils and blank paper may be kept. Place side fixture so as to provide good light for writing.

Phone conversation apt to be too long.

Install clock near phone.

### Basic Dimensions

For installation at standing height:

Desk phone, either type -

Size of wall niche where it may be kept when not in use:

Width 14" (space between studding)

Depth 6"

Height, above shelf, 14"

Distance of shelf from floor

48" is a good measure, as that permits using phone without removing it from shelf

Wall phone - install for convenience of tallest person who uses it frequently. A height of 2" less than distance from floor to lips of user is satisfactory

For installation at sitting height:

Height of table - 28"

Minimum dimensions of rectangular table - 16" x 24"

Minimum dimensions of triangular table - short side, 28"

Maximum distance from top of table to bottom of shelf for directories -  $3\frac{1}{2}$ "

Minimum dimensions of booth or alcove: Width 28"; depth, 30"

Minimum dimensions of shelf for directories: 10" x 12"

What to include when building or remodeling

The conduit layout installed should be sufficient not only for immediate needs, but also for probable changes and additions.

Make as accurate a decision as possible with respect to location of telephone instruments and floor plug connections in rooms.

Place conduits (or pipes) for telephone wires to the rooms where telephones are likely to be needed. Provide suitable equipment for the reception of wires from the outside.

TELEPHONE CLOSETS

PLAN I - 30" x 30"

PLAN II - 30" x 30"

Desk Phone

