

That's ENTERTAINMENT

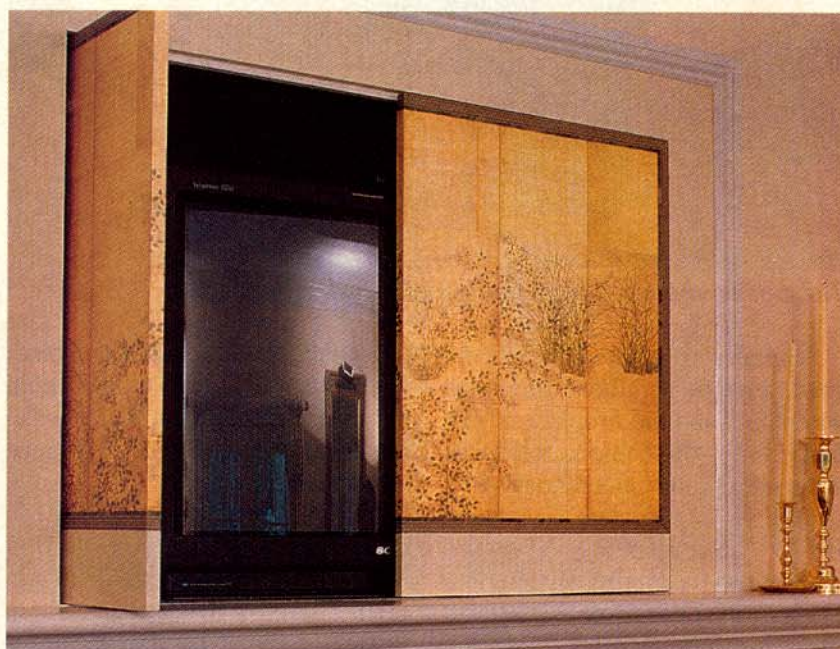
Whether you choose to flaunt them or camouflage them, televisions are turning up in unlikely places.

Concealing your television in an armoire is a bit like hiding a key under the mat. A lot of people do it, but nobody is really fooled. If you are looking for a more convincing way to disguise your television, here are a few cover-up suggestions.

The most popular room in many homes usually contains a TV. Whether you call that room a den, living room, family room, or rec room, the trick is to accommodate bigger and better electronic toys in a manner that's flexible, functional, and attractive too.

BEHIND THE SCREENS

"When you live in an old house you have to be extra creative," says architect Dan Beaman, who resides in a Charleston single house built in the 1870s. That's exactly what he and his wife, Becky, did when it came time to find a place for their television and stereo. In a recent renovation, they moved the dining room to the front of the house and added a large new living room across the rear. With views to a garden and a large fireplace on the opposite wall, the living room already had two major focal points.



The wall was deep enough to allow Dan to set the television above the fireplace and still leave room for the flue. Rather than hide the pocket doors with a framed work of art that would have to be removed to view the television, he created the illusion of a painting above the mantel. His flat composition retracts with the doors.

Working with four art posters of a Japanese paneled screen, Dan cut and pasted to create a large rectangular image. The existing lines in the posters made Dan's seams and the juncture of the doors less noticeable. The posters' framing is a wallpaper border purchased at a local hardware store. (To page 98)



(Left and top) Dan and Becky Beaman set their television above the mantel, where an Oriental screen conceals it. (Above) This transom hiding a speaker repeats the historic one that graces the home's front door.