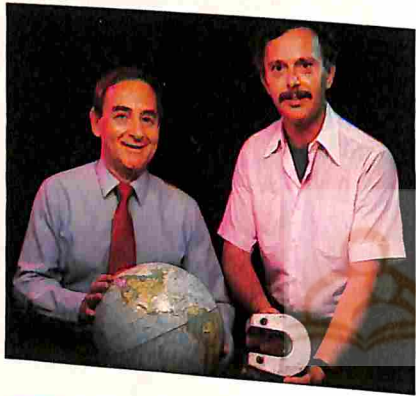


Beam-power plane

An experimental one-eighth-scale model is the first aircraft to achieve sustained flight powered solely by microwave beams. A full-size craft to follow could provide an unmanned platform for a variety of missions. **Page 62**



What flips Earth's field?

A startling theory that explains the hundreds of magnetic reversals in Earth's past may also account for other remarkable coincidences: mass extinctions, climatic changes, and giant craters. **Page 71**

Storage platform

Most homes never have enough storage space. If you have a long room and a high ceiling, you can raise the floor and store beneath it in a pull-out trundle. **Page 84**



No-frills 4WD

POPULAR SCIENCE takes the Isuzu Trooper, Jeep Wrangler, Mitsubishi Montero, and Suzuki Samurai off-road and to the test track to see which 4WD utility provides the most driving fun and the fewest performance shortcomings. **Page 26**

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