

# Home Inc.

By Christine Forbes

## PICTURE THIS

We've all heard of living and working out of the home. But how about living and working out of a garage? Since May 1988, Kathleen Mattson, owner of Phoenix-based KM Consulting, has been running her computer consulting business out of her converted garage.

Mattson started her business, which specializes in graphics software, when she moved from California to her parents' home in Phoenix. "My first office was my mother's sewing room," Mattson says. "Then my father built a room in the garage, which now doubles as my bedroom and office."

Mattson, a self-taught microcomputer expert, developed her talent while working for General Parametrics Corp. in Berkeley, California. "It got to the point where software users would call the company and ask for me when they needed help," Mattson says. "I realized then that I had the makings of a successful consulting business."

Mattson teaches companies and individuals who work with General Parametrics software and hardware. She fills in the gap left between software makers and end users. "I love what I'm doing," Mattson says. "It's both a hobby and a job for me, and I don't even have to leave home to do it!"



Photo: Dana Leonard

**Garage-based consultant Kathleen Mattson makes sense of complicated computer programs.**