

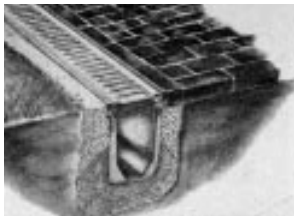
Low-VOC Adhesive

by Clayton DeKorne



Liquid Nails is now available in a latex-based formulation that is friendly to the environment, the user, and foam insulation. The non-toxic adhesive is guaranteed not to melt rigid insulation panels like many conventional panel adhesives do. It reportedly has no odor and cleans up with water. A sample of edge-glued 1/2-inch Baltic birch plywood sent to us by the manufacturer was difficult to break apart although the bond didn't seem quite as strong as the bonds of some solvent-based formulations. Nevertheless, it would probably work well for glue-nailing subfloor. We also looked at the adhesive bond between two pieces of EPS foam. The bond failed easily but the adhesive would still work well enough to hold foundation panels in place until the backfill was replaced. For more information, contact Macco Adhesives, 925 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44115; 800/634-0015.

Driveway Drain



Residrain was made for those low-off-the-road sites that collect big puddles of water in front of the garage door. It can also be used in lieu of gutters to catch rainwater at the ground, for pool decks, and for patio drainage. Slotted grates—made of either galvanized or stainless steel—are bolted over 5-inch-wide fiberglass drain channels. Each channel section is 40 inches long. End plates are used to feed into conventional 3-inch drain pipe. And catch basins with either horizontal or vertical discharges are available to collect especially long runs or a lot of run-off. For more information, contact ABT, Inc., P.O. Box 837, Troutman, NC 28166; 800/522-6057.

The Journal's pick of curious, interesting and useful products.

Corner Window



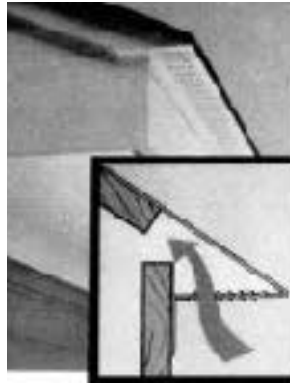
Marvin has introduced a new line of bent glass windows. The most impressive of these is the **Corner Window** with a seamless 90° bend. As you might expect, a cantilevered structural header is needed when installing the window in an unposted corner. Or, it can be installed in the middle of the wall for a real ship's-bow-kind-of bay. A 1-inch double pane with an unpainted wood frame (R-2.2) is standard. Marvin expects to make a low-e, gas-filled unit available soon. A primed and/or painted frame is now available, and laminated safety glass is also currently an option. Marvin makes other curved windows using the same heating process to bend the glass. For more information, contact Marvin Windows, P.O. Box 100, Warroad, MN 56763; 800/346-5128, or 800/552-1167 in Minn.

Landscape and Driveway Fabrics



To block weeds under decks and in driveways, **Tyvar Landscape Fabric** or **Driveway Fabric** are two options. This material is identical to the house wrap except that the house wrap is coated to protect it from the sun. According to the manufacturer, the Landscape Fabric is better than black plastic under decks because water won't pool in it. It is also useful as a liner behind retaining walls, beneath pavers, and in planters. The Driveway Fabric is a bit heavier than the Landscape Fabric and reportedly works well to separate subgrade soil from gravel and sand fill. While this spun-bonded fabric will allow water to pass through it as well, it is not to be confused with a geocomposite that can also provide channels for directing water to a specific drain site. For more information, contact Reemay Inc., P.O. Box 511, Old Hickory, TN 37138; 615/847-7000.

Double-Duty Vent



A new soffit vent, **SV-10 Starter Vent**, doubles as both a drip edge and a continuous soffit vent. For it to work, a gap must be left between the lower edge of the roof sheathing and the top edge of the fascia. The vent/drip edge is then nailed along the eaves and roofed over. The Starter Vent would be useful for roofs with little or no overhang and might save some time with typical soffit installations. The vent is made of .024-gauge aluminum and is available in a brown, white, or mill finish. For more information, contact Lomanco, Inc., P.O. Box 519, Jacksonville, AR 72076; 800/643-5596.

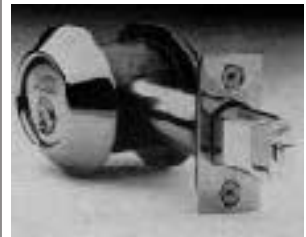
Guarded Gutters



To keep leaves and ice dams out of the gutter, try installing a metal **Gutter Helmet**. Curved, heavy-gauge (.019) aluminum panels are nailed to the roof sheathing underneath the second course of shingles, and S-shaped brackets attach it to the gutter. The nose of the helmet is positioned along the front edge of the gutter. As water drains off the roof, it reportedly flows over the curved lip of the helmet and into the gutter. But snow, ice, and debris fall to the ground. It works because the surface tension of the water holds it to the edge of the helmet in the same way water clings to the side of a glass and spills when it is poured. According to the manufacturer, the helmet is painted with a special paint to increase the surface tension. Gutter Helmet is available in brown, pale gray, and dark gray in 5-foot lengths. For more information, contact American Metal Products Co., P.O. Box 201, LaFollette, TN 37766; 800/331-2698, or 800/543-4202 in Tenn.

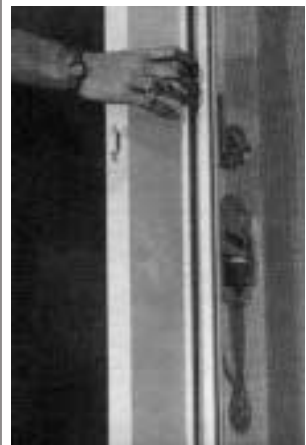
Self-Latching Deadbolt

The **Loribolt** automatically throws a deadbolt when the door is closed so no key is necessary to lock the door. But so your customer doesn't get



locked out when he gets the morning paper, a button can be pushed to hold the bolt back. Other features include a stainless-steel deadbolt and solid brass cylinder so it can withstand weathering on exterior doors and gates. Twenty name-brand keyways are available including Kaba High Security. (Kaba is a Swiss-made commercial grade keyway with 15 pins on 3 rows that engage the key at 3 angles. According to a spokesman at Lori Lock, "It hasn't been picked yet.") Loribolts come with either a 2 3/8- or 2 3/4-inch backset. Standard door prep—1-inch edge and 2 1/8-inch face bores—is all that's needed. For more information, contact Lori Lock, P.O. Box 490, Southington, CT 06489; 203/621-3601.

Retractable Screen



Rather than cover an expensive front door with a less expensive and possibly less attractive screen door, you might install **Magic Screen**. The "magic" about this is that the screen rolls up on a spring-loaded roller much like the blinds that are supposed to spring back up when you tug on them (you know, the kind that you end up pulling off the roller). Magic Screen solves this problem by running the top and bottom of the screen in aluminum tracks. The screen is under constant tension from the roller spring and it is held closed by a magnetic catch. When the catch is released the screen rolls back without any pushing or pulling. The fiberglass screen rolls up in a 3 1/2-inch aluminum housing that is screwed along the hinge side of the door opening (inside or outside, depending on how the door opens). A bolt allows the screen to be secured from the inside. The standard-size screen will extend across a 42-inch opening. Or, for French doors, a larger size extends out to 72 inches. For more information, contact Magic Screen 2000, Inc., 100 Walnut Street, Champlain, NY 12919; 518/298-5997. ■