

# Products

by Leland Stone

## Rebar Cutter

**N**ext time your rotary hammer bangs into a piece of rebar, don't bother starting a new hole. Instead, swap the bit for a *Rotary Rebar Cutter*, one of a set of carbide-tipped bits designed to cut through rebar. Available with fixed shanks or as individual cutters that thread onto a separate shank, these bits are intended for rotary drilling only; any hammer action will damage the tool. List prices range from \$42 to \$66 for fixed-shank cutters up to  $1\frac{3}{16}$  inch in diameter; removable cutters up to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter cost \$81 to \$242. The threaded shanks, which are available in several sizes to make overall bit lengths between 9 and 24 inches, are priced between \$10 and \$24.

Contact: Relton Corp., 317 Rolyn Place, Arcadia, CA 91007; 800/423-1505.



## Get Pumped

**K**nees take a beating on the job site, but most carpenters haven't found a pair of pads that stay put and are comfortable enough to wear all day. *Air Pump Knee Pads* might meet those specs. The durable plastic outer caps provide a stable base on even the most irregular surfaces, and the latex-backed straps reduce chafing. But the real innovation is an onboard air pump that enables the wearer to inflate each pad for a custom fit. Since the air is directed into separate chambers rather than a single air pocket, the pads shouldn't shift much during use. A check valve prevents deflation, ensuring that your knees are surrounded by a cushion of air. The pads retail for \$49.95, and come with a 30-day mechanical parts guarantee.

Contact: Global Marketing Partners Inc., 154 Timber Creek Drive, Suite 1, Memphis, TN 38018; 901/755-6758.



## Final Screening

**T**ired of callbacks to replace torn or bulging screens? Next time, install *FlexScreen*, a nylon/Spandex screen that can stretch without tearing, then spring

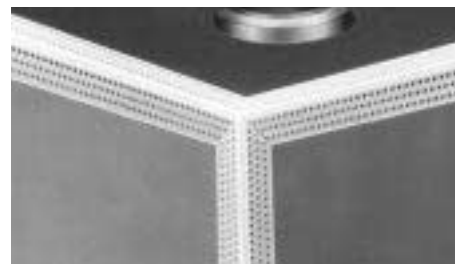


back to its original shape without deforming. Each \$24 kit includes enough UV-resistant screen for a 48x80-inch patio door, plus special corner pieces to hold the screen in position during installation, a trimming knife, and splines that can be peeled to accommodate narrow-grooved frames. The flexible screen is also available separately in 33- or 43-inch-wide 100-foot rolls.

Contact: Elgar Products Inc. 5250 Naiman Parkway, Solon, OH 44139; 800/321-4970; [www.elgar-usa.com](http://www.elgar-usa.com).

## Inside Job

**T**hese solid vinyl 90° *Inside Corner Beads* install quickly and make even novice drywall tapers look good. Packed in 8-, 9-, or 10-foot lengths, the plastic



beads are bedded in joint compound rather than fastened with nails or screws, then topped with a finish coat after the base dries. Where time is tight, you can staple the bead in place and apply the finish coat immediately.

Contact: Trim-Tex Inc., 3700 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, IL 60645; 800/874-2333; [www.trim-tex.com](http://www.trim-tex.com).

## Smart Sump

**T**hese days most houses are equipped with smoke and CO detectors, but a burst water pipe in the basement could go undetected for hours. The *Flood Alert* is a cast-iron sump pump that uses a sensor on an adjustable float to constantly monitor water levels. When the water reaches a preset limit, the pump sounds an 85 decibel alarm that warns homeowners of an imminent flood. You can test the 9-volt battery using a built-in button, or rely on an automatic alarm that signals low power. Made to fit into 14-inch-diameter or larger sump basins, the Flood Alert's 1/2-horsepower GE motor will pump 4,000 gallons per hour through the 1 1/2-inch-diameter discharge outlet. Suggested retail is \$149.95

*Contact:* Wayne Water Systems, 100 Production Dr., Harrison, OH 45030; 888/299-2963.



## Magnetic Gate Latch

**A** fence around a swimming pool is only as good as its gate, and a faulty latch is a real hazard. Unlike most gate locks, which rely on a spring to position the latch, the *Magna Latch* uses a powerful permanent magnet. The system, developed in Australia, ensures that the latch is automatically secured, even if the gate is left slightly ajar; however, the manufacturer still rec-



ommends installing self-closing hinges on the gate and mounting the included release knob above toddler height. The Magna Latch, which sells for \$69.99, can also be locked with a key.

*Contact:* D&D Technologies Inc., 17835 Sky Park Circle, Suite H, Irvine, CA 92614; 800/716-0888