

# Products

by Dave Crosby

## Rebar Made Easy

Correct placement of rebar in a footing can be an awkward, time-consuming task, but it's essential. If you've been looking for a way to make this often tedious task go faster, check out the new *ReBar Chairs*, available in two different configurations for double or



triple runs using #3, #4, or #5 rebar. The Model RC-6-2 is 6 inches wide, Model RC-12-3 is 12 inches wide; both are 3 inches high. These chairs are made of plastic, so they will not corrode, and they have a dual clamping feature that allows you to overlap the rebar by snapping the steel

into the chair. The Model RC-6-2 is packaged 100 per carton, and the Model RC-12-3 is packaged 90 per carton. Expect to pay about 35 cents each for the RC-6-2 and 55 cents each for the RC-12-3.

Contact: The ReBar Stakes Company, P.O. Box 20668, Louisville, KY 40250; 800/326-8554; [www.rebarstakes.com](http://www.rebarstakes.com).

## Good News

After six years on the market, this nailer has proven itself as a profitable tool for builders who regularly use a lot of metal connectors. With adjustable depth of drive and a probe to accurately locate nail placement, the *Positive Placement* nailer installs ICBO-recognized heat-treated specially marked fasteners into metal connectors a whole lot faster and easier than you'd ever do it by hand. About the



only way this tool could get any better is if it cost less. Here you have it — now available at the reduced price of \$399.

Contact: Paslode, 888 Forest Edge Dr., Vernon Hills, IL 60061; 800/682-3428; [www.paslode.com](http://www.paslode.com).

## Color Your World

Fiber-cement siding just got even better. Unlike conventional paint that covers and hides grain patterns, *Woodperfect* highlights the pattern and texture,



making the siding look like real wood, according to the manufacturer. The UV-resistant 100% acrylic latex coating protects the siding from water damage and mildew and dries to touch in one hour. Four factory-designed colors (mahogany, maple, redwood, and cedar) can be mixed to create other colors. Coverage is 175 to 275 square feet per gallon, depending on

porosity. Retail price is approximately \$20 a gallon.

Contact: Duckback Products, P.O. Box 980, Chico, CA 95927; 800/825-5382; [www.superdeck.com](http://www.superdeck.com).

## Sliding Security

Pocket doors save space in small bathrooms, but how do you lock them? With the *Pocket Door Privacy Lock* non-handed, reversible hardware that



installs in a standard, 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>-inch-diameter, 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>-inch-backset bore. The lock latches automatically on contact with the jamb and opens with a simple push button. It retails for \$16.

Contact: L.E. Johnson, 2100 Sterling Ave., Elkhart, IN 46516; 800/837-5664; [www.johnsonhardware.com](http://www.johnsonhardware.com).

## Vapor Seal

**Y**ou now have yet another ally in the never-ending quest for a tight house. With this line of *Vapor Seal Boxes*, you can refine your thermal envelope sealing practices on walls and



ceilings. The fiberglass-reinforced nonmetallic outlet boxes, available in a variety of shapes and sizes, use a polyurethane flange to form a vapor seal for greater energy efficiency.

*Contact:* Allied Moulded Products, P.O. Box 587, Bryan, OH 43506; 419/636-4217; [www.alliedmoulded.com](http://www.alliedmoulded.com).

## No More Spills

**F**or those who paint only occasionally, paint trays are a mixed blessing at best and more often a mess waiting to happen. The solvent-resistant polyethylene *Mobile Tray* is designed to help with that. The manufacturer says it will hang from a ladder, rest securely on uneven surfaces (like a roof), or stand upright, all without spilling the full gallon of paint it carries. There's even a top handle so you can move it around with you as you work without spilling. That alone ought to be worth the suggested retail price of \$9.95.

*Contact:* Wolf Mountain Products, 265 Butts Rd., Morton, WA 98356; 360/496-0037.



## Laminated Glass

**F**or greater protection against flying objects in severe storms or for reducing noise, laminated (or impact-resistant) glass is an option worth investigating for your clients. Two layers of annealed, tempered, or heat-strengthened glass are fused under heat and pressure to a polyvinyl butyl core, resulting in a product that is similar to the safety glass found in automotive windshields. It's two to four times stronger than a traditional window, and if the glass should break, the number of shards is reduced, according to the manufacturer. Windows with *Saflex*, *KeepSafe*, and *KeepSafe Maximum* come with 0.030-, 0.060-, and 0.090-inch interlayers and cost approximately 130% to 250% more than a comparable 24x50-inch, double-glazed, low-E, argon-filled window.

*Contact:* Weather Shield, 531 N. Eighth St., P.O. Box 309, Medford, WI 54451; 800/477-6808; [www.weathershield.com](http://www.weathershield.com).



## High-Performance Stripper

**T**ake it all off — the paint, that is. Wood shingles, clapboard siding, doors, flat trim, concrete block surfaces, most metal surfaces, and boats are all fair game for the *Tooldog 3 in 1 Power Tool Paint Stripper/Sander/Grinder*. The tungsten carbide blades will strip a



square foot of paint every 15 seconds and, depending on the composition of the surface, will be good for up to 5,000 square feet of surface area, according to the manufacturer. With proper dust collection, this tool is also said to be suitable for lead paint removal. Suggested retail is \$699, vacuum not included.

*Contact:* American-International Tool, 129-B Fletcher Ave., Cranston, RI 02920; 800/932-5872; [www.aittool.com](http://www.aittool.com).



## Space Scribe

**N**eed a line that boldly goes where no ink has gone before? The *Carpenter Pen* seeks out new surfaces to mark, like steel, wet lumber, drywall, and plastic, and adds new functionality, including a magnetic strip, plumb-and-level bubble vials, an angle gauge, and a 6-inch/15-cm ruler. The pen element detaches from the



body for extra-vehicular, tight-space maneuvers and is said to write without fail from +300°F to -30°F (unlike your scorched or frostbitten hand) — even under water. The space-age stylus retails for \$26.

*Contact:* Fisher Space Pen, 711 Yucca St., Boulder City, NV 89005; 702/293-3011; [www.spacepen.com](http://www.spacepen.com).

## Work Horse

**A**t 3 feet wide, 6 feet tall, and roughly 2,700 pounds, it's about the same size as the local rugby team, but it's far more predictable, cheaper to feed, and works longer between refills. The 15.7-horsepower ultra-compact *Model 463 Mini-Bob* skid steer loader is the smallest



model in the loader line, with a 700-pound capacity and a 10-gpm hydraulic system that will power at least 20 different attachments, including a bucket, auger, trencher, grapple, utility forks, and the breaker shown here. With the narrowest tires available, it's under 35<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inches wide. Just imagine the possibilities, at a suggested list of \$12,500.

*Contact:* Bobcat, P.O. Box 6000, West Fargo, ND 58078-6000; 701/241-8700; [www.bobcat.com](http://www.bobcat.com).

## Flood Prevention

**W**ater damage resulting from broken flexible connections costs homeowners and insurance companies over \$100 million annually. For \$149, your clients won't need to worry



about washing machine hose failure ever again. The *Saf-T-Smart washer valve safety kit* uses a control module that senses water demand, a timer to regulate supply, and two low-voltage solenoids installed directly onto the hot and cold water. One model fits all applications. No plumbing or electrical experience is required.

*Contact:* CasMont Industries, 1119 Girard Dr., Louisville, KY 40222; 888/811-8896; [www.casmont.com](http://www.casmont.com).

## Slam-Proof Door

**S**lamming screen doors are a problem for most people, and no screen door is even worse. Be a hero to your clients with this elegant answer to one of life's minor irritations. The *Entry Point Retractable Screen Door* retracts when not in use, fits most standard doors, and blends cleanly into the doorway for an unobstructed view, according to the manufacturer. Price ranges from \$165 to \$200.

*Contact:* ODL, 215 E. Roosevelt Ave., Zeeland, MI 49464; 800/253-3900; [www.odl.com](http://www.odl.com).



## Classic Color

**H**enry Ford told buyers they could have their Model T in any color they liked, as long as it was black. That's been a tough shade to find in a window. *Norco* has added black to its line of aluminum-clad wood window color options. The extruded cladding covers the exterior frame and sash and includes an integral nailing fin.

*Contact:* Norco, P.O. Box 140, Hawkins, WI 54530; 800/877-9482; [www.norcowindows.com](http://www.norcowindows.com).

