

Products | Housewrap | by Patrick McCombe



Roll-On. If peppering your plastic housewrap with staples or cap nails seems a little counterproductive, consider a liquid-applied weather barrier like *StoGuard*. The maker says the product — which can be sprayed or rolled on — is more vapor-permeable (at 17.3 perms) and less air-permeable than conventional housewrap and asphalt felt, and offers greater water resistance. Prices vary by region, but generally run from \$1 to \$1.50 per square foot installed.

Sto Corp., 800/221-2397, www.stocorp.com.

Missile Defense. Typar's new *StormWrap* passes the Miami-Dade large-missile impact test (stopping a 2x4 traveling at 34 mph), says the manufacturer. The secret? Heavy-duty reinforcing fibers that make it several times thicker than ordinary housewrap. The product appears to be a smart and relatively inexpensive upgrade for homes in hurricane- and tornado-prone areas. It costs about three times more than conventional housewrap.

Fiberweb, 800/284-2780, www.typar.com.



Two for One. Installing rain-screen siding is usually a two-step process: First the housewrap is installed, then the strapping or drainage matrix is applied over it. With *Delta-Dry*, Cosella-Dörken simplifies the process by combining both functions — a water-resistant barrier and a drainage space — into one product. Seams are lapped and then sealed with a companion tape. Available in 39-inch-by-50-foot rolls, Delta-Dry sells for about 70 cents per square foot.

Cosella-Dörken, 888/433-5824, www.delta-dry.com.

Products | Asphalt Roofing



Slate Look. If your clients are replacing the shingle roof on their Victorian, make sure they know there's more to choose from than just boring three-tab and busy architectural styles. GAF's *Country Mansion* geometric shingles look like the decorative slate popular back when Victorians were built. At 425 pounds per square, they have a 110-mph wind rating and a limited lifetime warranty.

GAF, 800/766-3411, www.gaf.com.



Cool Option. With energy prices soaring, everyone's trying to save a few bucks on utility bills. One way to reduce cooling costs *and* have a longer-lasting roof is to opt for light-colored roof shingles. Elk is betting its *Cool Color* series will appeal to homeowners despite the general unpopularity of light-colored roofs. These shingles look better than most other white and light styles — and they can earn rebates toward cool-roof installation from some electric utilities.

Elk, 972/851-0500, www.elkcorp.com.



Tight Hold. An asphalt roof with a lot of fasteners missing from its nailing strip is going to have trouble surviving a nasty storm without major damage. Thanks to their wide reinforced nailing area, Owens Corning's *Duration Premium Shingles* help roofs weather bad storms. The feature also makes installation faster, says the manufacturer. The shingles have a 130-mph wind rating and come in 12 colors.

Owens Corning, 800/438-7465, www.owenscorning.com.