

# Products | by Tom O'Brien



**Elegant Accessibility.** At first glance you can't tell that the *Elevance Rising Wall Bath* is a walk-in tub. Instead of passing through a clunky swinging door, bathers step over a lowered wall, which they then pull up to allow a soaking depth of 14 inches above the tub's built-in seat. Water enters the tub through a slot that produces a water-fall effect. According to Kohler, a full tub takes less than two minutes to drain. The fixture costs \$8,775; a jetted massage option costs another \$1,000.

**Kohler Co.**, 800/456-4537, kohler.com.

**Low-Impact House Wash.** Pressure-washing is fast and effective, but it can also be destructive. If you're not in a hurry, *Wet & Forget* offers a gentler alternative. According to the maker,

you can apply this noncaustic, nonacidic cleaner to any exterior surface and let the wind and rain handle the scrubbing and rinsing. The company cautions, however, that it often takes two to three months to get rid of stubborn stains like mold and mildew. A one-gallon jug costs about \$30.

**Wet & Forget**, 888/727-8524, wetandforget.com.



**Insulated Framing.** Weyerhaeuser has introduced a line of framing material designed to reduce thermal bridging. *Level TJ Insulated* headers, rim boards, and corners — sized to fit 2x6 framing — contain a substantial layer of insulating foam. R-values range from R-10 for the rim board to R-30 for the corner board. The company declined to provide pricing.

**Weyerhaeuser Co.**, 888/453-8358, ilevel.com.



**A Greener Garage.** Eighty-eight percent of Overhead Door's *EcoBuilt Garage Door Panel* is derived from recycled Douglas fir, says the company, and the rest is a combination of exterior-grade resins and wax. The panel is available in two new door lines: The Traditional Panel Collection — which consists of various smooth and flush panel doors — and the Verde Collection, which replicates the appearance of a swinging carriage-house door. An optional insulation package offers R-values of up to 7.3. The price to builders ranges from \$1,000 to \$1,500 for an installed 16'x7' door.

**Overhead Door Corp.**, 800/275-3290, overheaddoor.com.

# Products

**Stylin' Slider.** The *Skyline Series Enclosure* features  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch-thick glass, recessed finger pulls, and — best of all — no metal surroundings. That means no side rails, no track, and no flimsy aluminum header. Instead, the sliding panel travels on inset rollers along a simple stainless steel rod. The enclosure can be made to fit openings as large as 72 inches by 80 inches. The manufacturer declined to provide pricing.

**Cardinal Shower Enclosures**, 800/826-2577, cardinalshower.com.



**Fine Grain.** Many steel-framed garage doors look like wood only from a distance. But the units in Clopay's *Canyon Ridge Collection* look like the real thing even up close, says the manufacturer. The  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch-thick polymer cladding on these polyurethane-insulated steel-frame doors was molded from actual wood to replicate the grain patterns and imperfections of cypress or mahogany. The doors have

an R-value of 19.2. Material costs vary from \$4,000 for a single door to \$6,900 for a double (16'x7') door.

**Clopay Building Products**, 800/225-6729, clopay.com.

## From Toilets to Tile.

Fireclay Tile's *Debris Series Recycled Tile* is made from 70 percent recycled matter, most of it porcelain bathroom fixtures that otherwise would have ended up in a landfill, the company says. All of the material comes from the San Francisco Bay area, where the factory is located. Available in 112 colors and a wide variety of sizes and styles, the tile costs \$23 to \$52 per square foot.

**Fireclay Tile**, 408/275-1182, fireclaytile.com.



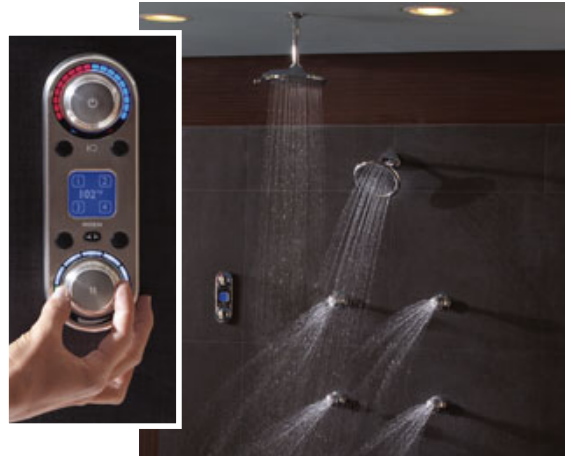
**Prefab Arches.** Want to avoid the hassle of fabricating curved framing on site? Consider sending the plans to *Custom-Arch* and letting someone else do the work. This company makes solid wood framing arches for interior and exterior uses — everything from single curves for arch-top windows and doors to complex domes and groin vaults. It says it can bend arches down to an 8-inch radius and span widths greater than 20 feet. A single 3/0 arched doorway costs about \$25 (not including installation).

**Custom-Arch**, 770/715-1824, custom-arch.com.

# Products

**Custom Shower Control.** Moen's *ioDigital* vertical spa features a 7-inch-diameter rainshower, four body sprays, and an electronic control pad that allows up to four users to preset their preferred water temperature, flow rate, and spray pattern. The \$2,500 price covers all plumbing fixtures, an electronic valve, and the controller. A digital remote costs another \$166.

**Moen**, 800/289-6636, [moen.com](http://moen.com).



**Trouble-Free Tile.** Though intended for the DIY market, *Bondera TileMatSet* could be a real time-saver for kitchen and bath remodelers too. It's essentially a giant piece of double-sided tape. You cut it to size, stick the back to the substrate, peel off the protective liner, set the tile, and grout the same day. It's sold in two sizes: A 10-foot-by-12-inch roll for walls costs \$47, and a 10-foot-by-16-inch roll for countertops costs \$32. Also available are 4-inch-wide rolls for small areas like backsplashes and 2-inch-wide tape for sealing seams in water-sensitive areas.

**W.R. Grace & Co.**, 888/862-8738, [bonderatilematset.com](http://bonderatilematset.com).