

Toolbits | by Tom O'Brien



Adjustable Level. The *Plumb Perfect Level* features end gauges that can be dialed in or out to compensate for imperfect framing (or to establish a slope). The gauges are inscribed with inch and metric units that indicate precise deviation. Two of the three available models feature extendable sleeves so users can span the exact length they need: One extends from 24 to 42 inches and costs about \$240, and the other extends from 56 to 98 inches and costs

\$360. The fixed 48-inch model costs about \$130.

Plumb Perfect Level, 704/363-2104, plumbperfectlevel.com.



Patriotic Lead. As a Syracuse University basketball fan, I insist that all of my lead cords be orange. But folks who prefer something a little more unusual might want to check out the 12/3 contractor-grade *Red, White and Blue Extension Cord*. It features a lighted end, a water-resistant connector, and reinforced prongs. A 50-foot cord costs \$40.

Coleman Cable, 800/323-9355, colemancable.com.

Easy-Plunge Recip Blade.

The *Spyder Bore-Blade* looks more like a miniature chain saw than a typical reciprocating saw blade. Its rounded nose is designed to make plunge cuts easier and smoother. Double cutting edges allow the user to cut forward or backward without having to reverse the blade. According to the maker, the 1.23-mm-thick bimetal blade can cut pipes, nails, and sheet metal as well as wood. It comes in 6-, 8-, and 10-inch sizes; the 6-incher costs \$10.

SM Products, 888/471-2239, spyderproducts.com.



Precision Countersink. Because the *Smart-Bit* predrilling and countersinking tool is designed to perfectly match the shape, head diameter, and head angle of popular screws used for deck building and woodworking, it won't produce mushrooming when used with composites, says the maker. A stop collar that spins free of the bit protects the workpiece. The tool comes in sizes to fit #7 and #8 trim screws and #10, #12, and #14 flat-head screws. Packages include three drill bits and a hex wrench and cost \$18 to \$25.

Starborn Industries, 800/596-7747, starbornindustries.com.