

Toolbits | by Tom O'Brien



Handcrafted Levels. *Crick Levels* are made in Texas from laminated wood and stainless steel (the vials are hand-set glass) in sizes from 8 to 78 inches. They're guaranteed accurate to within .015 inch over their length. Options include rubber end cushions, scuff plates, and personal engraving. They cost \$55 to \$220.

Crick Tool, 800/593-8540, cricktool.com.



Double-Duty Cap Nailer. Duo-Fast's *DF175-CN* fastens synthetic roofing underlayment and felt quickly, says the maker, and — unlike other cap nailers — uses standard (120-count) coil roofing nails to secure the caps. To convert to nail-only fastening, the user simply pushes a button to shut off the cap feed. The tool has a tool-less adjustable depth-of-drive and a quick-clear nose. It drives nails from $\frac{7}{8}$ inch to $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches and costs \$450.

Duo-Fast, 888/631-2020, duo-fastconstruction.com.



Knuckle Saver. Lenox says its *Tight Space Tubing Cutter* is easier to use than a typical mini cutter and requires only $\frac{1}{2}$ inch clearance. (It's not adjustable, however, so you'll probably have to buy more than one.) It has stainless steel cutting wheels and a cast aluminum grip. A kit holding all three sizes — $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, and 1 inch — costs about \$60.

Lenox, 800/628-3030, lenoxtools.com.



Adjustable Spacer. The *AV2 Flooring Spacer* might spare you the hassle of hauling a bucketful of shims from job to job. The business-card-sized spacer block adjusts with the turn of a dial from 5 to 20 mm ($\frac{3}{16}$ inch to $\frac{13}{16}$ inch) to create a precise expansion joint between the floor and the wall, or to compensate for a wavy sole plate. To remove the spacer, you just turn the dial again to release the pressure. A four-pack costs about \$10.

Bessey Tools North America, 800/828-1004, besseytools.com.

For more information about these products, go to <http://jlc.hotims.com>.