

# Products



## Ultimate Hood for Outdoor Use

An outdoor kitchen should have a range hood designed specifically for use outside. The *Best WPD38* is made from corrosion-resistant stainless steel and has controls engineered to resist the effects of heat and moisture, says the manufacturer. It's 27 inches deep to handle the intense heat of a large outdoor grill; an optional wall extension adds another 3 inches to accommodate deeper grills. The hood is sold in a range of widths from 36 to 60 inches and costs \$1,720 to \$2,800.

**Broan-NuTone**, 800/558-1711, [bestrangehoods.com](http://bestrangehoods.com).



## Recycled Resin Studs

The *EcoStud* stud and track system is for use in non-load-bearing walls and could be a good solution for a basement remodel. The studs look like steel but provide a better thermal break because they're manufactured from 100% post-industrial plastic resin. They're also light — 3.5 pounds apiece compared with around 8 pounds for wood or steel — so workers can carry more studs per trip from the truck to the basement. They cost about \$6 apiece.

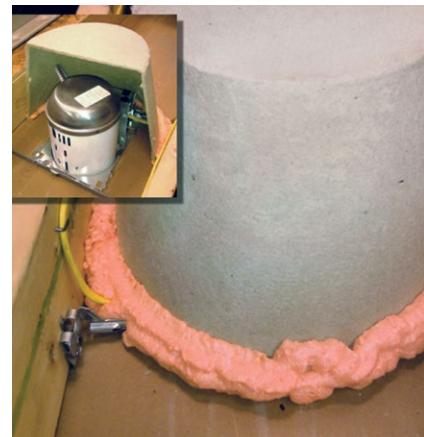
**EcoStud**, 877/586-5543, [ecostud.com](http://ecostud.com).



## Windows Menu

The highly customizable *1500 Vinyl Collection* makes it easier to specify PlyGem windows by consolidating a number of different vinyl window lines into one platform. Builders start with the window type (single-hung, sliding, picture, or architectural shapes) then choose from various frames (brickmold, beveled, or flat), colors, grilles, hardware options, and energy features. Prices vary widely; the unit shown would cost between \$185 and \$200.

**Ply Gem**, 888/975-9436, [plygem.com](http://plygem.com).



## Recessed Can Covers

The *Tenmat FF130E* insulation protection cover is made from a fire-resistant material and is designed to keep insulation away from recessed light fixtures, as required by code. When installed with a foam sealant, it also stops air leakage through the fixture (the DOE estimates that recessed lights account for 50% of total thermal losses through ceilings). The covers are not meant for use in one- or two-hour fire-rated ceiling assemblies. They cost \$15 each.

**Tenmat USA**, 302/633-6600, [tenmatusa.com](http://tenmatusa.com).

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## Truss and Rafter Screw

The *SDWC* structural wood screw can be used to fasten trusses and rafters to top plates without hardware. (The hardware shown in the photo is merely a guide.) The screw has a fully threaded shank, which ensures that its entire length engages the work. No predrilling is needed, and the head countersinks fully into the top plate. It's sold in 4½- and 6-inch lengths for \$33 and has been tested to meet *ICC-ES AC233* (screw) and *ICC-ES AC13* (roof-to-wall assembly) standards.

**Simpson Strong-Tie**, 800/999-5099, [strongtie.com](http://strongtie.com).



## Sticks to Concrete

*Florprufe* polyolefin vapor barrier glues itself to the underside of a concrete slab — so if it tears, any moisture that gets through won't migrate. A 1-mil protective coating keeps it from feeling sticky during construction; once the concrete is in place, pressure breaks down the coating and activates the adhesive. At 21 mils, the product is also quite thick. It comes in 4-foot by 115-foot rolls that cost about \$700.

**Grace Construction Products**, 866/333-3726, [graceconstruction.com](http://graceconstruction.com).



## More Than a Pretty Face

The direct-vent *Energy Pro Gas Fireplace* delivers a lot of bang per Btu, with an annual fuel utilization efficiency (AFUE) of 92.6%. It's also certified as a central furnace, with cutouts on top for four supply ducts, each of which can carry heated air as far as 50 feet with a maximum of three elbows. The unit can be ordered with a wireless thermostat and various mantel options. It costs \$7,400.

**Hearth & Home Technologies**, 888/427-3973, [heatnglo.com](http://heatnglo.com).

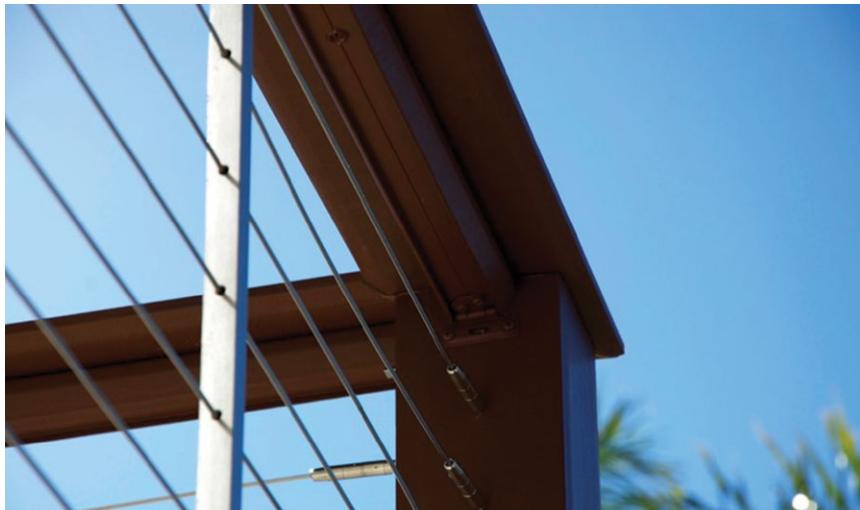


## PVC Trim Adhesive

*PVC Trim Welder* comes in fast- and slow-curing formulations and laminate grade. The fast-dry's five-minute open time means you can glue up an outside miter or other assembly and put it in place right away; the slow-dry's 15- to 20-minute open time provides more flexibility when gluing long pieces. The laminate grade has a low viscosity so it will spread across the surface when two boards are placed one on top of the other. A 50-ml cartridge costs \$13, a 220-ml \$29.

**Extreme Adhesives**, 603/895-4028, [pvctrimwelder.com](http://pvctrimwelder.com).

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## Quick Cable

The *TimberTech CableRail* is meant for use with composite rail systems that have structural wood posts inside composite sleeves. Quick Connect fittings fasten the cable to the posts: Simply drill through the sleeve, screw the fitting into the wood post, then connect the cable to the fitting's swivel and tighten it with a wrench. Cost is around \$355 for a 6-foot section, including the composite railing, cable, and connectors. If you lose a connector, you can buy one for \$24.

**TimberTech**, 800/307-7780, [timbertech.com](http://timbertech.com).



## Insulated Sheathing

Available nationwide since January, *Zip System R-Sheathing* consists of 1/2-inch (R-3) or 1-inch (R-6) polyisocyanurate foam bonded to the inside of Zip System enhanced OSB structural sheathing. The product has a built-in water-resistant barrier (the green facing) and a 180-day guarantee against moisture damage. When used with Zip System tape, it also serves as an air barrier. Cost ranges from \$42 to \$46 per sheet.

**Huber Engineered Woods**,

800/933-9220, [zipsystem.com](http://zipsystem.com).



## Reclaimed Vanity

The handcrafted *Americana Vanity Hutch* is made from textured wood rescued from structures like old barns, houses, and fences. It comes with hand-forged iron hardware in 24-, 30-, and 36-inch widths in four finishes: chestnut, whitewash, anvil, and driftwood. The company also offers paired stone and copper vanity tops. A 36-inch vanity base costs \$2,300.

**Native Trails**, 800/786-0862, [nativetrails.net](http://nativetrails.net).



## Stronger, Lighter, Wider

*BamDeck 3G* is a 3/4-inch-thick composite decking made from 60% reclaimed bamboo fibers and 40% recycled HDPE plastics (derived from detergent bottles and milk cartons). Cylindrical chambers running through the material reduce weight by 20% and increase tensile strength by 35% compared with the company's solid decking. The planks come in 5 1/2- and 8 1/4-inch widths for \$2.40 to \$3.10 per linear foot. They're meant for use with hidden fasteners.

**Cali Bamboo**, 888/788-2254, [calibamboo.com](http://calibamboo.com).