

Solid Core Designer Door

The strong horizontal and vertical elements of Masonite's solid core Hamel interior door can be left white or can be customized. Doors offer a primed hardboard finish and are available with a renewable wheat straw core or with a 20-minute fire rating. Matching bi-fold doors can also be ordered. Cost: \$119 for a solid core pre-hung unit. Masonite, 800.663.3667, masonite.com



Reclaimed Space Savers

Where square footage is tight, sliding barn-style doors are an alternative to pocket doors. The Real Carriage Door Co. offers sliding door kits in several species, as well as in salvaged wood. The door shown would cost around \$1,100 in salvaged, and \$610 in alder. The 6-foot sliding hardware would be about \$427. Real Carriage Door Co., 800.694.5977, realcarriage.com



Faux Authenticity

The Mesa Beam is made from polyurethane, with an authentic woodgrain textured surface that comes pre-primed and ready for staining. The lightweight U-shaped beam can be used on interior or exterior ceilings (a screened porch, for example). Costs start at \$18 per linear foot for lengths up to 19.5 feet and a variety of widths. Fypon, 800.446.3040, fypon.com



Certified Healthy

Certainteed now publishes Health Product Declarations (HPDs), offering details about each product's ingredients, for its ceiling tiles, and has plans to do so for all of its products. HPDs will likely interest contractors concerned with indoor air quality. Installed price of the Symphony M product (shown): about \$2.50 per square foot. Certainteed, 800.233.8990, certainteed.com



BY CHARLES WARDELL



Smart Cooker

The cooktop on Renaissance's 30-inch Induction Range heats only under cookware, using electromagnetic energy to stimulate a pot's iron molecules. It has four zones with 11 power settings each and pre-sets for melt, simmer, and sear. The 4.8 cubic foot convection oven can reportedly cook two 20-pound turkeys in $2\,1/2$ hours. Prices start at \$5,300. Dacor, 800.793.0093, dacor.com



Annoyance-Free Alarm

The Nest Protect's smoke and carbon monoxide alarm offers less annoyance and more clarity—a voice alarm identifies the problem ("There's smoke in the kitchen"). If it's just burnt toast, it can be canceled with a wave of the hand. When the battery is low, a message is sent to the owner's phone. It comes in hardwired or battery models. MSRP: \$129. NestLabs, 650.331.1127, nest.com



Enhanced Kilz

The company that makes Kilz Pro-X 100 series interior paint says that it has been reformulated for improved hide and sprayability, and easier touch-ups. Priced between \$62.50 and \$87.50, a 5-gallon bucket covers up to 2,000 square feet. Available in flat, eggshell, or semi-gloss. MasterChem Industries, 866.977.3711, kilz.com



Decorative Furnace

Offering an impressive 92.6% efficiency, the Energy Pro gas fireplace is a 36,000 Btu furnace that provides ambiance plus heat. A built-in heat exchanger captures fireplace heat and disperses it throughout the home, either through the HVAC ducts or ducts connected only to the fireplace. Installed cost: about \$8,400. Hearth & Home Technologies, 888.427.3973, heatnglo.com

Products



Space-Saving Fridge

The Ingenious counter-depth refrigerator/freezer squeezes 18 cubic feet of storage into a 27-inch-by-30-inch footprint. A small hatch in the curved door allows quick access to oft-used items, a Power Cool function rapidly re-cools the fridge compartment after loading groceries, and the freezer's timer-controlled Express Chill Zone quickly chills food and drinks. Price: \$1,600. Summit Appliances, 800.932.4267, summitappliance.com



No-Sag Hinge

With a traditional strap-style hinge, the gate's weight can loosen the wood grain around the screws, leading to sag. By contrast, the GForce Hinge has flanges that grab the top and bottom of the 2-by rail, and the gate's weight compresses the wood grain, limiting sag. Fastening the hinge to the framing also means that the gate can be built in place, making it easy to achieve an exact fit. All Weather Fence, 850.916.0570, gforcehinge.com



Brighter Light Tube

ODL's new Energy Star-qualified Tubular Skylights have 98% reflective mirror interiors. That's up from 95% for the standard model, an increase the company claims results in 25% more light reaching the living space. The skylights come in 10-inch and 14-inch widths and include a remote-controlled solar powered dimmer. MSRP will vary between \$462 and \$789. ODL, 866.635.4968, odl.com



Water-Based BIN

The main complaints about using BIN, the shellac-based primer, to seal knotholes is the shellac smell and the difficulty of cleaning brushes. BIN Advanced primer and sealer uses synthetic rather than natural shellac, for a low odor, and is water-based so cleanup is easier—but that also means it must be applied in temperatures above 50° F. It should retail for 20% less than BIN with shellac. Rust-Oleum, 877.385.8155, rustoleum.com