

PRODUCTS

by Scott Gibson and Staff



1. PVC Vinyl Rail in 35 Colors

Love color, but hate to paint? The Illusions Vinyl Railing System offers a choice of 35 mix-and-match colors and five woodgrain patterns, in a matte finish. The preassembled 6-foot and 8-foot rail sections come in 36-inch and 42-inch heights, with either traditional 1½-inch-square or colonial-style-turned balusters; sections can be ordered with several different top-rail profiles, and in straight and angled versions (for stairs). Also available are a variety of post-cap styles and matching accessories such as newel and porch posts, post sleeves, and gates. The rails are available to the trade through wholesale distribution only. Illusions Vinyl Railing, illusionsvinylrailing.com

Cable Rail Maintenance

Stainless steel cable railing looking a little dingy? Feeney now sells a combination maintenance kit consisting of SteelRenewal for removing stains and corrosion, and SteelProtect for protecting the surface. Marketing VP Andy Penny says that while stainless steel is durable, it can still show stains and suffer corrosion, especially in coastal regions or where airborne contaminants are common. SteelRenewal is a biodegradable gel that cleans the surface without scrubbing. A kit contains one 100-ml bottle each of the cleaner and the surface protector, as well as a brush, a sponge, and a pair of gloves. It retails for \$35. Feeney, feeneyinc.com



3. Sealant and Flashing

Moistop Sealant and Liquid Flashing is designed for installing windows and doors and sealing through-wall penetrations. Fortifiber says the one-part, low-VOC, moisture-curing polymer is compatible with most building materials, can fill joints up to ½ inch wide, and is smooth enough to take paint. Available in 10.1- and 30-ounce cartridges and 20-ounce sausage packs, it can be applied in temperatures from 40°F to 110°F degrees, has a tack time of less than 1 hour, and cures in 24 hours. It's covered by a 15-year warranty (materials and labor). A 10.1-ounce cartridge is available online for about \$9. Fortifiber Building Systems Group, fortifiber.com



4. Fine-Ground Porous Hardscaping

Recycled-rubber chips in Porous Pave pour-in-place permeable paving materials now range from ⅛ to ¼ inch, creating a porous, durable, and flexible surface. The finer grind retains 93% of the porosity of the original, coarser material (which is still available for some applications). Ideal for courtyards, patios, and walkways, Porous Pave XL offers a 50/50 blend of rubber chips with aggregate for installed thickness of 1 to 2 inches. Porous Pave XLS has a 100%-recycled-rubber-chip content and offers more impact absorption. The \$5 average per-square-foot price depends on material and thickness. porouspaveinc.com



Outdoor Kitchen

New appliances and storage from Coyote Outdoor Living offer versatile options for outfitting your customers' outdoor kitchens. The C1CH36 drop-in grill, priced at \$1,600, has more than 875 square inches of cooking area and burns either charcoal or wood chips. Meanwhile, the ceramic Asado Smoker (shown; \$1,260) lets grill masters smoke, bake, sear, or grill without modifier accessories. Storage options include a single-door, two-drawer combination (\$650), a dry pantry with drawers (\$900), a pull-out ice chest (\$700), and a pull-out trash and recycling unit (\$550). Confirm pricing with dealers. Coyote Outdoor Living, coyoteoutdoor.com

6. Stainless Steel Screws

Simpson Strong-Tie has expanded its line of stainless steel deck screws. Deck-Drive DWP screws with both trim and flat heads are available in more sizes and lengths, making them suitable for most exterior, wood-to-wood applications. The screws come in both Type 305 and Type 316 stainless. Their thread design reduces driving torque by 35% when compared with other fasteners on the market, according to the manufacturer, so builders should be able to drive more screws on a single battery charge. Trim heads come in lengths from 1-inch #7 to 4-inch #9; flat heads range from 1 1/4-inch #8 to 5-inch #12. Simpson Strong-Tie, strongtie.com



7. Waterproofing Finish

Introduced in March, the Signature Series of waterproofing and staining products from Thompson's WaterSeal is sold only at Lowe's retail outlets. According to the manufacturer, the finishes can be applied in one coat and drying time is two hours. Both clear and pigmented versions are available. The pigmented Stain & Sealer comes in three opacities (transparent, semi-transparent, and solid) and in four colors (two shades of brown, cedar, and honey gold). Look for Thompson's standard square can; prices range from \$16 to \$29 a gallon. Thompson's WaterSeal, thompsonswaterseal.com



8. Landscape Lighting

A new landscape lighting collection from WAC Lighting includes wall-wash, deck, and patio lights; 3-inch in-ground hardscape lighting; outdoor landscape tape; step, area, and path lights; and more. The fully adjustable LED accent light (shown) can dynamically change wattage (2 to 16 watts), brightness (100 to 1,000 lumens), and color. Designers can choose from pure-white and warm-white light, and the maker says fabrication at the component level allows it to incorporate UV- and corrosion-resistant materials throughout for a 10-year warranty on fixtures. WAC Lighting, waclighting.com ♦