

PRODUCTS



PLUG-AND-PLAY LIGHTING

WOLF ADDS DECK AND RAIL LIGHTING TO ITS LINEUP

Wolf Outdoor Lighting's new series of easy-to-install deck and rail accent products feature simple plug-and-play assembly and a single low-voltage power supply, eliminating the need for wire cutting, electricians, or permits. Wolf lighting is compatible with all Wolf Rail and Westbury Rail products and includes stair and side lights, under-rail lights, strip lights, and post-cap lights, as well as dusk-to-dawn light sensors, remote dimmer switches, and all wiring harnesses and connections. Lighting is available in white, black, and textured black, and in three post cap sizes (2 inches, 2 1/2 inches, and 4 inches). wolfhomeproducts.com

COMPOSITE 2x4

ARMADILLO BRINGS BACK COMPOSITE 2x4 DECKING

Armadillo has re-introduced composite 2x4 decking to its lineup. Made with a 50/50 mix of HDPE plastic and recycled sawdust, the boards have radiuses edges and are wrapped on all four sides with a polyethylene capstock, which the company says gives the boards a natural wood-grain finish and protects against fading, weathering, stains, mold, and mildew. Armadillo 2x4s have a 24-inch-o.c. span rating, compared with the 16-inch-o.c. span rating of the firm's 5/4x6 decking. Boards come in seven colors and 12-foot lengths, with matching decking, fascia, and riser boards also available. armadillodeck.com



METAL FENCE POST BRACKETS

SIMPSON STRONG-TIE'S COMPACT METAL BRACKETS MAKE IT EASY TO FASTEN WOOD FENCE RAILS TO METAL POSTS

Simpson Strong-Tie's PGT series pipe-grip tie brackets are designed for attaching wood rails to metal fence posts. The brackets are available in sizes to fit both 1 1/2-inch- and 2-inch-diameter pipe, and with both standard galvanized and ZMAX coatings. The PGT2OZ (shown here) is designed for 2-inch pipe and attaches to rails with either 1/4-inch lag bolts or Simpson's 1/4-inch x 1 1/2-inch SDS heavy-duty connector screws. Brackets for inside corners and two-piece brackets are also available. strongtie.com

PRODUCTS

TENSION TOOL

FEENEY'S CABLERAIL TENSIONING TOOL PROMISES FASTER, EASIER CABLE INSTALLATION

Deck builders who install the popular Feeney CableRail system may want to consider adding the company's new ratcheting-style tensioning tool to their next order. The tool features a 6:1 gear ratio and a built-in tension indicator, which should make cable installation easier and more accurate. It comes equipped for use with Feeney's 1/8-inch-diameter stainless steel CableRail, but adapter heads are also available for 3/16- and 1/4-inch-diameter cable. The tool costs about \$100 and is available directly from Feeney. feeneyinc.com



FASTER HIDDEN FASTENERS

DURALIFE'S NEW STEP-CLIP HIDDEN FASTENING SYSTEM PROMISES QUICKER, EASIER INSTALLATION

DuraLife is introducing a new hidden fastening system, called Step-Clip, at the R|D|J 2017 show in Nashville at the end of October. Step-Clips are 1 5/8-inch-wide by 23-inch-long polypropylene interlocking strips that are laid across the top of the joists. Because the clips can be installed with a pneumatic roofing nailer, the company says that the system can reduce decking installation time by up to 50%. The strips can accommodate four deck boards each; once the strips are fastened to the joists, the decking is installed by inserting one edge, then stepping on the other edge to lock it into place. If a deck board becomes damaged later, it can be cut out and replaced without

the removal of any fasteners.

Currently, Step-Clip is designed to work only with DuraLife grooved deck boards, but the company says that it has patented similar versions of the clip for use with other leading decking brands, with plans to introduce them in the near future. Step-Clip will be packaged in boxes of 25 and 75 strips, and will be available with or without roofing nail coils through lumberyards and other retail building distributor channels starting in early November. Pricing for the clips has not yet been announced, but a company spokesman said that the cost will be consistent with other hidden fastening systems on the market. duralifedecking.com



BARE PLUGS

STARBORN NOW OFFERS A PLUG-ONLY OPTION FOR ITS PRO PLUG SYSTEM

Builders who have installed PVC and composite decking and trim using Starborn's popular Pro Plug system probably own several of the Smart-Bit pre-drilling and countersinking installation tools that come bundled with the full kits. Now, Starborn has unbundled the plugs for several different manufacturers, including Trex, Fiberon, Azek, and TimberTech. The plug-only packs contain 375 plugs—enough for about 100 square feet of decking—and an impact driver bit. Pro Plug screw-only packs and packs that include plugs and the Smart-Bit installation tool (but no screws) are also available from Starborn. starbornindustries.com