

by VINCENT SALANDRO

1. Black Vinyl Windows and Doors

Cornerstone Building Brands has introduced black interior and exterior options for Ply Gem 1500 Vinyl Collection windows and patio doors. The black color is integrated into the vinyl via a coextrusion process that also incorporates UV inhibitors and reflective pigments to mitigate the heat absorption and material stress typically associated with darker colors. The windows and doors are available with traditional and contemporary frame styles, multiple grille designs (between the glass and simulated divided lights), Energy Star certification, and glass packages from Low-E to HPMax triple pane. plygem.com



2. Brick Façade Mounting Trays

Durus Standard brick-façade trays feature teeth that can secure bricks from a variety of manufacturers, including Belden, Endicott, and Metro. Weepholes in the 20-gauge 304B stainless steel trays allow moisture to drain out, and a 2-inch air space between the trays and the house wall allows for bulk drainage and airflow to help the wall assembly dry. Stiffener ribs and a uniform base add structural strength and guide horizontal and vertical alignment. Spacing between trays can be adjusted to account for rough openings. desanapartners.com

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3. Stained Wood Siding Finishes

LP Building Solutions Natural Collection is a line of nature-inspired colors within the LP SmartSide ExpertFinish Trim & Siding portfolio. In the collection are six prefinished colors that capture the look of stained wood, available in cedar and brushed smooth finishes. The color palette—the first introduced since the product line launched in 2020—meets the demand for wood-inspired tones without compromising on durability or ease of installation, according to LP. lpcorp.com

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4. Durable Porcelain Pavers

Belgard says that its November porcelain paver line is inspired by nature, combining characteristics of stone and cement. The durable, low-maintenance paver line comes in a 24-by-24-inch size for cost savings and faster installation time. According to the company, November pavers resist staining, scratching, and slipping and will retain visual appeal as they weather. belgard.com

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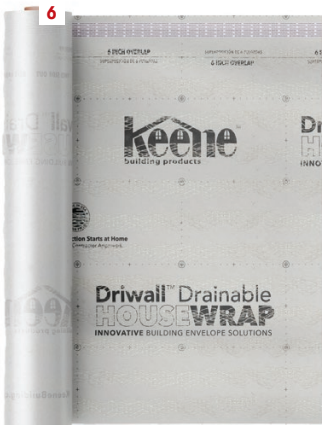


Products



5. Rebar Connection Clips

Crafted from heat-treated metal and finished with mineral oil to help prevent corrosion, the Badger Grip Clip is designed to simplify and strengthen rebar cage assembly. The clip has a simple clamp-and-release mechanism operable by one person. The company claims using these clips will reduce labor time, error, fatigue, and material costs compared with traditional tying methods, and ensure precision in reinforcement placement. A bucket of 100 clips costs \$72 online. badgerrebarproducts.com



6. Drainable WRB

Drivall Drainable Housewrap combines the benefits of a high-performance weather barrier with a 1.5-millimeter continuous drainage plane to prevent moisture buildup behind cladding materials. The manufacturer says the material provides multidirectional drainage while allowing vapor to escape. Integrated seam tape speeds installation. The housewrap is partially transparent, enabling installers to see chalk-lined studs for precise alignment. keenebuilding.com

7. Drive System Enhanced Fasteners

FastenMaster's HeadLok Structural Wood Screws now feature the Torx ttap Drive System. The company says that Torx ttap combines the ease of Torx drive with a ttap stability button and that the design provides superior bit engagement for a stable, wobble-free installation while preventing strip-out during installation. HeadLok fasteners have a large, flathead design with chamfer for increased strength, a sharp point for faster installation, and a 3/16-inch-diameter shank that offers higher design shear than 3/8-inch lag screws. A bucket of 250 10-inch screws costs about \$285 online. fastenmaster.com



8. Thin Profile Surfaces

Wilsonart has introduced 16 new surface designs to its Thinscape Composite Tops collection. The European-inspired, 1/2-inch-thick profiles provide resistance to impact, scratches, and moisture, according to the company. Wilsonart also says the stain-resistant surfaces don't require sealing and are available with color-coordinated cores. Select from stone-, wood-, and textile-inspired designs as well as solid colors. Thinscape is Declare label, HPD, and UL Greenguard Gold certified. wilsonart.com

9. Iron Hardware Carriage Doors

American Tradition garage doors from Haas Door combine the elegance of original hand-crafted wooden carriage doors with the detail of wrought iron hardware. The series' 9200 models are 2½ inches thick with a full thermal break, a 0.081 tested U-factor (about R-13), and an air-infiltration seal; 9600 models are 2 inches thick with a full thermal break and a 0.096 tested U-factor. American Tradition doors are fabricated with 26-gauge galvanized steel and polyurethane overlay boards and are available with wind load and impact options. haasdoor.com

10. Re-engineered Holdowns

Simpson Strong-Tie's HDUE replaces its HDU for shearwalls, braced wall panels, and other lateral-force-resisting applications. According to Simpson, angled fastening in the four larger sizes engages the screws in tension for higher load capacity, reducing the number of screws required. In addition, the teardrop-shaped holes permit selected fasteners to engage and distribute the load more evenly; a predeflected seat reduces deflection under load; and an overlapping back plate increases steel strength and helps prevent post splitting. strongtie.com

11. Jobsite Security Camera

The Ulticam Dot portable, wireless, weather-resistant security camera combines advanced features with a subscription-free model. Priced at \$70, the compact, battery-powered camera can deliver QHD video, night vision, an ultra-wide field of view, and motion detection powered by edge AI. Suitable for jobsite security, the camera mounts on a magnetic base, peel-and-stick adhesive, or screws. ulticam.com

12. Enhanced Fiberglass Entry Doors

ProVia introduced a venting sidelight and removable mull post for its Signet fiberglass entry doors with FrameSaver frames. The venting sidelight opens with a quarter turn of a knob, revealing a built-in retractable screen. A magnetic rail secures the screen in place, allowing fresh air to enter the home while keeping insects out. The venting feature is available exclusively on ProVia's strike-side sidelight and can be ordered with or without a removable mull post that enables homeowners to temporarily create a larger door opening. provia.com

