

Toolbits | by Tom O'Brien

Bug-Resistant Clothing. Instead of coating your skin with irritating liquids, consider protecting yourself with *Insect Shield Repellent Work Wear* when you work outside.

According to the maker, the shirts, pants, overalls, and socks incorporate an EPA-registered technology that repels mosquitoes, ticks, ants, flies, and chiggers and remains effective through 70 machine-washings. Shirts and pants cost about \$50 each, socks \$17 a pair.

Insect Shield International, 866/712-7110, insectshield.com.



Door-Bottom Brush. I have yet to meet a painter who would voluntarily remove a door in order to seal the bottom edge. The *Painting Pal* is a skinny brush that makes it possible to perform this vital task on a swinging door. It costs about \$1. Give a bunch to your painting contractor and you may never get another callback because of a binding door.

Marshalltown Co., 800/888-0127, marshalltown.com.



Smooth Sealing.

The *SPP 500C Cordless Caulk Dispenser* features a microprocessor-controlled variable-speed motor and all-metal gearing with a 1,300:1 gear ratio, so you can apply more caulk or adhesive with less effort, says the maker. It comes in a kit with interchangeable 10- and 29-ounce cartridge holders, a one-hour charger, and a 14-volt niMH battery, and costs \$360.

Stout Tool, 877/337-8688, stouttool.com.



Nimble Fingers. The *CG4X Framer* is designed to protect the wearer's hand from abrasions and fatigue without interfering with dexterity. Since the glove's thumb and first two fingers are cut short, the wearer can easily handle fasteners and other small items. The padding on the palm is made from a synthetic fiber that feels dense and soft like leather but lasts longer, the maker says. A pair costs about \$23; full-fingered versions are also available.

Mechanix Wear, 800/222-4296, mechanix.com.