

Products | by Tom O'Brien



Glass Fastener. Laticrete says its *Glass Tile Adhesive* cures to an ultra-white color that enhances the appearance of translucent tiles. According to the company, the polymer-fortified mortar won't sag and contains antimicrobial additives that prevent mold and mildew growth. It can be used for interior, exterior, and submerged applications over a variety of substrates. The contractor's cost for a 25-pound bag is about \$21.

Laticrete, 800/243-4788, laticrete.com.



Lead Cleaner. According to its maker, *Ledizolv* is a biodegradable, phosphate-free detergent that dissolves lead-contaminated dust more effectively than multipurpose cleaners or harsh chemicals like TSP. Its mild pH means it won't harm wood floors or painted surfaces, says the company. The product comes in a highly concentrated form that you mix with water in a 50-to-1 ratio. It's sold in container sizes from 8 ounces to 55 gallons; a one-gallon bottle costs about \$75.

LSZ, 914/948-3797, ledizolv.com.



Weathered Wood. *Montana Ghost Wood* has the weathered appearance of reclaimed timber, but it's sourced from dead standing trees (primarily spruce and lodgepole killed by beetles and forest fires) rather than demolished buildings. The boards come in three textures and four colors. Prices range from \$2.50 to \$3.10 per board foot.

Bitterroot Valley Forest Products, 877/626-1505, mtghostwood.com.

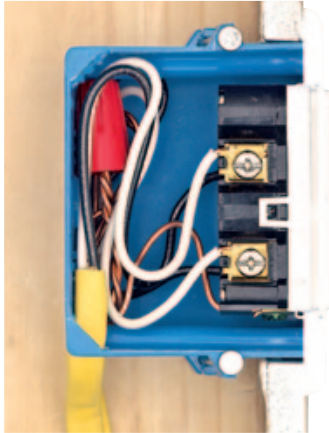


Prepainted Trim. A special coating process gives *Finished Elegance* molding a smooth, durable, water-resistant surface, says the maker. It comes in one color — white — and 27 profiles and is sold only at Home Depot stores. Prices range from 70 cents to \$13 per linear foot.

Woodgrain Millwork, 800/966-3042, woodgraindistribution.com.

For more information about these products, go to <http://jlc.hotims.com>.

Products



Smaller, Safer GFCI. Leviton says the *SmartlockPro Slim Self-Test GFCI* is about 25 percent smaller than a typical GFCI receptacle, which should make it easier to fit the wires in the box. The receptacle automatically runs a test every 15 minutes to verify that everything's working properly; if it trips, it cannot be reset if it was improperly wired. The 15-amp GFCI costs about \$40.

Leviton Manufacturing Co., 800/323-8920, leviton.com.



Custom Appliance Trim. If a client wants to replace an appliance without altering the cabinetry, or make an existing appliance blend into a new design, *Micro-Trim Custom Trim Kits* could help. According to the manufacturer, there's a kit to fit almost any microwave, range, or cooktop. Components are made from high-quality aluminum, the company says, and are finished in four colors. Prices range from \$30 to \$160. Custom designs in stainless steel are also an option.

Micro-Trim, 800/338-8746, microtrim.com.



Green Glue. *Safecoat Almighty Adhesive* is a general-purpose construction adhesive that provides 500-psi shear strength, making it suitable for a range of interior and exterior uses. It's also environmentally safe and nontoxic, says the maker, with a 100 percent-solids formulation that is free of solvents, does not off-gas, and exceeds even California's strict VOC and environmental regulations. A 10-ounce tube costs about \$7.

American Formulating & Manufacturing, 800/239-0321, afmsafecoat.com.



Dust Container. The *Encapsulator Workbag* is a five-sided dust barrier that the maker says makes it easier to comply with RRP regulations. The product unpacks into a 5-foot-by-8-foot "clean room" (supported by adjustable poles and complete with floor and ceiling) that needs only to be sealed to the end wall with painter's tape. The "bag" is made of 3 mil poly and comes with an adhesive zipper. It's sold in 8-foot-tall and 10-foot-tall versions for \$40 and \$50.

Encapsulator, 845/467-7704, theworkbag.com.

For more information about these products, go to <http://jlc.hotims.com>.



Two-Part Urethane. Originally developed for boats, *SilverThane SA-2100 Adhesive/Sealant* is suitable for any home-building application that requires a water-proof gap-filling adhesive. It adheres tenaciously to wood, steel, Lexan, and plastic laminates, says the maker. Though sold only in white, it's paintable. It's also supposedly shrink-proof, nonyellowing, and UV-resistant. An 8.4-ounce cartridge costs \$23; smaller sizes are available as well.

System Three Resins, 800/333-5514, systemthree.com.



Beer Fridge. The only thing better than an ice-cold draft beer is another one. The *Dual-Tap Beverage Dispenser* can accommodate a pair of one-sixth barrels of beer or a single quarter barrel. According to the maker, the appliance can maintain a consistent temperature as low as 33°F. It can be installed either freestanding or under a counter, and is easily convertible to a wine cabinet or mini-fridge if the owners' tastes change, the company says. It costs \$3,900.

True Manufacturing Co., 888/616-8783, true-residential.com.

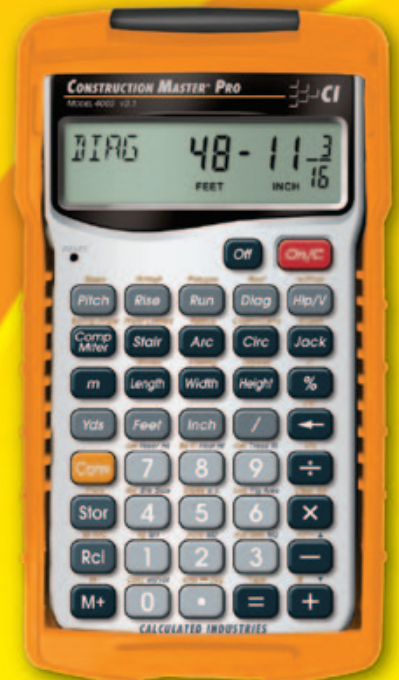


Strong Silent Type. Beam claims that the *Model 3700 Serenity IQS* is one of the quietest and most powerful central vacuum systems on the market. Its power unit delivers 600 air watts of cleaning power and 140 inches of water lift, and is heavily insulated and mounted on anti-vibration hardware to reduce noise. Other features include a self-cleaning HEPA filter and a 4-gallon dirt receptacle that's treated to prevent mold growth. The system can serve homes as large as 7,000 square feet. The power unit costs about \$870 and the hoses and wands about \$545.

Beam Central Vacuum Systems, 800/369-2326, beamvac.com.

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