

BY CHARLES WARDELL



Customizable Vanities

Kohler's Tailored Vanity collection includes five vanity styles and hundreds of drawer/door configurations, hardware pieces, finishes, and countertops. Interiors can be fitted with bamboo storage trays and dividers, adjustable shelves, and roll-out drawers. Prices start at \$650, but Kohler expects the average order to be around \$1,500. Kohler, 800.456.4537, kohler.com



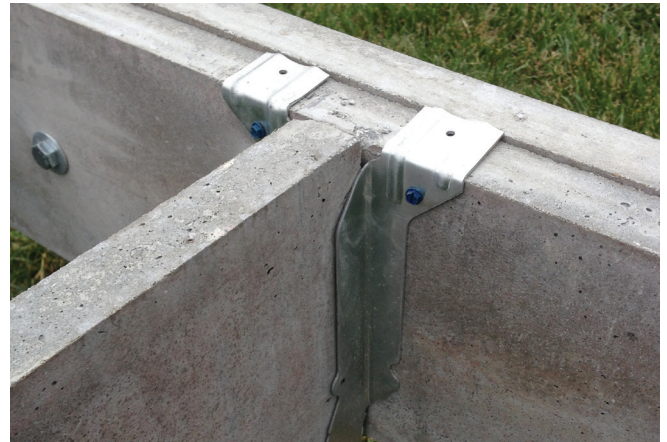
Fogless Shower Mirror

A low-voltage heating pad on the back of a ShowerLite mirror warms the glass, eliminating steamy shower fog while also activating a pair of soft light strips. The 12-inch square mirror mounts permanently to the wall; the heater and light strips are thin enough that the mirror surface can be made flush with the tile. Cost: \$545. ClearMirror, 877.242.5327, clearmirror.com



Hail-Resistant Tile

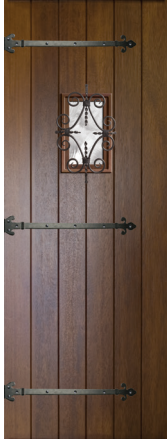
Because monster hail can crack even concrete roof tiles, Boral has introduced a concrete tile with a class 4 rating; that is, it can withstand hail balls up to 2 inches in diameter at impact speeds of up to 70 mph. (The company's class-3 product is rated to withstand 1¾-inch balls at that speed.) Cost is around \$85 per square foot. Boral, 800.669.8453, boralroof.com



Concrete Framing

Concrete Lumber posts, beams, joists, and decking are made from lightweight concrete reinforced with pre-stressed wire. It's half the weight of standard concrete and flexes like wood. Cut it using a masonry blade on a circular saw, and fasten it with screws or bolts. A 2x6 runs about \$2.50 per linear foot. Concrete Lumber Co., 215.369.1520, concretelumber.com

Products



LVL Core Doors

The laminated veneer lumber (LVL) cores in GlassCraft's plank-style doors should make them resistant to cracking and warping. They're available in 1¾-inch and 2¼-inch thicknesses and with mahogany or knotty alder cores and veneers. Premium options include straps, clavos, and speakeasy grilles. List price for the unfinished slab shown here (including options) is \$1,880. GlassCraft Door Co., 800.766.2196, glasscraft.com



Big Microwave Drawer

Thermador's new MicroDrawer microwave has a 1.2-cubic-foot cavity. It's tall enough to hold a 20-ounce cup and large enough for a 9-inch by 13-inch oblong dish. It offers 10 cooking modes, flush installation, and a sensor that detects food moisture. The exterior dimensions match the company's refrigeration columns and warming drawers. MSRP: \$1,650. Thermador, 800.735.4328, thermador.com



Screen Door Alternative

The Brisa "screen door" is actually a retractable screen housed in an aluminum frame. The frame attaches to a brick-mold door casing using just a power drill, with the bottom of the frame locking into the existing door's threshold. The frame is adjustable for doors from 30 to 36 inches wide without cutting; smaller doors require two simple cuts. The screen needs no trimming. Cost is around \$180. ODL, 800.253.3900, odl.com



Pre-Tensioned Anchor

QuickTie is an anchor-and-cable system for use in seismic areas or where builders have to meet a 90-mph wind code. The cable is tensioned to 140% of the design load by the framer and, according to the manufacturer, ends up at 100% after the building settles and the lumber shrinks. Cables come in various sizes; a 10-foot-long 3/16-inch cable should cost \$7 to \$10. Quick Tie Products, 800.397.5542, quicktieproducts.com



Sliding Pot Rack

Glideware is a sliding maple rack with zinc hooks. It fits into a standard-depth base cabinet and extends fully into the workspace, making it easy to access pots and pans. Because the hooks slide back and forth and can be removed if not needed, the rack will accommodate different cookware types and sizes. It comes preassembled for easy installation. Price: \$200. Glideware, 800.558.9947, glideware.com



Better Tankless

The TruTankless electric water heater squeezes 24 feet of heating element into a briefcase-size housing, so it operates at relatively low element temperatures. That, and the mineral-resistant alloy used for the element, helps prevent the scale buildup common with tankless. Wi-Fi functionality allows for remote monitoring. A 4 gpm unit (for a three-bath home) lists for \$1,500. Bollente Cos., 855.862.8987, trutankless.com



Advanced Wall Oven

Useful features on Bosch's 30-inch Benchmark convection oven include optional side-opening doors, dampened hinges, a built-in meat thermometer, and an energy-saving mode that uses residual heat to finish up cooking. Style and sizing match the company's steam and microwave ovens. Prices range from \$2,900 to \$3,200 for single ovens and from \$4,400 to \$4,950 for double ovens. Bosch, 800.944.2904, bosch-home.com



Anywhere Epoxy

Designed for embedding rebar or threaded rod into masonry, USP's new line of two-part anchoring epoxies offers targeted formulas for nearly every jobsite condition. For example, there are epoxies for use on foundations in earthquake- and hurricane-prone regions, as well as fast-cure and cold-weather epoxies for use down to 34°F. Prices range from \$14 to \$24. USP Structural Connectors, 800.328.5934, uspconnectors.com