

BY LAUREN SHANESY



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1. A Discreet, Modular Lighting System

The adorne Under-Cabinet Lighting & Power system from Legrand combines the aesthetic value of subtle lighting with the growing consumer demand for more technology. The modular track features an LED lighting strip with power outlets, USB ports, a Bluetooth music system, and mobile charging cradles that can be customized in a variety of configurations and updated at any time. The system can be installed with in-wall wiring or be plugged into an existing outlet. Pricing starts at \$80 to \$100 per linear foot. legrand.us/adorne

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2. The Power of Commercial Technology at Home

LG Electronics has introduced the first single-phase variable refrigerant flow 5-ton heat recovery unit for residential applications. The Multi V S system includes 2-ton heat-pump and 5-ton heat-recovery models for simultaneous heating and cooling at a more energy efficient rate. The 5-ton system closely matches compressor speed with demand and can control individual room temperatures for up to 12 zones. Price varies by dealer. lghvac.com

3. Decorative Outdoor Hardware

Simpson Strong-Tie's new Outdoor Accents line of decorative hardware includes connectors and fasteners for outdoor structures. Made of galvanized steel with a black powder-coat finish for corrosion protection, the connectors are load rated for 4-by and 6-by lumber sizes. The line features an innovative hex-head washer that is used with a wood screw and requires no predrilling for an easier and faster installation compared with through-bolting. Pricing varies from \$1.70 for small angles to up to \$38 for large post bases. strongtie.com/outdooraccents

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4. Perfect Drywall Corners

CertainTeed's Levelline Outside 90 laminated drywall corner beads are an alternative to traditional metal and paper-metal drywall corners. The laminated corners are less than half the weight of traditional beads, don't have sharp edges, and won't rust, and they deliver clean lines without ridges. According to the maker, the material's high bond can withstand shifting caused by drying or settling lumber, humidity, and temperature differences. Levelline corners come in 8-, 9-, and 10-foot lengths. Check with dealer for pricing. certainteed.com

Products

5. A Strong Tension Tie for Decking

MiTek's new Adjustable Deck Tension Tie makes decks safer by resisting the lateral and horizontal loads that pull a deck away from the house or structure. The tension tie, which is made of 14-gauge steel, can be installed with a USP WS8-HDG or $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch HDG lag screw adjacent to or up to $4\frac{3}{8}$ inches below a deck joist in either a "full extension installation" or a "flush installation" configuration, avoiding the need for blocking. One deck tension tie costs \$5.35 online. www.mitek-us.com

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6. Increased Hand Tool Comfort

DeWalt aims to reduce muscle fatigue with the introduction of its DWHT75900 Carbon Fiber Composite Hammer Tacker. Prolonged exposure to vibrations on the jobsite can cause discomfort, and traditional tackers are often made of die-cast aluminum, which is bulky, heavy, and tiring to use. DeWalt's carbon fiber composite material weighs 45% less than other industry-leading hammer tackers and reduces vibration levels by 45% and muscle effort by 25%, allowing users to work longer. It drives $\frac{5}{16}$ -, $\frac{3}{8}$ -, and $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch heavy-duty staples. Online price is about \$40. dewalt.com

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7. High-Performance Garage Doors

The new Ambient line of Safe-Way Steel Garage Doors are insulated with a high-density, 2-inch polyurethane foam core, which has an R-value of 17.68 for increased thermal performance. The outer layer of galvanized steel combined with the insulated core creates a durable, sound-resistant, and dent-resistant material, says the company. The doors are available in seven color and two wood-grain options and six panel styles, and they can be customized with a variety of window configurations. Pricing varies. safewaydoor.com

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8. Thermal Insulation With Spray Foam

Knauf Insulation's new JetSpray Thermal Insulation System is a spray-on glass mineral wool that fills any net-less, side-wall cavity for acoustic and thermal insulation. The foam installs easily around wiring and other obstructions; provides R-values of R-15 when installed in a 2x4 wall cavity and R-23 in a 2x6 cavity; and reduces sound transmission up to 5 STC points. The spray's glass fibers are mold-resistant and do not support microbial growth, says the company. JetSpray typically dries within 24 hours, so drywall can be installed the next day. Check with installer for pricing. jetspray.knaufinsulation.us

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9. A More Accurate Laser Level

The GLL 100 G self-leveling cross-line laser is the first green laser level from Bosch. Green light lasers are up to four times brighter than traditional red beams, according to the company, so they provide more visibility in bright ambient light conditions. Green lasers are optimal for jobs requiring a greater distance—the laser on this tool is visible up to 100 feet. The cross-line laser includes conventional vertical, horizontal, and cross-line modes, which can be used independently or together. The laser can be purchased for \$270. bosch.com

10. Seamless Flush Baseboards

Builders can create flush baseboards for drywall abutting wood or other materials with the Architectural L Bead from Trim-Tex. The L bead is installed by applying an adhesive coating to the bead, attaching it to drywall, and then stapling every 4 to 6 inches with 1/2-inch staples before installing the baseboard. The clean, sharp lines add a modern element to spaces while minimizing the maintenance costs that often arise from debris settling on traditional baseboards. Pricing ranges from \$0.14-\$0.18 per foot. trim-tex.com

11. A Quick Pop-Up Dust Barrier

ZipWall's Dust Barrier Toolkit allows contractors to create a 16-foot-wide, sealed dust barrier in minutes. The kit is easily set up on site, requires no ladders or tape, works with all ceiling types, and doesn't damage walls and ceilings. Each toolkit includes five ZipWall 12-foot spring-loaded poles, six FoamRail Span adjustable tapeless seals, one FoamRail tapeless seal 2-pack, four wall mounts, five heads and non-skid plates, five GripDisk non-slip pads, two floor adapters, one ZipWall heavy-duty zipper 2-pack, one ZipDoor standard door kit, two Edge heads and non-skid plates, one ZipFast reusable barrier panel multi-pack, and carry bags. The kit costs about \$1,300. zipwall.com

12. Advanced Kitchen Ventilation

Broan's new under-cabinet range hoods feature an advanced three-speed blower/wheel design with a centric inlet to remove smoke and odors faster, the firm says. A "Heat Sentry" feature detects excessive heat and adjusts the blower speed to provide proper ventilation and prolong the life of the unit. The vents are available in two styles, Glacier and Spire, in a variety of widths and colors. The range hood will range in price from \$140 to \$600. broan-nutone.com