

# New Products for a New Year

Back in early autumn when most of us were thinking about pumpkin pie and the return of football, manufacturing companies were gearing up to launch new products — just in time for the season of gift giving. After attending several fall press events and shows where many

of those items were introduced, the *HANDY* editors wanted to share a few of our favorite discoveries. Whether you're ready for a long winter's home improvement project or dreaming of springtime lawn care, look to these new offerings for your inspiration.

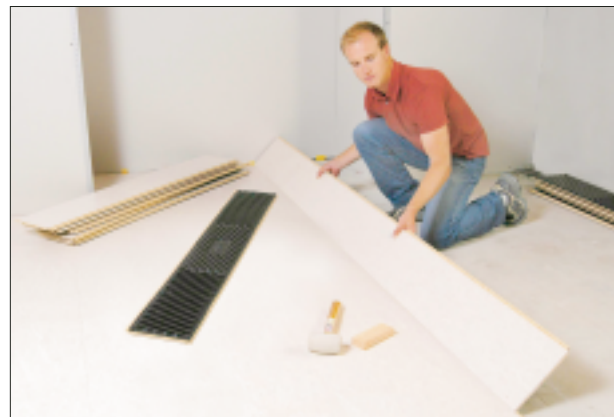


## Tight-Turning Tractor

John Deere has built a reputation for making high-quality farm implements and durable lawn-care products. But the new X-series lawn tractors set a new benchmark for maneuverability. The unique four-wheel-steering system ties the rear wheels to the front as you turn the wheel, dramatically reducing the tractor's turning radius. The AWS models are able to tightly hug borders, trees and other landscape features that traditional two-wheel-steering tractors would be unable to follow. Prices start at \$8,600 for the X465, which is equipped with a 21-hp engine and includes features such as a commercial-grade hydrostatic transmission, power steering and cruise control. John Deere, 800-537-8233

## Common Power

You can create your own cordless tool combination kit with the Ryobi One+ System. Start by purchasing a charger (\$20) and batteries (\$40 for a two-pack of 18-volt batteries). Then choose the tools you want without the added expense or storage hassles of unnecessary chargers, batteries or cases that usually come with single-tool purchases. For example, Ryobi's 18-volt impact driver, part of the One+ system, sells for \$70 without batteries or a charger, substantially less than if the package included these items. With more than 22 tools and accessories sharing the common One+ power source, you'll be able to design a tool kit made up of tools you need — not tools someone else thinks you need. Ryobi, 800-525-2579



## Super Floor

With the launch of Subflor Supreme, Supra Floors has added to its line and improved its product. Like the original Subflor, it's designed as a moisture-proof floating subfloor system for use over concrete — ideal for basements. But the new product adds a finished floor surface (in two available colors) to the top of the click-together planks. Installation is DIY-friendly and requires only a few common carpentry tools. The flooring can support heavy loads and sells for \$3 to \$5 a square foot. Supra Floors, 866-782-3567

**Web Extra**  
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PHOTOS COURTESY MANUFACTURERS

## New Impact Drivers

Two more manufacturers — Bosch and Ridgid — have jumped into the cordless impact driver category. These tools are ideal for quickly driving screws, lags and other fasteners. They typically deliver more than twice as much torque as drill/drivers with equivalent voltage.

Bosch Impactor Fastening Drivers are available in 9-volt (\$179), 12-volt (\$199) and 14.4-volt (\$234) models. The tools feature 2.0-Ah NiCd batteries and deliver 1,150 in.-lbs. of torque. Like other impact drivers, the Impactor line is lightweight and compact. The 14.4-volt model 23614 weighs less than 4 pounds and is only 6-1/2 in. long. All of the tools include an integral LED work light. Bosch, 877-267-2499

The Ridgid R82320 14.4-volt impact driver (\$179) delivers 1,400 in.-lbs. of torque, and its battery (one is included) is compatible with Ridgid's Rapid Max charging system. As with other Ridgid portable power tools, this driver features abundant rubber overmolding to reduce fatigue and is built for heavy-duty professional use. Ridgid, 866-539-1710



Bosch 23614



Ridgid R82320

## Keyless Lock

If you have ever been locked out of your house, you'll appreciate this news: Kwikset has introduced a keyless entry deadbolt that a DIYer can easily install and family members can easily operate. The Kwikset Powerbolt 1000 (\$100) has a touch pad for push-button locking from indoors and out, and it is simple to program with a four- to eight-digit security code. To periodically refresh your home's security, you can change the access code without changing locks. You can even set a secondary code to temporarily allow entry for service people or guests. Kwikset, 800-327-5625



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## Return of the Carpet Tile

Carpet tiles were popular back in the 1960s, and like many home decorating products from that era, they're back in fashion — but with improvements. The originals offered limited style choices and their adhesive tended to fail, but today's versions come in diverse styles and can be attached with only double-sided carpet tape. Weighing five pounds apiece, 18 x 18-in. tiles like the ones shown rely mainly on gravity and a heavy vinyl backing to keep them in place. One Internet seller, iCarpetiles.com, offers more than 1,500 colors and styles of 18- and 24-in. tiles ranging in price from \$1 to \$2 a square foot. iCarpetiles.com, 866-575-7738 ♦

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6' 1500 watts	180-250 sq. ft.	\$249	
6' 1250 watts	130-180 sq. ft.	\$229	
4' 1000 watts	100-130 sq. ft.	\$209	
3' 750 watts	75-100 sq. ft.	\$189	
2' 500 watts	50-75 sq. ft.	\$169	
Thermostats	Call for options & exact heater needed		

110 VOLT PORTABLES (Thermostat Included)	Discount Price	Quantity
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4' Convector - Dual watt	\$179	
3' 750 watts - Silicone	\$179	
\$15.00 shipping per heater	\$	
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