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PRODUCTS

RESCUE ME: Instead of cutting down trees to make wood flooring, the manufacturer deconstructs old structures to reclaim their precious lumber. One of the maker's newest offerings is Rescued Maple strip flooring. Removed from old factories and warehouses, the line comes in 2- to 2½-inch-wide boards that have been milled to retain some of their rustic character and pre-finished for durability. ■ Aged Woods. 800-233-9307. www.agedwoods.com.



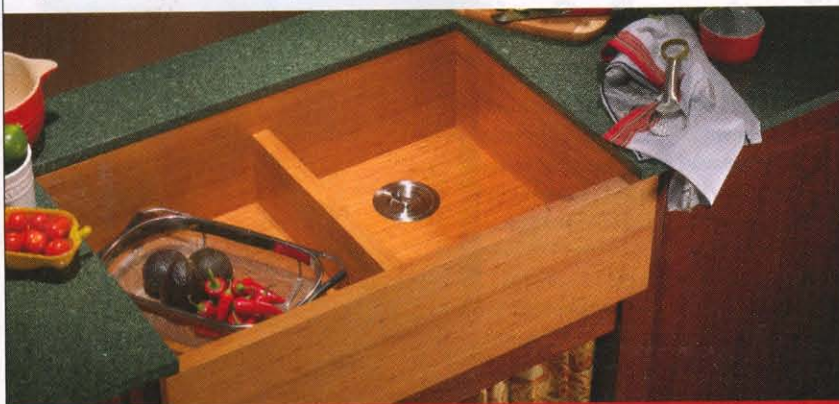
Tip 4: Eco Surface

Floors are not always thought of as green or sustainable, but that is an oversight. Many flooring options fall squarely into the eco-conscious category either for the way they're made or where they come from. For example, you can buy wood flooring made from Forest Stewardship-certified hardwood or products made from rapidly renewable materials such as bamboo, cork, or Lyptus hardwood. Builders can also install ceramic flooring made with recycled content and eco-composites made from cement and recycled glass or cement and recycled wood fiber, salvaged wood, or salvaged stone tiles pulled from old churches.

FLOOR MODEL: Eco-Cem is a multipurpose composite that is available as large tiles for flooring (or as slabs for countertops). It's made from a mixture of 80 percent cement and 20 percent recycled paper. Available in a range of eight colors, it's lighter and stronger than natural stone, and resistant to mold and mildew. Tiles measure ½-inch-thick and 48 inches by 48 inches or 24 inches by 48 inches. ■ Coverings Etc. 305-757-6000. www.coveringsetc.com.

Tip 5: Grass Hopper

Though it's actually a grass and the fastest-growing plant on earth, bamboo seems like a wonder wood. It's been used in ancient China to build houses and bridges, but in the last 15 years bamboo has been storming its way through the architecture and construction world. Green advocates like bamboo because it's rapidly renewable, reaching harvesting age in as little as seven years. But they also love the rich caramel color and its warm, earthy tone. It doesn't hurt that the material is also very hard, durable, and highly resistant to moisture, which makes it very popular for use as flooring. In recent years, its use has been expanded to include countertops, windows, doors, cabinets, and even sinks.



IN SINK: A bamboo sink seems like a bold, if incongruous, choice, but the manufacturer contends that the product can more than hold its own in even the most hard-working kitchen. Durable and strong, the sink is crafted from fully matured Moso bamboo and has an apron front design, and double bowls with a low-rise divider. It measures 32¾ inches wide, 21 inches from front to back, and 9 inches deep. ■ Lenova. 877-733-1098. www.lenovasinks.com.



STORE IT: Made from sustainable Plyboo bamboo plywood, the Avalon vanity brings eco consciousness to bathroom storage. The Asian-inspired product measures 48 inches wide, 20 inches from front to back, and 20 inches high. Offered in 24 domestic and exotic finishes, the product features soft-close drawers and a full overlay design. ■ Vanity Flair by The Furniture Guild. 770-479-4108. www.thefurnitureguild.com.

Uplink

FOR MORE PRODUCT INFORMATION, VISIT EBUILD, HANLEY WOOD'S INTERACTIVE PRODUCT CATALOG, AT WWW.BUILDERONLINE.COM/PRODUCTS OR EBUILD.COM.