

This Old House

JULY/AUGUST 2008

How to
Paint Your
Kitchen
Cabinets
P. 83

UPGRADES WITH IMPACT

4 Great DIY Projects

- Built-in Barbecue
- Front Door Face-Lift
- Budget Bath Redo
- Simple Stone Counters



After



How to:

Maintain your AC (P. 26)

Hang a hammock (P. 17)

Prevent a break-in (P. 24)

Plant a low-upkeep landscape (P. 104)

THISOLDHOUSE.COM

\$4.99US \$5.99CAN



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✓ INSTANT WATER CONSERVATION

Now you can get a low-flow commode sans the cost of replacing the perfectly good one you already have. Brondell's Ecoflow adds a half-flush option to any standard toilet. The flush button rests atop the tank, connecting via a thin wire to a hose-and-valve mechanism inside. Press the right-hand button to use 40 percent less water. Available starting in August. \$150; brondell.com



^ TOUCH AND FLOW

Sensor-activated faucets have gone from merely being available to homeowners to—get this—actually being affordable. This handsome pull-down version features a spout you tap to turn the water on and off. Available in fall 2008. Pilar faucet, \$500; deltafaucet.com



^ BIG-DEAL MICROWAVE

Costly, commercial-grade appliances are finally trickling down to a more reasonable price. This stainless-steel, built-in microwave from Electrolux's new collection offers 2-cubic-foot capacity, 11 power settings, and on-screen prompts to help you customize cooking settings. \$399; lowes.com



EDITOR'S PICK



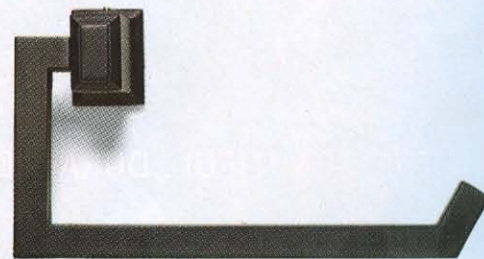
TEAK SHOWER SEAT AND FLOOR

"I'd love to have a teak floor and bench in my shower. Because this bench folds up and the floor mat comes in 37 sizes, I could install them—and get the feel of a spa—without the crazy-high cost of redoing the rest of the bathroom." Floors from \$354, benches from \$424; mtiwhirlpools.com

—JENNIFER BRITE, ASSOCIATE ONLINE EDITOR

LEATHER LOOK, FOR LESS ✓

Leather floor tiles are a definite splurge. Now you can get the same rich effect for a fraction of the cost—and have the look last a whole lot longer—with durable glazed porcelain tiles shaped with a square "rectified" edge just like the real thing. Metro Leather, \$7.50 to \$10 per square foot; daltileproducts.com



^ FINE FINISH

Oil-rubbed bronze hardware once commanded a premium price as a door accent. Then it settled nicely into the kitchen and is finally at home in the bath—right down to the last detail. Sutton Place toilet-tissue holder in Venetian bronze, \$49; atlashomewares.com



Want more inside scoop on trends and products from this year's kitchen and bath industry show? **Look for part two of our report in the September issue.**