

Five cool tools for Father's Day

Whether you've got a handyman, a gadget freak or a dad with dreams of DIY, there are plenty of cool tools to add to his arsenal.

Fold-away work bench

This folding workbench and tool storage center is a well-built gadget, as space-efficient as a workshop can get. Heavy steel brackets are used to mount a real butcher block bench top at any height. It provides a full 60-inch-wide by 24-inch-deep work surface that folds down and out of the way when not in use.

An accompanying tool storage center is made of heavy plastic with a "slat board" design — more versatile than old-fashioned peg board. For about \$550, the kit includes the work bench, tool center and a package of assorted slat board hooks and tool holders. Source: www.2BenchSolution.com.

Pocket screwdriver

This screwdriver is about the size of a half-dollar and has four blades. It's sold as a key-chain fob. Tips include a typical No. 2 Phillips head and a straight blade. The other two tips are "teeny-weeny" straight and Phillips blades for repairing

eyeglasses, jewelry and other small items. It's simple, inexpensive, useful and under \$3. Source: www.advantekmarketing.com.

4-Pod charging station

For gadget fiends, we discovered a neat little gadget. The charging station is a sharp looking faux-leather container that conceals your plug strip, chargers and wires while it cradles up to four items for charging. Dad will love having all his gadgets in one place, and you will love not having to look at all of the wires and a big mess. The price is only \$20.

Source: www.cableorganizer.com.

Framing square-level

It's really cool when someone comes up with a new twist on a couple of old tools. This one is a combination framing square and level. What makes this even cooler is that it was invented and is being marketed and sold by women. The tool is not only sturdy, it's lightweight, too. It's available in several useful sizes, up to and including that of a full-size carpenter's square.

Source: www.levelbest2.com.

Forearm forklift

When it comes to moving furniture, back injury can be a serious problem. This gadget was invented by a professional furniture mover who told us that he wanted to be able to move large pieces of furniture without risking back injury and without damaging expensive flooring like tile and hardwood.

When we first saw this new tool, two women were carrying a large breakfront and they weren't even straining. No dolly, no cart, nothing except a couple of six-foot-long by three-inch-wide nylon straps.

Lay the straps on the floor in an "X" beneath the furniture. The two people who will carry the furniture each will place each of their arms through the arm holes at the ends of the straps. Stand up, lift and move the furniture. It couldn't be more simple, and it costs under \$30. Source: www.forearmforklift.com.

On the House

James and Morris Carey

