

# This Old House

9

DIY fixes  
that'll  
save you  
big bucks

Your  
favorite  
upgrade  
All  
about...  
wainscoting  
p. 86

## Real World Re-dos

32 affordable  
ideas to spruce up  
every room

Best new  
kitchen  
& bath  
products  
p. 31

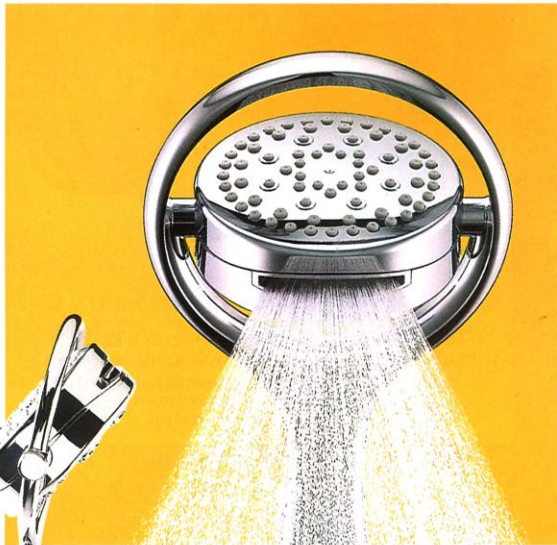
SEPTEMBER 2009  
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**Easy how-to!**

Designer tricks with paint  
Butcher-block chef's table  
Mudroom storage bench

## Our favorite new product picks

Sure, times are tough—all the more reason to give the most-used rooms in your house (and yourself!) a little lift. Happily, this year's kitchen and bath industry show featured a number of well-priced pick-me-ups. Here, 14 standouts By DEBORAH SNOONIAN + Produced by COLETTE SCANLON



↑ **turn your shower into a spa** Simply pivot the head of Kohler's Flipside handshower to luxuriate in one of its four different spray options, including a massaging stream and a soothing springlike rain. You gotta love the cool design—and the nice price. \$107; kohler.com



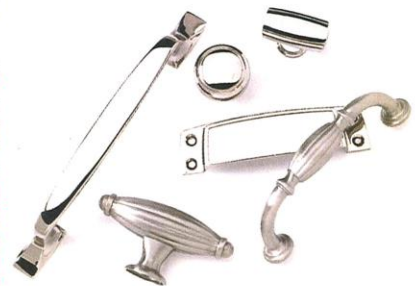
↑ **add stonelike sparkle underfoot** Light-reflecting granules give Dal-Tile's Metal Effects porcelain floor tile a mineral-rich but subtle shimmer. \$7 to \$29 per square foot; daltileproducts.com

### → affordable luxuries

*Multispray showers, jewel-like hardware, counters and floors that are something special—get these luxe features for less*

#### spiff up your cabinets →

Polished- and brushed-nickel hardware never go out of style—but they can cost you. Amerock's new Allison Value and Highland Ridge collections offer 72 elegant designs for not a lot of cash. From \$3.20; amerock.com



↑ **go against the grain** High-end butcher block can bust your budget at over \$100 per square foot. Get a similarly chunky look and decorative edge with Teragren's strand bamboo counters. They're engineered to be stronger than red oak and are naturally bacteria-resistant. \$36 to \$44 per square foot; teragren.com