

On the Horizon

New tools are always hitting the market—we've picked a few that look like winners

These tools are so new, we haven't had a chance to put them through their paces; indeed, some were not due for release until after the *Tool Guide* went to press. But if you are in the market for a tool in one of these categories, you should give the following serious consideration.

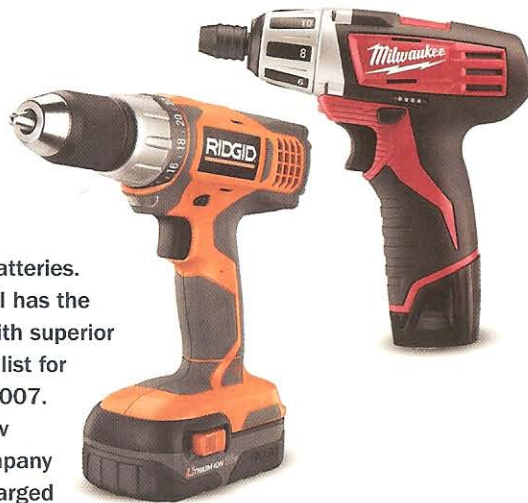
Lithium-ion powers drills in every size

Cordless drills powered by lithium-ion batteries continue to proliferate because of their superior power and lighter weight compared to traditional batteries.

Milwaukee says that its 12v driver/drill has the best power-to-weight ratio in its class, with superior run time and performance. The drill will list for \$139 and be available starting Oct. 1, 2007.

A new mid-powered drill is Ridgid's 18v drill/driver, model No. R86006. The company says the lithium-ion battery can be recharged at least 2,000 times compared to 450 for a NiCd battery. The drill, charger, two batteries, and a contractor bag are \$179 at The Home Depot.

If boring holes in concrete is your thing, you will want to check out Panasonic's cordless rotary hammer drill. Despite having a 28.8v battery, the drill weighs only 8.4 lb. Other features include a slow-start switch for accurate drilling, soft or hard hammer action, and two speed ranges. With a charger and an extra battery, the drill costs \$629 and will be available in October 2007.



Bags for all your tools

It's no good having a tool for every task if you can't find it when you need it. Veto Pro Pac is introducing a new line of open-top tool bags that will hold and organize your tools to let you work more efficiently. The one-handed bags come in small (OT-LC), medium (OT-XL), and large (OT-XXL) and range in price from \$139 to \$199. They will be available by mid-October 2007 at www.vetopropac.com.



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