

new & notable



**Plug away and count watts**

What's in a name? Well, the Kill A Watt EZ sounds like some kind of \$19.95-made-for-TV deal pitched by that annoying loud guy with the beard.

But the features of this product from Cableorganizer.com Inc. far exceed the low expectations laid out by its moniker. The Kill A Watt allows you to measure how much electricity you are using and to determine the operating costs of your household appliances. All you do is plug the unit into an outlet, then plug your appliances into the Kill A Watt, and boom – the results are displayed on a screen. Available for \$49.95 at [www.cableorganizer.com](http://www.cableorganizer.com).

**Vacuum is a great pickup**

This election year has proven that women do indeed have a place in presidential politics. Meanwhile, Grand Rapids, Mich.-based Bissell Homecare Inc. is proving that men have a place in the world of house-cleaning, and they've done so with the house-cleaning equivalent of a Ferrari – the new Versus Bare Floor Vacuum. This sleek new vacuum maximizes a user's ability to clean a floor with its V-shaped base, which pretty much makes the dust pan and broom obsolete. It forces large debris like pasta or cereal into its suction path and slurps up finer debris at and along the arms of its base. The Versus also boasts power with a 12-amp motor and features a dirt container instead of a filter, making cleaning easy. Available for \$79.99 at [www.bissell.com](http://www.bissell.com).



**Scoop leaves like a bear**

Leaves are going to be a problem very soon, so it's time to set some ground rules. Stop using your rake to scoop leaves. Stop using unwieldy tarps to gather them up. And for the love of God please don't use your hands. We highly recommend scoring some Bear Claw Scoops from Plow & Hearth. They're made of unbreakable plastic and are perfect for leaves, grass clippings or other lawn debris. Plus, they make you look like some kind of genetic-freak superhero. Available for \$14.95 at [www.plowhearth.com](http://www.plowhearth.com).

**Peter Bothum**

