



FARM SHOW editor Mark Newhall installed "Underdeck" to "waterproof" the patio below.

Waterproof Ceiling Attaches To Bottom Of Deck

By Mark Newhall, Editor

I recently heard an ad on the radio for a new product called "Underdeck". The ad caught my attention because it sounded like the perfect solution to a problem I had.

Underdeck is a way to put a waterproof ceiling under a standard wood deck. It protects the space below from rain and snow, making it much more usable.

I recently put a small patio under the deck behind my house with the idea of putting some deck chairs there in the shade. But I was looking for a way to seal off the deck overhead so rain and dirt wouldn't wash down onto the furniture. I also wanted to be able to sit outside under the deck even when it was raining. I had considered attaching some kind of makeshift ceiling to the underside of the deck but couldn't figure out a way to do it that my wife would approve.

That's when I heard the ad for Underdeck, which stated that the product would be for sale at Home Depot stores. I went to the store that day, but they didn't have it in stock yet. Two more weeks went by before they finally got the product. After a bit of sticker shock, I bought it and headed home to install it.

The small bit of deck I wanted to cover was about 12 by 12 ft. Installation took me about 4 hrs. but I could do it a lot faster now that I know what to do.

You simply attach a rail to either side of the joists. The rails slope to the outside edge of the deck and are installed with nails. Once the rails are in place, you snap in

pieces of curved plastic sheeting between the joists. The final step is to snap on curved rain collectors under the joists.

When water falls through the deck boards, it flows to either side of the curved plastic sheets and drops down into the rain collectors, which carry the water out to the edge of the deck. At that point, the water simply falls to the ground, or you can run a length of standard rain gutter across the ends to collect the water and take it to one side.

Once installed, the new ceiling worked great. I sat outside during a heavy rainstorm and not a single drop came through. We now have a dry, clean area that's almost like having a screen porch. My only complaint is that the product is expensive. The small area I covered cost close to \$500, or about \$3.50 a sq. ft. That seemed steep to me but Underdeck spokeswoman Stephanie Pagel notes that it's a high quality product that will never need any maintenance—painting, caulking, etc. Once in place, it's there to stay and you never have to touch it. When you consider that you're gaining additional living space, the price is relatively inexpensive, she says.

Underdeck is for sale at Home Depot stores, or you can buy direct from the company.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Underdeck, 3530 East 28th Street, Minneapolis, Minn. 55406 (ph 612 724-6222).

Mini "Forage Wagon" Used To Catch Grass Clippings

Garry Wood of Westlock, Alberta made yard work a lot easier by building a mini dump wagon that looks like a small version of a forage wagon. "A co-worker and I built it during our lunch hours," says Wood.

The 4 by 8-ft. wagon has 30-in. sides. It's fitted with a hand-operated, self-contained hydraulic pump that he took from an old press, and two 1 3/4-in. rams with a 12-in. stroke. The frame of the wagon is made of square tubing taken from the hitch of an Allis Chalmers small round baler. The wheels came off two different lawn mowers.

An expanded metal tailgate has a trip pin at the bottom for easy self-unloading, as well as two spring-loaded pins on the top sides for complete removal.

"My wife uses the wagon to dump grass clippings into when she mows the lawn with the bagger. She pulls it behind our yard

tractor and dumps the clippings out in our pasture," Wood says.

There's a step on the front of the wagon, making it easy for the operator to climb in if necessary. The whole unit is painted John Deere green and Wood even applied John Deere logos to top off his display of John Deere pride.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Garry Wood, R.R. 1, Site 9, Box 3, Westlock, Alberta, Canada T7P 2N9 (ph 780 349-2104).

Wood's 4 by 8-ft. mini dump wagon has 30-in. sides. "My wife uses it to dump grass clippings when she mows the lawn with the bagger. She dumps the clippings out in our pasture," he says.



New
Products
Especially For
Women And The
Farm, Ranch
Home

Cowboy Hardhat Let's You Work In Style

If you're a fan of cowboy hats but you've got a job where you need to wear a hard hat, you'll like these new western hardhats that meet all current safety standards.

The "Original Western Outlaw" is the only Safety Equipment Institute (SEI) certified hardhat in the world. Distributor Maurice Pelletier says the hat is popular with farmers and ranchers who work construction in the off season.

"Because they are adjustable, one size fits all. We even sell hats to young children in youth rodeo. The kids say they hate wearing hockey helmets to ride sheep and whatever else they do, so these hats allow them to stay safe and still look like cowboys," Pelletier explains. "These hats have protective padding and holes for attaching a chin strap."

The western hardhats are made from the same plastic material as ordinary hardhats, but have a textured finish to make them appear more like an authentic cowboy hat. They come in a choice of white, black, straw or grey, and winter liners that cover the ears. The hat is available with both ratchet and pin-lock suspensions. Hatbands are not included, but can easily be added by owners who wish to personalize their hats. Pelletier secured his own hatband with a few dabs from a hot glue gun.

The hats sell for \$55.95 (Canadian).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup,



Western-style hardhat allows you to stay safe and wear a hat that looks good. It's popular with farmers and ranchers who work construction in the off season.

Maurice Pelletier, Box 147, Riviere Qui Barre, Alberta, T0G 1Y0 (ph 780 939-2905; fax 780 939-2909).

