



The interior of this greenhouse was made with pvc pipe and fittings from Circo Innovations.

Look What You Can Build With PVC

You can build almost anything with pvc pipe and fittings from Circo Innovations. If the free plans on the website aren't enough, take a look at the pictures submitted by satisfied users. Projects range from greenhouses to rocket launchers to furniture.

"We started with snap clamps to hold plastic and other fabrics to pvc pipes and added a few fixtures in 2008," says Josh Ramey, Circo Innovations. "Today we have 300 different fitting sizes and styles. They range from 1/2 to 2-in. in dia. and are available with 3-way, 4-way and even 5-way fittings."

Circo sells a variety of pvc pipe types, including UV resistant and furniture quality, as well as fittings of all types. Unique fittings include aluminum snap-on hinges, caster wheel caps and caster wheels, arches and adjustable joints in both 3-way and 4-way styles.

The company even sells a pvc pipe bender. The "Hot Snake Bender" comes in 36-in. (\$302.48), 72-in. (\$432.90) and 108-in. lengths (\$555.00). Inserted into a pipe, the bender will warm pipes from 1/2-in. to 1 1/4-in. dia. so they can be bent to whatever shape needed.

Chicken coop kits in several sizes ready to assemble are available, as well as free plans to make your own.

The company only sells fittings by the box (suggested retail price) or case (wholesale price). Individual orders are referred to retailers including Amazon, Johnny's Selected Seeds, Lee Valley Tools and others. "Our fittings are indispensable when



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The company sells 300 different fitting sizes and styles.

building a structure with pvc pipe," says Ramey. "The ingenuity is just incredible when people have the tools to be creative."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Circo Innovations, 14910 Meadow Dr., Grass Valley, Calif. 95945 (ph 877 762-7782; sales@snapclamp.com; www.snapclamp.com).

Adding wheels on back and wooden handles on front lets Roman Barvinchack use an old cast iron bathtub like a wheelbarrow.

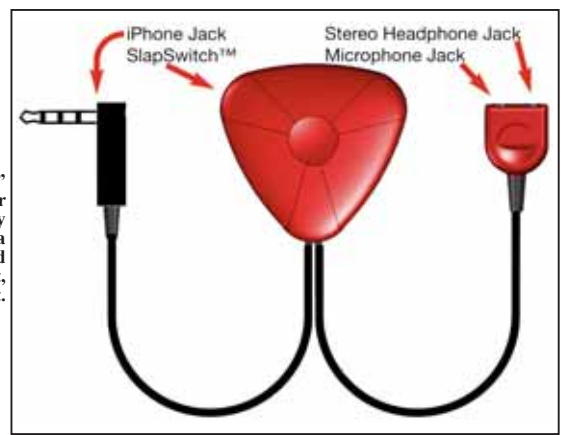


"Bathtub" Soil Mixer

Roman Barvinchack uses an old cast iron bathtub to mix the soil for his garden beds. He mounted wheels on back and wooden handles on front so he can use it like a wheelbarrow. He came up with the idea because ordinary wheelbarrows are too small to mix up large quantities of soil, compost, and other ingredients. "The bathtub is heavy

even when it's empty, so I never fill it with soil and move it. Instead, I move the bathtub to the hole and then make the soil mixture," says Barvinchack.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Roman Barvinchack, 880 Buchanan Trail East, Greencastle, Penn. 17225 (ph 717 597-7819; barviroman@embarqmail.com).



"SlapSwitch" lets you answer the phone by "slapping" a switch mounted on your belt, shirt or jacket.

"SlapSwitch" Helps Answer Phone With Dirty Hands

If you're tired of digging your phone out of your pocket when your hands are dirty or greasy, you'll like this new "SlapSwitch" that lets you answer the phone by "slapping" a switch mounted on your belt, shirt or jacket.

"We've had a really positive response from everyone who has seen it, from farmers to skiers, motorcyclists, firefighters and anyone else who uses a phone while on the go," says Peter Gibbons at Sports MusiCom, the manufacturer. "As a longtime FARM SHOW reader, I think it'll be well-received by farmers, mechanics and others who work with their hands."

The SlapSwitch wires to your smart phone and lets you use any preferred headphone,

headset or mic and speaker combination.

A multi-purpose carrying case is available to hold both a smart phone and a SlapSwitch. It comes with a belt clip, belt loop straps and pack straps and is designed to store excess cord as well.

The SlapSwitch will be available this fall for \$40 to \$60. A push-button microswitch version, and a bandana-type speaker system to fit under helmets, are also under development.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sports MusiCom, Inc., Suite N, 1805 N. Carson St., Carson City, Nevada 89701 (ph 403 668-4126 ; info@sportsmusicom.com; www.sportsmusicom.com).



Merrill Smith converted an old wheelchair into this push cart. "Works great to haul heavy loads around my yard," he says.

From Wheelchair To Wheelbarrow

"I needed a push cart to haul heavy loads around our yard but didn't want to spend the money to buy one. So I converted an old wheelchair," says Merrill Smith, Deer Park, Wash.

He removed the wheelchair seat and back, then built a plywood box that fits inside the wheelchair's wheels. The box measures 4 1/2 ft. long, 24 in. wide and 1 ft. high. A pair of wooden handles off an old wheelbarrow bolt to one end of the box, with short lengths of radiator hose forming handle grips.

The edges of the box on both sides are topped with angle iron. The floor was salvaged from an old restaurant table and consists of plywood covered by 2-in. thick formica. The grill from an old refrigerator forms a dump gate on front, where it's hinged

at the bottom and secured by a chain at the top.

"I've used it to haul everything from concrete blocks to yard waste and grass clippings. With the small caster wheels on back I can maneuver it anywhere," says Smith. "The floor is 2 in. thick so it'll handle anything. I use a cable attached to the wheelchair's brakes to stop. The brakes work great, especially when I have a heavy load."

"The wheelchair's big wheels form a balance point, so when I lift up on the handles the box dumps like a truck. The formica floor is slick so stuff slides right out."

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