

Blue Jeans Like Granddad Used To Wear Handmade One Pair At A Time

Jeans makers Doug and Elaine Haga of Monmouth, Ore., know a thing or two about good, old-fashioned quality.

The Hagas take orders from all over the world for their durable, handmade jeans that they call "the toughest work jeans in America." Customers must agree, because demand for their product has been growing since they first started the business, "Pedee Jeans," in 1983.

Named for their small community, Pedee Jeans are designed to last twice as long as regular commercial jeans, thanks to their lock stitch construction and reinforced stress areas.

"Many of our customers are in the logging industry, so they're made to stand up to the toughest working conditions in the world," says Doug.

The Hagas say the tough jeans take longer to make, slowing down production. However, the couple long ago opted for quality instead of quantity, and that decision has kept their product in high demand.

They produce only a couple thousand items of clothing per year from their rural home shop. Doug cuts the 14 3/4-oz. American-made denim while Elaine does the majority of the sewing.

"We have four main jean styles - a full cut, heavy duty work jean, a double-thick front jean, a street jean, and a safety jean with a receiver cup for your Kevlar ballistic pad in the front panel. Another popular item is their



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handmade western-style denim jacket.

Prices for the "toughest work jeans in America" are: (1) Full cut, Heavy-Duty work jeans - \$41.95 U.S.; (2) Double Thick Front - \$47.95; (3) Safety Jeans - \$48.95; (4) Regular Basic Blue 5 pocket jean - \$40.95. Shipping is extra. Now accepting credit cards. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

A sales brochure is available upon request.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Doug and Elaine Haga, 11155 Kings Valley Hwy., Monmouth, Oregon 97361 (ph 503 838-5955).

Reader Inquiry No. 114

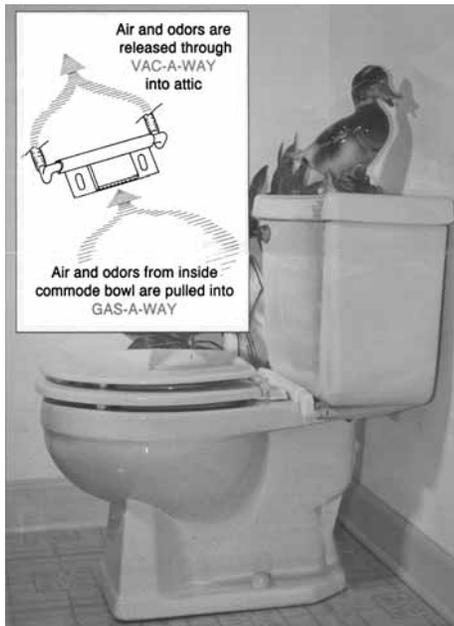
Toilet Vac Sucks Odors Away

"Once it's installed, you wonder how you ever got along without it," says Daniel Antepenko, inventor and manufacturer of the new "Vac-A-Way" device for toilets that sucks odors directly out of the toilet bowl.

The simple device simply bolts in place between the toilet lid and the bowl using the same bolts that hold the lid. A small dia. hose attaches to both sides of the unit and an opening extends out under the toilet lid into the top of the bowl. A suction fan mounts up in the attic or crawl space and is wired to a wall switch in the bathroom. "It fits all toilets with top-mounted tanks and is so small you'll hardly notice it. It's very efficient. You don't have to leave it on for 10 min. after using the bathroom like with an overhead fan," says Antepenko.

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Reader Inquiry No.115



Teeth look like angled steel "chisels" and easily slice through compacted ground.

This Broadfork Won't Bend

Roger Seys made a 24-in. wide broadfork for his garden that won't bend. The heavy-duty steel teeth are more like angled steel chisels than fork tines. They slice through compacted ground and root clumps without a problem.

"The general idea is similar to commercial broadforks, but I made mine with 3/16-in. thick tines mounted on 2 1/2-in. square steel tubing," says Seys. "I used heavy-duty, 48-in. long, 1-in. dia. steel pipe for the handles. It's heavy duty, but it's not too heavy, and it slides right into the ground."

The pipes are bolted to an L-shaped piece of steel welded to the square steel tubing that holds the tines. The lip on the shorter leg of the L wraps partially around the pipe to reinforce it. Seys' first attempt used lighter weight pipe for handles and 1/2-in. bolts for tines. The bolts were too hard to get into the ground. He switched to 11-in. long, flat steel rectangles that he cut on the diagonal to get sharpened points. While he didn't need to sharpen them, he did find they bent if they hit a rock.

"I heated them red hot and then dipped them in water and that seemed to help," explains Seys. "I've also considered putting a 30 to 45° angle on the last inch or two to make a stronger tip. Right now they have a 10 to 15° angle."

Seys uses his broadfork in his conventional garden to break up compacted footpaths and zones around tomato plants. He pulls up chunks of compacted ground as the loose dirt falls between the tines.

"In the fall, I spread animal manure and compost over the top of the garden and then work it with my broadfork," says Seys. "As I fork it, a lot of the manure and compost drops into the soil profile while I am getting root clumps out of the ground."

Seys says using it is satisfying, as is knowing he fabricated it himself. "I made it to save money, but I like working with it," he says.