

newsworthy trends

Women And Power Tools: Times Are Changing

(NAPSA)—More and more single women are buying their own homes and, in so doing, are donning the traditional tool belt of the do-it-yourselfer. In fact, the new breed of “handy ma’am” is even more likely to take up a project than her male counterpart.

A recent survey by the Home Improvement Research Institute shows that women are getting involved in do-it-yourself projects faster than men. Approximately one-quarter (23 percent) of single women do improvement projects at least once a month, with more than 10 percent involved with do-it-yourself projects every week.

The average single woman starts doing home improvement projects herself to save money, but continues to do them because the projects give her a sense of accomplishment—and the chore of repair work has become more of a hobby.

According to one power tool maker, the first power tool that a woman usually buys is a cordless screwdriver, followed by a drill and either a circular saw or jigsaw. Fourth on the list is a sander. However, the drill remains the most popular tool among do-it-yourself women.

Another way that women get started in building their own home workshops is with a power tool combo kit. These products tend to appeal to women because they are project-oriented kits often containing all the power tools one needs



Combo kits allow today's do-it-herself woman to tackle numerous home improvement and other projects.

to complete a home improvement project. In addition, such kits are often more affordable than the individual tools would be if purchased separately.

For example, the Super Combo II, with wet/dry vac, from Ryobi incorporates ease, durability and lightweight tools. This convenient package contains a reciprocating saw, a circular saw and a drill driver, plus a flashlight—and each of the tools is ergonomically designed for ease of use. The kit also comes with two 18-volt battery packs and a one-hour charger.

The Super Combo Kit retails for \$199 and is available at The Home Depot. For more information, visit the Web site at www.ryobitools.com or call toll-free 1-800-525-2579.