

# The Last Words



"I pull out my folding ruler for everything, from figuring out wainscoting heights to crown molding thicknesses. I can bend it and prop it against a wall to simulate a three-dimensional piece of furniture. You can't do that with a tape measure!"

**BRIAN J. MCCARTHY**  
FROM \$10. LOWES.COM



"OOK picture hooks are the only ones I'll use. The thin nail slides easily into plaster or Sheetrock without damaging walls."

**PAUL VINCENT WISEMAN**  
FROM \$3 EACH.  
HOMEDEPOT.COM

## MAKEOVER ESSENTIALS

Six designers share their secrets for tackling projects with perfect precision.

"Wood-finish markers are great for patching up scrapes and scratches, and they come in a range of stains, from cherry to oak."

**SHEA SOUCIE**  
\$5 EACH. AMAZON.COM



"I always carry a stash of felt protectors to put beneath furniture on wood floors, or to wedge under tables as shims."

**MATTHEW PATRICK SMYTH**  
FROM \$3 FOR A PACK OF 16.  
STAPLES.COM



"My Leatherman Surge is actually 21 tools in one. There are scissors, screwdrivers, and even a bottle opener, for when you get thirsty on the job."

**SUSAN ZISES GREEN**  
FROM \$110.  
LEATHERMAN.COM



"The level in my smartphone's compass helps me hang pictures, and I check an app called LightTrac to figure out the direction of the sun in relation to a room."

**SUZANNE TUCKER**  
\$5. LIGHTTRACAPP.COM