

'Stick' With a Handy Repair Tool That Does it All

(MS) — The summer months are full of barbecues, outdoor recreation and all-around fun for the family. It's not a time you want to be indoors doing home-improvement projects. But now that fall is here and the kids are back in school, it's a great time to check your home for any problems that can be repaired quickly and inexpensively.

The 30-minute walk-through that will save you money

- **Walls & Ceilings:** Check for loose molding and cracks.
- **Floors:** Look for wear and tear, like linoleum lifting at the seams or edges or cracked or loose stone or ceramic tiles.
- **Hardware:** Inspect for loose towel racks, door knobs and pulls, hooks and other objects attached to the walls.
- **Countertops:** Check for cracked or loose ceramic tiles or lifting laminate.
- **Window & Door Frames:** Look for openings and leaks in the seal, which could reduce the efficiency of any heating/cooling system and cause water damage.
- **Household Objects:** Check for broken toys, game gear and decorative or damaged household pieces like rubber coated dish racks or plastic pot handles.

"Most of these problems can be solved quickly and easily with adhesives, but using the correct adhesive is important," says Eclectic Products Chemist Dr. Omar Tiba. "If you are repairing a sink sprayer hose, for example," says Tiba, "the adhesive must remain flexible after drying or it will just crack or chip off. It also needs to be water-resistant." Canvas or other materials, which are not rigid, also need flexibility and the ability to withstand contraction and expansion, as well as, movement and vibration or temperature extremes. This is also true for repairing cracked or broken flower pots and other ceramic objects.

Some adhesives are specialized and work well only on one or two materials. White glues work great, for instance, on paper-to-paper projects, but are not appropriate for repairs that must withstand moisture or vibration. Many adhesives are simply not strong enough to permanently bond materials. Also, not all adhesives perform well when gluing two different substances with different drying times, such as a wooden handle to a metal skillet or a metal towel holder to a plaster or papered wall. "When the adhesive cannot compensate for the different drying times, the bond may fail," says Tiba.

Hundreds of adhesives crowd the home-improvement shelves, but you really don't need a special adhesive for each repair. Dr. Tiba advises that your best bet for most repairs is the versatility of a strong one-part adhesive that will work on almost any surface or material and dries to a rubbery, flexible, water-resistant finish. An adhesive like this replaces glues, paste, rubber contact cement, silicone and patch kits. You can use it to repair, mend, seal and permanently bond two different substrates (materials) together.

An adhesive that has all these characteristics is Amazing GOOP® Household adhesive and sealant. It is one of the



You can make many minor repairs around the house, such as resticking laminate countertops, with an effective adhesive

strongest one-part adhesives available — easy to apply and ready to use right out of the tube. It won't break or crack under pressure. It dries to a flexible, clear, water-resistant finish that can be painted to match the surrounding surface.

Dr. Tiba advises that no matter which one-part adhesive you use, follow these tips for success:

- Surfaces should be clean, dry, and free from dirt. For best results, roughen surfaces before use.
- If the tube has been stored in a garage or other cool place, hold it under warm tap water to increase ease of application. (Tiba suggests storing it in the house for best results.)
- Apply a thin coat of adhesive, like Amazing GOOP® Household, directly to each surface to be bonded or repaired. Allow to partially cure 2 to 10 minutes before bringing the two surfaces together. Because Amazing GOOP® has one of the strongest bonds of any one-part adhesive, carefully position the two surfaces before applying pressure.
- Allow the repair to dry for 24 hours, more or less, depending on room temperature. Warmer rooms dry faster while cooler rooms dry slower.

Don't get stuck with costly repairs, simply reach for your "tool-box-in-a-tube" for any job requiring sealing, mending, reattaching, coating or bonding. You will be amazed at what it can do.

Most home-improvement and hardware stores carry a large variety of adhesives, including Amazing GOOP® Household adhesive & sealant. For technical assistance or more information about fast and easy repair of almost anything with one-part adhesives, contact Eclectic Products, Inc. at 1-800-767-4667 or visit www.amazing-goop.com for more tips and techniques, plus an overview of the entire Amazing GOOP® Adhesive line. FH069330