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Clothes-dryer hookup

The dryerbox, manufactured by In-O-Vate Technologies, (888) 443-7937, www.dryerbox.com, cost \$15.



Every so often, as I wade through the piles of new-product releases that cross my desk, some simple, forehead-slapper of an idea stands out. One is the dryerbox. Locating the duct for a dryer vent is a perennial building headache. I've built 15 houses, and I don't think that I ever put that vent in exactly the right spot. Usually, the result was an inefficient knot of flexible dryer-vent hose coiled behind the dryer. The sheet-metal dryer box solves these problems by recessing into the wall, providing space for the flexible hose so that the dryer can be pushed tight to the wall. The dryerbox seems plenty deep to house enough flexible duct to allow pulling the dryer from the wall for service or hook-up. A retrofit version of the dryerbox is said to be in the works.

-- A.E.