

TOOLS for Independence™

MAKING YOUR LIFE AT HOME EASIER AND SAFER



July 2011

Brought to you by:

THE TOOLS FOR
INDEPENDENCE INITIATIVE
OF THE

**INDEPENDENT
LIVING
PARTNERSHIP**

On the web at:
www.LivingPartnership.org

Published by:

The nonprofit Independent Living Partnership (ILP) - working for the rights of all to live independently in their own homes and communities.

Help Finding Assistive Technology—

Assistive Technology Network offers free information and referrals for assistive technology supplies, daily living devices, funding and community resources, and service providers, throughout California. Call 1-800-390-2699, TTY: 1-800-900-0706 or visit www.atnet.org.

Type Accurately and Easily...

...with the slip-on **Typing Aid**. The vendor says this device is designed to help anyone with limited functional hand skills to accurately press keys. It can be used on computer keyboards, typewriters, calculators and even the telephone. The slip-on **Typing Aid** attaches easily and comfortably to your hand. Overall length is 7 ½". You can find it at The Wright Stuff for \$19.95. Visit www.wrightstuff.biz or call 1-877-750-0376. Item # AMI73510.



Be Safe And Comfortable When You Drive...

...with the **Microfiber & Memory Foam Seat Belt Cover**. This soft, subtle pad combines safe driving with driving comfort. The vendor says the luxurious microfiber cover and soft memory form core combine to eliminate pressure points and take the discomfort out of wearing a seatbelt. The hook and loop closure mechanism is designed for easy adjustability. The cover measures 11 ¾" long x 8 ¼" wide x ¼" diameter. It's available at Auto Sport in tan or black for \$14.95. Visit www.autosportcatalog.com or call 1-800-953-0814. Item # 2161.



To Our Valued Readers:

While we provide links to stores offering the products we feature in each issue of *TOOLS for Independence*, these products and products like them may be available from other outlets. So it's always a good idea to shop around for a product that catches your eye. You may find that it's available somewhere else at a lower cost or in a slightly different design that better meets your needs.

A Simple Squeeze Helps You Cut Through Paper And Other Lightweight Materials

The self-opening handles of the **Loop Scissors** are easy to grip, and a simple squeeze is all that is needed to cut through paper and lightweight plastic or other materials. The scissors can be used in either the right or left hand. A plastic blade guard can be used as a stand for one-handed cutting (Note: the blade guard is not included with the Long Loop Scissors with finger holes). The Stainless steel blades are 3" long and the scissors are available with or without finger holes. They're available for \$24.20 each at South West Medical. Visit www.southwestmedical.com or call 1-800-236-4215. Item # NC28404 (no finger holes), Item # NC28405 (with finger holes).



Safely Light Your Way Night and Day

These **LED Pathlights** are motion-activated and will safely illuminate your path as you navigate stairs, a hallway or any poorly lighted space. The lights turn on automatically when you get within 6 feet and they stay on for a full minute so you can easily make your way. Each light is self contained so no wiring is needed.

Each light uses 3AA batteries (not include). A set of three lights cost \$39.95 and is available at Gold Violin. Visit www.goldviolin.com . Or call 1-877-648-8400. Item # 93128.



Read Your Prescription Bottle Instructions With Ease

This 2X power clip-on **Prescription Bottle Magnifier** is designed to fit on most standard prescriptions bottles. The vendor says the 2X magnification will help avoid mistakes in reading vital dosage or instructional information listed in the difficult-to-read fine print. Simply clip the magnifier to a prescription bottle and swing the magnifying lens outward to magnify the text. Then fold the magnifying lens inward against the bottle when it's not in use for compact and easy storage. The magnifier is available at Simple Comfort for \$6.99. Visit www.simplecomforts.com or call 1-800-361-1440. Item # 299.



Dear TOOLS Reader: We'd like to hear from you about your experiences with products you may have purchased after reading about them in TOOLS. Did they work? Did they meet your needs? And if they didn't work or meet your needs, tell us why. We also want to know if you experience any problem with vendors from which you order products. Your feedback will help us to make sure that we provide the most helpful information possible to you and other readers. Contact Mike Carbine, Editor, at editor@toolsforindependence.org or call him at (951) 653-0740 ext. 21

Keep Your Hands Safe From Hot Pot And Pan Handles

If you have steel cooking ware, you know how easy it is to burn your hands when you touch the handle. But that is a thing of the past with these **Stay Cool Grips**. The vendor says that because the grips are made of durable heavy-duty silicone, they can protect your hands from temperatures as high as 428 degrees F (250 degrees C). They are designed to fit various handles sizes without slipping, are easy to clean, and they can be stored in a drawer or hung on a hook. The grip measures 7" long x 1- 3/4" wide x 1- 1/8" thick. It comes with a 5-year warranty. The grips cost \$6.95 at Maxi-Aids. To find out more, visit www.maxiaids.com or call 1-800-522-6294. Item # 559022.



Gardening Doesn't Have to be Back-Breaking...

...or even knee-breaking work when you use the **Gardener's Kneeler/ Seat**. The 3/4" thick foam pads cushion your knees from rocks, branches and the hard ground. You can lean on the legs for leverage when kneeling down or standing up. Or flip it over when you need a comfortable seat. The vendor says the rugged tubular steel construction is strong enough to hold up to 250 lbs. Folds flat for storage. It's available at Simple Comforts for \$49.99. Call 1-800-361-1440 or visit www.simplecomforts.com Item #1124.



Turn Almost Anything With Ease



It's the **Uni Universal Turner** and it is designed to help you turn water taps on or off, lock or unlock the door, and even switch on a cooker, dishwasher or washing machine. It has a comfortable handle that allows you to grip with both hands. Hexagonal pegs provide a good grip thanks to the large gripping area. Cost: \$28.95 from YouCan TooCan, at www.youcantoocan.com or call 1-888-663-9396. Item #10661.

Check Out the TOOLS Resource Center

Our TOOLS Resource Center features links to organizations, other Web sites and groups that can provide you with useful information and help with your questions about assistive technology, care giving and independent living. The site also hosts updates and notes of interest, and a collection of back issues of the *TOOLS for Independence* newsletter. You can also take a survey and tell us how we can make TOOLS more helpful and useful for you.

Visit us at www.TOOLSforIndependence.org.



TOOLS for IndependenceTM

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This newsletter is published by the INDEPENDENT LIVING PARTNERSHIP (ILP)

ILP works to ensure the independence and dignity of older adults and people with disabilities, their families and caregivers through education and access to empowering services and resources. This is accomplished through collaborative and cooperative partnering with public and private organizations, agencies and businesses. The goal is to help people lead more satisfying and rewarding lives, often in spite of significant health and mobility challenges.

It's a No-Slip Wrap For Your Bottles or Cans

If your hands are weak or you just want to have a secure grip on your bottles or cans, this may be what you're looking for. The vendor says this unique, non-slip **Adapt Drink Holder** can easily be wrapped around a water bottle or soda can to prevent dropping it or having it slip from your hand because of hand weakness or moisture. It's available at YouCan TooCan for \$24.95. To find out more, visit www.youcantoocan.com or call 1-888-663-9396. Item # 12217.



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