



Earth-friendly items for your car and garage

Cocomats

Natural Auto Products makes floor mats from coconuts by separating the husks of the coconuts from the insides, soaking them in water and pounding them into fiber to be woven. The hard fibers allow dirt and dust to sink through onto the rubber backing, leaving your floor mats looking clean. Cocomats come in 14 color schemes. \$50 (pair of universal front mats) to \$230 (custom three-piece set), www.cocomats.com



Green Oil

G-OIL from Green Earth Technologies is motor oil made only from animal products. It uses no petroleum, has been certified by the American

Petroleum Institute and promises to result in naturally better performance than conventional oil. It is the official oil of the American Le Mans Series. G-OIL is competitively priced with regular oil, giving you no reason not to go green. The company makes a full line of natural car-care products for the environmentally conscious. \$6 per quart, www.getg.com



Efficient Extractor

The Miniflex portable welding-fume extractor weighs only 16 pounds, making it a breeze to move around the shop. Its small stature also allows it to fit easily into cramped workspaces. Using an automatic stop/start function to save energy, it has high and low settings and a two-filter system that will handle all light- and medium-duty welding applications. The exhaust is insulated for sound reduction, and there are plenty of accessories for many applications. \$1,539, www.lincolnelectric.com



Green Tires

No, the tires are still black, but Goodyear's Assurance Fuel Max all-season tire provides 27 percent less rolling resistance than the standard model, resulting in a 4 percent improvement in highway fuel economy. \$80 (185/60/R15), www.goodyear.com

Filter Glove

The Filter Glove stops oil drips from leaking down your arm when you're changing your oil. It's good for any application where oil spillage could be a problem. Made from a soft material that washes easily, it withstands heat from a freshly driven engine. Its tapered fingers inside grip the filter, eliminating the need for wrenches or straps on a properly installed filter. \$10, www.filterglove.com

2-WHEEL LOWDOWN

OHM XU700 ELECTRIC BICYCLE

BY MARK VAUGHN

■ This is one of the best electric bicycles available. You can pedal it almost as easily as a standard cycle, since it weighs just 52 pounds. It has as much power as we ever needed. But the \$3,450 price is a zinger.

COMPETITIVE SET: EZee Cadence, Giant Twist, Rayos, Schwinn Electrobike
BASE PRICE: \$3,450 **ON SALE:** Now

The OHM has loads of power—700 watts is more than most electric bicycles—but it costs about twice as much as less powerful two-wheelers. You activate the power by pedaling, and then you're swooped along in e-mode, using the awkwardly located thumb throttle alone if you're lazy. Or you can pedal through the 24 speeds of Shimano gears just about as easily as on a non-e bicycle. We got a 20-mile range in full-pedal-assist mode, based on the LCD readout of battery charge and distance, and maybe 12 miles in full-electric mode. OHM claims you can get "up to" 91 miles. Maybe that's downhill.

Top speed was about 20 mph on the flats. A bigger front gear might make that 30 mph with pedaling. A comfortable spring-loaded seat and solid build let you jump the thing off curbs and nothing breaks. It recharges to 90 percent in 20 minutes. We'd add another battery pack and re-engineer the throttle to engage without pedaling. Yes, we can be lazy.

IN OUR OPINION: An excellent way to save the earth and stay in shape. Or just save the earth. 🌱

