

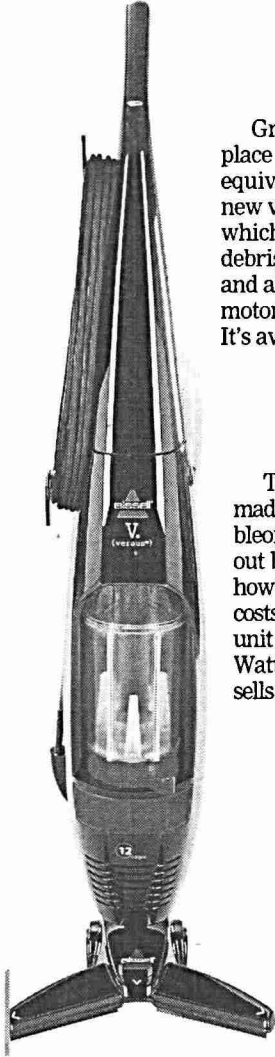
# Thingamajigs

A weekly look at stuff you can buy

By PETER BOTHUM  
 Gannett News Service

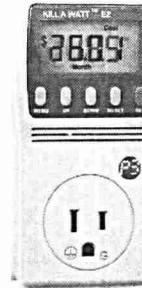
## Ferrari of vacuums

Grand Rapids, Mich.-based Bissell Homecare Inc. proves men have a place in the world of housecleaning. They've done so with the housecleaning equivalent of a Ferrari — the new Versus Bare Floor Vacuum. This sleek new vacuum maximizes a user's ability to clean a floor via a V-shaped base, which pretty much makes the dust pan and broom obsolete. It forces large debris like pasta or cereal into its suction path and slurps up finer debris at and along the arms of its base. The Versus also boasts power with a 12-amp motor and features a dirt container instead of a filter, making cleaning easy. It's available for \$79.99 at [www.bissell.com](http://www.bissell.com).



## Watt's in a name

The Kill A Watt EZ sounds like some kind of \$19.95 made-for-TV deal. But the features of this product from [Cableorganizer.com](http://Cableorganizer.com) Inc. far exceed the low expectations laid out by its moniker. The Kill A Watt allows you to measure how much electricity you use and determine the operating costs of your household appliances. All you do is plug the unit into an outlet, then plug your appliances into the Kill A Watt, and boom, the results are displayed on a screen. It sells for \$49.95 at [www.cableorganizer.com](http://www.cableorganizer.com).



## Leaf solution

Leaves are a problem this time of year, so set some ground rules. Stop using your rake to scoop leaves. Stop using unwieldy tarps to gather them up. And for the love of God, please don't use your hands. We highly recommend scoring some Bear Claw Scoops from [Plow & Hearth](http://Plow & Hearth). They're made of unbreakable plastic and are perfect for leaves, grass clippings or other lawn debris. Plus, they make you look like some kind of genetic-freak super hero. Get them for \$14.95 at [www.plowhearth.com](http://www.plowhearth.com).

