

Vintage Home renovation tips column *by Marjorie Lewis*



Volume 7
April 2008

Win a prize! Details on back

SQUEAKY FLOORS GOT YOU DOWN?

Recently, while showing a Circa 1938, bungalow style home to a customer, every step we made on the hardwood floors produced a squeak. This is not an uncommon problem for both vintage and new homes too. As the floor is walked on, boards rub against each other or slide against nail shafts to produce the squeaks and creaks. Home-owners will live with this problem for a long time, thinking it is too difficult or expensive to repair. However, there is a product that can eliminate this problem—it is

The Squeak Ender

A company called E & E engineering sells several products by **The Squeakender Company**. There is a Squeak Ender, a Squeak No More, a Seam Ender, a Sag Ender and even a Marriage Joint Adjustment bracket. Even floors need therapy and plastic surgery!



234 S. Eureka
For details, please call
909-844-0348

This company sells two products for squeaky floors: One is designed for floors with a lower level floor (**THE SQUEAK ENDER**) sells for **\$7.69** and one is designed for **2nd story floors (SQUEEK NO MORE)** that sells for approx. **\$20.00 thru \$30.00** The company says the Squeakender product can be installed in 10 minutes, only a Phillips head screwdriver and adjustable wrench are needed; and if the floors are carpeted, there is no need to rip up the carpet. The Squeakender tools pull the subfloor tight against the joists.



COUNTER-SNAP HARDWOOD FLOOR SQUEAK STOPPER

This is another method used to stop those squeaky floors from making unwanted music in your home. This system, is also designed to be used above the floor, not underneath. According to their ad, the key to the **Counter-Snap screw fastening system** is the specially coated scored screw. When driving the screw thru the fixture, the screw head snaps at the score and it leaves 2 inches of screw securing the wood. The hole that is left can be concealed with wood filler.

SQUEAKY STAIRS

Stair-cases can produce more squeaks than floors



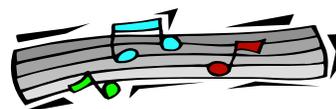
because they are assembled from dozens of wood parts. Over time, due to expansion and contraction, the joints loosen up creating unwelcome creaks. You can use the counter-snap hardwood floor squeak stoppers if the stairs are NON-CARPETED, or the squeak-ender product for carpeted stairs (per Patrick O'Berry).

Another method is to insert glue coated shims into the joints between the horizontal treads and vertical risers. This is if you have access to the back of the stairs in closets and basements. Otherwise do the same on the topside of the stairs but inserting the shims into the loose or squeaky joints. Then trim off the shims with a utility knife. (ref. this old house).

The Sag Ender

This product, as its name depicts, eliminates sub-floor sags, dips and weak spots. **The cost** when ordering from E & E Engineering is **\$21.99**. Again, the company states this product is easy to use.

I hope this information helped you if squeaky floors or stairs was the music in your home.



WHERE TO BUY:

For simple on-line ordering of the Squeakender Products (The Squeak Ender, Squeek No More and The Sag Ender) through E&E Engineering, go to:

www.squeakender.com

Or call **800-854-3577** and ask for Ken Shore, I personally called Ken Shore and he was very open to any questions.

The Counter-Snap Screw Fastening System and the Squeak No More is also distributed by **O'Berry Enterprises**. For a video DEMONSTRATION of the Squeakender, go to: www.oberry-enterprises.com Phone: **800-459-8428**

Email: patrick8742@yahoo.com

O'Berry Charges \$19.95 for the Squeakender Kit

NOTE: Some Home Depot or Lowe's stores may possibly carry the Squeeeeeek No More product, but you will have to have the kit computer number for them to find it. Reference Squeeeeeek No More Kit (spelled correctly). **Part #954-532** at Home Depot's flooring Dept. and **#9720** at Lowe's hardware dept. Tell customer service that the Distributor is O'Berry.



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Old house repair tip newsletter

Newsletter for vintage homeowners

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Marjorie Lewis

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*Vintage homes, hats and
excellent service
never go out of style!*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Squeaky Floors got
you down? Repair
tips inside!

***Win a Prize!**

Be the *first* to call in with the
correct address of the Redlands
home featured below



**HINT! Zip code is 92373. West
of Cajon and East of Center St.
Good Luck! Winner will receive
a \$25.00 gift certificate from a
local store or restaurant of their
choice.**

Winner of the last contest:

Congratulations to Step-
hanie Yslave of 61 Norwood
Street. She is the winner of
the last contest. The correct
address was 211 W. Olive.
She chose a \$25.00 gift cer-
tificate to Oscar's Mexican
Restaurant on 6th Street in
Downtown Redlands as her
prize. Be the first to call
with this month's correct home
address and win a \$25.00
gift certificate to a local res-
taurant or store of your
choice.



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