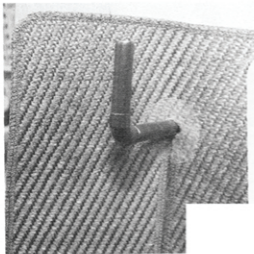


with Roger Bisby



Roger Bisby looks at two new problem-solving tools for plumbers.

O zone

No matter how careful you are with a blowlamp, the joint closest to the wall poking through the kitchen unit is a problem. You can leave enough pipe to get you clear, but the law of the sod applies to all things plumbing. It took a carpenter, fed up with seeing his lovely new units toasted, to come up with the Omat. It is a glass fibre mat with a hole in. Simple enough, but I didn't think of it and I weep because it was so obvious. Even if I'd had the Polo inspirational moment, I doubt I would've thought to add the little overlapping flap at the back which closes the gap. You can use the Omat on 15 and 22mm.

The mat is high quality with good heat resistant stitching. The idea is being marketed by Monument Tools, so you can expect to see it in your merchants. The inventor is still banging in kitchens, waiting to recover his £80,000 investment in patents and development costs. Perhaps I should be glad I didn't think of it. He deserves his success and he is a top bloke too.

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