

Feats of design and technology from around the world. Compiled by Sara Blask.



HOT POTATO

Look out for the eco-police because plastic silverware just isn't cutting it anymore. With nearly two-thirds of all waste being organic matter than can be reprocessed through commercial composting rather than disposed of in a landfill, Vegware's reusable cutlery made from GMO-free corn and potato biodegrades in 180 days, thus ensuring it will never become part of our overwhelming garbage problem. Vegware is plenty sturdy to tackle the challenges of hard ice cream and stabbing carrots, and despite its earthy origins, the thermoplastic resin made from natural starch can also withstand high heat from foods like soup or baked potatoes. It's a perfect complement to that bbq you're about to throw and best served with 100 percent compostable cups filled with a good microbrew. About USD 6.50 for a bag of 50 utensils or a pack of 50 cups. vegware.com



GARDEN OF EDEN

For some of us, watching food rot is nightmare-inducing, especially when it involves all of those beautiful bunches of fresh basil, rosemary and coriander you bought at the farmer's market that sit wilting by the nanosecond in your fridge. To our culinary rescue is Prepara's Herb Savor, which extends the life of herbs (and asparagus!) for up to three weeks by allowing their stems to be just-submerged in water. Its slim design makes it perfect for living just inside the refrigerator door, and the water well base has a rubber stopper that makes for easy refilling. Other than watering, your only responsibility is to buy produce locally! prepara.com

ROLLER DERBY

Close all your Facebook windows, the MSN and the celebrity gossip pages you've been reading during work hours and put on your A game because the ScooterDesk office races are about to begin. Made by Belgian design firm Utilia, the ScooterDesk is a rolling mini-desk that includes a writing tablet big enough for your laptop. Multi-purpose to the third wheel, they're perfect for having fun while doing mundane tasks like filling out forms, taking notes while you're on the phone or working on your Lotus yoga pose. Ergonomically speaking, the desk naturally supports good posture because its design encourages you to sit up straight, and by training your ligaments and muscles to do so, inherently allows for stimulating circulation and metabolic processes. The seats are fully adjustable and boy can this thing fly. Think of it as the new Vespa. USD 390. utilia.be

