Best Tools continued

Compact cyclone devours dust and chips

Cyclones are the most efficient dust collectors on the market, allowing super-fine filtration without sacrificing power. Oneida's Mini-Gorilla brings that engineering to a more compact machine, designed to be connected to one tool at a time.

Its small footprint (30 in. by 36 in.) is great for home shops, and its low height (63 in.) and swiveling, lockable 3-in. rubber casters make it stable and mobile. The 15-ft. power cord means you won't need an extension cord. Just add a short 5-in. or 4-in. flexible hose and a quick disconnect and you're ready to go.

We hooked up the Mini-Gorilla to a

16-in. jointer and aggressively jointed a 10-in.wide white pine board. It had no trouble keeping
up with the big chips that were coming at it fast
and furiously. We also used it with a 13-in. benchtop
planer. Again, it performed flawlessly. In addition to
the cyclone separator, there is a HEPA-rated filter,
which means it can trap 99.97% of particles down to
0.3 microns in size.

Dust collectors can be messy to empty and clean, but this one makes the job neat and fast. The dust level in the 36-in.-dia. clear bag can be seen through the window in the cover. Cleaning the filter is a breeze. Simply connect a shop vacuum to a port at the bottom of the filter, reverse-blow the filter pleats from the outside with compressed air, and the shop vacuum captures the dust.

With all of its features, this dust collector leaves nothing to be desired.

