

Helping hands

► New gadgets from a housewares show include nifty holders for ears of corn. PAGE 3

In love with clay

Special pots create mellow, rich flavors. PAGE 4



Chicago Tribune WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2010 | SECTION 5

good eating

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2010 | SECTION 5 | GOOD EATING | CHICAGO TRIBUNE

3

Hot, green cook's tools coming soon

By Judy Hevrdejs
TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS

When almost 2,000 exhibitors and 20,000-plus buyers showed up at the International Home + Housewares Show in Chicago recently, they found the usual celeb-approved items from Emeril Lagasse and Gordon Ramsay to Mario Batali and Guy Fieri. Cupcake-mania produced mountains of decorating gizmos, and downsized appliances (a 1½-quart Procter Silex slow cooker small enough to fit on an apartment counter, for example) helped make room in gadget-stuffed kitchens for an array of graters and mandolines designed to help cooks retain their fingertips.

And the "eco" filling the vast show? That would be the sound of exhibitors going "green" with everything from biodegradable food storage containers to reusable water and coffee containers. BPA-free, of course.

Here are five interesting items, many in stores now (or will be in a few months) or available online.



HOT STUFF: Stop burning your fingertips jamming metal-pronged corn holders into piping-hot corn. Instead, try Outset Inc.'s corn holders with plastic soft-grip handles (\$10 for eight). Inserted into ears of corn before cooking, they're touchable when removed from hot water. Not for use on the grill. Boilable; also microwave and dishwasher safe. At AMAZON.COM