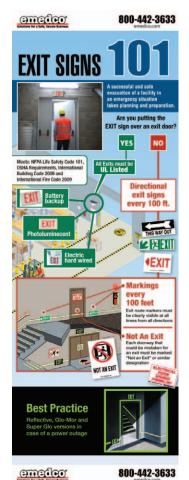# Tips & Tricks

Timesaving shortcuts from SignCraft readers

Everything you need to know about exit signs

Exit signs guide people towards a safe and orderly evacuation in the case of an emergency. With so much on the line it's not surprising that exit signage is expected to meet a rather extensive list of requirements in order to meet building, fire and OSHA requirements. The folks at Emedco have put together a helpful infographic that outlines these requirements in an easy to read format that you can download at www.emedco.com/infographic/exit-signs-101.html.

An often overlooked aspect of properly posted exit signage is the necessity of marking doors that could be mistaken as an exit. Ideally these doors would be marked either as their intended purpose, such as *Electrical Room* or with a sign reading *Not an Exit*. Providing these simple yet necessary precautions will help business owners ensure they are meeting necessary code requirements.

Paul Merlyn Thomas,
Buffalo, New York

Window lettering that looks like bronze

I had a window project to do recently that led to an interesting effect. I planned to do the 4-in.-tall lettering in reverse on the glass, with a dark brown outline and a copper center, using enamel.

I first applied Dark Brown 1-Shot enamel through a paint mask using a roller. Two hours later, I peeled the centers from the paint mask stencil and rolled on Metallic Copper 1-Shot enamel. To my surprise, the copper either added a reflective layer behind the outline (or maybe even softened the outline) and made it look like metallic bronze. It looked great.

Scooter Marriner, Coyote Signs, Oakland, California

Upgraded low-cost storage for the shop

I happened to see a nifty nightstand at one of the big box stores and thought it might be useful in the sign shop. It seems there's never quite enough storage and I had an area under a work table where the unit would fit perfectly. I bought one, returned to the shop and began putting it together.

When I got to the step that showed inserting cardboard for drawer bottoms I just couldn't use that material. Instead, I used 3mm aluminum composite material. I also used ACM for the backing. I simply placed the pre-punched cardboard backing over the ACM for a drill guide and drilled holes for the small brads.

In less than an hour I had the unit assembled and placed under the worktable. I liked it so much that I bought a second one. They're great for storage and much sturdier thanks to the ACM panels.

Michael James, Apple Signs,
Pineville, Louisiana