

Snow Shoveling 101: Advice and Gear *continued from page 15*

The Ames True Temper, for example, is a plastic shovel that weighs little and has two grips for hands or feet. Reversing it gives you a scrape option.

The term "snow thrower" might conjure up visions of an industrial-size, gas-powered apparatus, but electric snow throwers might be an easier option for homeowners on smaller properties that see frequent snowfalls.

Snow Joe makes lightweight and heavier-duty versions (the latter can remove 650 pounds of snow in one pass) that plug in, and are relatively quiet and easy to maneuver.

Toro has an electric Power Curve shovel that it says will clear 4 inches of snow off a 50-by-20-foot driveway in about 10 minutes. If you've got serious snow to move, the company also has some powerful gas-powered blowers.

Its website, Toro.com, has a page where you can put in your snow load, acreage and type of surface, and it will suggest which model would do the best job.

If you can't or don't want to use electricity or gas, there's the Sno Wovel. Winner of Time Magazine's 2006 Best Inventions Award, Sno Wovel is a simple-looking wheeled shovel. The wheels reduce lower back stress and overall exertion, since you shovel and tip instead of shovel and lift. Recent models fold and store flat.

Online:

www.metrohealth.org

www.snowjoe.com

www.wovel.com

www.popularmechanics.comwww.goodhousekeeping.com

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