



### 3wise buys... *eco-friendly flooring*

**Fast growing** This solid bamboo (above) is available in natural or a carbonised finish. Bamboo can be farmed, and grows at a fast rate, which makes it a good eco-friendly option. **Solid Bamboo Flooring, £50.79 for 2.2 sq m, B&Q**

#### **Versatile choice**

Marmoleum is made from natural and sustainable ingredients, such as linseed oil, wood flour, pine tree resin, jute and limestone. Hardwearing and hygienic, it's also biodegradable and comes in 333mm x 333mm tiles and 2m-wide sheets in a selection of 30 different colours. **Marmoleum Click (right), £34.99 per sq m, Forbo Flooring**



#### **Renewable source**

Once the outer bark has been harvested from the cork tree, it simply grows back without causing any harm to the tree, which can live for around 200 years. Cork flooring is warm and quiet underfoot and comes in natural shades or with a coloured finish. **Wicanders Series 2000 Corkmaster (right), from £25.75 per sq m, Siesta Cork Tile Co**



# Green life

Every month, Karen Stylianides brings you the latest buys, expert advice and innovative ideas to help you on the way to a greener lifestyle...

## Web watch

Biome Lifestyle offers home accessories and soft furnishings, with each product hand-picked for its eco credentials and stylish design. While browsing the site, select an item and you can discover details of exactly where and how it was made. 'It's not about making dramatic changes to your lifestyle, but taking a step in the right direction by buying products created with a minimum social and environmental footprint,' says founder Alexandra Bramham. This throw (above), priced at £38, was made in a South India cooperative, which has a training scheme and school for weavers to help guarantee future employment.



## The green garden

Made from FSC-certified timber, this Insect Theatre (right), £24.99 from AHS Direct, has internal batteries powered by a top solar panel. It automatically lights up at dusk to attract night flying insects and the light then turns off at dawn. The main chamber has a hinged access door, as well as bee nesting holes.



## High-street hero

Found in a diverse range of products from bread, margarine and cereals to lipstick and soap, palm oil production is associated with the destruction of rainforest and wildlife habitats. Supermarket chain Asda has been working to source palm oil from plantations that are certified as being sustainable.