

rise... & shine?

Losing an hour to daylight saving time can make anyone grumpy. **Will a new alarm clock make getting your family out the door on time easier—or more painful?** —DANIELLE BRAFF



1
wrong side

2
wrong side

3
right side

4
right side

AVOID BUYER'S REMORSE AT THE GROCERY STORE. Just download the **ListPro** organizing and budgeting tools at illumsoft.com (free 30-day trial, then \$19.95). The software lets you make and view your shopping list on your Windows Mobile phone or Palm smartphone and keeps track of the total amount spent as you go. You can divide up your purchases by location: bread from the bakery, ham from the deli and, ahem, a chocolate cone from the ice cream store.



1 You can't slap the snooze button on the **Flying Alarm Clock** (\$25, thinkgeek.com). It emits an eye-opening siren noise and shoots a mini helicopter up to 8 feet in the air. Catch it, grab the key and use it to quiet the alarm. **2** The **Banpresto Dangerbomb Alarm Clock** (\$56, acgears.com) warns you with a ticking sound, so act fast to unplug the right wire, or you'll hear a startling explosion noise. **3** Relive the years of Mom shaking you awake with the **Timex Wacky "Shake n' Wake" Alarm Clock** (\$17, target.com for stores), which vibrates and jiggles you out of la-la land. You won't hear your mama, but you can set it to sound off other scolding voices. **4** Awaken your senses with the **Peaceful Progression Wake-up Clock** (\$50, hammacher.com). Thirty minutes before it's time to wake, a soft light turns on and heats a scented aromatherapy dish, and the clock plays nature sounds like songbirds or a stream. Then, at wake-up time, there's a soft buzzer.

GOOD TO KNOW HELP IN A HURRY

These three tidbits of information can save you cash, time and face when you're in a pinch, says Tom Parker, author of *Rules of Thumb: A Life Manual*.

SAVING TIME

🚗 At the drive-through

Before you pull up to the window, do a quick count: If there will be more than three cars in line ahead of you, pull into the parking lot. It'll be faster to order your food inside.

SAVING FACE

👁️ At a photo op

Think you may have blinked during a photo? Close your eyes and check what color the spot you see is. If it's white, you didn't blink. If it's red, you probably did. Time for a do-over!

SAVING CASH

☕ At the coffee shop

Before shelling out coin for hot coffee, make sure it's from a fresh pot. If the cream swirls up brown, the coffee's newly brewed. If it swirls up gray, that joe's been sitting on the burner way too long.

ALARM CLOCKS BY BOYLE & GARDNER; PROP STYLING BY SARA WACKSMAN. ILLUSTRATIONS, ISTOCKPHOTO. SOURCE FOR HELP IN A HURRY: RULES OF THUMB: A LIFE MANUAL BY TOM PARKER (\$9, WORKMAN PUBLISHING).