

T3

The Gadget Magazine

PHONES & WEARABLES
NEW SUPERPHONES AND SMARTWATCHES
THAT'LL MAKE YOUR LIFE BETTER →



BOYS' TOYS
THEY'RE FOR THE
KIDS, HONEST! ↓



BEST

FITNESS
ACTIVE GEAR
THAT'LL GET
YOU MOVING
↓



FOR



COMMUTING
GET TO WORK
IN STYLE (AND
SAVE CASH)
→



FOOD &
DRINK
SIZZLING
HOME TECH FOR
SUMMER FUN
→



↑
PHOTOGRAPHY
TAKING GREAT
SHOTS HAS NEVER
BEEN EASIER!

←
ENTERTAINMENT
4K TVS, MULTI-ROOM
AUDIO AND TOP TABLETS



EVERYTHING

UPGRADE YOUR LIFE
TODAY WITH THE
ULTIMATE KIT FOR
FITNESS, WORK,
ENTERTAINMENT,
DRIVING AND MORE

→
DRIVING
THE CARS AND IN-CAR
TECH THAT'LL TAKE
YOU TO NEW PLACES



PLUS TOP ACTION CAMS / LG G4 RATED / HOT £100 GADGETS!

Future



TAKE THE WHEEL. THE FRONT SPOILER. OR THE SPORTS EXHAUST.

THE NEW MINI JOHN COOPER WORKS HATCH.

One TwinPower Turbo engine. Five decades of race tuning. 231 horsepower and 320Nm of torque. Oh, and 0-62mph in 6.1 seconds flat. It's the most powerful MINI ever.

SEE WHAT IT'S MADE OF AT MINI CENTRES FROM 2 MAY.
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Perfect for people who like
their wheels more round



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Fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for The All-New Kia Sorento range are: Urban 36.7 (7.7) – 40.9 (6.9), Extra Urban 46.3 (6.1) – 57.6 (4.9), Combined 42.2 (6.7) – 49.6 (5.7) CO₂ emissions are 177 – 149 g/km.



P R E S E N T S...

GameChanger

New tech with the power to dent the universe



OCULUS RIFT

Virtual reality: it's big business right now, and it's getting bigger all the time.

The Oculus Rift headset delivers the most incredible VR experience T3 has witnessed. During its development, we've been stunned by its amazing hi-res graphics and the powerful sense of immersion. And you'll soon be able to don your VR pants at home, as the consumer version of the Rift has officially been announced, due to land in early 2016. It packs improved head-tracking, a more comfortable fit, and a sleeker, better-looking housing. You also get positional 3D sound built in, so there's no need to plug in a set of headphones separately. Of course, you also get the ultimate interactive experience, whether it's for gaming or movies. Life will never be the same again.

Price TBC **Available** Early 2016 **URL** www.oculus.com

T3 Meet the team



Rob Carney

EDITOR

After his fleeting 24 hours last issue, Rob's been extensively testing the Apple Watch this month. He's currently deciding between the Mickey Mouse and Colour watch faces. What a life!



Claire Davies

ASSISTANT EDITOR

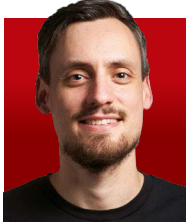
Moving on from the madness of T3's Treasure Hunt in Cardiff, it's been a sublime month of portable coffee makers, secret-agent training and more lush cameras for Claire.



Jamie Hibbard

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR: AUTO

Petrol-head Jamie is the latest addition to the T3 team. His knowledge of cars is second only to that of The Stig. In fact, we've never seen them in the same place at the same time.



Nick Odantzis

DEPUTY EDITOR

With fingers crossed for a delightful summer this year, gadgets-ace Nick is hoping to test the latest BBQs, tents and beer machines, rather than a Teflon-coated poncho and a motorised canoe.



Gareth Beavis

PHONES AND TABLETS EDITOR

Bearded phone genius Beavis has been hell for leather this issue, thoroughly dissecting and testing the virtues of the brand-new LG G4. His verdict? Well, turn to p94 to find out.



Dan Read

CONTRIBUTOR

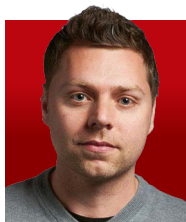
What do you do when you need a man to travel across the country using only electric vehicles? Call Dan Read, of course - a man who can mount an electric unicycle with the grace of a baby giraffe.



Duncan Bell

LIFESTYLE TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

This month, long-standing tech fiddler Duncan has been to Silverstone with Bentley, gone to a nuclear power station on a steam train, and been on the world's biggest cruise ship.



Marc Chacksfield

CONTENT TEAM LEAD

Marc has been something of a 'power ranger' this month, hitching a ride on a P1 powerboat and powering up the Nexus Player for one more month of streaming goodness (see p102).



Dan Grabham

EDITOR, T3.COM

Dan, or 'Mr Tech' as he's known around these parts, joins us as editor of T3.com from Lifehacker UK. Look out for more amazing and exclusive content coming to T3.com very soon.

Meet our advertising team

SALES DIRECTOR

CLARE DOVE
clare.dove@futurenet.com
+44 (0)1225 687226

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

RICHARD HEMMINGS
richard.hemmings@futurenet.com
+44 (0)1225 687615

AGENCY GROUP HEAD

JONNY HILL
jonny.hill@futurenet.com
+44 (0)20 7042 4187

PRINT AGENCY ACCOUNT DIRECTOR

MARIE LONGSTAFF
marie.longstaff@futurenet.com
+44 (0)1225 687495

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LIFE'S BETTER WITH T3...

→ *Tomorrow's Technology Today*, to give T3 its full name, was launched in 1996 and has been helping readers select the right gadgets to improve their lives for nearly 20 years as a magazine (print and digital) and at T3.com. We've been at the heart of every shift in consumer

technology ever since - from DVDs and HD TVs to smartphones and virtual reality. But our mission has remained the same throughout: to help you live a better life through technology, and to filter the latest gadgets to ensure you only ever buy the best of the best.





Editor's letter



The tech revolution continues! Welcome once again to the new and improved *T3*: the magazine that makes your life better!

So, here I am, peering at you over my glasses for another month. In case you missed me doing a similar thing last month, welcome to the new-look *T3*, the magazine that **makes your life better** - frankly brilliant, in fact - through technology. Yes, really. Look at my face. You trust me, right? Good. Let's move on.

This month, we've gone all out to select the **best gadgets for everything**. Alright, not quite everything - there are no gadgets for teleportation or invisibility - but certainly **for every aspect of your life**. From watching TV to grilling steaks, there's a top bit of kit that will make it more fun or **enable you to do it better**. Flick to p46.

Oh, and I've now had an Apple Watch for about a month. You know what? I've grown very used to it. But I know it's not for everyone, which is why we've put together a **complete guide to smartwatches** - choose your wrist weapon on p80.

Finally, let me point you to Gadget Guru this month [p32], where our tech master enlightens you on **the problems of juicing**, among other things. Enjoy the read and let me know what you think using the contact details below.

Rob Carney, Editor

rob.carney@futurenet.com

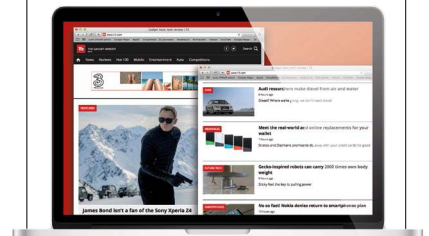
@robcarney

Discover more great ways to enjoy *T3*...



Digital edition

→ The iPad edition of *T3* features a raft of fresh content, including video reviews and interactive articles. *T3* is also available on Android devices, and your desktop via Zinio.com.



The all-new T3.com

→ We've also overhauled *T3.com* - the best site for gadget news and reviews now has a great new look and is fully responsive, enabling you to enjoy it on any device.

Key contributors



Ali Jennings, reviewer

This month, Mr Jennings got down and dirty with three of the hottest action cameras out there. Can anything topple the GoPro? Check out his findings on p60



Miss Led, illustrator

Miss Led, or Joanna Henly to her friends, illustrates our Hype: People page each issue. This month, we gave her the task of capturing David Cameron. Hmmm p25



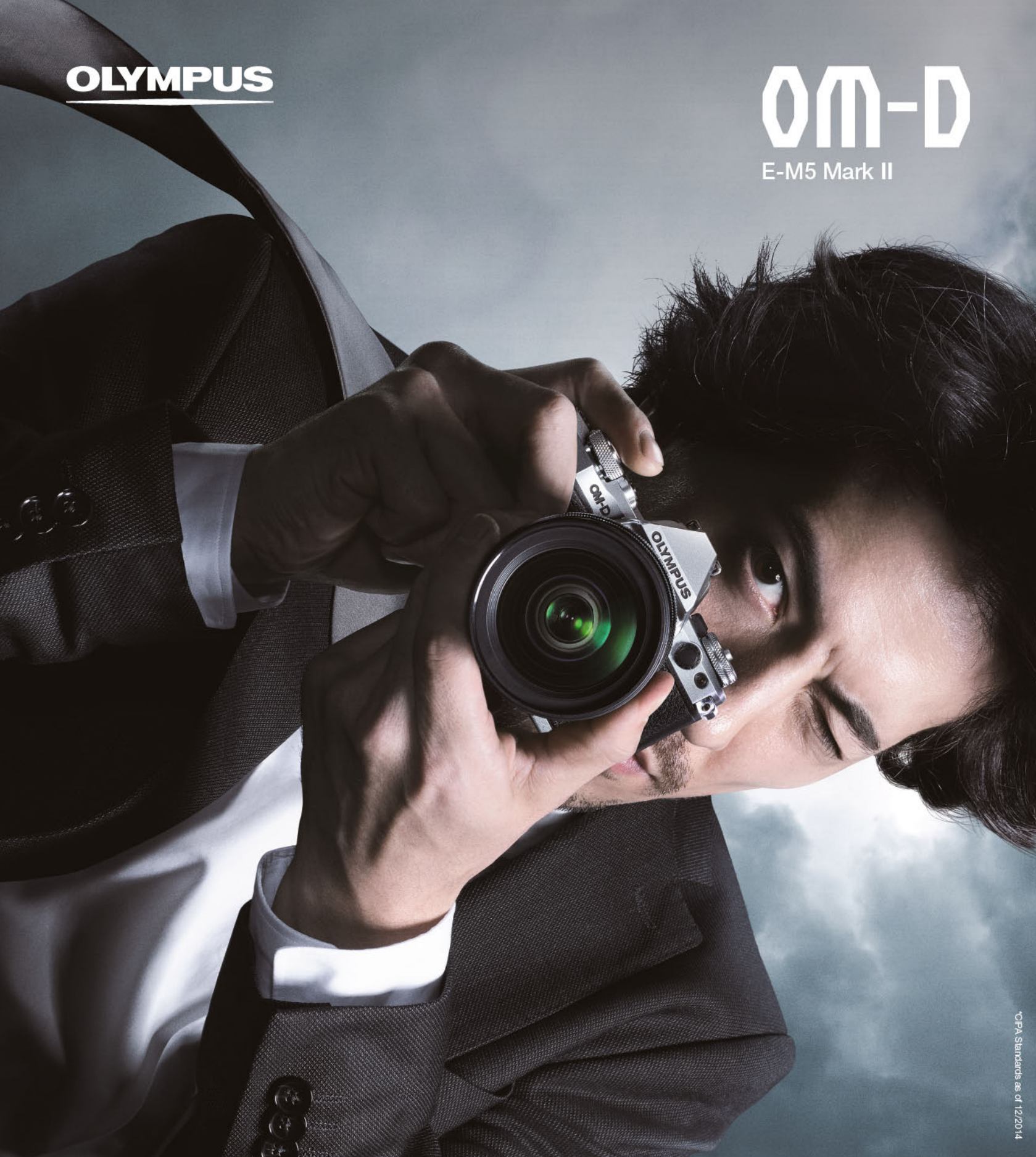
Damian Hall, writer

Fitness fanatic and outdoors wordsmith Damian loves the festival life, and this month he shares some expert tips on what tech you need to survive the experience p26

OLYMPUS

OM-D

E-M5 Mark II



*CIPA Standards as of 12/2014

YOU ARE FREE

Follow your creative visions with the new OM-D E-M5 Mark II. Capture spur-of-the-moment photos and movies in breathtakingly clear quality thanks to the world's most powerful 5-axis image stabilisation*. This OM-D is also ready to go wherever you go, in any situation. The compact build won't weigh you down, while the robust construction is set for taking on the elements: dust, splashes and freezing temperatures. Freedom has never felt so free – with the OLYMPUS OM-D.



Find out more at your local dealer or visit olympus.co.uk



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THE BEST TECH FOR EVERYTHING

An inspirational look at the best tech today, from automotive gear to grooming essentials

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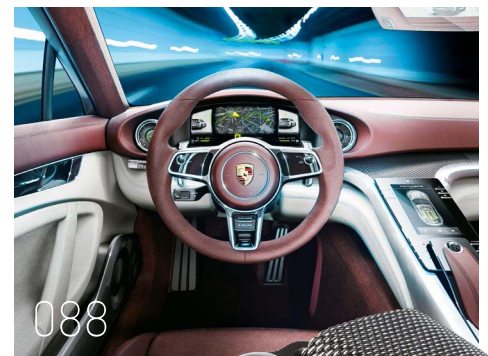
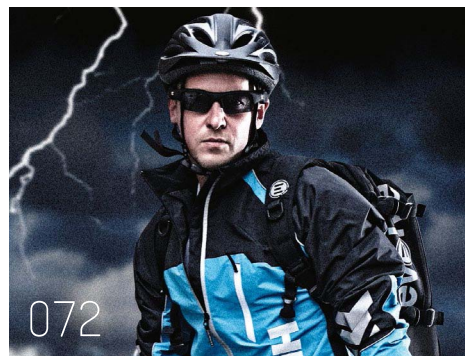
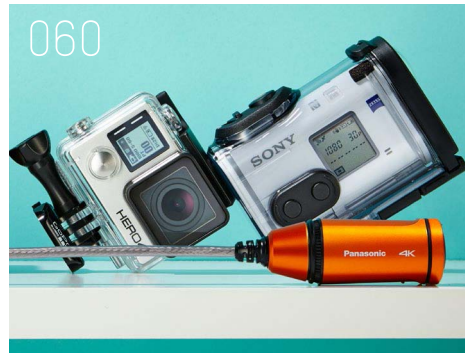
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Our man attempts to commute from London to Bath using only electric vehicles. Can he do it without looking ridiculous?

088 THE FUTURE OF IN-CAR TECH
As our lives become more connected, so our in-car experience is going to get a complete face-lift



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subscription
offer - p58



To subscribe to T3, point your browser at myfavouritemagazines.co.uk, or turn to p58. The next issue of T3 goes on sale 9 July

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COMPLETE GUIDE TO... SMARTWATCHES

They're here. They're hot. Now find out which one you need on your wrist



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T3 Elite

INTRODUCING THE BEST BUYER'S GUIDE KNOWN TO MAN

From thermostats to tablets, and camera to cars, our selection of the very best tells you what to buy

Plus! T3's £100 Hotlist



Select SUPER SITE

Laptops & Ultrabooks

THE NEW YEAR, THE NEW YEAR, THE NEW YEAR... IT'S TIME TO ENJOY THE LATEST LAPTOPS AND ULTRABOOKS WITH THE LATEST T3 SELECT.

APPLE MACBOOK

ASUS ZENBOOK UX301

HP SPECTRE X360

LENOVO YOGA 3 PRO

DELL XPS 13

ASUS T300 CH1

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THE BEST PERFORMANCE!**



NFERA SU1 **Nblue** ECO



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Driving Tomorrow

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NEXEN TYRE Global Homepage - int.nexentire.com

ISSUE 244 /
JULY 15



Hype

YOUR GUIDE TO THE HOTTEST
TECH, PEOPLE AND STYLES RIGHT NOW

THIS MONTH...

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Astell&Kern AK Jr

£399, www.astellnkern.com

So, what's this, then?

Bringing luxury audio players to the masses, this portable high-res number will redefine your listening habits.

Sounds exciting. Tell me more!

The AK Jr appeals because of its 24-bit/192kHz high-res audio playback, and support of multiple file formats including DSD (direct stream digital), which some are hailing as the next big thing. Light, slim and encased in aluminium, ASK's new device sports a side-mounted volume wheel and a 3.1-inch

touchscreen. ASK's engineers have also reduced the AK Jr's output impedance to 2 ohms – 20 ohms fewer than previous model the AK 100 – leading to gains in sound fidelity.

How many songs can it hold?

The AK Jr has 64GB of internal memory, but it supports microSD cards of up to 64GB, meaning you can pack in 128GB overall. Astell&Kern reckons that equates to around 1,250 high-resolution audio tracks. Sure, you may have to get picky about which remastered Led Zeppelin

albums you fire onto it, but the difference in sound quality will more than make up for the cull.

When can I buy it?

The AK Jr is available now.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 **9** 10
 Hypeometer

Vital stats

24-bit/192kHz | 3.1 inches

The hi-res audio playback supported by the AK Jr | The size of the AK Jr's LCD touchscreen

64GB | 4.0

The internal storage. Another 64GB can be added | Bluetooth 4.0 enables wireless streaming



T3 Says...



The AK Jr brings luxury audio players to the masses

NICK ODANTZIS, DEPUTY EDITOR

T3
ONE TO WATCH!

ASTELL&KERN
AK JR

SLEEK SOUND MACHINE

The AK Jr is slim and light, and Astell&Kern describes it as "like carrying a small concert in your pocket"

HI-RES AUDIO

The AK Jr supports DSD (direct stream digital) files, while the 1.95V RMS headphones output aims to drive your cans more effectively

ROLL WITH IT

Operating the AK Jr is a smooth process, thanks to a textured aluminium volume wheel that rolls effortlessly beneath your thumb

TOUCH OF CLASS

The 3.1-inch LCD touchscreen offers a responsive interface, plus more room to display information about your music

→ Canon XC10

£1,599.99, canon.co.uk

So, what's this?

A new Canon that's causing quite a stir. Capable of delivering 4K video and high quality stills, the XC10 is aimed at prosumers looking to move from SLR to 4K, as well as seasoned videographers looking for affordable 4K video production.

Sounds cool. How does it handle?

Canon reckons the XC10 is lighter than many of their DSLRs, making it a possibility for drone shoots. There are few physical controls on the camera, with most features accessed via the touchscreen, and the body has a rotating grip to support a variety of shooting styles. The tilting LCD panel means you can shoot from multiple angles, while built-in Wi-Fi enables you to control the XC10 remotely via your smartphone, tablet or browser.

What does it shoot like?

The 1-inch sensor delivers high resolution, low noise images when switching between shooting video or 12-megapixel stills, and you can record in high quality slow motion or fast motion. In-keeping with Cinema EOS cameras the XC10 offers gorgeous colour, while the 10x optical zoom lens, complete with image stabilisation technology, helps you capture a range of images with just one lens.

Nice. When can I buy it?

The Canon XC10 is available now

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 **9** 10

T3 Hypeometer

Vital stats

12MP
The maximum resolution of your stills

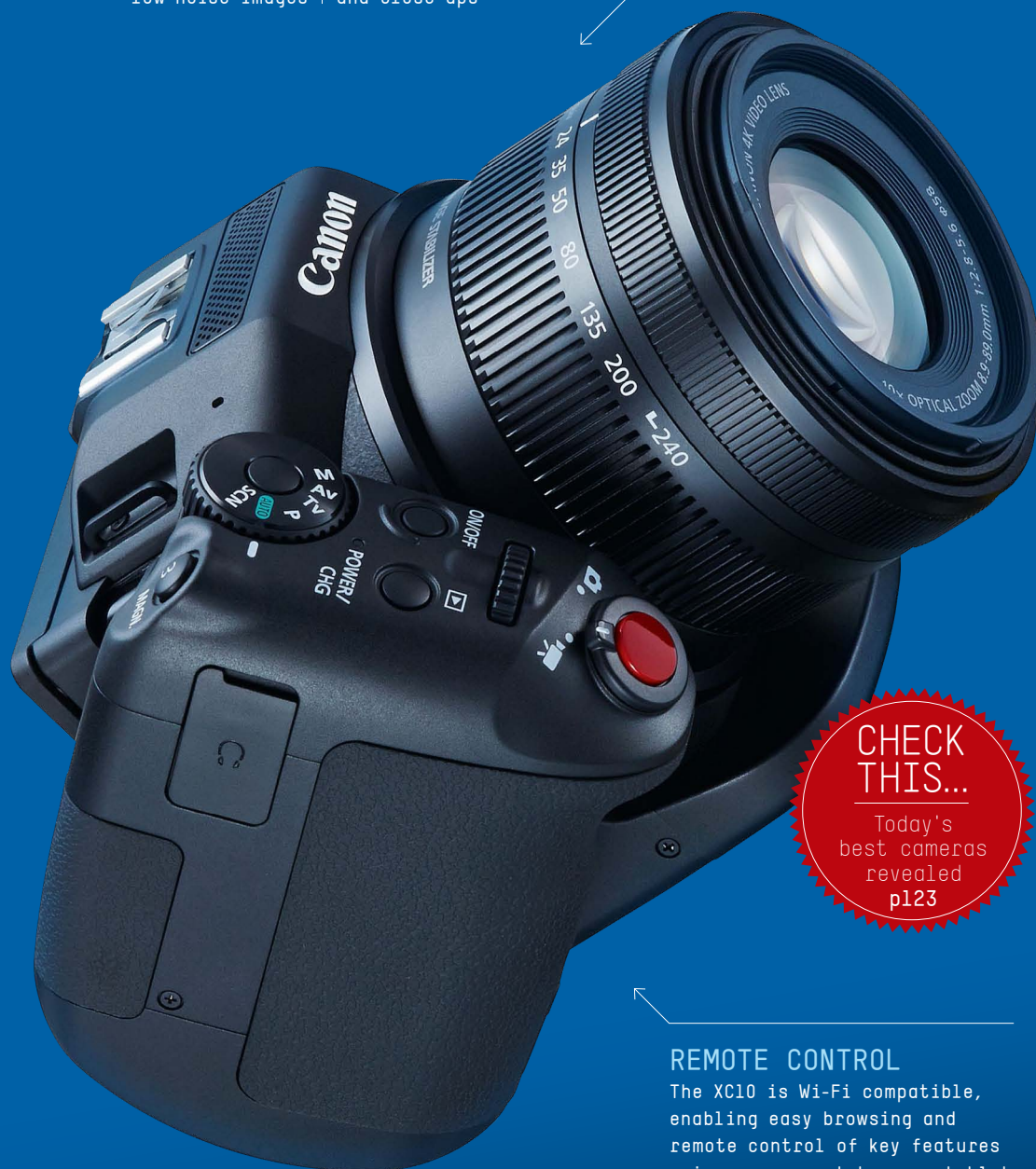
12-stop
The Wide Dynamic Range, providing vivid detail

1-inch
The CMOS sensor. High resolution, low noise images

27.3-3-273mm
The focal range, for sweeping shots and close ups

RECORDING OPTIONS

A selection of fast motion (up to 1200x in 4K/Full HD) and slow motion (up to 1/4x in HD) recording modes are guaranteed to inspire your creativity



CHECK THIS...

Today's best cameras revealed p123

REMOTE CONTROL

The XC10 is Wi-Fi compatible, enabling easy browsing and remote control of key features using your smartphone or tablet

Vital stats

1080p

Both Oppo R7 models sport full HD displays

92.3%

Metallic ratio of the body, machined from magnesium

Flash charging

Two hours use from a 5 minute charge

Fingerprint scanner

Keep those saucy snaps safe!

Oppo R7 and R7 Plus

ETBC, oppo.com

What the who?

You may not have heard of Oppo, but the mobile manufacturer is a big deal in its native China, as well as in East Asia, and the arrival of the R7 and R7 Plus signals its intent to push into Western markets. That means you guys, yo!

So what are they packing?

Both handsets sport a premium, slim metal unibody, punchy octa-core processor and 3GB of RAM, 13MP rear facing camera and 8MP front snapper. The main difference lies in screen size with the R7 coming in at 5 inches, while the R7 Plus phablet packs a supersized 6-inch display. The R7 Plus also has a bigger battery and more internal storage.

Can they impress me?

There's a fingerprint scanner to keep your secrets secure, plus fancy camera tech – dubbed "PI 2.0+ Optimisation" – can produce super high resolution images up to 52MP in size. Yes, five two. The interface has been optimised for faster app loading, and there's a microSD slot for power users.

Will it fit in my pocket, though?

The Oppo R7 certainly will as it's just 6.5mm thick – making it effortlessly thin – and the 143x71mm dimensions means it should fit nicely in the hand too. Unsurprisingly the R7 Plus is slightly more portly at 7.75mm thick, but that's still pretty svelte.

2.5D DISPLAY

Oppo's 2.5D arc surface screen produces vivid colour (thanks to AMOLED technology) and its curved edges ensure it's both compact and resilient

MASSIVE POWER

With a barnstorming octa-core processor and huge 3GB of RAM, apps will load in a flash and games will run smoother than silk

IKEA Riggad

£49, ikea.com

Um, it's a lamp...

Nice one, Sherlock. Actually, this rather minimalist-looking addition to the IKEA Home Smart range is much more than just a desktop light; it features a wireless-charging function so you can boost your Qi-certified smartphone or device while you read, draw or write.

Interesting. How does it work?

If you have a device that's compatible with wireless charging, you simply sit it on the plus sign on the lamp's base and it will work its magic. Got a friend over and want to charge their phone or tablet at the same time? Connect it via a charging cable to the USB port situated at the front of the lamp.

What if my device doesn't support wireless charging?

Many smartphones and devices are Qi-certified these days, but don't worry if yours isn't. You can either use the aforementioned built-in USB port, or purchase IKEA's rather clever Vitahult wireless-charging cover. Suitable for the iPhone 4, 5/5S and 6, as well as the Samsung Galaxy S3, S4 and S5, it's incredibly simple to use: you just slip your phone in and pop it on the plus sign to begin charging.

We like to work in different parts of our room. Is the lamp adjustable?

Yes, both the head and the arm are adjustable, meaning you can direct light to where you need it most. And speaking of light, the Riggad's LED light source consumes up to 85 per cent less energy and lasts 20 times longer than standard bulbs, so it's a bonus for both your wallet and the environment.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 **9** 10

T3 *Hype*ometer

DIRECTED LIGHT

The Riggad's arm and head are adjustable, enabling you to direct light exactly where you need it for more illuminated reading or working

Vital stats

20 times
The LED light lasts
20 times longer
than standard bulbs

10 watts
The energy
consumption of this
low-cost smart lamp

17 inches
The height of the
Riggad - ideal for
tables and desks

85 per cent
How much energy
is saved by this
conscientious lamp

DUAL CHARGING

Thanks to a built-in charger and a USB port, you can charge two devices at the same time - provided one of them supports wireless charging



All budding athletes can use a great training partner



With Cortana and Office on the Lumia 640, you can become as fit as you're training to be. Cortana learns and remembers your preferences, and provides reminders based on your location and contacts. And with Office and Skype included, you can talk to your friends and track your progress so you'll always hit your targets.

Now includes one year of Office 365 Personal for your PC & tablet.

Microsoft Lumia 640

Available from



From £16.99
per month

Apps from Windows Phone Store. Internet connection required. Office 365 Personal subscription for one year available upon purchase of Microsoft Lumia 640 and 640XL between 1st April and 30th June 2015. While supplies last. Must be redeemed by 14th August 2015. Price based on 24 month contract. 500min calls / unlimited texts / 500MB data. Out of bundle charges may apply. See Microsoft.com/phone for complete details.

SMOOTH FINISH

The Surface 3 weighs just 622 grams and is made from magnesium alloy with a slinky ceramic finish

GET CONNECTED

Hook up your phone or camera to the Surface 3's USB 3.0 port, or transfer files directly from your microSD card via the dedicated card reader

CHECK THIS...

T3's pick of the best Ultrabooks p100

Surface 3

From £419,
microsoftstore.com/uk

So, is this a laptop or a tablet?

It's a laptop when you need to boost your productivity, and a tablet when you need something ultra-travel-friendly. It's lightweight, easy to use and big on performance – ideal for creating spreadsheets one minute, then watching cartoons with your kids the next.

So, it's light enough to cart around?

You won't need to do any 'carting'. Crafted from durable magnesium alloy and encased in a ceramic finish, it's a shade lighter than its predecessor, the Surface 2.

What's the display like?

Crisp and bright. The 10.8-inch display supports responsive ten-point multi-touch, though picking out toolbars is easier with the Surface Pen (sold separately). Meanwhile, the IPS panel provides excellent viewing angles if you're crowding around the screen to watch a movie with your buddy.

How will it boost my productivity?

With ten hours of battery life, a three-position kickstand, plus the option to add a Type Cover to further bridge the laptop-tablet gap, you can set up camp anywhere. The quad-core Intel Atom processor gives you the power to run desktop software and a world of apps.

Vital stats

10.8 inches

The size of the ClearType Full HD Plus display

3.5MP

The front camera is 3.5MP. The rear one is 8MP

64/128GB

The storage you'll get, depending on the model you buy

2.5 hours

How long it takes to fully charge the Surface 3

1 2 3 4 5 6 **7** 8 9 10

T3 *Hype*ometer

The Lenovo YOGA 3 14.

Use it any way you like it.



Lenovo YOGA 3 14" 2-in-1 laptop

Work easy. Play hard.  Windows

If you want a computer that's flexible enough to fit in with your lifestyle, then the Lenovo YOGA 3 14 could be right for you. With a stunning thin and light chassis, a 10 point multi-touch full HD screen, backlit keyboard and the new 5th generation Intel® Core™ i7-5500U processor, this 2 in 1 laptop provides the ultimate on the go experience. Complete with 8GB of RAM and 256GB of SSD storage for fast multitasking and boot up time.

Currys  **PCWorld**

WE START WITH YOU

TomTom Bandit

£300,
tomtom.com

This doesn't look like a satnav...
That's because it's not: the Bandit is TomTom's effort to make a waterproof, GPS-enabled action camera that's capable of faff-free editing on the fly. As mountain-bike champion Danny Hart says, "The Bandit is the future of action cams."

Really? What's so great about it?
Lots! The Bandit packs in-camera motion and GPS sensors to automatically 'tag' adrenaline-fuelled moments from your ride or ski run, based on speed, G-force and acceleration. The camera has a built-in media server and, when used with the Bandit app, you can review and edit footage instantly.

How does the Bandit make it easy?
With a 'shake to edit' function. In editing mode, a simple shake of your smartphone creates a movie from the tagged highlights. You can even add music and overlays of data, such as speed and location.

But what's the video quality like?
The Bandit has a 16MP CCD sensor paired with a wide-angle lens, and you can record video in 4K. There's no monitor for framing shots, but a display screen shows your settings. There's also a built-in mic to pick up in-ride commentary.

When can I get it?
The standard version is available now, and comes with a splash-proof lens cover, a Batt-Stick, surface mounts and a GoPro mount adapter.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 **8** 9 10

T3 *Hype*ometer

CHECK THIS...

4k action
cams fight to
the death
p60

FOOLPROOF EDITING

Making a movie of your adventures has never been easier; using the app, you can simply shake your smartphone for instant results

Vital stats

1,900mAh The size of the battery, enough for three hours' filming	190 grams The Bandit's weight - you'll hardly notice it
IPX8 The optional lens cover that enables underwater shooting	4K The resolution, offering cinema-quality video



VERSATILE MOUNTING

The Bandit's steel-ring mounting system has a quick-release mechanism, and you can rotate the camera within the mount



Panasonic

MASTERING THE MAGIC OF LIGHT

BRINGING THE DIRECTOR'S VISION TO LIFE

We believe that light is magic. And our passion is mastering its power to create a 4K range with the widest, most vivid colour spectrum imaginable. Our CX802 series televisions with 4K Pro Studio Master technology can recreate the most nuanced shades from light to dark – delivering the incredible detail the film-maker imagined.

panasonic.co.uk/4KPro



4K PRO
STUDIO MASTER UHD



HANDS-ON WITH

BEBOP DRONE

T3's testers get acquainted with the latest and greatest flying machine

In complete contrast to last issue's Oculus Rift test – a trendy London establishment, fueled entirely by alcohol – this issue's is in a field in Somerset, overlooking the picturesque city of Bath, and we're all tee-total. There's a good reason for this, though: T3 is testing drones today, and in order to fly them, we want everyone to be in top form so nobody goes home with an unanticipated buzz-cut.

Though the word drone, or Unmanned Aerial Vehicle as it's technically known, usually conjures up images of war and unpleasantness, consumer drones are anything but negative – they're tonnes of fun. Toy drones have exploded in popularity in the last few years, partly because they're much easier to fly nowadays, but also because capturing action footage has become a part of everyday life, and drones make doing this easy, not to mention spectacular.

Parrot's Bebop Drone has a 1080p video camera, can be controlled from a smartphone or tablet and the optional Skycontroller means you can turn the Bebop into a full-on Top Gun-style experience.

Each of T3's lucky invitees had access to a crash-course 20 minutes flying time, so which of them shouted out 'You can be my wingman!' and who crashed and burned? Only one way to find out...

At £770, the Parrot Bebop drone with Skycontroller isn't exactly cheap, but it's one of the most versatile, and indeed fun, drones you can currently get your hands on. See more at parrot.com



READER ONE



Darren Price

AGE: 36

OCCUPATION: Web/Graphic designer

LIKED: The controller is nicely weighted, and made me feel like I was in charge of something really big. The speed and the agility of the drone is excellent; even at a distance it responds extremely quickly to your inputs.
DISLIKED: The battery life was poor – understandable – but would require further investment in a cache of batteries.
VERDICT: The Bebop is a great piece of kit, only let down by battery life and the app. It feels good from the moment you fire it up, and even a novice can get it up and into the air.

READER TWO



Paul Dodd

AGE: 37

OCCUPATION: Administration manager

LIKED: I already own the Parrot Jumping Sumo and Rolling Spider, but this feels much more stable, even when the wind gets strong, and the Skycontroller makes it much easier to pick up and play. I love the range too.
DISLIKED: Parrot's smaller drones are quite affordable, but the Bebop is big money and the Skycontroller is almost as expensive.
VERDICT: This is a serious investment, so I think you need to have a really good reason to buy it. The only thing I think it really needs is LEDs on the bottom to tell you which way it's facing.

More great content at the all-new www.t3.com ←

“It flies smoothly, even when there’s quite a bit of wind and the range is impressive”

DOUGLAS WILES, T3 READER



The Bebop can shoot stills at up to 14-megapixels and capture video in 1080p. All in an easy-to-fly and compact body



Drones are guaranteed fun – both to fly and watch. As long as you don’t fly them too close to people or buildings you won’t get in trouble



Bebop batteries can quickly be replaced for more flying time



The optional Skycontroller adds to the piloting experience

READER THREE



Zac Carr

AGE: 19

OCCUPATION: Law student

LIKED: The Bebop is really easy to fly – the built-in gyro system prevents you from crashing it. The smartphone compatibility is handy because you can see exactly where you’re going.

DISLIKED: A battery life of around 10 minutes per charge isn’t great, though all of the drones I’ve tried have been like this.

VERDICT: It’s really entertaining, at least for the first couple of hours, but after that I’m not sure what purpose it has. Maybe some built-in games would help?

READER FOUR



Douglas Wiles

AGE: 37

OCCUPATION: Assistant manager

LIKED: It flies really smoothly, even when there’s quite a bit of wind and the range is seriously impressive. Parrot has also made it smaller than I imagined.

DISLIKED: There are connectivity issues whenever you need to change the battery, which gets annoying after a while.

VERDICT: The Bebop is lots of fun, but is it really worth the asking price? Personally, I wouldn’t go for it. The constant WiFi issues are a frustration and the lag on the smartphone feed dents the whole experience.

READER FIVE



Chris Barnes

AGE: 33

OCCUPATION: Music journalist

LIKED: The Bebop took no time to master and, because of the instant feedback from the controls, it was extremely easy to avoid any drone hits tree/ground/face situations.

DISLIKED: Keeping track of it is tricky, and the glare on the phone screen made it difficult to use the live feed.

VERDICT: It’s easy to get the hang of the Bebop once it’s in the air, and it’s a lot of fun. The battery life is restrictive unless you invest in a few backups. I still want one though!

READER SIX



Rob Carr

AGE: 47

OCCUPATION: Motorcycle courier

LIKED: It’s great being able to take off and hover with the press of a button, instantly masking any lack of skill and giving you confidence, and the Skycontroller makes it easy to use once in the air.

DISLIKED: It’s to be expected, but if you want a good session you’ll need a lot of backup batteries.

VERDICT: Although it’s great fun, I think you could tire of it quickly unless you either found a real purpose for it or played games like obstacle courses or challenges with your mates.

Parrot

BEBOP DRONE

SKYCONTROLLER



Own the sky with Parrot ultimate Full HD drone camera

- Lightweight and robust design built-in with safety in mind
- Full HD video stabilized on 3-axis achieved by GPU
- 14 Megapixel and Fisheye camera
- First Person View piloting
- Control the angle of the camera with the piloting application
- Extended range with Parrot Skycontroller for immersive controls

Pilot with FreeFlight 3 free App



● ● ● 3 colours

Fly down to these retailers today

Apple Store

SELFRIDGES&CO

The electronics specialist
maplin

DAVID CAMERON

Every issue, T3 selects tech for people making the headlines. This month, we consider the gadgets that might come in useful during the Camster's second term as PM

Words: Rob Temple

NO MORE BALLS-UPS

01 FIFA 2015 OR FOOTBALL MANAGER 2015

Someone needs to buy Dave a copy of the latest *FIFA* or *Football Manager*, so he can learn the difference between his two 'favourite' teams (Aston Villa and West Ham, of course). Just don't give him *Pro Evo* though, else the next time he has to pretend to be into sports, he'll be claiming to support either West Midlands Village or East London.

Various prices, www.amazon.co.uk

GETTING SOME STICK

02 SELFIE POD GOLD LIMITED EDITION

Dave loves a good selfie – the problem being that this style of photography favours a smaller head. However, with the use of a selfie stick, even the largest of faces can fit in shot. The Selfie Pod Gold Limited Edition turns into a tripod and has an integrated Bluetooth camera button. It's also gold-coloured, so the bling-loving Queen could have a go, too.

£29.99, www.selfiepods.co.uk

PRESSING MATTER

03 PHILIPS PERFECTCARE AQUA STEAM GENERATOR IRON

As soon as the exit poll showed a Tory landslide, the days of 'pumped up' Dave were history, and his jacket and tie quickly re-appeared. But those sleeves were rolled up for a whole week, so we'd recommend this top-spec iron to decrease them out of existence. As for George Osborne – as far as we know, he just stuffed his hi-vis jacket in a bin.

£190, www.philips.co.uk

HOSE A PRETTY BOY?

04 KÄRCHER K2 COMPACT PRESSURE WASHER

We're not here to take sides, but it's fair to say the Cameron-led blue team aren't everyone's cup of tea, as expressed in graffitied statements such as, "We're not keen on you!" (or similar). Luckily, thanks to this beast of a washer, with its 1,400W motor powering water through a 4m-high pressure hose, the PM can blast away any further signs of discontent with ease.

£84, www.kaercher.com/uk

COOL GADGET

05 TOP-LIP MINI FAN

Attaching to the upper part of the mouth, this (fictional) gadget would blow cool air onto the top lip, helping to keep nervous sweat at bay. This would prove invaluable for Mr Cameron – and any politician, for that matter – when asked tricky questions such as, "Why is the figure you plan to cut the exact same size, shape and weight as that large pile of money you said you weren't going to touch?", and, "Is anything you're saying actually true?"





THE COMPLETE FESTIVAL KIT

T3's gadget concierge service recommends ideal solutions for your tech requirements

THE READER



James Knapp

→ James is heading to Lovebox in July. Having bought a Mammut sleeping bag and a Heimplanet tent, he'd like to know which extras will make the latter a home from home.

THE EXPERT



Damian Hall

→ Outdoors journalist Damian has survived many festivals, including sliding around in the odd mud bath. His next book, *Long-Distance Walking In Britain*, is out later this year.

01 SOULRA FRX4

The FRX4 is the one-man band of gadgets. This handheld, weather-resistant device packs a charger for your USB-compatible smartphone, a super-bright LED flashlight (complete with a handy dimmer), a radio, a weather station (the latest forecasts are broadcast automatically) and an alarm clock – although we're not sure you'll want that going off after a night's raving. **£46, soulracorp.com/uk**

02 HTC RE

If you're one of those people who insist on filming Mark Ronson's entire DJ set instead of, you know, actually dancing to it, the RE is a smart choice. This small, periscope-style, waterproof camera fits neatly in the hand, is simple to use, and captures gorgeous stills and engaging video. You can even stream live to YouTube. **£129, recamera.com/uk**

03 JETBOIL FLASH JAVA KIT

A mere two minutes after you've clicked the ignitor button on this compact device, a colour-changing boil indicator will let you know that coffee for two is ready for much-needed consumption. **£72, jetboil.com**

04 FITBIT SURGE

This fitness watch/activity tracker is perfect for setting yourself reminders of when your favourite bands are hitting the stage, and when you're

supposed to be meeting your mates for a sundown booze-a-thon. For those of you (us!) prone to hitting the beers too hard at festivals, the Surge will keep an eye on your wellbeing, too; it can monitor your heart rate, tell you how active/inactive you're being, and even remind you to drink more water. **£199.99, fitbit.com/uk/surge**

05 CAMBRIDGE AUDIO GO

When you're armed with one of these portable Bluetooth speakers, there's no need for the party to stop just because the bands have finished playing for the night. Slim, stylish and lightweight, it will keep the tunes pumping for a whopping 18 hours on a single charge – though your tent neighbour might get a bit miffed if you're blasting out AC/DC's greatest hits at three in the morning. **£119.95, cambridgeaudio.com**

06 BIRKSUN BOOST

If you're planning on using your phone a lot over the weekend, your battery is quickly going to give up the ghost... Unless you have a BirkSun Boost solar-powered backpack, that is. This waterproof rucksack has a three-watt solar panel and a built-in USB outlet, so you can simply plug in your USB-compatible phone and charge it up. Add a BirkSun Power Bank and you can charge faster, charge two devices at once and store power for later use (enough for six iPhone charges). **\$100 (£63), birksun.com**



01

CRANK UP THE VOLUME

The Soulra FRX4 can be powered by the sun, batteries, a wall socket or by cranking up. Four minutes of winding gives you, for example, 10-15 minutes of radio

02



FILM FESTIVAL

The RE shoots video and stills, and streams to your phone for one-press sharing. Feeling arty? The camera includes time-lapse and slow motion



Cambridge Audio

T3 Says...

The Boost features a three watt solar panel and a built-in USB – you simply plug in your smartphone

DAMIAN HALL

04



THE SLEEP COUNTER

Among other things, the Fitbit Surge will tell you how little sleep you've had at the festival – it's like carrying your mother around on your wrist

CHECK THIS...

T3's pick of the best fitness trackers p125



03

NO-WIND SITUATION

The Jetboil Flash Java Kit's flame burner is housed in a windscreen, meaning you'll get a brew even when it's breezy

06

SUNSHINE OF YOUR LOVE

With the BirkSun Boost, one hour of sun equates to a 20 per cent phone charge. A fleece sleeve offers protection for your handset

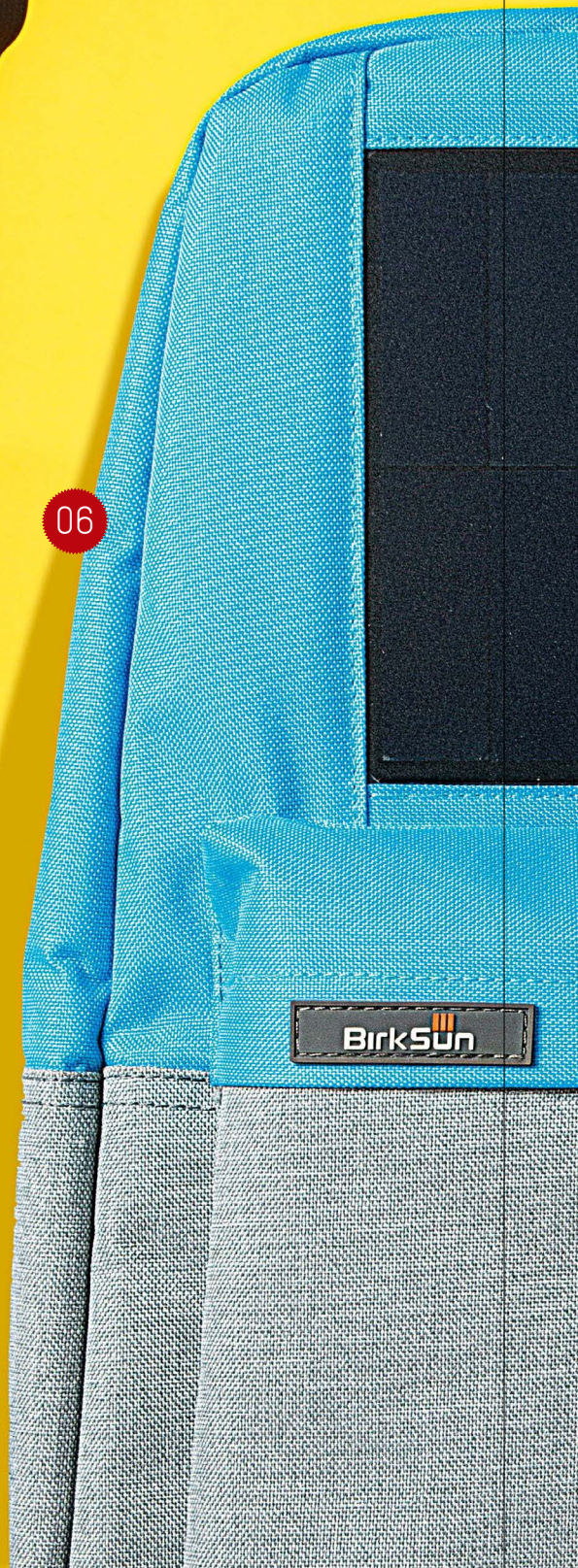
05



Audio

PAIR GAME

Near Field Communication means the Cambridge Audio 60 speaker will pair instantly with your device – and it will remember eight devices at a time. It can also charge phones via USB



BirkSun

HELLO, SUNSHINE!

Here at T3, we live for the cutting edge, and that includes fashion. This month, shades that pack tech and chic in equal measures

01

RETRO STYLE

OUR LEGACY FAITH

→ If you like the retro look, these shades from über-cool Scandinavian label Our Legacy may be just the ticket. Anti-scratch coated, they feature lenses by German optic pioneer Carl Zeiss. £160, www.ourlegacy.se

02

OLD BUT NEW

RAY-BAN ORIGINAL WAYFARER COSMO

→ An even more modern take on a true modern classic. These Wayfarers, handmade in Italy, boast the same frame as the iconic originals, but are finished with mysterious iridescent green lenses. £145, www.ray-ban.com/uk

03

GALLIC FLAIR

THIERRY LASRY ZOMBY

→ On your heeeeeeaaaaad, on your heeeeeeaaaaad, Zomby, Zomby. That's well and truly where these fantastic frames from French designer Thierry Lasry should sit. They're sturdy, stylish and so on-trend it hurts our minds. £325, www.thierrylasry.com

04

THE FUTURE'S BRIGHT

OAKLEY POLARIZED MADMAN

→ These futuristic-looking sunnies are rammed full of tech, with high-definition optics, impact protection and something called unobtainium, which helps them grip to your face better when you perspire. £300, uk.oakley.com

05

CREASING UP

PERSOL CRYSTAL ICONS

→ Italian eyewear aficionado Persol has got it bang on with this pair of folding shades. Effortlessly cool, they fold down to an ultra-small package, meaning you can tuck them in your shirt pocket without fear of the 'lean-over smash'. £215, www.persol.com/uk

06

SHELL OUT

THOM BROWNE AVIATOR

→ Tortoiseshell is in at the moment, and US designer Thom Browne puts it to great use with his take on the classic aviator shape. High-strength titanium arms promise durability. £415, www.thombrowne.com

T3
NEXT MONTH

HIGH-TECH
HOLDALLS
ON SALE THURS
9 JULY

oppo

NEW

PM-3

Closed-back
Planar Magnetic
Headphones



Optimised for portability, PM-3 is the World's lightest closed-back planar magnetic design. It provides privacy and noise isolation and features high sensitivity and comfortable fit.

**SOUND
& VISION**

“Simply put, the Oppo PM-3 are my favourite closed-backed headphones currently available.”

oppodigital.co.uk

NEW

HA-2

Portable
Headphone
Amplifier
& USB DAC



HA-2 is a compact headphone amplifier and USB DAC featuring ESS Sabre³² Reference ES 9018-K2M DAC chip and support for 384 kHz/32-bit PCM and DSD up to 11.2MHz.

Hi-Fi Choice
Music for everyone

“A gem of a headphone amp/DAC at a very competitive price. Deserves to win plenty of friends.”

PM-3 available in
black or white



OPINION

Duncan Bell is sea sick

I went on a tech cruise with robots, a skydiving simulator and Jason Bradbury

A lot of people probably hold the crazy notion that tech writers spend their lives trying to snaffle up free stuff and going on exotic piss-ups.

Well, as I was saying to Colin Firth and Will Young at the opera with Audi recently, this idea is laughable. But there are occasional exceptions that prove the rule – and so it was that this month I blagged my way onto the world's newest and biggest cruise liner, Royal Caribbean's Anthem of the Seas. And let me tell you, readers, it was epic.

The first, best and most surprising thing was that Anthem of the Seas was absolutely groaning with tech.

I'd always, in my prejudiced way, assumed that cruise ships were inhabited by champagne-sipping old, rich ladies, listening to pianists singing amusing songs, in the company of middle-aged gays and very wide, orange men from Texas. Floating gin palaces where the most high-tech elements available were chandeliers, sunbeds and one *Time Crisis 2* machine whose coin slot was chewing-gummed shut.

How wrong I was...

Here's how techy this cruise was: the first guy I saw was Jason Bradbury, one of the tech world's many interchangeable baldies with glasses. The second was Gadget Boy, who's a YouTube sensation despite being neither bald nor specs-wearing. Where's the justice?

Then, having briefly sojourned in a 'pub' so inauthentic it had to be called 'Michael's Genuine Pub' – I don't know why they didn't go a bit further and call it 'Michael's Genuine, Actual Pub, Just Like A Pub In Ireland; Yup, Definitely A Pub' – the true tech-fest began.

The flip side of getting to do free stuff as a tech journo is that you're expected to engage in organised fun. And so, we were whisked off to look at tech. First, I had to go skydiving in a plastic tube

with a massive turbine at the bottom of it, under the guidance of sarcastic Australians with ponytails. I'm not all that aerodynamic, so it wasn't so much skydiving in a tube as repeatedly falling over on top of a big fan, while an Aussie with a man-bun attempted to wrestle me to my feet.

Then there was the robot cocktail waiter – a big robot arm dispensing spirits from a plethora of optics into a plastic cup.

And robot cabaret! There was that, too, and it was spectacular. It involved massive 4K screens on more robot arms, whirling about so there was both animation on screen and animation OF screens. Meanwhile, dancers and singers gamely belted out '80s synthpop hits, vanished down descending floors, then reappeared via pot plants with lifts under them, or from the ceiling, in different outfits.

It wasn't so much skydiving in a tube as repeatedly falling over on top of a big fan

And there was a robot DJ booth! With two girls from *TOWIE* on it, going back and forth over a sticky dancefloor pretending to DJ! For hours!

Tech being tech, a lot of this stuff didn't work. The robot cocktail waiter's app crashed. The electronic wine dispenser in another bar – these places are absolutely festooned with places to get smashed – wasn't in operation. There was yet another massive robot arm stationed on the roof, with a viewing pod on the end of it, which was

meant to fling us around for an awe-inspiring ocean view – but it was deactivated as it was a bit breezy. Oh, and it took ages to get onboard because the high-tech, super-quick ticket and security system had crashed.

Ah well. As Royal Caribbean's CEO rather brilliantly put it at a press conference on the second day, "This is why we do these dry runs before – with the greatest of respect – the paying customers get on."

I'd be lying if I said I didn't find the experience weird. Being on a cruise is like being in an upscale shopping centre crossed with a floating, upscale gated housing development, born aloft on the willing arms of about a billion staff and a massive cushion of money.

For a techie, it's probably bliss by now, as I presume everything is now working, there's Wi-Fi despite you being in the middle of nowhere, and you'll be whizzing around European or Caribbean hotspots rather than, as was the case with this taster, Southampton.

Here's a funny thing, though: the very best bit of the trip for me was being in the solarium, which was entirely tech-free and actually was like a floating gin palace. Sure, it was filled with cocktail-swigging British tech hacks and mahogany-tanned European travel agents, but you could feel the spirit of those champagne-sipping old, rich ladies listening to pianists singing amusing songs. Oh, and there wasn't a robot arm in sight. ■



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GO...



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GADGET GURU

LET HIM TAKE YOU ON AN INCREDIBLE JOURNEY OF TECH ENLIGHTENMENT

This issue →

P32 Is phone size important?

P33 I need a fool-proof camera - help!

P33 Give me some juicing advice, please

P34 What watch do you wear?

P34 What tech do you use the least?

P34 How can I use a mobile in my car?



LEE SINCLAIR, MILTON KEYNES

Guru, where do you stand on the phone-size debate? Do you like 'em full-bodied?

A As with everything in Guru Town, bigger is better. GaGu seriously can't understand people moaning that a phone is too big: "Oh, it'll look stupid if I hold it to my head!" Then use earphones with a mic (but not an earpiece, because then you really will look like a cretin). "Oh, it's too big for my tiny hands! Pity me for my parrot-claw-like digits." Man or woman up!

Both big phones and phablets get the thumbs-up from GaGu. They're better for video, much better for gaming and far better for browsing:

remember when using the Web on your phone was like squinting through a letterbox? Please don't try to tell GaGu that that was better. Big phones also make framing photos easier and viewing them more pleasurable.

And, if Guru is being honest, unless your head is absolutely tiny, like it's been shrunk by a voodoo curse [been

ABOVE Unless you have a weirdly shrunk head, no phone will look massive next to your skull

"DESPITE THE BLEATING OF APPLE DEVOTEES, CONSUMERS CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF THE BIGGER-BONED MOBILE DEVICE"

watching *Beetlejuice* lately, have you GaGu? - Ed], so that you're walking around with a little, pea-sized head on a normal-proportioned body, today's phones are not going to look ridiculously big next to your bonce.

Big-boned beauties

It's also obvious, despite the bleating of Apple devotees for many years, that consumers can't get enough of the bigger-boned mobile device. The truth is, they're all big now compared to a few years back. Look at the 'compact' options available today and they've usually got a screen about 4.5 inches across. How is that mini? In GaGu's youth, shovels were smaller than that!

If you want a genuinely small phone that's any good, the iPhone 5S is probably your only option. It seems as though the people have spoken, and as much as Guru usually thinks 'the people' are a bunch of big idiots, on this one he's in agreement with them.

→ SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO: inbox@t3.com or www.facebook.com/T3mag



STEVE JONES, NEWPORT

Hi GaGu, I love taking pics but I'm an idiot. Is there an idiot-proof camera I can buy?

A Gadget Guru has to be honest: he knows as much about cameras as he does about camels (they're even-toed ungulates, is as much as he's ever picked up), but *Techradar's* Rod Lawton knows everything about photography. In fact, this is a man so experienced in the photographic arts that he actually took his first images using one of those big, explosive flash things they have in Westerns. So if he can't help you with this, no one can...

Rod's initial response was worryingly cagey: "Money usually brings less automation." But under heavy duress – and trust GaGu, you don't wanna know the details – he eventually coughed up the knowledge.

So, if it's a compact camera you're after, try the Panasonic Lumix TZ70. Panasonic's snappers are user-friendly – even for an idiot like you – and give reliably good results. The TZ70 will set you back about 300 notes, so it's not cheap, but it does

offer simple point-and-shoot snapping in a pocket-sized device, so you can't go far wrong with it. A long zoom adds versatility, and there's more control ready and waiting for you if you can muster up the brain power to handle it.

After something a bit chunkier? Choosing the most cretin-proof compact system camera is a tough call, but our mate Rod favours the Fujifilm X-A2. Relatively new and free of frippery, this one is light enough to carry around on days out, yet tough enough to survive even your idiotic fumbings (turn to page 103 to read more about the X-A2 in action). Fujifilm's lenses are the ace up this camera's elegantly retro sleeve.

Finally, the Nikon D3300 is a classic entry-level DSLR. Nice and simple, and not too harsh on the old purse strings, it's fronted up by a lens that retreats faster than a slapped monkey in order to save space. Rod's verdict? "This is one of the best APS-C sensors there is." Whatever that means.



ABOVE There's a very simple solution to your juicing woes: do not eat fruit or veg



SAMMIE EVANS, WESTON-SUPER-MARE

Do you juice, Guru? I want to, but it looks a bit messy

A Thanks for asking, Sammie, and yes, Guru does juice. You see, juicing is rather like love-making: it must be

done long and slow, with the finest ingredients in place, pumped straight into a shapely jug.

Slow juicers that take a few minutes to masticate (oof!) firm young carrots (mmm!) using a big, heavy screw (meep!) are better than juicers that use a devilish, spinning blade to annihilate fruit and vegetables. They retain more nutrients this way, supposedly, as the friction of traditional juicers incinerates the vitamins. They're a doddle to clean, too, as fruit and veg residue isn't reduced to dust. Yes, they're more expensive but, as with love-making, you get what you pay for.

Guru once put a beetroot into a more energetic juicer and, because he forgot to put the top on, when he turned on the power it blasted said root upwards like some kind of purple fruit howitzer. Cue scrubbing the ceiling with bleach for an hour. Again, much like after Guru's love-making.

GADGET GURU'S MAGIC BOX

—> After 66 years on the road, the **Land Rover Defender** goes to the big scrapheap in the sky this December. It's departing with a bang, with special editions appearing in new James Bond flick *Spectre* and ferrying the Rugby World Cup trophy around (left). There will also be a replica of the very first Defender, though hopefully with the chassis updated to suit today's less-sturdy buttocks and spinal columns.

Like the idea of Nutribullet but worried that it sends out the wrong image: ie that you wear tracksuits and watch QVC? Well, the forthcoming **Kenwood Smoothie Maker 2GoSport** (right) is a very similar 'whizz up a smoothie, then run away with it' product, but with classier styling.

In the market for a VR headset that's both light and hard to spell? The **Diodio VR Glasses** weigh just 113g, connect wirelessly via Bluetooth and are made of 'skin-friendly materials', unlike normal



VR specs, which are constructed from polonium and shards of glass. They also look like something Future Bono might wear.

GaGu has had a sneak listen to the **Flare R2** in-ears (right), and they're splendid. They've had plaudits from Jarvis Cocker and Jimmy Page, which is apt because, like Jarvis, they're very thin and, like Led Zeppelin plank-spanker Page, they have a massive sound.

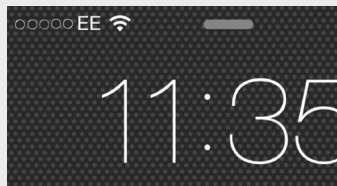
Fan of the **Nissan Qashqai**? Its engineering team has now made a desk! Features? "Around View Monitor and Driver Attention Alert have been fitted to a mobile workstation, enabling the user to have a 360-degree view of the office, and improve their productivity by being prompted to take a break when the system detects a loss of concentration." It's also easy to park and gets great mileage.

But the best thing in Gadget Guru's Magic Box this month is the **Anglepoise + Centrepont** lamp collection. Designed to celebrate London's, ahem, 'much-loved' modernist icon's redevelopment, it's as stylish as any Anglepoise, but with a pop-art twist.



NEED TO KNOW:

HOME PHONE SIGNAL ISSUE



AT HOME, I CAN ONLY TAKE CALLS IF I PRESS MY FACE TO THE WINDOW. AND IT'S GIVING ME A RASH. HOW CAN I BOOST MY PHONE SIGNAL?

Vodafone does something called Signal Booster, which plucks your 3G calls from the air via magic and electronics, and transfers them to your broadband pipe. The downside is that a minimum upload and download speed of 1Mbps is required, which is above what many people get. But anyway...

I'M NOT ON VODAFONE, MATE.
In which case, your best bet is Wi-Fi calling, available on EE and set to roll out on Vodafone and Three "soon". In practical terms, this is the same as the above but requires no box to be strapped to your router. It'll be the next big thing in telecoms within a few years.

I NEED THIS NOW, NOT IN A FEW YEARS. PLUS, MY HTC ONE ISN'T A SUPPORTED PHONE ON EE'S SERVICE. BASTARDS.

Jeez, stop complaining and use WhatsApp calling, or Skype, or a Google Hangout. They all let you use Wi-Fi and are compatible with everything – even BlackBerry and Windows Phone!

BUT THEN, WHOEVER I'M CALLING NEEDS TO HAVE THAT APP, AND BE ON IT. ALSO, IT MESSES UP MY CALL LOGS. WHAT ABOUT THOSE SIGNAL BOOSTERS YOU CAN BUY ONLINE?

According to Ofcom, they're illegal, despite what retailers say. This type of box has to come direct from a network and carry a CE mark to be fully legit. Anyways, like Guru just told you, Wi-Fi calling will fix all this very soon. Guru isn't a miracle worker; don't shoot the messenger!

IT SHOULD JUST BLOODY WORK THROUGH YOUR WI-FI ALREADY IF YOU WANT IT TO. IT'S JUST RIDICULOUS IN THIS DAY AND AGE. RIDICULOUS!

Enough with your moaning. What are you even doing in here, anyway? Get out of Guru's bathroom!



MARTIN ROYSTER, BIRMINGHAM

Guru, what type of watch do you wear? Is it smart?



Just like Flavor Flav of Public Enemy, Gadget Guru likes to know what time it is, yo.

So on one wrist, he's rocking a wearable, so that it's obvious how many steps Guru has taken today. The heart-rate monitor is good for reassuring this gadget Jedi that death isn't nigh; plus, it tells the time.

On the other wrist, Gadget Guru has been wearing a Christopher Ward C5 Malvern Auto Mk I for years. This timepiece matches Guru's personality in many ways: it's manly yet not overly chunky; it's Swiss-engineered for precision, yet cheap as chips; and it has 25 jewels in it and a deployant clasp. Or something. So yeah, that's how Gadget Guru rolls.



CLAIRE TOMPKINS, SHEFFIELD

You must own lots of gadgets. Which do you use the least?



Gadget Guru has had popcorn makers, ice-cream makers and even gadgets that told him when to go to the toilet.

But the answer to your question is still easy: it's a *sous vide*. These rather futuristic, vac-pack, slow-cook, boil-in-the-bag machines are fantastic for catering, as they can prepare anything protein-y to perfection and then hold it ready to eat for any length of time.

But, as a man who once worked as a cook for the SAS (though that's something we really shouldn't talk about), GaGu isn't the kind of guy to wait two hours for a steak. GaGu can griddle one to perfection in about five minutes, thanks.

"GADGET GURU IS USING A PATRIOT FUEL iON MOUNT. IT HOLDS YOUR PHONE THROUGH A COMBO OF NEODYMIUM MAGNETS"



ABOVE Got a moustache and a Rush T-shirt? Then maybe 21st-century tech is not for you



BOB FENWICK, GLASGOW

Where can I put my phone when I'm driving?



GaGu's approach changes all the time. Sometimes, he uses a proper suction kit; sometimes, it's more a case of

leaving the phone on the dash. And very occasionally, Guru might nail a phone to the steering wheel if your favourite gadget master's day is going badly.

At present, however, Gadget Guru is using a Patriot FUEL iON mount. This has the usual Dalek sucker on the back, but it holds your phone through a combination of strong neodymium magnets and a special case for your iPhone or Samsung Galaxy device. The magnets mean it also charges your device via induction, "as fast as directly plugging into the wall", and will spin between portrait and landscape modes with a flick of your mitt.

But hang on a minute – what's Gadget Guru even thinking of? He doesn't need to use a satnav, because he knows exactly where he's going, all of the time.



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ISSUE 244 /
JULY 15



AGENDA

SEVEN NEW ADVENTURES WITH
TECH YOU CAN START TODAY!

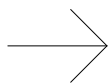
02

COMPETE
WITH NADAL
USING
BABOLAT
PLAY



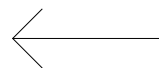
01

HITCH A RIDE ON A
70MPH P1 POWERBOAT



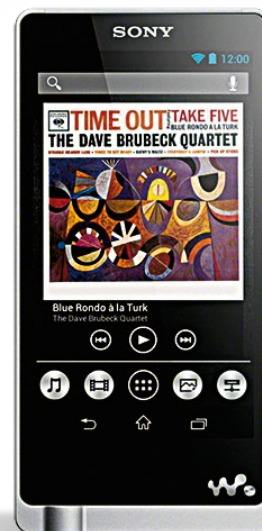
03

BLAST OUT
HIGH-DEF LED
ZEP ON YOUR
WAY TO WORK



BECOME JAMES
BOND FOR A DAY

04



05

REINVENT
YOUR GAMING
EXPERIENCE
WITH EYE-
TRACKING



06

GO FOR A
SMART RUN
WITH ADIDAS
AND SPOTIFY



FILM YOURSELF
DRIVING A PORSCHE

07



01

KING OF THE WAVES

The P1 Panther 28SS is 28-feet long, weighs 1,610kg and has a 260-litre tank. Its top speed is 70mph and it costs around £57,000



HITCH A RIDE ON A 70MPH P1 POWERBOAT

The P1 SuperStock Championship has begun, and you can get a taste of the excitement

With a 250-horsepower engine, the P1 Panther 28SS is not a boat for the faint-hearted. It can accelerate to 70mph, which is such a ferocious speed on the water that it takes two people (a driver and a navigator) to man the reins. When T3 attended the launch of the P1 SuperStock Championship at Royal Victoria Docks in London recently, we realised why this is the world's fastest-growing marine motorsport.

T3 was taken out on a Panther and the rush was incredible. On the turns, we stuck to the boat's sides, with every acceleration felt in our stomach. Now you can find out how it feels to ride on one by entering our exclusive competition to win a P1 Panther experience in either Hull or Cardiff this summer (see right).

READY TO RACE

The boat's low centre of gravity provides greater stability and handling, while crumple zones around the cockpit offer 360-degree protection from collision impact



CHECK THIS...

Electric vehicles
on test in
Man Vs Tech
p72

LICENSED TO THRILL

Lycamobile has extended its Powerboat P1 sponsorship for two more years. "It's a thrilling sport," enthuses chairman Subaskaran Allirajah

If you don't win, there are other ways for you to get your powerboat kicks, such as the Ultimate Powerboat Day run by Saber Powersports in Southampton. Costing £249 per person, this exhilarating experience will see you riding in three different powerboats: a Honda race boat, the Thunderbolt inflatable catamaran and the 450HP Jet Viper.

START YOUR ADVENTURE TODAY

> **T3**, in conjunction with Lycamobile Racing, is offering you the chance to ride in a P1 Panther 28SS. Up for grabs are one ride in Hull (for one reader and their companion, on either the 7, 8 or 9 August) and one in Cardiff (for one reader and their companion, on either the 29, 30 or 31 August).

> To enter, head to the P1 Panther 28SS powerboat competition page at www.t3.com/competitions. You'll be asked to type in your email address and once you have, you'll be entered into a prize draw.

> To book yourself on an Ultimate Powerboat Day, buy a voucher from www.sabermarine.com (various dates are available). You'll then receive an experience gift pack by post.

This prize is available to persons aged 18 or over who are resident in the UK. The prize is as described above but may change if adverse weather conditions prevail on the ride-experience day. The prize excludes travel costs, meals and drinks, and personal expenses. The winner and companion (who should also be aged 18 or over) must be in good health. They will be required to wear a life vest, adhere to any safety instructions stated by the driver, and sign a Powerboat P1 indemnity form.

02



Babolat PLAY is compatible with Android, iOS, Mac and Windows

COMPETE AND COMPARE WITH RAFAEL NADAL USING BABOLAT PLAY

This smart racket will help you to perfect your tennis and pit your stats against the very best in the world

The Babolat AeroPro Drive is Rafael Nadal's racket of choice – and now, with the addition of PLAY sensors that capture game data, one of the best sticks out there has just got better. Says Nadal, "It's completely new and it's going to be a big help for players."

Charge up the racket, head for your local court and switch it on. Sensors in the handle will record the types of shot you make, the amount of spin, the power and where on the strings you're hitting the ball. They'll even distinguish between bouncing the ball with your racket and playing a shot.

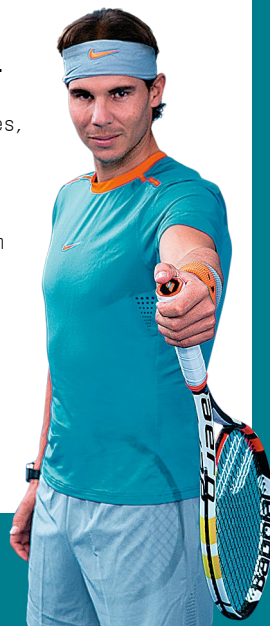
Connecting wirelessly to your phone or tablet, you can then log sessions as training or matches, specifying game conditions, and PLAY will rate your power, technique and endurance as a percentage. That percentage is in relation to the top 20 ATP players, so don't feel too down if it isn't in the 90s.

START YOUR ADVENTURE TODAY

- Grab a Babolat AeroPro Drive PLAY for around £259.99 (www.babolat.co.uk). There are two buttons: on/off and the Bluetooth connector, which can also break up sessions into games or sets.
- Connect to the app and have a look at your game. Are you hitting the ball in the sweet spot of the racket? Using enough top spin on your forehand? The Analyse section will tell you all.
- The Community section enables you to compare and compete with other players. Find out how you stack up against the tennis greats, or go head-to-head with a friend.

At less than 12 ounces, you won't notice the PLAY sensors on the racket, but you'll learn a lot from them

"It's completely new and it's going to be a big help for players" **Rafael Nadal**



03

Blast out high-def Led Zep on your way to work

Sony's NWZ-ZX1 will make your commute more bearable

One of the greatest rock double albums of all time, Led Zeppelin's *Physical Graffiti* was recently remastered to

celebrate the 40th anniversary of its original release. Stacked with classic cuts including *Trampled Under Foot*, *Kashmir* and *Custard Pie*, it's a must for any music collector.

The remaster is available to download in high-definition digital format, and the best way to enjoy this on your daily commute is by playing it on a portable high-res audio player such as the Sony NWZ-ZX1. Designed to "realise the ultimate high-resolution audio experience on the move", it pumps out audio with a wider dynamic range, enabling you to hear the richness of these classic tracks.

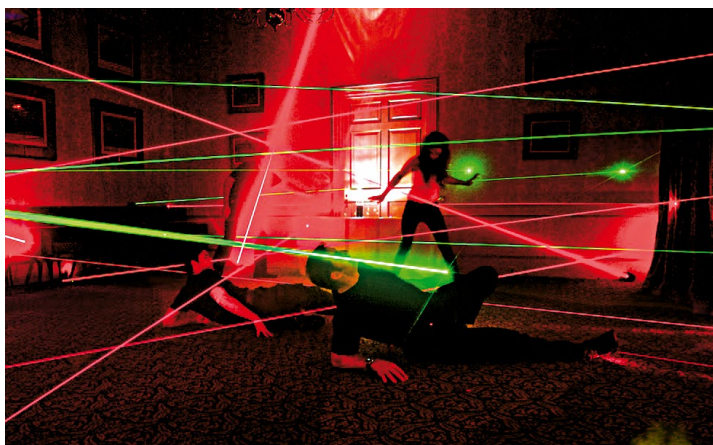
The 128GB NWZ-ZX1 offers a thoroughbred audio performance and can be used with NFC-enabled wireless speakers. Pair it with Sony's high-res audio headphones for the ultimate

AIM HIGH

Sony NWZ-ZX1

The player holds 36,000 songs, while battery life is around 16 hours. £600, www.sony.co.uk





04

BECOME JAMES BOND FOR A DAY



Step into 007's shoes with a high-octane Spy HQ experience, which puts you through five stages of secret-agent training

Race off-road buggies, learn sharp-shooting techniques, dodge lasers in a maze and more with a thrilling Spy HQ

secret-agent day. Organised by Spy Games and run by former military and special-forces personnel, the day is ideal for those wishing to immerse themselves in the murky world of espionage.

"Don't worry if you're flying solo," says Spy Games' Ed Allin. "Lots of people turn up on their own, and we draft them into a group. It's a great way to make new friends who have similar interests."

At each Spy HQ day, there are five groups of 12 spies, with groups competing

for the title of Best Spy. The day lasts six hours (including lunch) and is split into five stages. Activities include racing Bocart off-road buggies (no driver's licence required), in which you'll reach speeds of up to 30 miles per hour; using blank-firing pistols and learning double-tap shots, stoppage drills and magazine changes; and participating in a sniper class using replica .22 air rifles.

You'll also weave your way through a laser-filled maze under cover of disco smoke, and be taught blocks, take-downs and knife defence in an unarmed-combat class. If you want a taste of what it's like to be James Bond, Spy HQ is for you.

START YOUR ADVENTURE TODAY

> Costing £149 per person, Spy HQ days take place once a month, usually on weekends (forthcoming dates include 14 June and 12 July). You'll need to book via the Spy Games website (www.spy-games.com), or you can give them a ring on 03338 007 007 for more information.

> In terms of preparation, all the gear you need for each stage of Spy HQ will be provided by Spy Games. What clothes should you turn up in? "We generally ask that participants dress as though they're going for a walk in the country," says Ed. "So, loose, comfy clothing is good." An onsite caterer will be selling teas, coffees, and hot and cold snacks, though you can bring your own food.

IT'S WATCHING YOU

Sentry will enable you to track and improve your gaming performance. €200 (£143), www.steelseries.com

05 REINVENT YOUR GAMING

Sentry's eye-tracking tech is a gamer's best friend, providing greater control and immersion



With new gaming peripherals such as the Oculus Rift making headlines across the industry, it's easy to brush off eye-tracking technology as just another piece of novelty kit. Yet, unlike VR, which envelops your senses and creates a new type of experience, eye-tracking can enhance your games without disturbing your current set-up.

So how does it work? Well, the Sentry model from SteelSeries/Tobii uses a small camera and a series of three illuminators that read the movements of your eyes up to 50 times a second. It also has a set of magnets to attach its slim, rectangular

case in place, making it ideal for both laptops and PCs.

Sadly, this technology can't be used with any old game, but there are a good 5,000 titles out there that have been configured to work with devices like the Sentry – including the utterly brilliant *Assassin's Creed: Rogue*. This historical sci-fi title, set amid the 18th-century turmoil of the Seven Years War, is a perfect test for eye-tracking, due to its open-world stealth and ship-based exploration. And with publisher Ubisoft offering a free copy of *Rogue* with the first 5,000 Sentries sold, there's never been a better time to give it a try.

START YOUR ADVENTURE TODAY

- > To enjoy the benefits of Sentry's eye-tracking technology, you'll need a PC or laptop with at least a 2.4GHz quad-core Intel processor, running either Windows 7, 8 or 8.1. You'll also need support for USB 3.0.
- > You can play with either a keyboard/mouse or via a controller, but you'll need to calibrate your set-up by scanning the position of your eyes.
- > The sensors will then track your eye movements, centring your camera view every time you look at the screen, and enabling you to aim and scan your surroundings with ease.



The last thing you want when you're all pumped up is to have a ballad kick in on your iPhone. Adidas Go prevents this!

06 Go for a smart run

A new app, Adidas Go, uses the beat of your feet to curate a Spotify playlist

"Music has the power to boost your run... But what if, instead of you listening to music, the music listens to you?" This intriguing question was posed by Adidas upon the launch of its new fitness app, Adidas Go.

A must for runners who like listening to music while pounding the streets, Adidas Go uses your iPhone's accelerometer to calculate

your running pace, then selects songs from your Spotify account that have a matching BPM ratio. Streaming costs can be side-stepped, as the app can select songs from playlists saved offline, or you can embrace a world of new tunes by letting the app choose tracks taken from the wider Spotify catalogue yet still based on your playlist tastes. Just beat your PB? You can record a personal infographic via the app, then post it to social media.

The app calculates your running pace, then selects songs with a matching BPM

SURROUNDED. TOTALLY.



ROCCAT™ KAVE XTD 5.1 ANALOG

PREMIUM 5.1 SURROUND SOUND ANALOG GAMING HEADSET

For gamers who demand the latest generation of analog surround sound headset technology for the latest generation of games and multimedia there can be only one answer. Meet ROCCAT's Kave XTD 5.1 Analog, the successor to the most successful real 5.1 surround sound gaming headset ever. Taking the award-winning blueprint of its predecessor and adding a ton of improvements by way of sound, comfort and durability, the new Kave 5.1 reinforces

its position as king of surround sound analog. Suitable for gamer and audiophile alike, this is a headset made for those who know there is no substitute for real 5.1 audio, with pure, unadulterated sound quality as its focus above all else. Enjoy gaming audio as it should be and revel in an audio solution so immersive it leaves the competition trailing in its wake. The Kave XTD 5.1 Analog. Surrounded. Totally.



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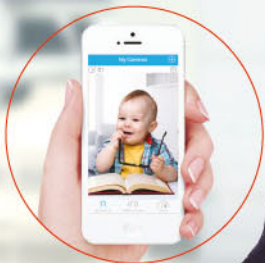
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SIX OF THE BEST

The track at the Porsche Centre incorporates six elements: a Handling Circuit, as well as Straights, Kick Plate, Ice Hill, Low Friction and Off-Road sections.

FILM YOURSELF DRIVING A PORSCHE

The Garmin Virb is just the action cam to record you lapping the German marque's Silverstone circuit in a dream motor

Unleash your inner Stig with a 90-minute Driving Experience at the legendary Porsche Centre at Silverstone,

where you can take your pick from lustworthy Porsches including the 911, the Boxster and the Cayman.

Just over three miles long in its entirety, the Porsche Centre's track can be split into separate circuits, each offering different surface conditions for you to explore your machine's potential. Obviously, you can't take your car home with you (unless you can afford to drop £73K+ on a 911 Carrera), so filming your drive is a must. And that's where the Garmin Virb comes in...

A tiny action camera, the Virb records true HD (1080p) video and sports a WideVu lens for shooting in three modes, from up close and personal to panoramic. The Virb automatically adjusts for shaking, meaning your footage remains smooth even when you're cornering at top speed, while the 2,000mAh battery offers three hours of recording time, more than enough to capture your Silverstone experience.

Garmin's Virb offers three hours of recording time, more than enough to capture your Silverstone experience

CHECK THIS...

Our pick of the best automotive gadgets p126

NO-NONSENSE CAM

The Virb is rugged and waterproof, and features a 1.4-inch Chroma display for viewing footage in hi-def

START YOUR ADVENTURE TODAY

- > Head to www.porsche.com/silverstone to book your 90-minute Driving Experience, which costs £295 per person.
- > Keep your eyes peeled for the postie, as you'll soon receive a presentation folder containing your info. Once you've received it, call the Porsche Centre (08443 575 911) to book your day.
- > Make sure your Garmin Virb is charged up. Don't own one yet? Head to garmin.com/en-GB to pick one up for £169.99, plus a dash suction mount for £21.99.

THE BEST TECH FOR EVERYTHING

LIFE MOVES FAST - YOU NEED THE BEST TECH TO KEEP UP WITH YOU. WHETHER YOU WANT A NEW PHONE, A FITNESS TRACKER OR A DRONE, YOU'LL FIND IT HERE

WORDS ROB CARNEY, CLAIRE DAVIES, PAUL DIMERY,
NICK ODANTZIS, CRAIG STEWART





ENTERTAINMENT

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FOOD AND DRINK

Can't cook worth a damn?
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Get sweaty with fitness trackers and wireless buds



GROOMING

Souped-up shavers, techy toothbrushes and more



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Make your trip fun with cool bikes, watches and tablets



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Hit the road in style with these motor-tech goodies



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Get your house in shape with the niftiest tools and gadgets



BOYS' TOYS

Take to the skies this summer with the best drones around





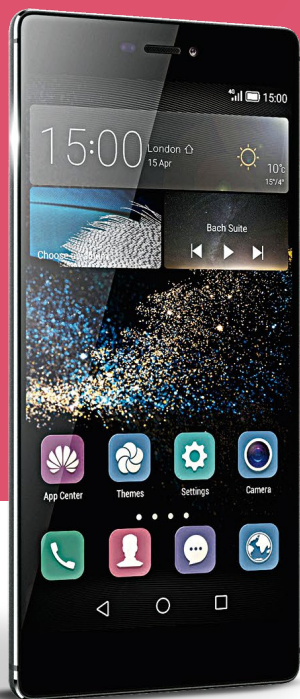
ENTERTAINMENT

FROM MULTI-ROOM AUDIO SYSTEMS TO HD-DISPLAY
SMARTPHONES AND CURVED TVs, WE'VE GOT YOUR
ENTERTAINMENT TECH NEEDS COVERED

01 HUAWEI P8

Smart and light, Huawei's latest has a slim, aluminium unibody for a more premium feel. The 5.2-inch, Full HD display is clear and bright, and you'll relish all those vivid colours and deepest blacks when watching HD movies. The 13MP rear camera includes features such as optical image stabilisation and low-light enhancement, while the front-facing 8MP camera has a wide angle so that you can cram more buddies into the shot.

From £395, huawei.com/uk



01

02



02 AUDEZE EL-8

Audeze says its EL-8s are "the world's most advanced planar magnetic headphones". The open-back version is a feast of wood veneer accents and plump cushioning, the latter ensuring maximum comfort. The closed-back version has the same 'revolutionary' acoustic engineering, while reducing ambient noise. The EL-8s use Audeze's Fluxor Magnetic, Uniforce Diaphragm and Fazor technologies, all of which adds up to an audio experience that will leave many other cans in the dust.

£599, audeze.com

TOP THREE TABLETS

IT'S STEAL, SAVE OR SPLURGE TIME WITH THESE FEATURE-PACKED DEVICES



iPAD AIR 2

Thanks to TouchID tech that uses a fingerprint sensor to unlock your Air 2, you won't have to worry about others accessing your 'Pad. A breeze to use, the Air 2 features an iSight camera for high-quality images, plus a front-facing FaceTime HD camera for video calls. From £399, apple.com/uk



SAMSUNG TAB S 8.4

Stay connected on the go without feeling weighed down with this lightweight, 16GB tablet. The 8.4-inch Super AMOLED display is crisp and, with the MultiWindow feature, you can split the screen so you can work while you watch an episode of *Silicon Valley*. £250, samsung.com



TESCO HUDL 2

With the family-friendly Hudl 2, your kids can watch cartoons over brekkie before you get busy checking emails. The screen is large, the battery life good and the speakers strong. The micro HDMI out connection means you can plug this tablet into your TV, too. £99, tesco.com

03



04



05



03 SAMSUNG JS9500

This TV will wow you with its superb design and clear sound. Nanocrystal technology enables the backlight panel to emit rich colours, deep blacks and pristine whites, while the curved UHD screen shoots for an immersive viewing experience. The Auto Depth Enhancer is on board to bring flat images to life, while Samsung's UHD dimming tech adds just the right level of contrast and colour. UHD upscaling is also handy for enhancing the picture of non-UHD-quality shows and films.

From £5,999, samsung.com

04 DENON HEOS 1

A powerful, wireless multi-room sound system, the HEOS 1 pumps out a big sound from a compact body. Simple to use, the system enables you to listen to music wirelessly via Bluetooth and Wi-Fi audio streaming. Love listening to James Taylor while taking a bath? The HEOS 1 is also humidity-resistant. Custom EQ sound tailoring helps with achieving a natural tonal balance, while Digital Signal Processing delivers a full sound range. Buy the Go Pack (£79) to use the HEOS 1 outdoors.

£199, denon.co.uk

05 TEAC HRS101

Compact and impressive, the HRS101 is a high-resolution micro system that comprises the AI101DA Integrated Amplifier with USB DAC and a pair of LS-101 speakers. Perfect for slotting into small spaces, it enables you to enjoy high-res audio streaming from your computer, and high-quality wireless streaming from your phone via aptX Bluetooth. Available in black or silver, the HRS101 has an aluminium alloy front panel and enclosure, and four audio inputs on board.

£329, teac-audio.eu



FOOD AND DRINK

GET YOUR CHOPS AROUND THESE ESSENTIAL GADGETS FOR WINING AND DINING (YOURSELF AND OTHERS!)

01 KRUPS B95 BEERTENDER

Get an authentic home draught-lager experience with the B95 BeerTender. Working exclusively with the Heineken DraughtKeg (basically, a massive barrel of beer), it uses internal carbonator tech to ensure that your drink remains fresh for up to 30 days. A volume indicator shows how much is left in the keg, a freshness indicator makes sure you aren't drinking a rotten pint, while temperature controls mean you can get your lager to the point of ultimate freshness.

£97, krups.com



03



03 PANTELLIGENT SMART FRYING PAN

If your kitchen skills are less than adequate, this pan - combined with the accompanying app - will give you step-by-step instructions on frying, sautéing or flashing the perfect supper. So, say you want to cook some salmon, you stick it in the pan and the Pantelligent app will tell you the correct temperature (as well as the pan's current temperature), and when you need to flip, add other ingredients, and so on. **TBC, pantelligent.com**



THE BEST BARBECUE TECH

FIRE UP THE COALS - IT'S TIME TO GET GRILLING...



LYNX SMARTGRILL

Powered by a 1.5GHz CPU, and with 64GB storage and Wi-Fi, this grill is voice-activated or smart-device-controlled, so you can basically say, "Smartgrill, cook steak" and it will. From £5,516, lynxgrills.com



iGRILL2

The secret to great barbecued meat is a good probing, right? The iGrill2 helps you get the right temperature and, via Bluetooth, lets you know when your pork is thoroughly done. £74.99, idevicesinc.com



GOBQ GRILL

The GoBQ claims to be the world's first packable grill. It fits neatly in a backpack, can be thrown over your shoulder (it weighs eight pounds) and assembles in about 20 seconds. £87, gobqgrills.com

02 SAGE SMART TOAST

Whether your preference is a smothering of Dairy Lea or a splodge of Nutella, there's no better way to colour your bread in the morning than by using the Sage Smart Toast. A quick-look feature helps you see how the toast is browning - the bread 'glides' up without interrupting the toasting cycle - crumpet and defrost settings are here, and there's even a special setting for fruit bread.

£150, sageappliances.co.uk



04 CORAVIN 1000 WINE ACCESS SYSTEM

Want to enjoy one glass of wine without rattling through the whole bottle? This clever device uses a hollow needle to penetrate the cork and access the wine, before pressurising the bottle with argon gas. The wine flows through the needle into your glass. Once you've poured, the needle is removed and the cork reseals to stop oxidation.

£269, coravin.co.uk

05 ORANGE CHEF COUNTERTOP

The Countertop aims to bridge the gap between your smart devices and kitchen gadgets. Install one of the available adapters to either your Vitamix blender or Crock-Pot slow cooker (more compatible devices to come) and it will make them smart - when you place your gadget onto the Countertop base, it'll connect wirelessly to your phone, offering recipes and more.

£130, orangechef.com



DIY

THE BEST TECH TO
HELP YOU GET YOUR
HOUSE IN TIP-TOP
SHAPE THIS SUMMER



01 BROKK 60

This remote-controlled demolition robot may be the smallest of its kind (the base unit measures 34.3 x 23.2 inches), but it's said to be 7-8 times more effective than handheld tools. It can be used to demolish walls, has a vertical reach of over ten feet and can even climb stairs. POA, brokk.com/uk



02 STANLEY SLP1 TORPEDO LASER LEVEL

Crap picture-hanging, be gone! The SLP1 Torpedo Laser Level projects a straight laser up to 50 feet, while a beam-spreader lens creates a 90-degree angle. A nifty gadget for hanging super-straight pictures. £60, stanleytools.co.uk



03 DEWALT INSPECTION CAMERA

Keen to know what that stench is coming from your chimney? Now you can find out with this flexible, waterproof device that ventures into your home's darkest corners and relays the footage it captures to a screen you hold in your hand. £310, dewalt.co.uk



DRIVING

GET BEHIND THE WHEEL TO SAMPLE SOME OF THE BEST MOTORING KIT THAT MONEY CAN BUY RIGHT NOW

■ 01 VW E-UP!

Volkswagen's first all-electric car is perfect for driving around town, offering emission-free power, neat LED lights and a decent 99 miles from a single charge.

£24,795,
volkswagen.co.uk

■ 02 BMW i8

This environmentally conscious supercar boasts futuristic looks, a hybrid petrol/electric engine that churns out 134.5mpg, and a top speed of 155mph. Nifty.

£104,540,
bmw.co.uk

■ 03 TESLA MODEL S

Tesla has set the bar for the future of driving: an all-electric range up to 310 miles, incredible performance and oodles of in-car tech.

£55,000,
teslamotors.com

01



02



■ 04 PARROT RNB6

Not content with dominating the drone market, Parrot has gone and launched a rather spiffing infotainment/navigation system. The RNB6 comes loaded with Android 5.0 and can control your dash-cam, reversing cameras and maps – oh, and it plays music via your phone and favourite apps, too, so you can have a sing-song while you drive to work.

£TBC, parrot.com



■ 05 GARMIN NUVICAM LMT-D

Digi-maps are fitted to many new cars nowadays, but the quality varies wildly. Better to trust Garmin with your direction-finding. The LMT-D brings luxu-barge tech to your humble hatchback, with features like Forward Collision Warning and Lane Departure Warning. Now there's no excuse for being late. Unfortunately.

£300, garmin.com



■ 06 KENWOOD DNX7250DAB

CarPlay and Android Auto are great, but wouldn't you like to be able to use all your phone apps on your car stereo's touchscreen? The DNX7250DAB does that job, using Wireless True Mirroring tech to broadcast the apps you have on your iPhone or Android device. Netflix, iPlayer and YouTube, here we come.

£950, kenwood-electronics.co.uk

CARPLAY-READY ICE MAKE SWEET MUSIC EN ROUTE WITH THESE HEAD UNITS



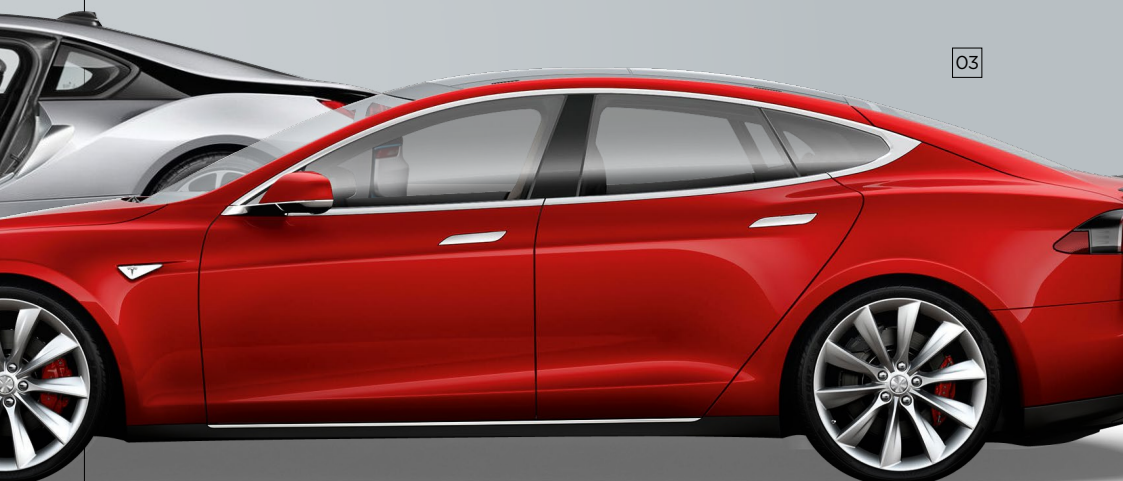
PIONEER APPRADIO 4
Pioneer's AppRadio systems have had a mixed reception due to the lack of compatible apps. The inclusion here of Apple CarPlay solves that problem – as long as you own an iPhone. £330, pioneerelectronics.com



ALPINE ILX-700
The ILX-007 is a lump of loveliness for Apple addicts (there's no Bluetooth, so it's iPhone-only), with a gorgeous seven-inch touchscreen and all the usual CarPlay toys. £490, alpine.co.uk



PIONEER AVIC-8000NEX
Pioneer's headline CarPlay receiver creams the opposition in terms of features – for a price. And if you're an Androidist, you can rejoice because it comes totting Android Auto as well. £725, pioneerelectronics.com



03



TOYS

THE BEST DRONES
FOR, ERM, KIDS



01 PARROT JUMPING SUMO

With a swipe of your finger on your smartphone or tablet, you can make this two-wheeler turn 90 and 180 degrees, and even leap horizontally up to 80cm. And, of course, you can see exactly what it's seeing – it's perfect for chasing cats. £140, parrot.com



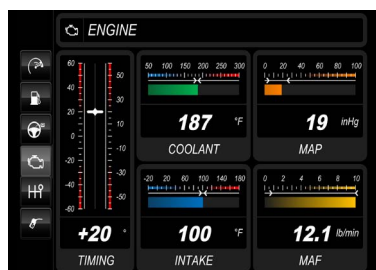
02 REVELL WI-FI QUADCOPTER X-SPY

If you want to go airborne without breaking the bank, this is a decent choice. It's controlled using a somewhat chunky joystick, but offers the ability to slot in your smartphone to give you a first-person view of your aerobatics. £99, revell.de



03 HUBSAN X4 MINI

Your little miracle will love this aerial drone – plus it's cheap as chips, so you don't need to worry about it smashing into a million pieces. A six-axis control system with adjustable gyro sensitivity makes it stable to fly, and it'll record your flight – albeit not in HD. £60, hubsan.com



07 DASHCOMMAND

Once connected to your car's on-board diagnostic port via a Wi-Fi dongle (available separately), the DashCommand app will give you a readout of everything your car is doing. As well as offering all the power, speed and fuel-economy info you could ever require, it can tell you if your engine is throwing up any fault codes, potentially saving you a fortune. \$9.99, palmerperformance.com



08 KW SMART SUSPENSION

If you've ever looked on in envy at luxury cars' adjustable suspension, you may not have realised that you can add this to your own motor. KW's DDC kit can not only be adjusted for a myriad of damper settings from the cockpit, just like a top-end BMW, but also by your iPhone or Android smartphone via the KW app. From £2,200, kwsuspensions.co.uk



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01 GOCYCLE G2

Folding into a neat package, this bike is easy to store when not in use. Pedal it to burn some calories, or hit the magic red button to let the motor kick in. With speeds of up to 15mph, this'll make your commute more fun. Find out more in Man Vs Tech (p72).

£2,799, gocycle.com

02 GRIFFIN ELEVATOR

Ideal for getting your laptop into a comfortable position on your desk, the Elevator raises the height of your screen and liberates some much-needed space, which means you can stick your pot of porridge beneath it.

£27, griffintechology.com

03 GUNNAR VINYL GLASSES

Designed to ease eye strain by taking the weight off your eye muscles, reduce the damaging effects of blue light, and prevent your eyes from drying out, these are a must. They're available as prescription glasses, too.

£80, gunnars.co.uk

04 LENOVO THINKPAD YOGA 12

This 12.5-inch laptop has a ThinkPad keyboard for long bouts of typing, as well as a Full HD touchscreen that can be flipped 360 degrees from the closed position so that you can use the ThinkPad Yoga 12 as a full-blown tablet.

£680, lenovo.com



05 APPLE WATCH

iPhone user? This is the best accessory for your commute. The Apple Watch delivers notifications, helps you reply to messages and will even get you to that unfamiliar meeting place by offering turn-by-turn directions.

£299, apple.com/uk

06 MASTER PIECE HEDGE BACKPACK

This Japanese-designed pack features a roll-top, enabling you to squeeze the air out of it and make more room for your belongings. It looks great and is made of Cordura canvas for added durability.

£235, mrporter.com

07 JAWBONE UP24

Remembering to get up off your office chair regularly can be a struggle. Jawbone's UP24 activity tracker will give you gentle reminders in the form of a vibration on your wrist to let you know when it's time to go for a wander.

£100, jawbone.com

08 PENCIL

One for the creative types among you, or for those who regularly attend meetings, the Pencil by FiftyThree is a beautiful-looking stylus that enables you to draw, scribble or write on your tablet in the same, natural fashion that you would with paper.

£50, fiftythree.com



GROOMING

THERE'S A FINE LINE BETWEEN MANLY MUSK AND FULL-BLOWN MAN STINK, BUT THIS TECH WILL KEEP YOU FRESH



01 ORAL-B PRO BLACK 6500 SMARTSERIES

With a range of deep-cleaning motions and brush modes, the 6500 offers a superb tooth scrub. Packing Bluetooth tech, it can be used with the Oral-B app to monitor your brushing habits, while the Wireless SmartGuide syncs with your brush to give you real-time feedback on your efforts.

£249, oralb.co.uk

02 PHILIPS BEARDTRIMMER SERIES 7000 AND 9000

The suction on the Series 7000 will ensure less spillage in the bathroom sink, and there's a turbo-boost button for extra power. Going for that Ming the Merciless look? Grab the Series 9000, a laser-guided trimmer for sculpting sharp beard lines.

£60, philips.co.uk

03 LUNA FOR MEN

The Luna facial-cleansing brush may cost a packet, but it promises to transform your chops into a wonderland of baby-soft skin. Using T-Sonic technology to condition your face for a close shave, it pumps out up to 8,000 pulsations a minute to remove dead skin cells and unclog pores. It even has an anti-ageing mode for smoothing wrinkles.

£145, foreo.com

05 HAIRMAX LASER COMB PRO 12

There are tons of pungent hair-growth lotions around, but what if you want something more cost-effective in the long run? Well, this barnet brush promises to reverse hair thinning and stimulate growth by using laser tech to energise hair cells, ultimately leading to stronger follicles.

£399, haircaretotal.co.uk

04 BRAUN SERIES 7 799

As featured in T3 220's '100 Gadgets You Can't Live Without', this kingly shaver is fully rechargeable, ensuring you never run out of juice when removing the mass of fuzz from your face. Suitable for wet and dry use, this quick-charge device offers three unique shaving modes (extra-sensitive, normal and intensive), dependent on your skin type.

£200, braun.com

06 MOXIE SHOWERHEAD + WIRELESS SPEAKER

Rock out while lathering up! Fitting easily in place of your current showerhead, the Moxie comprises a wireless speaker that can also be removed for portable use. There's a choice of showerheads available, including the rainhead design with its air-induction tech for a spa-like spray.

From £127, kohler.co.uk



HEALTH

FIVE TOP GADGETS TO GET YOU MOVING IN STYLE...



01 MICROSOFT BAND

Powered by Microsoft Health, this band aims to help you live healthier. Use it to get stats on your heart rate, calories burned and sleep cycle.

£170, microsoftstore.com



02 JABRA SPORT PULSE EARBUDS

The in-ear heart-rate monitor makes these wireless buds ideal for getting in-run feedback on your performance.

£200, jabra.co.uk



03 FITBIT ARIA WI-FI SCALE

Monitor your BMI, weight and more. Wireless syncing can also transfer Aria data to the Fitbit dashboard.

£100, fitbit.com/uk



04 MAGIMIX LE BLENDER

Quiet in use, Le Blender is perfect for making protein shakes post-workout, plus fresh soups and healthy puds.

£160, magimix.uk.com



05 ASICS NATURAL 33

AmpliFoam technology, developed to work with all 33 joints in the foot, ensures that these trainers offer a natural running experience.

£TBC, asics.co.uk

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4K and ready for action

THESE ACTION CAMERAS WILL ALL CAPTURE YOUR THRILL RIDES IN 4K, BUT WHICH IS THE BEST OF THE BUNCH?

Words: Ali Jennings Photography: Neil Godwin

RESILIENT AND WATERPROOF, ACTION CAMERAS ENABLE EXTREME-SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS TO CAPTURE THEIR FEATS IN BRILLIANT HIGH DEFINITION. SURE, THE FEATS ARE IMPRESSIVE, BUT IT'S THE INNOVATION OF THESE SMALL CAMERAS THAT STANDS OUT.

Their diminutive size and weight enable them to be attached to flight suits, vehicles and people, causing little obstruction, while their easy operation enables those with no previous shooting experience to film like a pro.

In 2013, market leader GoPro upped the ante with its Hero3. For the first time, here was an action camera that could shoot in 4K – albeit only at 15 frames per second, which made for disappointing playback.

GoPro's latest 4K model, the Hero4 Black, takes the fps up to 30 in NTSC format, and the footage is so much better, offering smooth motion and clear detail – perfect for capturing that ski run or daredevil mountain-bike ride.

But GoPro is not the only option for 4K shooting – Panasonic's HX-A500 and Sony's X1000V are also vying for your cash, and T3 is here to explain the pros and cons of each, so you can choose the one that best suits your needs.



WHAT'S ON TEST...

- 1** **GoPro Hero4 Black**
GoPro has been the leader of the action-camera pack for years, but how does its 4K footage rate?
- Price:** £410
URL: gopro.com



- 2** **Panasonic HX-A500**
A two-part design and a large display are the HX-A500's selling points - but are we sold on it?
- Price:** £329
URL: panasonic.com



- 3** **Sony X1000V**
Sony leads the field when it comes to digital image quality, but will its compact 4K camera live up to the name?
- Price:** £359
URL: sony.co.uk



→ TEST 01:

DESIGN

Who rules the roost in terms of build quality and layout?

Let's be honest, if you're bombing down a forest track on your mountain bike, you won't care too much about what your action camera looks like, so we'd argue that the brightly coloured bodywork on the HX-A500 we tested is not that big a draw. Of course, the Panasonic's most distinctive selling point is that two-piece design, which is meant to add versatility (you can, for instance, mount the main unit on your handlebars while wearing the separate camera at face level, to film exactly what you're seeing). For us, though, this adds an unnecessary level of complication to what's meant to be a fun hobby. To its credit, Panasonic's camera has a 1.5-inch screen that enables you to clearly see what you're filming (albeit in low resolution), while those large buttons make recording off the cuff a cinch.

The Hero4 Black could never be described as pretty – in fact, it's about as boxy as a block of LEGO – but it's as tough as nails, and that's what you really want from an action camera.

The Hero4 Black could never be called pretty, but it's as tough as nails

It's also ridiculously easy to mount – although it does tend to sit proud on top of a helmet or board, making it prone to being dislodged. Again, there's a screen for viewing footage, while the small settings display on the front of the camera is easy to navigate.

In terms of finesse, the Sony X1000V sits somewhere between the Panasonic and the GoPro. It looks a bit like one of those budget camcorders that first emerged about ten years ago, which isn't entirely a good thing, though it doesn't offend us. What's more important is that its slender shape enables it to be mounted flush against the side of a helmet or vehicle, and also fit comfortably in the palm of your hand (even when it's wearing its protective housing, the X1000V feels like the most portable device of the three on test). We also like how the 170-degree Zeiss lens looks on the front of the camera, while the positioning of the record button on the top of the unit simplifies shooting when you're holding the camera in your hand.

GOPRO HERO4 BLACK



Wrapped in a standard housing, the camera is waterproof to 40 metres



The settings screen offers no frills but is pleasingly simple to navigate

SPECS

MAXIMUM 4K FRAME RATE: 30fps	RECORDING FORMAT: MP4	CONNECTIVITY: Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, HDMI, USB
MAXIMUM 1080P FRAME RATE: 120fps	MAXIMUM STILLS RESOLUTION: 12MP	OTHER FEATURES: Burst, Time Lapse, Night Lapse
	BATTERY: 1,160mAh	

HARD CASE

Coat your action camera in a housing for extra protection against water and more

→ In most cases, separate housings are available that will protect the delicate inner workings of your action camera from the elements, whether that be moisture

(sweat, rain, ocean spray), sand, dust or mud. Often, these will come as part of the package (for instance, each GoPro camera comes with a standard housing

that enables it to function up to 40 metres underwater). But you can pay for protection from more extreme elements, too – the GoPro dive housing is waterproof to 60 metres.

Remember that housings can get caked in dirt, so we recommend you look for one that enables your camera to be removed quickly and easily.

PANASONIC HX-A500



SONY X1000V



The settings menu is a bit limited, though the scrolling system is easy



The controls are intuitive, taking the stress out of filming



The large record button on the top of the camera makes for easy shooting



Even in its waterproof housing, the X1000V is a slim unit

SPECS

MAXIMUM 4K FRAME RATE: 25fps	RECORDING FORMAT: MP4	CONNECTIVITY: USB, Wi-Fi
MAXIMUM 1080P FRAME RATE: 50fps	MAXIMUM STILLS RESOLUTION: 8.3MP	OTHER FEATURES: 240fps slow-motion shooting
	BATTERY: 1,450mAh	

SPECS

MAXIMUM 4K FRAME RATE: 30fps	RECORDING FORMAT: MP4	CONNECTIVITY: USB, HDMI, Wi-Fi, NFC, GPS
MAXIMUM 1080P FRAME RATE: 120fps	MAXIMUM STILLS RESOLUTION: 8.8MP	OTHER FEATURES: Highlight Movie Maker
	BATTERY: 1,240mAh	

PICTURE PERFECT

If you're shooting 4K footage, you'll want a snazzy 4K TV to watch it back on

→ So, you've captured your extreme adventures in lovely 4K; now you need a TV that does it justice (note that if you want to connect your camera directly to your TV, you'll lose

some quality - see over). The Samsung JS9000, reviewed last issue, is a great choice, but other top options include the Sony KD-65X9005B and the Panasonic TX-50AX802.



T3 Test 01 winner SONY X1000V

→ The X1000V is sleek, light and comfortable in the palm. The Zeiss lens looks smart, while the top-mounted record button is handy

→ TEST 02:

FOOTAGE

They all shoot in 4K, but not all to the same standard...

We've established that all three of these cameras shoot in 4K, so their footage must be pretty much the same, right? Well, it's not quite as black and white as that. For a start, they don't all shoot in the same frame rate: the Hero4 Black and the X1000V both offer 30fps, while the Panasonic only manages 25fps. But even then, there are other things to consider. For example, if you live in the UK and you want to play your footage directly from your camera to your 4K TV, you'll need to set the video format to PAL, which immediately gives all of these cameras a maximum frame rate of 25fps. Happily, if you want to get the best out of your GoPro or Sony, there's a way around this: both cameras enable you to switch between formats, so you can record your footage at 30fps in NTSC format, then edit your footage on a computer to benefit from the smoother motion afforded by the extra 5fps. The HX-A500, however, is region-specific and set to 25fps in PAL regions.

An extra 5ps doesn't sound like a lot, but it makes a real difference

An extra 5fps might not sound like a lot, but comparing footage from each of the cameras on a computer shows just how much difference it makes. Both the Hero4 Black's and the X1000V's footage was satisfyingly smooth, clear and crisp – though 30fps is still slightly limiting as motion picks up. In terms of dynamic range, the Hero4 Black just about takes the edge; filming clouds, for example, we could make out clear definition, with little to no burnout.

The HX-A500's footage does lag behind its rivals, but it's not going to make you recoil in horror. Yes, we found that it struggled in low-light conditions, with grain showing in areas of flat tone; and while the wide-angle-view option is useful for filming what's in your peripheral vision, it distorts the image somewhat. But on the plus side, the colours are rich – and, let's not forget, with that head-mounted camera you get a slightly different perspective to what the other two devices offer, making your films a bit more unique.

GOPRO HERO4 BLACK



While the Hero4 Black shoots stills at 12MP, it could never replace a top-of-the-range DSLR



Such is the quality of the Hero4 Black's 4K footage that even when you zoom in, there's a good level of detail. It shoots great (non-4K) slow-mo, too

Image quality

The Hero4 Black's 4K video is packed with detail, and captures plenty of shadow and highlight tone. Exposure and white-balance adjustment are handled well when moving from light to dark, and the top frame rate of 30fps in NTSC just about keeps motion smooth as long as it's not too fast.

DARKNESS AND LIGHT

A wide dynamic range will capture finer detail in bright and gloomy subjects

→ The wider your camera's dynamic range, the more detail it will capture in the shadows and highlights. To put that another way, if your device has a wide dynamic range and

you're mountain biking through woodland on a bright, sunny day, it'll be able to capture the detail in the shaded undergrowth as well as the clouds visible



through the trees. If your camera doesn't have this, you can expect bleached-out skies and shadows with no detail. You just have to decide if that's important to you.

PANASONIC HX-A500



While the HX-A500's 4K footage shows evidence of distortion, it isn't overbearing. Definition is slightly weaker than what the other two cameras offer, which gives footage a softer appearance

SONY X1000V



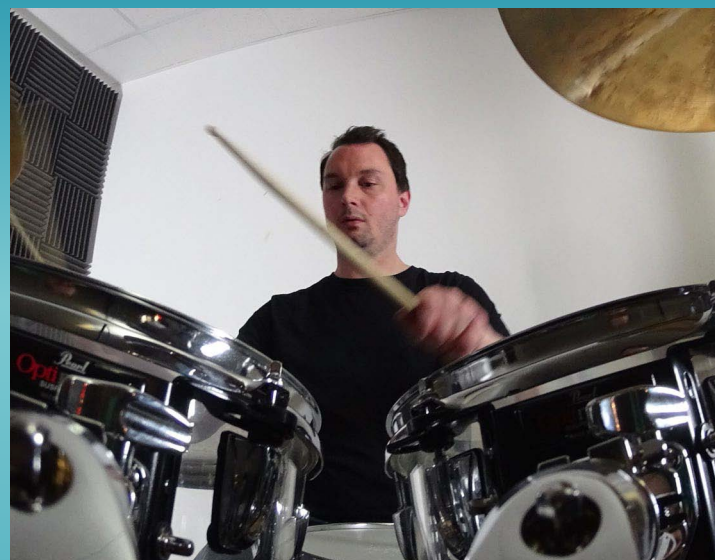
Distortion is also apparent in the X1000V's footage, giving it a typical action-camera look. Detail towards the edges is well defined, however



Close inspection of the video shows good detail, though compared with the other two the level of tonal graduation and edge definition is inferior

Image quality

Colours are well controlled in the HX-A500's footage, though areas of flat tone do show signs of noise. Move into a shaded area and the noise becomes very noticeable. Detail is also well produced, but it's still some way behind the standout quality of the Hero4 Black and the X1000V.



Detail and tone are of an excellent quality. However, in highlight areas, flat white tone close to burnout can turn a yellowish colour

Image quality

A good amount of the tone within a scene is captured, and when the footage is shown back on a 4K TV you can see plenty of fine detail. Contrast and saturation give the footage impact, while the 30fps in NTSC ensures that motion is smooth (as long as the camera is kept steady).

POWERING UP

As usual, battery life is a concern. Here are your options for extending your filming time

→ Shooting video will make light work of your battery power, so if you're off riding Snowdon for the day, be sure to have a back-up. Both the X1000V and the Hero4 Black

feature interchangeable batteries, but the HX-A500 relies on a built-in battery, limiting your recording time unless you carry a power pack and charge up en route.

The X1000V also features a nifty power socket at the base, enabling you to plug it into a wall if you need to.



T3 Test 02 winner
GOPRO HERO4

→ Smooth motion and fine detail give GoPro's camera the edge over the Sony. The Panasonic is a level below

→ TEST 03:

FEATURES

What do these cameras offer besides a sound structure and nice footage?

Still undecided as to which action camera is the one for you? Then it might well boil down to the features each one offers. The Hero4 Black's audio-recording capabilities have been improved over previous GoPro models, but you can also acquire an optional 3.5mm input accessory to attach an external mic. This is quite an important asset for us, as there's nothing more irritating than having to listen to muffled sound while enjoying spectacular high-def footage. Elsewhere, the GoPro features a neat Time Lapse mode that captures a burst of stills at intervals of 0.5 to 60 seconds, which is great for shooting the different stages of a ski jump or skateboard trick. And here at T3, we're big fans of the GoPro's Protune software, which has been updated to offer a plethora of new ways to enhance your video.

The Panasonic camera offers effective image stabilisation, which stops you from getting seasick when you're watching your footage back, but its accompanying app could do with

GoPro's Protune offers a plethora of new ways to enhance your video

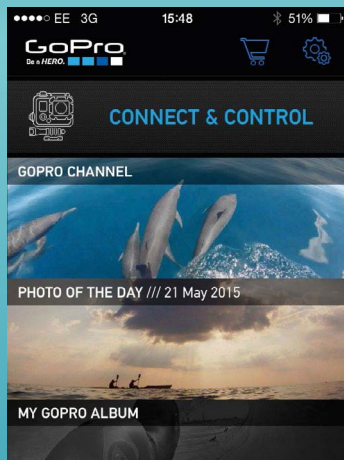
being updated – it's certainly nowhere near as good as the GoPro one, for example. There's also a loop-recording option with this camera, where your oldest clips are replaced by new ones to save storage. Whether that's a help or a hindrance depends on your requirements.

The Sony has a clever feature called the Highlight Movie Maker, which takes the best parts from all your videos (based on motion gyro, rather than some kind of magical ability to calculate what's a great snowboard trick and what isn't), and edits them together. There's a stereo mic with wind reduction, which means you can make out what people are saying without having to crank the volume up on your TV. And, if you're feeling particularly ambitious, there's also the ability to control five action cameras at once using your smartphone or tablet.

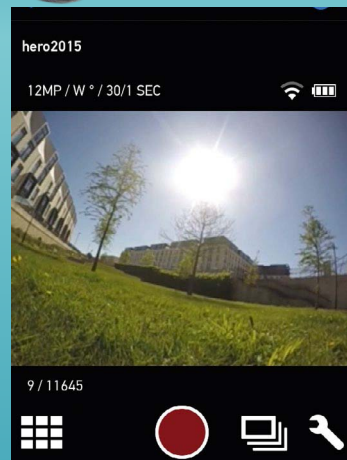
Before choosing your camera, it's worth researching each one's features a bit more thoroughly, to help you weed out the useful characteristics from the gimmicks.

GOPRO HERO4 BLACK

T3
BEST FOR
FEATURES



The GoPro app enables easy control of your Hero4 Black, as well as linking you to the GoPro community



You can quickly access a range of settings, while the live-view screen enables easy start/stop recording

EDITING YOUR FOOTAGE

Now you've filmed your clips, it's time to piece them all together to make a movie

→ Shooting all this great, action-packed footage is one thing but, once you're back home, you'll need software that will help you edit your video into something resembling

a watchable movie. Both GoPro and Sony have invested in the development of their editing solutions. Don't expect the necessary tools to put together the next Indiana Jones film,

but both packages offer more than enough for the amateur editor. If we had to choose, we'd go with Sony, whose expertise in this area manifests itself in a smoother workflow and a more intuitive interface.

A special mention here for the Panasonic Image App, though, which is a simple but effective smartphone solution.

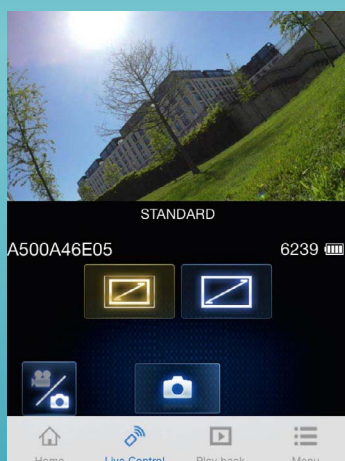
PANASONIC HX-A500



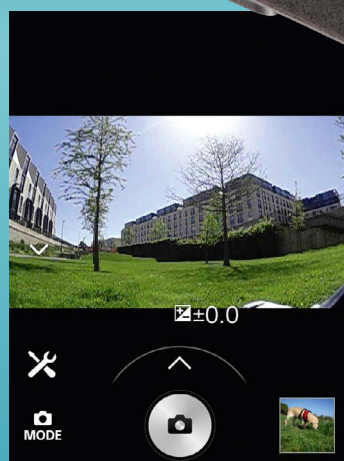
SONY X1000V



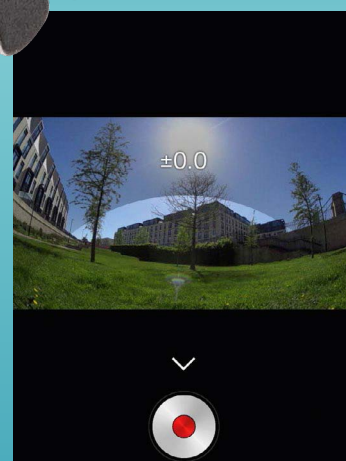
The Panasonic app's home screen includes simple links to remote operation and image transfer



Handily, the app makes it easy to transfer between shooting video and taking still images



A huge start/stop record button on the Sony app's interface makes remote shooting a simple process



In-app editing is a great feature that enables you to view and splice your footage on the move

ON THE UP

Updates can make a huge difference to your action camera's performance

→ Getting a firmware or software update is a bit like having an early Christmas present – without having to splash out on a brand-new camera, you might suddenly get vastly

improved performance and/or footage quality. The GoPro Hero4 Black features a handy alert system that lets you know when updates are made, but you can always check your

manufacturer website to be kept in the loop. New apps are also being created all the time, to improve your creativity.



T3 Test 03 winner GOPRO HERO4 BLACK

→ Improved sound, a Time Lapse feature and excellent editing solutions mean the GoPro just pips its rivals

T3 Verdict

The overall winner is...

1st GoPro Hero4 Black

PRICE: £410 URL: gopro.com

T3 RATES: The Hero4 Black is small, lightweight and tough, and shoots high-quality 4K video – the footage is characterised by vibrant colours and plenty of detail.

T3 SLATES: The box-like design means it stands proud when mounted on a helmet or surfboard, so it's prone to being knocked. Frustratingly,

the HDMI output on the side of the camera will only churn out footage in HD.

T3 SAYS: The Hero4 Black is a great all-rounder. 4K footage is excellent, with good colour, detail and tone. Despite the 30fps maximum, the footage is still smooth.

T3 ★★★★★



2nd Sony X1000V

PRICE: £359

URL: sony.co.uk

T3 RATES: The slender design makes it great for mounting on the side of vehicles; colours are vibrant in 4K.

T3 SLATES: Highlight detail suffers in bright conditions.

T3 SAYS: A sleek camera that films commendable 4K footage.

T3 ★★★★★



3rd Panasonic HX-A500

PRICE: £329

URL: panasonic.com

T3 RATES: The easy navigation. **T3 SLATES:** 4K video quality is limited; the design is fiddly.

T3 SAYS: The HX-A500 is a decent enough action camera but falls short compared to these prestigious rivals.

T3 ★★★★★

FIVE WAYS TO SHOOT BETTER FOOTAGE

01 COMPOSE THE SCENE

→ Most action cameras pair with an app that enables your smartphone to receive a live view of what the camera is seeing. To ensure that you capture what you intend to (and not the sky or ground), it's worth checking the composition before setting off.

02 SAVE BATTERY LIFE

→ These small cameras only have a limited battery life, so save as much as you can. Switch Wi-Fi off when you're not using it, and be choosy about what you're going to record – don't just leave the camera on to film loads of unnecessary footage.

03 MOVE THE CAMERA

→ Watching lots of footage shot from the same location can get boring, so move the camera around. If you're on a bike, start by mounting the camera on the handlebars, then move it to your helmet and even have it facing backwards. The more positions you attach it to, the more interesting your film will be.

04 GROUP UP

→ Multicam recording can boost the quality of your final movie. If you have friends with action cameras, swap your footage and edit it together to capture several different perspectives.

05 CHOOSE THE RIGHT SOFTWARE

→ Most action-camera manufacturers offer free editing solutions, which are fine for when you're starting out. However, if you want to make something more professional, invest in a decent desktop editing suite. *Final Cut Pro X* (Mac) and *Premiere Pro* (Mac and PC) are both packed with features that will help you transform your footage into something you'll be proud of for years to come.



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Ryan Martin, eTeknix.com



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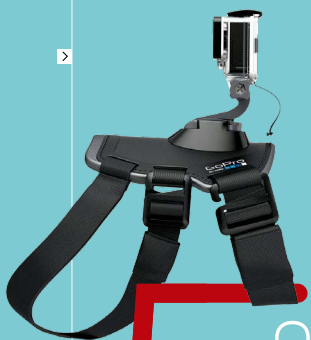


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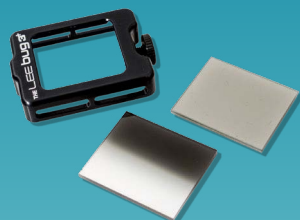
1 GOPRO FETCH
 → Ever wanted to know what it's like to see the world through your dog's eyes? This simple, and harmless, attachment will provide the answer.
 £48, www.gopro.com



5 essential GoPro accessories →

Get the most out of your Hero4 Black with T3's pick of essential extras

2 STEADICAM CURVE
 → Prefer the versatility of being able to carry your action camera by hand? Attach this simple contraption and you'll be filming shake-free clips in no time.
 £59, www.tiffen.com



3 LEE FILTERS THE BUG
 → The Bug consists of interchangeable filters, including neutral density and polariser, that will add impact to your footage.
 £67, www.leefilters.com



4 K-EDGE GO BIG
 → Machined from aluminium, this mount will hold the Hero4 Black firm and fast to your bike, helping to eliminate wobble when you're slaloming between the trees.
 £39, www.madison.co.uk



5 ACTIONCAM360
 → This hardy housing features a convex mirror that sits directly in front of your camera's lens, enabling you to capture a 360-degree view of the world that can then be converted via software for your viewing pleasure.
 £125, www.pano-pro.com

FIVE GREAT ACTION-CAMERA APPS



GOPRO
 → The official GoPro app enables you to record, view and share your Hero4 Black footage via your phone, and also offers links to the GoPro community for inspiration.
 Free, Google Play/App Store



PLAYMEMORIES
 → If you've plumped for the Sony X1000V, this app will give you the power to control it remotely via your smartphone. The interface is clear and intuitive.
 Free, Google Play/App Store



PANASONIC IMAGE APP
 → And here's the Panasonic version... As with the others, the interface is simple to navigate, and stills/video can be transferred to your phone.
 Free, Google Play/App Store



GOPRO STUDIO 2.0
 → Offering all the tools you need to edit your Hero4 Black footage into an action-packed masterpiece, GoPro Studio 2.0 provides a wealth of features and inspiration.
 Free, Windows/Mac



ACTION CAM MOVIE CREATOR
 → It doesn't have all the features of GoPro Studio 2.0, but this no-frills software enables you to quickly bash your footage into shape.
 Free, Windows/Mac



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PHILIPS

THE ELECTRIC COMMUTE

BEATING THE RUSH-HOUR TRAFFIC IS A PIECE OF CAKE. ALL YOU NEED ARE SOME FULLY CHARGED GADGETS AND A GOOD SENSE OF BALANCE/HUMOUR...

WORDS

DAN READ

PHOTOGRAPHY

JOSEPH BRANSTON



DAN READ WEARS:

Hump Strobe waterproof jacket in 'Atomic Blue', £69.99; Madison Flux shorts in 'Phantom', £59.99; Bliss vertical knee pads (not seen), £74.99; Shimano MT34 SPD shoes, £64.99; all www.madison.co.uk



The mission

Using nothing but electric vehicles, our man must travel from London to a vital meeting at the T3 offices in Bath. Will he make it there on time? Or will this be the last thing he ever writes?



The man

Dan Read is a big fan of petrol. Although it tastes a bit weird, he finds it great for putting into fast cars. So what will he do now that he's not allowed to use it? He's about to find out.



The tech

- **Tesla Model S 85**
From £59,000,
teslamotors.com/en_GB
- **GoCycle**
£2,799, gocycle.com
- **Evolve Bustin**
From £905,
evolveskateboardsuk.co.uk
- **AirWheel Q3**
£799,
theairwheel.com
- **AirBoard 1.0**
£599,
theairwheel.com
- **Rocket Skates**
From \$499 (£321),
actonglobal.com
- **Evolve Backpack**
£109,
evolveskateboardsuk.co.uk
- **SunnyCam HD**
£99,
sunnycamglasses.com



Due to my lack of circus skills, I don't usually go to work on a unicycle - let alone an electric one with magic gyroscopes that, in theory, should keep me upright with my bones in one piece. But today is a bit different, as I've been tasked with demonstrating how it's possible to commute from London to a meeting in Bath without burning a) petrol or b) calories. To do this, I've been given an assortment of electric vehicles, among which is a self-balancing unicycle that might just compensate for my inability to ride anything with less than two wheels.

CHARGED AND READY

Thankfully, I begin my journey in the familiar surroundings of a car, which will take care of the chunky motorway miles. The Tesla Model S is a luxury saloon that, almost overnight, has rewired the car industry. The first proper car from Silicon Valley, it has a theoretical range of 310 miles, meaning you could drive it from one side of the country to the other without topping up - a previously unheard of feat for a 100 per cent electric vehicle.

I start by plugging it into one of Tesla's 21 nationwide, free-to-use 'superchargers', which fills the battery completely in about



While the Tesla charges up, I do likewise - with a Ginsters pasty and a can of Irn-Bru

an hour. That gives me just enough time for a bit of breakfast before a smartphone app tells me the car is topped up and ready to go. And so I set off, in spooky silence as the car glides out of London and onto the M4. Progress is slick and swift, and any traffic-jam boredom is relieved by the 17-inch console-mounted tablet, which features a Web browser and a thousand other things to keep me entertained.

PARK AND RIDE

Somewhere outside Bath, I park the car (which, incidentally, has easily enough charge remaining for the return journey) and consider my next weapon. I could take the unicycle, which is actually called the

AirWheel Q3. As I turn it on, the gyros kick in, and it stands up all by itself like a little pet robot. Straddling it feels a bit like mounting R2-D2 (if he was being drunk and disorderly), and after several failed attempts I decide that, like any unicycle - gyros or not - it requires time and patience to master. I have neither.

Then there's the AirBoard 1.0, which is like a Segway without handlebars. The idea is to step confidently onto the footplates and lean forward with your arms by your side, like a soaring ski jumper. Sadly, I look more like Eddie the Eagle, my arms flapping all over the place. The key, it turns out, is to make tiny movements and to steer with your eyes - just look where you want to go



THE TECH THAT 'HELPED' WITH MY COMMUTE

If it wasn't for this lot, I might still be in London, waiting for a bus



1

TESLA MODEL S 85

The Model S puts to bed the idea that electric cars are for nerdy, bearded blokes called Rupert. There are four models; the rear-wheel-drive one I used goes from 0-60 in 5.4 seconds and hits a top speed of 140mph. Tesla claims it'll drive 310 miles on a single charge. From £59,000, teslamotors.com/en_GB



2

GOCYCLE G2

The G2 electric bike may cost the same as a decent second-hand hatchback, but it's a damn sight healthier (when you pedal it) and a lot more fun. Available in three colours, it'll fully charge in 5.5 hours, after which you can cycle up to 40 miles and at speeds of up to 15.5mph. Nifty. £2,799, gocycle.com



3

AIRBOARD 1.0

The closest thing we have to Marty McFly's Hoverboard (although this one doesn't fly), the AirBoard 1.0 takes just an hour to fully charge, and that'll give you around nine miles of two-wheeled fun. A word of warning, though: 8mph seems awfully fast on one of these. £599, theairwheel.com



4

EVOLVE BUSTIN

Made on Australia's Gold Coast, the Bustin series of electric skateboards are designed to get you to your destination faster and more smoothly. They take four hours to charge, speed along at up to 23mph and even go uphill! From £905, evolveskateboardsuk.co.uk



5

AIRWHEEL Q3

The AirWheel will only take you on short journeys (the top-of-the-range Q5 will give you a maximum of 11-15 miles on a full, 1.5-hour charge), but you'll have oodles of fun in the process - if you can keep your balance. If you can't, a top speed of 12mph sounds scary. £799, theairwheel.com



6

SUNNYCAM HD

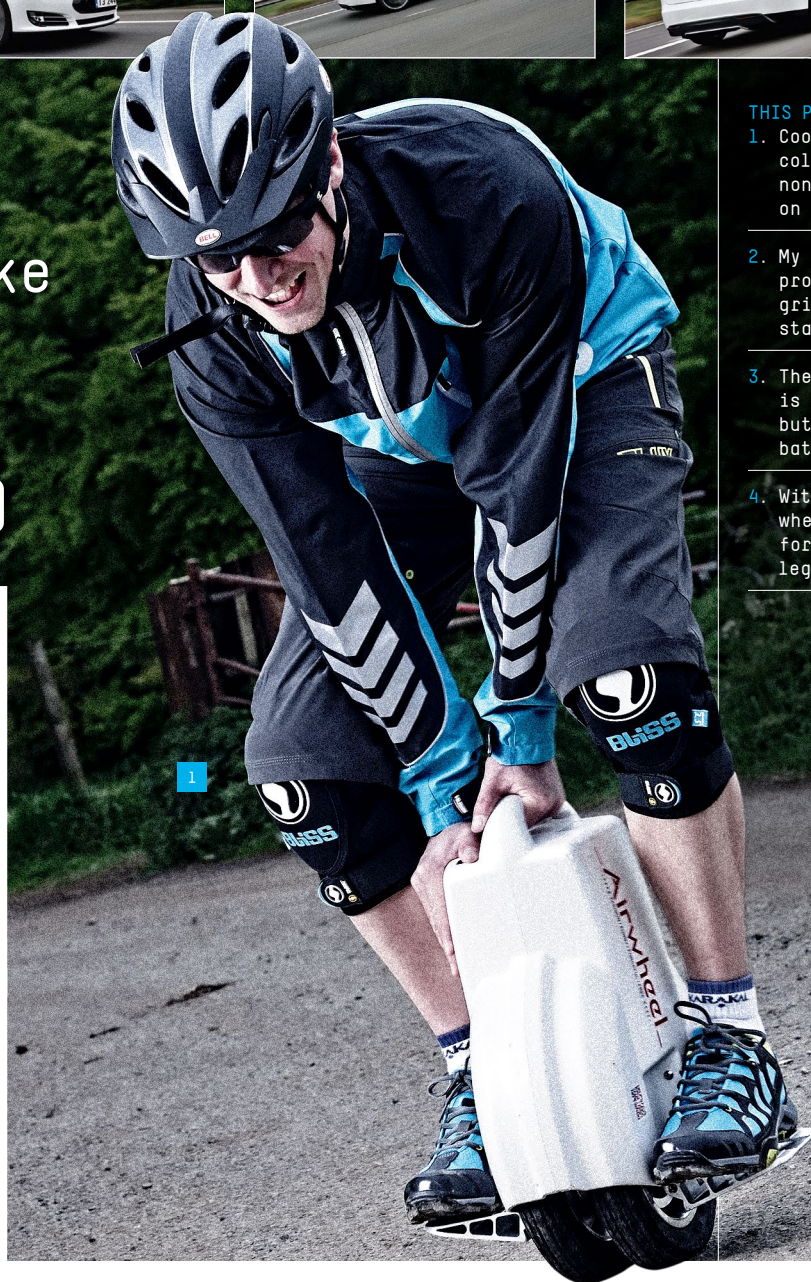
Though I looked a bit of a ninny trying out some of this gear, I decided to film my antics on these video goggles. With the ability to take memory cards up to 32GB, they film 720p HD footage and take stills, all of which can be easily uploaded and edited. £99, sunnycamglasses.com



Straddling the AirWheel feels a bit like mounting R2-D2 (if he was being drunk and disorderly)

THIS PAGE

1. Cool, calm and collected - I'm none of those on the AirWheel
2. My Shimano shoes provide great grip as I try to stay balanced
3. The AirBoard is great fun but has limited battery life
4. With so many wheels, I almost forget where my legs are



and it'll change course. Even the merest flex of your foot can get the gyros excited and, once you work it out, it's great fun. I'd take it into town and back if it weren't for the rather limiting nine-mile range.

HILLS? WHAT HILLS?

Thankfully, I have another toy for the job. It's called the GoCycle G2, it was invented by a former F1 designer and it folds up inside the Tesla's front bonnet. The frame is made from injection-moulded magnesium alloy, so it's light enough to pick up; there's a lithium-ion battery inside that powers an electric motor on the front hub; and it shifts gears automatically. And all this is wrapped in simple styling that would lead some people to think it's just a normal bicycle.

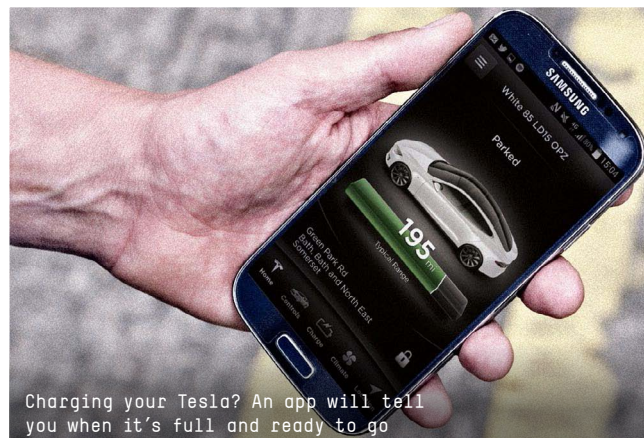
Indeed, you can ride it like a traditional bike, with pedal power alone. Or, if you're

feeling lazy, it'll whisk you along purely under its own steam. Today, I've tweaked the settings via a smartphone app, going for a mixture of manpower and electric for a boost up hills, of which there are many in Bath. With up to 40 miles of battery range depending on how hard you push it, plus infinitely more under pedal power, it'll take me into town and back to the car tonight. It's quite conceivable that you could use it for a substantial commute every single day, instead of taking the Tube or train or bus. The electric assistance is so generous that you'll arrive with dry armpits, having justified the purchase price by saving thousands of pounds on petrol or rail fares.

Believe it or not, electric vehicles have been around in one form or another since the 1800s. But even those early inventors may not have predicted that, in 2015, →



Bustin makes me feel good. Actually, I'm bloody terrified



Charging your Tesla? An app will tell you when it's full and ready to go

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P58



→ we'd be going to work on electric longboards with off-road tyres and a top speed of around 23mph. This one's called the Bustin, and I've been carrying it in a special backpack while riding the bike.

After the robotic AirBoard, the Bustin feels springy and organic. You just bend your knees like a surfer, pull the trigger on the handheld remote and you're soon carving through pedestrian traffic like a gnarly pro. Or maybe you'll grab the brakes too hard and dive off the front into a surprised pensioner. Apologies to that gentleman. It'll tackle muddy tracks and grassy parks, though hard use will burn through the battery life. Still, it's good for nine-ish miles of regular use, which is enough for the last leg of my journey.

Well, almost the last leg. As I arrive at the office, T3 editor Rob appears with a



Is the future electric?

Until now, electric vehicles have had one major flaw: they simply couldn't carry us far enough. But with billions of dollars being sunk into better batteries, electricity can now take us further, and do so in all sorts of weird and wonderful ways. Cars that sound like spaceships, gyroscopic unicycles, self-gliding skateboards... getting around has never been more amusing.

gift: a pair of electric 'Rocket Skates' that have just arrived from America. They'll take me through the office and into the meeting room, completing my 108-mile journey of electric propulsion in a smooth and stylish fashion. Unfortunately, when strapped to my shoes, they look like weird foot chariots and I feel ridiculous. The idea is to push off with your back foot to activate the motors, then glide along with one foot slightly ahead of the other. What actually happens is that I stumble along the corridor, fumbling at the walls like I've had nine pints of cider. And after five minutes on the skates, I'd like to go to the pub and do exactly that. [▶](#)

NEXT MONTH

Can our man use the latest tech to turn him into a triathlon champion?

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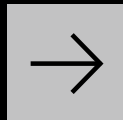
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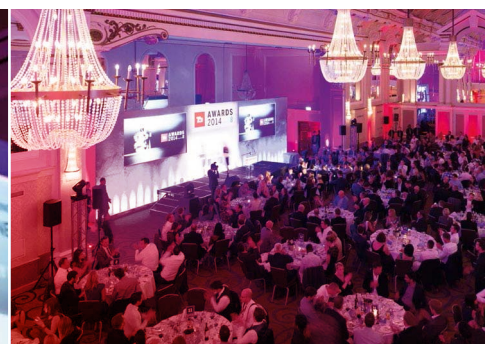
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2015



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→ **THE SOUND AWARD**

→ **WEARABLE TECHNOLOGY
OF THE YEAR**

→ **CAR OF THE YEAR**

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SMARTWATCHES

THE APPLE WATCH IS THE TALK OF THE TOWN, BUT THAT'S JUST ONE OF MANY WEARABLES. HERE, T3 HELPS YOU PICK THE RIGHT ONE FOR YOUR WRIST...

Words: Andrew Williams

Are smartwatches just a fad? It's a question we've been hearing a lot lately, but the answer is: no chance. Most people thought exactly the same way about tablets just a few years ago, and we bet they couldn't imagine life without their iPad or Samsung Galaxy Tab now. There's always a certain amount of apprehension when it comes to new technology, and especially when not a lot is known about it (the publicity surrounding smartwatches has been fairly low-key until recent months).

But make no mistake, wearable tech is about to hit its stride. Apple, Pebble, Google and even Microsoft are desperately vying for your watch cash, and this will see billions pumped into making the things

and supporting software makers. Give it 12 months and T3 reckons that, instead of giving you a funny look for wearing a smartwatch, people will think your wrist looks bare without one. So, now the first few waves of work-in-progress early watches have slipped off the shelves and into the museum of has-been tech, which should you be looking at?

Choosing the right watch

If you want to play it safe and side with one of the big platforms, there are three kinds

of watch to pick between: an Apple Watch, an Android Wear watch or a Pebble.

Despite being the newest kid on the block, the Apple Watch is the one everyone from gadget nerds to daytime-TV-watching nans has heard of. Apple has embraced the luxury side of watch making, with models starting at £299 for an aluminium-face Watch with a rubber strap, and rocketing to £13,500 for an 18-carat gold Edition. Watch faces come in two sizes, depending if you want a butch or

Give it 12 months and people will think your wrist looks bare if you're not wearing a smartwatch



With the display switched off, it's often hard to distinguish between a smartwatch and a normal watch - take the LG Watch Urbane, for example

Things you can do... MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR WEARABLE

Smartwatches can do much more than you think – these are just the start

01



AUTOMATE YOUR HOME

With the help of an Insteon hub, you can already control many elements of your home with an Apple Watch – from anywhere in the world. Smart door locks, dimmable lights, thermostats, your garage door, the central heating: with an Insteon as the middle man, thinking of your smartwatch as a home-automation guru isn't the future, it's the present.

From \$80 (£51), insteon.com

02



TRACK YOUR FITNESS

Every smartwatch offers some kind of fitness tracking: a pedometer is the minimum you can expect. However, the more advanced wearables add GPS, altimeters and heart-rate sensors. They'll pinpoint your walking, running or cycling routes (including your altitude) on a map, and track your performance day to day. This information can then be fed to an accompanying app for closer scrutiny.

03



PLAY GAMES

Gaming on a smartwatch? You'd better believe it. *Wear Orbits* is an Android Wear reaction-based puzzler where you avoid crashing into planets (think a modern version of *Asteroids*). *Pixel Miner* is a weirdly addictive, always-on mining game for Pebble's watches. And *Watch Quest! Heroes Of Time* is a tiny-but-huge Apple Watch RPG. They really shouldn't work but they do.

Prices vary, Android Wear/Pebble/Apple Watch

T3 recommends... WATCHES TO WATCH

What the boys and girls at T3 have on their wrists...

Smartwatches are, er, like watches in that they're an accessory that fits in with your lifestyle, your taste and your needs. But with more than ever on the market, which do you choose? Here we present our top picks – what the T3

team are either currently wearing or pining after. From luxury (or relatively so – the LG Watch Urbane a case in point) to sporty (such as the Garmin Vivoactive), there's a smartwatch here that will suit you and your style.



a more dainty look, and, this being an Apple product, there are loads of straps you can choose from, too: a variety of colours and a choice between leather, steel and rubber. You may be following the crowd by investing in an Apple Watch but at least you can do so with a degree of individuality.

Android Wear

Just as Android phones are the iPhone's nemeses, so Android Wear sits at the other side of the smartwatch ring from the Apple Watch. And as with Android phones, these watches are made by a host of companies, including LG, Samsung, Motorola and Sony. Where Samsung dominates the Android phone world, though, T3 thinks you should consider a few other Wear watch brands first.

Two of the top contenders are the LG G Watch R (or its pricier twin, the Urbane) and the Motorola Moto 360. T3 knows you want a watch that doesn't look like a reject from the Toys section of the Argos catalogue, and both of these fit the bill. The G Watch R is the spit of a 'normal' watch (and the Urbane is – while a little OTT – extremely smart),

while the Moto 360 is the futuristic-looking smartwatch of our daydreams.

Top Android Wear watches cost around £200, which is about £100 less than the entry-level Apple Watch. Not bad, right?

Rebel with a Pebble

One of T3's favourite series of smartwatches was also one of the first to become available. Pebble is a watch company that takes a totally different approach to that of the big corporate kings. The indie picker's choice, it funds its smartwatches through Kickstarter,

Pebble takes a totally different approach to that of the big corporate kings

01

APPLE WATCH

The most talked-about wearable in town. The Apple Watch is the perfect accessory for your iPhone, and with zillions of apps already available, it's undeniably a smart choice.

From £299,
apple.com/uk

02

PEBBLE STEEL

The Steel works with both iOS and Android, and is a great-value and accomplished device. It looks super-smart, too, with its crisp e-ink display and a choice of slinky leather or sturdy stainless-steel straps.

£149, getpebble.com

03

GARMIN VIVOACTIVE

Feeling sporty? Want a watch that matches your healthy lifestyle? Then the Vivoactive is a great contender. Loads of sports apps built in and on-board GPS make it a great fitness companion.

£160, garmin.com/en-gb

04

ALCATEL ONETOUCH WATCH

The new kid on the block, the Onetouch Watch is only \$150 (UK pricing TBC as we write this). It's a way to get into the world of smartwatches without breaking the bank.

\$150,
alcatelonetouch.com

05

MOTOROLA MOTO 360

One of the first, and indeed best, Android Wear smartwatches on the market, the Moto 360 looks stunning and can be completely customised to suit your day or evening wear.

£200, motorola.co.uk

06

LG WATCH URBANE

If you like them big and chunky, the Watch Urbane is for you. It feels like a dress watch. Like the Moto 360, it runs Android Wear, so pairing it will require a phone with the same OS.

£250, lg.com/uk



although they're now so popular you'll find them on the high street. Thanks to the e-ink smartscreen tech used in Pebble watches, the Pebble Steel lasts for up to a week off a full charge; a bit better than the single day offered by the Apple Watch.

You may want to wait for Pebble's first colour smartwatches, though: the plastic Pebble Time and the Pebble Time Steel, out later this year. T3 is every bit as excited about these as it is the Apple Watch. The Steel edition will last for up to ten days on a single charge, is waterproof and will do 90 per cent of the things you can do with an Android Wear or Apple Watch.

And the best of the rest...

Another option is the Alcatel OneTouch Watch. It looks great, costs about £80 less than its Android rivals and lasts for up to five days off a charge (although, to avoid disappointment, we recommend you expect three days). It's not as slick as an Android Wear watch, but it does have a heart-rate sensor and, with the saving you make, you could go out and buy yourself a snazzy new phone.

The one that should really lure a few of you away from the biggest brands, though, is the Garmin Vivoactive. Prepare for your jaw to drop: the battery lasts for up to three weeks, it has an always-on colour screen and it boasts fitness tracking as good as a running watch, thanks to on-board GPS and smart multi-activity software. It doesn't have the apps of Android Wear watches or the cool UI of an Apple Watch, but it does have bona fide smartwatch features and is the perfect choice if you care more about running or cycling than reading emails on your wrist.

If all that sounds a bit too techy, don't fret: there's one company making smartwatches that look and feel exactly like normal ones. Check out the Withings Activité and Activité Pop. There's no screen and no nerdy LEDs, just a little step-tracking dial to the right of the clock face. The rest of your info (including sleep-tracking stats) is picked apart in the accompanying phone app. Withings' watches are laid-back, though: you won't be able to read phone notifications on these wearables.

So, there are all kinds of things to separate watches, but there are lots that they share,

too. For a start, virtually every smartwatch is designed to team up with your phone over Bluetooth (although some wearables are more flexible in terms of compatibility than others – read on to find out more). Each watch will have its own phone app that interfaces with it for better functionality. And in all cases, it's probably better to browse for extra apps on your phone rather than on the watch itself. Trying to do anything too involved on a one-inch screen can get a bit fiddly.

Battery issues

Battery life is certainly an important consideration when buying a smartwatch (how did you know we were going to say that?). Use an Android Wear or Apple Watch a fair bit and you can drain down the battery in a day. Having to charge your phone every day is one thing, but your watch too? One advantage that the Android Wear and Apple wearables have over, say, the Pebble Time is that they use gestures to activate them (ie the Apple Watch will come to life with a gentle flick of your wrist), which enables them to sleep for 95 per cent of the time, thus saving



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solutions inc.
solutions-inc.co.uk

We're not just Mac *friendly* – we're Mac **only**.  **twelvetwelve**

The best...**ACCESSORIES**

Maximise your wearable's potential with these T3-recommended extras

01**TYLT ENERGI 6K**

This two-in-one device plugs into a wall socket to act as a USB charger, but also has a removable 6,000mAh battery, which you can take with you wherever you're going.

£59.99, tylt.com

02**CUSTOM STRAP**

If you don't fancy any of the official straps offered by Apple, Pebble et al, you'll find plenty of other options on eBay (or Etsy if you want to avoid straps made in giant Chinese factories).

03**SPIGEN SCREEN PROTECTOR**

Want to keep your watch screen scratch-free?

Spigen makes tempered-glass protection for better optical quality.

Prices vary, spigen.co.uk

04**SENNHEISER MOMENTUM 2.0**

Bluetooth cans that have active noise cancellation for blocking out gym grunts. The battery lasts for up to 22 hours, too.

£380, en-uk.sennheiser.com

05**ELGATO AVEA**

The Avea is a colour-changing mood light bulb you can control with the Apple Watch. You can customise it with an iPhone and also use it as a full-on wake-up light.

£40, elgato.com/en

06**ASICS GEL-KAYANO 21**

Thanks to an ultra-smart midsole, these running shoes offer incredible comfort, which means you'll run for longer with your wearable.

£145, asics.co.uk

Choose your smartwatch carefully: what you wear on your wrist says a lot about your personality

Virtually every smartwatch will team up with your phone via Bluetooth

precious battery. But then again, having to tap or waggle to tell the time isn't for everyone.

Compatibility

It's no great surprise that the Apple Watch needs an iPhone to do virtually anything, but it's not the only one to be so inflexible. Android Wear watches need an Android phone to pair with, although it's predicted that they'll work with iOS one day. And one of the pickiest smartwatches is the custom-OS Samsung Gear S. It does a lot on its own but only pairs with Galaxy phones. Pebble watches work with both Android phones and iPhones, as do some of the other, smaller players, which have deliberately gone off piste to try to do something a bit different.

So, what can you actually do with the things?

For a start, you can do the obvious stuff: they're still watches at the end of the day, so they'll tell you the time, the date and the weather. Most will also snag notifications from your phone to enable you to check out

your emails, texts, Whatsapps and call alerts without freeing your mobile from your pocket. An array of sensors will count your steps, while some go to the next level with GPS and a heart-rate sensor. This makes them perfect for the gym, especially as many enable you to control your music from your wrist, too.

Smartwatches are totally customisable. Android Wear and Apple Watches especially have reams of available watch faces, enabling you to choose between analogue or digital, info-packed or sparse displays, and so on.

The best...

SMARTWATCH APPS

You can dodge security, flirt and plan your journey from your wrist

01



DISLOCK

Dislock bypasses an Android phone's lock screen when it's paired with your Pebble watch. Out of range? It goes back to using normal security. It may sound simple but it'll change your life.

Free, Pebble

02



TINDER

Have a few minutes to wait until your bus arrives? Give your ego a workout with a bit of wrist Tinder. It works just like the phone app, enabling you to reject potential suitors or give them a virtual wink.

Free, Android Wear

03



CITYMAPPER

Take public transport in London? Then you need this. With Android Wear, it'll notify you when Tube lines go down, while with the Apple Watch you can plan journeys and see when your bus is due.

Free, Apple Watch/Android Wear

The Pebble Steel is an exciting option – or you could wait for Pebble's colour smartwatches later in the year

The Apple Watch even has an official Mickey Mouse face. Katy Perry likes it, apparently.

Android Wear and Apple Watches also come with extras you don't get with some of the simpler wearables. For instance, you can quickly reply to your friends' messages with emoticons, and the Apple Watch even enables you to send your heart rate to someone. It's a slushy thing, not to let them know you're having a heart attack.

A number of games have already been developed for smartwatches (for an example, see 'Making the Most of Your Wearable' on p82). Sleep trackers, phone finders and Sonos controllers are also available. And as our homes become smarter, so our wearables will be used to talk to everything in the house.

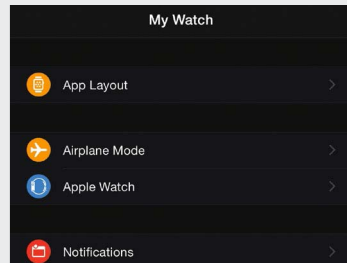
Just imagine it: when your smartwatch senses you're in a light-sleep pattern, it sets off a wake-up lamp. As you come to, you feel like you're on the right side of the bed for once. A couple of swipes gets the coffee machine going downstairs, and your watch already has today's to-do list ready to flick through over a bowl of cereal. A couple of taps later, your breakfast tunes are rolling and you've checked the train times. Ready for work? Just leave. A location-aware macro will let your appliances know you've left the building. It all sounds exciting, doesn't it? And all of that is just in the first hour of being awake. The smartwatch revolution is yet to fully explode but, when it does, your life is going to change at the flick of a wrist. **T3**

HOW TO... GET STARTED WITH YOUR SMARTWATCH



01 PAIRING UP

Step one is to make sure that Bluetooth is switched on in your smartphone. No matter what mobile you have, this will be in Settings. You then need to pair your phone and watch. This should be part of the prompt when you first turn on the watch.



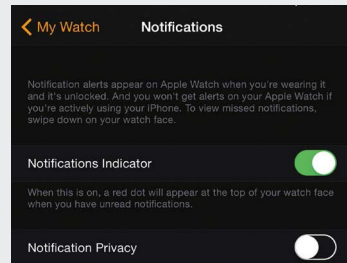
02 GET THE APP

To get the most from your smartwatch, your phone should have the relevant app installed. If you have Android Wear or an Apple Watch, the one you need is obvious as it nabs the name of the platform. If not, search for your watch's name in your apps store.



03 FACE TIME

It's now time to customise, if you want to. The first thing you might want to fiddle with is the watch face, as it's probably your wearable's best stab at a distinct personality. You can alter this either in the Settings menu of the watch or via your phone's watch app.



04 BUZZ OFF

Now it's time to prune back the notifications. No one wants to be buzzed 50 times an hour, so make sure *Candy Crush Saga* isn't going to be firing bits of digital fluff at you all the time. You'll most likely find these notification options in the phone's companion app.

5 perfect group selfies at the party
with 25 Facebook notifications the next day.



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<https://twitter.com/ALCATELTOUCHUK>



SCREEN DREAM

Porsche's cabin of the future. A trio of TFT screens - two of them feeding images relayed from external mirror cameras - give the driver an enormous amount of information

CABIN FEVER

Words: Jamie Hibbard

In-car technology will inform the very design of your car's interior over the next decade or two, which means it'll all look very different to now...

Do you remember in the *Max Power* era when the perceived quality of your in-car tech was calculated by whether or not you could answer "yes" to the question: is there more room for speakers and sub-woofers in your car than passengers?

Well, thankfully, those days are gone and we're looking at a much more intuitive and integrated in-car future than we ever imagined during those laddish nights of car-park cruise culture. The way a car interior looks from a driver's point of view has remained largely unchanged in the last half a century. There have been developments over the years but, rather than smack-across-the-head changes, these have been more about steady reinvention anchored to the principle must-haves of a steering wheel, dials for speed, revs, fuel and temperature, climate controls and some sort of entertainment unit. Now, that's all about to change...

QUICK DASH

What we, as drivers, need from our vehicle's in-car tech is moving on significantly as connected-everything gathers momentum. Google's self-driver already has a removable steering wheel, so it's easy to imagine that even that mainstay instrument could eventually retract away into the dash when it's not needed, as your autonomous car zips you around. While your car is talking with a city's infrastructure to work out your best route to the office, you'll need to find other ways to entertain yourself on the move. Think about it, if your car is doing things such as communicating with other vehicles to work in conjunction with them, caravanning like a road train coupled together via a data connection in order to travel around as a pack, what are you as the 'driver' going to do?

Look at Mercedes' much-lauded concept the F 015 Luxury in Motion as an example of where we might be by 2030. Mercedes



FOCUS ON FORD

EVERY MAJOR CAR MANUFACTURER HAS AN EYE ON THE FUTURE, SO WE CAUGHT UP WITH ONE...



Ford's Jim Buczkowski is the Director of Electrical and Electronics Systems, Research

and Advanced Engineering. Basically, he knows a lot of stuff...

WHAT CAN WE EXPECT IN TEN YEARS' TIME?

→ Voice recognition started as a great way to reduce driver distraction, and we've researched that a lot. Situational awareness, which means having your eyes up, looking around, is most important for safety. Heads-Up Display can do that, because the display is up closer into the field of view, so you don't need to look down.

HOW WILL THE DASHBOARD LOOK TO THE DRIVER?

→ We want driver-oriented controls, but you'll probably still have an instrument cluster – it'll just have a different priority of data on it versus the HUD, so they will work together.

WHAT CAN YOU SEE GOING ON IN THE CABIN AS FAR AS 20 YEARS IN THE FUTURE?

→ We're doing research into that area right now. One of the things that we've really evolved on is to focus on experience and technology as an enabler for that. Ultimately, if we get to the highest level of autonomous driving, where the vehicle is trusted completely and the driver doesn't have to pay attention at all, you can present a lot of other information.

WHAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT THING?

→ The challenge is going to be that everyone wants more and to connect everything. But you've got to keep it simple. The interior of an autonomous vehicle has to be driven by the experiences consumers want to have.



01 Mercedes' 2030 F 015 concept redefines the interior of a vehicle, with a focus on entertainment
02 Elon Musk's Tesla is already making huge strides within in-car technology
03 Audi's 2015 TT cabin, including a 12.3-inch screen that sits behind the steering wheel

imagined the world by that time to have accepted autonomous driving as normal. If situations arise when it isn't fun to drive yourself, like traffic jams, the car will just take over and do it for you. It also supposed that, inversely proportional with the inevitable ever-growing urbanisation, the shrinking of personal space and lack of one's own time will occur – which broadly means that as the real world's urban areas get more congested, you'll have less and less opportunity to find room for yourself.

With that in mind, the F 015's cabin maximises the time you get to spend in your own environment. So your Merc drives itself to pick you up, the doors open and you glide inside. There, you can sit back and consume your media via the six eye-tracking-controlled screens, or just tune out for the duration of your journey.

Your car, don't forget, needs nothing more from you than an input to state where you're going – it'll sort the rest.

So there you are, in your little protective bubble, being chauffeur-driven by your car. This is your future. Do you like it?

THE HERE AND NOW

This might all sound a bit too sci-fi, but it will be here sooner than you think. The big steps that we're about to see taken by car manufacturers are already well underway in R&D labs the world over. As you'll read in our Q&A (left) with Jim Buczkowski, Director of Electrical and Electronics Systems, Research and

Advanced Engineering at Ford, in-car tech that seemed so very far away only a few years ago is all now quite imminent indeed.

Take augmented reality, for example. Most of us think about AR going only as far as an app that shows the way to the nearest restaurant or bar. But in the car, it'll do so much more. It's not that much of a leap to finding you with windscreens that will no longer be merely your windows to the outside world, but rather your guide. The windscreen will become a full-screen Heads-Up Display (HUD), feeding you info that you need to see, right where you want it the most: slap-bang in front of you.

Your GPS will no longer be a small screen suckered to the glass or popped into the dash; instead, it'll utilise the whole expanse of your windscreen, showing you useful information like direction arrows or warning signs as if they were painted on the actual road in front of you. The centre cluster around your steering wheel will no longer be the prime area for information relay; instead, all of the alerts and updates will be displayed across your windscreen.

Manufacturers' prime concern, from a usability standpoint, is to make you a safer driver, so keeping your eyes looking up and forward for as much of the time that you're behind the wheel as possible is a huge goal for all of the technology that's being developed. To this end, voice commands will get even more usable, as the best way for you to get what you want in your cabin is to say it out loud, rather than taking your eyes from the road to search for an environment setting or a headlight switch-gear.

Already, this future is beginning to show in the real world. Tesla has a huge 17-inch touchscreen in its Model S, tilted towards the driver for rich content and mobile connectivity. And Audi is about to introduce the Virtual Cockpit with its 2015 TT,



a 12.3-inch screen that sits behind the steering wheel in place of traditional dials, giving drivers the option to choose between an infotainment setting that brings functions such as the navigation map to the fore, or a more normal dial set-up (the TTS model has a virtual rev counter right in the middle). This tech was still a concept just a few years ago – when Porsche showed its 2012 Sport Turismo vision of the future, there sat a similar TFT screen, only that one also had a pair of screens to feed in the images relayed from exterior mirror cameras. It's rare for Porsche to do a concept but when it does, you can be pretty sure it's confident that what you're shown will become reality, so keep an eye out for those cameras.

The cabin layout that you're so used to is already changing at a faster pace than it ever has before. Connectivity is the biggest thing happening in-car right now – your apps already talk to your car in more ways than ever. This is a huge melting pot where auto makers and tech companies are coming together, and one for which the auto side doesn't need to do too much development of its own – your phone does all the heavy lifting, your car just needs to facilitate it.

To exemplify just how Really Big and Important this area of business is for the car industry, think about what it means that

the President of the Fiat Chrysler group, Sergio Marchionne, recently spent a week in Silicon Valley taking not only a ride in Google's autonomous car, but also the opportunity to meet with Apple head honcho Tim Cook and Tesla founder Elon Musk. Cook is apparently, "interested in Apple's intervention in the car", according to Marchionne. And of Musk, he said that he's "incredibly impressed with what that kid has done".

The fallout from these meetings obviously opens up many potential possibilities of cross-pollination for all parties, especially with Apple having already been so open about iOS auto integration with CarPlay. Fiat, don't forget, is the parent company of Ferrari, where you've seen a lot

about CarPlay. And it's guaranteed that many similar meetings have happened with car manufactures and tech companies the world over. It's extremely exciting.

But things get even more intriguing when you listen to the whispers that Apple is looking at a very real future of becoming an auto maker itself, with an electric car. If it moves into that area, you can imagine how wild the possibilities for in-car tech will be then.

If Apple makes a car, will you get the ever-present start-up 'bong' chime when you turn the key? We kind of hope so. 

The cabin layout that you're so used to is changing at a faster pace than ever before



MINI'S AR HUD

STRAPPING THE TECH ONTO YOUR FACE!

→ Mini showcased its Augmented Vision HUD goggles concept recently, and although they look ridiculous – think of the cover art for Will Smith superhero *Hancock* – the idea behind them is strong. As well as having an array of Heads-Up Display functionality,

they've got the ability to see through parts of the vehicle so that blind spots are no longer a factor. For example, A-pillars and doors are effectively removed, giving the driver a much better idea of their surroundings.

Other functions on offer include contact-analogue navigation and points of interest, enhancing reality by displaying the navigation arrows as if they were painted on the road in front

of the car. Just like in a console game when you have the driver-assist turned on, your route would be lit up in front of you, so you could keep your head up and watch where you're going.

This is an intriguing take on in-car VR and, regardless of the aesthetic horror of the hardware, it's all starting to make a lot of sense. Mini would just need to convince people that it's OK to look a bit of a plum while driving.



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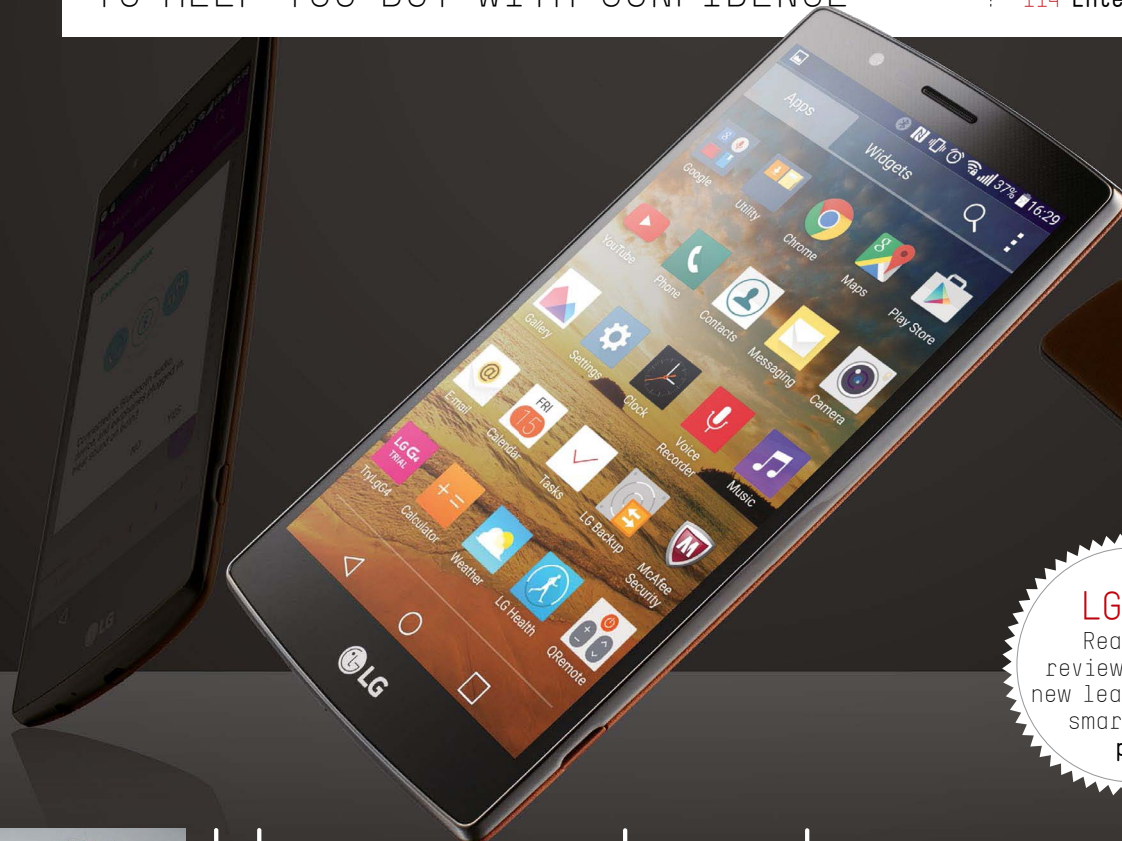


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EXPERT REVIEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
TO HELP YOU BUY WITH CONFIDENCE

REVIEWED IN DEPTH
THIS MONTH...

- 094 LG G4
- 098 Compact system cameras
- 100 Ultrabooks/laptops
- 102 Our Gadgets
- 106 Your Gadgets
- 108 Games
- 113 Apps
- 114 Entertainment



LG G4

Read our review of this new leather-clad smartphone p94



EDITED BY
NICK ODANTZIS

How we test...

OUR MISSION IS TO BRING YOU THE clearest recommendations we can – and that means a great deal of hard work happens before a product even reaches our pages!

Because we only feature products the T3 team would happily use ourselves, we end up discarding a significant number of options in each category before settling on a final shortlist to review. In this respect, T3 Select does exactly what it says on the tin, picking only the best of the best to test; the gear we know you'll want to seriously consider purchasing.

And that should mean an end to you having to undertake hours of painstaking research and product comparisons.

You won't see any duff products featured in our tests, but you will come away with clarity on which one is the best in its category or for a specific task – our awards badges below ensure that everything T3 recommends is clearly highlighted on the page.

It goes without saying that every product in T3 Select has been thoroughly tested by our team of experts, enabling you to buy with total confidence.

The scores explained



Forget it



Below average



Good for the price



Very good all round



An exceptional, best-in-class product

Our five awards



Only the best products – those that score five stars – receive our coveted Platinum Award



This is given to winners of our group tests, so you can see exactly which is the best at a glance



This accolade and others like it show you which gear is best for specific features or tasks



For kit that demonstrates exceptional industrial design and refinement, in addition to being great



Awarded to products that are energy-efficient or help to protect the natural environment



Hell for leather

HOLY COW - LG'S NEW G4 PACKS A GREAT SCREEN AND CAMERA, BUT WHAT ABOUT THAT COVER...

The G4 is the phone that LG should've made last year when it brought us the slightly mundane G3 instead. This year, things are all change with a super-powerful screen, a faster processor and a much better camera - plus it's encased in leather.

Wait, what? Leather on a phone? Yeah, when we first heard rumours of this a few months back, we thought it was some fan concept art that had accidentally made its way into the public consciousness. But, lo and behold, that's exactly what LG announced at the launch: leather.

The idea is simple. Instead of following the trend of all the other big brands and releasing a phone encased in metal, LG decided that leather was a more premium material and offered some real differentiation. It's certainly different, but it lacks the panache of the almost-ceramic iPhone 6 and the jewellery-grade HTC One M9.

You'll also notice that this isn't a slim phone. LG has made the G4 a portly 9.3mm at its thickest point, which kinda makes it feel like you're holding the same phone Zack Morris sported in *Saved By The Bell*. The reason is to make the back (and the battery) removable to improve access to the SIM slot and the microSD port, but we'd much rather the space had been used to give us more power or perhaps a bigger battery. Still, at least the curved back means it fits nicely in the palm, so the extra width isn't really noticeable.

It's a bold design from LG, and one that will likely divide opinion. The leather feels much too stretched and plastic-like to be truly premium, and the phone hasn't garnered very many ogles since we started flashing it around. Perhaps it'll be like a comfortable old leather coat, and mould to us over time. But we can't help thinking it'll merely

ABOVE It looks chunky, and we're not too keen on the leather, but the G4's 'guts' are glorious

highlight exactly where we spilled a pint of beer over it the previous night.

SNAPPY DAYS

LG's other big claim with the G4 is its picture-taking ability. In fact, the presentation we sat through felt more like a chat about the company's new camera than its phone.

The two cameras on the G4 are top-notch. The rear snapper is 16MP, boasting a larger sensor for that all-important low-light sensitivity. At f1.8, it's one of the better devices out there for taking photos in the dark, and LG was quick to point out how much better it is than the competition.

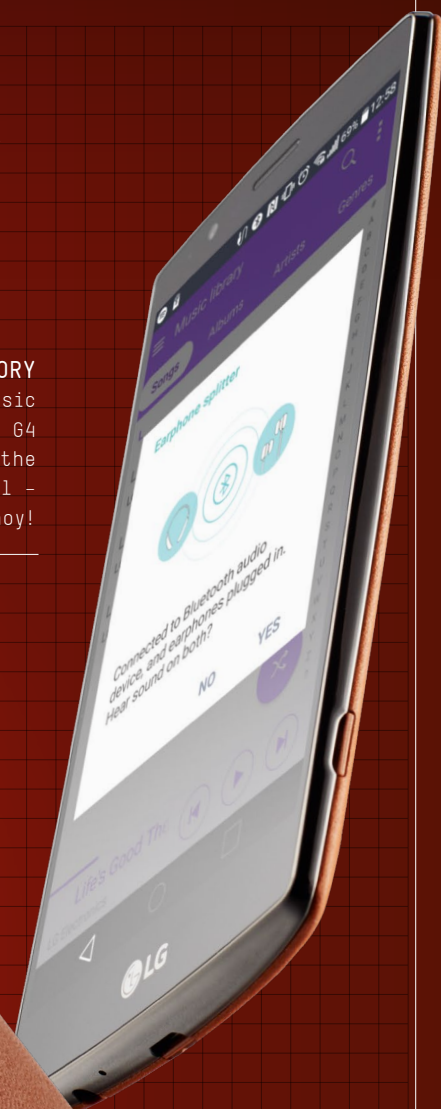
SPECIFICATIONS

PRICE £480 **URL** www.lg.com **SCREEN** Quantum IPS LCD **RESOLUTION** 1440 x 2560 pixels **SIZE** 5.5 inches **DIMENSIONS** 148.9 x 76.1 x 9.8mm **WEIGHT** 155g **FRONT CAMERA** 8MP **REAR CAMERA** 16MP **STORAGE** 32GB (microSD up to 128GB) **RAM** 3GB **BATTERY** 3,000mAh



MANUAL CONTROL
The G4's rear camera has full manual control and RAW support, so you can finally think about ditching the DSLR while still getting cracking shots

EXTRA MEMORY
Pack a lifetime of music and videos into the G4 with a memory card the size of a thumbnail – microSD support ahoy!



LEATHER BACK

The decision to use cow hide is bold, but it's stretched so thinly that it doesn't really provide the premium feel LG is going for

T3 Says...



The LG G4 is a phone that delivers a lot in a very compact space

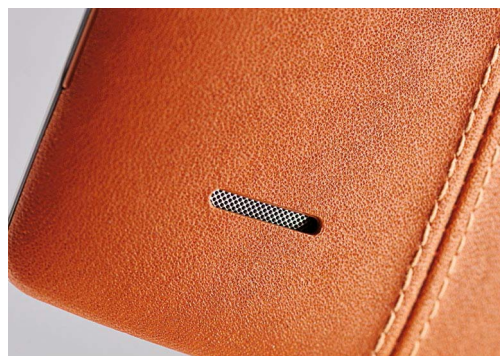
NICK ODANTZIS



As well as a massive upgrade in the performance department, the rear-facing camera comes with other neat tricks, including the ability to activate it with a double-tap of the silver panel



The extra space needed for the G4's removable back adds unnecessary girth to the design



Smart Notice is into you, offering timely weather reports and updates on your chums

The camera loads up fast – 0.6 seconds, which seems oddly close to Samsung's 0.7 seconds – so you won't miss that awesome photo opportunity. It does have a horrid tendency to over-process stuff and make it seem a bit muddy, but this isn't especially obvious unless you really zoom in, and it's still a lot better than what we've seen from LG in years gone by.

And here's some news that'll cheer up the photography buffs among you: RAW support and full manual control are included in the camera's software, meaning you can take snaps exactly how you want, with everything from focal length to ISO mode present and tweakable.

For the less adventurous, there are automatic and simple 'press the screen to save the pretty picture' modes on board – and, happily, these



are adept at getting a good photo, especially in strong light.

The front-facing camera is 8MP and, again, it's pretty robust. The LG G4 seems to be a phone that's all about the selfie. Want to take multiple selfies at once (and let's face it, we all have our vain moments)? You simply open and close your fist twice in front of the sensor and it'll take four selfies in a row.

The sensor width on the front of the phone could do with being a touch wider, because when you're taking snaps of yourself huddled up with friends, it still feels a bit cramped. But at least there's a High Dynamic Range feature, which will add some oomph to those horrible pictures of your face.

Talking of which, the inexplicable Beauty mode is added in, providing a perfect opportunity for chaps to see

what they'd look like as their sister. Hmm, she really needs a shave...

QUANTUM LEAP

With last year's G3, LG finally brought QHD screens to the market. It's therefore no surprise that the brand has done it again, only this time it seems to have got it right. The Quantum IPS LCD display on the G4 can be mindblowing at times, with any 4K footage really popping and fizzing off the screen.

The reason for this? The screen is now brighter, with richer colours that are based on the cinematic spectrum, so it's more true to what you see down your local multiplex. This also results in deeper blacks and whiter whites for excellent contrast ratio. It really works but, man, does the G4 just love to show off the colour red! Try browsing

T3 Rates



The screen looks great, with clear blacks and colours



The camera is powerful and takes killer snaps



The battery life is LG's worst ever

T3 Slates

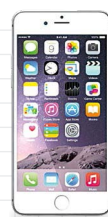
The alternatives



SAMSUNG GALAXY S6

→ The Galaxy S6 brings more power, a speedier camera, a more colourful and sharper screen,

and an overall better design to the mix. Some Samsung fans will miss the removable battery and expandable storage. **From £599, samsung.com/uk**



iPhone 6

→ Apple's best iPhone yet has the G4 totally licked in terms of design, but it's light years behind LG's handset when it

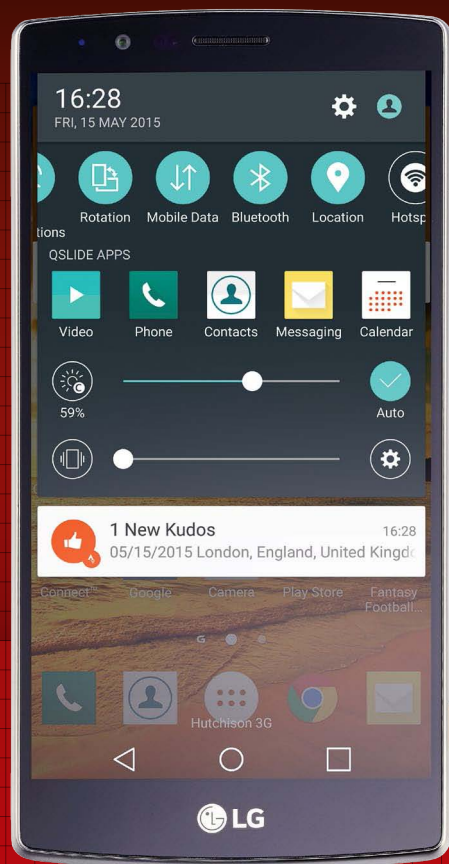
comes to screen sharpness and the camera spec. Apple's ace up the sleeve is still the excellent app ecosystem, though. **From £539, apple.com/uk**



HTC ONE M9

→ HTC has designed a phone that would make a jeweller weep, but beneath the veneer the M9 isn't a big step up. The

camera is mediocre and the screen is 'only' 1080p, though the Sense interface is still one of the best around for a smartphone. **From £579, htc.com/uk**



T3 Says...



The G4's camera is more powerful than most of us will ever need

NICK ODANTZIS

WIDE BOY

The G4 is 9.3mm at its thickest point, which is positively chubby when you compare it to, say, the iPhone 6 (6.9mm)



Arsenal's website, for instance, and you'll feel as though something has gone wrong with your eyes. It's annoying that you can't tweak the settings in the same way you can with the Samsung Galaxy S6, which has a variety of options for more muted shades should the vibrant colours of a Super AMOLED screen not float your boat.

The G4's larger screen also lends itself to watching films on the go. While we needed to fire up the brightness a little more in order to get the best out of our chosen vids, it was still a clean and crisp viewing experience throughout. Our only issue is with LG's decision to go QHD at all - there's still so little content out there to really make use of all those delightful extra pixels, so the additional battery-sucking seems unnecessary.

POWER DOWN

There seems to be something of an odd trend in 2015's smartphones: the battery life is terrible in so many of them. The Samsung Galaxy S6, the iPhone 6 and the HTC One M9 have all got power packs that struggle to last a day. Unfortunately, the LG G4 has joined those shameful ranks.

It's odd, given that there's a 3,000mAh battery in the mix, as well as the new Qualcomm 808 chipset. This engine is supposed to give better

battery life through having fewer cores (six rather than the eight doing the rounds at the moment), but in practice it hasn't demonstrated this. The extra pixels needing to be driven are likely to be a large part of the cause, but Google's Lollipop is also nabbing a fair chunk of that power, despite LG bringing out the first flagship smartphone to run Android 5.1 (Silent mode is back! Who thought getting rid of that would be a good idea?).

It's not the worst battery life on the market, and, thanks to the removable power pack, you can always carry a spare with you in case of emergencies, but for a modern smartphone it's heartbreaking to not get at least two days out of your device when it spends most of the day in your pocket.

At least LG has made up for this disappointment in other areas. The infrared blaster is still in attendance, which means you can change the channel on the office TV while sneakily checking your emails. The camera features the impressively named laser autofocus (technology inspired by that in a robot vacuum cleaner). And the interface has been improved, making everything look flatter and generally more mature. It's still a little cartoony (in the same way that Samsung is yet to properly fix TouchWiz), although the feature

where Smart Notice tells you what to wear that day based on the weather is genuinely useful. Also, we'd like to give a shout out to the rear key on this phone. For one thing, it makes taking pictures much easier, with a simple double-tap of your finger firing up the camera.

And that's that. The LG G4 is a phone that delivers a lot of fantastic features in a compact (but not as compact as usual) space - Apple should take note of this when it comes to design the iPhone 7 Plus. OK, so the whole leather thing might not be quite on the money and looks a little '70s, but we can't deny that the screen is truly a thing of beauty. Better still, the camera is more powerful than most of us will ever need when we're merely trying to get our cat to smile. 🐾

T3 Verdict

T3 RATES Amazing screen, strong camera, expandable storage

T3 SLATES Poor battery, lag-prone interface, cheap-feeling design

T3 SAYS The G4 has a great screen and a versatile camera, but an overly chunky design and a plastic case. And we're really not sold on that leather





COMPACT SYSTEM CAMERAS

Panasonic Lumix DMC-GF7 Vs Nikon 1 J5

PANASONIC'S ENTRY-LEVEL CSC GETS A CLEAN NEW LOOK AND A SELFIE SCREEN

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£350, NIKON.CO.UK

DESIGN **T3 ★★★★★** →

The GF7 is slightly bigger and more utilitarian than the J5, but smart in its own way, with a choice of colours. What looks like a viewfinder housing on the top is nothing of the sort, which is odd, and a couple of the controls feel cramped.



FEATURES **T3 ★★★★★** →

The GF7's Micro Four Thirds sensor is larger than the J5's and good for image quality. The space-saving 24-64mm kit lens offers a bit less reach, though. Both cameras offer Wi-Fi compatibility, but the J5 also has NFC.



PERFORMANCE **T3 ★★★★★** →

The GF7's bigger sensor delivers slightly more sharpness and slightly less noise, though you have to know what to look for. It doesn't have the J5's smart hybrid AF system but its autofocus is still fast and snappy, except in low light.



USABILITY **T3 ★★★★★** →

Like the J5, the GF7 is great for both novices and more advanced photographers. Both cameras lack a viewfinder, though, which makes composing shots in bright light trickier and knocks a star off each one's rating.



RATES The bigger sensor and lower price. The GF7 is a good choice for the practically minded, and there are lots of Micro Four Thirds lenses you can add later.
SLATES It lacks the J5's tech innovations and charm.

2nd



1st

DESIGN **T3 ★★★★★** →

Retro styling is combined with nice materials and handling. The J5 is made of plastic with faux-leather trim, but you wouldn't know it. The touchscreen display works well, and flips up and over for selfies, just like the GF7's.



FEATURES **T3 ★★★★★** →

The J5 and GF7 both have flip-up selfie screens but no viewfinder. The J5 comes with a 27-83mm kit lens that offers a longer range, but it comes with a smaller one-inch sensor. It hits back with some clever high-speed shooting modes, though.



PERFORMANCE **T3 ★★★★★** →

Image quality is fractionally down on the GF7's, and in single-shot mode the J5 takes a moment to get ready for the next photo, which is odd for a high-speed camera. The J5 can shoot 4K video but only at 15fps, so it's hardly worth having.



USABILITY **T3 ★★★★★** →

The J5 can be used by novices but also has enough manual control to keep an expert happy. Usability and handling are much improved over early Nikon 1 cameras, and the J5 is small enough to replace a compact camera – almost.



RATES Its small size, smart styling, super-fast hybrid AF and 20fps burst mode. The J5 is a clever little camera with some innovative shooting options.
SLATES The smaller sensor, and 4K at only 15fps.



Verdict



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Laptops & Ultrabooks

GET STUFF DONE, BROWSE THE INTERNET OR ENJOY THE LATEST FILMS AND GAMES WITH THESE STYLISH, POWERFUL AND PORTABLE MACHINES

Words: Kane Fulton

Today's portable computers are so slim and elegant, they wouldn't look out of place on the catwalk.

And the good news is that it's not a case of style over substance: fitted with Intel's latest (in some cases, fanless) processors, the top laptops and Ultrabooks offer impressive power and versatility, enabling users to work and play (or both at the same time) in glorious high definition and for hours on a single charge. What's more, those that offer two-in-one capability enable you to transform your machine from an office to a home cinema, and vice versa, with the mere swivel of a screen or the detachment of a keyboard. T3's Super Six are all worthy of your money, but which one best suits your needs?



01 ONE FOR CITY SLICKERS

APPLE MACBOOK

From £1,049, www.apple.com/uk

→ Just 13.1mm thick, Apple's new MacBook is the Cupertino brand's most portable laptop yet. It won't suit everyone due to its single USB Type-C port, which means you'll need an adapter to use your old monitors and peripherals – but it crams in some top tech. A 2,304 x 1,440-pixel Retina Display accompanies a unique 'butterfly' keyboard that reduces key wobbling, a Force Touch trackpad that adds a third click and haptic feedback, and the OS X Yosemite operating system. Even better, it's fanless, silent and lasts up to nine hours on a charge. Grab it in Gold, Silver or Space Grey.



02 ONE FOR MONEY SAVERS

ASUS ZENBOOK UX305

£650, www.asus.com

→ The UX305 doesn't cost a bomb, but your mates won't know that. As well as being slimmer than the MacBook (it's just 12.3mm), it packs Intel's latest fanless processor and crams in two full-size USB 3.0 ports, along with an HDMI output for hooking it up to a monitor or TV. The 13-inch Full HD display's matte coating lets you see what you're doing outdoors – perfect for watching Wimbledon in the garden – and the battery life of up to six hours means you won't have to keep going back into the house to charge it up. A fast 128GB SSD and comfortable keyboard add to the appeal.



03 ONE FOR HARDENED TRAVELLERS

HP SPECTRE X360

From £849, www.hp.com/uk

→ Few laptops literally bend over backwards for you, but the Spectre x360 will. A rotating hinge enables the keyboard to flip 360 degrees, so the machine can be used as a tablet or stood upright for watching video hands-free. Thanks to the Intel Broadwell chip inside, the Spectre x360 boasts a competition-smashing 12.5-hour battery life and crisp 3D graphics, while its solid aluminium body is almost tank-like in durability. Backed up by 8GB of RAM, it'll let you edit images and chew through demanding tasks with ease – and what's more, you get all of this for a sensible price.




04 ONE FOR LOVERS OF LUXURY

LENOVO YOGA 3 PRO

From £999, www.lenovo.com/uk

→ The laptop equivalent of a fine wristwatch, the Yoga 3 Pro screams boardrooms, luxury cruise ships and complex scotch. Its sharp 13.3-inch touchscreen spins 360 degrees around a watchband-inspired hinge made up of 813 individual pieces of aluminium and steel. Thanks to its flexibility and lightness, the Yoga can be used as a laptop, tablet or upright display, and the ThinkPad-inspired keyboard is one of the best around. Lenovo's Harmony software, which optimises settings depending on how you use it over time, means it'll adapt to you.


05 ONE FOR MOVIE ADDICTS

DELL XPS 13

From £849, www.dell.com/uk

→ This is a smartly designed laptop that stands out from the others here due to its gorgeous 13-inch edge-to-edge 'Infinity' display. Its border is so thin that it's virtually not there, creating a cinematic effect that's perfect for watching movies and videos. The XPS 13's clever screen also gives it a small footprint, making it incredibly bag-friendly and the opposite of a table hog on transport. While it's no gaming monster, the inclusion of Intel's latest HD Graphics 5500 solution means you'll certainly be able to run lesser-demanding titles. *Frogger*, anyone?


06 ONE FOR SPLIT PERSONALITIES

ASUS T300 CHI

From £800, www.asus.com

→ The Asus T300 Chi is a two-in-one machine that combines the best bits of a laptop and a tablet. The touchscreen magnetically detaches from the keyboard with a sharp tug, meaning you can sit back and use it to stream movies on the couch or prop it up against the wall to watch footie in the bath (keep an eye out for those bubbles). The Chi's razor-thin aluminium design is as impressive as any competing Ultrabook, making it stylish, versatile and portable. It's quiet and nippy, too, thanks to Intel's latest fanless chip under the hood. An impressive option for the money. **T3**



OUR GADGETS

THE T3 TEAM TAKE ON LONG-TERM TESTS OF THE LATEST GEAR...

ON TEST THIS MONTH

THE GADGETS WE'RE
LIVING AND BREATHING

**NICK ODANTZIS, BMW
C EVOLUTION**



→ The C Evo has turned my head away from petrol-powered bikes, but this month I want to look at its charging capacity and range – how far can I travel with it?

**CLAIRE DAVIES,
FUJIFILM X-A2**



→ There are lots of preset modes to play with on the X-A2, and I'm keen to see how it performs at a busy indoor festival, as well as on a sunny nature walk.

**MARC CHACKSFIELD,
NEXUS PLAYER**



→ Getting to know the Nexus Player has been fun, but I'm concerned there aren't enough

gaming options to keep me happy. I'm lifting the lid this month to find out...

**DUNCAN BELL, THE ORACLE
COFFEE MACHINE**



→ I'm still bleeding money on expensive coffee for this opulent machine, but it's time

to weigh up whether The Oracle really is worth its hefty price tag.

ROB CARNEY, B&O PLAY H8



→ Sold on the Play H8s' sound and design last issue, I'm now casting my eye over their finer details and looking at

how these headphones fit in with my existing gadgets and my lifestyle.

YOUR GADGETS

→ Every issue, we also hear about your purchases. This month, an Asus NX500, a Braun cruZer6 Face and a Withings Activité Pop – see page 106.

EASY CHARGING

It's as simple as plugging the C Evo into your mains, but the process doesn't feel as special as the bike



MONTH 2 OF 3

BMW C Evo

IT'S LIKE AN iPhone ON WHEELS, BUT DOES THAT MEAN YOU'LL BE CHARGING YOUR BIKE EVERY DAY?

SPECIFICATIONS

PRICE £13,500 **WEIGHT** 265KG (fully fuelled) **POWER** 48BHP **CHARGING TIME** Around four hours **STANDARD FEATURES** ABS

Two months later and you'd think I'd be missing the allure of the petrol engine – that smell, the noise and the fumes. Surprisingly, though, while I've occasionally pined for my old bike on sunny weekends, I've not given it too much thought – except on long journeys.

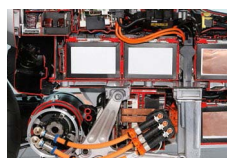
That's the real limitation with the C Evo at present: you can't go very far on it. On the motorway, driving at 70mph, I get about 25 miles out of the battery, which means if I want to go out of town I soon get the dreaded 'range anxiety'.

OK, so the C Evo is intended for the inner-city commute, but I like to explore and make the most of sunny days, and I want to show it off to as many people as possible. If you're interested in buying a C Evo, it's best suited as a companion to another, petrol-powered bike.

Range aside, there's so much to like about the C Evo. It's surprisingly quick pulling away from a standstill – so much so that I often take bikers with much more powerful engines by surprise, as they don't really expect it. The motor has the equivalent of 48bhp, which isn't loads, but it's how it's delivered – it's all instantly available with no hesitation, and there are no gears to fiddle with. This makes it easy to zip from A to B, day or night, without hassle.

The thing that really interests me about the C Evo is the ability

T3 Rates



The electric motor is quick and exhilarating



Charging is simple, if not very glam



Needs more leg room!

T3 Slates



A vivid green panel drives home the C Evo's eco-friendly nature



The design isn't nerdy; it has just the right amount of flash

"IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN BUYING A C EVO, IT'S BEST SUITED AS A COMPANION TO A PETROL BIKE"

to charge it up, just like you would your iPhone. It comes with a charger in the luggage compartment, which you can plug in to bring it up to 100 per cent, giving you the equivalent of 60 miles maximum range (or less, as mentioned earlier). My main gripe with the charger is that it feels like a bit of an afterthought. In a future model, I'd like to see the charging system better integrated.

Unusually, especially for a BMW, not everything here is perfectly thought out. On cold days, the optional heated grips are wonderful, but the switch to

activate (or deactivate) them is located on the right-hand throttle, which is an odd position. If you want to adjust the heating level mid-ride, you have to perform a deft move with your left arm to get to it.

Then there's the leg room. Admittedly, I sit at the high end of the length spectrum, with a 36-inch inside leg, but tall or long-of-leg guys beware: the C Evo's handlebars can sometimes foul on your kneecaps when turning a corner, which I think is downright dangerous. If the handlebars could be adjusted, that would be perfect.



T3 Verdict so far

You won't always miss petrol power, but you will miss those long rides if you make the C Evo your only bike.

T3 ★★★★★ NICK ODANTZIS, DEPUTY EDITOR



This electric bike is surprisingly quick off the mark, taking trad bikers by surprise

→ NEXT MONTH I'LL LOOK AT HOW PRACTICAL THE C EVO IS AND WHERE TO CHARGE IT

→ More great content at the all-new www.t3.com

T3 Select

LONG-TERM TESTS



MONTH 2 OF 3



The X-A2 performs well outdoors, and has an array of fun modes to explore

Fujifilm X-A2

THIS CAMERA IS PERFECT FOR LAZY SNAPPERS WHO WANT QUALITY IMAGES WITHOUT MUCH EFFORT

SPECIFICATIONS

PRICE £380 URL fujifilm.eu/uk SENSOR 16.5 million pixels, 23.6 x 15.6mm APS-C CMOS LENS MOUNT FujiFilm X LCD DISPLAY Tilting, 3.0-inch, 920K-dot ISO RANGE 200 to 25600 BATTERY LIFE FOR STILL IMAGES Approx 410 frames

Last month, I headed to the London Wellbeing Festival, hoping to pick up some wonder nutrients to add to my morning smoothie, and perhaps buy a sweet pair of yoga pants. With the Fujifilm X-A2 in hand, I barrelled through the doors at the London Olympia to test out the camera's capabilities.

Putting the X-A2 to work, I began photographing a couple on stage who were explaining the link between meditation and song. On advanced filter mode, and taking advantage of the Face Detection facility, the X-A2 picked them out clearly, with the bright fluoro colours on the stage backdrop popping vibrantly. Considering I was sat at least halfway back in the auditorium, this also turned out to be a good proving ground for the zoom lens.

The low lighting in some areas of the festival made the camera work harder, but overall it performed well in both high and low lighting, and it was easy to cycle through the preset modes. Although, I must say that a few times when scrolling back through photos, I encountered a frustrating 'read error'.

Keen to try out the landscape and portrait modes, the next day I took some photos of trees near my house. And I papped my cat again. She was unimpressed, but I'm keen on the X-A2 and its ability to capture things as I see them. Next month, I'll be testing the video and checking out the remaining preset modes.



T3 Verdict so far

It's light enough to carry around on days out, and the preset modes are simple to cycle through.

T3 ★★★★★ CLAIRE DAVIES, ASSISTANT EDITOR



The remote control is scant; sadly, so is the range of games



To play games, you'll need to invest in a gamepad (£35)

Nexus Player

IT'S GAME ON WITH THE NEXUS PLAYER, BUT THE DEVICE JUST DOESN'T WANT TO PLAY FAIR

SPECIFICATIONS

PRICE £79 **URL** google.com/nexus/player **DIMENSIONS** 120 x 120 x 20mm **STORAGE** 8GB eMMC **WEIGHT** 235g **OS** Android TV **PROCESSOR** 1.8GHz quad-core, Intel Atom processor **ACCESSORIES** Remote, Gamepad (sold separately)

This is my second month with the Nexus Player and, while its music, movie and TV-streaming capabilities have proven to be as good as anything else on the market, it turns out the player is let down by what's meant to be its USP: namely, its gaming prowess.

Just like the Amazon Fire TV, the Nexus Player has been positioned not just as a media-streaming stalwart but as a microconsole, too. To unlock its gaming potential, you need to buy an additional gamepad, also made by Asus and costing £35. Once you have this, you

can try to kid yourself into thinking that the Nexus Player is a rival to the Xbox One or the PlayStation 4. Well, believe me, it's not and the lack of decent games is the issue.

Android TV games aren't the same as Google Play games, which is really confusing. I powered up the Nexus Player thinking that all the games on my Samsung Galaxy S5 phone would be available – but sadly, the options were rather scant. There are only around 80 gaming titles to get your teeth into, and the quality varies wildly. The Nexus Player undoubtedly has some gaming chops – a 1.8GHz quad-core Intel Atom processor and an Imagination PowerVR Series 6 Graphics 2D/3D engine – but they're criminally under-used.

Yes, there are some retro delights on show – *Final Fantasy III* and *Castle Illusion* being the highlights – but it all feels like I'm playing upscaled mobile games on the big screen. Which is exactly what's happening.

“THE HARDWARE IS GREAT AND THE NEXUS PLAYER'S BLACK HOCKEY-PUCK DESIGN HAS A PREMIUM FEEL”

One silver lining is that there's only 8GB of storage available on the player, so not having much choice means I won't fill it up so fast. As you can tell, I'm ever the optimist!

The Nexus Player's hardware is great and the device's black hockey-puck design has a premium feel to it. The software is pretty decent, too, the Android TV UI being a joy to use. However, the lack of apps and games is holding this device back massively. Yes, there's the option to 'cast' apps onto the big screen, but this isn't a patch on having a wide

selection of well-designed native apps available.

This is a real shame, as I've had fun with the Nexus Player. I've learned to love the voice control that doesn't actually love my voice, and I've enjoyed powering up Google Play Music on a big screen. I've even liked playing the small selection of decent games that are available.

Overall? Google needs to put its might behind mustering up more support from app and game developers, otherwise the Nexus Player will be just another place to play *Goat Simulator*, and that can only be a bad thing.



T3 Final verdict

The Nexus Player has the potential to be great, but Google must up its game if this is to become a serious contender.

T3 ★★★★★ MARC CHACKSFIELD, CONTENT TEAM LEAD

→ **NEXT MONTH** PRODUCTION EDITOR PAUL DIMERY GETS TO GRIPS WITH AN ELECTRIC GOCYCLE



MONTH 2 OF 2

The Oracle

FURTHER JOURNEYS INTO ARTISAN COFFEE ENJOYMENT
(WITH A HEALTHY SIDE ORDER OF CLEANING)

SPECIFICATIONS

PRICE £1,495 **URL** sageoracle.co.uk **DIMENSIONS** 45.3 x 37.3 x 40.9cm **FEATURES** Grind size dial; one-touch long black; automatic milk frother; automatic tamper; over pressure valve

Having now used The Oracle for quite some time, my enthusiasm for this beautiful, high-end coffee machine hasn't faded one iota. Granted, my spend on coffee beans is through the roof compared to what it used to be (thankyou, Pact.com and Eightpointnine.com), but that's

because I now enjoy coffee to an extent I never did before.

There have been no issues with The Oracle's reliability in the time we've been together but, as with any serious coffee machine, there's a fair amount of everyday maintenance to be done in order to keep it in tip-top condition. With that in mind, if you're the kind of person who doesn't like rinsing out group heads, wiping off pristine steel surfaces, *correctly* cleaning the steam wand (something my partner is singularly crap at) and topping up the, thankfully gargantuan, water tank (ditto), then you're probably better off with a Nespresso or something. As for me? Well, I've actually come to find cleaning this machine weirdly therapeutic.

If I have one complaint, it's that The Oracle does seem to need descaling scarily often, and the machine will sometimes continue to tell me that it still needs descaling when I've just damn well descaled it. This coffee machine is also rather demanding about me replacing

its water filter, which raises the rather alarming prospect that without said filter, I might be having to descale it on an almost hourly basis.

But there you go: London is a place where the men are hard, and so is the H2O.



T3 Final verdict



Could I live without The Oracle? Sure. But to lose it would leave a hole in my kitchen and in my heart.



DUNCAN BELL, LIFESTYLE AND TECHNOLOGY EDITOR



MONTH 2 OF 2

B&O Play H8

THESE LUXE HEADPHONES JUST KEEP GETTING BETTER, DELIVERING GREAT AUDIO WITH EASE EVERY DAY

SPECIFICATIONS

PRICE £399 **URL** beoplay.com **DIMENSIONS** 180 x 190 x 40mm **WEIGHT** 255g **SPEAKERS** Dynamic 40mm **CONNECTIONS** 3.5mm mini jack, Bluetooth aptX **AVAILABLE COLOURS** Agrilla Bright and Grey Hazel

I've now been using these Bluetooth headphones as my main pair for a couple of months, and I still like them as much as I did when I first got them. In fact, the Play H8s don't really leave my neck unless they run out of battery – and

I try to always plug them in overnight (just like I do with my phone, laptop, Apple Watch and so on). Speaking of the Apple Watch, the Play H8s paired easily, making it possible to listen to music without my phone in close proximity (although this isn't a necessity, as I'm hardly going to be using these cans for running).

The fact that I have these around my neck most of the day means that the natural leather has coloured very slightly. This isn't something I'm worried about – they're hardly falling apart. I actually quite like the slightly worn, lived-in look, but if you think it's going to bother you, perhaps pick up the brown ones. Other than that, the headphones looks pretty much as pristine as the day I first used them – there are no scratches, nicks or anything like that (which is a decent result, as I'm not overly careful with them).

So, are they worth stumping up £400 for? I still don't know. They're undeniably beautiful,

sound brilliant and enable you to free yourself of wires. But £400... Think of the non-Bluetooth cans you could get for that cash. I guess it depends on your idea of portability.



T3 Final verdict



The H8s fit in easily with my other gadgets, and I quite like the slightly worn look they now have.



ROB CARNEY, EDITOR

YOUR GADGETS

THE TECHNOLOGY THAT'S CHANGED YOUR LIFE... FOR BETTER OR WORSE

Get involved →

We'd love to know about any tech you've bought. Tell us about it at inbox@t3.com – and please include a pic of yourself



Asus Zenbook NX500

REVIEWED BY MATT HARPER
FROM BIRMINGHAM

£1,699, ASUS.COM/UK

Why I bought it

→ I'm a freelance TV, film and music reviewer, so when my old laptop died last month, I knew it was time to buy a new one that was capable of delivering great sound and a crisp picture when playing movies or TV shows on the go, as well as being user-friendly to boost my productivity when writing and blogging. I read your review [in T3 239] of the Asus Zenbook NX500, and thought it sounded up to the job.

What I like about it

→ The power! You weren't lying when you said this was a beast of a laptop. I'm also loving the Bang & Olufsen speakers that have been packed in – they make some of the crappier new albums I have to sift through sound way better. The Zenbook NX500 looks as fancy as a MacBook Air, and feels light yet durable too. The picture on this thing is just stunning, especially when I watch 4K footage on it.

What I don't like about it

→ The price. I did a bit of sick in my mouth when parting with nearly 1,700 sheets, but I can claim it back on my tax bill, right?!

T3 Verdict



The Zenbook NX500 is super-powerful, big on productivity and made for watching 4K videos.

MATT HARPER, BIRMINGHAM

Braun cruZer6 Face

REVIEWED BY BRIAN SMITH
FROM CHICHESTER

£70, BRAUN.COM/UK



Why I bought it

→ Two words: the wife. Apparently, my wiry ginger beard is about as attractive in bed as a naked Benny Hill. Problem is, while I may look like an extra from *Vikings*, my skin is very sensitive – show it a Bic and it breaks out in a mass of bloody cuts. I don't want to miss out on the good stuff with my wife, but I don't want to suffer the agony of a clean shave either. The cruZer6 Face offered me a halfway house.

What I like about it

→ It doesn't shred my face, which is a big one for me. I can use it wet or dry, and either way it gets my beard under control without flaying me alive. The cruZer6 Face offers four trimming lengths, which is good for sorting out my Amos Breatly-style sideburns. I can't be arsed with shavers that have a silly amount of extra functions, but the cruZer6 Face keeps it simple.

What I don't like about it

→ It's a pretty solid shaver, actually, but it would be nice to have longer cordless shaving time than 30 minutes after a one-hour charge.

T3 Verdict



Good for vikings who want a tidy beard, the cruZer6 Face offers a variety of trim options.

BRIAN SMITH, CHICHESTER



Withings Activité Pop

REVIEWED BY KELLY RYAN
FROM TRURO

£119.95, WITHINGS.COM/UK

Why I bought it

→ Recently, I started a new exercise regime, including Zumba, running, a spin class and pilates, coupled with a new plant-based diet, and I wanted to get some specific stats on what effects my new regime was having on me. For years, I've been using the *My Fitness Pal* app, but I wanted something a bit more accurate, so I decided to buy a proper fitness tracker – I chose the Withings Activité Pop.

What I like about it

→ I'd be lying if I said the trendy large face wasn't a factor in me choosing this but, looks aside, the Activité Pop has everything I need to keep track of my wellbeing. I wear it to Zumba and my spin class, and definitely when I'm out running, but it never feels heavy on my wrist. The Activité Pop also gives me feedback on my sleep patterns, which I find interesting, and it has a silent alarm function. The best part is the long battery life – it goes on for months.

What I don't like about it

→ Not much! Although, I don't get the silent alarm function – who wears a watch to bed?

T3 Verdict



The Activité Pop is ideal for giving me feedback on calories burned during Zumba and spin classes.

KELLY RYAN, TRURO



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. . . and into the blue.



THE NEW ENERGIZER® 12V AUTOMOTIVE ACCESSORIES RANGE POWERS YOUR FAVOURITE DEVICES ON THE GO.

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GAME OF THE MONTH!

The Witcher 3: Wild Hunt

PICK UP YOUR SWORD, CAST SPELLS AND HUNT DOWN MONSTERS IN THIS EPIC ADVENTURE FROM PROJEKT RED

£44.99, PC, PlayStation 4, Xbox One

Trees bend and sway, storms blow across the landscape, buzzards circle overhead. *The Witcher 3's* world moves in a way that game worlds haven't before. It's one of the busiest ever made and, while it's not the biggest in terms of raw square footage, it teems with life – human and otherwise. The Northern Kingdoms are both extraordinarily beautiful and truly sickening. For every cracked castle artfully placed on the horizon, there's a tree full of hanging men. You're constantly confronted by astonishing views, but something murderous always lurks in the bushes nearby.

It's a place of almost relentless suffering. Humans are largely scattered across a network of small villages that you can travel between at will once the map opens up after

the prologue, by horse or on foot. The peasants who inhabit these rickety townships are easy prey for the creatures that surround them. As Geralt, a professional monster hunter, you move from place to place, using untidy combat to dispatch these supernatural tormentors for money. *The Witcher 3* is at its best when you choose solely to wander, taking sidequests from the peasants and contracts from town noticeboards. Freed from the convolutions of the main plot, it's a varied and exciting realisation of the Ronin fantasy.

The overarching story centres around Geralt's adopted daughter, Ciri. As a child of the 'elder blood', she can teleport between worlds. A cohort of otherworldly riders called The Wild Hunt want to harness her ability so that they can invade other worlds en masse. You have to find Ciri before they



MAIN PICTURE
As a professional monster hunter, you'll be faced with some pretty ugly brutes

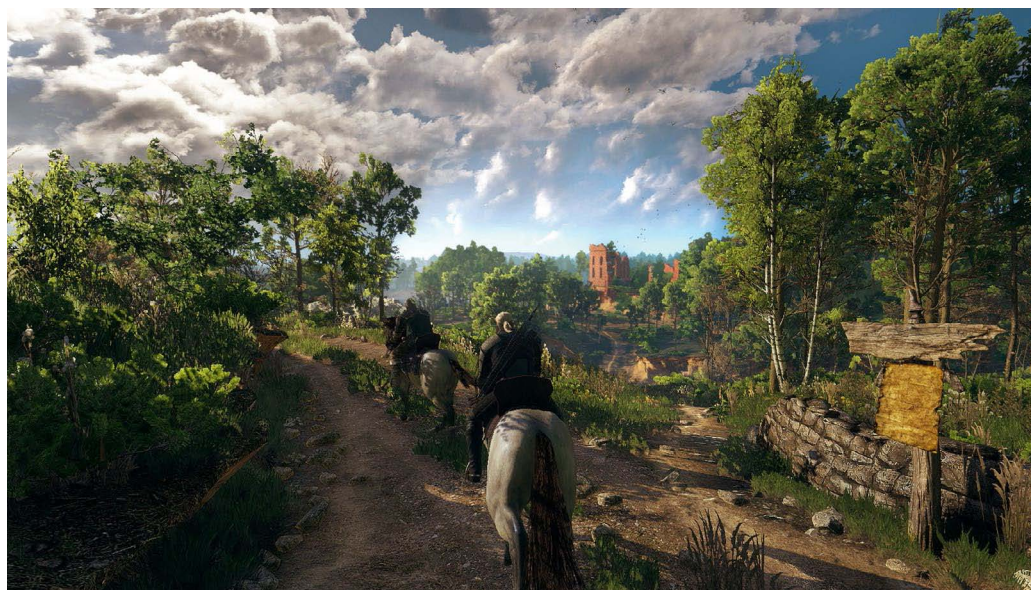
BELOW Combat can be over-complicated at times, so practise hard to win battles

do, which is a suitable enough excuse to ride around meeting each region's most powerful figures.

You'll be doing a lot of fighting in this strange land, and the combat remains largely unchanged from the previous instalment. You attack by stringing together light and strong slaps with your sword, and can use an array of magical signs to protect yourself or pulverise others. The essential Quen spell casts a shield that negates a blow. Igni roasts enemies with a flame blast. Yrden lays a trap that slows them to a drunken crawl. Aard pushes them back with concussive force, and Axii stupefies them.

Geralt always feels more cumbersome than his elaborate, spinning animations imply – and less deadly, in spite of the bloody dismemberment that happens when he finishes an enemy off.





T3 Says...

The rewards are too great to let average swordplay ruin the wider adventure

You can fix things a little with the upgrade system, which lets you exchange level-up points for close-combat skills to increase your damage, and signs to unlock new variations on the basic set.

Fortunately, fighting is but one part of *The Witcher 3* package, and the rewards are too great to let average swordplay ruin the wider adventure. Besides, to track Ceri, Geralt must become as much a detective as a warrior. His new CSI-like vision ability enables him to pick clues out of the environment in hazy red outlines. Footprints, blood, scents and magical artefacts light up so that you can follow your prey and identify monsters.

The plots of the main missions and side quests confront you with twisted takes on the creatures and

TOP Between battles, you'll want to take your time to explore the beautiful world of *The Witcher 3*

ABOVE LEFT There's a vast array of spells and weapons to get used to

ABOVE RIGHT Peasant villages are a rich source of bounty

curses of old European folklore. These stories have ancient roots, and their authenticity conveys a grim, earthy texture to the world; a quality unique to *The Witcher* series.

Good voice acting (for the most part) and superb facial animation make the characters and creatures you meet fun to banter with, but be warned: you also meet a lot of returning characters from previous *Witcher* games. If you know nothing about the convoluted series of wars and betrayals that precede the game, a significant amount of the main thread will seem completely baffling. It's worth playing *The Witcher 2*, or reading up on the series, before you start.

T3 Verdict

T3 RATES The beautifully realised world filled with gorgeous vistas and horrifying monsters

T3 SLATES The combat, which is still frustrating and punishing

T3 SAYS *The Witcher 3* represents a leap in world design and fidelity, and is a spectacle that deserves to be savoured



—> More great content at the all-new www.t3.com

PLAY THIS!

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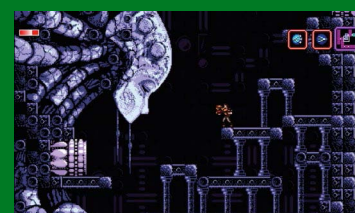
HOTLINE MIAMI 2: WRONG NUMBER

→ The ultra-violent and maddeningly addictive *Hotline Miami* is back with new characters, weapons and play styles. **Prices vary, PC, PlayStation 4, PlayStation 3, PlayStation Vita, Mac**



NOT A HERO

→ Created by London-based studio Roll7, this game lets you shoot, slide, dive and take cover as you fight your way through the criminal underworld. **£9.99; PC, PlayStation 4, PlayStation Vita**



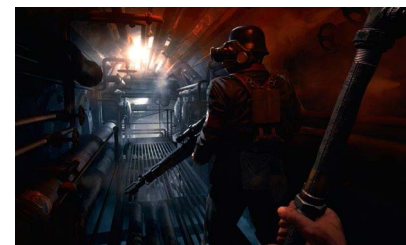
AXIOM VERGE

→ Side-scrolling platformer where you explore an alien world, using your wits (not to mention your ability to blow monsters to pieces) to make it out alive. **Prices vary; PC, PlayStation 4, PlayStation Vita, Mac**



CHROMA SQUAD

→ This RPG enables you to play as *Power Rangers*-inspired fighters battling their way through robots made of cardboard. **Prices vary; PC, PlayStation 4, PlayStation Vita, PlayStation 3, Xbox One, Mac**



TOP Those damn Nazis have got into the occult. Can you stop them before they uncover a dangerous weapon?

ABOVE Sneak up on your foes to take them out without alerting more

Wolfenstein: The Old Blood

BJ BLAZKOVICZ RETURNS (AGAIN) IN A STANDALONE PREQUEL TO 2014'S *WOLFENSTEIN: THE NEW ORDER*

£14.99, PC, PlayStation 4, Xbox One

MachineGames managed to pull off a pretty impressive feat with last year's *Wolfenstein: The New Order*, dragging the *Wolfenstein* name back to relevance with its combination of meaty, old-school shooting, a touching storyline and rich characterisation. Set before the events of that game, *The Old Blood* is a 'standalone expansion' – meaning you don't need to have played *The New Order* to enjoy it. But such is the fun to be had here, you might decide to go back and play that game anyway.

Action is very much the order of the day in *The Old Blood*. At its core, it's a big, dumb shooter, fast-paced and with a really satisfying feel to the weapons – that crunch of the shotgun, or the subtle upwards pull of the assault rifle that makes it feel like you're really wrestling against the recoil. There's more going on alongside the action, though. There are 'soft stealth' sections – huge rooms filled with Nazi soldiers and a couple of commanders who, if taken out silently without alerting anything else in the room, will prevent reinforcements being called

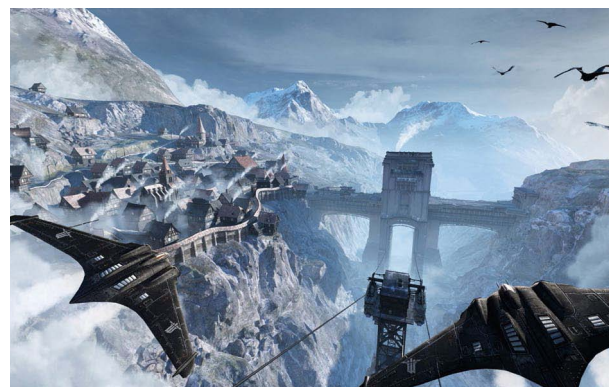
and give you an opportunity to take out the rest of the room without quite so much fear of the doors. It's a neat little system – a bit of risk/reward tempered by the fact that if you do decide to 'go loud' and shoot everyone in sight, you'll have plenty of targets.

The alternative-history setting of *The New Order* has given MachineGames carte blanche to create some really interesting and unique levels, with B J Blazkovicz (that's you) being sent on a globetrotting (and beyond!) mission to save the world. Here, things are dialled back to play out over a much smaller but still wonderfully



TOP Your enemies are well-armed but, luckily, so are you

BELOW This game feels like a supercharged Second World War film in places



designed area. The cable car to the castle – which looks like it's built into the vast mountainside, overlooking the village you'll travel to later – is a spectacular opener that wouldn't look out of place in a Hollywood movie.

The game isn't all about killing, believe it or not. There's an awful, forced stealth section right at the beginning – though, mercifully, this segment is short and the game doesn't try anything else like it throughout its duration.

Both the strongest and the weakest aspects of *The Old Blood* are its brevity. You can smash your way through the campaign in four to six hours, and the only misstep is that aforementioned stealth segment. The firefights quickly ramp up in intensity to match those found towards the end of the original game, and there's always some new area, weapon or enemy to deal with, keeping things interesting. *The Old Blood* is a focused and to-the-point adventure, at least when it comes to the actual shooting of things.

T3 Verdict

T3 RATES *The Old Blood* works well as a standalone game, and the shooting feels fantastic

T3 SLATES The story doesn't quite reach the emotional heights of *The New Order*

T3 SAYS *The Old Blood* doesn't pack the clout of its predecessor but it's still worth your money





Future Publishing, Quay House,
The Ambury, Bath BA1 1UA
EDITORIAL +44(0)1225 442244
SUBSCRIPTIONS & CUSTOMER SERVICES
+44(0)844 848 28524



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T3 IS...

EDITOR ROB CARNEY

rob.carney@futurenet.com

DEPUTY EDITOR NICK ODANTZIS

nick.odantzis@futurenet.com

PRODUCTION EDITOR PAUL DIMERY

paul.dimery@futurenet.com

ASSISTANT EDITOR CLAIRE DAVIES

claire.davies@futurenet.com

SENIOR ART EDITOR MATTHEW KENDALL

matthew.kendall@futurenet.com

ART EDITOR LUKE O'NEILL

luke.oneill@futurenet.com

EDITOR, T3.COM DAN GRABHAM

dan.grabham@futurenet.com

EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTORS

Gareth Beavis, Duncan Bell, Marc Chacksfield, Kane Fulton, Damian Hall, Matt Hanson, Jamie Hibbard, Alastair Jennings, Rod Lawton, Miss LED, John McCann, Beren Neale, Rami Niemi, Angela Nicholson, Rob Temple, Dan Read, Dom Reseigh-Lincoln, Jobi Sessions, Craig Stewart, Andrew Williams

WITHOUT WHOM...

Katherine Bebbington-Taylor, Helen Clarke, Tom Dennis, Stephen Kelly, Lucy Kennedy, Joan McGarian, James Peckham, Alun Pughe, Sophie Spicer, Marcus Teague

ADVERTISING

SALES DIRECTOR CLARE DOVE

clare.dive@futurenet.com

AGENCY GROUP HEAD JONNY HILL

jonny.hill@futurenet.com

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR RICHARD HEMMINGS

richard.hemmings@futurenet.com

PRINT AGENCY ACCOUNT DIRECTOR MARIE LONGSTAFF

marie.longstaff@futurenet.com

CIRCULATION

HEAD OF CONSUMER PLANNING & RETAIL OPERATIONS

ZACK SULLIVAN

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

PRODUCTION CO-ORDINATOR **NOLA COKELY**

PRODUCTION MANAGER **MARK CONSTANCE**

LICENSING

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR **REGINA ERAK**

regina.erak@futurenet.com

MANAGEMENT

CONTENT & MARKETING DIRECTOR **NIAL FERGUSON**

HEAD OF CONTENT & MARKETING, TECHNOLOGY

NICK MERRITT

GROUP EDITOR-IN-CHIEF **PAUL NEWMAN**

GROUP ART DIRECTOR **STEVE GOTOBED**

SENIOR ART EDITOR **SIMON MIDDLEWEEK**

MARKETING MANAGER **RICHARD STEPHENS**

SUBSCRIPTIONS & BACK ISSUES

UK order line and enquiries: **0844 848 2852**

Overseas order line and enquiries: **+44 (0)1604 251045**

Online enquiries: **www.myfavouritemagazines.co.uk**

Email: **t3@myfavouritemagazines.co.uk**

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Chief Executive Zillah Byng-Maddick
Non-Executive Chairman Peter Allen
Chief Financial Officer Richard Haley
Tel +44 (0)20 7042 4000 (London)
Tel +44 (0)1225 442244 (Bath)

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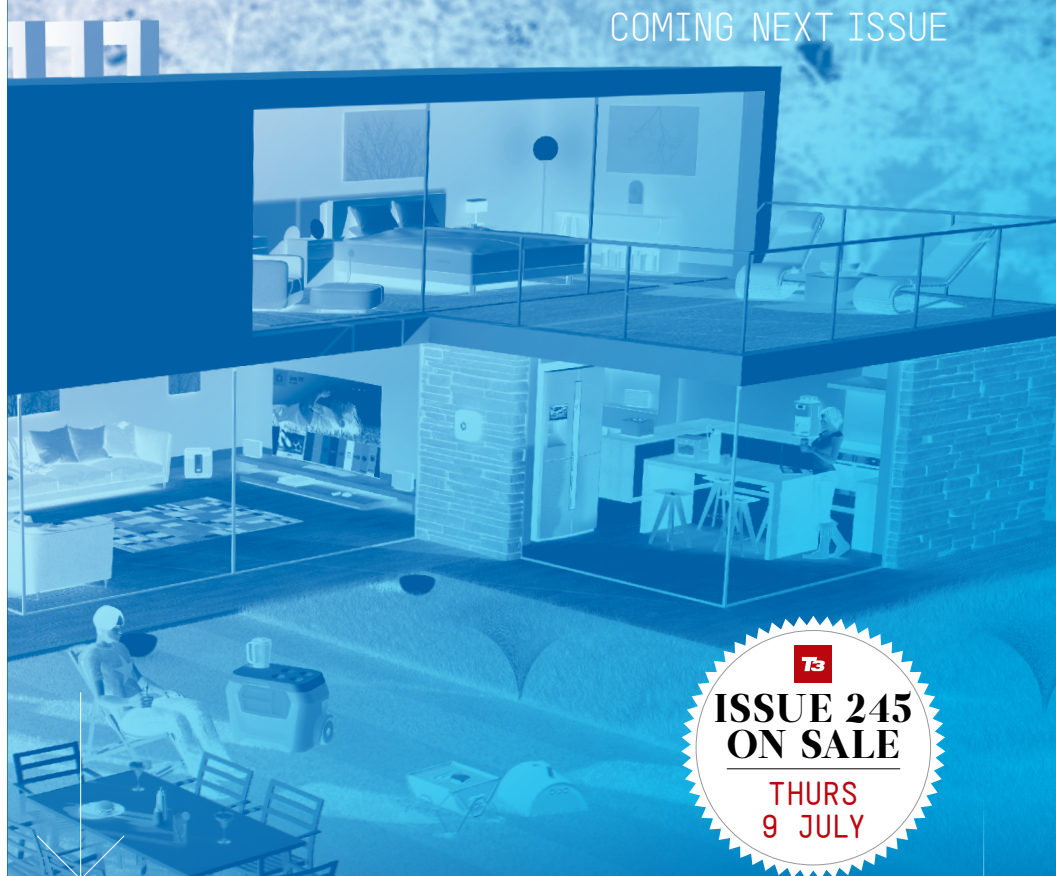


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Calorie Counter provides a simple solution for keeping track of every meal, to help you lose weight.

Free; App Store, Google Play



02 → ZOMBIES, RUN!

This app turns your runs into exciting interactive stories where you must run to avoid the zombie hordes.

Free; App Store, Google Play



03 → ENDOMONDO

Like a personal trainer in your pocket, *Endomondo* provides audio feedback, as well as detailed training logs.

Free; App Store, Google Play



04 → RUNTASTIC

Runtastic will monitor your run, cheering you as you go. There's an integrated music player, too.

Free; App Store, Google Play



05 → RUNTASTIC SIX-PACK ABS

This excellent app can help you get the body you crave, with virtual trainers and expert workout programs.

Free; App Store, Google Play



06 → SWORKIT

Provides cardio, stretching and even yoga workouts – of varying lengths – based on your body weight.

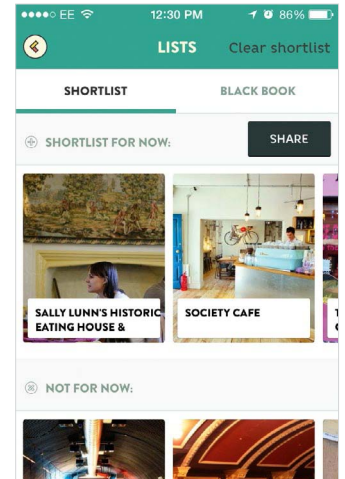
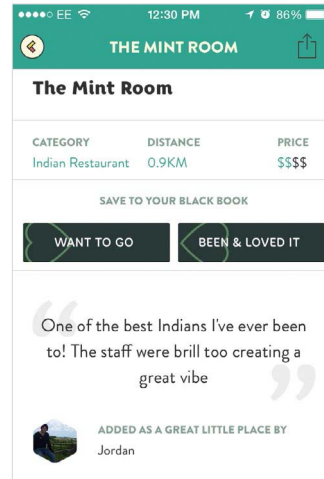
Free; App Store, Google Play



07 → CHARITY MILES

What better way to keep yourself motivated than by knowing your routine is raising money for charity?

Free; App Store, Google Play



APP OF THE MONTH!

Great Little Place

A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY AWAITS YOU WITH THIS ENLIGHTENING NEW TRAVEL APP

Free, App Store



If you're tired of sticking to the well-beaten path and want to discover hidden gems on your travels, *(I Know This) Great Little Place* is the perfect companion.

This newly established digital guide helps you discover (and share your discoveries, if you don't mind letting other people know) great little places in your vicinity, from unique bars and buzzing clubs to stunning galleries and mind-blowing museums. The app already covers 40 cities around the world, making it an essential tool for finding



Find those hidden gems while travelling the world with this ace app

and sharing the planet's most memorable, and best-hidden, spots.

The app boasts an intelligent profiling system that gets to know you and what kind of place you're after, before delivering recommendations, photos, reviews and maps to help you better explore the city you're in. Although the app is currently only available to those people with Apple devices, we're told that the creators behind *Great Little Place* are working diligently on bringing the app to Android, Windows and even Blackberry devices – so no matter what smartphone or tablet you have, you'll soon be able to find a great little place of your own.



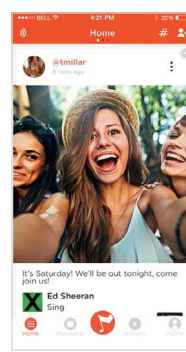
MUSATIONS →

CHANNEL YOUR INNER SONGSMITH WITH THIS VERSATILE APP FOR MUSIC LOVERS

Free, App Store



Music is a wonderful way of expressing our emotions, and the innovative *Musations* app makes it easy and fun. Whether you're feeling sad or elated, you can tell the world: scour over 50 million songs for an appropriate song clip or lyric, then share it via social media. To truly capture the moment, you can even pair your chosen snippet with a picture from Instagram.



Musations is a great app for aspiring musicians, too, as it enables you to record your own songs and share them with your friends and fans (if you have any). Bored at work? Challenging your friends to a lip-sync battle can be a lot of fun, though you might look a bit odd as you gurn into your smartphones.

Finally, if you want to keep your thoughts and feelings a little more private, *Musations* enables you to privately message song clips to your nearest and dearest. Just think twice before sending that Barry Manilow soundbite to your ex-lover.





MOVIE OF THE MONTH!

Kingsman: The Secret Service

GADGETS, TAILORING AND EXTREME VIOLENCE COLLIDE IN THIS DELIRIOUS BOND PARODY

£10 DVD, £15 BLU-RAY, CERT 15



From the team that brought you *Kick-Ass*, here's another dose of kinetic, goofy, blood-spattered ultra-violence. Where

Kick-Ass paid homage (kind of) to superhero movies, *Kingsman: The Secret Service* does much the same to the spy genre, from 007 to *The Avengers* (the one with the guy in a bowler hat and the karate-kicking femme, not the one with Hawkeye).



ABOVE Messrs Firth and Egerton: like Michael and Ridgeley, only deadlier

So, as the dapper yet deadly Harry Hart, Colin Firth kicks considerable amounts of arse while teaching the ways of the elite Kingsman team to council-estate reprobate Eggsie (Taron Egerton): how to use their amusingly lethal gadgets, and the importance of favouring Oxfords over brogues.

They're pitted against Samuel L Jackson, who plays an evil Jobs/Zuckerberg type intent on genocide, using a signal transmitted via his firm's free SIM cards to turn anyone who hears it into a homicidal maniac. This seemed to be a metaphor for the way that social networks can be used to whip up mobs of imbeciles. However, we interviewed the film's writer, Mark Millar, and he said it was no such thing, so what do we know?

To read our interview with Mark Millar, head to T3.com.



ALBUM OF THE MONTH!

THE DARKNESS → THE LAST OF OUR KIND



It's 2015 and it would appear that The Darkness singer Justin Hawkins' balls still haven't dropped. Straddling the line between guilty pleasure and accomplished twin-guitar band, his new album evokes Queen, Foo Fighters and Judas Priest.

On a par musically with their debut album, *Permission To Land*, *The Last Of Our Kind* opens with the utterly bonkers *Barbarian* and *Open Fire*, a song

that sounds like Van Halen necking with Kenny Loggins. The title track wouldn't be out of place on a *Top Gun 2* soundtrack, so much so that T3 had to be held back from busting out the mirrored shades when listening to it. But it's the snaking Southern riff on *Roaring Waters* that has us feeling all hot under the collar. A touch Aerosmith, a touch Mötley Crüe, it's a great moment, as is the operatic *Mighty Wings* and (we really don't wanna know what Justin's singing about here) *Hammer And Tongs*. Things get saucy on *Mudslide*, before the vintage-sounding *Sarah O'Sarah* brings us home to album closer *Conquerors*. Prepare to party hard.



LISTEN TO THIS!

BEST NEW MUSIC

FROM POMP TO PROTEST SONGS, DISCO BEHEMOTHS TO DEMENTED ART ROCK – THE MONTH'S BEST RELEASES

01 → MUZE: DRONES



Muse are back with a return to their earlier, stripped-back sound. Co-produced by the Devon band and Mutt Lange, *Drones* explores themes of war, loss of empathy, indoctrination and oppression. Cheery stuff, then. We love the power and pomp of *Dead Inside*, the pounding rhythm of *Psycho* and the fragile lyrics of *Mercy*.

02 → GIORGIO MORODER: DEJA VU



The smooth-talking Italian disco king made a comeback with Daft Punk in 2013, and now he's looking to dominate the 2015 dance scene. Featuring collaborations with Sia, Kylie Minogue and Suzanne Vega, among others, *Deja Vu* is a disco-ball-shaped slab of sparkling synths and enchanting soundscapes.

03 → NEIL YOUNG: THE MONSANTO YEARS



Rock stars have a grand history of adding their two pennies' worth to socio-political issues, and Neil Young is no stranger to this. On his new album, he sticks it to food giant Monsanto (Google it). Teaming up with Willie Nelson's sons Lukas and Micah, his spirit is fierier than a Southern preacher.

04 → EVERYTHING: GET TO HEAVEN



The art rockers' third studio album is another eclectic sonic brew. Intelligent and complex, it's home to swaggering opener *To The Blade* and the strangely upbeat *Distant Past*. Remarkable vocalist Jonathan Higgs, "People aren't going to know what the fuck to do with it." A nutty masterpiece.

Feed your mind



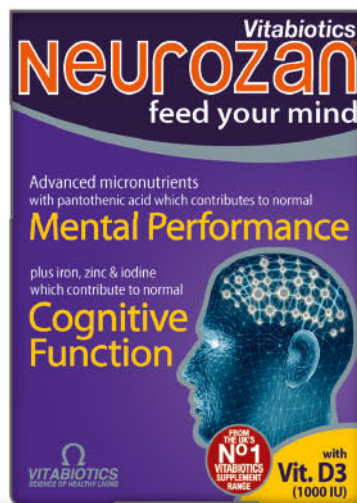
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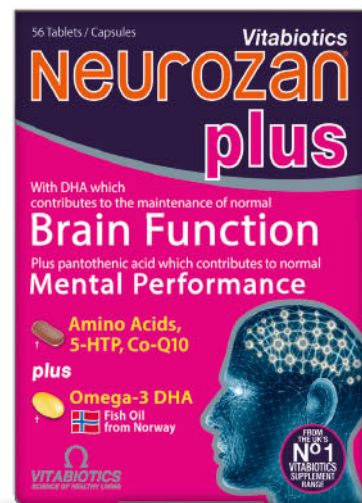
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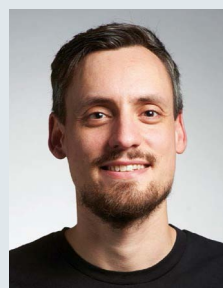


ISSUE 244 /
JULY 15



Elite

ONLY THE BEST OF THE BEST – LOVINGLY
CURATED BY OUR TEAM OF TECH EXPERTS



EDITED BY
NICK ODANTZIS

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THE VERY BEST TECH AVAILABLE TODAY, YOU'VE DEFINITELY COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE.

T3 Elite is the best gadget-buying guide you'll ever encounter. To create it, we've ruthlessly filtered all the categories that count, to bring you rock-solid recommendations.

We've selected a Super Six of elite gear for each of the categories

listed below. If something's not included, we don't rate it – it's that simple. Each Super Six is ranked in order, and the number-one product makes it into The Elite (p118), which is our pick of the 12 best products you can buy today.

To make your next purchase as straightforward as possible, we've also included useful buying advice, and highlighted the hottest gear you can get for £100 and under.



p126



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Introducing The Elite...

WELCOME TO T3'S OUTFITTING SERVICE, HOME OF THE 12 BEST GADGETS IN THE WORLD TODAY

Whether you're a seasoned tech aficionado or this is the first gadget magazine you've purchased, The Elite is the best possible place to start your gadget-selection journey. Here we present the best gadgets available right now in 12 key categories, to save you the hard work of doing all the research yourself – in short, if you're starting from scratch and

want the very best there is, The Elite is your new shopping list.

The Elite will only be updated when something new emerges that is capable of toppling an existing product from its perch – there may therefore be months when the 12 products featured here don't change. But this is an exclusive club, and only tech that is capable of achieving a towering standard of excellence gets in.



To read more detailed reviews of these gadgets and lots more amazing tech, visit our website at www.t3.com

BEST SMARTPHONE

01 SAMSUNG GALAXY S6 EDGE

www.samsung.com

PRICE FROM £760 TESTED N/A

The S5 was an also-ran last year, but the improved S6 is now the best phone money can buy – and the Edge is its cooler cousin.

T3 SAYS A stylish glass-and-metal design, a stunning screen and a great camera.

T3 ★★★★★

BEST HOME AUDIO

02 YAMAHA YSP-2500

uk.yamaha.com

PRICE £800 TESTED T3 242

As good as it gets for upgrading your TV's audio, Yamaha's soundbar will give your movies the oomph and clarity they deserve without terrorising your lounge style.

T3 SAYS Futuristic sound-reflecting tech offers amazing cinema sound.

T3 ★★★★★

BEST TABLET

03 iPad Air 2

www.apple.com/uk

PRICE FROM £399 TESTED T3 237

As with any Apple product, you pay a premium, but for your extra pennies you get the best tablet money can buy right now – you definitely won't be disappointed.

T3 SAYS Sleek, solid and a spectacular display – the Air 2 is a pleasure to use.

T3 ★★★★★

BEST HEADPHONES

04 OPPO PM-1

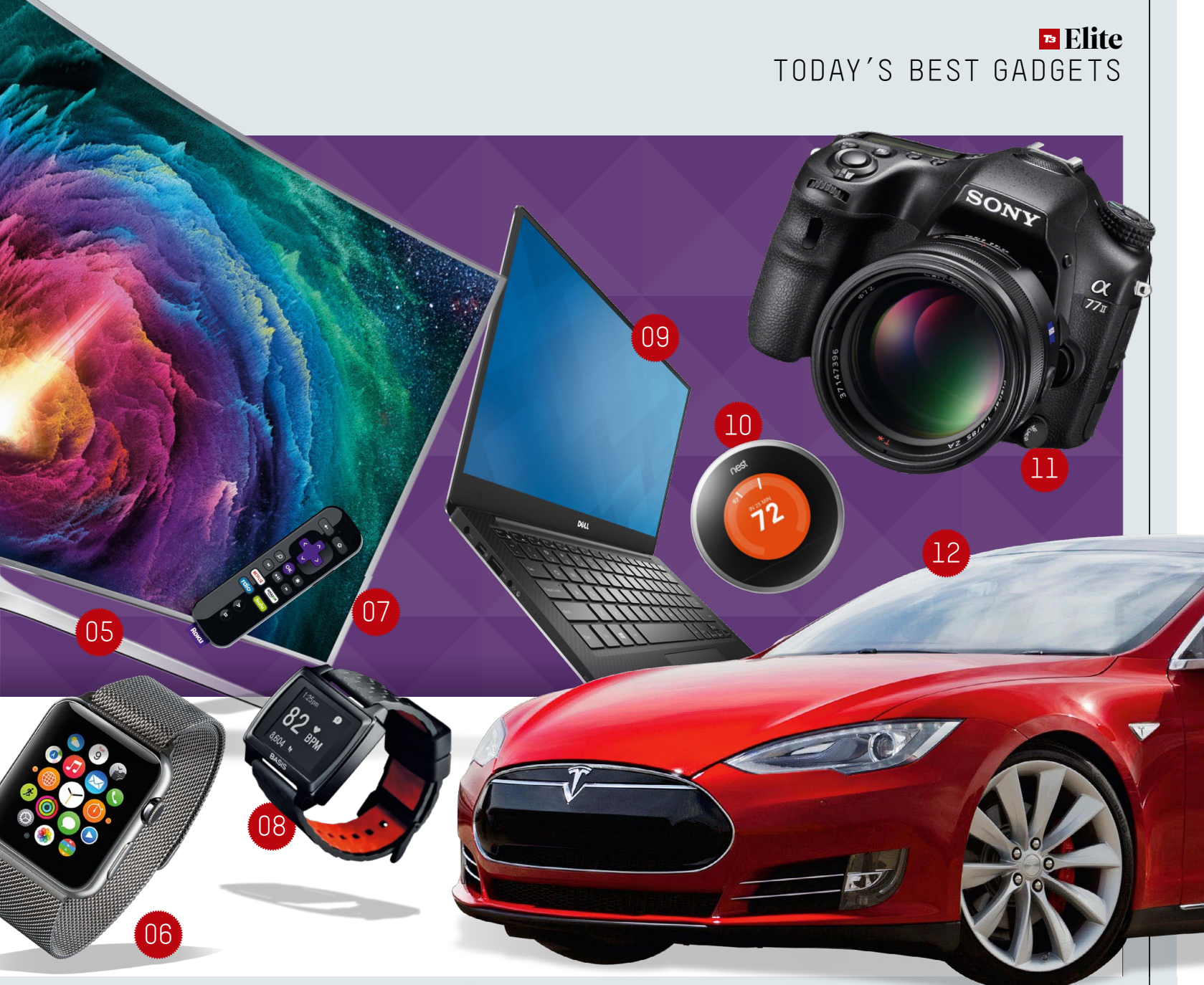
www.oppodigital.co.uk

PRICE £999 TESTED T3 239

A huge wedge of cash is needed, but Oppo's headphones are well worth the premium entry fee in order to acquire musical nirvana for your ears. Simply sumptuous.

T3 SAYS The build, immense sound quality and comfort justify the price tag.

T3 ★★★★★



BEST TV

05 SAMSUNG
UE55JS9000

www.samsung.com

PRICE £3,099 TESTED T3 243

Samsung's new-for-2015 model has a super-smart interface, incredible visuals and superb design. It's proper future-proof. **T3 SAYS** This 55-inch is amazing in Ultra HD, but also brilliant for regular HD.

T3 ★★★★★

BEST SMARTWATCH

06 APPLE WATCH

www.apple.com/uk

PRICE FROM £299 TESTED T3 242

Apple's wearable is packed with features and offers a wide range of customisation options to give you some individuality. The only real downside is the limited battery life. **T3 SAYS** This is the one that will properly kickstart the smartwatch revolution.

T3 ★★★★★

BEST TV STREAMER

07 ROKU 3

www.roku.com

PRICE £99 TESTED T3 240

It seems that nobody can hold a candle to the original streaming box – the third incarnation is powerful, feature-packed and has loads of available content.

T3 SAYS The Roku 3 is the best choice for freedom of entertainment.

T3 ★★★★★

BEST FITNESS TRACKER

08 BASIS PEAK

www.mybasis.com

PRICE £169.99 TESTED T3 243

Sporty but smart, the Basis Peak is the perfect fitness tracker without making you look like you've just stepped out of the gym. It has great functionality, too.

T3 SAYS Straddles the line between watch and fitness tracker beautifully.

T3 ★★★★★

BEST LAPTOP

09 DELL XPS 13

www.dell.com

PRICE £1,060 TESTED N/A

The best laptop around, and there's not an Apple logo in sight – PC giant Dell proves that it can do more than churn out desktop computers with this feature-packed laptop.

T3 SAYS Fantastic performance and build. It will serve you well for years to come.

T3 ★★★★★

BEST CONNECTED HOME

10 NEST LEARNING
THERMOSTAT

www.nest.com

PRICE £180 TESTED T3 242

A smarter way to handle your knobs, Nest is an essential upgrade for any home, making your heating easier to manage than ever.

T3 SAYS Nest is a great first step in creating a smarter home.

T3 ★★★★★

BEST CAMERA

11 SONY A77 II

www.sony.co.uk

PRICE £749 TESTED N/A

An SLR is the ideal camera for those who want to get more from their photos, and Sony's A77 II is a great way to get on the 'promateur' bandwagon.

T3 SAYS Ideal for shooting a range of subjects in a variety of conditions.

T3 ★★★★★

BEST AUTOMOTIVE

12 TESLA MODEL S

www.teslamotors.com

PRICE £54,880 TESTED T3 240

Soon, every home will have an electric car in the drive, but if you're bandwagon-jumping right now and want a touch of opulence with your ride, the Model S is a must.

T3 SAYS Attractive and speedy, the Model S is the best electric car you can buy.

T3 ★★★★★



To read more detailed reviews of these gadgets and lots more amazing tech, visit our website at www.t3.com

HOW TO: GET A GOOD PHONE DEAL

BEFORE YOU COMMIT TO A NEW CONTRACT, SOME THINGS TO CONSIDER...

How often will you use your mobile?

→ If you love chatting away for hours on end, make sure you get a contract with plenty of included talk time, and if you love browsing the internet, make sure you get a decent data allowance. Don't waste money on minutes or data you won't use, but don't underestimate your usage either, or you might get a shocker of a bill.

4G or not 4G?

→ If you enjoy browsing the Web, chatting on Facebook or streaming from Spotify, consider a contract that comes with 4G (also known as LTE) data. This is super-fast mobile data that can rival home broadband for speed. Some contracts offer as little as 250MB per month, while others grant a whopping 20GB. For most people, 1GB should be the minimum, though if you do a lot of streaming, consider 2GB or more.

Consider SIM-only.

→ Many networks try to tempt us into long (and pricey) contracts with the promise of a free phone. The idea of walking out of the store with a brand-new Galaxy S6 without paying anything up front might be nice, but you're then stuck with a hefty bill each month for two years (or more). When you add it all up, that 'free' phone actually costs more than buying one outright. By getting a SIM-only deal, you'll save bags of cash and can keep your current phone. Even if you buy a new phone full price, you're still likely to save money.

Get comparing.

→ Take your time exploring what each network offers – don't rush into anything. Some networks, like O2, offer exclusive deals when you sign up, while others offer home broadband. It's well worth checking out each network's coverage in your home/work area as well.

THE SUPER SIX

Smartphones

01

SAMSUNG GALAXY S6 EDGE

www.samsung.com

PRICE FROM £760 TESTED T3 243

As well as that gorgeous 'infinity pool' build, the Edge packs a brilliant camera and a pin-sharp QHD display. It's pricey, though. **T3 SAYS** We love the glass-and-metal body, stunning screen and fantastic camera.

★★★★★



02

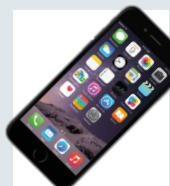
APPLE iPhone 6

www.apple.com/uk

PRICE FROM £539 TESTED T3 238

Apple is at the top of its game right now. The iPhone looks better than ever, the battery life is improved and the camera still delivers the best smartphone photos. **T3 SAYS** The best iPhone ever made – it'll make you consider giving up your Android.

★★★★★



03

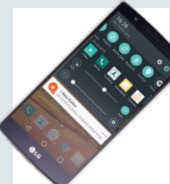
LG G4

www.lg.com

PRICE £480 TESTED T3 244

The G4 is a whole lot of features in a fairly compact space. It has a powerful screen, a faster processor and a much better camera – plus it's encased in leather. **T3 SAYS** The G4 offers a lot for a decent price, but the leather is an acquired taste.

★★★★★



04

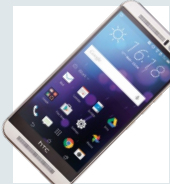
HTC ONE M9

www.htc.com

PRICE £580 TESTED T3 242

The One M9 is like the One M8 but even better, with fantastic design and intelligent customisation. Improved battery life and speed would make this a killer handset. **T3 SAYS** HTC has merely polished last year's model. A great phone but not the very best.

★★★★★



05

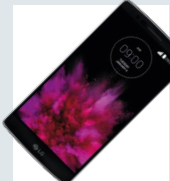
LG G FLEX 2

www.lg.com/uk

PRICE £480 TESTED T3 238

The G Flex 2 is another bargain(ish) phone from the LG stable: it's powerful, features a sharp display and boasts a flexible chassis that's super-durable. **T3 SAYS** It doesn't cost the earth, and its bendy chassis means it should last longer.

★★★★★



06

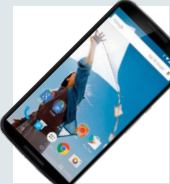
GOOGLE NEXUS 6

www.google.co.uk/nexus

PRICE £499 TESTED T3 238

The 6 is the best Nexus ever – if you don't mind wielding a phablet, that is. It's got a bright, clear (and massive) screen, as well as brilliant Qi+ turbocharging. **T3 SAYS** A massive beast, but one that justifies the 'best Nexus ever' tag.

★★★★★



THE SUPER SIX

Tablets

01

iPAD AIR 2

www.apple.com/uk

PRICE FROM £399 TESTED T3 237

The Air 2 is the fastest, best-looking and most feature-packed iPad yet. Starting at £399, it's expensive since you'll want more storage, but it's worth every penny. **T3 SAYS** Sleek, solid and a spectacular display – the Air 2 is a pleasure to use.

★★★★★



02

SAMSUNG TAB S 8.4

www.samsung.com

PRICE £250 TESTED T3 241

Razor-thin at 6.6mm and super-light at 298g, the Tab S 8.4 also features an 8.4-inch Super AMOLED display, 16GB of memory, oodles of features and lots of power. **T3 SAYS** Samsung's best tablet is ultra-portable and full of brilliant tech.

★★★★★



03

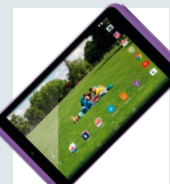
TESCO HUDL 2

www.tesco.com

PRICE £99 TESTED T3 241

With its large, sharp screen, commendable battery life, decent processor and speakers that make movie-watching a joy, the Hudl 2 is an amazing tech bargain. **T3 SAYS** Great for kids, the Hudl 2 gives you a lot of tablet for your money.

★★★★★



04

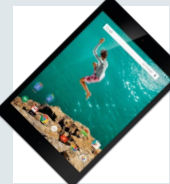
GOOGLE NEXUS 9

www.google.co.uk/nexus

PRICE FROM £299 TESTED T3 241

An Android tablet without the manufacturer bloat, the Nexus 9 performs well and comes with some really premium touches. One of those, a 4:3-aspect screen, gives you more headroom on websites. **T3 SAYS** The Nexus 9 is a top all-rounder.

★★★★★



05

SONY XPERIA Z3 TABLET COMPACT

www.sonymobile.com

PRICE FROM £299 TESTED T3 241

This is a seriously light and skinny tablet, and it's also waterproof. Sony's custom Android software is a class act, too. **T3 SAYS** A slickly styled tablet that's perfect for using in the bath!

★★★★★



06

AMAZON KINDLE FIRE HDX 8.9

www.amazon.co.uk

PRICE FROM £329 TESTED T3 241

Powerful, with a sharp, 8.9-inch screen, a slim chassis and great stereo speakers. Amazon's Fire OS is slightly clunky, though. **T3 SAYS** The Kindle Fire HDX 8.9 is a bit restrictive but otherwise it's a class act.

★★★★★



To read more detailed reviews of these gadgets and lots more, visit www.t3.com

THE SUPER SIX

TVs

01

SAMSUNG UE55JS9000

www.samsung.com

PRICE £3,099 TESTED T3 243

This beautifully designed TV is capable of an amazing picture and clear sound. It needs its settings tweaked to get the best picture, though, and standard def looks horrid.

T3 SAYS This 55-inch is amazing in Ultra HD, but also brilliant in regular HD.

★★★★★



02

PANASONIC TX-50AX802

www.panasonic.com/uk

PRICE £1,299 TESTED T3 236

Great looks, as well as superb picture quality and motion handling. Upscaling isn't as spectacular as other budget 4K TVs.

T3 SAYS If you want a 50-inch TV that has the wow factor – both in terms of looks and picture quality – this is a great choice.

★★★★★



03

SONY BRAVIA KDL50W829

www.sony.co.uk

PRICE £579 TESTED T3 228

This 50-inch boasts superb HD image quality, fabulous motion handling and a top discovery engine for online content, but there are limited catch-up channels.

T3 SAYS Polished 1080p pictures and smarter features, all for a reasonable price.

★★★★★



04

SAMSUNG 55HU8500

www.samsung.com

PRICE £1,899 TESTED T3 236

Brilliant picture quality and a pleasingly presented Smart TV hub with a gazillion apps. The screen also integrates well with other multimedia devices.

T3 SAYS This 55-inch offers great picture quality and excellent smart features.

★★★★★



05

LG 55EC930V

www.lg.com/uk

PRICE £1,999 TESTED T3 240

This 55-inch offers amazing picture quality, a host of brilliant smart features and dazzling looks. However, there's no 4K and it's quite expensive compared to others.

T3 SAYS Looking for smart features and eye-popping images? This won't disappoint.

★★★★★



06

LG 55UB950V

www.lg.com/uk

PRICE £999 TESTED T3 236

Classy design and a webOS user interface that's slick and very easy to get the hang of. Contrast performance is disappointing, though, and there's some lag.

T3 SAYS A great 55-inch TV that's slightly hobbled by poor contrast and input lag.

★★★★★



THE SUPER SIX

TV streamers

01

ROKU 3

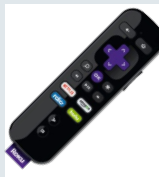
www.roku.com

PRICE £99 TESTED T3 240

Between the high amount of content available, a responsive interface and a remote with a built-in audio jack for private listening, there's no better player.

T3 SAYS The Roku 3 is the best choice for freedom of entertainment.

★★★★★



02

NOW TV BOX

www.nowtv.com

PRICE £20 TESTED N/A

If you want Sky but can't get a dish, this is a great option, enabling you to choose the TV subscription you want. Or you can watch terrestrial catch-up channels for free.

T3 SAYS For those who want to add a little smart to their TV, this is a cheap option.

★★★★★



03

GOOGLE CHROMECAST

www.google.co.uk/chrome

PRICE £30 TESTED T3 240

All the functionality of other boxes, at a third of the price and half the size.

Android users can even mirror their screen via the built-in Cast functionality.

T3 SAYS The Chromecast is cheap but offers almost as much as the big boys.

★★★★★



04

VEOLO 4K

www.acryan.com

PRICE £200 TESTED T3 240

The ultimate home-cinema experience, the Veolo is one of few streamers that support media streaming in 4K Ultra HD. It also offers an attractive, easy-to-use interface and access to loads of great on-demand apps.

T3 SAYS Pricy but worth it for 4K goodness.

★★★★★



05

APPLE TV

www.apple.com/uk

PRICE £79 TESTED T3 240

The Apple TV works flawlessly with Apple's own-brand tech, meaning you'll be able to peruse selected online content natively, and mirror any other content using AirPlay.

T3 SAYS A good option for integrating perfectly with other Apple devices.

★★★★★



06

AMAZON FIRE TV

www.amazon.co.uk

PRICE £79 TESTED T3 240

The Fire TV is snappy, fun and ideal if you get content from Amazon Instant Video, though it does support other third-party services like Netflix and iPlayer.

T3 SAYS Biased towards Amazon, but there's lots to like about the Fire TV.

★★★★★

DO THIS:
GET CINEMA
STYLE SOUNDT3'S PICK OF THE BEST
DOLBY ATMOS RECEIVERS

Denon AVR-X4100W + Gravity

→ As well as Dolby Atmos, Denon's receiver can handle 4K video and Dolby DTS-HD Master Audio. You can also stream from a multitude of devices over Bluetooth and AirPlay. Team it with Gravity for an immersive outer-space experience. £700, dgr.eu.denon.com/uk



Marantz SR7009 + The Hunger Games: Mockingjay – Part 1

→ The minimalist SR7009 features nine Atmos-ready channels, each churning out 200W of power. Pair it with the latest Hunger Games: Katniss's war cry sounds even better when it's in a tree above your head. £860, www.marantz.co.uk



Onkyo TX-NR747 + American Sniper

→ Onkyo's flagship receiver boasts the full array of surround channels, is hi-res-audio-compatible and has loads of streaming capabilities. American Sniper will be so realistic, you'll feel like you're in the film. £799, www.uk.onkyo.com



To read more detailed reviews of these gadgets and lots more, visit www.t3.com



Smart luxury is a selection of products that offer just that little bit extra: flawless performance, elegant design, dynamic technology - or a combination of them all.



WHAT HI-FI? AWARDS 2014
PRODUCT OF THE YEAR
Multi-room systems
Best multi-room system £500+
Bluesound

NOW WITH
NAPSTER

BLUESOUND

BLUESOUND IS A 24-BIT NATIVE, PURE DIGITAL WIRELESS STREAMING MUSIC SYSTEM

A SOUND EXPERIENCE LIKE NO OTHER. BECAUSE IT'S ENGINEERED LIKE NO OTHER.

Even 16-bit CDs have only about half of the audio spectrum that the master recording holds and that's a whole lot more than MP3s have left in them. With more than a decade of compressed audio piping through earbud headphones and cheap dock players, the time has come. The portable players we all love have created a new way of listening to music, but there hasn't really been much there to hear. Until now. Enter true 24-bit HD digital audio. **Prices from £399**

TIDAL

Spotify

HIGH RES AUDIO



NEW

PODSPEAKERS MINIPOD BLUETOOTH

BLUETOOTH SPEAKERS

Based on the timeless Podspeakers design, the addition of premium apt-X Bluetooth connectivity makes the MiniPod Bluetooth a great addition to the iconic Podspeakers range. These active stereo speakers also include minijack, USB and optical inputs and a 192 kHz 24-bit DAC.

£499

GLOSS RED GLOSS BLACK GLOSS WHITE
aptX CSR Bluetooth

Spotify



NEW

WHAT HI-FI? AWARDS 2014
PRODUCT OF THE YEAR
Wireless speakers
Best wireless speaker £750+
Naim Mu-so

NAIM MU-SO

WIRELESS MUSIC SYSTEM

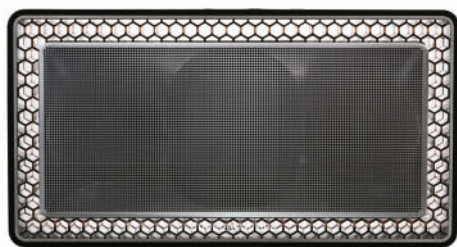
Through its advanced connectivity, mu-so will unleash your digital music, wherever it's stored. And it's so easy to set up and use that you'll find yourself listening to and enjoying your favourite artists more than ever before.

Combining Naim's expertise in streaming, amplification and loudspeaker technology. Mu-so is the stage your music deserves, bringing you closer to the songs that inspire your life.

£895

aptX CSR Bluetooth

NEW



BOWERS & WILKINS T7 PORTABLE BLUETOOTH SPEAKER

Perfectly sized for bedrooms, kitchens and gardens, T7 is B&W's most portable, versatile wireless system yet. And with its rechargeable battery giving up to 18 hours of charge, you can bring great sound to places other speakers can't reach.

£299.95

SENNHEISER MOMENTUM WIRELESS OVER-EAR HEADPHONES

Peak performance with active noise cancellation. Sennheiser's new MOMENTUM Wireless - Closed circumaural headphone feature Bluetooth wireless technology and NoiseGard Hybrid active noise cancellation impedances. MOMENTUM Wireless can also be operated with a detachable cable, just like any conventional headphones.

£379.99

aptX CSR Bluetooth



NEW



NEW

Sign up today for our free digital magazine
www.ssav.com/select

Issue 1

SOME BRANDS ARE NOT AVAILABLE IN ALL STORES. ADVERT VALID UNTIL 01/07/2015. E&OE

SEVENoaks
SOUND & VISION

WWW.SSAV.COM 26 STORES NATIONWIDE

click & collect

THE SUPER SIX

Laptops

01

DELL XPS 13

www.dell.com
PRICE £1,060 TESTED N/A

Brilliantly designed and outperforms its competition under the hood. Infinity Display gives you the expanse of a 13.3-inch screen on an 11.9-inch laptop.

T3 SAYS Fantastic performance and build. It will serve you well for years to come.

★★★★★



02

MACBOOK PRO 13-INCH WITH RETINA DISPLAY

www.apple.com/uk
PRICE £749 TESTED T3 227

Lightweight, with improved performance and battery life – it will delight road warriors and coffee-shop loungers alike.

T3 SAYS A reliable, powerful and practical MacBook, this is Apple's best laptop.

★★★★★



03

ASUS ZENBOOK UX305

www.asus.com
PRICE £650 TESTED N/A

Thin, light and attractive, with excellent build quality, the Zenbook UX305 offers a great balance of components, a perfect 1080p screen and an alluring price tag.

T3 SAYS One of the best and most affordable Ultrabooks available.

★★★★★



04

HP SPECTRE X360

www.hp.com
PRICE £849 TESTED 244

The X360 is powerful and has a massive 12.5 hour battery life. Its 360-degree rotating keyboard allows you to use it as a tablet or stood upright for hands-free video.

T3 SAYS For a relatively modest price, you get a powerful and versatile machine.

★★★★★



05

ASUS ZENBOOK NX500

www.asus.com
PRICE £1,699 TESTED T3 239

A stunning design, diminutive size, impressive power and a bright, vibrant screen. The price is a turn-off, though, and battery life is disappointing.

T3 SAYS Asus has done a fantastic job of combining power and beauty.

★★★★★



06

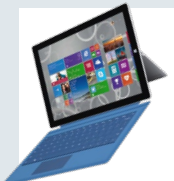
MICROSOFT SURFACE PRO 3

www.microsoft.com/surface-pro-3
PRICE £640 TESTED T3 243

More powerful and versatile than an iPad Air and a MacBook Air 13-inch combined, though battery life could be better.

T3 SAYS A great example of why you should get a hybrid over a conventional laptop.

★★★★★



THE SUPER SIX

Cameras

01

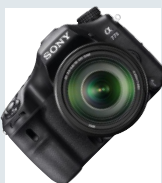
SONY A77 II

www.sony.co.uk
PRICE £749 TESTED N/A

Image quality is excellent, even at high-sensitivity settings, while autofocus is fast and accurate. It can even cope with very low light levels.

T3 SAYS Ideal for shooting a range of subjects in a variety of conditions.

★★★★★



02

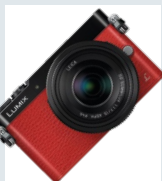
PANASONIC LUMIX DMC-GM5

www.panasonic.com/uk
PRICE £569 TESTED N/A

With a great range of features packed into a stylish body, this system camera is a treat to use and produces high-quality images.

T3 SAYS The ultimate carry-everywhere camera that's easy to use.

★★★★★



03

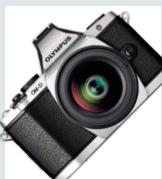
OLYMPUS OM-D E-M5

www.olympus.co.uk
PRICE £899 TESTED T3 242

A very capable camera that offers extensive and versatile control. The OM-D E-M5 produces impressive, super-high-res photos with great image stabilisation.

T3 SAYS A very powerful, versatile, small and light system camera.

★★★★★



04

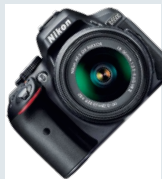
NIKON D5500

www.nikon.com
PRICE £589 TESTED N/A

The D5500 offers SLR beginners a lot of creative control, the touch-screen display is a useful addition and the sensor captures high levels of detail.

T3 SAYS Ideal as your first DSLR, or as an upgrade from an older model.

★★★★★



05

LEICA D-LUX (TYP 109)

www.leica-camera.com
PRICE £779 TESTED N/A

A Four Thirds sensor produces superior images and gives greater control over depth field, the body has a high-quality feel, plus there's an easy-to-use menu.

T3 SAYS A great alternative to an SLR.

★★★★★



06

CANON 7D MARK II

www.canon.com
PRICE £1,499 TESTED N/A

This SLR's impressive feature set includes a great autofocus system. A maximum continuous shooting rate of 10fps works well for snapping sport and wildlife.

T3 SAYS The 7D Mark II is Canon's best APS-C-format SLR to date.

★★★★★

GET MORE:
HOW TO TAKE
BETTER PICSFOLLOW OUR TIPS FOR
BAILEY-ESQUE SKILLS01 Take control of
the focus point

→ If you learn how to set AF point yourself rather than letting the camera do it, you'll be in control of what's sharp and what's not.

02 Don't put your subject
in the middle

→ We tend to prefer non-symmetrical images, so position your subject one third of the way in from the side of the frame. You'll then be on the way to improving your composition.

03 Shoot portraits in
the shade

→ Bright, sunny conditions create deep, unattractive shadows and bright highlights on your subject's face – so turn their back to the sun or find some shade and use your flash to brighten things up.

04 Understand aperture

→ Use a wide aperture like f/4 to limit the size of the sharp zone in shots, and blur the background or use a small aperture like f/16 to create a wide sharp area.

05 Take a good look

→ Whether you're shooting a landscape or a portrait, it pays to have a good look around the scene and remove any clutter or litter.



To read more detailed reviews of these gadgets and lots more, visit www.t3.com

DO THIS: HI-RES YOUR MUSIC

WEBSITES THAT OFFER
YOUR FAVOURITE SONGS
IN PRISTINE QUALITY

HD Tracks

→ Offering an excellent range of high-quality music, HD Tracks gives you a choice of studio-quality, uncompressed AIFF or WAV formats, or lossless ALAC and FLAC. It's not cheap, though. www.hdtracks.com

Qobuz

→ This French site enables listeners to stream and download CD-quality music. You can also listen to excellent podcasts. www.qobuz.com

7Digital

→ Once the purchase store for those listening to tracks on Spotify, 7Digital now houses over 32 million downloadable tracks in a variety of qualities. Unlike HD Tracks, which gives you every format imaginable, 7Digital sticks to the most popular FLAC format, in 16-bit and 24-bit flavours for the pickiest of hi-res enthusiasts, as well as 320kbps for everyone else. www.7digital.com

Tidal

→ At twice the price of Spotify's monthly subscription, you'd need a pretty good reason to plump for Jay Z's recently launched streaming service over the former. And there is – the quality of Tidal's tracks is amazing, with over four times the bit rate of Spotify's tunes, or roughly the equivalent of a CD track. www.tidal.com

Spotify

→ While it's not technically hi-res audio, Spotify does offer an 'Extreme' streaming setting. Found in the Settings menu, once switched on it will stream your favourite albums in higher quality – much better than the MP3 quality you usually get, anyway. www.spotify.com

THE SUPER SIX

Home audio

01



YAMAHA YSP-2500

uk.yamaha.com

PRICE £800 TESTED T3 242

Sixteen 2.8cm drivers deliver an astonishing soundstage, while there are three HDMI 2.0 inputs with 4K passthrough, and outstanding DSP processing options. **T3 SAYS** Futuristic sound-reflecting technology offers amazing cinema sound.

★★★★★

02



NOC'S NS2 AIR MONITORS V2

www.nocs.se

PRICE £299 TESTED T3 236

These offer rock-solid AirPlay streaming and a Spotify connection, plus they can go pretty loud without distorting.

T3 SAYS The perfect blend of wireless convenience and great design.

★★★★★

03



NAIM MU-SO

www.naimaudio.com

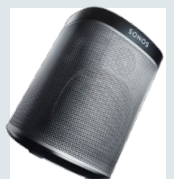
PRICE £895 TESTED T3.com

A single, minimalist box offering an unforgettable music-streaming experience. Awesome design, brilliant sound and a flexible plethora of inputs.

T3 SAYS A stunning object in its own right, and as an audio system it's brilliant.

★★★★★

04



SONOS PLAY:1

www.sonos.com

PRICE £169 TESTED N/A

The PLAY:1 boasts great sound, has a decent price tag and fits snugly almost anywhere. It also has an improved app, plus support for even more services.

T3 SAYS A superb-quality, affordable way to get some Sonos home-streaming love.

★★★★★

05



ONKYO TX-NR838

www.uk.onkyo.com

PRICE £1,000 TESTED T3 242

Give your home-cinema sound a lift with brilliant, seven-channel Atmos sound. The TX-NR838 offers comprehensive connectivity and wide format compatibility.

T3 SAYS Atmos sound with the perfect balance of quality, value and functionality.

★★★★★

06



BOSE SOUNDLINK COLOR

www.bose.com

PRICE £109 TESTED N/A

The SoundLink Color boasts a fun, curvy design, with impressive sound and awesome battery life. It won't break the bank, either.

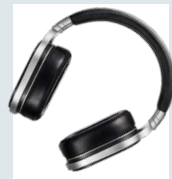
T3 SAYS A curvy and perfectly portable Bluetooth speaker.

★★★★★

THE SUPER SIX

Headphones

01



OPPO PM-1

www.oppodigital.co.uk

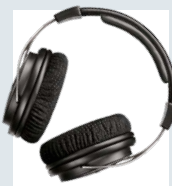
PRICE £999 TESTED T3 239

Planar magnetic drivers give a rich sound, especially when paired to a headphone amp, while low impedance enables these cans to be driven by mobile devices.

T3 SAYS The build, immense sound quality and comfort justify the price tag.

★★★★★

02



SHURE SRH1540

www.shure.co.uk

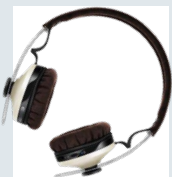
PRICE £399 TESTED T3 239

With a flat audio signature, sound quality is clean and lush, doing justice to any source. The bass isn't lacking, it's just crisp and subtle. They're also extremely comfy.

T3 SAYS These stylish headphones will please even the pickiest audiophile.

★★★★★

03



SENNHEISER MOMENTUM WIRELESS 2.0

en-uk.sennheiser.com

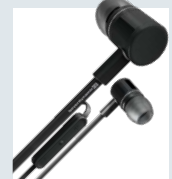
PRICE £290 TESTED T3.com

NFC, active noise cancellation, a premium finish and new, foldable hinges add to the fantastic package, but sound is the winner.

T3 SAYS The best headphones from Sennheiser are now even better.

★★★★★

04



BEYERDYNAMIC IDX 160 IE

europe.beyerdynamic.com

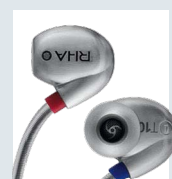
PRICE £78 TESTED N/A

These in-ear buds are comfortable, and offer solid sound performance and a slick, practical design, all at an affordable price.

T3 SAYS With fine qualities aplenty, these are a smart buy for music lovers.

★★★★★

05



RHA T10I

www.rha-audio.com

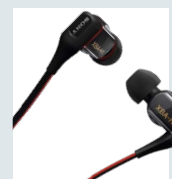
PRICE £150 TESTED N/A

RHA's T10i noise-isolating earphones offer amazing sound, tuneable audio and stunning build quality that focuses on looks as well as comfort.

T3 SAYS These are premium earphones with incredible sound and style.

★★★★★

06



SONY XBA-H1

www.sony.co.uk

PRICE £70 TESTED N/A

Boasting strong performance and slick design, Sony's XBA-H1s will satisfy on multiple fronts. That is, if you can look past the lack of inline controls.

T3 SAYS In-ear 'phones that offer bags of style and bravado.

★★★★★



To read more detailed reviews of these gadgets and lots more, visit www.t3.com

THE SUPER SIX

Smartwatches

01

APPLE WATCH

www.apple.com/uk

PRICE FROM £299 TESTED T3 242

Apple's wearable is packed with features and offers a wide range of customisation options to give you some individuality. The only real downside is the limited battery life.

T3 SAYS This is the one that will properly kickstart the smartwatch revolution.

★★★★★



02

PEBBLE STEEL

www.getpebble.com

PRICE £180 TESTED T3 240

The always-on, monochrome e-ink screen might not be for everyone, but it works great, and you get up to seven days' battery. There are loads of apps, too.

T3 SAYS The Steel is low on extras but has bags of charm and great ease of use.

★★★★★



03

LG G WATCH R

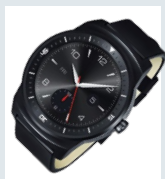
www.lg.com/uk

PRICE £200 TESTED T3 240

All the style and feel of a normal watch, but with all the features of Android Wear. It has a P-OLED screen, which is bright and sharp, and you get two days of battery life.

T3 SAYS The best Android Wear smartwatch available so far.

★★★★★



04

MOTO 360

www.motorola.co.uk

PRICE £200 TESTED T3 240

Motorola has totally nailed the smartwatch look with the 360 – it's both futuristic and stylish, and will impress. There's a funky wireless charger, too.

T3 SAYS Not quite perfect in this game, but the 360 is certainly a thing of beauty.

★★★★★



05

SAMSUNG GEAR S

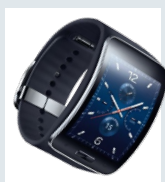
www.samsung.com

PRICE £329 TESTED T3 240

The Gear S is a giant of a smartwatch. It's got a gorgeous Super AMOLED screen and loads of features. It runs on Tizen OS instead of Android Wear.

T3 SAYS Big, bold and impressive – but the Gear S is also expensive.

★★★★★



06

SONY SMARTWATCH 3

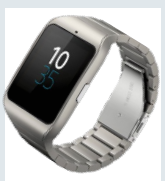
www.sony.co.uk

PRICE £180 TESTED T3 240

Beats its closest competitors thanks to a built-in GPS, for accurate activity tracking. It won't win any fans for its looks, but performance and battery life are good.

T3 SAYS A great wearable for fitness, though it's not for fashionistas.

★★★★★



THE SUPER SIX

Fitness trackers

01

BASIS PEAK

www.mybasis.com

PRICE £170 TESTED T3 243

A smart sportswatch with some top tech. The app's sleep data is the best around, though the Peak's USP is its cool 'habits' reward scheme.

T3 SAYS Straddles the line between watch and fitness tracker beautifully.

★★★★★



02

GARMIN VIVOACTIVE

www.garmin.com/en-gb

PRICE £200 TESTED T3 243

The Vivoactive has accurate GPS tracking for recording pace, distance and even length stride, though you'll need to buy a chest strap for heart-rate monitoring.

T3 SAYS Just about as good as it gets, as far as training tech is concerned.

★★★★★



03

GARMIN FORERUNNER 920XT

www.garmin.com/en-gb

PRICE £390 TESTED N/A

A powerful watch designed for those who are serious about their swimming, cycling and pavement pounding.

T3 SAYS A serious bit of wearable kit for the multi-talented athlete.

★★★★★



04

WITHINGS ACTIVITE POP

www.withings.com/uk

PRICE £120 TESTED T3 243

Perfect for the daily grind, with a subtle dial and vibrations for activity tracking. Huge battery life and a great choice of colours.

T3 SAYS The perfect activity-tracker companion for the fitness hipster.

★★★★★



05

FITBIT CHARGE HR

www.fitbit.com/uk

PRICE £120 TESTED T3 243

Futuristic-looking yet discreet, the Charge HR gives you lots of info for your travels and even comes with continuous heart-rate recording. Features a long battery life.

T3 SAYS In-depth fitness and sleep tracking, without shouting about it.

★★★★★



06

TIMEX IRONMAN RUN X20 GPS

www.timex.co.uk

PRICE £80 TESTED N/A

Gives you GPS tracking for speed, distance, calories burned and pace. Great for keeping an eye on your fitness.

T3 SAYS It lacks the frills, but this is a cheap and effective sports watch.

★★★★★

OUR PICK:
APPLE WATCH
STANDSTHE SMARTWATCH KING IS
GONNA NEED A THRONE...

Orzly DuoStand

→ Orzly's stand not only holds and charges your Apple Watch, it also charges your iPhone. Luckily, the cool aluminium finish will match the rest of your Apple gadgets, meaning you won't have to live in uncoordinated hell.

£20, orzly.com



Twelve South HiRise

→ This squat offering will suit higher surfaces in your home. By snapping the magnetic charging plate that comes with the Apple Watch to the stylish black or silver dock, you can keep it full to the brim – and it works with all straps.

\$35 (£22), twelvesouth.com



Griffin WatchStand

→ Mounted loosely on this high stand (either vertically or horizontally), your Apple Watch will look a little precarious, but don't worry – a magnetic plate is holding it firmly in place, and powering it up while you work, play or sleep.

£25, griffintechnology.com

To read more detailed reviews of these gadgets and lots more, visit www.t3.com

T3 SELECTS: SMART LOCKS

BIN THAT MEDIEVAL KEY AND MAKE YOUR HOME LOCKS SMART!



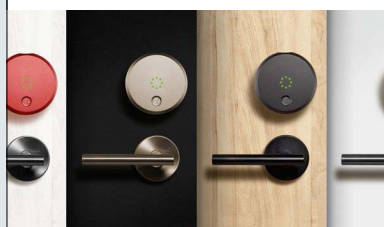
Keyfree Connected Smart Lock

→ Yale has come up with its own smart lock, with a keycode entry panel. The real boon of this is that it can be easily added onto most PVCu and composite front doors with a Yale multipoint lock.
£495.60 (fitted), www.yale.co.uk



Sesame

→ Mating to any latch, the Sesame is easy to fit and use. Via an app on your phone, it'll detect your proximity - just tap the screen to gain entry. You can also add a secret door knock so that you don't have to take your phone out.
\$99 (£64), www.candyhouse.co



August Smart Lock

→ Designed by Yves Behar, the August Smart Lock looks great and is able to make a single-latch deadbolt keyless, with phone-activated entry. You can give temporary access to people, and it tells you when they've used it.
\$250 (£163), www.august.com

THE SUPER SIX

Connected home

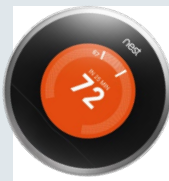
01 NEST LEARNING THERMOSTAT

www.nest.com

PRICE £180 **TESTED** T3 242

A stylish and sleek design that integrates with other smart gadgets around the home. Easy to use and learns your heating habits.
T3 SAYS Nest is a great first step in creating a smarter home.

T3 ★★★★★



02 HUSQVARNA AUTOMOWER 330X

www.husqvarna.com

PRICE £2,575 **TESTED** T3 242

Looks incredible. Great, even cut. Packed full of teeth. Excellent for large gardens. Operates very quietly indeed.

T3 SAYS Expensive but perfect for people with bigger lawns.

T3 ★★★★★



03 iROBOT ROOMBA 880

www.irobot.co.uk

PRICE £599 **TESTED** T3 237

Impressive pet-hair performance and efficient carpet cleaning - you'll be astonished by just how much it picks up. It's simple to program, too.

T3 SAYS You won't find a better robot-vacuum performance.

T3 ★★★★★



04 NETGEAR R7000 NIGHTHAWK SMART WI-FI ROUTER

www.netgear.co.uk

PRICE £140 **TESTED** N/A

Sleek and stealthy design, brilliant performance, dual USB ports and comprehensive parental controls.

T3 SAYS Slick-looking, great performer.

T3 ★★★★★



05 SMARTER KETTLE

www.smarter.am

PRICE £150 **TESTED** T3 241

Freshly ground beans and a nice cuppa waiting for you each morning, with an alarm to wake you up when it's ready and all controlled via your smartphone.

T3 SAYS The easiest way to enjoy a decent cup of coffee in the morning.

T3 ★★★★★



06 BELKIN WEMO LED LIGHTING AND INSIGHT SWITCH

www.belkin.co.uk

PRICE £80 (bulb set), £50 (InSight Switch) **TESTED** T3.com

Clean white light activated via an Android or iOS app, plus info on your energy use/costs.

T3 SAYS Smarter LED bulbs for work spaces.

T3 ★★★★★



THE SUPER SIX

Automotive

01 TESLA MODEL S

www.teslamotors.com

PRICE £54,880 **TESTED** T3 240

A quick, slick and desirable glimpse into the future of electric vehicles. The true test is Tesla's promise to build a full network of superchargers across the UK and Europe.
T3 SAYS Attractive and speedy, the Model S is the best electric car you can buy.

T3 ★★★★★



02 AUDI A3 SPORTBACK E-TRON

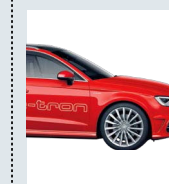
www.audi.co.uk

PRICE From £34,990 **TESTED** T3 243

Promises the battery-electric emissions purity of an EV, combined with the long-range, insta-fuelling ease of use of a petrol or diesel car.

T3 SAYS Modern tech motoring at its best.

T3 ★★★★★



03 SMART FOR TWO

uk.smart.com

PRICE £11,325 **TESTED** T3 238

Tiny - but roomier than before - with a spunky, turbocharged motor. An app-plus-smartphone-cradle combo turns iPhone or Android into super in-car multimedia rigs.
T3 SAYS The little car is back, with oodles of in-car gadgetry and a roomier interior.

T3 ★★★★★



04 FORD FOCUS ST

www.ford.co.uk

PRICE £22,195 **TESTED** T3 242

Features include an enhanced transitional stability system and a blind-spot warning feature. It goes from 0-62mph in 6.5 seconds and hits a top speed of 154mph.

T3 SAYS The ST packs in more tech than the Apple Watch, and is somewhat faster!

T3 ★★★★★



05 KIA SOUL EV

www.kia.co.uk

PRICE £29,995, or £24,995 (with EV grant) **TESTED** T3 239

The best all-electric range in its class, the Soul EV has bags of room inside, along with OLED instruments and a charger that tops batteries up to 80 per cent in 33 minutes.

T3 SAYS Runs further than the rest.

T3 ★★★★★



06 LEXUS NX 300H F SPORT

www.lexus.co.uk

PRICE £36,995 **TESTED** T3 239

With its petrol-electric powertrain, the F Sport is serene around town and easy on fuel. Features include wireless in-car phone charging and a multimedia trackpad.
T3 SAYS A clever alternative to the default diesel option.

T3 ★★★★★



 To read more detailed reviews of these gadgets and lots more, visit www.t3.com



12 JUNE 2015

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4400 mAh USB Power Bank
250 Lumen Torch
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300 Lumen String Lights

T3 £100 Hotlist

TREAT YOURSELF TO SOMETHING NEW WITH OUR ROUND-UP OF THE BEST KIT FOR £100 AND UNDER

You don't always have to spend big money to get something you'll love to bits. That's why we've put together a list of our favourite products for £100 and under. Some of our chosen gadgets also happen to be the best things you can get in

their particular category, others are great-value alternatives to bigger ticket purchases, but all are brilliant products we'd be happy to use ourselves. So next time you get paid and there's spare cash burning a hole in your trouser pocket, make sure you consult T3's £100 Hotlist!

THE SUPER SIX

01

BOOMPODS POWERCASE

www.boompods.co.uk

PRICE £69.99

A protective case for the iPhone 6 that doubles as a charger, the Powercase gives you an extra 150 per cent battery life. Get 25 per cent off the price with the code 'T325'.

T3 SAYS You'll never run out of juice on the move again with this handy case.

T3 ★★★★★

02

LOGITECH G303 DEADALUS APEX

www.logitech.com/en-gb

PRICE £59.99

Logitech's gaming mouse has an accurate optical sensor that can be tuned to any surface, plus customisable LED lighting.

T3 SAYS The ultimate mouse for PC gaming. With one of these, there are no excuses...

T3 ★★★★★

03

EE HARRIER MINI

www.ee.co.uk

PRICE £99

A 4G smartphone for under a ton, EE's Harrier Mini has pretty much everything you need, including a 4.7-inch screen, a decent 5MP camera and a slim design.

T3 SAYS The cheapest way to get super-fast mobile broadband on the move.

T3 ★★★★★

04

ROLLEI SELFIE STICK

www.rollei.com

PRICE £24.99

Selfies are still a thing, right? If so, Rollei's stick will do the job: extendable up to almost a metre, it offers remote-control snapping via Bluetooth.

T3 SAYS The best way to grab a selfie without dislocating your arm.

T3 ★★★★★

05

NEST PROTECT

www.nest.com

PRICE £89

Offering smoke and carbon-monoxide detection, the Nest Protect will keep you safe with notifications via the phone app, plus voice guidance in an emergency.

T3 SAYS Don't scrimp on safety – get the best, and smartest, smoke and CO alarm.

T3 ★★★★★

06

ORAL-B PRO 6000

www.oralb.co.uk

PRICE £85

For the teeth-cleaning enthusiasts out there, Oral-B's electric toothbrush connects to your phone over Bluetooth and gives you feedback on your performance.

T3 SAYS The easiest way to keep your pearlys looking whiter than ever.

T3 ★★★★★

OFF THE WALL

COMBINE A SIDE TABLE WITH A CINEMA PROJECTION SYSTEM AND YOU GET FURNITURE FROM THE FUTURE. THE SONY 4K ULTRA SHORT THROW PROJECTOR IS THE POSH-COUCH ENTHUSIAST'S DREAM COME TRUE



DESIGN DONS

→ The connected lifestyle is a revolution infiltrating homes, but home is about the heart as well as the head, and tech companies are thinking smarter about how gadgets are placed in a

living environment. Sony's projector offers incredible tech without being overt, and the same design ethos is taking place further down the line. Ikea's Home Smart range of furniture (p16) boasts smartphone wireless-charging technology without being style-unconscious.

CAMOUFLAGE CUES

Unlike a regular design-damaging projector, the Sony 4K USTP sits just a few inches away from a given wall, blending into its environment

HIDDEN STRENGTHS

When not used, the projection bit is hidden, giving the illusion of a functional side table, though guests shouldn't rest their Martinis on it

MODULAR MODS

Optional speakers either side discreetly extend without altering the look, so your front room won't look like an AV convention

THE BIGGER PICTURE

Despite its short projector-to-wall distance, the USTP can throw a 147-inch image, and a picture quality of 4K essentially turns your lounge into the local digital cinema

ART FULL

Though the USTP's main use is for watching movies, Sony has positioned it as a gadget for art lovers, too: a masterpiece projected onto the wall will bring your room to life

BIG PIMPIN'

You'll need a serious appreciation for home design, as the Sony 4K USTP will set you back \$50,000 (£32,000). Cash-rich enquirers can head over to www.sony.net

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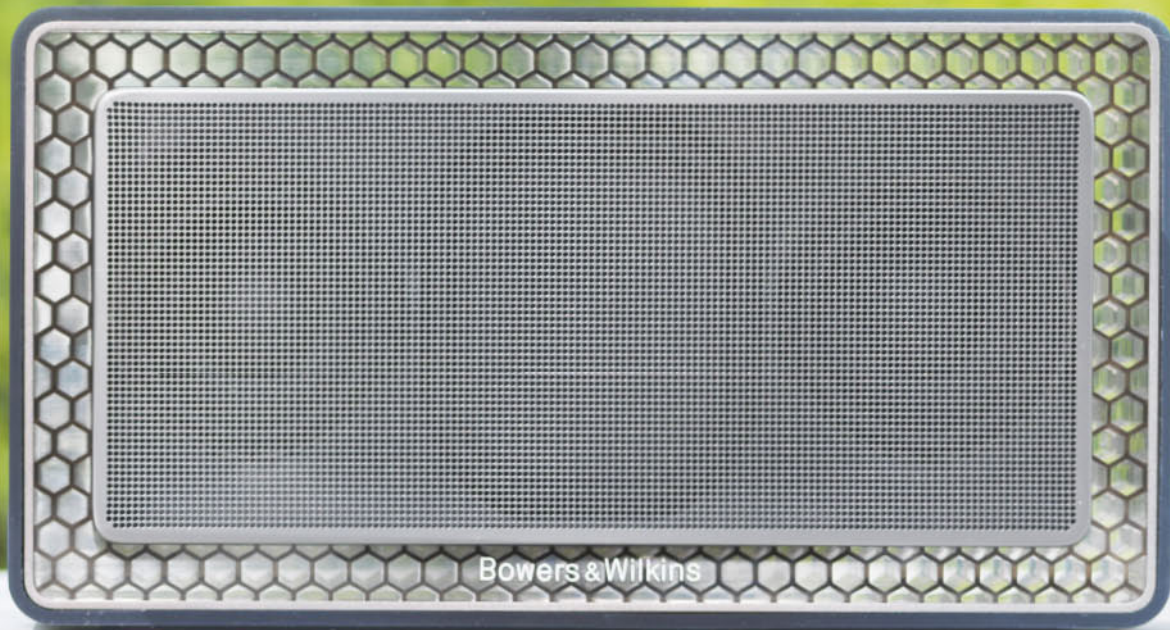
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[SCAN](http://scan.co.uk)

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