



2008 IPOD + IPHONE BUYERS' GUIDE

FROM ILOUNGE.COM

1500 PRODUCTS RATED
SNEAK PEEKS AT UPCOMING ADD-ONS
NEW + USED HARDWARE BUYING TIPS
THE BEST ACCESSORIES OF THE YEAR
IPHONE + IPOD CONTEST WINNERS



NEW IPOD?

Marware has you covered

20% OFF NEW ORDERS *

* Through November 2007 (Promo Code: iLN07)

SILICONE

Sport Grip
for iPod nano



PLASTIC

Sidewinder
for iPod classic



Sidewinder
for iPod nano



LEATHER

C.E.O Premiere
for iPhone and touch



C.E.O Classic
for iPod classic



SCP Sportsuit Convertible
for iPhone



SCT Sportsuit Convertible
for iPod touch



NEOPRENE

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NEW IPOD?
Marware has you covered



Sportsuit™ Convertible

Marware's best-selling multifunctional sport case converts to an armband case, a clip-on case, or a slim-profile sleeve. Now available for iPhone and iPod® nano, classic and touch.

And Marware's use of the Mulitdapt® clip system lets you take your iPod or iPhone in the car, on a bike, to the gym or for a run, and other carrying options too!

(accessories sold separately)

Visit our entire product line at:
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 **MARWARE**

Apple TV for HDTV



Fox's Hotel Chevalier, Debuted on iTunes

max **1280 x 720** | **1.78:1**

Music inspires. It fueled the first iPods.

iPod nano 204ppi

pixels **320 x 240** | **1.33:1**

Apple released the original iPod in 2001. No one thought that a luxury music player would become a design icon, or spawn a 100 million-selling family in five years.

2001 iPod 80ppi

pixels **160 x 128** | **1.25:1**

But thanks to a borderless love for music, continued refinement and better prices, the iPod family has grown in both power and ubiquity.

iPhone 163ppi
iPod touch 163ppi

pixels **480 x 320** | **1.5:1**

iPod classic 163ppi

pixels **320 x 240** | **1.33:1**

Now, iPods play videos, photos, and games.

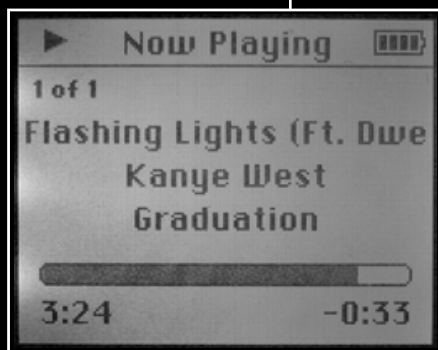
iPods are today the world's most popular music and video players. Apple has sold over 119 million of them. Even \$149 models can play videos and games. They do more than 2001's \$399 iPod.

As we enter the 2007 holiday season, the devices and their accessories remain amongst the most desired gifts. Recently, iPhones replaced full-sized iPods as the family's unobtainable luxuries.

With more Apple and third-party options than ever, how are your dollars best spent in 2008?



Welcome to iLounge.com's 200



EDITOR'S NOTES | 8

STATE OF THE IWORLD | 9

Without a doubt, 2007 will be remembered as the year Apple surged. Here's why.

THE NEW ILOUNGE.COM | 10

A brand new iLounge web site is inside.

SNEAK PEEKS | 12

The next wave of iPod and iPhone add-ons, including our editors' most-wanted items.

IPOD, IPHONE + APPLE TV BUYERS' GUIDE | 24

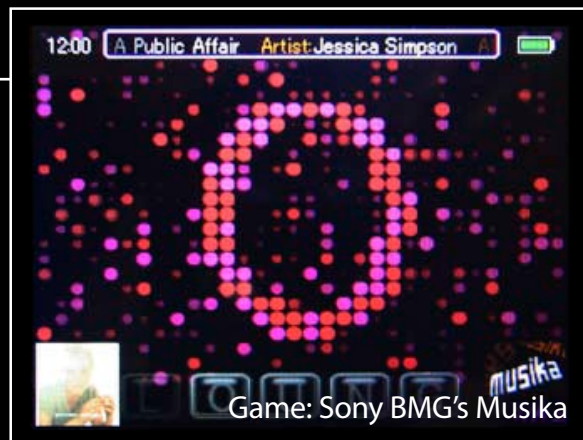
Our complete, definitive look at the 2007-2008 iPod and iPhone lineup, with tips.

NEW + USED IPOD BUYING TIPS | 24

Expert advice on buying new and used iPods, as well as making more on selling them.



Photo: Our Holiday iPod Photo Contest



Game: Sony BMG's Musika

2008 iPod + iPhone Buyers' Guide.

THE ACCESSORY GIFT GUIDE +

ILOUNGE'S BEST OF THE YEAR AWARDS | 62

From earphones to speakers, wireless audio systems, luxury gifts and toys, we highlight our top picks for different users and budgets.

THE ILOUNGE REPORT CARD | 98

Our complete list of over 1,500 iPod, iPhone, and accessory ratings, since 2001.

CONTEST + PHOTO GALLERIES | 106

Winning and other top submissions to our recent photo contests and galleries.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF IPOD | 116

A look back at the increasingly impressive track record of Apple's digital media gear.

INDEX TO ADVERTISERS | 128

Note: All ads in this Book are clickable.

BACKSTAGE | 129

CLOSING THE CURTAIN | 130

What do you expect over the next year from the iPod, iTunes + iPhone family? Our guesses are here.

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Having researched and written major portions of our Buyers' Guides since we started publishing them in 2004, I can say with all sincerity that there's never been a year quite like this for iPod buyers. Apple's September release of three new iPods - the awesome **nano**, the ideally roomy **classic**, and the widescreen **touch** - has given old users a reason to upgrade and new users their strongest incentives ever to join the club. Yet the mood amongst iPod fans and iLounge editors isn't as enthusiastic this year as it was in the past: Apple's release of the iPod touch with **limited flash-based storage** rather than a huge hard disk upset lots of users waiting for the ideal full-sized iPod, and made people wonder whether to hold off. Similarly, a number of **software and hardware glitches** have made iTunes, iPod touch, classic, and nano users alike wonder what's going on with Apple. Are these distinctly un-Apple-like problems bugs just waiting to be fixed, or are they a sign that Apple's quality control is dangerously slipping?

Users were also shaken by Apple's surprising decisions to abruptly kill past video accessory and game compatibility with the new iPods, requiring people to **re-purchase accessories and downloads** they thought were future-proof before. As such, many items featured in last year's Buyers' Guide, including portable video displays, wearable video displays, video-to-TV cables and docks, and speaker systems promising video output functionality, no longer work properly or at all with new iPod models. Other accessories, such as voice recorders, the Nike + iPod Sport Kit, and the iPod Radio Remote, work only with certain iPod models, and not the iPod touch. Our picks this year are therefore very specific, and we advise you to purchase wisely this year, or risk future disappointments.



Dennis Lloyd
Publisher

A long-time fan of Apple products, **Dennis Lloyd** was a graphic designer and DJ before creating iLounge, which remains the world's most popular resource for iPod, iPhone, and iTunes users. Dennis is happily married with a dog, cat, many iPods, and two turntables. He lives in and loves Irvine, California.



Jeremy Horwitz
Editor-in-Chief

Jeremy Horwitz has written about iPods, gadgets, games, and the companies that make them for everyone from Electronic Gaming Monthly to The New York Times, in addition to practicing law. Today, Jeremy focuses his days on iLounge, its Books, and Buyers' Guides. He lives with his wife, two dogs, and lots of add-ons in Southern California and New York.



Bob Starrett is iLounge's News Editor. Based in Orlando, Florida, where he lives with his girlfriend, Bob was one of the first in line for the iPhone, though he often listens to music on his four iPods.



Bob Levens is iLounge's Chief Forum Administrator. Living in Cambridge, U.K. with his wife and dog, Bob has served in both the Royal Air Force and the Ministry of Defense, and worked as an engineer.



Jesse David Hollington is an iLounge Contributing Editor, responsible for our Ask iLounge columns. He lives with his wife and two cats in Toronto.

Contributing Editors, Forum Administrators, and Moderators: Christina Easton, Jerrod Hofferth, Larry Angell, Mike McKenney, Doug Adams, Alicia Bankhofer, Albert Tan, Audrey McGirt, Bill McNair, Brett, Jed, Ryan, Tom Levens, and Stuart VandeVenter.



Clockwise from bottom left: Along with the iPhone-derived iPod touch, Apple CEO Steve Jobs unveils the first iPod nano with video and game-playing abilities, part of a new \$79-\$399 iPod family. **Right:** One of Apple's \$49 video cables.

Good Times for iPods, Bad Times for TV-Out Users

Apple releases new models, rendering prior iPods' video docks and cables useless

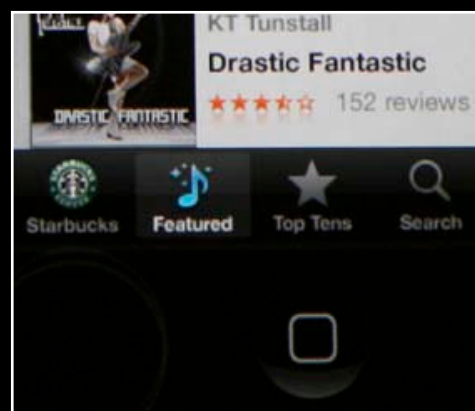
For several years, Apple's iPod refresh philosophy has been firm: "we add; we don't take away." On September 5, 2007, that changed: preserving only the \$79, 1GB iPod shuffle, Apple radically improved the iPod nano, boosting its screen size to 2", adding video and gaming features, and doubling its capacities to 4GB (\$149) and 8GB (\$199). Then Apple bulked up the sixth-generation iPod, now dubbed iPod classic, with better battery and hard drive performance at the old \$249 (80GB) and \$349 (160GB) price points. And with iPod touch (\$299/8GB,

\$399/16GB), a stripped-down, phoneless iPhone - which controversially dropped to \$399 - Apple introduced its 3.5" touchscreen and wireless features into the iPod family for the first time, all generally welcome news to iPod fans. But having made a big jump into portable video devices, the company quietly locked the TV-output features of all three new iPods, preventing them from working with 2005-2006 portable video displays and many home video accessories. New \$49 video cables and a more expensive Universal Dock were released, offsetting the family's video gains.

iTunes Goes Wireless: Apple adds Wi-Fi Music Store, Starbucks + Cloud Hotspots

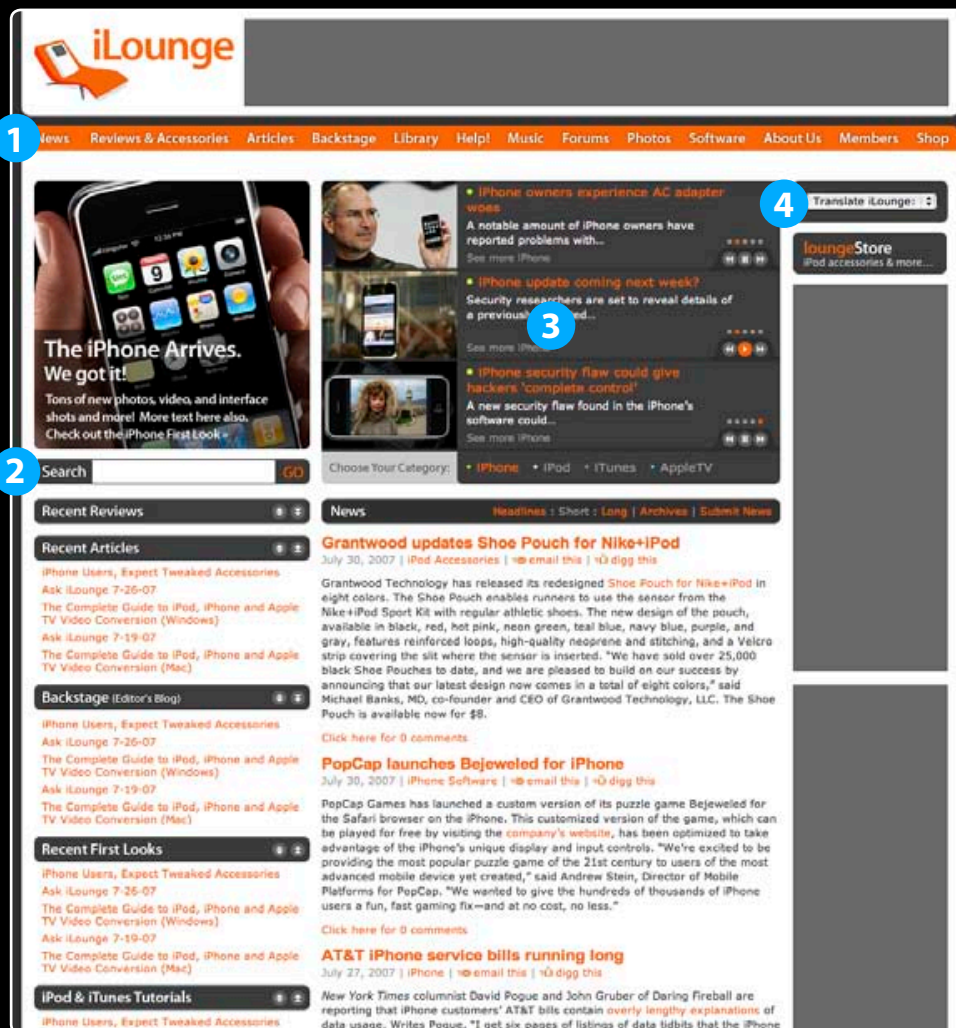
Okay, so your iPod or iPhone has a wireless antenna - now what are you going to do with it? Apple's answer: hopefully buy music from the iTunes Store. With the release of the iTunes Wi-Fi Music Store, you can now browse Apple's complete music catalog so long as you're connected to an 802.11b or g network. Since

most users won't make use of this feature outside of their homes, Apple has partnered with Starbucks and U.K.-based The Cloud to offer free U.S. and U.K. iTunes Wi-Fi access to iPhone users; iPod touch users will pay £4 per month, and U.S. iPhone users must pay extra for wi-fi Safari web browsing.



Far more information on these and other topics of interest to the iPod and iPhone community is available from the iLounge.com news archives at ilounge.com/index.php/ilounge/archives/.

Coming soon: a top-to-bottom update to the iLounge.com web site. We're redesigning our home page and its satellites, with bigger art and easier links.



5 Comments

Want to post a public comment? **Please register** first, then enter your text with the box and buttons below. If you have a comment, **news tip**, **advertising inquiry**, or **coverage request**, a **question about iPods or accessories**, or **if you sell or market iPod products or services**, **read iLounge's Comments + Questions policies before posting**, and **fully identify yourself if you do**. We will delete comments containing advertising, astroturfing, trolling, personal attacks, offensive language, or other objectionable content, then ban and/or publicly identify violators.

☐ **Subscribe to this discussion.** We'll update you whenever new comments are added.

Sign up for our new iPodweek Newsletter!

1. Improved Nav

Our orange navigation bar has become more readable, and more usable, with easier access to the many different parts of the iLounge web site. A second bar of contextual options appears under the first.

2. Enhanced Search

We're working to make searches of the site's many pages much friendlier. Our new Search bar is found on the left side of the page, right above our most recent content, so you can search first or skim headlines.

3. Switch Top Stories

We've made huge changes to our collection of top stories, enabling you to filter them for only iPod, iPhone, or Apple TV-specific information at a given time. And we've put the spotlight on many more stories - up to 15 of our top picks at a given moment can now be skimmed through.

5. Safer Commenting

We've updated our public commenting system to screen out phony posts from marketers, and block abusive commenters from ruining the fun for the rest of the iLounge community.

4. Translate iLounge

With continued support for Spanish, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Dutch, Japanese, Chinese, and Korean translations from English, iLounge's pages now convert more fully.

the new *cases* on the block



IPC4

Clear polycarbonate case for iPhone with integrated kickstand



ITCC

Clear polycarbonate case for iPod touch



ICC

Clear polycarbonate case for iPod classic 80GB/160GB with integrated kickstand



NCC

Clear polycarbonate case for 3rd generation nano



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CES 2008
January 7-10, 2008
Booth #1213

MACWORLD
January 14-18, 2008
Booth #322



IPC4

SNEAK PEEKS

As always, new iPod models have thrown accessory makers' best laid plans into chaos: companies are working feverishly to create cases and new electronic add-ons that work properly with Apple's big and small iPod tweaks. Here's what's coming soon.

Acme Research LeDoc for iPod

DOCKS

\$99
11-07

Until now, accessing the iPod's menus through a TV set has been problematic: on-TV video docks have sold for around \$150, and their menus have been limited relative to the iPod's, with fewer languages, fewer options, and glitches. Hong Kong-based Acme

Research's **LeDoc for iPod** has a smart, cheaper workaround: mount a video camera on the front of a dock and toggle between displaying the iPod's screen and its video output on your TV. The dock and camera lens are user-calibrated for proper sharpness before use, and a remote control lets you access the iPod's menus. Acme is promising high-fidelity sound from the unit's two audio ports - one variable, one fixed line-out - and composite video. The only bummer: it works only with pre-2007 iPod models.



Alpine eX-10 iPod + Bluetooth

IN-CAR

\$200
11-07

What Harman Kardon pioneered with Drive + Play - the second-screen in-car iPod solution - others are now following. Alpine's **eX-10 Dash-Top iPod + Bluetooth Solution** combines a high-speed iPod interface cable, a line-out port and an FM transmitter with a 2.4" color LCD screen and wireless remote control. You put the screen on top of your dashboard, connect the iPod to the unit and the unit to your car stereo, then use the wireless remote to change iPod tracks. Unlike Harman's systems, eX-10 has Bluetooth built in to let you take cell phone calls and access the phone's contacts on the color screen. It works with 4G and newer iPods.



**\$50**
11-07

WIRELESS

Griffin Technology iTrip (2007)

Two years after the release of the last full-sized iTrip - the papa of the most popular FM transmitter family for iPods - Griffin has unveiled the sequel: a black- or white-colored, cosmetically cooler, and easier to control update. Now packaged with adapters for an iPod-specific fit, the new iTrip retains the audio-enhancing stereo and mono toggle mode popularized by its predecessors, and a backlit LCD with easy-to-read numbers. New on-face controls let you pick stations with minimal fidgeting, and a mini-USB port on the bottom lets you charge it while it's in use.

**\$30**
11-07

DOCKS

Incipio Thin Cradle for iPhone

Planned for release in black or silver colors, Incipio's **Thin Cradle for iPhone** is a machined aluminum iPhone dock that's cosmetically similar to the ones in Apple Stores, and designed for stability on a desk. According to Incipio, the Cradle's extra height lets you have easier access to the iPhone's controls, while a line-level audio output and integrated USB cable provide functionality just like Apple's packed-in iPhone Dock. Speakerphone functionality is claimed to be uninhibited by the Thin Cradle design, with anti-echo venting in the base. We're anxious to see how these perform.

SendStation PocketDock pico

DOCKS

\$TBD
Q1-08

Obsessed with shrinking the size of iPod docks to near-invisibility, Germany's SendStation has come up with **PocketDock pico**, "the world's smallest iPod to USB adapter." Measuring 1.1" by 1.1" by 0.35" tall, it's so small that you're meant to carry it inside of an eject button-equipped chrome sleeve that doubles as a key fob. Why so small? So you can carry the equivalent of a much bigger iPod USB cable anywhere, at any time, without the need for extra bulk. Is it possible to go smaller with an accessory like this, SendStation?



NewerTech iPhone Speaker Dock/Mic

SPEAKERS

\$35
11-07

The iPhone's built-in speakerphone functionality is pretty good, but there are times when you want to have extra speaker volume and a more powerful microphone. NewerTech's **iPhone Speaker Dock & Mic** offers twin 2-watt speakers and a microphone you can position closer to yourself for improved voice quality, and serves as either a speakerphone or a music speaker dock, with built-in volume and call initiate/disconnect buttons. It charges the iPhone while docked, as well.



**\$15**

11-07

ADAPTERS

NewerTech Mic Extender Cable

Using old earphones with the iPhone is difficult for two reasons: the iPhone has a recessed headphone port, and you won't have a nearby microphone to answer your phone calls if you're using standard earphones. Like Shure's Music Phone Adapters, NewerTech's **Mic Extender Cable** adds a 2.75-foot cable, a mic and a call answer/end button to the iPhone, letting you add your preferred earphones to the mix. But NewerTech's Cable sells for less than half of Shure's price. Will it sound as good?

**\$100**

Q1-08

IN-CAR

Griffin RoadTrip with SmartScan

As one of several new Griffin products featuring iTrip-style FM transmission technology, the markedly updated RoadTrip - now called **RoadTrip with SmartScan** - improves upon the company's prior iPod car charging, mounting, and transmitting combination RoadTrips in several ways. There's now a flexible gooseneck mount rather than segmented plastic piping, dynamic audio adjustment that auto-determines the correct output levels for a given iPod, and the SmartScan feature to auto-locate the best local FM stations and save them as presets.

Griffin AutoPilot

IN-CAR

\$50

11-07

Furthering its line of car accessories for iPods, Griffin's **AutoPilot** is designed to do three things: charge any Dock Connector-equipped iPod, provide audio output through an integrated line-output port, and enable you to easily change tracks or play/pause status even when the iPod is not nearby. Tactile control buttons are mounted on the charging bulb, which sits inside a car's cigarette lighter/power adapter port. The buttons are specifically touted as easier to use while you're driving than the iPod touch's on-screen controls.



Griffin iTrip AutoPilot

IN-CAR

\$100

Q1-08

Blending two existing Griffin products into a single design, the new iTrip **AutoPilot with SmartScan** starts with the track control button-laden car charging bulb from the standard AutoPilot above. Then it adds the slick OLED-screened FM transmitter control box from Griffin's latest iTrip Auto with SmartScan, recently previewed on the iLounge web site. The mirror-finished control box features three "soft keys" that change features based on the on-screen menu you're in, with the left and right keys initially handling manual tuning, and the center button changing modes. SmartScan mode automatically finds three clear local radio stations, selects one, and has you tune your radio to it rather than forcing you to hunt yourself. Additionally, an RDS data transmitter sends current song data to your car radio's screen.



iSkin®

It's what's inside that counts.

New skins for iPod touch, classic and nano.

www.iSkin.com



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Incipio **Slice** for iPod shuffle

ADAPTERS

\$15
Q4-07

The iPod shuffle is small. It's also entirely incompatible with standard iPod add-ons, unless you buy an adapter. Like Griffin's earlier Dock Adapter for iPod shuffle, Incipio's **Slice** enables you to use common iPod docks and speakers to pull audio from the shuffle or charge it - one at a time, using a switch on its face - but Slice is designed to be more versatile than the Dock Adapter, with the ability to work with iPod cables, and two color options. Black and white versions will be available.



Griffin **PowerJolt SE + Powerblock**

POWER

\$15/30
Q4-07

Power adapters aren't sexy, but they're one of the most popular types of iPod accessories, and Griffin's are consistently amongst the best-selling. PowerBlock, the company's wall charger, will be updated in November with a slimmer, sleeker white design and a charge status light; it will still include an iPod charging cable for the \$30 price. In December, the company will release PowerJolt SE (\$15), designed as a "super-affordable" one-piece car charger for all iPods. The new PowerJolt will feature a three-color charging status light, a coiled retractable cable, and an in-line fuse to protect against power spikes. Black or white versions will be available to match your car.





\$40

11-07

CASES

H2O Audio iFR Sport Combo

Specializing in waterproof cases, H2O Audio has recently branched out into sports-friendly designs that aren't submersible, but stand up well to general exposure to the elements. The **iFR Sport Combo** package comes with two pieces: a new Armor Series iPhone case, which is rain-, sweat-, and snow-resistant, plus a cord-managing neoprene armband for easy use during workouts. H2O's case has a front half that flips open, swivels, and stows in the back to provide iPhone control access when necessary. It's not designed to be used in the water, but would you dunk your iPhone?



\$50

11-07

CASES

Otter Products OtterBox Armor

Along with versions for the new iPod nano and iPod classic, Otter Products is readying **OtterBox Armor for iPod touch**, the first 3-foot watersafe case design we've seen for the widescreen iPod. Like the company's earlier designs, this one uses a clamp and O-ring to lock hard clear front plastic and opaque rear plastic shells together, sealing the iPod inside and preventing water, dirt, or sand from getting in. A brand new membrane face shield covers the iPod touch screen and Home button, enabling you to use the controls while the case is closed; headphone port access is on the bottom.



TunePro

Sportivo



IceSuit



Divo



for nano



for classic



BTCUP

Metro



Bella



for nano



for classic

Masquerade



for nano



for classic



for touch



\$25+
Q4-07

CASES

Speck ArmorSkin

Every year, Speck introduces at least one new case that we think is super cool looking, and this year, **ArmorSkin's** that case. Using a clear polycarbonate front plate and a grippy, bumpy rubber back and side shell, iPod nano, classic, and touch versions of ArmorSkin will toughen up the models' soft metallic bodies while permitting you to see their entire faces. Clear and opaque black versions will be available, each permitting full control and headphone port access.



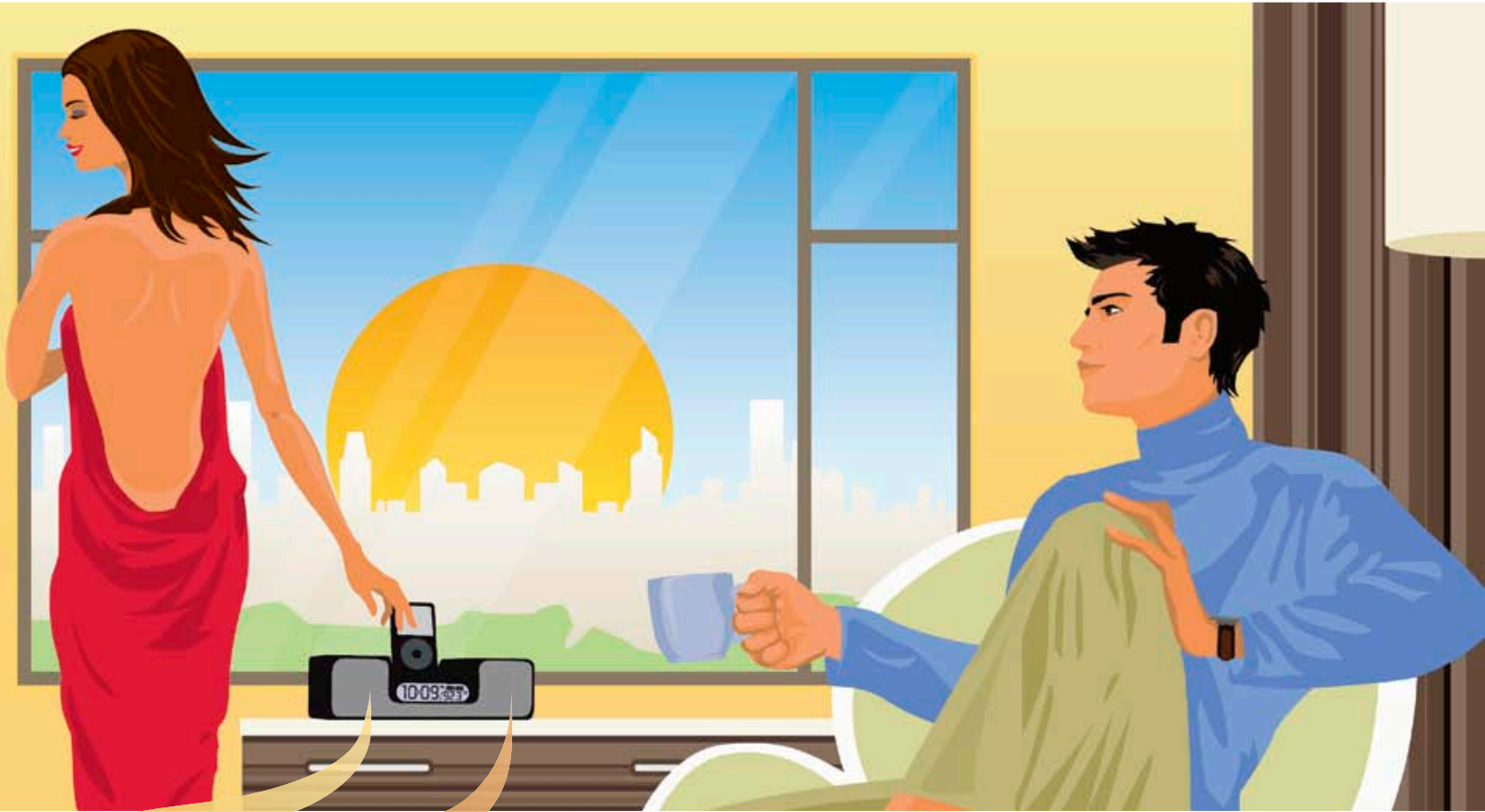
\$98+
Q4-07

CASES

a.b. sutton Classic Click Slip

Fans of handmade leather iPod cases have choices, but none are quite as customizable as a.b. sutton's: the company's 2-3 week tailoring process allows you to pick the colors of the kidskin leather exterior and dupioni silk interior - 50 and 70 colors, respectively - as well as the thread, the trim, and even the font of the monogram on the back, assuming you're willing to pay \$20 extra for it. The iPod classic-specific **Classic Click Slip** offers a flip-up half lid for face protection, an embossed, play-through Click Wheel cover, and holes for both the headphone port and Dock Connector.

Live Life Loud™



iHome™



Rock and roll out of bed with your iH8 iPod® alarm clock radio. From your first stretch to your last yawn, groove to your favorite tunes. Your iPod® powers up on the one-size-fits all charging dock, while the clear Reson8™ speakers take your music to a higher level. Sounds like another beautiful day.

🔊 **The world's #1 producer of clock radios For the iPod**

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Available at:

www.apple.com www.ihomeaudio.com

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\$30

11-07

CASES

Otter Products OtterBox Defender

Less expensive and lacking the submersible waterproof functionality of the Armor series, Otter Products' new **OtterBox Defender** cases for iPod nano, classic, and touch are designed to be "semi-rugged," combining a protective clear polycarbonate layer with black opaque silicone rubber to cover as much of each iPod as possible. Together, the two layers let each iPod's screen, controls, and metal color shine through, but also provide rubber flip-up port covers and anti-splash protection for situations where light water exposure is possible.



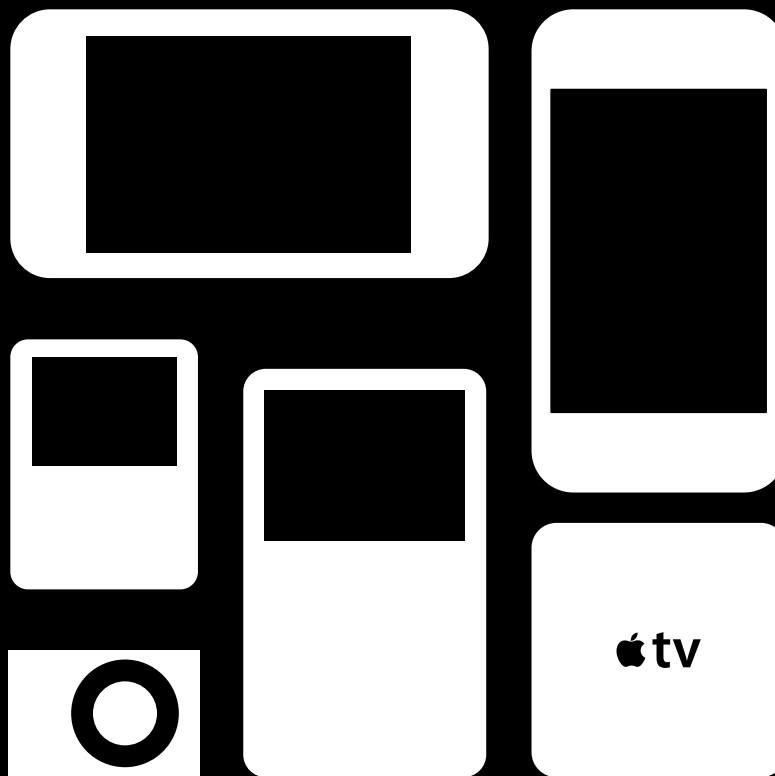
\$20

11-07

CASES

TuneBelt Open View Armband

As the latest release in the company's series of Open View Armbands -- black neoprene bicep bands with clear plastic-faced iPod compartments in the front - TuneBelt's new **Open View Armband for iPod nano 3rd Generation** is designed to let you wear the nano rightside up or upside down during runs or workouts. Using a reflective logo and iPod holder trim for increased nighttime safety, Open View also has a headphone cord manager flap, and promises to adjust for arms 8" to 18" in size.



The 2007 iPods, iPhone + Apple TV

Three new iPods. One color-refreshed iPod. An Apple-developed mobile phone. And an HDTV-ready media player. The past year was Apple's most prolific yet for iTunes-compatible devices, and perhaps the most confusing for consumers: different shapes, colors, interfaces, and model-specific limitations make it important to know what you're buying in advance; you no longer can buy the most expensive iPod and expect to get all the best features. Our complete guide to the 2007-2008 iPods, iPhone, and Apple TV sorts everything out for you.

iPod, iPhone + TV Buyers' Guide

The Family, Compared 26


iPod shuffle 28

iPod nano (with video) 32

iPod classic 36

iPod touch 40

iPhone 44

tv 50

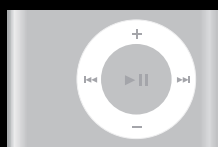
Old iPods 54

Buying New and Used 56

The Family, Compared.

From iPods to the iPhone and Apple TV, Apple's family of digital media players currently ranges in price from \$79 to \$399, including screenless, screened, and touch-screened models, with widely varying capacities. Here's what's available.

iPodshuffle



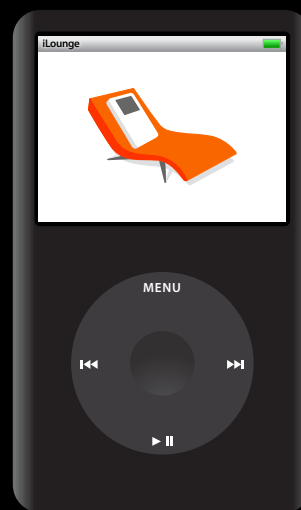
1.62" x 1.07" x 0.41"

iPodnano






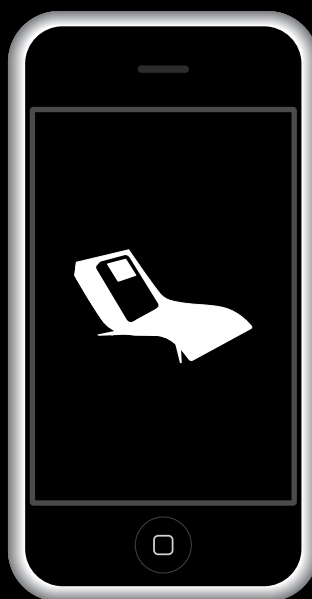
2.75" x 2.06" x 0.26"

iPodclassic



4.1" x 2.43" x 0.41/0.53"

Purpose	Music & Data Storage	Sport-Ready Media Player	High-Capacity Media Player
Price	\$79	\$149-199	\$249-\$349
Capacity	1GB	4GB-8GB	80GB-160GB
Colors	5 	5 	2 
Weight	0.55 Ounces	1.74 Ounces	4.9 / 5.7 Ounces
Screen	None	2.0" / 320x240 / 204ppi	2.5" / 320x240 / 163ppi
Music	12-17+ Hours	24-30 Hours	30-36/40-58 Hours
Photos	None	Yes	Yes
Games	None	3 + iTunes Downloads	3 + iTunes Downloads
Videos	None	5+ Hours	5-6/7-9 Hours
Rating	B+	A	B+
Summary	Cheap but low on value, the shuffle does little but makes music playback easy. Good for sports and young or old users.	All the features of a full-sized iPod - music, videos, games - in a cheaper, much smaller shell. The ideal "goes anywhere" iPod; works with popular Nike+ Sport Kit.	Clean audio, awesome capacity, and amazing battery life are offset by a 2-year old video screen and same-as-nano UI. TV-out doesn't work properly.

iPodtouch**4.3" × 2.43" × 0.31"****iPhone****4.5" × 2.4" × 0.46"****AppleTV****7.7" × 7.7" × 1.1"****Widescreen Wi-Fi Media Player**

\$299-\$399

8GB-16GB

1

4.2 Ounces

3.5" / 480x320 / 163ppi

22-28 Hours

Yes

None

5 Hours

B-

A big screen, Wi-Fi and an iPhone-derived UI make touch a standout iPod, but it lacks the run time and storage of cheaper iPods. Screens have been plagued with problems.

Widescreen Wi-Fi Phone

\$399

8GB

1

4.8 Ounces

3.5" / 480x320 / 163ppi

24-38 Hours

Yes

None

7+ Hours

B+

Everything iPod touch has, plus a great cell phone, speaker, superior styling, features, and somewhat better battery life. Limited space and 2-yr. contract are big knocks.

On-TV Media Player

\$299-\$399

40GB-160GB

1

2.4 Pounds

None, Requires HDTV

Yes

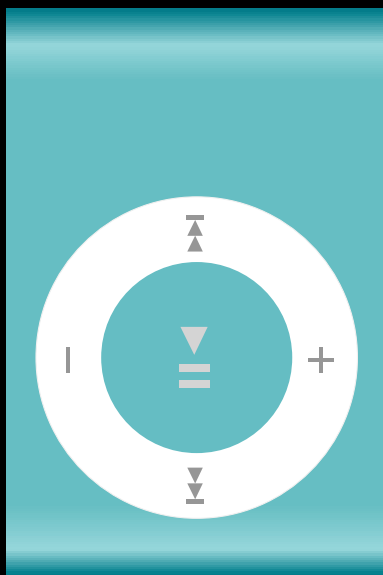
Yes

None

Yes

B

Best for watching iTunes videos on a TV, but iPod docks do pretty well, and require less synchronization time. Generates a lot of heat.



iPodshuffle

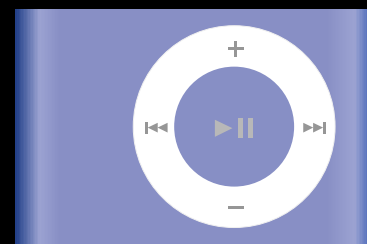
1 GB (240 Songs) - 12-17 Hour Battery - Music - Data - \$79 US



When Apple announced the first **iPod shuffle** in early 2005, the idea of a screenless iPod was almost offensive: what was an iPod without the company's revolutionary interface? But the gumpack-sized \$99-149 device sold in the millions anyway, thanks to its irresistibly low entry price and utter simplicity. Buy it, load it with music, and give it to any person of any age - they'll figure out the five simple track and volume buttons, on/off switch, and the toggle for random or ordered playback.

The current matchbox-sized iPod shuffle preserves all that simplicity in an even smaller package, now made from aluminum in your choice of silver, muted red, blue, green, or purple - the latter four colors replacing early 2007's brighter orange, pink, green, and blue options. Each shuffle includes a white USB cabled Dock and a pair of the latest iPod Earphones, nothing more; a metal shirt clip is built in to the back to grip your clothing if you want to wear it around.

iLounge has never loved the iPod shuffle as a product line - it's always been cheap, but a poor value relative to the iPod nano, which offers superior sound quality, storage space, and other features at a small price premium. But it can't be beat as a gift for young kids or older users.



iLounge rating **B+**



Nine iPod shuffle colors have been released since late 2006, starting with silver. The next four colors were bright, shown in the bottom row at left, replaced by the four above in late 2007.



The current shuffle colors nearly match those of today's iPod nanos; there's no black shuffle, however, and no purple nano. Each of the tones is subdued by comparison with last year's.



Earphones and manuals aside, the shuffle's only pack-in is a USB dock, which is required for charging and syncing music or data. This iPod can't play and charge at the same time.



iPod shuffle is still Apple's smallest digital music player. Though its rear clip makes it slightly thicker than an iPod nano, it's much shorter, narrower, and lighter, as it has no screen and fewer features.



Other iPods have intuitive but numerous options. With shuffle, you know from moment one what to do: the big button's for play, the + and - are for volume, and the others skip tracks.





iPod shuffle-specific Accessories: Cases + Armbands

**A-**
\$13**Power Support
Silicone Jacket**

If you're pocketing or bagging your iPod shuffle rather than wearing it, there's no better case than **Silicone Jacket**. A frosted clear rubber full body protector, it keeps the shuffle's entire aluminum body safe from scratches while still providing access to the clip, headphone port, and all of its controls. Reasonable pricing makes it a smart first purchase.

**B+**
\$40**H2O Audio
iS2 Waterproof**

The shuffle's best waterproof case is its only waterproof case: **iS2** can be arm-worn during workouts in the rain, or submerged underwater to 10-foot depths - assuming you have waterproof headphones, which H2O sells separately for \$40. Full front control access is achieved through a thick rubber membrane; you'll need to flip the power on before use.

**B+**
\$15**Incipio
[performance]**

Several companies have released iPod shuffle armbands, each relying on the rear metal clip to hold the shuffle on a Velcro and elastic band while you're running. Incipio's **[performance] Armband** is the same, only at a low price, and packaged with a cable manager and a mesh carrying bag. It's soft on the arm and easy on the pocket.


B
\$20

Griffin Dock Adapter

Griffin's **Dock Adapter** for iPod **shuffle** converts any Universal iPod Dock-ready speaker into a shuffle-ready audio or charging system. You can't do both at once - a limit of the shuffle's design - but a silver toggle lets you choose, and both work.

iPod shuffle-specific Accessories: Expanders and Audio


B
\$15

Mophie Bevy Bottle Opener

An unusual mix of metal bottle opener, headphone cord manager, and keychain, **Bevy** fits on the iPod shuffle like a JAVOClearCase, but more significantly expands its functionality. Though you'll need to pop the shuffle out to use the bottle opener, and there's no rear protection, it's a cool add-on for those who want the shuffle to do more.


B
\$6

Incipio IncipioBud

There are times when the iPod shuffle's cabled USB dock is just too big to carry around - for those times, **IncipioBud** is here. It distills the shuffle dock into a tiny USB connector with a headphone plug, occupying even less space than the shuffle itself. Plugged into a computer, it can recharge and sync your shuffle safely; just don't connect it to other iPods.


B
\$60

Creative i50 TravelSound

The only second-generation iPod shuffle-specific speaker system is Creative's **i50**, which combines miniature stereo speaker drivers with a rechargeable battery pack and a carrying strap. Small, thin, and easy to toss into a purse or backback, it delivers acceptable sound quality for its size, with great convenience and very nice looks.



iPod nano

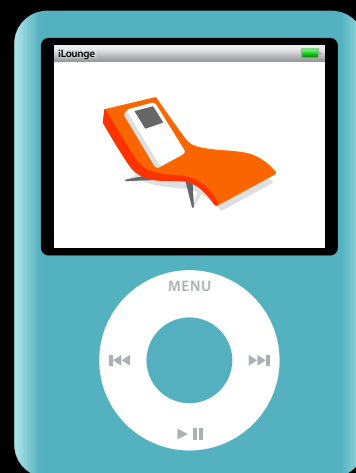
4-8 GB - 24-30 Hour Battery - Music - Photos - Videos - Games - Data - \$149-199 US



The **iPod nano** has always been cool. Even when the first version appeared in late 2005, sporting scratch-attractive surfaces and a higher per-Gigabyte price than the iPod mini it replaced, there was no denying that the device - the thinnest digital music player ever - was amazing. Then Apple did better, with a more resilient, multi-colored aluminum version that offered superior battery performance and capacity at the prior prices. Could the nano get any better?

In late 2007, Apple surprised everyone with the third-generation iPod nano, a device with literally all the powers - video, games, photos, and music - of a full-sized iPod, in only 35% of the physical volume. Amazingly, the nano even outperforms the more expensive iPod touch in music and video battery life, running for up to 30 hours for audio, and nearly 6 hours of video. Plus, only the nano is compatible with the popular Nike + iPod Sport Kit, a \$29 accessory that tracks and saves your running performance while playing music and voice feedback. While its silver 4GB version is inadequate for video storage, the 8GB version gives you space to make more of its 2", 320x240 screen.

Except for one fact - Apple inexplicably switched nano's rear casing back to a scratchable polished steel, while preserving its more resilient anodized aluminum face - the new nano is hugely better in every way than what came before. It comes with iPod Earphones and a USB cable, but thanks to its workout-friendly size, video-out and audio recording capabilities, you'll surely want to accessorize it. And you should.





Apple's five nano colors include standard silver - the only color available at the base \$149 price - and new shades of blue, green, red, and black, which now is a dark charcoal gray, all sold for \$199.



iPod nano includes the same very good starter earbuds that you'll get with the shuffle, classic, or touch, plus a plastic adapter to let it dock in popular add-ons, and a USB cable. The plastic box is nice, too.



There's no question that nano packs more into its tiny shell than any other iPod. Its 2" screen has more dots per inch than even the iPhone, and it shares the classic's updated interface (see next pages).



The new interface splits the screen in half and features floating art on one side, switching to full-screen graphics for games, photos, and videos, as shown in the next section. Game details can be small.



iPod nano uses a standard iPod Dock Connector, and works with most past iPod add-ons, except video docks and a few others. A Hold switch and headphone port are on the bottom alongside it.





iPod nano-specific Accessories: Cases and Film

**A-**
\$20+**SwitchEasy
Biscuits**

As hard iPod cases go, you have three major options: plastic, metal, and wood. **Biscuits** are the best plastic option we've seen, available in six colors and loaded with extras - a lanyard, case-ready iPod dock adapter, cleaning cloth and headphone port adapter. The \$22 **Black Biscuit** has a smoke-tinted screen guard, the rest use clear shields. Built well, priced right.

**A-**
\$10**Marware
SportGrip**

Soft rubber cases rarely interest us any more, but Marware's **SportGrip** has such a price advantage over major branded alternatives that it merits attention. Packed with a cloth and film covers for the screen and Click Wheel, its sides let you better grip the nano when you're holding it. Only five colors are out; clear is the most universal, and our favorite.

**B**
\$25**NLU Products
BodyGuardz**

We've become big fans of clear, full-body protective film as an alternative to iPod cases, and though alignment of its five pieces is a little tricky, NLU's new **BodyGuardz** does a pretty good job of covering the new nano's entire body. The company's film is highly resilient and clearer than other, similar film we've tested; the \$25 asking price is a hint steep.



iPod nano-specific Accessories: Workout Gear



A-
\$29

Apple iPod nano Armband

Apple rarely trumps third-party add-ons with its own releases, but the new **iPod nano Armband** is hard to beat: it's simple, attractive, and protects all of the nano except for its bottom corners. Boasting full face protection, it's also easy to use with or without the Nike + iPod Sport Kit; a Velcro tab expands, like the armband, which is sized for any bicep.



A-
\$30

Marware Sportsuit Convertible

The only match we've seen for Apple's Armband is **Sportsuit Convertible**, which offers a neoprene case with a detachable armband, handstrap, belt clip, and cleaning cloth for roughly the same price. All of the parts are well made, and Marware's glossy Orca-skin neoprene is unlike any other out there, shining in black, blue, or silver.



A-
\$29

Nike + iPod Sport Kit

Co-developed by Apple and Nike, the **Sport Kit** has its own dedicated menus, settings, and voice feedback, letting runners track how many calories, miles, or minutes they've burned through in a session, then save or upload the data to the NikePlus web site. Dead simple and accurate enough for the price, you'll need Nike+ shoes or a sneaker pocket to use it.



iPodclassic

80-160 GB - 30/40 Hour Battery - Music - Photos - Videos - Games - Data - \$249-349 US



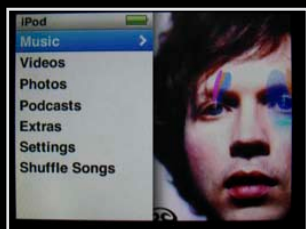
On one hand, the **iPod classic** is as familiar as they come: it has basically the same general physical dimensions as all past full-sized iPods, the same basic features and 2.5", 320x240 screen as 2005-2006's iPods, and little new save for its revised interface. But that ignores its many positives: like the iPod nano, it plays songs, videos, photos, and games, yet its hard drive holds 10-20 times more of them. And the price is only a little higher than the nano's.

Under the hood, the iPod classic and nano aren't exactly the same: classic actually has cleaner audio than nano, and its batteries - different in the 80GB (30-36 hours for audio, 5-6 hours for video) and 160GB (40-58 hours audio, 7-9 hours video) models - can be much stronger, particularly for music. These features, and a more resilient metal front shell, almost make classic a no-brainer upgrade to the 5G iPod. But the classic doesn't work with most of the 5G's video accessories, and it feels stale by contrast with the bigger-screened iPod touch and iPhone. It's great for music lovers, but not as strong on video as a 2007 iPod should be.





Though some long-time iPod fans were sad to see the iconic white color disappear from the “full-sized iPod” family, Apple’s iPod classic is in all other ways a sequel to those products. It’s a whisker thinner but otherwise the same footprint as the fifth-generation iPod, preserving its polished steel back, top headphone port and Hold switch, and bottom-mounted Dock Connector for use with most past accessories (except video add-ons). And it still includes the Dock Adapter, USB cable, and Earphones from last year’s model. The front metal shells use identical silver to the nano and shuffle, but a darker-than-nano black.



The iPod nano and iPod classic share an interface that’s graphically enhanced over pre-2007 iPods. It begins with a split screen that features scrollable text on one side and floating art from your audio, video, and photo collection on the right. When you’re browsing individual songs or artists, additional details are provided in smaller text; a Cover Flow mode similar to the one in iTunes, the iPhone, and iPod touch lets you browse your albums with artwork, titles, and artists on screen. Everything else has been given a visual overhaul, with better album art, searching, photo thumbnails, video captions, and settings; the only things lost are the prior iPod’s photo transitions, and on-TV translucent overlays.



iPod classic-specific Accessories: **Cases + Armbands****B+**
\$30**Incase
Leather Sleeve**

Better priced and more protective than its cousin for iPod touch, Incase's **Leather Sleeve for iPod classic** is a highly attractive black leather holder that covers around 80% of classic's body. An integrated belt clip on the back matches the face and sides. We'd easily pick this over Incase's \$30 black Neoprene version, but if you're looking for pink, go Neoprene.

**B**
\$25**Pacific Rim Tech
Quartz Case**

It's not flashy, but it works: PRT's **Quartz Case** is made from hard clear plastic and has your choice of white or black grips on the sides. These grips lock the two halves of the case together, supporting classic when it's tossed into a pocket or bag, and when you pop the slim rear kickstand out to prop it up for video viewing. It also works with 5G iPods.

**B+**
\$35**Marware Sport-
suit Convertible**

Similar but not identical to Marware's iPod nano armband, **Sport-suit Convertible for iPod classic** includes the bicep-ready soft band, standalone Orca-skin neoprene case, a belt clip, cleaning cloth, and one new piece: a hard front lid. You can attach or detach the lid as you prefer, adding a second layer of protection to the fully covered classic face.



Multi-iPod Accessories: Audio, Video + Radio Expanders



C
\$49

Apple AV Cables

We're not happy that Apple's charging a ridiculous \$49 for its latest **Composite** or **Component AV Cables** - in fact, our C rating should warn you off buying them - but they're currently the only options that guarantee video output from all iPod and iPhone models. The steep price buys both the semi-flimsy video cable and an USB Power Adapter.



A-
\$60

XtremeMac MicroMemo

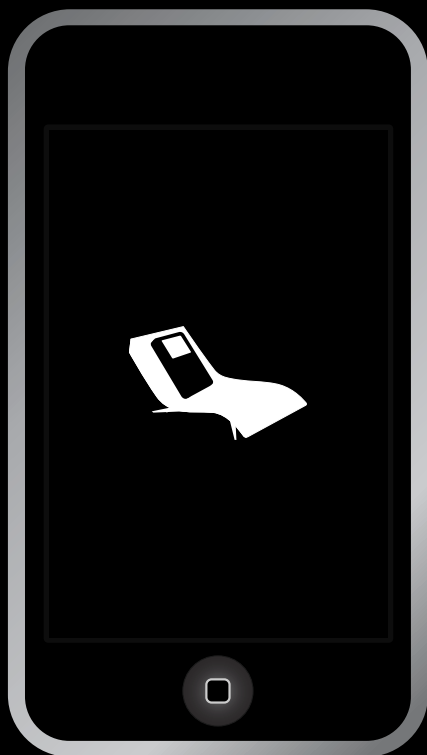
iPods - the iPod classic and nano, at least - can record audio, and **MicroMemo** is still our favorite add-on for this purpose. Equipped with a repositionable gooseneck microphone and a port for line-in recording, it accesses the iPods' Voice Memo screen so you can pick CD-quality or lower-rate modes. Belkin's TuneTalk Stereo is also good.



A-
\$49

Apple iPod Radio Remote

Want to add radio to your iPod nano or classic? The **Radio Remote**, which looks like an iPod shuffle with a Dock Connector cable on its bottom, lets you tune FM radio stations on a cool on-screen dial, save as many presets as you want, and even see text messages encoded into certain stations' broadcasts. It doesn't work with iPod touch, at least yet.



iPodtouch

8-16 GB - 22-28 Hour Battery - Music - Photos - Videos - Internet - \$299-399 US

There may never have been an iPod as polarizing as the **iPod touch**, a potentially incredible device let down by sloppy execution. Though many people are intrigued by the device's iPhone-like 3.5", 480x320-pixel widescreen display, and its addition of wireless Internet browsing via an integrated 802.11b/g Wi-Fi antenna, others - including us - can't help but see it as a let-down, limited by sub-iPod classic sound quality, battery life, and capacity, all at a higher price. In fact, you'll pay \$100 more than a \$199 iPod nano and you get a bigger screen and Internet browser, but lose games, battery life, and a lot of accessory compatibility; you may also get a bum screen.

From its casing to its interface, iPod touch was seemingly designed to remind users that it's not as good as the iPhone, and it succeeds. But it also gives early iPod adopters, especially those outside the U.S., a chance to play with the new touchscreen-based interface they'll be using in future iPod models. In six years of publishing, we've never rated an iPod as low as the iPod touch; our limited recommendation reflects our expectation that Apple will deliver a higher-quality, more capacious top-end iPod in the near future.



iLounge rating **B-**

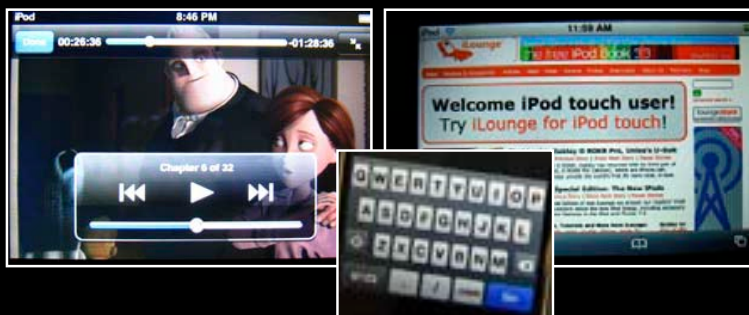
Bigger Screen, Bigger Art

With one caveat, album art, photos, and videos look better on iPod touch than on any other iPod: the large, wide screen uses an orientation sensor to flip automatically from tall to wide, making the most of whatever image it's displaying.



Go Wide, See More Detail

Videos and some web pages are best viewed in horizontal orientation, where the screen's width lets you see details you'd never make out on a smaller iPod. On-screen keyboards appear for many languages, allowing text and URL entry.



Extras and iTunes Wi-Fi

Apple includes the same calendar, contacts, and calculator features on iPod touch as on iPhone, but you can't edit calendar events or really use most contact info. The iTunes Wi-Fi Music Store lets you buy music directly from iPod touch.



Mostly Familiar Pack-Ins

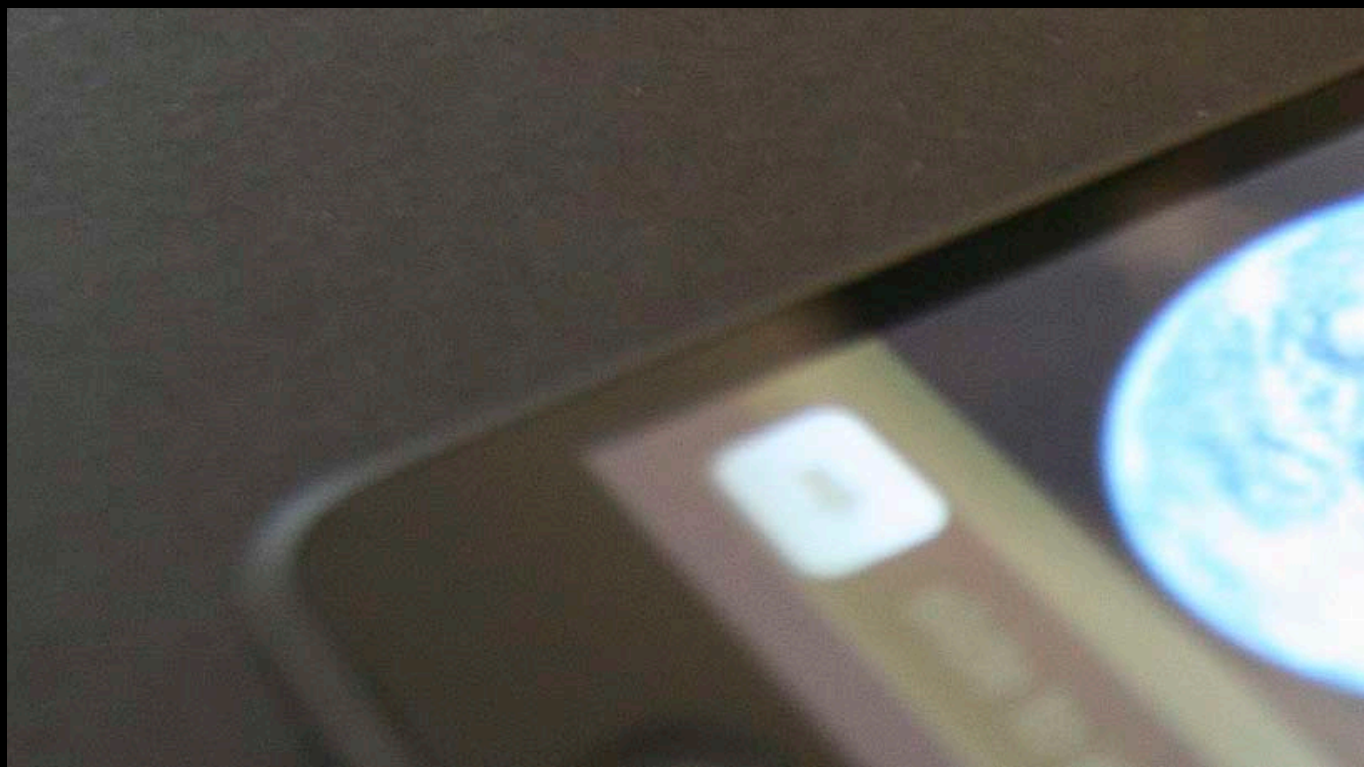
In addition to earbuds, a USB cable, and a dock adapter, iPod touch includes a screen black cleaning cloth and a small clear plastic stand to prop it up for wide viewing.



Troubled Screens: Being Fixed?

Many early iPod touch units shipped with screens that didn't properly display blacks, leading shadows to invert (far right). Apple claims to be fixing them, but our most recent one has problems.





iPod touch-specific Accessories: Cases and Armbands

**A-**
\$20**Griffin
iClear**

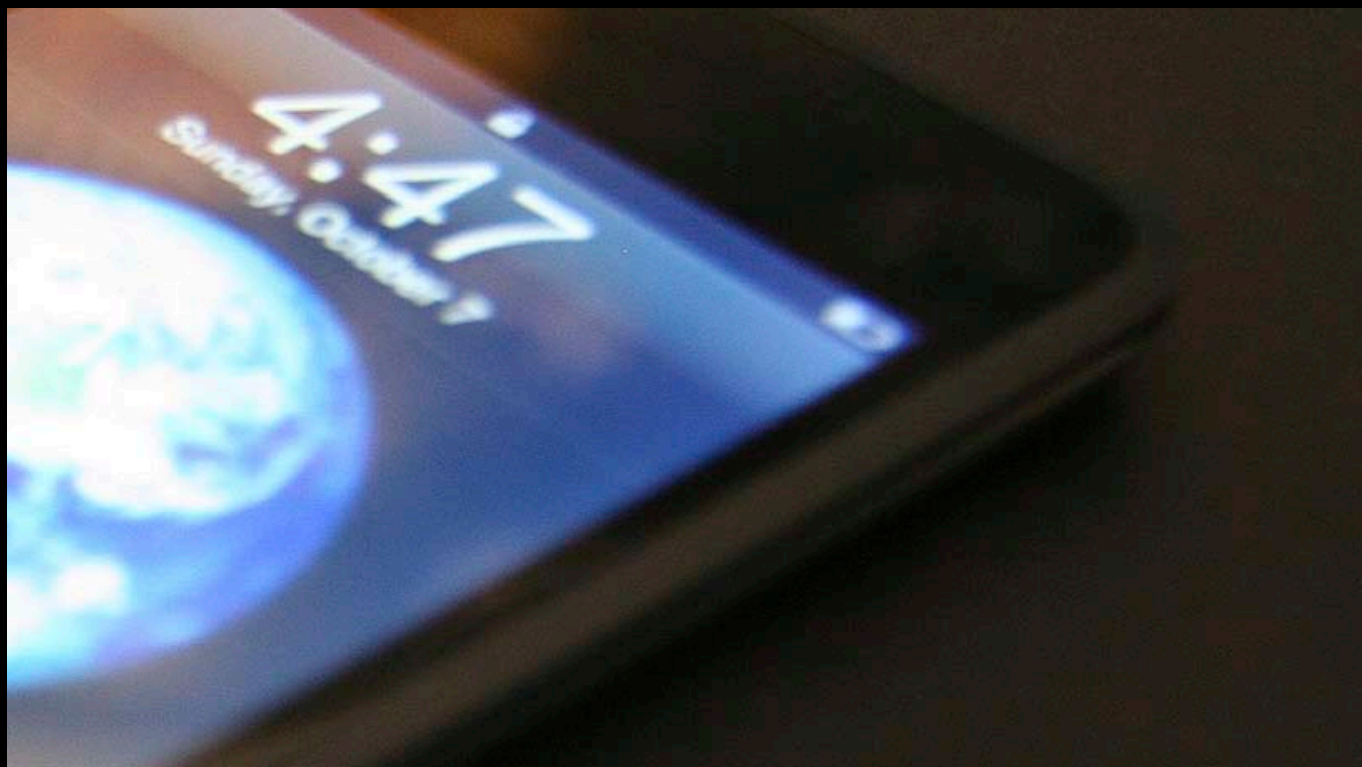
The best iPod touch case we've seen is **iClear**, a reasonably-priced clear hard plastic shell with a completely transparent front half and a frosted rear half. As with the company's earlier iClears, this one provides unfettered access to the iPod's controls, screen, and ports; it's just narrow enough to fit in iPod Universal Docks, too. It's simple, and it works.

**B**
\$30**Belkin Leather
Sleeve**

On the inside, it's etched honeycomb; on the outside, it's contrast-stitched leather in black or pink. **Leather Sleeve** is one of those "wow, that's sharp" cases that you don't see enough of any more, with clean lines and, thanks to an included film screen protector, enough protection to pass muster. We'd like a little more top/bottom coverage.

**A-**
\$30**DLO
Action Jacket**

Of all the **Action Jacket** neoprene cases with armbands DLO has released for new iPods, the iPod touch version is the best, thanks to a fully protective clear plastic screen shield that helps you cover almost all of touch, save its bottom corners and Sleep/Wake button. You can pull the armband and use it as a case with the included belt clip.



Multi-iPod Accessories: Film and Other Add-Ons



B+
\$15

Power Support Anti-Glare Film

Japan's Power Support makes two types of **Film** for both iPod touch and iPhone: one that's crystal clear and makes it impossible for anyone to see that you're protecting the screen, and this one, that's matte finished to prevent light from glaring off the surface into your eyes. Which you'll prefer is a personal choice, but each has two pieces per pack.



B+
\$20+

Belkin **Sport** Armband

Making a good armband isn't hard: protect as much as possible given what people actually need during workouts. Available for iPod touch (\$20) and iPhone (\$30), Belkin's neoprene **Sport Armband** does great: save for a slit that provides headphone port access, it covers literally everything. A small pocket lets you hold a gym key inside, too.



B+
\$10

Belkin TuneTie

Simple? Yes. But we've come to actually like Belkin's earphone cord managers - the standard **TuneTie** is \$10 for a three-pack with either standard iPod- or vivid iPod nano-like face colors, while **TuneTie Metal** sells for \$15 and matches the chromed backs of nanos, classics, and touches, or the front accents of iPhone. Only the cheaper TuneTies hold the buds inside.

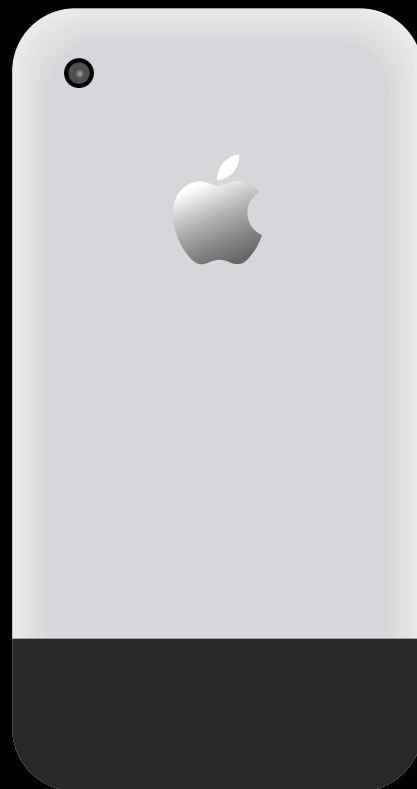


iPhone

8 GB - 24-38 Hour Battery - GSM Phone - Music - Photos - Videos - Internet - \$399 US

You probably already know what **iPhone** is, and there's a good chance that you've already decided whether to buy one. But if you haven't, it's worth noting the positives: Apple's first mobile phone delivers surprisingly excellent call quality over world-standard GSM networks. It offers convenient, almost computer-quality access to the Internet via a web browser, e-mail program, and optimized map, weather, stock, and YouTube applications, which are available wherever you can access EDGE wireless data towers, or wherever else you can find an 802.11b/g wireless network. And it plays iPod music, photos, and videos at or above the quality of last year's (and some of this year's) models.

When the iPhone launched at \$499-\$599 price points, many people balked on numbers alone, but at \$399 for an 8GB model, the only real sticking points today are capacity, physical size, accessory compatibility, and Apple's requirement that you sign an extended cell phone contract with one of its partners - the U.S.'s AT&T, U.K.'s O2, France's Orange, or Germany's T-Mobile. You'll have to decide whether to hold off for more capacious or smaller models, but this one only gets more compelling as its price falls.



It's An iPod touch, Plus Lots

Apple's iPhone bundle is generous: it includes the standard pack-ins, plus a dock, charger, cleaning cloth, and microphone-equipped earphones. iPhone also adds built-in speakers and side volume buttons to iPod touch.



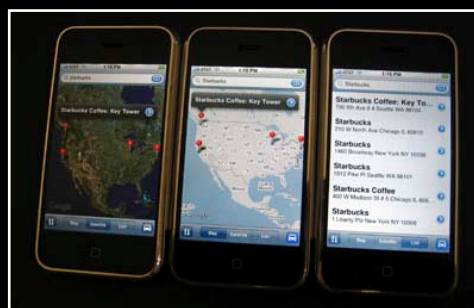
Communications Features

iPhone is a great communications device. Its on-screen numeric keypad eases domestic or international dialing, but its contacts list makes calling even simpler. Visual Voicemail helps you skip messages; E-mail access is good, not great, and SMS texting works well, but can be pricey (next pages).



Google Maps, But No GPS

A special version of Google Maps is one of iPhone's showcase features, letting you call up address lists, satellite images and turn-by-turn maps for millions of locations. Since iPhone lacks GPS, you'll need to tell it your starting point, the only inconvenience.



Stocks, Weather, Other Widgets

In addition to iPod touch's features, iPhone's main menu provides one-click access to stock data for any company, weather for your choice of multiple cities, and a notepad with keyboard.



Music, Video, Photos & iTunes

iPhone's music, video, photos, and iTunes Wi-Fi Store features are just like iPod touch's, but you also get a built-in camera that takes really nice pictures, which can be e-mailed or synced. More details are in our Free iPod Book 3.3.



iPhone Benefits

Why is iPhone still Apple's "best iPod ever?" Here are just a few of the many reasons.



Camera

Only iPhone can simultaneously take, store, and e-mail photographs no matter where you are in the world - assuming you have Wi-Fi or EDGE network access. The 2.0-Megapixel shots look quite good.



Dock

Apple bundles a well-designed charging and audio dock with iPhone, made specifically to let you do speakerphone calls or output audio while you're charging. You also get a wall adapter.



Speaker

Unlike any iPod, iPhone lets you play back music and the audio portions of videos through a speaker on its left bottom. It's addictive, and convenient for times when you forget your earphones.



Body

iPhone's aluminum back and glass face are more scratch-resistant than the plastic fronts and polished steel backs of past iPods. Body film protectors or a case will help, but they're not as necessary here.

iPhone Gotchas, Part 1

From storage to wireless features, understand iPhone before you buy it.



Memory

The 8GB iPhone has only 7.25GB of usable space for contacts, music, videos, and photos, thanks to its storage of the OS X operating system on its flash RAM chips. Future iPhones will have more storage, making it easier to carry an iPod-like library around.



Bluetooth

Unlike iPod touch, iPhone has Bluetooth 2.0+EDR built in, enabling it to work with wireless phone call headsets. But so far, Apple does not support stereo headsets or true music broadcasting from iPhone. It is only experimenting with this feature in its new Leopard OS.



GSM/EDGE

Apple picked the world's most compatible voice calling standard, quad-band GSM, so iPhone can roam (at high cost) on cell networks in almost every foreign country. It also picked EDGE, an outdated data standard that is widespread in the US, less so outside.



Wi-Fi

Indoors, iPhone lets you use 802.11b or 802.11g networks to get near-PC/Mac Internet speeds for its various data-dependent features; U.K. users also get free Wi-Fi at Cloud hotspots. Otherwise, when you're outdoors, iPhone switches to the slower EDGE network for all data.

Pricing	AT&T U.S.A	O2 U.K.	T-Mobile Germany	Orange France
8GB iPhone	\$399	£269	€399	399€
Minutes and SMS Text Messages Per Month	\$60 /450m 200 SMS/Unl. data	£35 /200m* 200 SMS/200MB data	€49 /100m* 40 SMS/200MB data	TBD€
	\$80 /900m 200 SMS/Unl. data	£45 /600m* 500 SMS /200MB data	€69 /200m* 150 SMS/1GB data	TBD€
	\$100 /1350m 200 SMS/Unl. data	£55 /1200m* 500 SMS/200MB data	€89 /1000m* 300 SMS/5GB data	TBD€
Activation Fee	\$36	None	€25	TBD€
Extra Fees	\$10 /1500 SMS \$20 /Unl. SMS	£TBD	€0.19 /SMS	TBD€
Battery Repair	\$86	£79	€119	119€
Cancellation	\$175	£Balance	€TBD	70€

iPhone Gotchas, Part 2

The actual cost of iPhone over its lifetime is substantially higher than the price of the hardware.

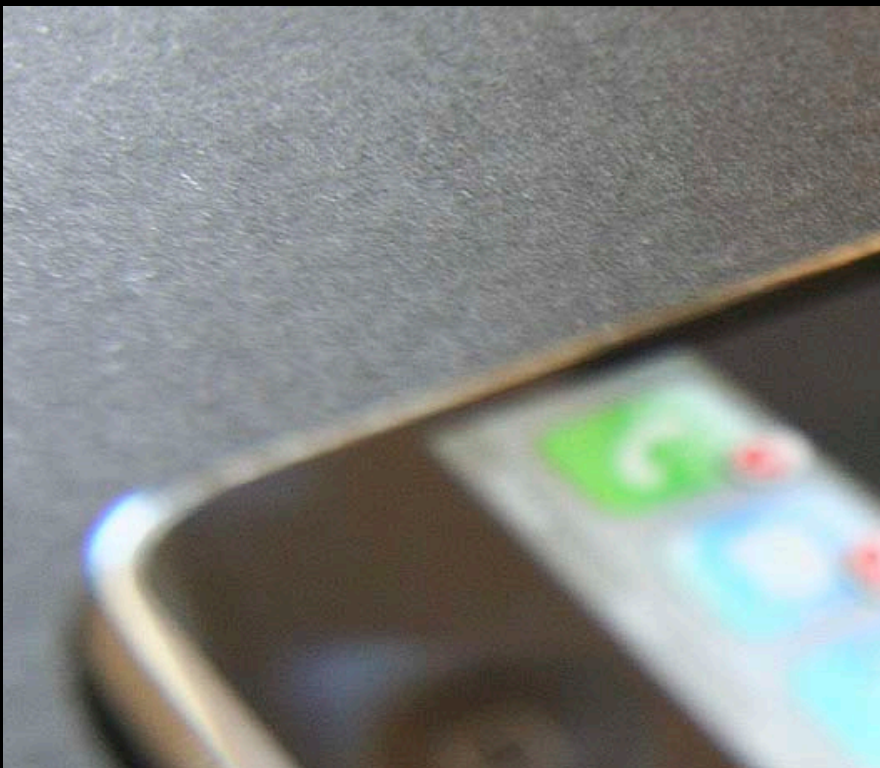
In addition to the purchase of the iPhone, you'll need to pay **recurring service charges** for both voice and data services. AT&T's lowest-priced iPhone plan is \$60 per month, with 450 minutes of standard talk time, unlimited iPhone data use, and 200 text messages. After paying a one-time \$36 activation fee, this adds up to a minimum charge of \$1,875 over iPhone's mandatory 24-month lifetime. European buyers may avoid certain contractual obligations, but will still have to pay for iPhone's monthly data service fees in some way or another, unless they hack the phone and opt to use it in a crippled, iPod touch-like form. Note that while AT&T's plans charge users for incoming and outgoing calls; European plans charge only for outgoing calls.

Several hidden costs are worth considering, too. You'll generally have to pay extra each month for more than a minimal number of **text messages**. There's also the cost of out-of-warranty **battery replacement**, which is outrageously priced relative to most mobile phones, offset by your ability to buy a slightly less expensive AppleCare warranty extension from Apple instead. You may have to pay a **cancellation fee** if you want to leave your contract before it expires. That fee may be fixed at a certain amount, a pro-rated portion of a fixed amount, or a sum equal to the balance remaining in your contract term. In Germany, you'll find your data speeds cut by 2/3 if you exceed certain **data limits**. If any of these issues troubles you, consider a different phone.


B+
\$70+

Vaja iVolution + Top Holsters

They're expensive. They're less than ideal in protection. But they're also the nicest-looking leather cases for the iPhone. From the closed-face **Top** and **Top SP Holsters** (B+, \$70+) to the open-faced **iVolution** (B, \$80), Vaja offers leather color selections and quality that no rival can match, in styles that are definitely hot. If you can afford them, consider them.



iPhone-specific Accessories: Cases + Armbands


A-
\$15

Marware SportGrip

Currently unbeaten on value and protection, **SportGrip** is the rare iPhone case that doesn't seem seriously overpriced relative to what's in the box: a well-made, grippy silicone rubber case, a clear film screen protector, and a cleaning cloth. Available in clear or black, it's also sold in equally great forms for iPod classic and touch models.


B
\$35

Inc case Sports Multifunction

Less protective than Belkin's armbands but more versatile, the **Sports Multifunction** includes a case with a non-detachable belt clip, an armband, and a handstrap. You can wear it on your bicep, hand hold it, or attach it to your waist while working out, or just use the case sans attachments. All that's missing is screen protection; what's here is sharp.



iPhone-specific Accessories: Cases, Bluetooth, and Car



B
\$40

iSkin Revo

Though Marware owns the low-end silicone case bracket with SportGrips, iSkin has tackled the high-end with **Revo**, a one- or two-tone case sold in six colors. Each comes with a hard screen protector and optional privacy film, which makes the iPhone's screen harder for lookie-loos to see. Dotted side grips offset the case's ease-of-use issues.



B+
\$100

Plantronics Voyager 520

We have yet to see a near-perfect wireless headset for the iPhone, but **Voyager 520** comes the closest yet: comfortable and featuring Bluetooth 2.0 technology for easy, reliable voice connections with the iPhone, it's not too big, heavy, or geeky, either. Packed with a wall charger, you can talk for 8 hours; it lacks only for noise cancellation.



A-
\$30+

ProClip Tilt Swivel Holder

There are many iPod- and iPhone car mounts out there, but ProClip's **Tilt Swivel Holder** is generally better. With a piece that holds the iPhone and turns to your preferred orientation, and another piece (\$30) specific to your car, you can mount and access the iPhone easily and safely while driving. Missing: the ability to hold an encased iPhone.



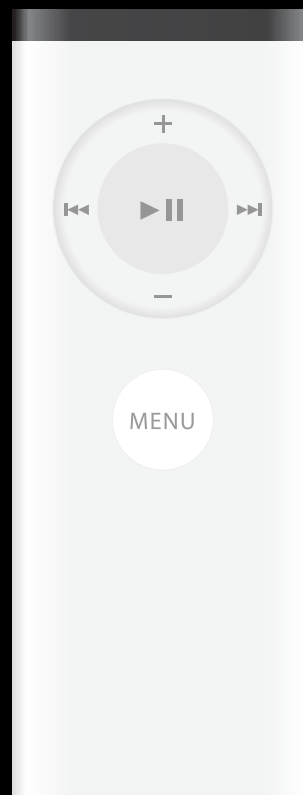
Apple TV

40-160 GB - Music - Photos - Videos - YouTube - \$299-399 US

The concept behind **Apple TV** is entirely logical: people often want to watch their videos on televisions, rather than on pocket-sized displays. So why not offer the equivalent of an iPod minus the screen - a device with a similar hard drive, the ability to connect to your preferred home television, and wireless access to your computer's video library?

Taken for what it is, Apple TV is a good but not great alternative to just connecting an iPod full of videos to a television set. It has the ability to display higher-quality video than any iPod, and uses a clean menuing system that's accessed via a simple Infrared Apple Remote control. Together, they provide access to music, photos, TV shows, videos, podcasts, and movie trailers, as well as YouTube videos. Apple has pledged to add more features to increase Apple TV's utility, as well.

But certain elements of Apple TV come across as blatant money grabs. It doesn't come with cables to connect to any TV, and Apple's decision to try and sell iTunes users a second hard drive and display device rather than just adding on-TV menus to its iPods is a competitive weakness, especially given how slowly and inconveniently the Apple TV is filled with content. More than price drops will be necessary to reinvigorate it.



iLounge rating **B**



Now almost identical to the version of Front Row included with Mac OS X Leopard, Apple TV's interface is like a flipped version of the new iPod nano and iPod classic menu system: artwork and iconography appears on the left of your widescreen TV, while iPod-like menu options appear on the right. Here, movies, TV shows, and YouTube have three separate headings rather than hiding under a "videos" menu, and music has a clean Now Playing screen that flips its contents left and right to avoid burning into your screen. When video is playing back, overlays appear on-screen to help you skip from chapter to chapter, or move smoothly backwards or forwards. Photos can be synchronized from your PC or Mac, and viewed in simple slideshows, or as an alternative to album art as a cascading screensaver. No volume controls are built in; you'll need to adjust them with your TV or AV system's remote control.



Apple TV is sold in a threadbare package with only three hardware components: the device itself, a power cord, and a six-button remote control. You supply the audio and video cables yourself, connecting them to the unit's back. Inside the Apple TV chassis is a super-stripped-down Macintosh computer designed solely to play back media, connect to your home wireless 802.11b, g, or n network, and transfer content either from an iTunes-equipped computer or Apple's iTunes Store servers. You can't currently connect a keyboard, a mouse, or a hard drive to the device.

Though it's designed to be used wirelessly, Apple TV is equipped with one USB and one Ethernet port, and you can connect it with an Ethernet wire for substantially faster synchronization speeds. Its rear also includes HDMI AV, component video, stereo analog audio, and optical audio ports; cables are sold separately for \$20-30 each.





Apple TV-specific Accessories: Cables, Switches and Remotes



B+
\$20

XtremeMac XHD Cables

Audio and video cables that are both nice-looking and well-made are expensive - except for the **XtremeHD line** from XtremeMac. The \$20 HDMI cable is a great deal for a branded, shielded cable, while the same-priced component video and optical/TOSLink audio cables are equally excellent. They match the Apple TV perfectly, too.



B
\$100

XtremeMac XHD HDMI Switcher

Most HDTVs are low on HDMI ports - the easiest way to get high-def video and audio out of devices like Apple TV. XtremeMac's wall-powered XtremeHD **HDMI Switcher** provides an alternative, letting you cleanly turn one HDMI port into four, with an Infrared remote control to toggle ports. It fits right under Apple TV, with similar styling.



NR
\$250

Logitech Harmony 880

Watch enough TV and you'll come to hate remote controls: there's one for the set, one for the DVD, one for the Apple TV, one for the TiVo, one for the speakers, and so on. With **Harmony 880**, there's just one for everything, and it's designed with buttons that mimic the TiVo's, common TVs and DVD players. With a PC or Mac, it's easy to program, too.

(*) speck
best case scenario



Life's a Party.

**So who cares if your iPod
ends up in the ice bucket?!**

We do! At Speck, our goal is to keep your favorite stuff safe and protected, so you can enjoy life without worrying about the little things. Like nanos. And shuffles. Check out more iPod cases at www.speckproducts.com!



Where to Buy Pods

Shop around before you buy an iPod or accessories! Prices can vary considerably from store to store, especially on add-ons: you might save enough on one item to help you buy another, or add an iTunes Gift Card or AppleCare to your purchase. We looked at eight stores to see whose prices were best on this year's top items; here's what we found.

iPod/Add-On	Apple	Amazon	Best Buy	Buy.com	Circuit City	Fry's	Target	Walmart
shuffle 1GB	\$79	\$78	\$80	\$79	\$80	\$79	\$80	\$79
nano 4GB	\$149	\$140	\$150	\$159	\$150	\$149	\$150	\$148
nano 8GB	\$199	\$190	\$200	\$209	\$200	\$190	\$200	\$198
classic 80GB	\$249	\$248	\$250	\$249	\$250	\$240	\$250	\$248
classic 160GB	\$349	\$344	\$350	\$348	\$350	\$340	\$350	\$348
touch 8GB	\$299	\$300	\$300	\$307	\$300	\$299	\$300	\$298
touch 16GB	\$399	\$399	\$400	\$406	\$400	\$390	\$400	\$398
iPhone	\$399	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pure-Fi								
Anywhere	\$150	\$143	\$150	\$154	\$130	N/A	N/A	N/A
iTrip Auto	\$70	\$37	N/A	\$37	\$85	\$70	\$60	\$49
TuneFM	\$50	\$39	\$50	\$39	\$50	N/A	\$50	\$49
iM600	\$150	\$97	\$150	\$130	\$130	\$150	\$150	\$150
Free Shipping	\$50+	\$30+	Some	Some	\$24+	No	Some	No
Coupon	No	No	No	\$10 off	No	No	No	No
Online	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Storefront	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Apple/Apple.com

The only vendor with engraving and iPhones, but restock fee is on high side.

Amazon.com

Often has best deal on add-ons, some iPods. Free shipping, often no sales tax.

Best Buy

Sometimes offers discounts, exclusive add-ons; prepare for return hassles.

Buy.com

A Google Checkout coupon offers \$10 off for new buyers; some good deals.

Circuit City

Rare weekly deals or bundles may entice you, return policies may be problems.

Fry's

Some hot iPod deals are offset by return hassles/poor service. Bundles offered.

Target

No great iPod deals but often prices low-end add-ons well. Returns are easy.

Walmart

Dollar price "savings" offset by tax and/or shipping. Limited stock in stores.

Exclusives

True iPod "exclusives" - items you can't find anywhere else - are rare, but they exist: Apple only sells iPhones through its own stores and those of its few international mobile phone retail partners; it is also the only vendor of PRODUCT (RED) iPod shuffles and iPod nanos. If you need one of these models, start at Apple.com or in a bricks-and-mortar Apple Store. Similarly, retailers such as Best Buy and Apple sometimes score "exclusives" on iPod accessories, such as Best Buy's exclusive on Griffin's Evolve. Can't find a local store? Buy from the manufacturer's web site.



AppleCare & Gift Cards

Easy to buy and unquestionably useful, **AppleCare** (\$39-59) extends your iPod's warranty for two years, useful given high failure rates of some recent models. And **iTunes Gift Cards** (\$15 and up) or **Amazon Gift Certificates** let you give the gift of music or video choice.



iLounge's iPod Buying Advice

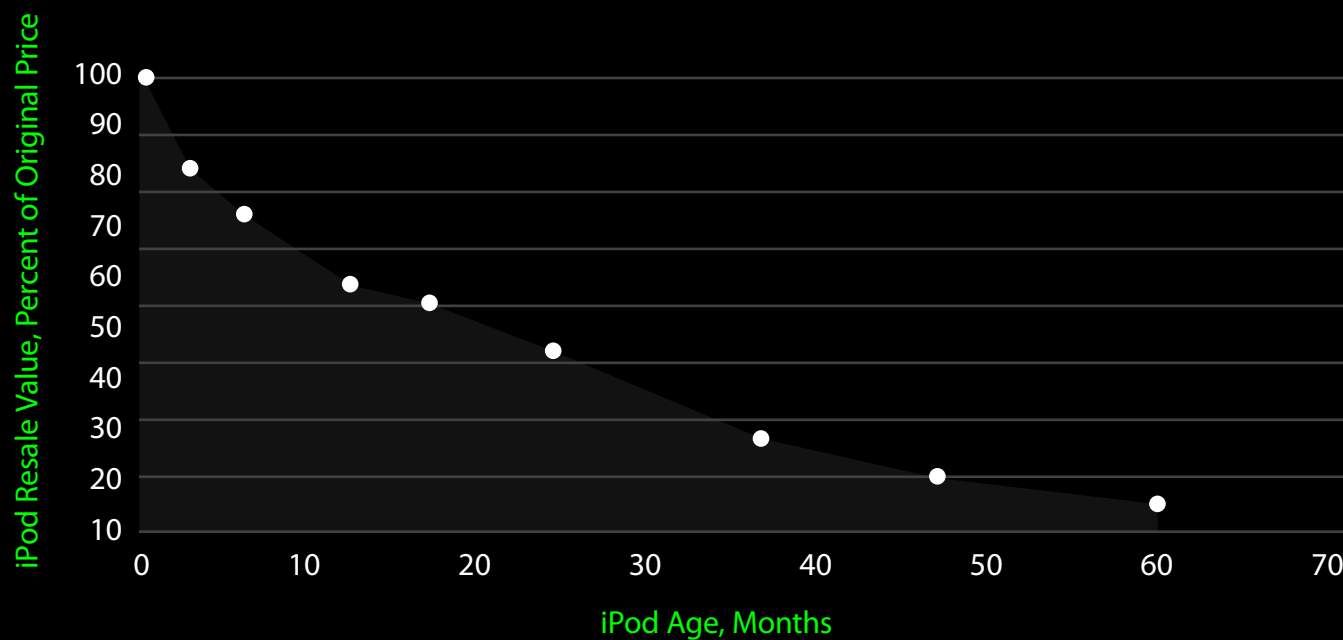
Shop online, except when iPods are newly released. These days, you'll almost always get a better deal from an online merchant than from a physical store - Apple included. But when new iPods come out, Apple's the first place to look.

Save by waiting. Early in an iPod's life, \$5-10 off is great, but months later, you may save \$30.

Consider Apple refurb. Unfortunately, defective iPods, iPhones, and Apple TVs are becoming more common, but someone else's bad device has (probably) been fixed and is waiting to be resold to you through the Apple Store's Special Deals section at a big discount.

Used iPods

iPods generally lose half of their initial value after 18 months, though high-priced models tend to command bigger premiums than more common low-end models. But with the release of the video-crippled iPod classic, and the wider third-generation iPod nano, will the older fifth-generation iPod and second-gen nano models continue to be in demand?



Brand New	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	1.5 Years	2 Years	3 Years	4 Years	5 Years
100%	83%	76%	62%	51%	42%	28%	20%	15%
\$349	\$290+	\$265+	\$216+	\$178+	\$147+	\$98+	\$70+	\$52+
\$249	\$207	\$189	\$154	\$127	\$105	\$70	\$50	\$37
\$149	\$124-	\$113-	\$92-	\$76-	\$63-	\$42-	\$30-	\$22-

Using the Chart to Estimate Your New iPod's Price Over Time

We've been taking samples from eBay iPod auctions for years, and created this table to roughly estimate a new iPod's likely value months and years after its first release date. The curve is only an average: iPods sold for more than \$249 tend to hold value better, and can be 10% or more above the percentages below; smaller iPods can fall 15% below the curve. Our sampled prices come from individuals' final selling prices for working iPods with only trivial included add-ons.

Every iPod Model From 2001-2006, Detailed with eBay Prices

On the pages that follow, you'll see every discontinued iPod model, along with its capacities, stated battery life, features and list price. Since several factors can influence the actual value of a given iPod, we've listed each one's new features, pack-ins, and major issues/problems, along with the average eBay selling price for each specific model number afterwards. Different model numbers can denote small changes made after release, so it's important to know your model.

iPod shuffle (2G)



11-2006

1GB - 12 Hr Battery
Music - Data
\$79 US

Breakthroughs: Apple's smallest, most wearable iPod to date, available in nine total colors (five current), each with a rear belt clip. Metal replaces prior model's plastic.

Pack-Ins: 2003 or 2007 iPod earphones, USB dock.

Issues: Least impressive, highest distortion sound in family. Even less add-on compatibility than prior model. Can't charge and play audio at the same time through speakers.

eBay Values: Silver 11/06 (MA564LL/A)	\$46.41
Blue 11/06 (MA949LL/A)	\$48.94
Green 11/06 (MA951LL/A)	\$45.82
Orange 11/06 (MA953LL/A)	\$47.81
Pink 11/06 (MA947LL/A)	\$34.20

Our Advice: Buying Used iPods

Once every two years, Apple replaces a popular iPod with a new model that's not as good in some way. This year, Apple locked the video-out features of its latest iPods, making 5G models worth re-considering: popular accessories featured in last year's Buyers' Guide can now be had for \$50-100, transforming an old iPod into a spectacular video travel companion. Similarly, other early iPods featured on the next pages often offer greater compatibility with older, less expensive accessories. Before making a purchase, we'd advise used iPod buyers to factor in the cost of a replacement battery (see our latest **Free iPod Book**), the warranty, and the 'cool factor' of having something new. You can decide which is best for you.

Our Advice: Selling Your iPod

Nine iLounge tips to max out your sale.

- **Remember September.** Wait until the annual iPod refresh and you'll get less.
- **Include the model number in the title.**
- **Indicate quality in the listing.** If you say "as-is," expect to get less.
- **Use Apple's official photo on the search page.** For some reason, this helps prices.
- **Keep your box and pack-ins.** People pay more when you sell everything together.
- **Don't bundle other add-ons.** They won't help your price and can be sold separately.
- **Include photos of all the included items.** People want to know what they're getting.
- **Do not include "Windows/Mac" in title.**
- **Charge reasonable shipping.** You'll get much less for your iPod if you overcharge.



iPod

10-2001

5/10GB - 10 Hr Battery
Music - Data
\$399-499 US

Breakthroughs: Apple's original cigarette pack-sized 5GB music player uses intuitive five buttons and moving wheel controls plus an easy-to-read white backlit screen, features iconic clear/white plastic and polished steel case design. Works as FireWire hard disk with Macintosh computers.

Pack-Ins: FireWire-to-FireWire cable, original FireWire wall charger, original iPod earphones.

Issues: High price, Mac only, limited battery life. Retrospectively fewer accessories than newer iPod models.

eBay Values:

5GB (M8513LL/A, M8541LL/A, M8697LL/A)	\$65.30
10GB (M8709LL/A)	\$61.36



iPod (2G)

7-2002

10/20GB - 10 Hr Battery
Music - Data
\$399-499 US

Breakthroughs: Moving scroll wheel replaced with touch-sensitive surface. Separate PC versions introduced, enabling PC users with FireWire ports to transfer music with MusicMatch software, use as a hard disk. Peak capacity upped to 20GB with old 5GB model falling to \$299.

Pack-Ins: FireWire cable, wall charger, original iPod earphones, carrying case, remote control.

Issues: High price, FireWire standard isn't PC-friendly, limited battery life.

eBay Values:

10GB (M8737LL/A, M8740LL/A)	\$63.56
20GB (M8738LL/A, M8741LL/A)	\$68.05



iPod (3G)

4-2003

10/15/20/30/40GB - 8 Hr Battery
Music - Photos* - Games* - Data
\$299-499 US

Breakthroughs: Touch-sensitive buttons, thinner casings, USB support, top + bottom accessory ports, photo transfer and audio recording add-ons, bigger drives, built-in games.

Pack-Ins: FireWire cable & adapter, wall charger, and 2003 iPod earphones. Some include dock, case, and remote.

Issues: Weaker batteries, screen backlight quality variations.

eBay Values: 10GB (M8976LL/A)	\$62.33
15GB (with Dock, M8946LL/A)	\$55.83
15GB (w/o Dock, M9460LL/A)	\$65.50
20GB (M9244LL/A)	\$75.43
30GB (M8948LL/A)	\$98.93
40GB (M9245LL/A)	\$93.21

iPod mini



2-2004

4GB - 8 Hr Battery
Music - Games* - Data
\$249 US

Breakthroughs: Microdrive storage creates smallest iPods ever, now with 5 body colors and tiny Click Wheel controller, integrating all buttons into one surface.

Pack-Ins: 2003 iPod earphones, belt clip, USB and FireWire cables, wall charger.

Issues: Low capacity per dollar, limited battery life, not designed for use with photo sync or recorder add-ons.

eBay Values: 4GB, silver (M9160LL/A)	\$53.95
4GB, blue (M9436LL/A)	\$58.29
4GB, pink (M9435LL/A)	\$56.73
4GB, green (M9434LL/A)	\$62.25
4GB, gold (M9437LL/A)	\$57.29

iPod (4G/U2)



7/10-2004

20/40GB - 12 Hr Battery
Music - Photos* - Games* - Data
\$299-399 US

Breakthroughs: Replaces separate touch-sensitive buttons and wheel of third-generation iPod with iPod mini's Click Wheel controls, improves battery life, adds USB cable. Black and red U2 iPod offered for the first time as an alternative to the classic white full-sized iPod.

Pack-Ins: 2003 iPod earphones, USB and FireWire cables, wall charger. Dock included with high-end model.

Issues: Slight cheapening of prior iPods' looks.

eBay Values:	
20GB (M9282LL/A)	\$93.06
U2 (M9787LL/A)	\$100.70
40GB (M9268LL/A)	\$110.67

iPod photo



10-2004

20/30/40/60GB - 15 Hr Battery
Music - Photo - Games* - Data
\$499-599 US

Breakthroughs: Takes iPod 4G, improves battery, adds color screen for photo display. Higher peak storage capacity.

Pack-Ins: 2003 iPod earphones, USB cable, wall charger. Dock, AV cable, FireWire cable included with certain models.

Issues: Photo sync is slow, display requires add-ons.

eBay Values: 20GB (Color, MA079LL/A)	\$92.80
20GB U2 (MA127LL/A)	\$N/A
60GB (Color, M9830LL/A)	\$132.02
30GB (Photo, M9829LL/A)	\$119.45
40GB (Photo, M9585LL/A)	\$115.00
60GB (Photo/10-04, M9586LL/A)	\$146.28
60GB (Photo/2-05, M9830LL/A)	\$141.24

iPod shuffle



1-2005

512MB /1GB - 12 Hr Battery
Music - Data
\$99-149 US

Breakthroughs: A complete digital music player in the space of a pack of chewing gum, with simple USB plug. Designed to be worn, features ultra-simplified controls with a large play button surrounded by track skip and volume buttons. "Shuffle" mode lets you play music out of sequence.

Pack-Ins: 2003 iPod earphones, lanyard necklace.

Issues: Screenless interface falls below competitors' lowest-end offerings, highly limited storage capacity, no iPod accessory compatibility.

eBay Values:

512MB (M9724LL/A)	\$29.67
1GB (M9725LL/A)	\$32.54

iPod mini



2-2005

4/6 GB - 18 Hr Battery
Music - Games* - Data
\$199-249 US

Breakthroughs: Radically improved battery performance and lower price than prior mini; brighter body colors.

Pack-Ins: USB cable, belt clip, 2003 iPod earphones.

Issues: No longer includes wall charger, value still so-so.

eBay Values: 4GB Silver (M9800LL/A)	\$76.34
4GB Blue (M9802LL/A)	\$70.76
4GB Pink (M9804LL/A)	\$68.77
4GB Green (M9806LL/A)	\$69.11
6GB Silver (M9801LL/A)	\$63.15
6GB Blue (M9803LL/A)	\$72.18
6GB Pink (M9805LL/A)	\$86.73
6GB Green (M9807LL/A)	\$71.46

iPod nano



9-2005

1/2/4 GB - 14 Hr Battery
Music - Photos* - Games* - Data
\$149-249 US

Breakthroughs: Thinnest iPod ever, now with mini-besting color screen and photo display feature.

Pack-Ins: USB cable, 2003 iPod earphones, dock adapter, simple carrying case (added late 2005).

Issues: Lower battery life and storage capacity than same-priced minis, highly scratchable body, no top add-on port.

eBay Values: 1GB Black (MA352LL/A)	\$67.05
1GB White (MA350LL/A)	\$47.55
2GB Black (MA099LL/A)	\$71.06
2GB White (MA004LL/A)	\$60.93
4GB Black (MA107LL/A)	\$73.53
4GB White (MA005LL/A)	\$67.92



iPod (5G)

10-2005

30/60 GB - 14-20 Hr Battery
Music - Photos - Games - Data
\$299-399 US

Breakthroughs: Screen size boosted to 2.5", video and downloadable game playback added. Interface modestly improved.

Pack-Ins: iPod earphones, USB cable, simple case.

Issues: Short video play time, limited formats. Abandons top-mounted accessories, obsoleting many top add-ons.

eBay Values:

30GB White (MA002LL/A)	\$150.64
30GB Black (MA146LL/A)	\$158.81
U2 (MA452LL/A)	\$N/A
60GB White (MA003LL/A)	\$172.00
60GB Black (MA147LL/A)	\$190.34

iPod nano (2G)



9-2006

2/4/8 GB - 24 Hr Battery
Music - Photos - Games* - Data
\$149-249 US

Breakthroughs: Thinner and less scratchable nano in 6 colors. Much-improved battery, new voice recording feature.

Pack-Ins: USB cable, 2006 iPod earphones.

Issues: Color limited by price, old nano add-on problems.

eBay Values: 2GB Silver (MA477LL/A)	\$69.51
4GB Silver (MA426LL/A)	\$79.42
4GB Blue (MA428LL/A)	\$94.77
4GB Pink (MA489LL/A)	\$103.98
4GB Green (MA487LL/A)	\$94.11
4GB Red (MA725LL/A)	\$100.43
8GB Black (MA497LL/A)	\$128.50
8GB Red (MA899LL/A)	\$128.79



iPod (5.5G)

9-2006

30/80 GB - 14-20 Hr Battery
Music - Photos - Games - Data
\$249-349 US

Breakthroughs: Brighter screen, better video battery life, search feature, superior prices for capacities, highest capacity yet in the iPod family.

Pack-Ins: 2006 iPod earphones, USB cable, simple case.

Issues: Limited video formats, screen size still small by comparison with other portable video devices.

eBay Values:

E30GB White (MA444LL/A)	\$151.83
E30GB Black (MA446LL/A)	\$142.69
E30GB U2 (MA664LL/A)	\$192.00
E80GB White (MA448LL/A)	\$199.43
E80GB Black (MA459LL/A)	\$205.31

THE ACCESSORY Gift Guide

This was an interesting year for iPod and iPhone add-ons.

Every year, we publish a guide to the best accessories we've previously tested, and typically there's some overlap from what we covered in the prior year. Not so this year: many of our favorite up-and-coming add-on categories were destroyed by Apple's decision to lock the video-out capabilities of new iPods; the same decision has forced makers of speakers and other add-ons to unexpectedly cancel or close out products that we'd expected to be in abundance through early 2008. The pages that follow cast a special spotlight on top products we've covered in the past year, but **beware: they may well disappear soon from shelves, and be replaced with more compatible models.**

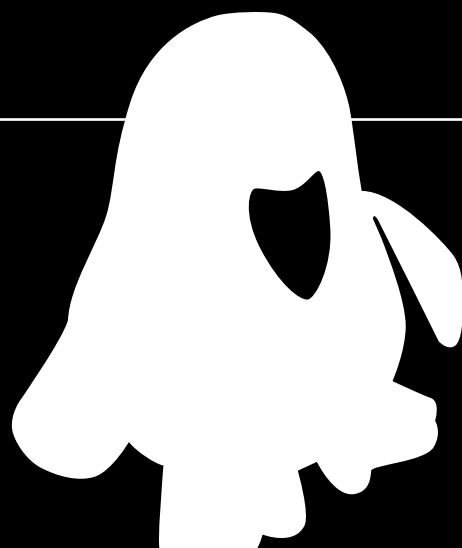
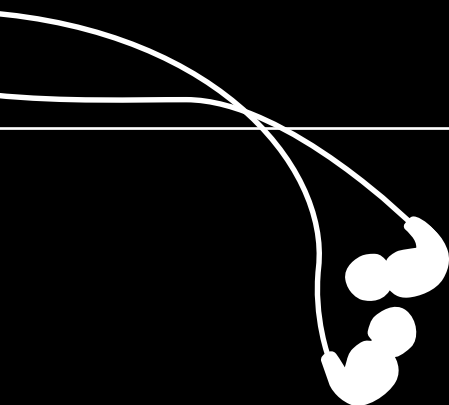
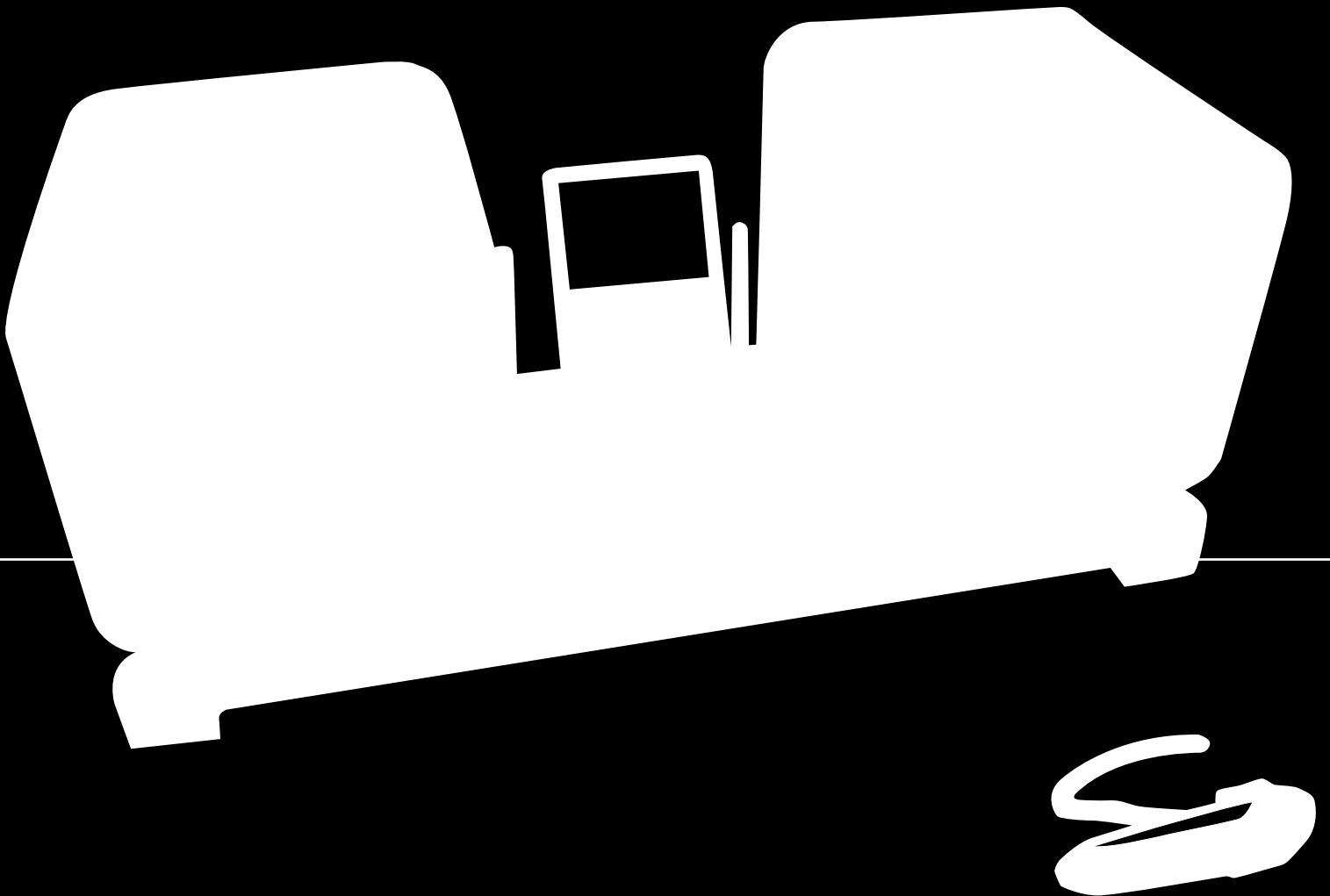


Table of Contents

Clock Radios	64
All-in-One Table Speakers	67
Portable Speakers	68
Premium/Luxury Speakers	69
Wireless Home Audio	70
Headphones & Earphones	72
Gifts for Kids & iPod Games	76
Gifts for Her	82
Charitable Gifts	85
Budget Gifts	86
Speakers as Art	88
Best of the Year Awards	90



Clock Radios



Timex **Ti700** | \$69 | A-

iPod-ready clock radios have come a long way since iHome released the popular iH5 two years ago, and the Timex **Ti700** proves that you needn't spend a lot for nice styling and features. Equipped with dual alarms, an AM/FM radio and a large clock face, the tube-shaped tower has only one speaker inside, but sounds plenty good for the price.



Philips **AJ300D** | \$70 | A-

Stepping up from the Ti700 in most ways is Philips' **AJ300D**, which packs three speakers - one dedicated to great-sounding bass, the others to true stereo sound - and a modern chair-like design. You still get dual alarms, FM radio, and a big clock face, but you'll give up AM radio and a bit of Ti700's backlight adjustment. It's one of our favorites.



iHome **iH8** | \$100 | B+

Though it's shaped the same as the company's old iH5, iHome's new **iH8** offers more features for its \$100 price: AM and FM presets, limited bass and treble controls, and 8 different dimmer settings for its front screen. Like the Ti700, it has a slight edge in radio tuning clarity over the AJ300D, but its bigger, bassier speakers are its major selling point over cheaper competitors.

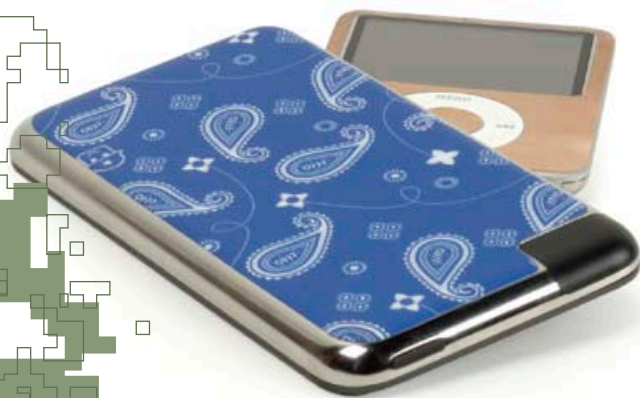


XtremeMac **Luna** | \$150 | A-

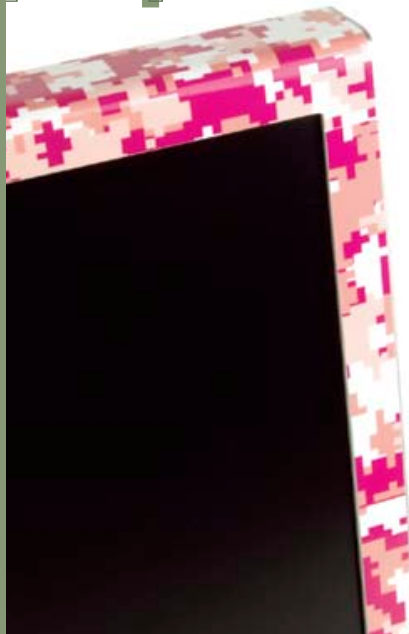
For a \$150 speaker to rate as well or better than a lower-priced competitor means that it does a lot more right. Though it's hard to find in stores now, **Luna** is still the king of all iPod clock radios, with twin alarms that are easier to adjust than any cheaper unit's, a great screen that flips between dark or light at your will, clean styling, and impressive sound quality. The on-board radios are pretty good, but the iPod dock is great.

DIGITAL CAMO

In this day and age you can skin just about anything. Your cell phone for example... It's a device you have with you 24/7. Why not make it look cool? But what's cool? Well if you take a look at what's out there, some companies think it's dolphins swimming in the ocean. Nothing against dolphins...but they belong in the ocean. Not on your phone. Here at Digital Camo we like to create designs that are unique and stylish. We want you to feel good about your skin. Our team of designers and developers are as unique as our products. We offer designs from the wild to the mild and everything in between. We use only the best materials available for all our products. While our skins are thin, they are not too thin. MP3 player skins, cell phone skins, and other selected product skins are made with a durable, extruded, high quality vinyl base for vibrant colors and hi resolution designs. Unlike other skin companies we laminate our skins with a crystal clear vinyl that not only protects the print of your skin, but also helps protect your actual device from nicks and scratches. This process also makes for easier application. Digital Camo skins for most CPU's, external hard drives, and laptops are made with a satin finished vinyl. The satin finish mimics the texture of your desktop device. This allows the device to retain it's feel. Truly a very unique process. While most skins, for this application, have a glossy or shiny look, this unique process allows your skin to have a more matte finish and still retain vibrant colors. All our products are immediately available and ready to ship. But, say you need something a little more unique, a little more custom. We have that handled too. You can go to our website and choose from an array of designs and colors. You can also add your name and choose a type style that suits your personality. Check us out online to see our full line of products. www.digitalcamoskins.com



A NEW PROGRESSION IN EXPRESSION



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iSound: The New Sound[™]
by **dreamGEAR**

the next
best thing to
**being
there**



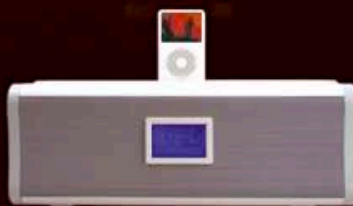
iS inConcert DVD



iS Dream



iS Max



iS Concert to Go



iS TimeTravel



iS Wall



iSound.net: One stop shop for everything iPod

iSound and the iSound logos are either registered trademarks or trademarks. iPod is a registered trademark of Apple Inc. in the US and other countries.

All-in-One Table Speakers

\$150 | A- | Griffin AmpliFi

Minus its glowing front volume knob, AmpliFi isn't sexy: it would look like something out of an Ikea catalog. But it's impossible to fault on sound for the price if you're a bass fan: it's the rare speaker to properly use a down-firing subwoofer, and delivers audio that rivals Bose's twice-as-expensive SoundDock, even at high volumes.



\$230 | B+ | JBL Radial + Radial Micro

If style is a primary factor in your speaker shopping, JBL's recently discounted \$230 Radial and \$130 Radial Micro should be near the top of your list. Circular with an iPod dock in the center, each has built in volume and power buttons, plus a remote control - Radial's works from further distances, appropriate as the bigger system puts out louder sound, and has a dedicated bass driver Micro lacks. Neither runs on batteries; both look great in offices or homes.



\$149 | B+ | Klipsch iGroove SXT

With modern, clean styling that matches iPods and iPhones alike, Klipsch's iGroove SXT is another speaker that comes close to the looks and sound performance of Bose's SoundDock series, only at a much lower price. Considerably more appealing visually than the AmpliFi, SXT's smaller shell is not as strong in the bass department, but fits more easily into tight spaces while still projecting quality stereo sound.



\$300 | A | Logitech Pure-Fi Elite

When Logitech released AudioStation one year ago, it redefined consumer expectations for the \$300 price point: it packed powerful and superb, user-adjustable sound, an AM/FM radio with a clock screen, and the ability to pull cloth speaker grilles on or off at will. Pure-Fi Elite refreshes AudioStation, improving its onboard and remote controls, replacing the cloth grilles with detachable metal ones, and improving radio performance. You can't do better for \$300.



Portable Speakers



Pacific Rim Technologies **Cube** | \$20 | A

Year after year, PRT's **Cube** remains in our top portable speaker offerings for one reason: the unbeatable price. For \$20, now including a power supply as an alternative to the four AAA battery compartment, Cube delivers more than acceptable sound in a black or white enclosure that folds shut to protect the speakers, and opens to accommodate iPods of any size and shape. Other companies' clones of Cube look similar, but mightn't sound the same, so beware.



Logic3 **i-Station Traveller** | \$35 | A-

Released in six colors that matched last year's iPod nanos, **i-Station Traveller** still looks sharp today, and delivers better treble and midrange performance - though not bass - than the Cube. A cool expanding and rotating design lets the central battery compartment become an iPod base as the two drivers slide out and flip up to face forward. What's missing? An AC power adapter, which you'll have to buy separately. An iPhone and iPod touch version is coming.



Altec Lansing **iM600** | \$150 | A-

Considered on its own, **iM600** is a few steps up from Altec's past sub-\$150 inMotion speakers, which set standards for portability: it looks cool, thanks to a glossy black plastic and metal design, sounds very good, and includes a digital FM radio tuner and antenna for times when iPod music isn't enough. We'd pick Pure-Fi Anywhere on sound quality, but if you need radio and a smaller package, iM600 delivers.



Logitech **Pure-Fi Anywhere** | \$150 | A-

Replacing Logitech's best-of-breed portable mm50, **Pure-Fi Anywhere** preserves and enhances the prior formula. You still get portable-leading large four-driver sound, an Infrared remote, and a carrying case, plus a ten-hour rechargeable battery, but the parts all work better: the included power supply fits inside the dock for travel inside the case, and the remote has more and better buttons. The only gripe: it's even wider than before. But its sound is bigger and louder.

Premium/Luxury Speakers

See More Options Under "Speakers as Art"

\$400 | B | Bose SoundDock Portable

In 2004, Bose's original SoundDock literally redefined all-in-one iPod speakers; for 2007, Bose has released a **SoundDock Portable** with highly similar styling and a bigger price tag. New is the iPod dock, which rotates inwards for storage, and a rechargeable battery pack that runs for around 14 hours at average volume levels; the sound is almost identical to what came before. Given that you can match it sonically for less, Portable's appeal is in convenience and neutral styling.



\$399 | B+ | Sierra Sound iN Studio 5.0

Priced the same as the SoundDock Portable, **iN Studio 5.0** offers bigger, more powerful audio drivers inside of lacquered wooden cabinets in your choice of white, black, or red. You're paying here for sound, as Sierra actually beats the stereo separation and spatialization, high-volume performance, and clarity of Logitech's top-ranked Pure-Fi Elite, while rivaling its impressive balance of highs, mids, and lows. Little usability kinks and the price are its only issues.



\$300 | B+ | Klipsch RoomGroove

Otherwise similar in design to Klipsch's iGroove SXT, **RoomGroove** is a simple, stylish all-in-one audio system that's larger but has the ability to share its audio with other RoomGroove and "KlipschCast" wireless devices. Dock an iPod in one RoomGroove, send that audio to another RoomGroove - a nice idea except that each unit costs \$300. Thankfully, the sound quality's very good, and though initial setup can be a little tricky, RoomGroove works well.



\$349 | B | Mondo Mint DMS300

Like RoomGrove, **Mint DMS300** is a wireless speaker system with a twist: the sharp-looking speakers are tethered to one dock, while a second wireless dock sits up to 100 feet away to serve as a separate broadcasting source for the speakers. Though it's not the ideal use of wireless audio technology in our book - see our Wireless Audio section for that - Mint's ultra clean design may appeal to your personal needs, and Mondo's fixed the systems initially way-too-bassy sound.



Wireless Audio

Griffin Technology **Evolve** | \$300 | A-

We've seen lots of either nonsensical or cheap-looking wireless iPod add-ons this year; **Evolve** just makes sense. You get an iPod docking base, two speakers, and a cool remote control. The speakers come off the base and work from 100 feet away, the remote controls the iPod and speakers no matter where you or they are, and the whole system looks beautiful - like art, rather than an audio product. If anything's missing, it's the pristine sound of wired iPod speakers, but for the price, this is exactly what we'd expect.

Belkin **TuneStage 2** | \$150 | B+

TuneStage 2 is like Evolve, minus the speakers: you connect the included wireless base up to your preferred audio system, then connect the Bluetooth 2.0+EDR dongle to your iPod. Miraculously, the iPod's music plays clearly through the speakers from distances of roughly 100 feet away, with the added benefit of allowing you to use the iPod's own screen and controls as the remote control. On the flipside, you'll drain the iPod's battery in 5 hours, and unlike Evolve, your speakers will be tethered to the wall-powered base station.





\$199 | B | Brookstone **Wireless System**

It's Evolve, only cheaper. Well, if that was true, the **Wireless Music System** would be much higher-rated: rather, it's a few steps down from the Griffin design, with speaker batteries that last only two hours to Griffin's four, a lower volume level, and lots more wires to deal with. But it also has a few advantages: Brookstone includes separate charging docks for the speakers, which can be placed in any room of your home, as well as on-speaker volume controls. You'll have to decide whether the globes or cubes are easier on your eyes.



\$179 | B+ | Keyspan **TuneView**

One more twist on the wireless theme is **TuneView**, which pairs a sophisticated 100-foot-plus remote control with a powered iPod dock. Like TuneStage 2, TuneView lets you connect your iPod to a stereo system in one room and access its menu system from several rooms away; the difference is that you're draining the remote's much longer-lasting battery rather than the iPod's. A nice color LCD screen makes navigation simple, but the price is still on the high side, and support is limited with new iPod models.



Headphones

The most important iPod accessory for portable listening is an excellent replacement pair of headphones. An incredible amount of detail - more than you'd ever guess - is lost when you're using the free Apple earbuds or equally low-end replacements. This year, our first page focuses on options priced from \$75 and up, as they deliver the best balance of improved performance for the added price you'll pay over the \$30-50 options covered in our past guides. Then we look at top options priced from \$179 to \$500, and a small collection of special-purpose options priced from \$40 to \$300. Full reviews of these and dozens of other models can be found on the iLounge web site, along with a five-part **Complete Guide to Earphones**, complete with helpful explanations.



Metal Bass Superstar


B+
\$101

**v-moda
Vibe Duo**

There aren't many all-metal earphones out there, and even fewer that fit inside your ear canal. The identically priced and same-sounding **Vibe** for iPods and **Vibe Duo** for iPhones are stylish, light, and available in a handful of colors; they both reveal detail from and exaggerate the mid-bass and bass portions of your music. Duo includes a mic and call answer button, too.



High Detail + Isolation


A
\$149

**Etymotic
ER-6i**

With a misleading \$149 retail price - Amazon sells them for \$75 - the **ER-6i** is an unrivaled earphone for the dollar. Providing superb isolation from outside noises thanks to special rubber tips, ER-6i lets you hear so many of the treble and midrange details you never knew or forgot you'd been missing with other earbuds. Their only weakness? Bass, which is tight, but not deep.



Rich Sound, Soft Tips


A-
\$109

**Westone
UM1**

Rather than going full bore into the low, low end of bass like Vibe, **UM1** offers a more balanced sound that still has the warmth people associate with live performances, plus some high-end sparkle to keep everyone happy. Comfortable thanks to coated foam tips, they're a bit bigger than the ER-6is and Vibes, but a very nice earphone for fans of concerts and rock.



Warm, Big Sound


B+
\$150

**Shure
SE210**

Though Shure makes a cheaper pair of earphones in the SE110, the slightly pricier **SE210** delivers clearer sound with less bass bias. It's a more capable low-end performer than the ER-6i, and delivers warmer sound, but it's also physically bigger, and thanks to substantial reseller pricing differences sells at a \$40 premium. Shure includes great coated foam tips like Westone's.

Sound quality differences. Their headphone ports look similar, but iPod classic's sounds best.



Tiniest Double-Drivers



A

\$179

**JAYS
q-JAYS**

We really, really like what Sweden's JAYS has accomplished recently: its \$99 d-JAYS are great (A-) for their price, and its \$179 q-JAYS are better - the smallest 2-driver-per-earphones we've seen, with better bass and overall performance than Etymotic's vaunted ER-4P, one of our reference headphones that sold for almost twice this price. Amazingly light, they fit any size of ear.



Three-Driver Earplugs



A-

\$400

**Ultimate
Ears TF10**

When it released the **Triple-Fi 10 Pro** last year, Ultimate Ears effectively antiquated its top-of-the-line custom-fit UE-10 Pro earphones, offering the same three-speaker-per-ear technology at less than half the price. Though Triple-Fi's larger than Shure's SE530 and not quite as comfortable, it's won fans with a nice sound balance, clear mids, and more energy than the UE-10s.



Velvet Ears, Silky Sound



A

\$400

**AKG
k701**

If you want to treat your ears to staggeringly excellent over-the-ear headphones, the pair we like the best - from the ultra-comfortable velvet padding to the incredibly rich, lifelike sound - is the Austrian-developed **k701**, reference-quality phones that are the in-home equivalent of the portable SE530s. They're not portable; sit back in a chair and you'll lose yourself in the sound.



Simply the Best Overall



A

\$500

**Shure
SE530**

Spotted at various but lower prices under its prior \$500 name, the **SE530** was the top 2006 pick of iLounge's editors, and remains our favorite "price no object" earphone today. With three drivers per ear tuned better than the Triple-Fi's, SE530 offers greater comfort, now including coated foam tips, and presently unbeaten sound quality across the board. If you can afford them, do it.

Adapter for iPhone. Fitz by ifrogz is an \$8 adapter to let you use iPod earphones with iPhone.



The Underwater Option



B
\$40

Aquapac
100% WH

As "100% Waterproof Headphones" suggests, Aquapac's developed a pair of water-resistant earbuds; the first pair we've tested that sounds as good above water as under it. Bundled with a buoy, they can be used with the company's simple waterproof iPod cases; an alternative is H2O Audio's Waterproof Headphones, which sound tinny on land, but do better submerged.



Cheap, Quality Wireless



B+
\$100

Logitech
FreePulse

Bluetooth wireless headsets aren't perfect yet, but Logitech's **FreePulse** has the right idea, delivering good sound quality, fine comfort, and a 33-foot wireless range from your iPod - all at a category-leading price. The neutral looking, light headband won't fit all users, and battery life between charges is only 6 hours, but it lets you listen while your iPod is bagged or pocketed.



Hi-Fi Noise Cancellers



B+
\$300

Creative
X-Fi ANC

Yes, the X-Fi Aurvana **Noise Cancelling Headphones** cost \$300 - the same as Bose's QuietComfort 2's, but with the ability to turn on a "Crystalizer" that noticeably and nicely boosts bass and treble sounds, Aurvana sounds better, and includes the same pack-ins. We've highlighted good, cheap options in past guides, but for quality sound with active noise cancelling, X-Fi is hot.



Premium Anti-Noise +



A-
\$300

Bose Quiet
Comfort 2

Larger than Bose's newer, more expensive QuietComfort3, the over-ear QC2 provides isolation and active noise-cancellation like the X-Fis, but with a warmer-skewing sound signature that many people - especially those who aren't detail-obsessed - will like. Battery life is about twice as long as X-Fi's, but unlike them, you can't use QC2 when the juice runs out.

GRIFFIN



iTrip® Auto with SmartScan™

The easiest way to charge and play in your car

Charge and play your iPod or iPhone in your car.
SmartScan makes it easier than ever to find the perfect frequency.



Reflect™
for iPod touch

Reflective case for iPod touch



TuneBuds™

Earphones for Mobile Devices

Buy now at: www.griffintechnology.com

Gifts for Kids



Are there actually iPod accessories for kids? Yes: no matter how old you are, there's a way to have more fun with your iPod than you knew was possible. Whether you like aliens or animals, there's an iPod-ready toy speaker to meet your needs. Available with blue or red accents, BlueBox's **miJam WassUp** (1, \$30) plays music, dances, and has thigh-mounted lights as it spins around; Hasbro's **i-Cy** (2, \$30) penguin has belly lights that flash to your music, like the faces of his i-Dog, i-Cat, and i-Fish brothers. More serious listeners will prefer Memorex's **iTrek** (3, \$100), a bigger speaker that comes in a shoulder-mounted carrying case and includes a built-in FM radio. Sonic Impact's **Roxy and QuikSilver i-P23** (4, \$130) speakers have an integrated clock, and outer casings with logos from the popular apparel brands. Logic3's cheaper **i-Station3** (5, \$60) and superior **i-Station7** (\$100) fold up for easy carrying. Need a kid-friendly case? Griffin's **Disko** (6, \$30) fits iPod 5G and classic models, adding flashing lights. ifrogz' **Tadpole** (7, \$20) makes the same iPods safe for young kids with thick rubber and side handles.





8

The iPod is, first and foremost, a music player. But toy makers have recently turned it into a music maker, using it as background audio for a number of new electronic musical instruments. Amazingly, the best of the bunch is KIDdesigns' **Barbie Jam With Me Electric Guitar** (8, \$40), a pink toy (surprise) with a first- and second-generation iPod nano dock built in. What's amazing is that the guitar's strings actually work, letting you strum, pick, or rock out, while music plays through a built-in speaker from either a nano or an included faux iPod with three famous songs (Survivor, What a Girl Wants, and Up) inside. A microphone-equipped headset lets you sing along, too. Boys will most likely prefer BlueBox's **miJam Guitar** (9, \$30), which doesn't have real strings, but has its own drum kit built in, buttons that make guitar sounds and warp the audio; different types of musical styles are simulated, from rock to bass, blues, and heavy metal. The \$20 **miJam Mini Mix** (10) and **Mini Keys** (11) are less expensive pocketable effect-scratching and keyboard devices, respectively, each with a speaker and drum beats.



9



10



11

IPOD GAMES

As of now, seven games are available for play on today's iPod nano and iPod classic models. **Vortex**, **Klondike**, and **iQuiz** are built into those iPods; **Tetris**, **Ms. Pac-Man**, **Sudoku** and **Texas Hold'em** can be downloaded from iTunes for \$4.99 each. The other, 5G iPod-only titles shown here will likely join them.


B+

Apple Inc.
Vortex

Worth buying even if it isn't pre-installed on your iPod, **Vortex** gives you a ball and paddle to break blocks that rotate inside a deep tube. Lots of levels and cool power-ups make it last longer than most.


B+

Apple Inc.
Klondike

It's old iPod solitaire, with a new **Klondike** name and new frills: music, your choice of backgrounds and card backs, and a settings menu full of rule changes. A great freebie; the new backs are surprising, too.


A-

Apple Inc.
iQuiz

Sold for \$1 for 5G iPods, **iQuiz** presents you with movie, TV and music trivia questions based in part on your library, or on data files you can download from the Internet. A lot of fun, but also a battery killer.

**B/
B-**

Electronic Arts
Tetris

The classic block-building game **Tetris** got new graphics and audio for the 5G iPod (B-), as well as a frustrating control scheme. But iPod classic/nano owners (B) can pick between 4 control styles, making play much more enjoyable.


C-

Namco
Ms. Pac-Man

As one of the most popular arcade games from the 1980's, **Ms. Pac-Man** sped up Pac-Man's dot-gobbling action, improved its mazes, and added intermissions. On the iPod, control isn't as precise as it should be, limiting its appeal.


B+

Electronic Arts
Sudoku

A 9-by-9 **Sudoku** grid begins with numbers scattered on its surface; your goal is to fill the spaces such that no number 1-9 appears twice in the same straight line. EA's take is classy, with Japanese art, and includes a newspaper puzzle solver.



GAMES FOR FIFTH-GENERATION VIDEO IPODS

Starting in late 2006, Apple partnered with a number of companies to release \$4.99 games for the fifth-generation iPod, and released a collection of titles that only play on that particular model. In 2007, Apple announced that it would be re-releasing some of these titles for the iPod nano and iPod classic in the future, so you can get a sense of the new iPods' library below, or buy titles now for the old iPod.



B-

Apple Inc. Texas Hold'em

Digitized characters and semi-realistic backgrounds help an otherwise staid take on a popular poker game. Secret codes let you have more fun, unlocking dog and alien card games, plus extra cash.



A-

Electronic Arts Mahjong

The classic Chinese tile-matching game is rendered especially impressive via rich backgrounds and music, which are above par by iPod standards. Multiple levels let you see new themes, too.



B

Electronic Arts Sims Pool

With a surprisingly useful shot estimator and clean, if not especially amazing graphics, this billiards rendition features characters from EA's Sims series, with light (and relatively weak) role-playing elements.

B

Electronic Arts Royal Solitaire

Ten single-player card games and playfully cartoony, royal art take this a notch above the iPod's old free Solitaire game, but Apple's newer Klondike trumps this with better themes. Good for solitaire enthusiasts.

B

FreshGames Cubis 2

One of the most colorful iPod games is also a nice mix of strategy and action. Temples made from cube-like blocks need to be dismantled by shooting color-matched extras from off-screen. Lots of levels and art options keep it fresh.

B

Sony/BMG Musika

Combining a faux visualizer with a simple "click fast" action game, **Musika** plays your library and has you click every time a letter from the current song's title comes on screen. Two hands full of visual effects make for short term fun.



**B-**

Electronic Arts **Sims Bowling**

With simple controls, bowling can become monotonous. In **The Sims Bowling**, EA's Sims characters - with art and other content recycled from Sims Pool - add little to what is best described as a plain bowling game with light player customization. It's fun in spurts.

**B-**

PopCap Games **Bejeweled**

Semi-mindless and semi-fun, the popular cell phone/web/iPhone game **Bejeweled** has you match three or more identical stones as many times as possible before clearing a level. Three-dimensional post-level effects are cool, but might not survive on nano + classic.

**B-**

PopCap Games **Zuma**

If we'd known how so-so iPod games would turn out to be, we might have rated the early ball-matching game **Zuma** higher: though its stages are samey, there are enough twists and levels to keep playing. A beam of light points in the direction of balls to match.

C+

GameLoft SA **Lost**

Perhaps by iTunes Store standards, the idea of blowing \$5 for three hours of **Lost** TV-show-themed gaming might make sense, but this light action fetch quest game feels over way, way too soon. Great art is its only saving grace, unless you're such a fan of the show that you must relive it.

**C-**

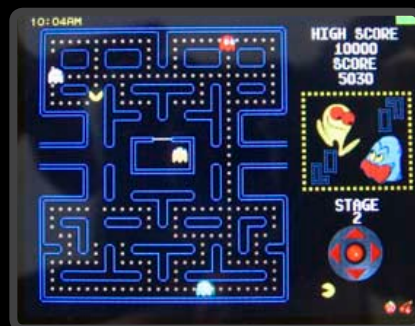
Electronic Arts **Mini Golf**

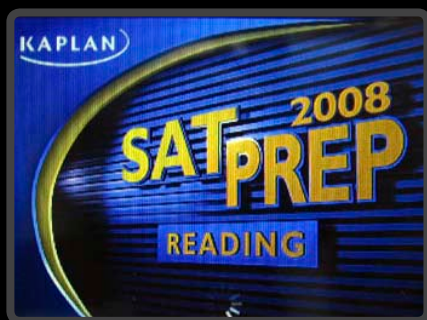
If the iPod was a 2004-vintage cell phone, this ultra-simple rendition of miniature golf might seem exciting, with several cartoony courses and idiot-proof controls. But given how strong the iPod hardware is, **Mini Golf** feels like a last-generation game, too flat and plain for a multimedia device.

**D+**

Namco **Pac-Man**

Think Ms. Pac-Man, but slower, with less interesting mazes, and no intermissions. That's **Pac-Man**, the original dot-gobbling game, which like its more popular sequel suffers from imprecise controls and 1980's-itis. It's fine if you don't care about arcade accuracy, but could be more playable.





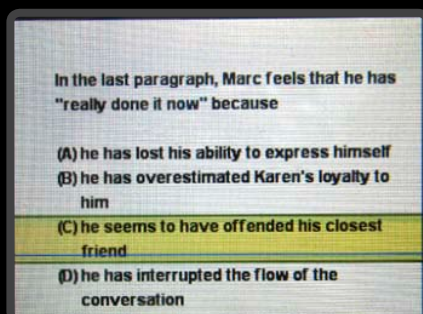
1,000 Sample Exams in Your Pocket.

Co-developed by Apple and Kaplan, three recent "iPod Games" actually turned out to be prep software for the popular United States college entrance examination SAT. Each title offers study tips and strategies, multiple-choice quizzes based on past SAT questions, post-quiz explanations of correct and incorrect answers, and the ability to save your results for later review and comparison.

NR

Kaplan 2008 SAT Reading

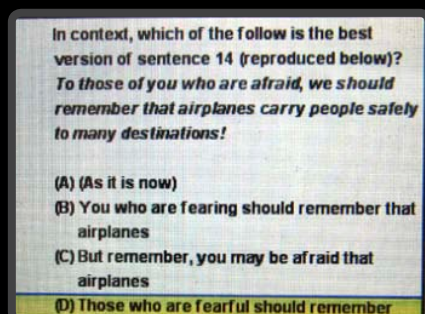
Reading covers three topics: long reading comprehension, short reading comprehension, and sentence completion, based upon multi-paragraph essays. You can take the tests with or without a timer.



NR

Kaplan 2008 SAT Writing

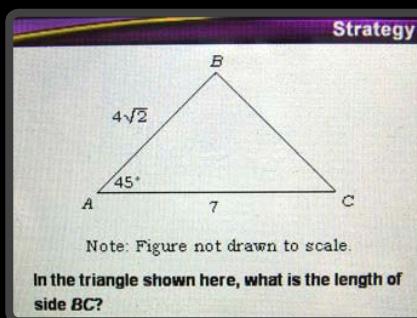
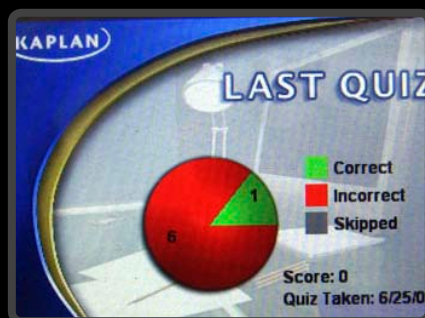
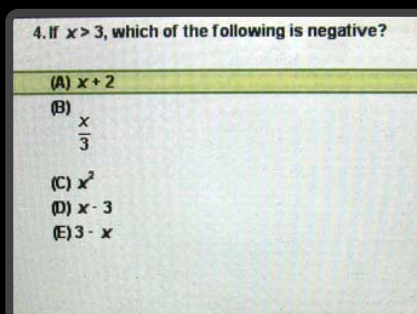
Designed to help improve essay-writing performance, **Writing** features multiple-choice sections on improving paragraphs and sentences, as well as identifying sentence errors. You can't write an essay.



NR

Kaplan 2008 SAT Math

The multi-subject **Math** covers "basics," algebra, geometry, arithmetic, word problems, and "other math," such as combinations, absolute value, and data interpretation. Art and text both appear in tests.



WARNING: "IPOD GAMES" ARE IPOD-SPECIFIC.

Apple calls them "iPod Games," but that name's overly broad: the company doesn't guarantee that games will necessarily work on every iPod currently available, or on any future iPod. Most iPod games play only on the fifth-generation iPod - the "iPod (with video)" - and none currently play on the iPod touch, iPhone, or pre-2007 iPod nanos, minis, or shuffles. Apple also doesn't let users download updated, more compatible versions; it expects you to buy them. Save your money if this bothers you.

Gifts For Her



Ladies love leather. The iPod accessory industry caters to this demand with a wide variety of luxury cases, ranging widely in price, depending on the features and quality of materials. In the middle of the pack are options from Sena Cases, such as the **LeatherSkin Case** (1, \$42), which comes in 14 colors, some crocodile-textured and others not. Suede and Nappa options from France's Noreve, such as **Tradition for iPod nano** (2, \$40), have beautiful softness and colors, with luxurious stamped interiors. More expensive cases from Argentina's Vaja vary widely from iPod model to model, but have incredible attention to detail and materials: the **iVod Crystal** series (3, \$220+) is Swarovski-crystal studded and beautiful, while the **Lady Holster** (4, \$80) is a half shell with a matching wrist strap, in your choice of 40 colors. **Kidskin leather cases** from a.b. sutton (5, 6; \$68+) are handmade, letting you pick every detail (thread, pattern, monogram); Orbino's **Strada** case (7, \$99+) features a palladium clip, and rich leather.





Leather Suits



Sorry, leather aroma not included in this ad.



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PDair_{IP}

Aluminum Metal Cases & Leather Cases
For iPod's Family



iPod nano 3rd

iPod Classic

iPod Touch

iPhone



Charitable Gifts



2



3



1

Everyone likes to receive gifts, but giving is at least as important - thankfully, there are ways to do both at once. Apple donates some revenues from the **PRODUCT (RED) iPod nano** (1, \$199), **iPod shuffle** (2, \$79) and **iTunes Gift Cards** (\$25) to the Global Fund, which fights AIDS in Africa. Three companies are helping the Breast Cancer Research Foundation with products at Target: U.S. Merchants is repackaging **pink iPod shuffles** (3, \$80) with \$15 iTunes Gift Cards to fund a \$25,000 donation; DPI is donating \$75,000 from sales of three **iLive-branded Think-Pink speaker systems** (4, \$50-100); and Belkin (5, \$25) will give 10% of proceeds from several **iPod cases** to the Foundation. It also donates \$2.50 from other cases to Komen for the Cure, with a minimum \$225,000 donation. Finally, **Soldiers' Angels** (6, soldiersangels.org) is a non-profit group that accepts donated, working iPods to send to military personnel; think about donating your iPod if you're lucky enough to receive a replacement this year.



4



5



6

Budget Gifts



Putting cases aside, there are still some great budget-priced iPod accessories out there. JBL's awesome **Creature II** speakers (1) are available online in white for as little as \$40 brand new - black, silver, and red versions sell for \$80-100. They don't include an iPod dock; the company's **On Stage Micro** (2, \$100) does, though, as well as a remote. You'll give up Creature's powerful bass subwoofer, but gain portability. Kensington's **FX500 Speaker To Go** (3, \$50) is less expensive and has less impressive sound quality, but surrounds your iPod in a battery-powered speaker case with clear plastic screen and control access. Sprout Creation's **Vers 2x** (4, \$179) is more expensive, but combines two speakers and a dock with a wood veneer enclosure and a silver remote control. Need to think cheaper? Shufflesome's **iPod shuffle stickers** (5, \$7) let you decorate the iPod shuffle's body with many types of cool art at a sub-case price. APC's **UPB10** (6, \$70) fully recharges iPods and iPhones two or more times on the road, and XtremeMac's **InCharge Auto** (7, \$20) safely powers iPods and iPhones in your car.



SAVE 10% USING COUPON "ILOUNGE08"



CARBON iSHIELD

[IP-isd-car]

- Made of real carbon fibre- Not printed plastic
- Includes Armadillo Metal belt clip (pictured) and screen protector
- Also available in holster style

MSRP: To be Determined



LEATHER JACKET

[IP-JACK]

- Perfectly fits the iPhone
- Made of premium sheepskin
- Quick and easy access
- Includes Armadillo metal clip

MSRP: \$49.99



BODY SHIELD

[IP-BODY-*)]

- Protect your iPhone's screen from bumps and scratches
- Quick removal
- Holds securely in place

MSRP: \$19.99



CLASSIC QUARTZ SHIELD

[5G-QTZ-*)]

- Protect your Classic or 5G screen from bumps and scratches
- Has built-in kickstand
- Made of clear polycarbonate

MSRP: \$24.99



CUBE TRAVEL SPEAKERS

[TRV-SPK-TE-*)]

- Folds for easy storage when traveling
- Compatible with all iPods and MP3 Player.
- Powered by AC Adapter (included) or 4 AAA Batteries (not included)

MSRP: \$14.99



JUKEBOX STATION-BLUE LIGHTING

[PRT-JB-BNR]

- 40 inches tall; 22 inches wide; 11.42 inches deep
- Weight: 52lbs
- Integrated Universal Dock for iPod
- Turntable style CD Player
- Integrated FM Radio
- 80 Watts of power
- 5 Speakers- Woofer, mid-range and tweeters

MSRP: \$499.99



ISHIELD FOR IPHONE

[IP-isd-*)]

- Protect your iPhone with premium faux leather
- Includes Screen Protector
- Available in Red, Black or White

MSRP: \$24.99



NANO3 ISHIELD

[N3-ISHD]

- Protect your Nano with our iShield. Made of real leather, it will protect your music player from bumps, scratches and sticky fingers.

MSRP: \$24.99



NANO3 QUARTZ

[N3-QUARTZ]

- Built in viewing stand
- 2 per pack (Grey Smoke and Clear)
- Made of Acrylic

MSRP: \$19.99



Over the past two years, a number of companies have created iPod speakers as listenable pieces of art, charging premiums for their unique looks. These are the options that also sound great for their prices: Harman Kardon's **Go + Play** (1, \$350) is a stylish, bass-rich iPod boombox with front- and back-mounted metal speaker grilles and a matching pipe-styled handle; Geneva Lab's **Model L and XL** (2, \$699-1275) are powerful lacquered speaker boxes with built-in CD players and radios, available in white, black, or red. Bowers + Wilkins' **Zeppelin** (3, \$600) is a half black, half chrome unit with a floating iPod dock and clear, balanced sound, and Macally's **TunePro** (4, \$130) hides a dual alarm clock, AM/FM radio, and flat panel stereo speakers behind its cool mirrored face - an affordable piece of cool design.



Speakers as Art



Introducing....

The Coolest New Cases for your iPod.

10% off your order!
Coupon Code - ilounge08



Shades
iPod Cases

www.shadescases.com

0.4mm Thin.

Weigh 0.5oz.

Full iPod Protection.

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iLounge.com Forums

Join the iLounge Forums and become a part of a 124,000 member community dedicated to all things iPod, iPhone, iTunes and beyond.

Get your questions answered...
Find tips on the latest software...
Discover new accessories...
Troubleshoot your iPod...
Learn how to copy music from iPod to computer...
Discover new music...
and much much more

As of October 24, 2007 – Threads: 188,868 • Posts: 1,143,432 • Members: 124,001



07 BEST OF THE YEAR AWARDS



This was unquestionably a tough year for iPod accessory makers and buyers alike. Though the number of iPod users continued to grow - a positive - hundreds of forgettable accessories flooded the market, and Apple made confusing, undocumented iPod and iPhone changes that stopped even popular add-ons from working properly. Below, we salute the best products we've tested over the last 12 months, many of which are sequels to tried and true 2004-2006 predecessors, as well as several other special categories of people and events deserving of recognition.

iPod shuffle Case of the Year



Power Support **Silicone Jacket**

Most companies wrote off the new iPod shuffle as unworthy of add-ons, and it's quite possible that you don't think your own shuffle's worth protecting. But if you do, the best case is definitely **Silicone Jacket**, which protects basically the whole shuffle at a fair price of \$13.

Runners Up

H2O Audio **iS2 Waterproof Case**
\$40

JAVOedge
JAVOClearCase
\$8 (7-Pack)

iPod nano Case of the Year



SwitchEasy **Biscuits**

Each year, SwitchEasy's cases get better, so it's no surprise that its latest cases are an example of both great design and value. From the "do anything" pack-ins to good color options and a killer black version, **Biscuits** are going to be hard to beat for \$20; the Black Biscuit is the coolest.

Runners Up

Apple **iPod nano Armband**
\$29

Marware
SportGrip
\$10

iLounge Members of the Year

Another thought. Why not have Apple get directly into the music biz and sign the artists directly? Apple has the global reach, and marketing tool (iTunes). Apple can keep a larger share of the profits as can the artists. The record companies will die a slow, painful and welcomed death.

Posted by **Don Trammell** on October 12, 2007 at 9:23 AM (PDT)

Comment **13**

I wonder. The recording industry, led by Universal and Sony, created PressPlay, a subscription music service back early in the decade (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pressplay>)

Don Trammell, B.J. Nemeth, Flippy Hambone, Sypher, Rockmyplimsoul

Some members of the iLounge community do more than others to keep discussions lively, intelligent, and on-point. These five members stood out in making our site's discussions worthwhile.

iPod classic Case of the Year



Marware **SportGrip**

Every version of Marware's **SportGrip** this year could conceivably have won a Best of the Year award, as the company's reasonable \$15 pricing for most models and nearly comprehensive protection helped the silicone rubber designs step up from their commodity-class brethren.

Runners Up

Incase
Leather Sleeve
\$30

Pacific Rim Tech.
Quartz Case
\$25

iPod touch Case of the Year



Griffin **iClear for iPod touch**

A top iPod touch case should be protective, easy to use, and reasonably priced. For only \$20, **iClear** delivers on all counts, covering all of touch's face, back, and sides with either hard plastic or film. Right-sized holes let you dock and use earphones without removing the case.

Runners Up

DLO
Action Jacket
\$30

Marware
SportGrip
\$15

Deal of the Year



Logitech **AudioStation**

Discontinued in favor of this year's Pure-Fi Elite, left-over stock of Logitech's \$300 **AudioStation** went on fire sale at Tiger Direct for only \$50 after a mail-in rebate, disappearing instantly. Simply incredible.

iPhone Case of the Year



Portable Device Outfitters **TopSkin**

Small steps above Marware's similarly excellent SportGrip in price and features, the \$20 **TopSkin** does an even better job of protecting iPhone, and includes a detachable rear belt clip. With grippy sides like iSkin's cases, it sells for half the price, though it also doesn't have quite the flair.

Runners Up

Contour Design
iSee for iPhone
\$30

Vaja **iVolution**
Top SP Holster
\$80

iPhone Headset of the Year



Plantronics **Voyager 520**

Wired or wireless, the iPhone sounds great through mic-equipped headsets. The year's best is **Voyager 520**, which offers the sound quality and connectivity benefits of Bluetooth 2.0, comfort, and a \$100 price that's lower in stores. A smart buy if you can find it, with great talk time.

Runners Up

Aliph **Jawbone**
Noise-Canceller
\$120

v-moda **Vibe Duo**
with Control
\$101

Clock Radio of the Year



XtremeMac Luna

Beautiful styling, a fantastic, adjustable clock face, and great sound set the \$150 Luna apart from the pack, though new iPod owners may have wake-from-iPod issues, and it's now hard to find in stores.

Portable Speaker of the Year



Logitech Pure-Fi Anywhere

It would have been easy for Logitech to lower the price of its popular mm50, but instead, the \$150 **Pure-Fi Anywhere** upgrades mm50 in every way, creating a new benchmark for sound quality and value at that level. A case, remote, wall adapter and rechargeable battery are included.

Runners Up

Altec Lansing
iM600
\$150

Memorex
iTrek Mi3000
\$100

Deluxe Speaker of the Year



Logitech Pure-Fi Elite

We loved last year's AudioStation. Looks aside, **Pure-Fi Elite** fixes its few flaws, and produces even more powerful sound, too. Like Pure-Fi Anywhere, there's no better speaker for its \$300 price; the clock, radio and remote are all nice. You may find it discounted as an update nears.

Runners Up

Sierra Sound
InStudio 5.0
\$399

Harman Kardon
Go + Play
\$350

Sad Accessory of the Year



Wingspan Partners **iLoad**

Designed as an alternative to iTunes for CD ripping, this \$299 toaster-sized box is noisy, slow, and pricier than a budget PC, leaving you with no backup of ripped MP3s. It barely made sense at \$199.

Value Earphone of the Year



JAYS **q-JAYS**

Though tons of earphones are now available for \$100 to \$200, **q-JAYS** currently falls right in the sweet spot for its \$179 asking price. Super small and comfortable, but with the double-driver detail and balance of larger and more expensive earphones, **q-JAYS** is guaranteed to satisfy.

Runners Up

Shure
SE210
\$150

Ultimate Buds
ER-6i for iPhone
\$146

Deluxe Earphone of the Year



Shure **SE530**

With several high-profile misfires this year - Westone delayed its triple-driver "3" and Ultimate Ears' super deluxe UE-11 Pro went ultra bassy - Shure's oft-discounted \$500 refresh of last year's E500, with better eartips, was the clear winner. There's only one thing we'd change: the color.

Runners Up

Creative **Aurvana**
X-Fi Noise-Cancelling
\$300

Ultimate Ears **UE-**
11 Pro Custom-Fit
\$1,150

Apple Product of the Year



iPod **nano** (with video)

No other iPod - or the iPhone - matches the performance per dollar or square inch of the \$149 music, video, photo, and game-playing machine. The shape's not sexy, but the features are divine.

iPod Game of the Year



Electronic Arts **Sudoku**

iPod games have varied substantially in production value, but EA's beautiful, Japanese puzzle follow-up to the earlier Chinese Mahjong is one of the best examples of how great the iPod could be as a gaming platform. It's a solid game; the newspaper puzzle solver is useful, too.

Runners Up

Sony/BMG
Musika
\$5

Electronic Arts
Sims Pool
\$5

Accessory Innovation of the Year



Griffin **Evolve Wireless System**

This wasn't a year for innovation, but Griffin scored again with its \$300 wireless, battery-powered **Evolve** speakers, the first ones that could easily be picked up and placed indoors or outdoors without worries over wall power or the iPod. Beautiful design adds to a great concept.

Runners Up

Logitech **FreePulse**
Wireless Headphones
\$100

Keyspan **TuneView**
Remote & Dock
\$179

Apple Screw-Up of the Year

TV Out Enabled
Please Connect Video Accessory

iPod TV Out Locking

When Apple's good, it's great, but when it's bad, it's wicked. Locking the TV Out functionality of new iPods hurts users, developers, and the iPod's rep as a "use it anywhere" video device - an awful idea.

Car Accessory of the Year



Belkin TuneBase FM w/ ClearScan

For \$90, the TuneBase FM with ClearScan is not cheap, but others would charge more: it's an all-in-one, well-made car charger, mount, and FM transmitter, intelligently designed with a very nice screen and line-out capabilities. Though its mount is on the short side, it's otherwise great.

Runners Up

ProClip USA **Tilt Swivel Mount**
\$30

Harman Kardon **Drive + Play 2**
\$400

iPod Video Accessory of the Year



Elgato Systems Turbo.264

Video accessories were dealt an awful blow by Apple's crippling of its most recent iPods, but the \$100 Turbo.264 remained useful: the USB key converts almost any video into an iPod, iPhone, or Apple TV-ready H.264 file. Fast and reasonably priced, it's Mac-only; a PC version would be great.

Runners Up

Benesch **TiVo Decode Manager**
Free; tdm.sourceforge.net

Stinkbot LLC **TubeSock**
\$15; stinkbot.com

Accessory of the Year



NLU Products **BodyGuardz**

A controversial Accessory of the Year pick? Perhaps. In a year when case prices climbed even as iPods shrunk, NLU's \$25 BodyGuardz clear film body protectors made more and more sense to us. Thinner than any case and very resilient, they work with docks and let iPods and iPhones look almost exactly like Apple intended. NLU's versions are the clearest of the various models we've tested, letting your videos and photos shine through. We hope only that NLU keeps improving their fit and clarity.

Runners Up

SwitchEasy **Biscuits**
for iPod nano 3G
\$20

Logitech **Pure-Fi**
Elite
\$300

Accessory Maker of the Year



Logitech

Past winners of this award have offered lots of different add-ons; Logitech focuses mostly on iPod speakers, and does them better for the price than anyone else. Its Pure-Fi speakers look sharp, sound better, and do more than more expensive options. Few companies push the feature and quality envelopes as well.

Runners Up

Belkin
Griffin Technology
JBL/Harman Kardon

THE REPORT CARD.

We've reviewed over 1,500 products since the iPod launched; they're all summarized here. Read our full reviews on iLounge.com for all the details.

Adapters and Cables - Data

SendStation PocketDock Combo	A
SendStation PocketDock	A-
SendStation PocketDock Line Out USB	A-
Global Source Retractable USB/FW	B+
Griffin Technology Dock400 Cable	B+
Griffin Technology Dock800 Cable	B+
Kensington Accessory Adapter/shuffle	B
Macally Link360 FireWire 1394A 3D	B+
Macally Link360 USB 3D Adapter	B+
Nyko Stereo Link Cable	B+
SendStation FireWire & Line Out	B+
XtremeMac Audio Kit for iPod shuffle	B+
BTi u-Link Accessory Adapter for nano	B
Incipio IncipioBud for iPod shuffle (2G)	B
Macally Link360 FireWire 1394B 3D	B
Taylor Technologies iPlus+ for iPod nano	B
Targus 9-Pin/30-Pin Accessory Adapter	B/B-
SendStation Dock Extender	B-
Carrot Idea USB Flexible Dock/2G shuffle	B-
Gadget Accessories USB Sync Cable	D

Adapters and Cables - Indoor Power

Griffin PowerDuo Charging Kit for iPod	A-
Sonnet iPod USB Power Adapter	A-
Apple iPod USB Power Adapter (9/06)	B+
Better Energy Systems Solio	B+
Capdase Universal Power Adapter	B+
Capdase USB Power Adapter/shuffle	B+
Logix The iPower Pro Ultra Slim	B+
Apple iPod USB Power Adapter (2005)	B
Griffin Technology Dock Adapter shuffle	B
XtremeMac InCharge Traveler	B
Griffin Technology PowerBlock travel 2007	B-
Griffin Technology PowerDuo travel	B-
Van Hauser iSuperCharger	C+

Apple TV and Accessories

XtremeMac XtremeHD Audio Cable	B+
XtremeMac XtremeHD Comp. Video Cable	B+
XtremeMac XtremeHD HDMI>DVI Cable	B+
XtremeMac XtremeHD HDMI>HDMI Cable	B+
XtremeMac XtremeHD HDMI Switcher	B+
XtremeMac XtremeHD TOSLINK Cable	B+
Apple Inc. Apple TV (40GB/160GB)	B

Audio/Video Cables

Griffin HomeConnect Audio & Video	A-
Marware AV Cable for iPod photo/5G	A-
XtremeMac RoadShow Car AV Cable	A-
Belkin AV Cable for iPod (Color LCD)	B+
Capdase Come Home Headphone Port	B+
Pacific Rim Technologies Retractable AV	B+
Apple iPod AV Cable	B
Capdase Come Home Dock Conn/Comp.	B
Capdase Come Home Dock Conn/S-Video	B
Apple Component AV Cable	C+

Gecko Gear iPod Audio and Video Cable	C+
Apple Composite AV Cable	C
BoxWave iPod Photo AV miniSync	C

Batteries

BTi's The iPod Battery	A
FastMac TruePower 1G/2G	A
Newer Technology NuPower Super 1G/2G	A
Apple iPod shuffle Battery Pack	A-
BTi's The iPod Battery ii	A-
FastMac TruePower 3G	A-
Newer Technology NuPower Hi-Cap 3G	A-
Sonnet Volta	A-
Compact Power Systems Cellboost	B+
ezGear PowerStick Shuffle	B+
iLuv i603/604 Rechargeable Silicone Skin	B+
Tekkeon myPower Battery Pack	B+
APC Mobile Power Pack UPB10	B
Belkin Backup Battery Pack	B
BTi AA iPod Battery	B
ezGear PowerStick iPod Battery Pack	B
FastMac TruePower 4G	B
Griffin TuneJuice BatteryPack	B
Lithium House iCel 201 External Power	B
Nyko iBoost	B
Nyko iBoost mini Battery Pack	B
Belkin TunePower	B-
Compact Power Systems iRecharge	B-
XtremeMac MicroPack Dock + Battery	B-
Compact Power Systems iRecharge Value	C
Gadget Accessories Battery Pack	F

Bluetooth / Wireless Home Audio

Griffin Evolve Wireless Sound System	A-
TEN Technology naviPlay	A-
Belkin TuneStage for 4G/mini iPod	B+
Belkin TuneStage 2	B+
Griffin Technology BlueTrip LE	B+
Logitech Wireless Music System	B+/B-
Logitech FreePulse Wireless Headphones	B+
Macally BlueWave Headset	B+
Bluetake I-Phono BT420EX	B
Bluetake I-Phono mini BT450	B
Brookstone Wireless Music System	B
Creative Xdock X-Fi Dock/Receiver	B
Etymotic ety8 In-Ear Bluetooth Earphones	B
Klipsch RoomGroove Wireless Speaker	B
Lenntek Hookup Lanyard for nano	B
Mondo Mint DMS300	B
Oakley O ROKR Bluetooth Eyewear	B
Scosche Bluelife Headphones & TX	B
Scosche Bluelife Wireless Home Kit	B
TEN Technology naviPlay Headset Kit	B
Wi-Gear iMuffs Bluetooth Headset	B
FriendTech iDea Wireless Dock/Headset	B-
Logitech Wireless Headphones	B-
GlobalSat iWAG Wireless Bluetooth Set	C+

Lenntek Hookup Bluetooth Kit for iPod	C
Silex Tech wiDock Wireless Dock for iPod	C
d.Muse iBlue Bluetooth Phone Adapter	C-

Camera Adapters

Apple iPod Camera Connector	B+
Belkin Media Reader	B+
Belkin Digital Camera Link	B

Car Mounts

ProClip Padded Adj. Holder w/ Tilt Swivel	A
TEN Technology FlexibleDock/Charger	A
Nyko Universal Car Mount	A-
Power Support Mobile Stand	A-
ProClip In-Car Mount for iPod photo	A-
ProClip Padded iPod In-Car Holder	A-
ProClip Tilt Swivel Holder for iPhone	A-
Belkin TuneBase FM for iPod	B+
Belkin TuneBase FM for iPod nano	B+
Griffin TuneFlex nano Charger/Cradle	B+
Griffin TuneFlex 5G Charger/Cradle	B+
Griffin PodPod/iSqueez	B+
Kensington Car Mount for iPod	B+
ProClip In-car holder for iPod	B+
ProClip Padded Holder w/ Cable Attachmt.	B+
ProClip Padded Holder for iPod 5G	B+
ProClip Padded Holder for iPod nano	B+
Macally FM Cup Transmitter/Charger	B
Pro Fit Ultimount	B
XtremeMac MicroFlex Car/iPod nano	B
Belkin TuneDok	B-
ProClip Padded w/ Tilt Swivel& Charging	B-
HandStands iGrip Sticky Pad	C-
Pacific Rim Tech iCradle FM	D+

Car Power Chargers, Kits and Adapters

Belkin TuneBase FM with ClearScan	A-
Griffin PowerJolt USB Auto Charger (v2)	A-
Harman Kardon Drive + Play	A-
SendStation smartCharge for iPod (2007)	A-
TEN Technology FlexDock	A-
Belkin Auto Kit	B+
Belkin Charging Kit for iPod	B+
Belkin TuneBase FM Version 2	B+
BTi Auto/Air Adapter	B+
Dension ICE-Link Auto Integration Kit	B+
DLO TransPod FM (Boxy, Dock Conn.) V2	B+
Harman Kardon Drive + Play 2	B+
iStore iPod2Car Line-Quality Integ. Kit	B+
Monster iAirPlay Charger	B+
SiK imp in-car charger/line out	B+
DLO AutoPod Intelligent Car Charger	B
DLO TransPod FM Late 2005 (Rounded)	B
DLO TransPod FM (Boxy, Dock Connector)	B
ezGear ezCharge for iPod shuffle	B
Griffin PowerJolt USB Auto Charger (v1)	B
Griffin PowerPod FireWire Charger	B

The iLounge Difference. As a fully independent company, iLounge has provided impartial reviews of Apple products and third-party add-ons since the 2001 release of the iPod. Because of a strict separation between our business and editorial sides, and our strong belief in the value of an objective resource for Apple product consumers around the world, our reviews are in no way influenced by advertising revenues or outside concerns. We have no ties to any manufacturer of accessories, and no agenda other than the promotion of a happy global community of Apple users.

Incase Charger (Version 2)	B	XtremeMac Iconz Sport for 5G	B+	Marware CEO Classic 4G	A-
Macally USB iPod Car Charger	B	XtremeMac MicroFlip for iPod with video	B+	Marware SportSuit Convertible	A-
Monster Ultra Low Profile Charger	B	XtremeMac MicroGlove for iPod w/ video	B+	Marware TrailVue 4G	A-
Pacific Rim Technologies Car FW Adapter	B	AB Sutton Video Book	B	Miyavix Kimono	A-
XtremeMac InCharge Traveler	B	Aquapac 100% Waterproof MP3 Case	B	OtterBox oPod 4G/photo	A-
Belkin TuneBase	B-	Axio Deluxe Shock-Resistant Silicone	B	Speck Products ToughSkin	A-
Belkin TuneBase for iPod shuffle	B-	Belkin Flip Leather Case for iPod	B	Sumo Cases Flap	A-
Capdase USB Power DC Car Charger	B-/D-	dasblau The Versa2	B	Sumo Cases PlayThru Vertical 4G	A-
DLO TransPod (for original iPods)	B-	DLO PodFolio	B	Vaja iVod DJ	A-
DLO TransPod for iPod shuffle	B-	Griffin Technology Centerstage	B	Speck Products GripSkin	A-
Griffin Technology PowerDuo travel	B-	Griffin Technology Disko	B	Speck Products PortfolioSkin	A-/B+/C
Macally BTCup FM Transmitter w/Bluetooth	B-	Griffin iClear Polycarbonate Case for iPod	B	Acme Made The Wallet	B+
Marware Car Charger for iPod	B-	Griffin Technology Vizor for iPod	B	Body Glove Fusion Case iPod 4G	B+
Monster iCharger	B-	ifrogz bagz Water Resistant Cases	B	Capdase Flip-Top Leather Case	B+
SendStation smartCharge shuffle/USB	B-	ifrogz Exotics Animal Skin iPod Cases	B	Core Cases/InnoPocket Magnum Case	B+
Belkin TuneBase FM	C+	iStyles 2007 Sleeve Collection	B	DLO Jam Jacket	B+
Dension ICE-Link 1.1 Auto Integration Kit	C+	Marware Sportsuit Sleeve for iPod video	B	ezGear Clear Case	B+
Digiana Audia X iTube-101 shuffle	C+	Miniot iWood 5g/iWood Red	B	H2O Audio SV-iP4G Underwater Housing	B+
Griffin RoadTrip All-in-One Car Solution	C+	NorthShore International Kaftan Cases	B	Incase Music Belt	B+
Pioneer AVIC-Z1/CD-IB100II iPod Adapter	C+	Orbino Cambio	B	Incase Neoprene Sleeve for iPod	B+
Van Heusen iSuperCharger	C+	Pacific Rim Tech. 5G Quartz Case	B	Incase Wallet Fashion Case	B+
Macally iPodCarCharger	D	Sena Cases iPod Video Premium Stand	B	iSkin eVo 2	B+
Gadget Accessories 3-in-1 Travel Charger	B+/F	Speck Products Active Sport Armband	B	Lajo eXo 2 / eXo2fb	B+
Cases - iPod classic (6G)		Speck Products Active Sport Case	B	LifePod Urban Camouflage ModPods	B+
Marware SportGrip for iPod classic	A-	Tunewear PRIE Ambassador	B	Matias iPod Armor 4G	B+
Incase Leather Sleeve for iPod classic	B+	Tunewear PRIE Ambassador Sienna	B	Moshi/Aevoe iPouch	B+
Marware Sportsuit Convertible	B+	Tunewear PRIE TuneWallet Sienna	B	Pacific Rim Technologies 4gShield	B+
Incase Neoprene Sleeve for iPod classic	B	Speck Products Grass FunSkin	B	Power Support Silicone Jacket Set	B+
Noreve Tradition Leather Case	B	Vaja Classic AP186 for iPod video	B	Proporta Crystal Case	B+
DLO Action Jacket for iPod classic	C+	Vaja iVolution Leather Suit	B	Secure-It The PodSafe iPod Security Case	B+
Cases - iPod 5G (with video)		Vakaadoo iVak 5G	B	Speck Products GripSkin 4G	B+
Agent 18 VideoShield Kit	A-	Zofunk Zozen Silicone Case	B	Speck Products HandSkin	B+
Aquarius iJacket for iPod 5G	A-	Belkin Holster Case for iPod	B-	Speck Products iGuy	B+
Better Energy Systems Tread Visor	A-	Belkin Kickstand Leather Case for iPod	B-	Sumo Cases Quilted and Stripe	B+
Boomwave Podstar Diablo for iPod video	A-	Case-Mate Leather Case	B-	Targus Flip Case for iPod	B+
Capdase Crystal Clear Case for iPod	A-	Contexture Design 45 iPod Cases	B-	Targus Slide Case for iPod	B+
Contour Design Showcase video	A-	DLO Action Jacket	B-	Timbuk2 iPod Case	B+
ifrogz wrapz Customizable Cases	A-	DLO VideoShell	B-	Tunewear Icewear 4G	B+
iSkin eVo3 for iPod 5G	A-	Griffin Technology California Roll	B-	Tunewear WaterWear 4G	B+
Logic3 Crystal Armor Case for iPod video	A-	ifrogz Rana Italian Leather Cases	B-	Vaja iVod Crystal	B+
Marware Sidewinder for iPod video	A-	Innopocket Metal Deluxe Cases	B-	Vaja iVod Rasta	B+
Marware Sportsuit Basic for iPod video	A-	iPodstreet Flip Leather	B-	Speck Products 4G SkinTight Armband	B+/B
Otter Products OtterBox for iPod video	A-	iPodstreet Leather Encased	B-	Belkin NE Deluxe Leather Case for iPod	B
Pods Plus Aluminum V2	A-	Pacific Design 5G/Video Flip Case	B-	Belkin Neoprene Sport Case w/ Drawstring	B
Power Support Illusion Case for iPod 5G	A-	Pods Plus Silicone Skin with Beltclip	B-	Burning Love Pouch for iPod	B
Speck Products ToughSkin 5G	A-	Pods Plus Silicone Skin without Beltclip	B-	Capdase Soft Jacket	B
AB Sutton Video Slip	B+	Scosche SoundKase Cases for iPod Video	B-	DLO Relaxed Leather Cases	B
Agent 18 VideoShield	B+	Skymate Designer Series Case for iPod 5G	B-	Gadget Accessories Solid Cover Case	B
Capdase Soft Jacket	B+	Speck Products Cloud FunSkin	B-	HotRomz Cases for iPod	B
Core Cases Aluminum Case 5G	B+	Sumo Cases Horizontal PlayThru Stripe	B-	Incase Folio for U2 Special Edition	B
Core Cases Aluminum Swivel Case	B+	Vaja Classic AP181/191 for iPod video	B-	Incase Journal Fashion Case	B
DC Shoes Incase Folio for iPod 5G	B+	Vaja Classic AP187/197 for iPod video	B-	Incase Travel Kit	B
Griffin iClear Photo	B+	Vaja iVod video for 5G iPods	B-	Lajo eXo / eXo2fb / eXo iPodArt	B
Handstands iSnug Video Set	B+	Womp! Access for iPod video	B-	Lajo eXo 3x	B
ifrogz Tadpole	B+	Apple Computer Leather Case for iPod	C+	Noreve Tradition Leather Case	B
Incase Neoprene Sleeve	B+	Pacific Rim Mktg. iDitti Commuter	C+	Piel Frama Luxurious Leather Case	B
iSkin Claro Silicone/Clear Case Combo	B+	BoxWave Designio Leather Shell Case	C	RadTech Sleevez for iPod (4G/photo)	B
iSkin Claro Special Edition	B+	iPodstreet iPod Video iTube Silicone Case	C	Rivet iGrab	B
iSkin eVo3 Limited Special Edition	B+	RexRegina Conrad 5G	C	Target/Aneta Genova Soundgear Sleeve	B
Marware CEO Classic	B+	iPodstreet iPod Leather Case w/ W. Strap	D+	Timbuk2 iPod Carrying Case	B
Marware Sportsuit Convertible for iPod 5G	B+	SKB Drypod Waterproof/Interactive Hard	F	Tunewear Prie Hook	B
Marware TrailVue for iPod with video	B+	Cases - iPod 4G/color (Click Wheel)		Vakaadoo iVak 5G	B
Oakley 99037 Case for iPods	B+	Incase Multifunction Sport Case for iPod	A	XtremeMac Silicone Sleeve	B
Pods Plus Aluminum Case for iPod Video	B+	STM Cocoon case	A	Speck Products SkinTight 4G iPod Skin	B-/B-
Power Support/Miyavix Kimono Case	B+	Vaja i-Volution 4G with Wheel Protector	A	Apple iPod Socks	B-
Power Support Silicone Jacket for 5G iPod	B+	Otterbox Waterproof for iPod 4G/photo	A/A-	Be-Ez Travel Bag	B-
SBS Innovations iShok 5G Video	B+	Belkin NE Sports Leather Case for iPod	A-	Booq Venom45 Case	B-
Secure-It The PodSafe iPod Security Case	B+	Contour Design Showcase	A-	Chums Flip Case for iPod	B-
Speck Products Canvas Sport for iPod	B+	Handstands iPak/iSnug Set	A-	Chums iFrame Case for iPod	B-
Speck Products See-Thru Sexy Hard Cases	B+	iSkin eVo 2 with Wheel Cap	A-	DLO Jam Jacket Pro	B-
Vaja iVod video SP	B+	Lajo eXoflp	A-	Hook Casemandu iPod Travel Case	B-
				Incase Leather Sleeves	B-
				Incase Pouch Fashion Case	B-

MCA Hautes Coutures Double Stitch	B-	iSkin Vibes for iPod mini	B+	Incase Neoprene Sleeve for iPod nano	B+
Pacific Design iPod Flip Case	B-	Lajo exo2mini	B+	Marware Sportsuit Relay	B+
Paul Frank iPod Cases	B-	Lajo exo2mini-fb	B+	Marware Sportsuit Runabout	B+
Power Support Crystal Jacket 4G	B-	LifePod Urban Camouflage ModPod minis	B+	Noreve Tradition Leather Case	B+
Rivet iGrab with QR Belt Clip/Dash Mount	B-	Marware Santa	B+	DLO Action Jacket	B
Speck Products iKitty for 4G iPod	B-	MCA Hautes Coutures Snow for iPod mini	B+	ifrogz 3GNanowrapz	B
Vaja Classic AP96 Leather Studded Case	B-	Moshi/Aevoe Mini iPouch	B+	ifrogz Treadz	B
Agent 18 Click Shield	C+	Speck Products iGuy for mini	B+	PDair Aluminum Metal Case	B
Aneta Genova SoundGear Play-Through	C+	Speck Products Mini FlipStand	B+	PDair Flip Type Leather Case	B
DLO Action Jacket 4G	C+	Speck Products PortfolioSkin for mini	B+	PDair Sleeve Type Leather Case	B
Lajo exo3	C+	Targus Slide Case for iPod mini	B+	Incase Sports Armband for iPod nano	B-
Marware SportSuit Basic	C+	Tunewear WaterWear mini	B+	Marware Sportsuit Sleeve	B-
Mindknob Premium Glove Leather Case	C+	Vaja Classic case	B+	Uniea U-Suit for iPod nano (3G)	B-
Pods Plus Leather Flipcase	C+	Belkin Hard Case for iPod mini	B	Incase Protective Cover for iPod nano 3G	C
Acme Made The Traveller	C	Capdase Flip Top Leather Case	B		
Lajo Zip4g b	C	ezGear Clear mini Case	B		
Lime iPod Peel Cases	C	Global Source Deluxe Leather Case	B	Cases - iPod nano (2G)	
Lime Regular Peel Case for iPod	C	HotRomz Cases for iPod mini	B	Contour Design iSee nano V2	A
Mobile Juice Skin Art 4G	C	iLeath Mini Print Case	B	H2O Audio Outdoor Case for iPod nano	A
PRM iDiddy Case/Lanyard/Earbuds 4G	C	Incase Handcrafted Leather Sleeve	B	ifrogz 30 Combo Case for 2G iPod nano	A
Target/Aneta Genova SoundGear Playthru	C	Innopocket Magnesium Case	B	ifrogz Nanowrapz for 2G iPod nano	A
Belkin NE Leather Flip Case for iPod	C-	Kroo Executive Leather Cases	B	iSkin Duo for iPod nano (Aluminum)	A
Belkin Sports Jacket for iPod 4G/20GB	C-	Kroo Laguna Leather Cases	B	Aquarius iJacket for iPod nano 2G	A-
Pacific Design Pouch	C-	Kroo Soho Leather Cases	B	Better Energy Systems Pocket Rock 'It	A-
Krusell Music Multidapt for iPod	D+/D-	Lime Mini Flip Case	B	Core Cases Aluminum Case for nano (2G)	A-
Gadget Accessories Aluminum Case	D	Marware Safari	B	Gizmac Titan Clear for the iPod Nano 2G	A-
		Matias Clear iPod Armor mini	B	Griffin iVault for nano	A-
Cases - iPod mini		Rivet iGrab mini with Lanyard or Clip	B	Griffin Trio Plus for iPod nano	A-
Lajo exoflpmi	A	Sena Detachable Flip	B	iSkin for iPod nano (Aluminum)	A-
OtterBox for iPod mini Waterproof Case	A	Slappa ShockShell	B-	Marware Sidewinder Spectra for 2G nano	A-
Power Support Square Type Sil. Jacket	A	Speck Mini iStyle	B	Marware Slyder for iPod nano 2nd Gen	A-
Vaja iVod mini	A	Speck Mini Skin	B	Otter Products OtterBox for iPod nano 2G	A-
Speck Products ToughSkin mini	A	Targus Flip Case for iPod mini	B	Power Support Illusion Case for nano (2G)	A-
STM Mini Cocoon Travel Case	A	Tunewear Icewear	B	Power Support Silicone Jacket Round	A-
Tunewear Prie Classic Face Case	A	Burning Love Airpodz	B-	Power Support Silicone Jacket Square	A-
a.b. sutton Tokyo '64 Handmade Leather	A-	Capdase Soft Jacket	B-	Speck Products Canvas Sport for nano 2G	A-
a.b. sutton Mini Clutch Leather	A-	Chums iFrame Case for iPod mini	B-	Speck ToughSkin 2 Tough Case nano 2G	A-
Capdase Metal Case for iPod mini	A-	DC Shoes / Incase Sleeve	B-	SwitchEasy Capsule for iPod nano G2	A-
Contour Design iSee-mini	A-	Gadget Accessories Aluminum Case	B-	Tunewear Icewear nano 2G	A-
DLO Jam Jacket & Pro mini	A-	Marware MetroVue mini	B-	AB Sutton Nano Slip	B+
Handstands iPak/iSnug Set	A-	Speck Products iKitty for mini	B-	Boomwave Podstar Bearaphim for 2G	B+
Incase Multifunction Sport Case	A-	Timbuk2 iPod Mini Carrying Case	B-	Boomwave Podstar Diablo Spectrum 2G	B+
Incase Neoprene Sleeve for iPod mini	A-	Aneta Genova SoundGear Play-Through	C+	Contour Design Showcase nano (2G)	B+
iSkin mini	A-	Belkin Sports Jacket for iPod mini	C+	DLO Twister for iPod nano	B+
Kate Spade mini iPod Cases	A-	DLO Action Jacket mini case	C+	Griffin iClear Photo for iPod and iPod nano	B+
Lajo exo3mini	A-	Krusell Music Multidapt for iPod mini	C+	Griffin Technology Trio for nano	B+
Marware SportSuit Convertible	A-	Lajo exomini	C+	iSkin Vibes for iPod nano 2nd Generation	B+
Marware TrailVue	A-	Marware Basic	C+	JAVOedge AlloyVision Crystal Metal Case	B+
Matias iPod Armor mini	A-	Marware Runabout	C+	Noreve Tradition Leather Case for nano G2	B+
Miyavix Kimono	A-	Modus Design Dopi Cases	C+	Red Snapper Mypod Custom	B+
Pacific Design iPod Mini Flip Case	A-	RadTech Sleevez for iPod mini	C+	Vaja Classic Top for Apple iPod nano 2G	B+
Power Support Crystal Jacket mini Set	A-	Target/Aneta Genova Soundgear Playthru	C+	Vakaadoo iVak N-type 2 Case for nano	B+
Speck Products GripSkin for iPod mini	A-	Bird-Electron POCO	C	Aquapac 100% Waterproof MP3 Case	B
Speck Products Mini Arm Band	A-	PRM iDiddy Case/Lanyard/Earbuds mini	C	Capdase Bifold Style Classy Leather Case	B
a.b. sutton Mini Slip Handmade Leather	B+	Burning Love AirPodz for iPod mini	C-	Capdase Hip-Hop Style Soft Jacket	B
a.b. sutton Mini Fastback Leather	B+	Proporta Crystal mini Case	C-/D-	Capdase Pattern Leather Case for nano	B
Agent 18 Mini Shield Case	B+	Mobifly iPod mini Mobifly Kit	D+	FatPengy iStitch Customizable	B
Agent 18 Mini Shock Case	B+	Tunewear Prie Hook mini	D-	ifrogz bagz Water Resistant Cases for nano	B
Belkin Leather Pouch for iPod mini	B+			Marware Sportsuit Sensor+/Sport Kit	B
Belkin NE Classic Leather Case for mini	B+			Mophie Relo Radura	B
Body Glove Fusion Case mini	B+	Cases - iPod nano (video)		NorthShore International Kaftan Cases	B
Booq Venom mini Case	B+	Apple iPod nano Armband	A-	Pacific Rim Technologies Quartz Shield	B
Eroch Lili mini Waterproof Case	B+	Marware SportGrip for iPod nano (video)	A-	PDO/Pods Plus Aluminum N2 for 2G	B
H2O Audio SV-iMini Underwater Case	B+	Marware Sportsuit Convertible	A-	Proporta Alu-Crystal Case	B
Innopocket Metal Deluxe Case	B+	SwitchEasy Biscuits for G3 Nano	A-	Sena MagnetFlipper for iPod nano 2G	B
		Incase Leather Sleeve for iPod nano	B+	Speck See-Thru Lucid Case for 2G	B

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Vaja i-Volution with Hook for nano 2G	B
Capdase Belt Leather Case for nano	B-
Capdase Classy Leather Case for nano	B-
Skymate Designer Series Case for nano	B-
Apple Computer iPod nano Armband 2G	C+
ifrogz Clear Case for 2nd Gen iPod nano	C+
Tunewear Prie Uni for iPod nano	C+
ventureDESIGNworks freeHAND	C+
Pacific Design Uptown Clutch for nano	C
PodDress PodDress for iPod nano	C
SwitchEasy RunAway AnyShoe Adapter	C

Cases - iPod nano (1G)

AVA Lava for iPod nano	A
iSkin Duo for iPod nano	A
Aquarius iJacket for iPod nano	A-
Better Energy Systems Tread Visor	A-
Boomwave Podstar Diablo for iPod nano	A-
Capdase Crystal Clear Case for iPod nano	A-
Capdase Soft Armor for iPod nano	A-
Carrie Scott/Herchmer Jamband Sport	A-
DLO nano fling Fashion Wristlet Case	A-
Griffin Technology Bookcase nano	A-
H2O Audio Waterproof Housing for nano	A-
ifrogz wrapz Customizable Cases for nano	A-
Incase Neoprene Sleeve for iPod nano	A-
Incase Neoprene Sports Cases for nano	A-
Marware Sidewinder for iPod nano	A-
Marware Sportsuit Basic for iPod nano	A-
Otter Products OtterBox for iPod nano 1G	A-
Power Support Crystal Jacket for nano	A-
Power Support Illusion Case for iPod nano	A-
STM Holster for iPod nano	A-
Sumo Cases Stripe for iPod nano	A-
Tunewear Prie Ambassador Sienna	A-
XtremeMac SportWrap for iPod nano	A-
Agent 18 Shield 4 Nano	B+
Apple Computer iPod nano Tubes	B+
Axio Thump Shock-Resistant Silicone	B+
Better Energy Systems Tread Ellipse III	B+
Core Cases Aluminum Case for iPod nano	B+
DC Shoes Incase Folio for iPod nano	B+
DLO Action Jacket for iPod nano	B+
Macally Icesuit Protective Sleeve for nano	B+
Marware CEO Billfold Wallet for nano	B+
Marware Sport Grip for iPod nano	B+
Marware Sportsuit Convertible for nano	B+
Marware Sportsuit Santa for iPod nano	B+
Marware Sportsuit Sleeve for iPod nano	B+
Miniot iWood nano	B+
Pacific Rim Tech. nano Magnesium Shield	B+
Power Support Silicone Jacket for nano	B+
Power Support/Miyavix Kimono for nano	B+
Secure-It The PodSafe iPod Security Case	B+
Speck Products Canvas Sport for nano	B+
Tunewear Icewear for iPod nano	B+
Tunewear Prie Ambassador for iPod nano	B+
Tunewear Prie TuneWallet Sienna	B+
Vaja iVod nano	B+
XtremeMac IceFrame for iPod nano	B+
XtremeMac Iconz for iPod nano	B+
XtremeMac Iconz Sport for iPod nano	B+
A-1 Quality Products Nano iKeychain Case	B
Apple Computer iPod nano Armband	B
Axio Deluxe Shock-Resistant Silicone	B
Belkin Folio Cases for iPod nano	B
Contour Design iSee nano	B
Handstands iSnug Nano Set	B
Incase Leather Folio for iPod nano	B
Innopocket Metal Deluxe Case for nano	B
iPodstreet Bifold Leather Case for nano	B
Marware CEO Card Wallet for iPod nano	B
Marware Sport Grip Extreme	B
Marware Sportsuit Runabout for nano	B

Marware Sportsuit Safari for iPod nano	B
Moshi nanoPouch	B
Nike Sport Armband for iPod nano/shuffle	B
Pacific Rim Tech. Gel Shield 3-Pack	B
Pods Plus iPod Nano Skin	B
Shinnorie EZgoing Leather Pouch nano	B
Speck Products Active Sport Armband	B
Speck Products Active Sport Case	B
Speck Products nano Grass FunSkin	B
Speck Product ToughSkin for iPod nano	B
Sumo Cases Flip for iPod nano	B
Tunewear Prie TuneTag Sienna	B
Tunewear Prie TuneWallet for iPod nano	B
Vaja Classic AP161	B
Winzz iFace nano	B
XtremeMac MicroGlove for iPod nano	B
XtremeMac MicroShield Clear Case	B
XtremeMac TuffWrap 3-Pack for iPod nano	B
Belkin Flip for iPod nano	B-
Belkin Holster for iPod nano	B-
Capdase Luxury Metal Case for iPod nano	B-
Case-Mate Leather Case for iPod nano	B-
Incase University Collection Wallets	B-
Pacific Design Nano Flip Case	B-
Pods Plus Aluminum Case for iPod nano	B-
Speck Products nano Cloud FunSkin	B-
Speck Products nano iGuy	B-
Speck Products See-Thru Sexy Hard Case	B-
SwitchEasy Capsule for iPod nano	B-
Tunewear Prie TuneTag for iPod nano	B-
Vaja Classic AP171	B-
XtremeMac MicroWallet Accent	B-
XtremeMac MicroWallet Leather	B-
XtremeMac MicroWallet Pastel	B-
XtremeMac TuffWrap Single-Pack	B-
Apple Computer Leather Case for nano	C+
C6 Mfg. Carbon Fiber Nano Case	C+
Capdase Chic Leather Case for iPod nano	C+
iPodstreet Horizontal Encased Leather	C+
iPodstreet Jacket Leather Case	C+
iPodstreet Jacket with Trim Leather Case	C+
Noreve Tradition for iPod nano	C+
Pacific Rim Mtg. iDitti Commuter for nano	C+
Proporta Protective Silicone Case for nano	C+
Belkin Carabineer for iPod nano	C
iPodstreet Metal Case for iPod nano	C
Mr. Smith Jimi nano-case	C
Speck Products Connect & Protect nano	C
Speck Products SkinTight for iPod nano	C
Speck Products SkinTight Deluxe for nano	C
Incase Leather Wallet for iPod nano	C-
iPodstreet Thong Leather Case for nano	C-
Nike Nike+ Sport Armband for iPod nano	C-

Cases - iPod shuffle (2G)

Power Support Silicone Jacket:	A-
Capdase Protective Case Set	B+
H2O Audio iS2 Waterproof Housing	B+
Incipio [performance] Armband	B+
JAVOedge JAVOClearCase	B+
Capdase Leather Case and Syncha Set	B
DLO Action Jacket for iPod shuffle	B
Griffin Tempo Armband for iPod shuffle	B
ifrogz Shuffle Wrapz 3-Pack Silicone Cases	B
JAVOedge JAVOShield Stainless Steel Case	B
JAVOedge JAVOSkin Case	B
Mophie Bevy w/ Key Chain/Bottle Opener	B
Hori Silicone Cover for iPod shuffle	B-
Mophie Mueva Wraptor	B-
Speck TechStyle Puck All-in-One Case	B-
Proporta Crystal Sleeves for 2G shuffle	C+
Proporta Silicone Sleeves for 2G shuffle	C+
Proporta Steel Sleeves for 2G iPod shuffle	C+

Cases - iPod shuffle (1G)

Apple iPod shuffle Sport Case	A
iSkin Shuffle Duo for iPod shuffle	A
TuneWear Icewear Shuffle	A
Body Glove Fusion Case shuffle	A-
DLO Action Jacket for iPod shuffle	A-
iMojo shuffle Sweats	A-
OtterBox for iPod shuffle	A-
Power Support Silicone Jacket Shuffle	A-
XtremeMac TuffWrapz	A-
Agent 18 Shield 4 Shuffle Packs	B+
Apple iPod shuffle Armband	B+
Capdase Luxury Metal Case	B+
Capdase Soft Jacket Value Set	B+
Core Cases Aluminum Case	B+
Exopod Aluminum Magnetic Case	B+
Griffin SiliSkins	B+
Griffin iVault	B+
iSkin Vibes for iPod shuffle	B+
Macally IceSuit shuffle	B+
Pacific Rim Technologies Gel Shield	B+
Pods Plus Crystal Case for iPod shuffle	B+
Speck Connect & Protect for iPod shuffle	B+
Speck Metal iPod Protection	B+
Vaja AP11 for iPod shuffle	B+
A.B. Sutton Kidskin Case for iPod shuffle	B
HotRomz Cases for iPod shuffle	B
Incase Pouch - Multipurpose Version	B
MCA Hautes Coutures Snow Case	B
Miyavix/Power Support Kimono Case	B
MP3Band-It Armband (1.5" Version)	B
PodGear JumpSuit Shuffle	B
XtremeMac Shieldz 3-Pack	B
XtremeMac Shieldz Characters	B
XtremeMac Shieldz Sport	B
Belkin NE Classic Leather Case	B-
DLO Jam Jackets and Caps	B-
Incase Neoprene Wristband for iPod shuffle	B-
XtremeMac SportWrap for iPod shuffle	B-
Incase Pouch - Five-Pack Version	C+
Pods Plus Leather Cases	C+
Belkin Sports Jacket 3-Pack for iPod shuffle	C
PRM iDiddy Case/Lanyard/Earbuds shuffle	C
MP3 Band-It (1.0" Version)	C-
Pods Plus Silicone Skins for iPod shuffle	C-
Kroo Soho Leather Case for iPod shuffle	D+
Speck SkinTight Armband for iPod shuffle	D-

Cases - iPod touch

DLO Action Jacket for iPod touch	A-
Griffin iClear for iPod touch	A-
Marware SportGrip for iPod touch	A-
Belkin Sport Armband for iPod touch	B+
Griffin Reflect for iPod touch	B+
Belkin Leather Sleeve for iPod touch	B
Belkin Sport Armband Plus for iPod touch	B
Incase Leather Sleeve for iPod touch	B
Incase Neoprene Sleeve for iPod touch	B
Belkin Leather Folio for iPod touch	B-
DLO HipCase Leather Sleeve for iPod touch	B-
Griffin Elan Convertible for iPod touch	B-
Griffin Streamline Armband/iPhone & touchB-	

Cases - 3G iPod (with Dock Connector)

Contour Design Showcase	A
Lajo eXoFlip	A
Marware C.E.O. Classic 3G	A
STM Cocoon case	A
Vaja i-Vod 3G	A
iSkin eXo2 Case	A-
Self Design BodyMask	A-
Eroch Studios Lilipod Waterproof Case	B+
Gravis G-Pod	B+
iSkin eVo	B+

Lajo eXo 2 Case	B+	XtremeMac iPod Cassette Adapter	C	Macally FMCup FM Transmitter/Charger	B+
Marware CEO Glove 3G	B+	Belkin Mobile Cassette Adapter	C-	Newer Technology RoadTrip! 87.9 FM	B+
Matias iPod Armor	B+	Coby CA-747 Dual Position Adapter	D	Newer Technology RoadTrip!+ (Plus)	B+
Otterbox iPod	B+			Kensington LiquidFM Deluxe	B
Speck Products iSport	B+	CD Ripping Products and Services		Kensington RDS FM Transmitter/Car Char.	B
Teski Roadie Case	B+	RipShark	A-	Monster iCarPlay Wireless 200	B
Aneta Genova SoundGear Sleeve	B+	Moondog Digital	A-	Monster iCarPlay Wireless Plus iPod	B
Incase Sleeve 3G Case	B	MusicShifter	A-	Monster iCarPlay Wireless Plus shuffle	B
Lajo eXo and eXo Inferno Cases	B	Ready to Play	B+	DLO TransDock micro All-in-One	B-
Lajo eXo 3	B	RipDigital	B	Belkin TuneCast Auto FM Trans/Charger	C+
Monster iCase Travel Pack	B	dmp3 Music	B-	Monster iCarPlay FM Transmitter	C+
Power Support Silicone Jacket Set	B	MusicRip	C+	Dr. Bott iPod Connection Kit w/ FM Trans.	C
RadTech PodSleeve	B	Wingspan Partners iLoad	C-	Irock! Wireless Music Adapter	C
Piel Frama Leather Case	B			XtremeMac AirPlay for iPod shuffle	C-
Speck Products FlipStand 3G	B	Cleaners & Polishes		Newer Technology RoadTrip!	D
Terforma iSleeve G2	B	Radtech Ice Crème (Version 2)	A-		
Teski Executive Leather Case	B	Applesauce Products Scratch Removal Kit	B	FM Transmitters - Portable	
iLeath Leather Print Case	B-	iCleaner	B	XtremeMac AirPlay FM Transmitter	A
Speck Products iPod Skin	B-	DLO Care Kit for iPod	C+	Griffin iTrip with LCD for iPod 4G/mini	A/A-
CaseClosed iPod Cases	C+	Radtech Ice Crème (Version 1)	C+	ABT iJet for iPod nano	A-
MacAlly PodCase Armband	C+	Reckitt Benckiser Brasso Metal Polish	C	Belkin TuneFM for iPod	A-
JAVOedge Design 1	C			Belkin TuneFM for iPod nano	A-
Tune Belt iPod Armband Carrier	C-	Clips and Cord Managers		Griffin iTrip	A-
Monster iSportCase	D+	BlueLounge cableyo	A-	Griffin iTrip mini	A-
Proporta Aluminum iPod Case	D-	Audio Outfitters earPod Earbud Case	B	Griffin iTrip for iPod nano	A-
		Sendstation earBuddy	B	XtremeMac AirPlay Boost (nano 2G)	A-
Cases - 1G & 2G iPods (no Dock Connector)		Sumajin SmartWrap Cord Manager	B	Belkin TuneCast II FM Transmitter	B+
Incase Pouch	A	Apple iPod mini Lanyard	B-	C. Crane FM Transmitter	B+
Marware C.E.O Classic Case	A	Lajo TwistClips	B-	XtremeMac AirPlay Boost (iPod 5G)	B+
Marware SportSuit Convertible	A	Power Support Cord Gatherer	B-	Griffin iTrip Pocket	B
Vaja i-Vod	A	Tunewear TuneClip	C	Kensington Pico FM Transmitter for iPod	B
XtremeMac Deluxe (New & Improved)	A	Hook Industries BudFrog	D+	XtremeMac AirPlay2	B/C+
iGlove Leather Case	A-			BTI FM Transmitter for iPod nano	B-
J.R. Hill & Co. iPod Sleeve Deluxe	A-	Clips and Guards - iPod shuffle 1G		DLO nanoTune Transmitter/Radio/Amp	B-
Krusell Classic Case	A-	Griffin Technology TuneBuds Lanyard	A-	Griffin iTrip with Dock Connector	B-
Waterfield Designs Sooper Dooper	A-	DLO Flip Clip for iPod shuffle	B+	Kensington QuickSeek FM Transmitter	B-
XtremeMac Deluxe (Original)	A-	DVforge The Clips for iPod shuffle	B+	Tekkeon myPower FM Transmitter	B-
Contour Design iSee	B+	Kensington Transporters	B+	Sonnet Podfreq FM Transmitter	D+
Groove Jacket	B+	Bruddy ShuffleMate	B		
Marware SportSuit Sleeve	B+	Marware Sport Grip for iPod shuffle	B	Headphones & In-Canal Earphones	
Matias iPod Armor	B+	XtremeMac Shieldz	B	AKG k701 Reference Headphones	A
Incase Designs Sleeve	B	Devoted1 iBelieve Crucifix Cap	B-	Etymotic Research ER-4P Earphones	A
OP/TECH USA MP3i Pouch	B	Rivet Grab for iPod shuffle	B-	Etymotic Research ER-4S Earphones	A
The Pouch MP3 Player Carrying Case	B	Tunewear Aluminum ClipWear shuffle	B-	Etymotic ER-6i Isolator Earphones	A
Vaja Classic Case	B	XtremeMac SuperClip	B-	JAYS q-JAYS Earphones	A
Belkin iPod Case	B-	XtremeMac SuperHook	B-	Shure E500PTH Sound Isolating	A
NeoPod Neoprene Case	B-	Griffin TuneCaps	C+	Sony MDR-EX81 Earphones	A
Speck Products FlipStand	C+	JP's Clip + Armband for iPod Shuffle	C+	Ultimate Ears UE5c Custom Earphones	A
Xigma Leather Case	C+	XtremeMac Bumperz	C+	Bose QuietComfort 2 Noise Canceling	A-
Krusell Handit Case	C	RadTech ClearClip for shuffle	C	Jays d-JAYS Earphones	A-
OWC Pod Protector	C	Pacific Rim Tech. iPod shuffle Acc. Kit	C-	Sennheiser MX500	A-
Willow Design BiFold Case	C	ShuffleClip by ShuffleClip	D+	Sennheiser OMX70	A-
				Sennheiser PMX60	A-
Cases - iPod Hi-Fi		FM Radio Receivers		Shure E5c Earphones	A-
Gecko Gear Hi-Fi Traveller Carrying Case	B	Griffin iFM Radio/Remote/Recorder-4G	A/B+	Sony Fontopia MDR-EX70/71LP	A-
Griffin Technology Hi-Way	B-	Apple Computer iPod Radio Remote	A-	Sony MDR-E888LP Fontopia Earphones	A-
Cassette Tape Adapters		DLO mini fm Radio and Amplifier for mini	A-	Ultimate Ears super.fi 3 Studio Earphones	A-
Belkin TuneDeck for iPod nano	A-	Kensington Digital FM Radio & Transmitter	B+	Ultimate Ears super.fi 5 EB Earphones	A-
Philips PH2050W MP3/CD Cassette Adapt.	A-	BTI The iPod Tunestir 3-in-1	B-	Ultimate Ears super.fi 5 Pro Earphones	A-
Griffin SmartDeck Intelligent Adapter 4G	B+			Ultimate Ears triple.fi 10 Pro Earphones	A-
Sony CPA-9C Car Connecting Pack	B+	FM Transmitters - Car Only		Ultimate Ears UE-10 Pro Earphones	A-
XtremeMac iPod Cassette Adapter V2	B+	Kensington Digital FM Trans./Auto Charg.	A-	Westone UM1	A-
Griffin SmartDeck Intelligent Adapter 5G	B	Griffin iTrip Auto FM Transmitter/Charger	B+	Westone UM2	B+
Monster iCarPlay Cassette Adapter	B	Kensington LiquidFM	B+	Altec Lansing iM616	B+
		Kensington LiquidFM Plus	B+	Altec Lansing iM716	B+

Reader Advisory: Astroturfing and Product Revving. Over the past several years, iLounge has caught companies trying to create phony grass roots support for their products, or opposition to competitors' products. We have banned this sleazy marketing practice, called "astroturfing," and booted companies from iLounge for doing it. Also, some companies continue to change ("rev") their products after initial shipments, generally improving them but sometimes making them worse. See iLounge's Discussion Forums for discussions of post-release product changes.

Apple iPod Earphones (9/06)	B+
Audio-Technica ATH-CM3 Earphones	B+
Creative Aurvana X-Fi Noise-Cancelling	B+
Design Annex iBeat Illuminating Phones	B+
ezGear ezEars SX50 Earphones	B+
Future Sonics Ears Model EM3 Earphones	B+
Harman Kardon EP710 Noise-Isolating	B+
Headbanger Audio Ear Subs Earphones	B+
Hearing Components Comply NR-10	B+
iSkin Cerulean X1 Sound Isolating	B+
iSkin Cerulean XLR Earphones	B+
JBL Reference 220 Earphones	B+
Logitech Noise Canceling Headphones	B+
Philips SHE9501	B+
Shure E2c Earphones	B+
Shure E4c Sound Isolating Earphones	B+
Shure SE210 Sound Isolating Earphones	B+
v-moda Bass Freq Earphones	B+
XtremeMac FS1 High Definition	B+
Altec Lansing inMotion iM202 Earphones	B
Apple iPod In-Ear Headphones	B
Apple iPod nano In-Ear Lanyard Headph.	B
Aquapac 100% Waterproof Headphones	B
Etymotic Research ety8 In-the-Ear BT	B
JBL Reference 510 Headphones	B
Lenntek Hookup Lanyard Bluetooth nano	B
Macally mTune Cordless Stereo Headset	B
Macally Noise Reduction Headphones	B
Mophie Song Sling Retractable Lanyard	B
Sennheiser LX70	B
Sennheiser PMX70	B
Sennheiser PXC450 with NoiseGard 2.0	B
Sennheiser PX200	B
Shure E3c Earphones	B
Shure SE420 Earphones	B
Sony MDR-EX90LP Stereo Headphones	B
Taylor Technologies iPlus+ USB Lanyard	B
Ultimate Ears UE-11 Pro Custom Monitors	B
v-moda Vibe Earphones	B
Apple iPod nano Lanyard Headphones	B-
Apple iPod nano Lanyard Headphones 2G	B-
Aural New York Earbuds	B-
Bose QuietComfort 3 Acoustic Noise-Can	B-
Bose TriPort IE In-Ear Headphones	B-
FriendTech iDea Wireless HiFi Headset	B-
Griffin EarThumps	B-
Griffin TuneBuds Earbuds/Lanyard nano	B-
Harman Kardon EP730 Noise-Isolating	B-
H2O Audio Waterproof Headphones	B-
Logitech Curve Headphones	B-
Shure SE310 Sound Isolating Earphones	B-
Griffin EarJams	C+
Harman Kardon EP720 Noise-Isolating	C+
JBL Reference 210 Earphones	C+
Macally Retractable Headphones	C+
HeadRoom iPod Earphone System	C
Plane Quiet Noise Reducing Headset	C
Altec Lansing iM302 Headphones	C-
Fire Fox Technologies Liquid Frequency	C-
Pacific Rim Tech shuffle Accessory Kit	C-
Ultrasonic iCans Headphones	C-
JAVOedge retractable earbuds	D
Yahba Opus Earphones	D-

Headphone Expanders

Griffin SmartShare Headphone Splitter	A-
Macally PodDuo Headphone Adapter	A-
Monster iSplitter/MusicShare	A-
Monster iSplitter 200	B+
XtremeMac Audio Splitter	B+
XtremeMac Audio Splitter for shuffle (V2)	B+
Shure Music Phone Adapter MPA-3c	B
Simpl Acoustics A1 Audio Amplifier	C
Upbeat Audio Boosteroo Revolution	C-
XtremeMac Audio Splitter for shuffle (V1)	D-

iPhone Cables - Audio

Griffin Technology SmartShare	A-
Belkin Stereo Link Cable	B+
ifrogz Fitz Headphone Adapter for iPhone	B+
Monster iSplitter 200 Headphone Splitter	B+
Belkin Mini-Stereo Link Cable	B
Griffin Headphone Adapter for iPhone	B
Monster iCable for Car (iPod/iPhone)	B
Monster iCable for iPod and iPhone	B
Belkin Headphone Adapter for iPhone	B-
RadTech ProCable Stereo Audio Extender	B-

iPhone Power Chargers/Kits/Adapters

BoxWave VersaCharger PRO	B
XtremeMac InCharge Auto/iPhone	B
Apple iPhone Bluetooth Travel Cable	B-
Griffin Technology PowerJolt for iPhone	B-
Macally USB Car Charger for iPhone	B-
Monster iCarPlay Cassette Adapter/iPhone	B-

iPhone Cases

Marware SportGrip Smooth Silicone	A-
PDO TopSkin for iPhone	A-
Case-mate Signature Leather Case	B+
Contour Design iSee for iPhone	B+
Contour Design Showcase for iPhone	B+
Marware Sport Grip Backwinder for iPhone	B+
Power Support Crystal Jacket Set	B+
Sena Cases Dockable Case for iPhone	B+
Sena Cases LeatherSkin Case for iPhone	B+
Vaja iVolution Top Holster	B+
Vaja iVolution Top SP Holster	B+
XtremeMac TuffWrap for iPhone	B+
Belkin Sport Armband for iPhone	B
Case-Mate Leather Flip Case for iPhone	B
DLO Jam Jacket for iPhone	B
Incase Fitted Sleeve for iPhone	B
Incase Leather Folio for iPhone	B
Incase Sports Multifunction for iPhone	B
Incipio Executive OVRMLD L. Hard Case	B
iSkin Revo for iPhone	B
iStyles 2007 Sleeve Collection	B
Macally mCase Protective Leather Case	B
Marware C.E.O. Premiere for iPhone	B
Marware Sportsuit Sleeve Discreet	B
Pacific Rim Technologies iShield	B
PDO Reviso Premium Leather Case	B
Sena Cases MagnetFlipper Case	B
Speck SkinTight 2-Pack for iPhone	B
Speck ToughSkin for iPhone	B
Tunewear Icewear for iPhone	B
Uniea U-Suit Folio for iPhone	B
Uniea U-Suit for iPhone	B
Vaja iVolution for iPhone	B
Agent 18 EcoShield for iPhone	B-
Belkin Acrylic Case for iPhone	B-
DLO HipCase for iPhone	B-
Griffin Technology Elan Snap-In for iPhone	B-
Griffin Streamline Armband for iPhone	B-
Marware C.E.O. Sleeve Slim Executive	B-
Marware Sidewinder Smart Holster	B-
Orbino Strada Premium Hand-Stitched	B-
PDair Leather Sleeve for Apple iPhone	B-
Belkin Holster for iPhone	C+
Griffin Technology Elan Holster for iPhone	C+
Incase Protective Cover for iPhone	C+
Macally mSleeve Genuine Leather Case	C+
Marware Quick Vue for iPhone	C+
Sena Cases Elegia Pouch for Apple iPhone	C+
Sena Cases UltraSlim Pouch for iPhone	C+
Vaja iVolution Holster for iPhone	C+
Case-Mate Signature iPhone Holster	C
Incipio dermaSHOT Silicone Case	C
Incipio ECO[case and Standard Pouch	C
Incipio Silicrylic Case for iPhone	C

Noreve Tradition Leather Case for iPhone	C
Noreve Tradition B Leather Case for iPhone	C
RadTech Gelz for iPhone	C
Speck Holster-Pro for iPhone	C
Vaja iVolution Lady Holster for iPhone	C
BoxWave Designio Vertical Flap L. Case	C-
Macally mPouch Protective Leather Pouch	C-
Marware C.E.O. Elite for iPhone	C-
BoxWave Designio Open Screen L. Sleeve	D+
BoxWave FlexiSkin for Apple iPhone	D+
PDair Leather Sleeve with Cover	D+

iPhone Headsets - Bluetooth

Plantronics Voyager 520 Bluetooth	B+
Aliph Jawbone Bluetooth Headset	B
Apple iPhone Bluetooth Headset	B
Plantronics Discovery 665 Bluetooth	B
Argard M10 Bluetooth Headset	B-
Bluetake BT400GL Bluetooth Headset	C+
Gennum nX6000 Bluetooth 2.0 Headset	C+

iPhone Headsets - Wired

Apple iPhone Stereo Headset	B+
Ultimate Buds Apple-Etymotic ER-6i	B+
v-moda Vibe Duo Earphones w/ Control	B+
v-moda Vibe Duo Earphones w/ Mic	B+

iPhone Docks and Stands

Apple iPhone Dock	B+
Apple iPhone Dual Dock	B+

iPhone Stickers, Guards, and Film

NLU Products BodyGuardz for iPhone	B+
Power Support Anti-Glare Film Set	B+
Power Support Crystal Film Set for iPhone	B+
Best Skins Ever iPhone Total Body Skin	B
GelaSkins GelaSkins for iPhone	B
ShieldZone Front Shield for Apple iPhone	B
ShieldZone InvisibleShield Full Body	B
JAVOedge JavaScreens for iPhone	C+
BoxWave ClearTouch Anti-Glare Screen	C
RadTech ClearCal for iPhone	C-

iPhones & Tunes Phones

Apple iPhone (4GB/8GB)	B+
Motorola RAZR V3i iTunes Mobile Phone	B-
Motorola SLVR L7 iTunes Mobile Phone	B-
Motorola ROKR E1 iTunes Mobile Phone	C+

iPods

Apple 2G iPod 20GB Mac	A
Apple 3G iPod 15GB	A
Apple iPod U2 Special Edition (Color)	A
Apple 4G iPod 20/60GB (Color)	A
Apple iPod nano (with video, 4GB/8GB)	A
Apple 2G iPod 10GB PC	A-
Apple iPod photo (30GB/60GB)	A-
Apple iPod E5G with video (30GB/80GB)	A-
Apple iPod nano 2G (2GB/4GB/8GB)	A-
Apple 4G iPod (20GB/40GB)	A-/B+
Apple iPod from HP (20GB/40GB)	A-/B+
Apple iPod nano (1GB/2GB/4GB)	A-/B+
Apple iPod 5G with Video (30GB/60GB)	A-/B+
Apple iPod shuffle 1G (512MB/1GB)	A-/B
Apple iPod classic (80GB/160GB)	B+
Apple iPod mini 1G (4GB)	B+
Apple iPod mini 2G (4GB/6GB)	B+
Apple iPod shuffle 2G (1GB)	B+
Apple iPod U2 Special Edition (with video)	B+
Apple iPod touch (8GB/16GB)	B-

iPod Games

Apple iQuiz (aka iPod Quiz)	A-
Electronic Arts Mahjong	A-

Apple Klondike	B+
Apple Vortex	B+
Electronic Arts Sudoku	B+
Electronic Arts Royal Solitaire	B
Electronic Arts Tetris 1.1	B
Electronic Arts The Sims Pool	B
FreshGames Cubis 2	B
Sony BMG Musika - Interactive Visualizer	B
Apple Texas Hold'em	B-
Electronic Arts The Sims Bowling	B-
Electronic Arts Tetris 1.0	B-
PopCap Games Bejeweled	B-
PopCap Games Zuma	B-
Gameloft S.A. Lost	C+
Electronic Arts Mini Golf	C-
Namco Ms. Pac-Man	C-
Namco Pac-Man	D+

iPod Hardware Expanders - General

Apple Nike+iPod Sport Kit	A-
Griffin RadioSHARK	A-
Griffin radio SHARK 2	A-
KidDESIGNS Barbie Jam with Me Guitar	A-
Apple AirPort Express	B+
B2 miJam Mini Keys	B+
B2 miJam Guitar	B
B2 miJam Wassup	B
ETCHamac iPod Etching Service	B
Griffin iBeam	B
LUMi Ventures Flasher for iPod	B
B2 miJam Mini Mix	B-
ViewSonic ViewDock 22" Monitor w/Dock	B-
Intuitive Devices Blinkit iPod Safety Light	C+
B2 miJam Mixer	C+
Sima Products Hitch USB Transfer Device	C+
DVforge JamPod Audio Mixer	C
B2 miJam Drummer	C

iPod-Specific Clothes

iSoundCap Hat for iPod nano/shuffle	B
Kenpo MKT-0& Jacket for iPod	B
TuneBuckle The Original for iPod nano	B
TuneBuckle Full Moon for iPod nano	C+
Koyono BlackCoat Work Jacket	C-

Karaoke Accessories

Griffin iKaraoke	B
doPi Karaoke	B
CAVS IPS-11G Karaoke System	B-

Portable Video Displays

Memorex iFlip 8.4" Portable Video Player	B+
Sonic Impact Video-55 Video/Speaker	B+
iLuv i1055/Zeon Z1055 7-Inch Tablet	C
ATO iSee 360i Video Recorder/Player	C-

Recorders - Audio

Griffin iTalk	A-
Griffin iTalk (2) Voice Recorder	A-
XtremeMac MicroMemo High-Fidelity	A-
Belkin TuneTalk Stereo for iPod with video	B+
Belkin TuneTalk Microphone	B
Belkin Voice Recorder	B
Griffin iTalkPro CD-Quality Stereo Mic	B
XtremeMac MicroMemo for iPod nano	B
DLO VoiceNote Voice Recorder	B-
Griffin Lapel Mic Stereo Microphone	B-
Belkin Universal Microphone Adapter	C+

Recorders - Video

Elgato Systems Turbo.264	A-
ADS Tech Instant Video To-Go	B-
Streaming Networks iRecord for iPod	B-
Neuros MPEG-2 Recorder 2	C

Remote Controls

ABT iJet Wireless RF Remote 3G/4G/mini	A-
Griffin AirClick Wireless RF 3G/4G/mini	A-
Targus RemoteTunes Wireless 3G/4G/mini	A-
ABT iJet Wireless Remote w/ Bottom Dock	B+
Apple Remote 3G/4G/mini	B+
Belkin SportCommand Fabric Remote	B+
Engineered Audio RemoteRemote 2 RF	B+
Keyspan TuneView for iPod	B+
TEN Technology naviPro EX 3G/4G/mini	B+
Apple Computer Apple Remote	B
Brando Workshop iPod 5G Remote Cable	B
Nyko iTop Button Relocator 3G/4G	B
Scosche 150' Wireless RF Sport Remote	B
TEN Technology naviPod 3G/4G/mini	B
Griffin AirClick Remote for Dock Connect.	B
Alive Style PopAlive Remote and Dock	B-
DLO HomeDock Music Remote and Dock	B-
iPDA Remote Control for iPod nano	B-
Logic3 In-Line Remote with LCD Display	B-
Monster iEZClick Wireless On-the-Go	B-
ABT iJet Two-Way LCD Remote	C+
DLO iDirect Wireless Remote 3G/4G/mini	C
Logiix The Remote+ for iPods	C-
Zicplay EWOO Remote + AV Dock	D-

Security Devices

Secure-It The PodSafe	B+
Targus Mobile Security Lock	C+
i2 Electronics iLOCKr neo Anti-Theft	C

Software

Ratajik StationRipper (PC)	A
Griffin iFill (PC/Mac)	A-
Talking Panda iBar (PC/Mac)	A-
Benesch TiVoDecode Manager 2.1	B+
Migo Personal for iPod (PC)	B+
Talking Panda iLingo Translation Software	B+
Elgato Systems EyeTV 2 Recorder (Mac)	B
TV Harmony AutoPilot	B
TiVo Desktop Plus 2.3 (PC)	C

Speakers

Altec Lansing FX6021 2.1 Speakers	A
JBL Creature II 2.1 System	A
Logic3 i-Station7 with Remote	A
Logitech AudioStation High-Performance	A
Logitech Pure-Fi Anywhere Portable	A
Logitech Pure-Fi Elite	A
Pacific Rim Cube Travel Speakers	A
Altec Lansing inMotion iM600 Portable	A-
Altec Lansing inMotion iM7	A-
Altec Lansing iMmini	A-
Athena Technologies iVoice	A-
Ego Music Showcase Water-Resistant	A-
Gear4 PocketParty for iPod nano	A-
Griffin Amplifi 2.1 Sound System	A-
Harman Soundsticks II 2.1 Speaker System	A-
iHome IH5 Docking Stereo Clock Radio	A-
iHome iH7 Dual Alarm Clock	A-
iLuv i552 Portable AM/FM Radio/Dock V2	A-
JBL Encounter 2.1 Speakers	A-
JBL On Tour	A-
Logic3 i-Station Shuffle	A-
Logic3 i-Station Traveller	A-
Logitech mm50 Portable Speakers	A-
Macally PodWave	A-
Macally TunePro Flat Panel	A-
Memorex iTrek Mi3000 Portable Speaker	A-
Monitor Audio i-deck	A-
Nyko Speaker Dock 2	A-
Philips AJ300D Docking Entertainment	A-
PodGear PocketParty	A-
Sonic Impact i-P22 Portable Speaker	A-

Timex Ti700 iPod Clock Radio	A-
XtremeMac Luna Alarm Clock	A-
Altec Lansing iM3	B+
Altec Lansing iM3c	B+
Altec Lansing iM9	B+
Altec Lansing iM11	B+
Altec Lansing M602 Digital iPod Speaker	B+
Atlantis Music Showcase - Water Resistant	B+
Bose SoundDock	B+
Bowers & Wilkins Zeppelin iPod Speakers	B+
Chestnut Hill Sound George	B+
Elecom ASP-700i Speakers	B+
Geneva Lab Model L Sound System	B+
Geneva Lab Model XL Sound System	B+
Griffin Journl Personal Mobile System	B+
Harman Kardon Go + Play Loudspeaker	B+
iHome iH8 Dual-Alarm Clock Radio	B+
iHome iH26 iHome2Go Portable System	B+
iHome iH31 iHome2Go Portable System	B+
iHome iH52 Home System	B+
iLuv i177 Clock Radio	B+
JBL On Stage	B+
JBL On Stage II	B+
JBL On Time - Time Machine for iPod	B+
JBL Radial High Performance Loudspeaker	B+
JBL Radial Micro	B+
JBL Spot 2.1 System	B+
JBL Spyro 2.1 System	B+
Jensen Banshee JiSS-330	B+
JLab Audio MiniBlaster Portable nano	B+
JVC RA-P10 Portable Audio System/Clock	B+
Kensington SX 3000R Speakers/FM Radio	B+
Klipsch iFi Speaker System	B+
Klipsch iGroove HG All-in-One	B+
Klipsch iGroove SXT iPod Speaker	B+
Logic3 i-Station Portable Speakers	B+
Logic3 i-Station3 Speaker System	B+
Logitech AudioStation Express	B+
Macally IceTune	B+
Sierra Sound iN Studio 5.0 Smart Speakers	B+
Sonic Impact i-Fusion Portable System	B+
Sonic Impact i-F2 Portable with Remote	B+
Sonic Impact T24 Digital Audio System	B+
Tivoli iPAL	B+
Tivoli iSongBook Portable iPod Music Sys.	B+
Tivoli iYiYi	B+
Altec Lansing inMotion	B
Altec Lansing iM500 for iPod nano	B
Apple Computer iPod Hi-Fi	B
Blue Raven Maestro 1070	B
Bose SoundDock Portable	B
Boynq iCube II	B
Brookstone SongPlay	B
Creative TravelSound i50 Travel Speaker	B
Cyber Acoustics iRhythms A302/A303	B
Dynex Personal Speaker System/shuffle	B
Ignitek iCarrier	B
iLive IHMD816DT Home Docking System	B
iHome iH4 Single-Alarm Clock System	B
iHome iH19 Water-Resistant Sport Case	B
iHome iH30 iHome2Go Portable System	B
iHome iH36 Under the Cabinet	B
iHome iH80 OutLoud Portable	B
iLive IHMD8816DT Home Docking System	B
Klipsch iGroove All-in-One	B
Logic3 i-Station 8 LCD Docking Station	B
Logitech mm22 Portable	B
Logitech mm32 Portable	B
Macally IP-N111/B Portable Speaker/nano	B
Memorex iWake Dual Alarm Clock	B
Memorex Mi1111 Home Micro System	B
Monitor Audio i-deck plus	B
mStation Orb 2.1 Stereo	B
mStation Tower 2.1 Stereo	B

MTX Audio iThunder Portable Boom Box	B	Emerson iTone iE600BK Home Audio	C	Incipio IncipioHitch USB Adapter nano 2G	B-
PodGear Shuffle Station	B	Excalibur iBlaster Clock Radio	C	JP's/Pods Plus Charger/Hotsync shuffle	B-
Rain Design iWoofers	B	iLive iBCD3816DT Portable Docking 2.1	C	Pacific Rim Tech. nano iCradle	B-
Scandyna The Dock Pack	B	iLuv i188 BLK/WHIT	C	PlasticSmith tux tlt Stand for iPod	B-
Sonic Impact i-F3 Portable with Radio	B	Saffire iWoogie Blaster Hi-Fi Stereo System	C	SwitchEasy PivotDock for iPod shuffle	B/B-
Sonic Impact Roxy and QuikSilver i-P23	B	dreamGear i.Sound Wall Mountable	C-	Thought Out iPod	B-
Sprout Creation Vers 2X Wood System	B	Monster iSpeaker Portable	C-	Xitel HiFi-Link for iPod	B-
Tiger Toys/Hasbro i-Cat Interactive	B	iLuv i7500 2.1-Channel Mini Audio System	D	XtremeMac MicroPack Portable Dock	B-
Tiger Toys/Hasbro i-Dog Interactive	B	DLO iBoom (Version 2)	D-	GINI Systems iConec iPod Dock	C+
XtremeMac MicroBlast for iPod nano	B	DLO iBoom (Version 1)	F	Power Support Metal Gear Simple Stand	C+
AFT iCarta Stereo Dock/Bath Tissue Holder	B-			Razer ProType Keyboard with iPod Dock	C+
Altec Lansing iM5	B-	Stands (Docks & Cradles)		Apple Universal Dock (2007)	C
Boynq iCube	B-	Atech Flash Technology (AFT) iDuo Hub	A-	BookEndz iPodDock	C
dreamGear i.Sound Concert to Go	B-	Griffin Technology AirDock & Remote	A-	DLO USB Dock Cable for iPod shuffle	C
Griffin Technology TuneBox for shuffle	B-	Kensington Stereo Dock for iPod	A-	iPodCradle	C
i.Dream America i-Classic	B-	Keyspan AV Dock for iPod	A-	JP's/Pods Plus Dock with Video Out	C
Ignitek iCruiser Speaker System	B-	Pacific Rim Technologies Shuffle Cradle	A-	Silex Technology wiDock Wireless Dock	C
iHome iH82 OutLoud Portable Speakers	B-	Power Support Metal Gear Stand	A-		
IntelliTouch EOS Wireless Speaker System	B-	Thought Out iPod 2 Adjustable Stand	A-	Stickers, Guards, and Film	
Jada Toys I-Playaz Chub City Chub C.	B-	Apple Computer iPod AV Connection Kit	B+	Frontfield iPodDonut Wheel Protector	A-
Jada Toys I-Playaz Chub City Volkswagen	B-	Apple Computer Universal Dock (2005)	B+	InvisibleShield Full for iPod 5G	A-
Jensen Banshee JiSS-550	B-	Belkin Hi-Speed USB 2.0 4-Port Hub	B+	InvisibleShield Full for iPod nano	A-
Jensen JiMS-190 / JiMS-200	B-	Kensington Entertainment Dock 500	B+	InvisibleShield Full for iPod nano 2G	A-
JVC NX-PS1 Compact Component System	B-	Keyspan TuneView for iPod	B+	iSkin Wheel Cap	A-
Kensington FX 300 Speaker to Go	B-	Medicom iKub Stand for iPod	B+	Power Support Crystal Film Screen Prot. 4G	A-
Kensington FX 500 Speaker to Go	B-	ModPod	B+	Power Support 3D Wheel Film 4G	A-
Kensington SX2000 Speakers	B-	Power Support Swivel Fix Stand	B+	Tunewear Poptune for iPod shuffle	A-
KNG America FUNKit	B-	Sonance iPod In-Wall Docking System	B+	JAVOScreen	B+
Logic3 i-Station Concert	B-	SwitchEasy KuroDock & Power Adapter	B+	NLU BodyGuardz for iPod 5G	B+
Memorex iMove Mi3005 Boombox w/ RC	B-	Thought Out iPod Shuffle Dock	B+	Power Support Anti-Glare Film for touch	B+
Mirage OmniVibe 360 Degree Omnipolar	B-	Apple Dock (for Dock Connector iPods)	B	Power Support Crystal Film for iPod nano	B+
Monitor Audio i-deck compact	B-	Apple iPod AV Connection Kit	B	Power Support Crystal Film for iPod 5G	B+
Mythix iChant Portable Active Speaker	B-	Apple iPod nano Dock	B	Power Support Crystal Film for iPod touch	B+
Oregon Scientific iBall Wireless Speaker	B-	Apple iPod nano Dock 2G	B	Hewlett-Packard Printable Tattoos	B
Philips DCD778 Under-Cabinet AV	B-	Apple iPod shuffle Dock	B	MacSkinz Podskinz	B
Saffire JukeBox Station	B-	Atech Flash iDuo	B	Moshi iGlaze nano	B
Sharp i-Elegance DK-A1	B-	Bubble Design Habitat	B	NLU Products BodyGuardz for iPod classic	B
Sharper Image iSphere	B-	Belkin Power Dock	B	NLU Products BodyGuardz for nano 3G	B
Speck Products SpeckTone Retro	B-	Belkin Power Dock AV	B	Power Support Wheel Film	B
Techwiz Innovations Musak Bag	B-	Belkin TuneCommand AV for iPod	B	Shufflesome Stickers for iPod shuffle	B
Tiger i-Fish	B-	DLO Flexible Dock for iPod shuffle	B	Tatuz International Tatuz for iPod shuffle	B
XtremeMac Tango 2.1 Digital Audio	B-	DLO HomeDock for iPod	B	Tunewear Poptune for iPod nano	B
Zagg RockStic Portable Speaker System	B-	DLO HomeDock Deluxe for iPod	B	Mobile Juice Shuffle Art	B-
Altec Lansing inMotion iMV712	C+	DLO HomeDock Deluxe for iPod (2007)	B	Moshi/Aeovoe iGlaze video	B-
Bosch Power Box Dock for iPod	C+	Griffin Technology TuneCenter (no Wi-Fi)	B	RadTech Portectorz for Dock Connector	B-
dreamGear i.Sound TimeTravel Clock	C+	Marware USB Travel Dock for shuffle (2G)	B	Tunewear Poptune Stickers for iPod mini	B-
Gear4 PocketParty V2 Micro Speaker	C+	Pacific Rim Technologies iCradle	B	SkinEFX iPod Stickers	C+
GINI Systems iTube Vacuum Tube 2.1	C+	PlasticSmith tux upright Stand for iPod	B	Capdase SkinGuard Stickers for shuffle	C
Ignitek iCheer Speakers	C+	PodHolder	B		
Macally IP-S111 Portable Speakers/shuffle	C+	PodStand	B	Wearable Video Displays	
Miglia MicroSound Micro Speaker	C+	Pressure Drop DecoDock for iPod shuffle	B	MicroOptical myVu for iPod	B+
PodGear PocketParty Shuffle	C+	Speck Products Shuffle Dock	B	Icuiti iWear for iPod	B
Portable Sound Laboratories iMainGo	C+	Westshore Craftworks iDockCover	B	ezGear ezVision Video i-Wear	C
Sharper Image iPulse	C+	Xitel HiFi-Link for iPod nano	B		
Sony CPF-iP001 Cradle Audio for iPod	C+	Alive Style PopAlive Remote and Dock	B-		
Vuum Audio VTi-B1 Vacuum Tube System	C+	Belkin TuneSync Dock and USB Hub	B-		
Boynq Sabre	C	DVBBaseLtd DVBBase	B-		

Understanding our Ratings. iLounge's letter grade ratings break down into "excellent" (A), "good" (B), "okay" (C), and "bad" (D) marks, with two ratings (D- and F) reserved for products with serious or dangerous defects.

A grades are reserved for the very few products we **highly recommend** to our readers. Far fewer than 5% of the products we review receive flat A grades, while A- ratings indicate small issues that limit their universal appeal. **B grades** are issued to products we **generally recommend** to our readers, with caveats. These products are almost universally well-made and useful, but have one or more large issues that limit their universal appeal. Products receiving **B- grades** qualify only for our **limited recommendation**, which means "think before buying." **C grades** are issued to products that we consider decent, but wouldn't recommend buying given other, better options, and **D grades** are for products that we would pass on no matter what. **If you see a D- or F rating**, both now rare as companies generally test their products more thoroughly than in prior years, that means our tests uncovered something seriously wrong with its core functionality (D-), or potentially dangerous to users (F).

PHOTO & ART GALLERIES

Photo Contest Holiday iPod Top Submissions

This year's photo contest had a simple theme: depict an iPod during the December holidays. Entries came in from across the world; our favorites won amazing earphones or an iPod.

Happy New Year (top)

Gonzalo Vidal Soler, Barcelona, Spain
Grand Prize: Ultimate Ears UE-11 Pro

nanoChristmas (left)

Dominik Reissenweber, Bayreuth, Germany
Second Prize: Ultimate Ears triple.fi 10 Pro

Holiday iPod Supernova 2007 (right)

Christina Panaram, Ontario, Canada
Third Prize: iPod classic 80GB



Contest sponsored by



ultimate ears™



Honorable Mentions

Here are just some of the other great entries. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who entered the contest!



Art Contest iPhone nano Concepts Top Submissions

Positively Glowing (top)

Chris Doan, Toronto, Canada

Grand Prize: Geneva Lab Model L Speaker +
iPod touch 16GB

Small Phone, Big Fun (bottom left)

Gerard Pye, Pretoria, South Africa

Second Prize: Geneva Lab Model L Speaker

The all new iPhone nano (bottom right)

Jeanne-Louise Du Plessis, Gauteng, S. Africa

Third Prize: iPod nano 8GB

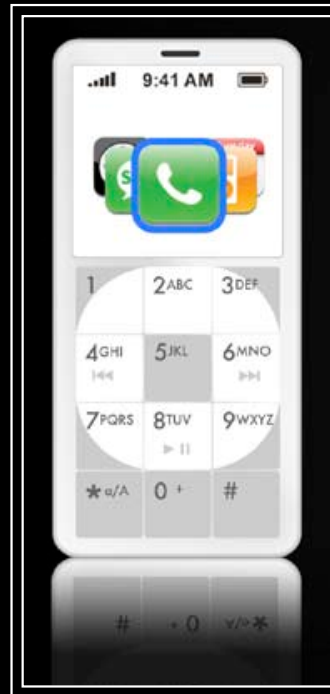


Contest sponsored by

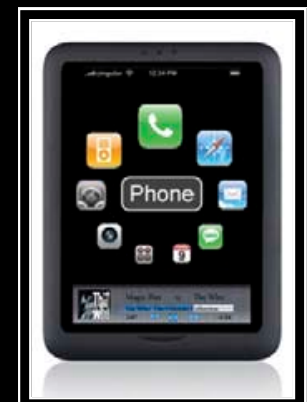
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This issue's art contest asked readers to submit their visions of what an iPhone nano should look like. We picked our favorites to win fancy Geneva Lab speakers and/or a brand new 16GB iPod touch. Here are the best of the bunch.





Honorable Mentions



iPhones Around the World + iPods Around the World Photo Galleries

Despite the iPhone's U.S.-limited sales and only recent availability of new iPod models, readers have sent in some fantastic pictures over the past few months. Submit yours and join the galleries!



Top: Ginza
Tokyo, Japan

Left: Sydney Harbour Bridge
Sydney, Australia

Right: UP Diliman
Quezon City, Philippines

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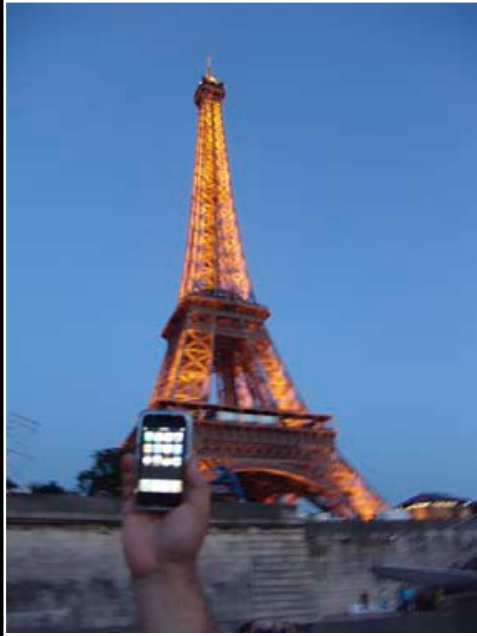
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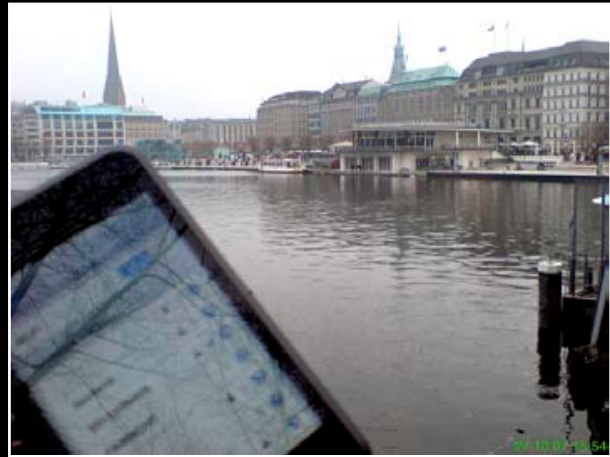
Evolve is a trademark of Griffin Technology Inc. iPod is a trademark of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries.



iPhone at Eiffel Tower
Paris, France



Votivkirche via iPod touch
Vienna, Austria



Touch the Jungfernstieg
Hamburg, Germany



Mr. iPhone at Big Ben
London, England, U.K.

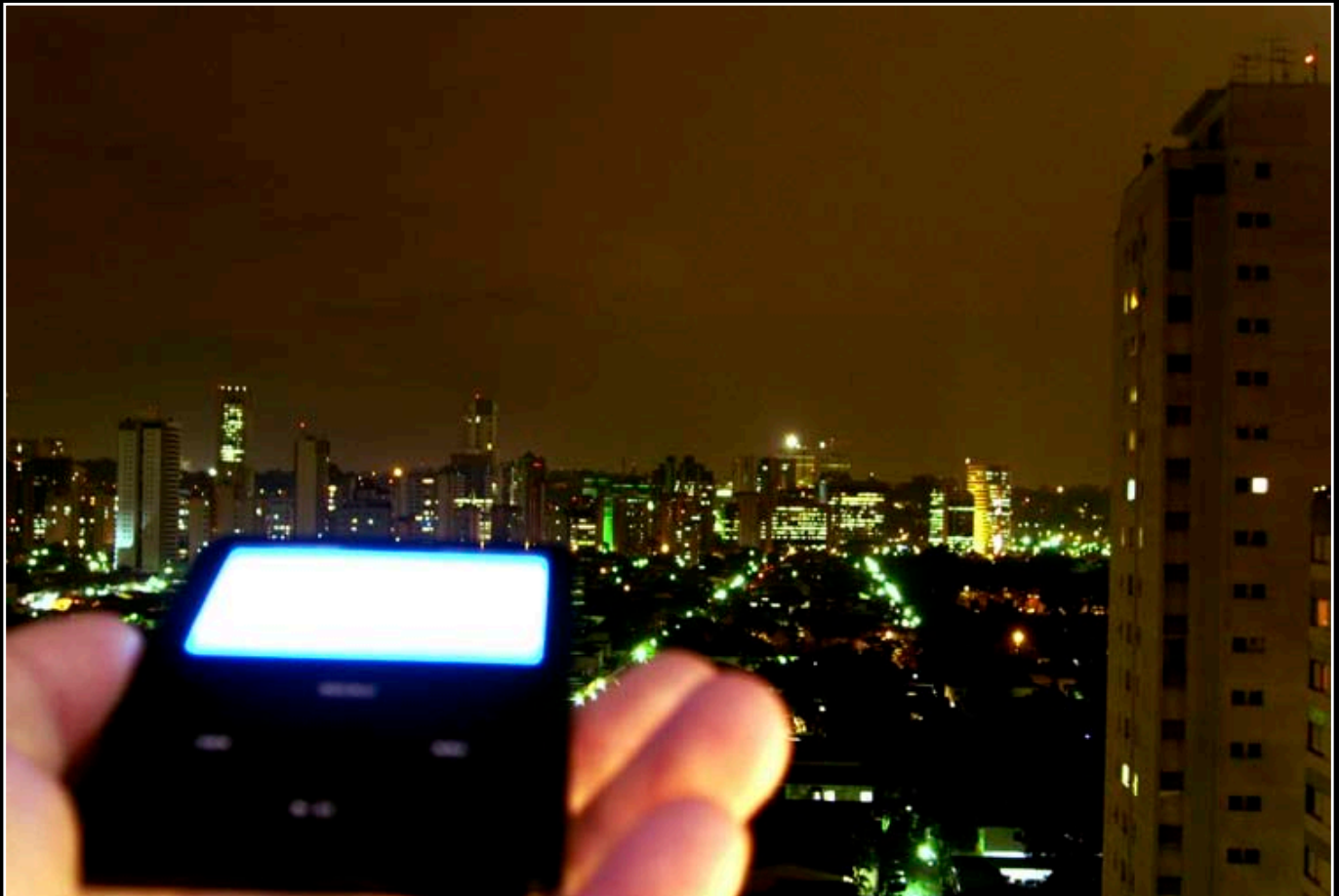


Russia's First iPhone
Moscow, Russia

First iPhone in Mexico
Teotihuacan, Mexico



A Canadian iPhone?
Niagara Falls, Canada



Watching
São Paulo, Brazil



Top: Brooklyn Bridge
Brooklyn, New York



Left: Two American Treasures
Philadelphia, PA



Right: Honolulu Skyline
Honolulu, Hawaii

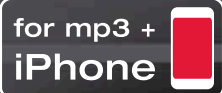


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A Brief History of iPod: 2001-2007

The Bible might sum it up in a sentence: iTunes begat iPod begat iPhone and Apple TV. But as with most stories worth telling, there's a lot more left to say. Our annually updated Brief History looks at the major turning points in Apple digital media history, good and bad alike.

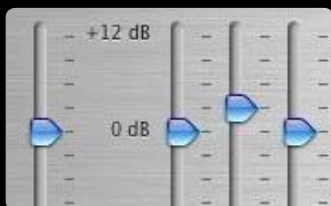
2001

January 9



iTunes 1.0 for Mac

January 9: After buying rights to an existing program called SoundJam MP from Casady & Greene, Apple introduces iTunes 1.0 for the Mac, a program that converts audio CDs into compressed digital audio files, organizes digital music libraries, and plays Internet radio.



November 2

iTunes 2.0 for Mac

iTunes 2.0 is released for the Mac, adding iPod support, ID3 and metadata support, MP3 CD burning, and sound control features such as an equalizer and crossfading.

Apple unexpectedly announces the first iPod at a price of \$399. Unlike most (but not all) competing digital audio players available at the time, Apple relies on a 1.8" hard disk for storage instead of flash memory or interchangeable CDs, and uniquely focuses on promoting the small size, power, and ease of use of its device. The first iPod has a 5 Gigabyte storage capacity - enough for over 1,000 songs - and works only on Macs, using iTunes to convert and organize music. According to Apple, iPod development began only six months before its release.



October 23

iPod (5GB) Announced

November 10

The First iPod Ships

December 31, 2001

125,000 iPods Sold

2002

March 20

The 10GB iPod

Now there's a 10GB iPod for \$499. New iPods ship with the ability to display business card-like contacts - will this be an Apple PDA? At this time, the iPod is still a Mac-only product, but programs that let iPods work with PCs begin to trickle out.



July 17

iPod Goes PC, 20GB

Apple releases PC-friendly iPods, replacing the old moving scroll wheel with a touch surface, adding a new \$499 20GB version, and lowering old prices.

**iPod Limited Edition**

Apple unveils "limited edition iPods," featuring the engraved signatures or logos of Madonna, Tony Hawk, Beck, or No Doubt for an additional \$49. The company's most expensive signed iPods now sell for a total price of \$548.

December

**iTunes 3.0 for Mac, MusicMatch PC**

iTunes 3.0 is released for the Mac, adding support for Audible audio books, ratings, smart playlists and playlist import/export. To provide software for its new PC-ready iPods, released this day, Apple includes MusicMatch, another company's program, which is adequate but not fantastic.

July 17

Big Box Retailers Go iPod

Best Buy, Target, and Dell are all selling iPods, with Dell eventually offering amazing discounts; competitors such as Creative try to squeeze 2.5" hard disks into enclosures more like the iPod's.



October

December 31, 2002

595,000 iPods Sold

2003

March

Microsoft Media2Go

Microsoft announces the Media2Go audio/video concept, which by its late 2004 release is called "Portable Media Center" and deemed an "iPod killer."

April 28



April 28

Mac iTunes 4.0, iTunes Music Store

iTunes 4.0 is released for the Mac, adding the AAC audio codec, support for DVD burners, networked music library sharing, and album artwork. Apple also launches the iTunes Music Store with 99 cent per track (\$9.99 per album) pricing and a library of 200,000 songs. Unfortunately, neither iTunes nor the music store is available for PC users, who are becoming a larger part of Apple's iPod business. By the end of its first week, the Store has sold 1 million songs.

**Third-Gen iPods**

Apple releases new iPods that are even thinner and smaller than before, feature a bottom Dock Connector port rather than a top-mounted FireWire port, and have entirely touch sensitive controls. The new "third-generation" iPods have higher capacities than 2G iPods offered for the same prices: now 10GB (2,000 songs) is \$299, 15GB (3,700 songs) is \$399 and 30GB (7,500 songs) is \$499. All the new iPods now work on either Macs or PCs.

June 19

iPod Gets USB 2.0

Apple releases USB 2.0 compatible cables and drivers for the new iPods, dramatically expanding the number of PC users who can use them with their FireWire-less machines.

September 8

3G iPod Update

Four months after the new iPod's release, a 20GB (5,000 song) model replaces the 15GB version at \$399, and a 40GB (10,000 song) model replaces the 30GB version for \$499. Sales are brisk.

October 16

Now the iPod Records

Belkin and Apple co-announce the first voice recorder and digital photo transfer add-ons for the third-generation iPod.

iTunes 4.1 for Mac/PC

Apple releases both iTunes 4.1 and the iTunes Music Store (iTMS) for U.S.-based PC users, phasing out support for the less popular MusicMatch PC software in the process.

October 16

December 31, 2003

2,046,000 iPods Sold

2004

January

iPod mini, iPod+hp

Critics question

Apple's sanity when it debuts a smaller, low-capacity (4GB)

iPod mini for \$249, offering 5 colored aluminum shells, and

introduces a 15GB \$299 iPod. Separately, Hewlett-Packard promises a blue version of the bigger iPod for a mid-year release.



February-March

iPod mini Ships, Sells Out, Delays

Proving the critics wrong, long lines form for the small colored iPod minis, which is quickly considered the ideal purse and bag-ready iPod. Sales are so strong and parts are so scarce that Apple delays the international launch until July.

April 28

June 15

iTunes 4.6 + EU iTunes Music Stores

Version 4.6 adds iTunes, for AirPort Express wireless access to iTunes music. Apple launches three European iTunes Music Stores, too: France, Germany, and the United Kingdom collectively sell 800,000 songs in their first week.

July 11

iTMS: 100m Sold

iTunes becomes the first digital music store to sell 100 million songs.

July 26

Real's Harmony

RealNetworks releases Harmony, enabling songs sold by Real to be played on iPods without Apple's permission. Apple blasts Real and implicitly threatens a suit.

July 26

July 17-20

Motorola + Apple?

Motorola promises that its next-gen phones will be iTunes-compatible, without specifics.

**iPod 4G**

Borrowing the mini's new Click Wheel, Apple debuts the fourth-generation ("4G") Pod at \$299 (20GB) and \$399 (40GB), thinning their bodies and stripping pack-ins from the prior 3G packages.

Apple Thinks Video

Apple quietly begins to search for wireless and video experts to join its iPod division.

August 25

August 27

iPod+hp Ships

Hewlett-Packard starts to ship the "Apple iPod from HP," a repackaged 4G iPod with new manuals and HP-supplied technical support. HP also announces an iPod-compatible printer and "printable tattoos" to cover iPods.

**iPod photo, U2 iPod**

Apple debuts a color-screened 4G iPod called iPod Photo (\$499-\$599) in 40GB and 60GB models for the holidays. It also launches the iPod U2 Special Edition (\$349), a black-bodied version of the black-and-white screened 4G iPod, signed by the four members of the rock band U2.

October 26



December 31, 2004

10,309,000 iPods Sold

2004 continued

August 10

iTMS Catalog @ 1m

One million songs are now available from the iTunes Music Store.

September-October

Microsoft Talks

In launching Portable Media Centers, Microsoft execs go on an anti-iPod PR offensive, calling it unsafe and its buyers music thieves.

October 12-14

iPod, iTunes Rule

Four million songs are being downloaded from iTunes per week, and roughly 6 million iPods have been sold. Apple sells over 80% of all U.S. digital music players.

October 27

iTunes 4.7

iTunes adds photo syncing support for the iPod Photo, and a search for duplicate songs feature to help clean growing libraries.

November 11

Sony Goes MP3

Having failed to popularize ATRAC-based devices, Sony announces an MP3-friendly Walkman, and plans with Warner to take away the iPod's lead in digital music.

2005

January 11

iPod shuffle

Sold for only \$99 (512MB) or \$149 (1GB), Apple's flash-based iPod shuffle ditches a screen in favor of super-simple button controls. Within four months, Apple controls 58% of the flash player market.



January 25

**#1 Brand: Apple**

Apple's U2 Silhouette ad is named smartest ad campaign by Business 2.0. By month's end, the company is named the top global brand in a survey of 2,000 ad professionals.

February 23

iPod Price Drops

Apple kills 40GB black-and-white and color iPods in favor of a \$349 30GB iPod photo and a lower-priced 60GB model (\$449). It also introduces a \$29 Camera Connector so that photo transfers to the color iPods can be done without iTunes.

shuffle Knocked Off, Battery Suit Settled

Clones of the iPod shuffle appear in Taiwan, and Apple settles a massive class action lawsuit over iPod battery defects.



June 2

"iPods" Go Color

Color "iPods" replace "iPod photos" at \$299 (20GB) and \$399 (60GB) prices. Apple also drops the price of the 1GB iPod shuffle to \$129.

**iTunes 4.9, Podcasts**

iTunes 4.9 adds free downloads of radio-like audio "podcasts" to the iTunes Music Store, plus iPod-ready playback.



June 28

June 28

Bush Gets iPod

Following Queen Elizabeth II's purchase of an iPod, U.S. President George Bush receives one as a gift.

July 6

July 29

HP Ends iPod Sales

After replacing its CEO, HP abruptly ends iPod sales, claiming that repackaging iPods wasn't a good fit with its future business plans.

2005 continued

August 10

Apple Can't Patent UI

Failing in its attempt to patent the iPod's UI, Apple finds itself threatened by Creative, which successfully patented a key aspect of library navigation.

September 7

September 7

mini Killed, nano and ROKR Debut

Apple replaces its "most popular iPod", the mini, with the smaller iPod nano (2GB/\$199, 4GB/\$249), in both black and white color options. The company also announces a special edition engraved Harry Potter iPod, and Motorola's first iTunes phone, ROKR E1.

**iTunes 5.0**

iTunes 5 adds staff reviews of music, a streamlined look, easier search features, and preference menu changes.



October 12

October 12

iPod (with video)

The 5G iPod debuts, billed as a music player "with video as a bonus."

It features a 2.5", 320 x 240 screen and enough battery life to play videos for between 2 or 3 hours, depending on which model (30GB/\$299, 60GB/\$399) you purchase.

**iTunes 6**

In iTunes 6, Apple adds videos to the iTunes Music Store, with 5 TV shows and 2,000 music videos sold at \$1.99 each. Videos are 320x240 pixels, and formatted for the iPod's display, rather than a computer or TV; by month's end, 1 million videos have been sold. Gifting and reader reviews are added, as well.

December

December 8-13

Creative, Microsoft, MTV

Creative launches a clone of the new iPod called Zen Vision: M, as Microsoft and MTV work to duplicate iTunes with an URGE music service.

42M iPods, shuffles Sold Out

Before the year ends, Apple announces sales of 30 million iPods, and notes that shuffles are sold out through year's end. NBC joins the iTunes Music Store, too. Strong holiday sales propel the iPod sales number up to 42,269,000 units for the year.

January 10

iPod + FM Radio

Responding to user demands, Apple intros the iPod Radio Remote to add FM to iPods and nanos.

February 7

1GB iPod nano, Cheaper shuffles

Via press release, Apple expands the iPod nano's appeal with a \$149 1GB model, and drops the prices of 512MB (\$69) and 1GB (\$99) iPod shuffles.

February 28

iPod Accessory Day

At a "fun new products" press event, Apple unveils the iPod Hi-Fi, a \$349 "audiophile" speaker system, and \$99 leather cases for the iPod and iPod nano. Many users are shocked by the prices and skeptical of the accessories' value, ridiculing them before release.

April 19

PortalPlayer Out, Samsung In iPods

Longtime iPod chip maker PortalPlayer is dumped by Apple for future iPods, and replaced by Samsung, which already supplies iPod flash memory.

May 15

Creative vs. Apple

Creative and Apple sue each other over iPod UI patent violations.

June 6

New U2 iPod

A video-ready version of the U2 iPod debuts, bundled with a U2 video download.



2006

February

Sandisk as #2

The memory chip maker unexpectedly overtakes Sony, Creative, and others as the #2 U.S. MP3 player vendor, distant only to Apple.

February 22

1B iTunes Songs

Apple's iTunes Music Store sells the 1 billionth song to Alex Ostrovsky, who wins an iMac, 10 60GB iPods, a \$10,000 iTunes credit, and his name on a Julliard Music School scholarship.



March 8-14

iTunes Season Pass

TV shows and sports events can now be purchased on discount in advance, with future parts downloading automatically as they're released on iTunes.

May 23

Nike + iPod

The Nike + iPod Sport Kit is announced as a \$29 iPod nano add-on, letting runners track their progress and hear voice prompts. 450,000 are sold in 90 days.

June 12-20

Chinese Trouble

iPod manufacturer Foxconn is exposed in a British tabloid for poor working conditions; the CEO oddly tells shareholders that Apple is working on a "none-touch" iPod, without elaborating.

July 11

**Microsoft's Zune**

Having failed to beat Apple with different ideas, Microsoft plans iPod and iTunes clones for late 2006.

August 8

U.S. Carmakers Back In-Car iPod

Ford, GM, and Mazda announce that their 2007 models will offer iPod-ready stereos, radically increasing iPod-in-car options. By year's end, over 70% of cars to be sold in the U.S. are claimed to be iPod-ready in some form or another.

September 5

"Made For Sansa"

SanDisk announces the Made for Sansa accessory program, in conjunction with a handful of iPod accessory developers.

September 12

**iPod 5.5G, nano 2G, shuffle 2G Premiere, iTV/Apple TV Shown**

Apple debuts enhanced video iPods with brighter screens, better prices and capacities (30GB/\$249, 80GB/\$349); new iPod nanos with five colored

aluminum casings, better battery life, and higher capacities (2GB/\$149, 4GB/\$199, 8GB/\$249); and one brand-new, radically smaller, metal-bodied iPod shuffle (1GB/\$79).

The company also offers an advance look at iTV, a device that wirelessly spools iTunes content to a TV.

iTV



*Project code name only

2006 continued

August 4-22

Bye, Dell + Napster

iPod and iTunes competitors Dell and Napster falter, with Dell quietly withdrawing from the digital music player market, and Napster publicly mulling a sale.

August 23

Apple + Creative

Apple and Creative settle their suits; Creative becomes an iPod add-on maker and receives \$100 million from Apple, which tersely accepts the Zen patent, but will recoup some money if Creative licenses the patent to others.



September 12

iTunes 7.0; Movies & Games

\$4.99 iPod games and \$9.99-14.99, 640x480 movie downloads are added to the renamed "iTunes Store" as iTunes 7 is released. iTunes additions include Cover Flow, a graphical browser for album and video cover art, and gapless audio playback.

October 13

**PRODUCT (RED) iPod nano**

The PRODUCT (RED) iPod nano is released, with \$10 of every red, \$199 4GB nano purchase going to fight AIDS in Africa.

December 31, 2006

88,701,000 iPods Sold

January

iPhone, Apple TV Feted

Apple announces the "revolutionary" iPhone, mixing a cell phone, Internet communicator, and best-of-class widescreen video iPod. Priced at \$499 (4GB) or \$599 (8GB), and requiring an AT&T two-year

contract, iPhone features an amazing 480x320 3.5" touchscreen display, and is set for a June launch.

The renamed Apple TV (iTV) is set for a February release with a 40GB drive for storing media.



February 21

Cisco + Apple

A fight over the iPhone trademark is resolved, with Cisco and Apple

March 20

Apple TV Ships

Delayed a month, Apple TV launches as the "DVD player for the 21st Century," requiring an extended- or high-definition TV set and the purchase of video

cables. Limited to playing back videos that were converted for or purchased through iTunes, the \$299 device receives mild praise, mostly for its simplicity, but format support, pricing and its ultimate utility are widely questioned.



May 29

iTunes 7.2, DRM-Free

Apple adds \$1.29 iTunes Plus downloads to the iTunes Store, removing DRM and doubling the bitrate of tracks to 256Kbps. It lets users upgrade old tracks for 30 cents each; only certain labels support Plus.

2007

January 30

iPod shuffle colors

Apple adds four new colors (green, blue, pink, and orange) to the iPod shuffle lineup, without changing prices.

February 6

Jobs Fights DRM

In an open letter on Apple's website, Apple CEO Steve Jobs says that the company is willing to sell DRM-free music through the iTunes Store if labels will supply it, but refuses to license Apple's DRM to competitors, as French lawmakers have been attempting to force the company to do.

March 5

iTunes 7.1

Released before Apple TV, iTunes 7.1 adds support for streaming and synchronizing iTunes-playable media to the TV-ready device, as well as a new full-screen Cover Flow mode and a collection of confusing sorting options.

April 9

100m iPods Sold

Apple breaks the 100 million sales mark for the iPod family.

April 25

Updates Promised

Apple promises frequent feature updates for Apple TV and the iPhone, to surprise and delight users.

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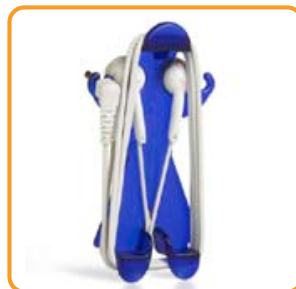


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May 30

Apple TV Updates

Now deemed only a "hobby" by Apple CEO Steve Jobs, Apple TV gets a 160GB version (\$399) and a YouTube browser.



June

iPhone Dominates Media, Launches

After utterly dominating news reports for the entire month of June, iPhone is launched to lines all across the United States on the 29th, selling 270,000 units in its first weekend, but not selling out at many locations. AT&T activation problems dog the otherwise happy event, but are mostly resolved two weeks later.



September 5

iPod nano, classic, touch Debut, shuffle Recolored, iPhone price cut

Three new iPods - a video nano (\$149/4GB, \$199/8GB), renamed "classic" 6G iPod (\$249/80GB, \$349/160GB), and widescreen flash iPod touch (\$299/8GB, \$399/16GB) debut at an Apple Event, while iPhone's price is radically cut by \$200 to spark demand, and the 4GB model is killed. Four new shuffle colors replace January's four.



September 18-October 16

iPhone UK, Germany, France Dates

O2 (UK) and T-Mobile (Germany) are announced as those regions' exclusive iPhone service providers for a November 9 launch. France's Orange later announces a November 29 launch, as well.

2007 continued

June-July

iTunes 7.3, #3 in U.S., 3B songs

iTunes 7.3 is released with iPhone activation support, and the iTunes Store becomes the #3 vendor of music in the United States, surpassing Amazon.com despite the fact that it only sells digital music - a market niche. The store also reaches the 3 billion songs sold mark, unceremoniously.

August 31

NBC Ends iTunes Deal

Shocking TV fans, NBC opts not to renew its iTunes agreement. Apple blames greed, and refuses to carry the network's Fall lineup.

September 5-6

iPhone Mea Culpa, iTunes 7.4

Along with the new iPods, Apple releases iTunes 7.4, with a 99-cent ringtone creator for the iPhone and support for a new iTunes Wi-Fi Music Store for iPod touch and iPhone. CEO Steve Jobs apologizes for the shockingly fast iPhone price cut, offering a soothing \$100 Apple Store credit to early adopters.



October 22

119,265,000 iPods sold


The number, tallying total iPod family sales for six years, doesn't include 1,389,000 total iPhones sold through September 2007.

INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

Core Cases	126
Digital Camo	65
DreamGEAR	66
Griffin Technology	75, 111
iHome Audio	22
iSkin	17
Macally	20
Marware	Inside Cover
Otterbox	Inside Back Cover
Pacific Rim Technology	87
PDair.....	84
Scosche	11
ShadesCases	89
Speck Products	53
Vaja.....	83
v-moda	115
What If Widgets	126

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Since 2001, the world's leading resource for iPod news, reviews, forums, photos, guides, tricks, software, and much more.

BACKSTAGE.

Music, TV shows, and games keep us relaxed when we're not busy with iLounge or Buyers' Guide work. Here's what we've been enjoying recently.



Microsoft Xbox 360 (Falcon)

What would it take to get iLounge's editors to buy the **Xbox 360** (\$280+)? A redesigned motherboard. It took Microsoft's engineers almost two years (and \$1 billion in warranty expenses) to stem heat-related console failures, which appear as a "red ring of death" that prevents the 360 from being played. But now that there are machines with Falcon motherboards - you can sometimes tell the difference between these and older Zephyr systems by looking for the word "Zephyr" on the box's bar code - the issues will supposedly be less common. That's great, since the console's game library keeps getting better, with **Halo 3** (\$60, top), **Pac-Man Championship Edition** (\$10, middle) and the upcoming **Rez** (\$TBD, bottom) appealing to fans of new and old genres, and benefitting from newly high-def graphics. This is what we're playing while waiting for Nintendo's Super Mario Galaxy for Wii.



Our Playlist

What's kept us going while working on this year's Buyers' Guide? **Dragonette's Galore** is one of the most impressive pop rock albums of the year; **Mark Ronson's Version** uses Lily Allen, O.D.B., Robbie Williams, and other artists to improve upon classic tracks from the Kaiser Chiefs, Britney Spears, and The Charlatans. **It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia** is quickly becoming one of our favorite TV shows (rock on, Night Man). **City Lounge: New York - London - Paris - Berlin** is a mix of lounge-ready background music spread across four discs, and **Air's Moon Safari** soothes the soul with experimental, melodic, laid-back soundscapes.

CLOSING THE CURTAIN.

Predicting the future is always fun. Here's what we think is likely to happen over the next 12 months in the worlds of the iPod, iPhone, and iTunes.

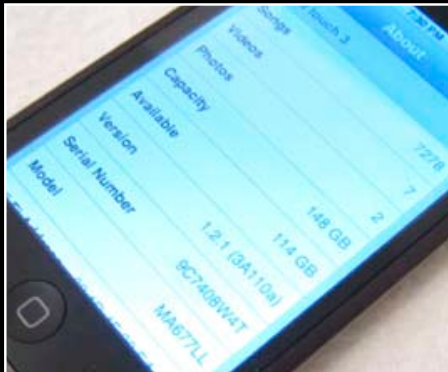


iPhone 2.0 + iPhone mini/nano

Apple will start to diversify the iPhone family into two models. One will be a less powerful iPhone mini or nano, with a smaller video screen, physical keys, and a modestly lower price point. This model will appear earlier in 2008. The other will be a more powerful "smartphone" iPhone, preserving the same general touchscreen interface and features as today's iPhone, but adding capacity, faster data transfers, and better non-phone battery performance. It'll appear much later in the year, quite possibly after the late June anniversary of iPhone 1.0.

iPod touch + iPod classic = iPod

By calling the sixth-generation iPod "classic," the almost-never-look-back people at Apple more than hinted that the model was past its prime, and unusually created a lineup of four different iPod models at the same time. The only time that's previously happened was when the iPod shuffle, mini, iPod, and iPod photo briefly co-existed before the black-and-white-screened iPod was killed and replaced with the renamed iPod photo. Right now, there are three reasons to keep the classic around: capacity, battery life, and sound quality. A merger of the iPod touch and classic lines makes a lot of sense; we just hope Apple does it right, preserving both products' best features rather than killing classic.



iTunes HD / Wi-Fi Video Store

Apple TV has had some problems: though it basically demands a high-definition TV set, its near-reliance on sub-DVD-quality video files inevitably leads to "wow, that's grainy" comments when people see iTunes downloads on their big screens. Apple will soon fix that. In addition to video rentals, we think that high-def movies are coming to iTunes, along with a Wi-Fi Video Store for iPhone/iPod touch-style direct-to-Apple TV video downloads. Our hope is that iPhones and iPod touches will get Wi-Fi video downloads, too, but their limited capacities may preclude that.





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