

TOP PORTABLE SPEECH CAPABLE AUTOMOTIVE GPS SYSTEMS



Portable speech capable automotive GPS systems provide added convenience and value to purchasers.

Credit: *Ryan McVay/Photodisc/Getty Images*

KEYWORDS

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SEARCH ENGINE SNIPPET

Speech capable automotive GPS systems allow drivers to navigate while keeping their hands and eyes on the road.

Speech capable automotive GPS systems allow drivers to navigate while keeping their hands and eyes on the road. Drivers can speak commands to the unit to get directions, and enter addresses. The speech capable GPS receivers speak directions out loud. Portable GPS units---GPS receivers that can removed and used outside of the car--provide added convenience and value to purchasers. As these receivers typically cost more it is important to know which ones are the top portable, speech capable, automotive GPS receivers. (See References 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,6 and Notes)

GARMIN NUVI 880

Bonnie Cha, the Senior Associate editor with CNet Reviews, picked the Garmin Nuvi 880 as her favorite portable automotive GPS systems. According to Cha the unit is "one of the best portable navigation systems I have tested to date" This receiver understands up to 30 voice commands with a high degree of accuracy in speech recognition. It comes with a free 3-month subscription to MSN Direct Services so users can search for gas stations, movie theaters and other useful things. The unit stores and plays audio books. The integrated Bluetooth allows you to connect your Bluetooth enabled cell phone for hands free calls. (See References 1 and 2)

MAGELLAN CROSSOVERGPS, ROADMATE AAA EDITION RS2.0

According to Jerry Beilinson a writer for Popular Mechanics, the Magellan CrossoverGPS, RoadMate AAA Edition RS2.0 is the first GPS receiver that works as both a car navigation system and a back-country handheld GPS. All the AAA Tour Books are preloaded into the units. This includes hotel and restaurant listings as well as where to find AAA discounts. For back country use topographic maps are included, as are waypoints, and marine functions. (See References 3)

GARMIN NÜVI 3790T

Garmin nüvi 3790T is a PC Magazine editor's choice award winner. According to Jamie Lendino the CPS receiver earned this award because "the 3790T looks and feels like a proper high-end gadget that's worth the premium price tag... It's also the slimmest and most capable GPS we've tested to date." (See References 4). Lendino claims that it works just as well as a pedestrian navigator as an automotive navigation system. The voice recognition system can be activated with a simple command, and works relatively well. The glass touch screen was found by Lendino to be accurate and fast. The Garmin nüvi 3790T has a Bluetooth receiver, 3D views, and preloaded maps. You can make hands free phone calls by using the Bluetooth capability. However, it is not waterproof and does not have a hard disk drive. (See References 4)

TOMTOM GO 930 GPS

Features new in 2009 for the [TomTom GO 930 GPS](#) were a soft touch finish and a 4.3" touch screen. The unit allows you to add street addresses by voice. Though CNet senior editor Bonnie Cha found street address by voice a bit unreliable. "Tom Tom IQ" software plots driving routes based on your route history. 3D Advanced Lane Guidance helps drivers on major highways choose the best lane to be in for their trip and highway exits. (See References 5)

REFERENCES

[CNet TV: First Look From the Labs \(video\) Editor's Choice Garmin Nuvi 880](#)

[http://www.google.com/url?q=http%3A%2F%2Freviews.cnet.com%2Fcar-gps-navigation%2Fgarmin-nuvi-880%2F4505-3430_7-32815498.html&sa=D&sntz=1&usg=AFQjCNGK2jFAzqLCCa_t1sTsjBCwteAB6A]

[CNet Reviews: Voice-activated GPS: Just like talking to KIT](#)

[http://reviews.cnet.com/4321-3430_7-6604366.html]

[Popular Mechanics: Magellan CrossoverGPS, RoadMate AAA Edition RS2.0](#)

[http://www.popularmechanics.com/technology/gadgets/4210678?click=main_sr]

[PC Magazine: Garmin nüvi 3790T](#)

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2366838,00.asp>]

[CNet TV: First Look From the Labs-TomTom GO 930 GPS \(video\)](#)

[http://reviews.cnet.com/gps/tomtom-go-930-gps/4505-3490_7-33003945.html?tag=contentMain;compare]

RESOURCES

[MapsGPS Info: GPS Car Navigation: 7 Things You Need to Know](#)

[<http://www.maps-gps-info.com/gp-car-nav.html>]

[NASA: GPS Resources](#) [<http://gpshome.ssc.nasa.gov/content.aspx?s=res>]

