

gadgets

compiled by Niall Magennis & Claire Morley



MP3? Got it taped

At a price of about £200, the romeMP3 player crams everything you need to listen to MP3 tunes into a standard-sized cassette tape shell. What's more, you can actually put the romeMP3 into a cassette deck and play it like an audio tape! Even the cassette deck's fast-forward and rewind buttons will function with the device.

Contact: www.romemp3.com



Lost and found

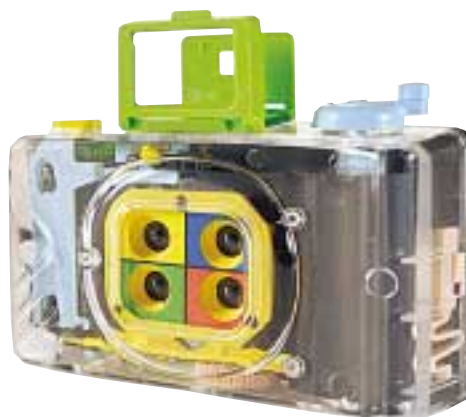
You'll never get lost if you've got this mobile phone in your pocket. The Esc! from Benefon is not just a dual-band GSM phone, but also a GPS device. You can even track and find another Esc! phone, so now there's no excuse for not being able to find your mates at that obscure pub you've never heard of.

Contact: www.benefon.com

Four into one shot

Who says gadgets have to be expensive? For just £24.95, the Lomo Action Sampler is no ordinary camera. When you take a shot, all four lenses are exposed over the period of one second. The pictures are split into four when developed, making each one a mini-action sequence. And best of all, the pictures are developed in the normal way. The camera works with any 35mm film.

Contact: www.firebox.com





WAP's the story

Siemens is claiming the Unifier is the smallest mobile data device on the market to have a keyboard and large screen display, but what is really impressive about the unit is the built-in WAP 1.1 browser. When combined with a mobile phone, the Unifier can be used for email and short messaging services (SMS), as well as WAP browsing. Priced at about £50, the unit also comes with a docking station to allow it to synchronise with Microsoft Outlook or Lotus Organiser.

Contact: www.siemens.com

Radio stars on the Internet

It may look like a conventional radio, but it's actually the world's first Internet radio from Kerbango. You simply connect it to your phone line and press the 'On' button. The device then connects to the Internet and displays the available Internet radio stations by category. The radio has a USB port, a built-in modem and Ethernet connector. It'll even play back MP3 files stored on your PC when both are on the same LAN.

Contact: www.kerbango.com



Style in the fast lane

The analog modem maybe on its last legs, but the cable modem is now set for prime time. With its Home Connect Cable Modem, 3Com isn't just going for speed but also for style. The device is only currently available in the US, but cable modem services are now starting to hit the UK so we should see it over here soon. It supports 3Mbps/sec for downloads and up to 1Mbps/sec for uploads.

Contact: www.3com.com