

# GADGETS REVIEWS



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The beauty of technology is that it applies to all seasons and situations, and this group of gadgets is no different. When things like communication, connectivity and even grooming are important to your daily or weekly routine, you need the right gear to make those needs and wants just a little bit easier. And with that in mind, we've got two slick smartphones, clickfree automatic backup cable, a hands-free video camera and a cool way to trim all that unwanted bush you've got on your body.

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## 1. Apple iPhone 3GS

*(Retail price: starts at \$199)*

On the outside, the iPhone 3GS is the same size and weight, though the screen now has a film that reduces the number of fingerprints and smudges. On the inside, the 3GS is almost twice as fast as the iPhone 3G, and it sports a new camera, along with new exclusive features. Voice Control allows you to make calls and issue commands to the phone. The digital compass works with the Maps app to change the orientation of your GPS map. And finally, you can now shoot video with the new 3-megapixel camera.



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## 2. Clickfree HD Transformer

*(Retail price: \$60)*

You can't overstate how important it is to back up all your data on your computer because if the thing dies, so might all that priceless stuff you have on the hard drive. External hard drives are a great way of archiving everything, but using the Clickfree HD Transformer can turn any external drive of any size into a clickfree one. That means you can get automatic backups by just plugging one end into the drive and the other into your PC or Mac. It can also work with multiple drives and computers, so you can literally use this cable anywhere.

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## 3. Philips Bodygroomer

*(Retail price: \$80)*

Being hairy might be something a lot of guys have to live with, but for those of you who would rather do something about it, the Bodygroomer is a good start. Getting rid of the pesky pubes around your junk and the swarming chest hair that you'd rather cut down to a reasonable size might only be the beginning of transforming your body into something less bestial. This baby works for 50 minutes straight before the rechargeable battery needs more juice, and don't fret about using it in the shower since it's totally waterproof.

## 4. Psyko Audio Labs 5.1 Headphones

*(Retail price: \$300 U.S.)*

You know how cool surround-sound can be when you have it filling up a room, but what if you could have that kind of audio experience covering only your ears? They're most ideal for PC gaming, obviously, because you can hear all the sounds and distinguish where they're coming from. Since there's no digital signal processing to affect the timing of the sound, these headphones can make a huge difference in gameplay. But you can also easily apply these to watching movies in 5.1, or even console video games (with the right adapter).



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## 5. Belkin Gigabit Powerline HD Starter Kit

*(Retail price: \$160)*

Streaming movies in high-definition from your computer to your TV sometimes leads to lag and pixilation that happens often enough to ruin the experience. This is especially true if your HDTV is in a different room where making wired connections to speed things up isn't an option. The HD Starter Kit has one adapter that plugs into the router, and another that plugs into the TV (gaming consoles and other computers work, too). Both have to be plugged into electrical wall outlets and then you should have a faster connection for streaming HD or games.

## 6. Palm Pre

*(Retail price: \$200 on a three-year contract)*

The Pre is a sort of reinvention of Palm, a company that's been getting its clock cleaned by the iPhones and BlackBerrys of this world. But you definitely have to take a look at a device like the Pre that has both a touchscreen and slide-out QWERTY keyboard, as well as a brand new operating system called WebOS that allows you to run more than one app at the same time. You also get a gesture pad under the screen for another navigating option. On top of that, expect the smartphone basics like, Wi-Fi, GPS, Bluetooth and a 3-megapixel camera.

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## 7. Phonsuit MiLi Pro

*(Retail price: TBD)*

The iPod and iPhone can do a lot of things between them, but how about projecting an image onto a wall or screen? Enter the MiLi Pro, an iPod Touch and iPhone accessory that has a micro video projector built in, so you can literally display whatever you have onscreen onto a blank wall or a screen of some type. But that's not all. It can even be hooked up to your PC or Mac to display the computer screen, or a DVD player to watch a movie. You can scale the screen size to go as high as 40" at 640x480 resolution.

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## 8. VHoldR ContourHD

*(Retail price: \$250 U.S.)*

Sometimes the best video recordings you take are the ones that don't require using your hands. The ContourHD is a hands-free video camera that can record up to 2 hours of TV quality footage onto a microSD memory card. But the coolest part is that you can literally wear this thing on your helmet, shoulder, goggles, handlebars or car dashboard and just let it do its thing. It seems to be able to withstand different weather conditions as well, so you can make good use of this in all four seasons of our Canadian climate.

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