

Ideas and Suggestions by the Dish Staff

Nintendo 3DS: 2 Screens x 3 Dimensions =

The Nintendo DS and its many iterations have become the best selling videogame platform of all time. How does the "Big N" top itself? Try a full 3D display that doesn't require glasses (That's so 2009). Other features include joystick-like "slide-pad" for more precise control, motion sensing, improved graphics, oh, and 3 cameras. 2 face out to take 3D picture and video, and another faces the player for use in games. Expect Nintendo to release more details as its March 2011 release date approaches. No word yet on pricing, but expect it retail for under \$200.

<http://www.nintendo.com/>

Kitty Kit: Just Add Water... and Kitten

If you can look past the all-to-precious artwork of frolicking kittens on the box, the Kitty Kit is chocked full of useful stuff for the new kitten owner. It includes a small red bowl, a twine ball and mouse, and an extensive guide for caring, training, and enjoying your new feline. Although the other stuff will quickly end up behind the dryer, the guide by Peter Neville deserves a permanent spot on your bookcase. From how to kitty-proof your home to how to care for your cat when you travel, this 95-page guide is indispensable. \$19.95

<http://us.macmillan.com/kittykit>

Making the Grade with Loose Leaf Fashion

In 500 words or less, please explain why turning the humble college-ruled notebook paper into a shirt is an awesome idea. The people at Artware Editions have your answer, hand-printing that blue-lined standby with the bold red vertical margin line onto simple white tees and tanks. Leave them blank or write what you did on your summer vacation, but don't forget your name, class, and period at the top. \$50

<http://www.artwareeditions.com>

The Cool Kids: coolpeoplecare.org

You know the popular people from school, the cool kids who didn't seem to care about anything?

Turns out they do care, just not about you or your birthday party this Friday. The website [coolpeoplecare.org](http://www.coolpeoplecare.org) is all about giving you some way to improve your world in 5 minutes or less, sometimes featuring a non-profit organization. The site also has more in-depth tips for those brave souls who have 6 minutes or more to devote, and can match the in-crowd's do-gooders to the NPO of their dreams. Just, you know, don't get too excited...

www.coolpeoplecare.org

I-Clutter, U-Socket

With pretty much every new gadget charging via USB, there's a good chance your workspace looks like a MacBook ICU - and finding an empty socket can require gold-medal finger gymnastics. Thanks to Fastmac's U-Socket, these dark days are coming to a close. It replaces a regular 2 plug wall socket with 4 plugs. To the left of the usual 3-hole sockets there are 2 USB ports primed and ready to charge any compatible device. Best of all, it can fast-charge devices that use the new USB 3.0 standard - like the new iPad. \$20; Available October 2010.

<http://store.fastmac.com>

Light Conversation: Mathmos Light Badge

File this one under "why didn't someone think about this before?" This little badge magnetically clips to fabric and lights up if a cell-phone goes off near it, providing a truly silent alternative to the mad bumblebee sounds of a vibrating phone. The same tech is also behind their light bulb and lava lamp charms that light attach to your phone, if a blinking badge is a little too sci-fi for you. \$13.75

<http://www.mathmos.com/usa/>

KeePass

Ok, let's see... you've got to have a password for your E-mail, Ebay, Paypal, Bank, and a dozen other retail sites. According to the experts, each one should be different and include a number and a symbol. Using "miley4eva" as your password for every site isn't going to cut it, but who outside of MIT can remember 20-odd different passwords? You need KeePass, a free, open-source program that lets you use one password to access a database of all your different passwords. Free, available for download from

<http://keepass.info/>

L.E.D.'ing the Way: Samsung UN55B8000

It's not exactly poetry to say, but Samsung's top-rated 55-inch 1080p LED TV is a masterpiece of home-theater technology. Its LED backlight technology makes it a mere 1.2 inches thick, while allowing for bright, crystal-clear pictures superior to conventional LCD displays. It also features local dimming, where backlights turn on and off to make

blacks seem deeper and richer. Other LED good stuff includes a razor-thin bezel, 40% less power consumption than a regular LCD, and zero Mercury. The MSRP is \$3,799, but expect to find it for a lot less.

<http://www.samsung.com/us>

iPhone 4G Accessories

By now, even your grandma knows holding the iPhone 4G the wrong way will turn the Steve Job's uberchic mega-gadget into an expensive paperweight. Fortunately, buying a case for the phone will keep that delicate antenna safe from your greasy mitts. Check out the Vandelay line from www.agfindings.com. These slim cases come in a variety of patterns and colors, from glossy black to pink plaid, and all include a holster/kickstand for extra functionality. The cases come in two pieces so accessing docking ports is a snap. (\$34.99). For those who need a little more protection, try the Ballistic HC from www.goballisticcase.com. This red and black case features an interchangeable outer gel skin layer, front facing inward holster and built in screen protector all held in a rigid outer case. (\$49.99)

Easy Rider: Huffy Cruiser Bicycle.

While serious cyclists would rather die than plant their spandex'd butt on the seat of a Huffy Cruiser bicycle, these simple steel-framed bikes are perfect for the casual pedal-pusher. All bikes in the series are loaded with retro styling – check out the white sidewalls – and are one-speed, which cuts down on weight and maintenance. The best part? These gas-free rides can be picked up for under a hundred at your local Wal-mart. (\$84.00)

<http://www.huffy.com/Products/Cruisers.aspx>

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