

WHETHER THEY'RE THE **HOTTEST THINGS** GOING, OR AMONG THE BEST AT WHAT THEY DO, THESE ARE THE **10 MUST-HAVE GADGETS**. THEY WILL ALSO MAKE YOU THE ENVY OF YOUR FRIENDS.

most WANTED GADGETS

PLAYING GAMES ON THE HIGH-SELLING NINTENDO WII CONSOLE GETS PEOPLE, YOUNG AND OLD, OFF THE COUCH.

Nokia N95

Tired of getting lost? Nokia's N95 uses the satellite-based global positioning system (GPS) to figure out where you are, and then shows you on-screen. With pre-loaded maps for more than 150 countries, you'll be able to find your way around foreign cities like a local. And while you're there, you can record it all in high-resolution, using the N95's 5-megapixel camera, while listening to your favourite tunes through its MP3 player. The N95 is \$1379.

Apple TV

Video is the new sensation on the internet, but it will be a long time before the family gathers around the PC for a great night's viewing. With Apple TV, however, it's easy to send video, music and even pictures from your Macintosh or PC directly to your TV screen. And now you can add YouTube videos to the list. Plug it in for \$449. This is the gadget to have, just to say you own one.

MX-760HD wireless media player

This skinny, stylish multimedia box may lack the cachet of the Apple TV, but it goes a step further. Yes, it'll play your movies (in virtually every conceivable format), music and pictures in high definition through your TV – networked wirelessly or wired from your computer. But crack the hood and you can pop in your own standard 3.5in hard drive, load it up with all your media files and then you won't need your computer on at all for playback. And if that's not enough space for you, plug in up to two more external hard drives (or USB flash drives), and you'll never have to crack your DVD or CD cases ever again. It's small, so you can take it to a friend's place loaded with your entire multimedia collection. It's \$329 (hard drive not included) from www.circuitcentral.com.au.

LG Blu-Ray/HD DVD

Blu-ray and HD DVD represent the next generation of high-resolution DVD enjoyment. But which format is going to win out? Rather than repeat the VHS-versus-Beta debacle of the

'80s, check out LG's BH100, the first player in Australia that plays both of the latest high-definition formats. It's \$1799.

Solio solar charger

Want to do your bit for the environment and cut your power bill? The Solio solar charger is the green-friendly way of charging your iPod, phone or digital camera. One hour of sunlight is enough to run an iPod for an hour, while a fully charged Solio can store enough power to charge a typical cell phone. All you pay is \$169.95 – after that, the power is free.

Sony Vaio L series

A device with an identity crisis, the Vaio L series has two lives. By day it's a fully powered notebook PC, processing documents and spreadsheets and surfing the web. By night, it pumps out music and plays movies. With a fold-up screen and stylish metal chassis, the Vaio L series looks as good on a bookshelf as it does on a desk.

Samsung M8 integrated LCD TV

Here's something to melt your mind even as it melts your wallet. One of the latest and greatest LCD TVs on the Australian market is the LA52M81BD from Samsung. It has a built-in high-definition tuner so you can watch digital TV, a staggering 15,000:1 contrast ratio (for deeper blacks and whiter whites), full HD 1080P resolution, three HDMI ports, 8ms response time, all tucked behind its 52in (132cm) polished black case. The price is \$8799.

Sharp Hiptop3

You've seen it in the hands of the trendy young things of Hollywood. Now hold it in your own. The Hiptop3 (also called Sidekick) is here in Australia and it's the new must-have multifunction gadget for the digerati. The Hiptop3 packs in web browsing, instant messaging, a camera, MP3 player and organiser, with a clever swivel design that opens up to reveal a keyboard. They're \$679 – see www.telstra.com.au/hiptop for more.



THE MX-760HD MULTIMEDIA UNIT

FROM THE SONY L RANGE IS THE VGCLA38G LAPTOP

THE SOLIO SOLAR-POWERED MOBILE PHONE CHARGER