

Power on tap

If you've succumbed to the adoration epidemic of the 3G Apple iPhone, you will have discovered by now that some of its capabilities are less than optimum. Its battery life, for instance, isn't fantastic, and it isn't user replaceable. If you regularly find yourself in possession of a dead iPhone, you'll find the resuscitation capabilities of the Kensington Battery Pack and Charger irresistible. Charge this slim, shiny, 85g black slab of lithium ion polymer battery via its power adaptor, and you can carry it with you, attaching your iPhone – or current model iPod – for a reviving top-up when necessary. It will give you up to one hundred hours of music, 21 hours of video and six hours of extra talk time. There's a mini-version (\$59.95) which, with the iPhone's original charge, will get you through a day of conversations and entertainment. A dock connector allows you to power and charge iPhone or iPod simultaneously while charging the battery pack. Price: \$89.95



(Almost) instant pictures

Printing colour images on your own inkjet printer seems such an attractive proposition until you notice that the colours you see on your computer screen aren't the same as those on your prints, and you begin the tedious process of fiddling with PhotoShop parameters, or ICC profiles, or trying to match specific colour cartridges and printers to specific paper. Kodak's ESP 5 all-in-one printer is possibly the most well-named colour printer in existence, because it does in fact seem to have some sort of extra-sensory perception that allows it to produce images that are sharp and accurately coloured. It uses two cartridges, one black, and the other a five-colour unit that also applies a clear layer that overcomes one of the historic flaws in Kodak printing: less than optimal longevity. The pigment inks used by the ESP 5 may be the longest lasting available. You get all of that, according to Kodak, for an average cost of 20c for a 10x15cm print. The unit has slots for most memory card formats, and Bluetooth. The small LCD screen allows for some basic image enhancing. While Inspector Gadget can't recommend it as an everyday printer, at \$200, it's a great solution for (almost) instant pictures.

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