

2007 Holiday

Fourteen great gifts and gadgets to give—and receive

The holidays are just around the corner and you still have to figure out what to get everyone on your list. Worry no more, friends. In the following six pages, we recommend more than a dozen cool (and affordable!) gifts—from \$30 stocking stuffers to a tiny MP3 player with wireless earphones to a \$350 HDTV. We've also got you covered whether you're shopping for a beloved gamer (*Halo 3* is not the best game ever), the family bookworm (how's a tablet that holds 160 books sound?), or a TV-lovin' relative (get ready for the best DVR deal around). And if you've somehow managed to finish your shopping (good for you, showoff!), why not start a list of your own? It's about time you got stuff you actually wanted instead of those gaudy sweaters and awful fruit-cakes...Happy holidays! >>



Multimedia Boombox 3P Electronics iMep A/V System

\$300 For the music and movie lover on your list who's always on the go, give the gift of portability. The iMep (MP-701-388) is a souped-up boombox for the iPod age. The tri-sided systems packs a DVD/CD player on one side, a roomy 16:9 LCD screen on the other, and an iPod dock on its crest. A TV tuner and AM/FM radio bring in local broadcasts (with supplied external antennas) while slots for SD/MMC/MS cards and a USB drive accommodate PC-based content. The 7-inch screen is just the right size to turn a personal movie experience into a communal experience—at least for a couple of your closest friends—and the TFT LCD delivers a bright image that not only holds its own in ambient light but doesn't wash out if you're sitting off to the side. The sound won't rival your home music system, but you can't take that on the road either. It can fill a room with music without sounding harsh or boomy. The iMep comes with an AC power adapter or it can be powered with eight D batteries, making it a great companion for a lazy Sunday in the park.
i-mep.com —*Rebecca Day*



The Gift That Keeps Giving Aluratek Digital Picture Frame

\$199 If you're stumped about what to get that special someone this year, worry no more. Aluratek's 11-inch digital photo frame (model ADMPF311F) is sure to warm the hearts of even the least tech-savvy people in your life. This attractive user-friendly frame can sit on a desk or be mounted on the wall to show off favorite photos, and it's loaded with 1GB of onboard memory so you can even add an MP3 soundtrack to your slideshow. Before I even cracked open the user's manual, I had a slideshow up and running, complete with fades between images and Pachelbel's "Canon in D" playing in the background (the sound quality was surprisingly decent). You can transfer pictures, videos, and music from your computer or digital camera using a USB cable or just slip in a memory card. I don't know about you, but I know what I'm getting my parents for the holidays! (Hey, dad, pretend you didn't read this...) **aluratek.com** —*Suzanne Mahadeo*