

## **Transcendant Testimonials**

The AV Avitar Reviews Four Savvy New Technologies That Just Might Be Worth Their Hype

A2Z's new Gadget Guru (Scott Jochim) is an inventor who designs and builds usable technology years before other companies. He was featured in A2Z's Sept. 2007 issue with his company **Custom Theater** Solutions. Beginning this month, the Gadget Guru will be reviewing the newest, coolest, most exciting gadgets.



iPod This Apple *iPod* really makes both gadget and utility sense! I've tried it and it's great! *Apple* seems to really get the idea of a how a human interacts with a gadget. It's 80gigs and so cool and hip. It's a great lifestyle add-on. You can play video

games, full-length movies and there's even an interface to a shoe (only for the *iPod Nano* though). With the previous video *iPod*, the video resolution was 320 x 240, but the new *iPod* (and *iTunes 7.0*), is 640 x 480. Some say it's the click-wheel and some say it's the design, but like every iPod before it, it's definitely intuitive. This *iPod* is definitely worth jumping on the bandwagon to get.

Apple iPod (8o Gigabyte)



Photo Courtesy of Apple

iTunes 7.0 *iTunes 7.0* is so media-centered now you can download games, sitcoms, movie trailers and full length 640 x 480 movies (viewable within one minute of downloading time.) Older movies are \$9.99 and new releases are \$12.99. What's really huge is the re-

lease dates for *iTunes* movies are the same day as when the DVD comes out. Download classic video games like Tetris,

Please take a moment now to clear your mind and find your path to enlightenment in the **Gadget Guru's** Five Sacred Stars of gadgetry ecstasy:



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**iTheater** What do you do when you're in bed with your significant other and you don't want to bother them with you movie of choice? How'd you like to watch a small, head-mounted display that looks like you're viewing a 50" screen 8 feet away and it only weighs 3.5 oz! Just plug the *iTheater* directly into your *iPod* (you'll have enough battery power to watch a feature length film and a few sitcoms). Don't have an *iPod*? Plug the *iTheater* into your laptop and you've got a dual or extended screen for private viewing. Just imagine plugging it into your Playstation 3!

The quality of the video is only at 230,000 pixels. Apple is working on a new *iTheater* version that will match the increased viewing size offered by the new *iPod*. When you first see someone wearing an iTheater, they look like a Cyborg or some kind of a



geeky *Star Trek* person, but you'll be really curious about what they're watching. Trust me, in a very short time it will become part of our culture and lifestyle and it won't be geeky anymore.

The *iTheater* is less than \$350, weighs 3.5 oz. and has built-in stereo headphones. It doesn't cover your eyes completely, so you can still see the world around you. If you want to go deep into your Zen zone, you can add eye-cups that fit snugly around your eyes and block out all the world and it's many distractions.

## Nike + shoes & Nike + iPod Sport Kit

Imagine having a personal trainer in your pocket. That's what this is. When you get to that last mile of your race or that last push of your workout, just hit the center button on your iPod and it plays your motivational power song of choice. With the *Nike* + *shoes*, you can go run with a group of people in your area that have similar speeds. There's nothing more frustrating



than finding out that your new running buddy can't keep pace with you or even worse, can't run the distance. Also I first heard about this at the Apple store where a few enthusiastic employees who mind you didn't look like marathon runners were having a competition to see who could run 10 miles first. The winner received lunch...sian me up! This competition of sorts is played out online with colorful graphical stats and charts so everyone could watch the competition heat up and keep an eye on the leaders. What a great way to make running fun and creates goals for yourself. With the Nike + shoes and Nike + iPod Sport Kit, you can keep track of all your stats, speed, time and pace, share them with friends, make new running friends or even find out the stats and music preferences for a sports figure you admire. That's a really unique feature. Go to www.apple.com/ipod/nike/ to learn more. GG



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