

What's New!

George Harding

Energi Sliding Power Case

I've tested several external batteries for phones and tablets, but this one is different.

The name sort of tells it all. It's a sliding case, but that's not all. The Case comes with two parts, a protective shell for your smartphone and an external battery.

The protective shell fits an iPhone 6 snugly and protects it from bumps, scratches and drops. The edge is raised so that the screen doesn't come in contact with whatever it's set on. The case has a smooth, slightly rubbery feel and is comfortable in your hand.

The external battery portion (Power Sleeve) slides onto the iPhone in its protective shell and connects at the base. The back has a button which starts the charging process. It continues until the phone is fully charged and then shuts off. When the button is pressed without the phone inside, you see four LED lights that show the degree of charge remaining.

The bottom of the battery has a micro-USB charging port for refilling the battery for future charging.

The Power Sleeve can remain on the phone, or off for normal use of the phone. The battery capacity is 3,200 mAh. This will give you a full charge plus a bit more.

The product comes with Power Sleeve, a dual-layer inner case and micro-USB charger and sync cable.

About: Energi Sliding Power Case

Vendor: TYLT
www.tylt.com

Price: about \$100



Neat Connect

This is a product that will help you store, access, report and deal with receipts, business cards and documents. It sounds too good to be true, right!

Here's how it works: uses the scanner to store images of business cards, business receipts and any sort of documents. Use the application to access, analyze, sort, combine and report. Use Neat Cloud to access scanned items from any computer, smartphone or tablet.

The scanner has three input channels for scanning, based on size. The smallest is the right size for business cards, the middle one for postcards or small documents and the large one for full size documents. There are two cables that come with the scanner, one for power, the other to connect to your computer. It's not necessary to connect the computer, but you can do much more with it than without.

The front of the scanner has a small window that shows status and can be used to start a scan. Scans can also be started from the desktop application.

The application shows you all the items you've scanned, lets you store them in folders of your choosing and analyzes the items for expenses, contact information and can create searchable PDFs at your command.

The application can gather information from receipts for example, and assemble it into a report. It makes all the contact information accessible to you for telephone and address use. Receipt information includes vendors, dates and expense. The results can then be exported to Excel or other external software.

Scanning business cards gives you Name, Title, address, phone, company and more that you can use for other purposes.



Scanned documents can be turned into searchable PDF files for further use for yourself or others.

A third tool is the Neat Cloud, where all your scanned items are backed up and made available to you and others.

A fourth tool is the smartphone app which allows you to access any scanned item. You can also scan a new item by taking a picture of it with your phone. It goes to Neat Cloud and then to your Neat cabinet.

So, this product can improve your productivity by saving and organizing your paperwork. It will make sorting and analyzing your travel expenses much easier.

About: Neat Connect

Vendor: Neat Connect
www.neat.com

Price: about \$500

eTape16

We have many measuring tools available to us these days but none as elegant as eTape16, a digital tape measure.

It does all the things you are used to in a tape measure: a metal tape extends from the holder up to 16 feet; it is marked in inches and fractions; when extended the tape can be locked; measurements can be taken inside or outside of what's being measured.

So, no big deal, right? All these are true of eTape16, but there's more! First of all, any measurement you take is registered on a digital display on the top of the unit. Thus, there's no approximating the measurement and no difficulty in figuring out eighths and sixteenths. It's all displayed for you.

The unit has several buttons on the side of the case, which give you measurements in other forms. For example, by pressing the bottom button, 15 1/16 inches is alternately displayed as 15.1 inches, 1.26 feet, 1 foot 3 1/16 inches or 38.3 cm. These conversions are a simple button press away!

The measurement you've just taken can be held or stored. The top button on the side of the unit is for holding a measurement. The two buttons next to the display (1 mem 2) can store a measurement for you. There's no longer a need to write down measurements to preserve them for the next step of your project.

One of the handy features is determining the midpoint of a measurement. Just press the right-hand button on the side to get this value. If you are hanging a picture and want to know where to place the wall hanger, the midpoint will show you exactly where to place it. Likewise, midpoint will tell you where to split a board in half. This button can also be used to zero out the display by pressing for 3 seconds.

The left-hand button on the side changes the displayed measurement from outside to inside measurement. It just adds 3 inches to the displayed dimension.



A slider on the front of the unit allows you to lock the tape.

The eTape16 has a sturdy polycarbonate case that will stand up to tough use. There is a belt clip on the back for convenient storage.

About: eTape16

Vendor: eMeasure, Inc.
www.etape16.com

Price: \$35

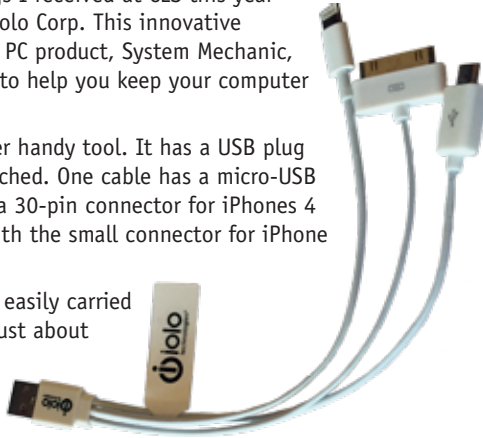
Iolo 3-way cable

One of the cleverest things I received at CES this year was a cable combo from Iolo Corp. This innovative company provides a great PC product, System Mechanic, that contains many tools to help you keep your computer running smoothly.

The 3-way cable is another handy tool. It has a USB plug on one end, 3 cables attached. One cable has a micro-USB plug, a second cable has a 30-pin connector for iPhones 4 and earlier, and a third with the small connector for iPhone 5 and 6.

This small product can be easily carried in a shirt pocket, purse, just about anywhere.

It's a very handy tool to have handy, one that serves many needs.



About: Iolo 3-way cable

Vendor: Iolo, manufacturer of System Mechanic
www.iolo.com

Price: about \$40, cable, free