



CREATIVE TravelSound Zen V

► PRICE £63 (inc. VAT)

If you own a Creative Zen Plus and want to add an extra dimension to your music, this dock is the perfect solution. The TravelSound (£63 inc. VAT) is powered by mains, or four AA batteries. You slot your Zen Plus into it and along with recharging your player, the four micro-speakers and amplifier add a great sound to your music. There is even a wireless remote control, so you can control it from the other side of the room. As the Zen Plus V also comes with a built-in radio, the dock has an aerial so you can pick up even better reception.

There are ports on the back to add a sub-woofer (not supplied), so you can improve the overall sound further. Ideal for students or those who have limited space, you can use the Zen Plus when you're out and about and use the TravelSound in your bedroom when at home.

URL [HTTP://UK.EUROPE.CREATIVE.COM](http://uk.europe.creative.com)

RATING 8

TARGUS Notebook Internet Phone

► PRICE £TBC (inc. VAT)

A mouse that is also a telephone may sound like something from a sci-fi movie, but this device is a novel idea. It works in conjunction with Skype, so you'll need to download the software and set up an account. On the telephone side, it comes with its own sound chip built-in, so you can set the volume independent of your laptop. We've been using it for a while and while it's great for making calls, initially it does feel rather odd speaking into a tethered mouse.

The mouse has an 800dpi optical sensor and is incredibly accurate for its size, making it an impressive addition to your mobile kit in its own right. Our only reservation about the device is that it's slightly too small in the hand.

URL: [WWW.TARGUS.COM/UK](http://www.targus.com/uk)

RATING 8



BELKIN Cushtop

► PRICE £30 (inc. VAT)

Belkin's Laptop@home range is an interesting concept. It's own studies show that 80 per cent of laptops bought never make it out of the home and end up being used at a kitchen table or on a lap when sat on the sofa. The CushTop (£30 inc. VAT) is intended for the latter and consists of a thick padded cushion you can rest your laptop on.

There is a gap in the middle where you can tuck the power brick into, so that it's not getting in the way. Our first impressions were that it was a little on the large size, but in practical daily use it actually works incredibly well. As it's made from a heat dissipating material, any heat generated by your laptop never makes it to your lap.

It's not a must-have essential peripheral by any stretch of the imagination, but it's certainly one you'll appreciate once you start to use it.

URL [WWW.BELKIN.COM](http://www.belkin.com)

RATING 7



JUSTMOBILE

Roky 2

▶ **PRICE £70** (inc. VAT)

The Roky 2 (£70 inc. VAT) is a full QWERTY keyboard that is fully compatible with all PDA operating systems, but just happens to be made of 100 per cent fabric. All but the Bluetooth receiver attached to one end that is. There is even a separate stand for you to slip your PDA into.

You'll need to install the drivers on your PDA and, being Bluetooth, you'll need to pair it with your device. We found this a bit tricky at first, but once you've got them talking, the keyboard works smoothly enough. Being fabric you simply have to touch the key to respond and at first we found it a little strange.

The Roky 2 would feel more natural if there was actually a little weight to the keys – a thicker tab inside, for instance. Other than this, it's a great device that takes up less space than a conventional stowaway keyboard.

URL WWW.EXPANSYS.COM**RATING****7****FREECOM**

Mobile Drive 2.5" 160GB

▶ **PRICE £87** (inc. VAT)

Any mobile user will tell you that keeping a backup of your files at home is always a good idea, but if you can combine this with a degree of portability, even better. The Freecom Mobile Drive (£87 inc. VAT) offers exactly that. Housed in an aluminium enclosure, this is a standard 2.5-inch laptop hard drive that hooks up to your machine using USB 2.0.

The drive itself comes bare, but it's formatted so you can simply plug in and copy your files over. However, to make the most of it you need to install the accompanying software, supplied on a CD, which includes back-up tools, as well as the Freecom Media Suite, which only works with Windows, but allows you to autosync software as well as manage the disk itself. At less than £90, it's a great investment and because it's so small, you can take it on the road with you if you need to.

URL WWW.FREECOM.COM**RATING****8****MEMOREX**

Mega Traveldrive 6GB

▶ **PRICE £67** (inc. VAT)

Elsewhere in this issue we've looked at standard Flash-based memory keys, but the TravelDrive (£67 inc. VAT) is something a little different. It packs a small micro-drive into a protective housing and you can actually see the drive when you pull out the USB connector to plug into your laptop. Being a micro-drive, the disk spins, so it's more prone to damage than a Flash drive, but transfer rates are considerably faster and when you've 6GB of storage space to play with, speed may well be everything. Our 1GB test file copied over in just under three minutes.

It doesn't come with any extras, except for a small protective leather wallet, so acts as a large depository for your data. With such a capacity, we'd have preferred some security tools, but if you're looking for a compact disk, this is worth a look.

URL WWW.MEMOREX.CO.UK**RATING****7**