

top gear: summer style

As the sun sizzles (hopefully) your thoughts will be turning to the great outdoors and whether you are on holiday or just out in your garden, we look at the best gadgets to make your summer that bit more fun

↓ Nokia Mediamaster 121T

Digital TV receiver

If we are honest, British summertime isn't always the most clement of seasons. But if you find yourself stuck indoors in the rain, never fear – Nokia's Mediamaster 121T will ensure your TV delivers crystal-clear pictures. This digital receiver allows you to get over 30 television and radio channels from Freeview. It requires no subscription, no dish or cable and can be used on any set in the house.

■ Nokia 01793 556 046 ■ approx £99



↗ Sony Cyber-shot DSC U60

Waterproof digital camera

The DSC U60 builds on Sony's stylish 'U' range of dinky digital cameras. The twist with this model is that it's waterproof, which means you can snap away on the beach or by the pool without worrying about damaging your equipment. It can capture images at depths of up to 1.5m at a resolution of 2MP. It has a special underwater setting to ensure you get the best results whether you are shooting in or out of the water.

■ www.sony.co.uk ■ approx £250

→ Sharp Aquos LC-15L1

Wireless LCD TV

If you feel fettered by the length of your TV's flex, particularly when the sun is shining outside, then Sharp's latest innovation should grab your attention. A high-capacity battery and Smart Link wireless unit enable the 15in Aquos LC-15L1 to take your viewing anywhere in your home – or indeed your garden, weather permitting. While its wide viewing angle and high contrast will make it a pleasure to watch wherever you choose to go. It's only available in Japan at the moment, with no specific plans to release it over here, so let's hope TV portability proves popular enough to carry the concept to our shores.

■ <http://sharp-world.com> ■ price: n/a



→ Aqua FM Snorkel

Radio-equipped snorkel

Want to sing along as you snorkel? Well okay, it might make more sense to hum in your head to prevent drowning, but if you fancy a soundtrack as you swim with the fishes, the Aqua FM Snorkel is what you need. To keep things simple it ditches headphones in favour of transmitting sound through your teeth and jawbone via a special mouthpiece.

Simply turn the radio on, press tune and it finds the clearest signal for you. Sadly it's only available in the US right now, but if your off to the States for your summer holiday it might be a good buy.

■ www.aquasphereusa.com ■ from \$129



← Handspring Treo 600 range

Concept smartphones

Handspring's yet-to-be-released Treo 600 smartphones are sure to set tongues wagging this summer, combining all the functionalities of a phone with Palm's OS 5.0-based organiser. Featuring a fully integrated Qwerty keyboard, Graffiti handwriting recognition and T-9 text input facilities, catching up with friends and family has never been so easy. Although the phones aren't expected to hit the shelves until autumn you can be the first to sign up for one right now at the address below.

■ www.handspring.com/treo600 ■ price: tba



→ Weber Performa Touch-N-Go

Charcoal/gas combination barbeque

So it's not strictly a technology product, but hey you've got to eat and this is the most innovative solution for outdoor eating that barbeque specialist Weber has to offer. The Performa Touch-N-Go, combines the ease of gas lighting with the all the flavour of a charcoal grill. When you want to fire up the barbie, just press a button and the gas burner will ignite the coals.

■ www.weber.com ■ approx £399

