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## Win an adrenaline-packed trip for two!

### 24 Wet 'n' wild

AOL Broadband is giving away a superb prize for all the thrill-seekers out there - an extreme sports weekend for two at Lake Geneva, Switzerland. So if surfing the rapids is your idea of fun, get packing those waterproofs - it's time to jump aboard...

## ON THE COVER



## 52 REVIEWS

### 54 Mesh Matrix 64 3400+ Ultra-X



### 54 Hardware

54 Mesh Matrix 64 3400+ Ultra-X  
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61 Panasonic D-Snap SV-AS10

### 66 Software reviews

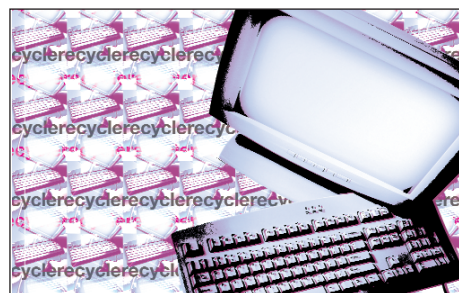
66 Trend Micro PC-cillin Internet Security 11.0 67 Panda Platinum Internet Security 67 Steganos Anonym Pro 6.0 68 Zone Labs ZoneAlarm Pro 4.0 69 Macromedia Director MX 2004 70 Mimesweeper for Web 5.0 70 SpamCatcher Universal 71 Rockliffe MailSite SE 6.0 71 Intuit Track-It 6.0

## 105 HERE'S HOW

### 106 The Advisors

From the lowdown on new kit to hints on PC use, our experts will keep you in the know.

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### 124 Workshop A second chance

Your PC has aged and you're buying a new one. But what will happen to your old system? Is it destined for the tip? We've got better ideas...

## 74 FEATURES



### COVER STORY

#### 74 Fix those PC bugs

One moment your PC's working like clockwork, but the next it's seriously misbehaving and you have no idea why. We name and shame the worst offenders and show you how to cure the top 30 PC faults.

#### 100 DVD writers

It's no secret that DVD technology is a hot topic - the ability to burn your digital delights is increasingly sought after. But where do you start? With the numerous standards available, it's hard to know which one to use. We smooth out any confusion and arm you with all the info you need.



» Visit [www.pcadvisor.co.uk](http://www.pcadvisor.co.uk)  
Dozens of queries answered every day in our Helpline

## » 36 Competition

Desktop scanners, wireless kit and photopaper: it's all up for grabs...



#### 84 A novel idea

Books are great portable companions, providing us with escapism during a long journey or furthering our education in the classroom. However, the time of the electronic book is upon us and we examine the best ways to read while roaming.

#### 102 Udderly fantastic

Long ago, milking the herd required one hard-working human. As time passed and technology improved, automated systems were put in place to do the job. But they still needed human intervention. That was, at least, until recently...



#### 92 Peer pressure

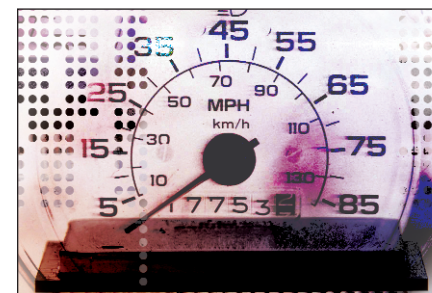
Peer-to-peer technology is no longer merely a way of downloading the latest chart-topping track and swapping it with a friend on the sly. File sharing looks set to revolutionise the way we communicate and share information. Find out why on page 92.

## 184 TOP 10 CHARTS

### 186 Power PCs NEW

- 192 Budget PCs
- 194 Superbudget PCs
- 196 Graphics cards NEW
- 200 Power & Budget notebooks
- 202 Beginner & Intermediate digital cameras
- 204 Professional digital cameras & Digital camcorders
- 205 Printers
- 206 Multifunction devices & Flatbed scanners
- 208 Monitors & Flat-panel displays
- 210 CD drives & DVD writers

Rank	Model	Processor	RAM	Hard Drive	Price
1	HP Pavilion 64	Intel Celeron 400	256MB	40GB	£199
2	HP Pavilion 64	Intel Celeron 400	256MB	40GB	£199
3	HP Pavilion 64	Intel Celeron 400	256MB	40GB	£199
4	HP Pavilion 64	Intel Celeron 400	256MB	40GB	£199
5	HP Pavilion 64	Intel Celeron 400	256MB	40GB	£199
6	HP Pavilion 64	Intel Celeron 400	256MB	40GB	£199
7	HP Pavilion 64	Intel Celeron 400	256MB	40GB	£199
8	HP Pavilion 64	Intel Celeron 400	256MB	40GB	£199
9	HP Pavilion 64	Intel Celeron 400	256MB	40GB	£199
10	HP Pavilion 64	Intel Celeron 400	256MB	40GB	£199



### 128 Workshop PC speed boost

When your PC struggles to play a new game, it's tempting to write it off. Not so fast. The solution could be simply adding memory or upgrading your processor.



### 134 Helpline

Our resident expert Julian Moss is on hand with solutions to your thorniest PC problems.

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