



Stylist: Erica Watson, Picture: Katrina Tepper

**Fenech's favourite****1 Remote Control Drinks Cooler**Price: **\$129.95**

WHEN you are sitting comfortably on the lounge in front of the television or reading a book in a quiet room, getting up to get a drink can be quite an inconvenience.

Not only do you have to gather together the energy to move from your comfy position, you also have to stop what you are doing to make a beeline for the kitchen.

But what if the drinks came to you?

With the Remote Control Esky they can do exactly that. The device is large enough to carry 12 cans or stubbies, or three bottles of wine, and is easily controlled with a remote shaped like a bottle top to deliver your refreshments at your feet.

The waterproof interior of the esky means drinks can even be kept cold with ice.

And when you're done, the esky is easy to store, folding down into a more compact package with a handy shoulder strap, ready for the next time you want to relax.



# Novelties to brighten your day

Technology can make life easier in a variety of ways, as these unusual and quirky gadgets show, writes **Stephen Fenech**

**2 Laser Target Alarm Clock**Price: **\$39.95**

AN ALARM clock is one of those necessary products designed to get us out of bed at the designated time, whether we like it or not.

Traditional models have a conveniently located snooze button that can easily be tapped for a few more minutes sleep.

Not so with the Laser Target Alarm Clock. Not only will this clock wake you up but it also requires the user to hit the target with a hand-held laser gun to turn off the alarm.

Not an easy task if you have just been woken from a deep slumber.

By the time you have hit the target it is unlikely you'll be able to go back to sleep again anyway after exerting so much effort

and concentration to turn off the Laser Target Alarm Clock. A large liquid crystal display means it is quite easy to see the time, as well as set the time you would like to wake up.

**3 Echo Bot**Price: **\$29.95**

WE have all heard of voicemail and voice messages, but never has it been quite like this.

The Echo Bot is a voice messenger that can not only hear, it can also see.

It looks like a three-legged alien but can be a handy device that's a lot more fun than an answering machine.

Once a message is recorded, the device can be positioned where you think the intended receiver will see it.

And it's not hard to attach the Echo Bot in unusual places, thanks to its three bendable legs and the suction cups at the end of each one. That means it can be stuck to a mirror, door, window or wall, or wrapped around a doorknob, positioned on the fridge or wherever you like.

Once a person passes in front of the Echo Bot's sensor - located right at the centre of the product's eye - the message playback is activated.

Messages are limited to just 10 seconds, so users will have to be brief as they try get their message across.

**4 Remote Control Bath Duck**Price: **\$39.95**

THE humble rubber ducky has undergone quite the tech transformation.

The latest version doesn't just float there and drift aimlessly in the bath any more.

With the Remote Control Bath Duck, bathers can now take control of the floating yellow bird and steer it around the bath bubbles wherever they like.

And just like a real duck, while all appears calm above the waterline, below two propeller feet are working furiously to keep the waterproof device on the move.

Sure to be a hit with kids aged three and older.

**5 Hungry Piggy Bank**Price: **\$29.95**

THE piggy bank has been around for a long time and it is a way to save spare change in a cute and instantly recognisable place.

But what happens when the traditional piggy bank meets the 21st century?

The result is the Hungry Piggy Bank. Gone is the traditional slot in its back where coins are fed through one at a time. With Hungry Piggy Bank, users feed the coins to the pig through its

mouth. A small sensor located nearby activates the eating process and then the coin is inserted halfway into its mouth.

Not only will the pig swallow the coin but it will also give out a little oink and even make chewing noises to show its appreciation.

When the owner wants to retrieve the savings, a small hatch on the belly can be clicked open to access the coins.

**6 Projector LED Alarm Clock**Price: **\$39.95**

WHEN tucked away in your comfy bed, it is very inconvenient if you have to roll over to see what the time is on your alarm clock.

With the Projector LED Alarm Clock, the time can now be projected on a wall or even on the ceiling. The device can also project other information, including the temperature, day and date.

There's also a regular large white LED backlit display that can be used to tell the time during the day.

Users can set two different alarms and also choose from seven different alarm sounds so you won't have to wake up to the same sound every morning. The device runs on batteries or can be powered via a wall plug.

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